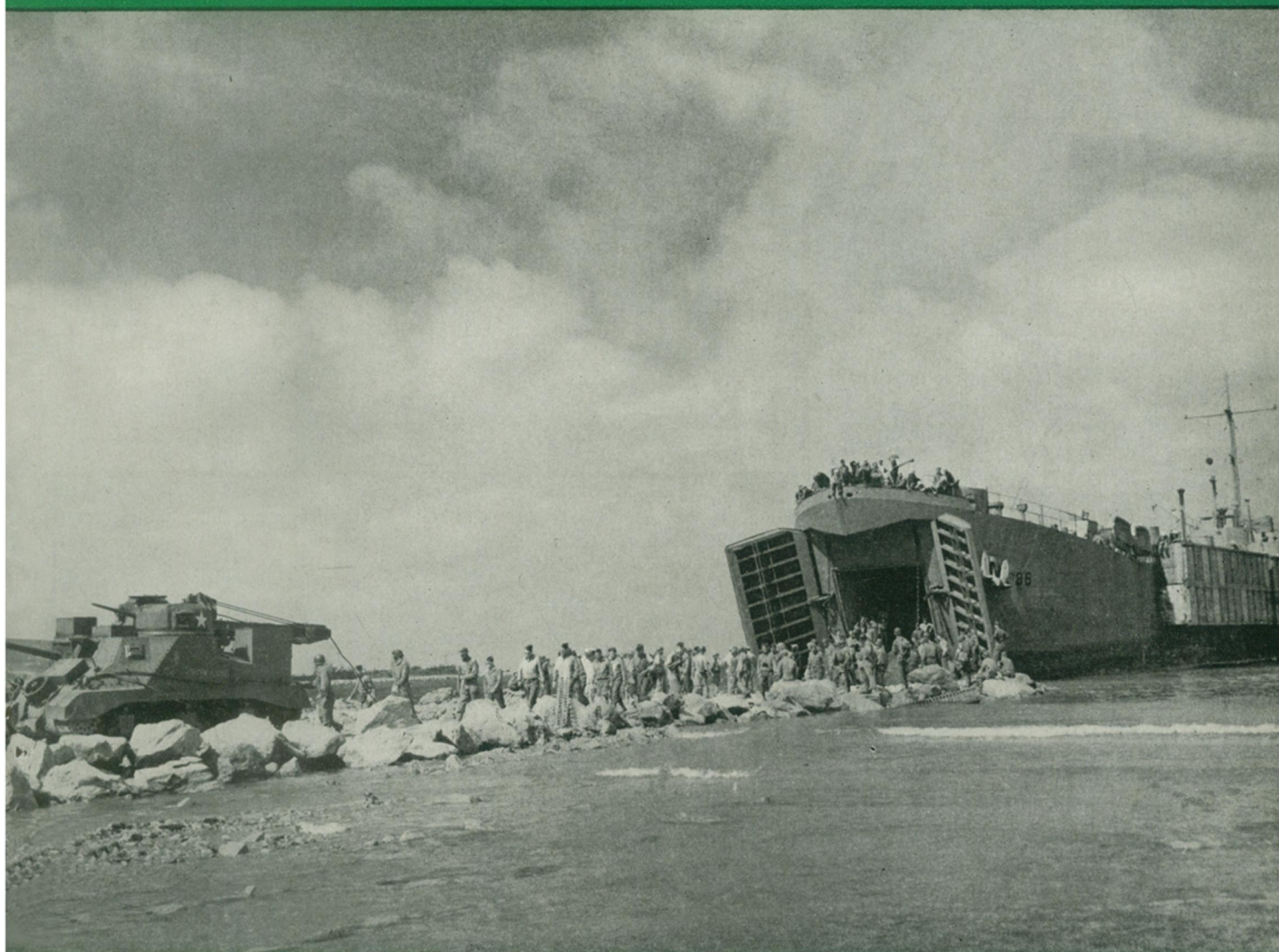


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE • OCTOBER 16, 1943



Modern Weapon

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A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Meteorites reaching the earth contain no new or unknown elements.

Sapphire and ruby are varieties of the mineral corundum which is aluminum oxide; they differ only in color.

Victory gardeners with surplus potatoes may store them safely after drying in a ventilated, cool, dark place, where they will not freeze.

Navy blimps, on the lookout for enemy submarines in northwestern waters, report by radio to fishing boats any schools of fish sighted.

The members of the armed forces are consuming some 40,000 gallons of oysters a week, a gallon holding from 150 to 450 eastern oysters.

Increasing consumption of fluid milk is threatening the supply of butter, cheese and evaporated milk; the production of these has already declined and may be 20% less this year than last.

Number one use for beeswax before the war was in cosmetics—lipsticks, cold creams, rouge and deodorants; now its number one use is for waterproofing and protective coatings for shells, belts, coils and machinery.

Ammonium nitrate is a satisfactory nitrogen fertilizer if granulated and the granules given a new coating treatment to prevent moisture absorption; the coating is a film made up of a wax-like material and a fine clay.

Question Box

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CHEMISTRY

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How may automobiles of the future run without gasoline? p. 249.

ENTOMOLOGY

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GEOGRAPHY

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How does the modern Army typhoid vaccine compare with that used in 1917? p. 249.
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MILITARY SCIENCE

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NAVAL SCIENCE

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NUTRITION

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What is the biggest single item in the cost of bringing up a child? p. 248.

ORNITHOLOGY

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PHARMACY

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What has been found out about the safety of American-made atabrine? p. 244.
What new uses have been found for bismuth? p. 252.

PHYSICS

How can a surgeon get a close-up view of his work from a distance? p. 245.
How can complicated apparatus for optics research be held in place without clamps? p. 245.

PHYSIOLOGY-PSYCHOLOGY

What new test may prove useful in determining when flyers need rest? p. 245.

PSYCHIATRY

What abnormality is necessary to give a woman vivacity? p. 246.

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What is being done to encourage the growth of cork in the United States? p. 247.

STATISTICS

How does the accident death rate among industrial policy holders differ from the rate during 1917-1918? p. 249.

Dinner plates made of slabs of salt are reported in use in China; they season the food served on them.

Brazil, called one of the leading arsenals of raw materials for war industries, shipped over 700,000 tons of strategic materials to the United States in the year ended in April.

While frogs are hibernating, no air is taken into the lungs; breathing occurs through the skin.

Because of the rarefied atmosphere in places like Quito, Ecuador, baseball batters knock out many homers; also pitchers cannot throw curves; Quito is 9,500 feet above sea level.

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 44 OCTOBER 16, 1943 No. 16

The weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. North 2255. Edited by WATSON DAVIS.

Subscriptions—\$5.00 a year; two years, \$8.00; 15 cents a copy. Back numbers more than six months old, if still available 25 cents.

In requesting change of address, please give your old address as well as the new one, at least two weeks before change is to become effective.

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Cable address: Scienserve, Washington.
New York office: 310 Fifth Avenue, CHickering 4-4565.

Entered as second class matter at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of

March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 18, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Indexed in Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, Abridged Guide, and in the Engineering Index.

The Science Observer, established by the American Institute of the City of New York, is now included in the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

The New York Museum of Science and Industry has elected SCIENCE NEWS LETTER as its official publication to be received by its members.

Member Audit Bureau of Circulation. Advertising Representatives: Howland and Howland, Inc., 393 7th Ave., N.Y.C., PEEnsylvania 6-5566; and 360 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, STate 4439.

SCIENCE SERVICE is the Institution for the Popularization of Science organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation.

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For forty high school seniors every year, the Science Talent Search leads to Washington!

These are some of the 40 high school boys and girls who won Westinghouse Science Scholarships ranging from \$100 to \$2400 in the Second Annual Science Talent Search last spring.

Two hundred sixty others received honorable mention, and the majority of these have received offers of scholarships in leading colleges and universities.

If you know of some seniors who may have the ability to do creative work in science, plan to have them compete in the Third Annual Science Talent Search which is now under way.

Their teachers can arrange to give them the sci-

ence aptitude examination. They will also be required to write a 1,000 word essay on the subject "My Scientific Project," in which they will tell what they are doing or plan to do in the way of experiment or other research activity.

The Science Talent Search is sponsored by Westinghouse, conducted by Science Clubs of America.

Teachers can obtain full information from Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington (6), D. C., or from School Service, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., 306 Fourth Ave., P. O. Box 1017, Pittsburgh (30), Pa.

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