



EXACTING TEST—Ingenuity as well as agility is necessary to get this "camouflaged king-size bazooka" across the chasm between the two walls. It happens that, with care, the bazooka can be made to just reach across so that the men can use it for a bridge and this is just about the only method for getting over—a good test for candidates for the OSS.

many after the war. Liquor loosened tongues and many men expressed ideas that they might have hesitated to mention otherwise. The talks were always interesting and often continued until two or three in the morning.

Details of the testing method will be described in a book, *Assessment of Men*, now in press (Houghton-Mifflin).

It is expected that the methods worked out for selection of OSS men will have important applications in industry and civilian selection now that the war is over.

Although it is not likely that this particular test set-up would be useful in peace except perhaps for selection of FBI agents or police officers, the idea of assessing an applicant's total resources instead of some one qualification such as intelligence or speed in typing would be applicable to a multitude of selection needs.

For many jobs, personality factors are quite as important as is mental keenness or trade skills. But bravery, calmness under heckling, ability to control temper, facility in persuading a group to take some action, are much more difficult to assess than is the ability to figure

interest on an investment or sort cards alphabetically.

The testing method worked out under Col. Murray illustrates the importance of studying the job and determining the qualities needed. It shows the value of using a staff of examiners from the different fields of psychology, psychiatry and sociology with perhaps other fields represented for other types of job. It shows that you can learn something about men by living in the same house with them for a few days and associating with them at meals, over a game of tennis or chess, or relaxed in an easy chair for a friendly "bull session" in the evening.

After such social contact, the staff of examiners may place a higher evaluation on the individual worth of a particular applicant than his written examinations would lead to.

In such informal situations, the applicant for insurance salesman or college president, foreman or bank examiner, receptionist or handler of complaints, lecturer or floorwalker could "show their stuff" as they never could in the artificial situation of an examining room or brief, formal interview.

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CHEMISTRY

Mercury Chlorine Cell To Be Studied in Germany

➤ A COMMISSION representing American domestic chlorine producers will soon visit Europe to secure full technical information relative to the German mercury chlorine cell. Another group, in America, will determine the place and scope of tests for two types of the cell which will be brought to the United States by the Army Chemical Warfare Service. Both committees are sponsored by this Army service.

The program to exploit the German mercury chlorine cell and make it available to American industry was launched by the Chemical Warfare Service in cooperation with the American chemical industry. This cell has been developed much further in Germany than in the United States, it is reported. It was given impetus by war expansion of the German caustic and chlorine industry, abetted by the cheapness of mercury there due to relations with Spain, the mercury-producing country, during the war.

One advantage of the mercury cell is that it eliminates expensive evaporating equipment. A new vertical rotating type used by the Germans toward the end of the war requires much less floor space than conventional horizontal types.

A trend toward liquefaction of chlorine by means of higher compression, followed by water cooling without artificial refrigeration, was also noted in Germany by representatives of the Chemical Warfare Service in a survey of German chemical processes following VE-Day. A new type of rectifier, which was alleged to operate at high efficiency in the lower voltage range, was reported in at least two of the newer installations.

Improved methods of chlorine production will benefit the United States government, the chlorine industry and the American public. Large quantities of chlorine are now used in various industrial and other processes, particularly in bleaching and in water purification.

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Sugar is one of the four staple foods of the Iranian people, the others being bread, rice and tea; Iran produces sugar for about one-third of its requirements.

Corn in tropical countries is in danger of fermentation, due to the warm climate and the high humidity, unless it is dried immediately after harvesting.