

aviation medicine prompted the studies. High-altitude sickness, or bends, occurs among persons with poor circulation, while those with efficient systems are relatively resistant because sufficient oxygen is carried to the body cells to rid them of the nitrogen which causes the disease.

The research was performed largely by Dr. Hardin Jones, instructor in medical physics. Dr. John H. Lawrence, director of the Aero Medical Unit, supervised the work, which was sponsored by the Office of Scientific Research and Development.

Science News Letter, May 11, 1946

GENERAL SCIENCE-EDUCATION

25 High School Seniors Honored in Tennessee

➤ TWENTY-FIVE of Tennessee's high school students have been picked in the first Tennessee state-wide Science Talent Search as the most promising "scientists of tomorrow", Dr. Hanor A. Webb, president of the Tennessee Academy of Science, has announced.

The five girls and 20 boys who are winners are eligible for scholarships in Tennessee colleges and universities.

The Tennessee search was run concurrently with the Fifth Annual Science Talent Search for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships, as a cooperative effort with Science Clubs of America, administered by Science Service, Washington, D. C.

"The members of the Tennessee Academy of Science are firmly convinced that youth with an aptitude for science is one of the country's great national resources," Dr. Webb said. "This state-wide Science Talent Search will make it possible for certain Tennessee young scientists to continue their careers in science and will help to remedy the nation's grave deficit of scientists."

Science News Letter, May 11, 1946

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CHEMISTRY

Wartime Smoke-Pots Used to Protect Apples

➤ SMOKE-POTS, that formed a protective screen for troops during the war, were used to protect Vermont's apple crop.

Six hundred of the 30-pound smoke-pots were rushed to Bennington County, Vt., to combat below-freezing temperatures that menaced the McIntosh apple orchards.

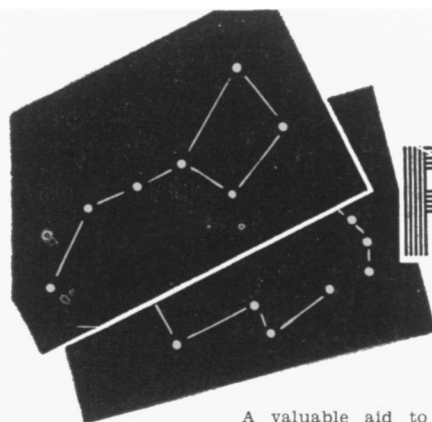
The smoke-pots, burning hexachloroethane, produce a white, non-gritty, sootless and harmless smoke. Each pot

smokes for about 10 minutes. The heat will not raise the temperature appreciably, but it does raise the dew-point enough to prevent frost.

"Operation Smoke-Pot" is being handled by the federal and state agricultural authorities in cooperation with the county agricultural agent of the University of Vermont Extension Service.

Chemical Warfare Service has 52,000 smoke-pots of the 30-pound size and countless others of varying sizes. They were offered to the Surplus Property Division, but the latter agency said the smoke-pots were useless and should be junked.

Science News Letter, May 11, 1946



STAR FINDER

A valuable aid to the student of astronomy or of navigation has been designed to locate celestial bodies quickly and accurately. The Millar Observoscope is made on the same principle as the equatorial mounting of the astronomer's telescope. This precision instrument is constructed of impact-resistant phenolic plastics with declination and latitude scales impressed in the body of the instrument. Impressed also are scales which indicate month, clock and sidereal hour angles.

Use of the instrument helps the student in visualizing the coordinate system and the apparent motion of the stars, while locating instantly the desired star. Intricate and confusing charts become unnecessary. In use, the latitude scale is set to the latitude of the observer and the civil time, opposite the day of the month. The star or constellation to be observed is looked up in the list of 55 stars provided and the sidereal hour angle set and declination indicated. The instrument is then oriented to true north and the star or constellation will be seen in the viewing tube.

The instrument may be mounted on a camera or astronomical tripod or simply placed on its weighted base for accurate observations. It may be used equally well to locate true north, to indicate civil time or latitude if all known settings are made and the sight tube is pointed to a known star. It is designed for use north of the equator. For use south of the equator, a special instrument can be supplied.

Professional astronomers who are accustomed to using complicated devices will be amazed at the accuracy and mechanical simplicity of this device.

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