



FLAME-THROWING TANK—One of the Army Chemical Corps' newest weapons is the giant flame thrower, mounted on an M-47 medium tank, shown in the photograph.

near South Carolina, the storm moved northeast over upper Virginia and Maryland, then whipped through eastern Pennsylvania, lashing the New York area.

Microseisms register when the low pressure area at the storm's center is over the ocean.

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GENERAL SCIENCE

Company Magazines Using More Science

► THE NATION'S leading house magazine editors are using more stories of science today than at any time in their history.

Nearly 40% of all editors surveyed by the Gebbie Press in a nation-wide poll say that at least one story dealing with scientific material appears in every issue of their publications, and that they wish they had more such stories.

The birth of the atomic age and private industry's vast contributions to both the wartime and peacetime uses of atomic bombs and by-products are credited with creating much of the editors' interests in science, according to the Gebbie Press.

Many company publications that before the war never deviated from the tried-and-true editorial approach of presenting purely local company news and gossip now devote considerable space to scientific stories.

Results of the survey, published in a 190-page volume titled "The Nation's Leading House Magazines," show that stories with scientific subjects or slants even out-pull women's fashion copy and cheesecake pictures. (See SNL, July 12, p. 28.)

The 1,400 house magazines polled have 55,000,000 combined circulation.

Science News Letter, September 13, 1952

SURGERY

Gallstones Operation For Baby Under One

► THE FIRST case recorded in medical history of gallstones in a baby under one year with recovery of the baby is reported by Drs. William H. Snyder, Jr., Lawrence Chaffin and Leon Oettinger of Los Angeles in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (Aug. 30).

About 90 cases of gallstones in infants have been reported since the first one was recorded in 1767, almost two centuries ago, by J. Lieutaud in a French medical journal. In all of these earlier cases, however, the baby died and the condition was discovered or confirmed in examination of the infant's body after death.

The baby who is the first known to survive is a girl. She thus fits one of the five F's—female, fair, fat, forty and fertile—which used to be taught as a description of the typical gallbladder disease patient.

This baby girl was six weeks old when admitted to the Los Angeles Children's Hospital with a diagnosis of intestinal obstruction. At operation, one small stone was found in the gallbladder, which had ruptured, and numerous gall stones were found in the common bile duct, which conveys bile to the first part of the small intestine. This duct was so small and crowded with stones that the surgeon had some difficulty in getting them out. He solved the problem by fitting a narrow bore plastic tube into the common duct and forcing the stones out under syringe pressure.

The baby recovered and is still well three months after operation, the three doctors report.

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TECHNOLOGY

New Flame Thrower Mounted on M-47 Tank

► THE LATEST U. S. medium tank has a new flame thrower as its main armament, replacing the usual cannon. Built primarily for use of the Marine Corps in assault operations, a giant flame thrower is mounted on an M-47 body.

Science News Letter, September 13, 1952

PSYCHOLOGY

Dogmatic Persons' Politics Vary Widely

► COMMUNISTS ARE not the only ones with dogmatic opinions. In fact, dogmatic individuals are found in just about equal numbers among the extreme leftists, extreme rightists and among the middle-of-the-roaders. They may be dogmatic about politics, religion, philosophy or science.

This was disclosed by a study of the opinions of college students reported by Dr. Milton Rokeach of Michigan State College, Lansing, to the American Psychological Association meeting in Washington.

Some personality traits are common to all strongly opinionated persons, Dr. Rokeach said, whether they are liberals, conservatives or in-betweens. They are intolerant of criticism. They need to over-identify with some cause. They want to punish the renegade from their particular ideology. They do not like to compromise, but are willing to be martyred for the cause. They tend to dislike themselves and to be suspicious of others and they fear to be alone.

Dogmatic persons are inclined to subscribe to statements prefaced with some such extreme wording as "Only a simple-minded fool would think that . . ." followed by some remark about America, Russia, China, labor, God, race differences, MacArthur or other controversial subject.

Dogmatic persons are those most likely to accept dictatorship, Dr. Rokeach found.

A measure of dogmatic personality and a scale for picking out opinionated persons have been developed by Dr. Rokeach on the basis of his findings.

Science News Letter, September 13, 1952

PSYCHOLOGY

He-Man Music Preferred by All

► AMERICANS PREFER music they judge to be masculine, especially when they know others think that the music is fit for he-men.

Both sexes consistently prefer masculine music, Dr. Carl H. Rittenhouse, psychologist at Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colo., told the American Psychological Association. The most masculine men and women with mannish manners have strongest preference for masculine music.

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