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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE • MAY 22, 1943



Test Chamber

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A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

About one-third of the wooded area of the United States, over 200,000,000 acres, is on farms.

Prunes steamed before dehydration retain the color of the fresh fruit, it is claimed, and cook more quickly than ordinary dried prunes.

Chapsticks are medicated cylindrical sticks containing camphor and other soothing ingredients issued to soldiers to protect against chapped skin or sunburn.

The most important cotton raising countries in the Western Hemisphere, named in order of the quantities produced, are the United States, Brazil, Peru and Argentina.

Whale meat, eaten in many countries, was used in the United States for food in considerable quantities during the first World War; it is dark red in color and tastes somewhat like beef.

Paiche, a fish sometimes reaching a length of 12 feet and weighing 300 pounds, is found in the rivers in the upper Amazon basin in Peru and is highly valued as food; in Brazil it is called pirarucu.

The sea mussel, closely related to the oyster and clam, may become popular as food in the United States as it is everywhere else in the world; it is estimated that a million bushels could be taken this year on the New England coast.

## Question Box

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#### PSYCHIATRY

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How was a case of dual personality caused and cured? p. 327

What do the strains suffered by merchant seamen do to their nerves? p. 334.

What new treatment may be used to ward off seizures of epilepsy? p. 324.

What psychological causes may account for absenteeism? p. 329.

What sort of illness makes the patient see everything as very small? p. 335.

What sort of morale did the men have on the Wasp? p. 323.

Why was GualaCalcanal a worse strain on men's nerves than Pearl Harbor? p. 323.

#### PSYCHOLOGY

What effect has proper food on intelligence? p. 331.

What is one of the hazards of birth to infant minds? p. 331

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.

Twenty-six sheep are required to produce enough wool to outfit one soldier for his first year of service.

Scientific investigations are being made by the government to insure effective use of industrial diamonds.

Atabrine, a synthetic replacement for quinine used in treating malaria patients, is now being produced at a rate exceeding enough to make 1,000,000,000 tablets a year, sufficient to treat 66,250,000 cases.

Silviculture experts state that an acre of forest trees may drop as many as 8,000,000 seeds in a year.

In a Liberty Ship approximately 225,000 to 250,000 linear feet of welding have replaced 900,000 to 1,000,000 rivets.

Soldiers in Australia between 18 and 19 years of age who have completed their military training will be used in rural mobile labor pools until mature enough to be sent to operational stations.

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