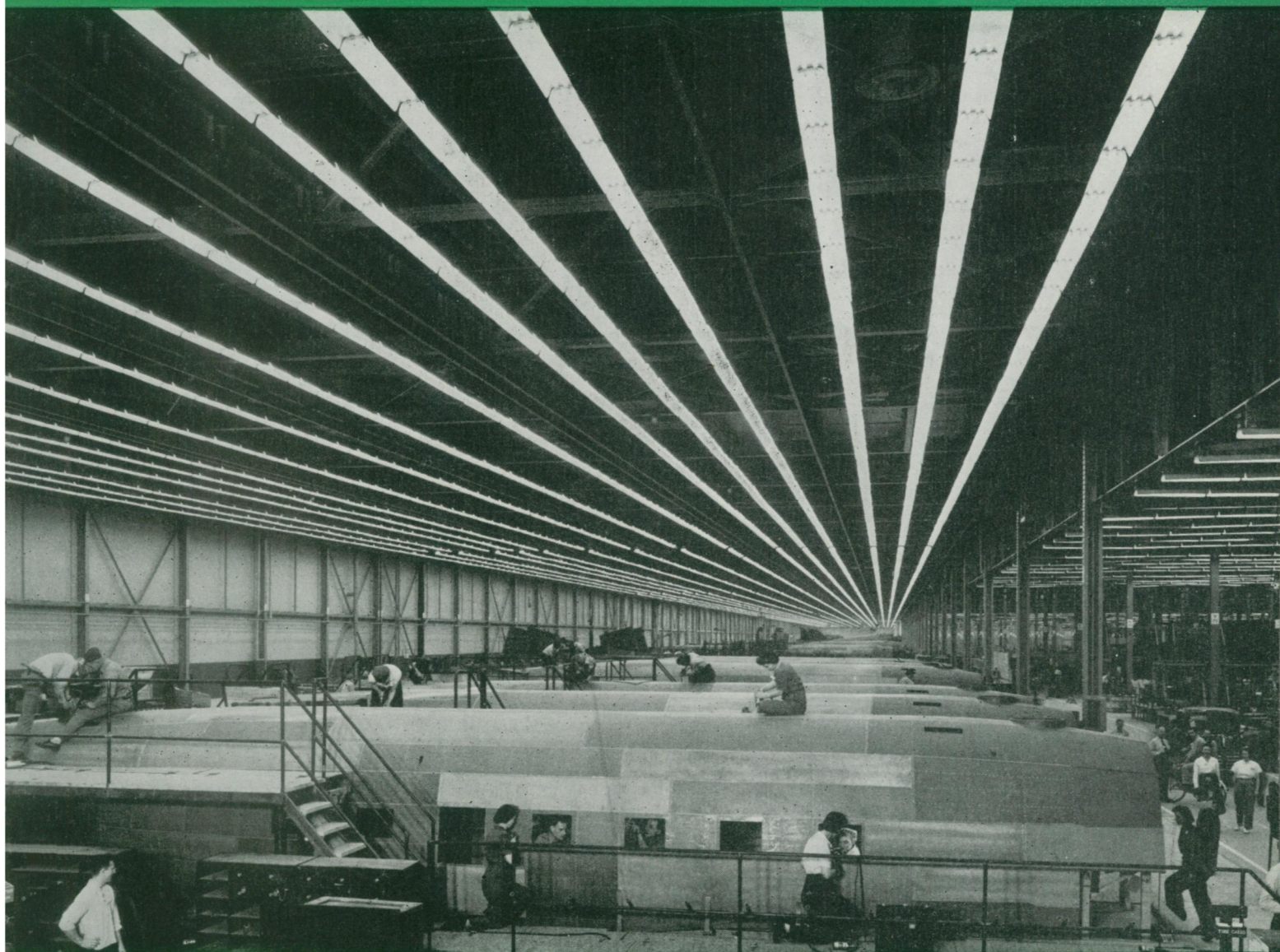


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE • APRIL 10, 1943



Light for Growing Wings

See Page 229

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Dehydrated liver meat is marketed as a powder.

Cork tires for airplane landing wheels are reported to be under trial in Portugal.

One of the well-known *bombers* has over 50,000 parts, not including nuts and bolts.

At least six hours of *sunlight* are necessary daily for growing ordinary vegetables successfully.

Glycerin is recovered in larger quantities and more economically in soap-making by a new alcohol process.

Pocket gophers are reported to be able to run backward for short distances about as rapidly as they can forward.

The average acre of American cotton produces about 200 pounds of *cottonseed* meal and 70 pounds of oil in addition to the lint.

The supply of professional *geographers* available to meet the needs of the Government, fighting a world-wide war, is far below the need.

Shark-liver oil with vitamin-A potency of 23,500 English units per gram is being produced in Cuba from a monthly catch of some 200 sharks.

Some 6,000 leading farmers in West Virginia, covering nearly every rural area, will demonstrate this year how *contour* strip-cropping can increase yields.

Question Box

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AERONAUTICS

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CHEMISTRY

How is the production of alcohol for war being speeded? p. 239.

What substances have been studied as possible substitutes for glycerin? p. 227.

ENGINEERING

What is a "stabilized soil road"? p. 232.

HORTICULTURE

How can victory gardeners improve the texture of a heavy clay soil? p. 232.

What does California's sunshine do to tomatoes? p. 233.

INVENTION

How can freezing be prevented on the mouthpiece of a parka? p. 232.

How can seed be made to carry their own fertilizer into the ground? p. 234.

MEDICINE

How will surgeons use nylon? p. 238.

How will the Coast Guard use donated fishing equipment? p. 233.

What bond links hospitals with picnic grounds and night clubs? p. 234.

Most articles which appear in SCIENCE NEWS LETTER are based on communications to Science Service, or on papers before meetings. Where published sources are used they are referred to in the article.

What is contained in the simple kit used in the war against influenza? p. 233.

What measures are recommended for the control of whooping cough in a community? p. 236.

Why is social security urged on physicians? p. 236.

NUTRITION

What new vitamins are about to be discovered? p. 228.

PHYSICS

Why are sheets as well as blankets recommended for use on liferafts? p. 229.

PSYCHIATRY

On what conditions is the rise in child delinquency blamed? p. 238.

What new school has been opened for Army medical officers? p. 227.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How are Army medical officers fighting tuberculosis? p. 230.

What steps have been proposed to avoid a Pearl Harbor of hospitals? p. 232.

RESOURCES

What food do we get from sunflower seed? p. 234.

Where is search being made for radio quality quartz crystals? p. 231.

An official survey shows that about 37,000,000 *turkeys* will be raised this year, an increase of 12% over 1942.

Peru is reported to be developing its supply of hog bristles, horse hair and cow hair to meet the needs of the United States.

The *electroplating* method of applying a coating of tin to another metal requires only one-half as much tin as needed in the hot-dip method, but gives a dull finish.

New Hampshire alone produced 65,000 gallons of *maple syrup* last year, equivalent to 520,000 pounds of sugar.

Farmers are urged by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to produce more milk, eggs, and meat; these are high *protein* foods.

The 1943 *hog production* in the United States should be some 20% greater than last year as the number of pigs to be farrowed this spring promises to be 24% larger than the 1942 crop.

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Group of 1943 Science Talent Search Winners leaving the Pan-American Union Building after discussing South American relations with Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director-General.

Prospecting for future scientists

Every step forward in science brings with it a need for more scientists. Not technicians merely, but men and women who are capable of creative achievement.

Where are they to be found?

It seems highly probable that aptitude for creative achievement in science can be discovered as early as the senior year in high school.

It is quite certain that early discovery of ability helps crystallize the interests of the students and stimulates them to further activity.

For these reasons, Science Service, Science Clubs of America and Westinghouse are cooperating in an annual Science Talent Search. Methods employed in the Science Talent Search, including the science aptitude tests, were devised by Dr. Harold A. Edgerton, Ohio State University, and Dr. Stuart Henderson Britt, Office of Psychological Personnel, National Research Council.

Each year, 40 boys and girls selected on the basis of the criteria set up by Dr. Edgerton and Dr. Britt, are taken to Washington as guests of Westinghouse. There, after further examinations and interviews, those who qualify receive Westinghouse Science Scholarships ranging from \$100 to \$2400.

Last year, 20 Westinghouse Science Scholarships were

awarded, but every boy and girl selected for the trip received offers of scholarship help from leading colleges and universities.

Every one entered college.

Every one is making a scholastic record considerably above the average.

Since the Science Talent Search is only in its second year, there are yet no data on the correlation between aptitude as measured by the methods employed and actual achievement in science. Dr. Edgerton and Dr. Britt have, however, begun a projected ten-year study of these boys and girls, covering their work in college and the early part of their after-college careers.

Full information on the Science Talent Search, including reprint of an article by Dr. Edgerton and Dr. Britt describing the methods employed, will be sent on request. Write to Science Service, 1719 N Street, Washington, D. C., or to School Service, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., 306 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

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