

Very thin coatings have been successfully used in the last few years to suppress reflections from glass surfaces as a result of researches by Drs. John Strong, Katherine Blodgett and C. H. Cartwright. In these earlier processes coatings of various sorts have been added to the glass, while Dr. Nicoll's method etches the glass to produce a film. Commercial applications of the new process

are being developed for early use.

Lord Rayleigh over 40 years ago jotted down in his records that hydrofluoric acid diluted in 200 parts of water took off a layer of glass each hour amounting to about a quarter wavelength of light. This was the clue used by Dr. Nicoll in developing his new process of making glass more transparent.

Science News Letter, November 1, 1941

ANTHROPOLOGY

Open 500 Tombs in Arctic To Identify Mystery Race

At Point Hope, Alaska, Is Unearthed One of Largest Collections of Sort Ever Found at a Site in America

DIGGING into 500 Arctic tombs at Point Hope, Alaska, two anthropologists excavating for the American Museum of Natural History have brought to daylight enough bony evidence, they hope, to clear up a strange mystery of the ancient Far North.

The 500 skeletons, unearthed by Dr. Harry L. Shapiro and Dr. Froelich G. Rainey, are pronounced one of the largest collections of the sort ever found at a site in America. The two anthropologists sought remains of an ancient and unknown people, whom Dr. Rainey first discovered in expeditions of 1939 and 1940. Also they sought later Eskimo burials which would aid in showing what relationship the lost ancients had to the later Eskimos.

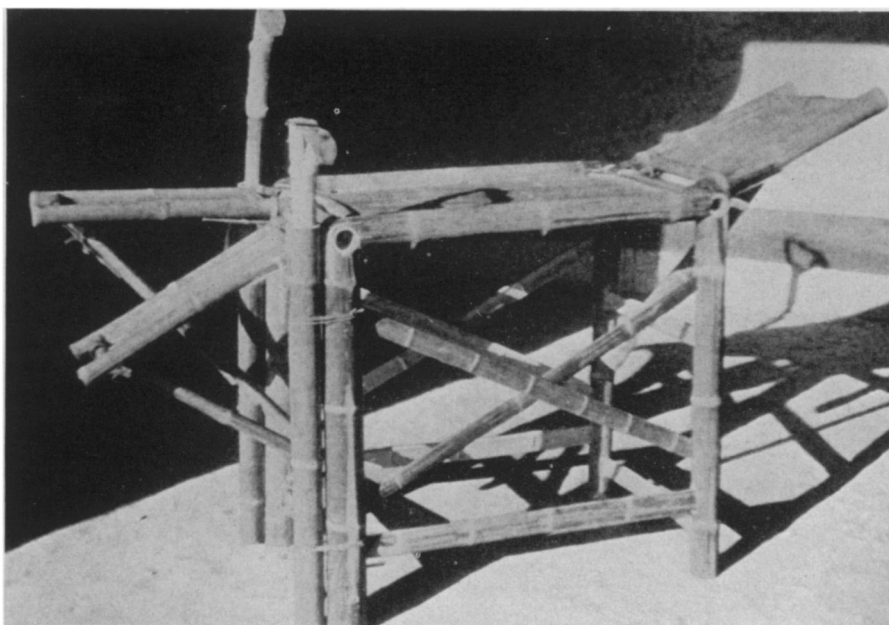
The mysterious unknowns had a remarkably big town with well-planned streets, over 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle; and about 2,000 years ago they abandoned this settlement. A lost race, American Museum scientists have rated them, because their ivory arts are unlike those of known Alaskan Eskimos, ancient or modern. Also, it is explained, they lacked many typical Eskimo implements, and were more dependent on land than sea for resources.

In his laboratory at the museum, Dr. Shapiro plans to examine the physical traits of the forgotten Northerners, to place them more definitely in the melting-pot story of prehistoric America. The Ipiutaks, as they are now called from the Eskimo name of a spit of land near their old home, may have come from as far away in Asia as north China.

A new glimpse into curious burial

customs of the Ipiutaks is revealed by a carved ivory mask with staring inset ivory eyes, which was found covering the body of a little child. The child lay resting on the knees of a man, and a woman also accompanied it. Masks with ivory eyes have been found before in the graves of these mystery people, but what their significance was for a future life remains one of the unsolved puzzles of the Arctic.

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COST—TEN CENTS

Surgeons trained in the finest hospitals in Europe and America going to China to serve in the Medical Relief Corps, find that they must make their own equipment out of primitive materials. One ingenious surgeon built his own operating table out of bamboo, at a total cost of ten cents in American money.

MEDICINE

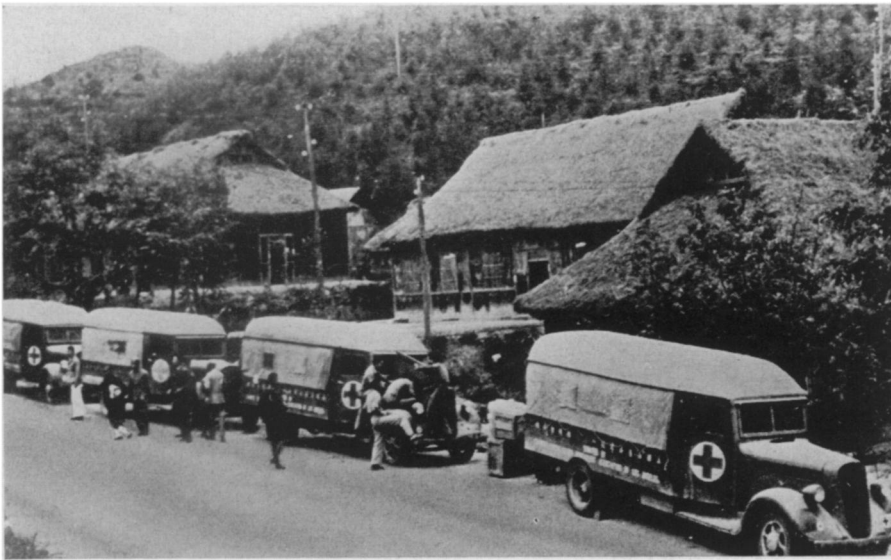
Chinese Doctor In U. S. Wanted To Run Blood Bank

WANTED—a young Chinese doctor somewhere in the United States who is willing to go back to China to run China's blood bank, vital in saving thousands of lives there.

Dr. John Scudder of the Presbyterian Hospital, New York City, creator of the blood plasma bank for Great Britain, has offered to teach this young Chinese volunteer the technique of running China's bank and preparation of the plasma as a blood substitute. He must be a medical graduate with laboratory training.

The Chinese bank is under the Medical Relief Corps of the Chinese Red Cross. A fellowship of \$1,000 for the young doctor during a year's training at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, has been provided by the American Bureau for Medical Aid to China, a member agency of United China Relief at its New York headquarters, 1790 Broadway.

Declaring that lack of trained personnel is a serious bottleneck in China's medical relief, Dr. Donald D. Van Slyke, who heads the American Bureau for Medical Aid to China, said that his bureau is recruiting as many Chinese



FOR CHINESE BLOOD BANK

In a straw-thatched hut like these at Chinese Red Cross headquarters in Kweiyang, China, will be created a plasma bank for China's wounded soldiers.

or American physicians as they can, who can meet the difficult requirements. Volunteers must be under 40, must speak Chinese, be graduates of recognized schools, and strong and willing to endure hardship and primitive living. Less than 200 graduate doctors are caring for wounded and sick in an army of 4,000,000.

Doctor-mechanics are an emergency in-

vention for China's medical problem. Given three months' organized emergency training, these men aid the doctors by undertaking such tasks as setting broken bones, bandaging, diagnosing prevalent diseases like typhoid and relapsing fever, and undertaking sanitary delousing and water sterilizing measures.

Science News Letter, November 1, 1941

NUTRITION

What Babies Eat Now Affects Adult Nutrition of 1961

America Is Still Falling Short of Meeting Nutrition Needs; Medical Students Not Taught Enough About It

DECLARING that the United States must work harder to feed its babies now, to have well-nourished adults in 1961, Dr. Katherine Bain of the U. S. Children's Bureau told dietitians that America fails to teach its medical students and nurses enough about low-cost nutrition.

"Probably not one per cent. of internes in the country know the difference between a Grade A and Grade B egg," said Dr. Bain.

America is still falling far short of meeting its nutrition needs, Dr. Bain said, addressing the American Dietetic Association meeting at St. Louis. School lunch programs, providing a good meal

a day for up to 2,000,000 children, the food stamp plan, home gardens, and relief payments all help but are not enough, she stated.

Pointing out that well-run child-health conferences now spend 75% of the physician's time teaching mothers what and how to feed their children, Dr. Bain said that a stumbling block in medical education is the weak nutrition training of doctors and nurses. The medical student or interne learns to concoct a perfect diet for the diabetic child and can usually feed an infant if cost is no object, but is not taught at school how to get a good diet for the normal child in low income groups.

Every infant, however "normal," needs to have his diet adjusted to his individual needs, the physician stated. Yet, at present there are in the United States only about 1,000 certified obstetricians whose time and energy could not possibly stretch over the more than 2,000,000 infant births a year. There are about 1,500 certified pediatricians, who could not see all the newborn infants and direct their feeding, if they worked 24 hours a day.

"Yet the care of all mothers and infants is a fundamental public health principle," said Dr. Bain.

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Expands Canteen Training

THE AMERICAN Red Cross is rapidly expanding its nutrition and canteen training of volunteers, and the thousands thus trained will be valuable to the country in war or peace, Miss Melva Bakkie, Red Cross staff nutritionist, told the American Dietetic Association.

Red Cross chapters offering nutrition courses have trebled recently, and there are no less than 700 instructors teaching nutrition classes alone. The standard, 20-hour nutrition course for "nutrition aids" teaches facts about improving diets at all income levels, and proper food habits and practices. The course also trains volunteers to take part in community activities in nutrition.

The 20-hour canteen course, open to those who have had a nutrition course, will provide, Miss Bakkie said, "an organized group of volunteers who can work together and use uniform procedures so that group feeding is effective."

Canteen training is important, not only in war emergencies such as bombed-out or sabotaged neighborhoods, but also in general emergencies of floods, explosions, fires and storms.

A new 25-cent nutrition text book prepared by the Red Cross for its volunteer students is on the press.

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Army Will Change Diet

AMERICA's eating habits are going to be changed by this World War—all because a million and a half, and maybe more, young American soldiers are acquiring new ideas of what's good to eat. When they go marching home, it will be up to mothers and brides, not to mention the farmers and grocers, to meet the young men's new food demands.

This is the prediction made by Col. R. A. Osmun of the Army Quartermaster Corps, in an address before nutrition