

Do You Know?

The human body contains enough *phosphorus* to make 2,200 matches.

Cases of *mastitis*, costly disease of dairy cows, can be checked effectively with penicillin.

Schoolrooms can be made considerably lighter by using, instead of blackboards, white glass *chalkboards*, on which blue chalk is used.

Tungsten for use in high-grade light bulbs must be 99.99% pure; refined from ore, it is pressed into bars, and drawn into strands one-fifth the diameter of human hair.

Despite restrictions on use of grains, this year's production of American *beer* has been running at an annual rate of about 70,000,000 barrels, as contrasted with prewar production of about 55,000,000 barrels.

which feed a thin stream of the liquid through small pipes running down behind narrow plow points.

Two firms in California are doing a land-office business fumigating by contract. Starting in the south, they go straight up-state, spreading D-D at \$40 an acre, doing sometimes 20 acres a day. Still the market in the United States had hardly been tapped.

Soil fumigant already is being shipped to Puerto Rico, South Africa, New Zealand and England. Dow Chemical Company and Innis, Speiden Company have brands on the market competing with D-D. As present prices continue to drop with increased production, fumigants can be used profitably by growers of virtually every crop—even cotton, corn and wheat—raised in affected areas. Manufacture is a simple process, and present production of some 10,000 tons a year can be expanded almost overnight.

Gardeners in Florida and California obtain the liquid chemical from their local seed stores. Manufacturers promise

that by spring it will be packaged and on the shelves of dealers in all areas where it is needed. The man who is already enjoying good crops or whose land is unfertile may not find fumigation profitable, although over and above pest control it has given definite evidence of plant stimulation similar to a shot of nitrogen in the soil. Certainly if he has poor crops he will do well to uproot samples and take them to his county agent for inspection. "I thought I'd been planting when the moon was too full," one Florida farmer said, "but it was the ground that was too full—of that dratted worm."

It is imperative that we produce large quantities of food for years to come despite limited farm labor and equipment. It is essential that the most efficient use be made of all arable land. General use of the new soil fumigants should more than double our present production of most vegetables and some fruits on land now infested with nematodes, and thus help fill the horn of plenty for ourselves and for our world neighbors.

Science News Letter, October 12, 1946

ENGINEERING

Waste Products Find Use

➤ MOLDED BOARDS of softwood shavings from a planing mill can be produced at a price which can compete with plywood or lumber in certain instances, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers was told by Robert A. Caughey of the Souhegan Mills, Wilton, N. H. These shavings are now largely a waste product.

By the use of the proper amount and type of resin as a binder, and by curing under proper conditions of temperature and pressure, he said, it is possible to obtain a molded product which has very high resistance to water, very high strength and hardness, and which is eminently suitable for a wide variety of applications. Sawdust and other wood wastes can also be used to make lumber substitutes.

Mr. Caughey reviewed many of the new processes for using wood wastes in making plastics, or fillers in plastics. He called attention to the present tremendous wastage in connection with lumbering and woodworking industries. The wood wastes in terms of pounds of material, he declared, amount to at least 80% of the salable material produced, and this does not include the logging waste left in the woods.

The industry to which the waste wood

situation presents the greatest challenge, he asserted, is the plastics industry. The wood in the form of waste is still sound material with its original basic properties of strength and chemical resistance. The only disadvantage lies in its form, it being generally in such small pieces that it cannot be worked up into any usable product. It therefore remains to convert these particles into large pieces of some practical value.

Science News Letter, October 12, 1946

INVENTION

Plastic Coating Makes Better Work Gloves

➤ WORK GLOVES, made of plastic-coated fabrics, are promised for the near future. Much of the glove is Canton flannel, but the thumb, index finger and palm-surface are covered with vinyl butyral, a tough, flexible plastic made by the Monsanto Chemical Company, that gives protection similar to leather.

The plastic coating is washable. Grease, oil and grime can be removed with a solvent. The gloves will be made by regular glove manufacturers, Monsanto furnishing the plastic. This coating material has good wearing qualities.

Science News Letter, October 12, 1946

ARISTO CHRONOGRAPHS



LATEST WATERPROOF MODEL

Finest Watch and Stopwatch Combination available with seventeen jewel quality movement and Incabloc shockproof protection.

Stainless steel case beautifully designed to protect and enhance this fine movement.

Waterproofed to extend the life and reduce servicing by protecting the movement from all dust and moisture.

Double button control—1/5th second readings—30 minute register.

Luminous Dial for night reading.

Plain time dial or with Telemeter and Tachometer readings as illustrated for easy speed checking on a one mile base and distance measurements based on the speed of sound.

Regular retail price \$90.00 plus 20% tax.

Special Offer

\$71.50

Tax Included

Orders filled promptly on receipt of money order or certified check or sent C.O.D. on request.

PRATT & MORRIS

Distributors

27 Cleveland St.

Bergenfield, N. J.