ASK THE SCIENTIST

If you have a question to ask the scientists, mail it to the New York Press Association, The Castle, Syracuse, 10, New York. The Science Board of the Radio Workshop at Syracuse University will answer each week in the Andover News those questions considered most interesting and timely.

Question 1. Have new methods been found to speed up the healing of open wounds?

ANSWER. Uninfected wounds generally heal rapidly and uneventfully, so that there is really no particular need for anything to hasten the healing.

Many different substances have, from time to time, been alleged by their sponsors to stimulate cell division, and thus hasten the healing of wounds, but their effectiveness has proven questionable and they are seldom used by surgeons at present. One such substance widely used was cod liver oil, but the usual practice now is to dust a wound with sulphanilimide or sulphathiozole, after thoroughly cleaning it—called debridement—and await the healing done by nature.—Prof. Henry Jones, bacteriologist.

Question 2. How come volcanoes are found in certain parts of the earth and not in others? What conditions must be present before a region may be called volcanic?

ANSWER. Volcanoes are only incidents in an undercover war. They are something like the red rash of scarlet fever—obvious, and indicative of distress, but far from being the whole of the affliction.

The interior of the earth is hot. At the temperature there, some kinds of rocks would be melted except for the pressure of the overlaying rocks (they take up more space as liquids and, therefore, must expand in order to melt, and the pressure keeps them from expanding and, therefore, from melting.)

In some places on the earth the pressure is relieved, usually by the same forces that make mountains. When this relief occurs, the hot rocks may become melted and form a reservoir of molten rock, or magma—lava, when it comes to the surface—in the earth.

If some of this hot liquid rock leaks through to the surface of the earth, it forms a volcano. It is sometimes said that volcanoes are found along lines of weakness in the earth crust. It is true, first, that the usual pressures within the earth must be relieved, and second, that paths of migration—or cracks in the earth's crust — must be present to let the lava reach the surface. Wherever this occurs there is a volcanic area or region.

Whether the country is cold or hot makes no difference. Regionalism has nothing to do with it. Volcanoes have been found anywhere from the Aleutians to Cape Horn.—Dr. Earl T. Apfel, geologist.

Question 3. Can scientists actually create life?

ANSWER. Scientists know what elements occur in living material, but they are unable to put these elements together in order to make living forms of matter from non-living. Life seems to be a state of matter.

We have matter in the living state and we have the same matter in the dead state. A single cell may be fully alive, then frozen and it dies; yet all the materials are still there that exist in living matter although it is dead. No, scientists definitely cannot create life.—Dr. Ernest Reed, geneticist.

Question 4. How long will our present coal supply last if used at the present rate of consumption?

ANSWER. In volume, our present supply of coal equals more than the amount of matter used to build the Panama Canal. But the problem is more economic than how much coal is left. Not all the coal left is near enough to the earth's surface or in veins thick enough to be taken out by mining process.

There have been many recent estimates as to how long our present supply of coal will last. I estimate about 1,000 years at the present rate of consumption. A recent estimate which seems pretty pessimistic to me, is about one-third of 1,000 years. If all the coal were taken out of the ground, it would last 3,000 years.—Dr. Apfel.

Something's Missing

The guide was conducting a tourist party through the automobile plant. He stopped by the assembly line. "Do you know what would happen if that man over there ever missed a day at work?" he asked the members of the party.

"No, what would happen?" spoke up one.

"Twenty-two hundred and sixty-one cars would go out of the factory without springs."

"Say, mister," said an interested onlooker, "that fellow's been off a lot, hasn't he "

A smart secretary can move an inkwell or lay a pencil down in a manner to make her boss wince.

Ration Reminders

MEATS, FATS—Red Stamps Q2 through U2 expire August 31. Red Stamps V2 through Z2 expire September 30. Red Stamps A1 through E1 expire October 31. Red Stamps F1 through K1 expire November 30.

PROCESSED FOODS — Blue Stamps Y2, Z2, A1, B1, C1 expire August 31. Blue Stamps D1 through H1 expire September 30. Blue Stamps J1 through N1 expire October 31. Blue Stamps P1 through T1 expire November 30.

SUGAR STAMPS—36 expires August 31. Next stamp becomes valid Septetmber 1.

FUEL OIL—Period 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 coupons, good for ten gallons per unit, continues valid throughout the country for the rest of the heating year. New Period 1 coupon in the 1945-46 ration may be used anytime after June 1.

SHOES—Airplane Stamps Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, in Book Three continue valid indefinitely.

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Relieves burn pain almost instantly. NEW SCOTT'S OINTMENT with cod liver oil containing natural A and D Vitamins ends burn misery . . . promotes rapid healing. Soothes minor cuts and skin irritations. Handy tube!

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Claude Drew, Jr., Sea. 1|c
Pfc. Frank McKibben
Pvt. William H. Crosby
Pvt. Raymond L. Cartwright
S|Sgt. Charles W. Lever

MISSING IN ACTION

1st Lt. Donald E. Hardy

Sgt. John F. Ahrens
Pfc. Ralph A. Allen
1st Lt. W. Paul Alderson
Henry Lee Antan, M.M. 1|c
Pvt. C. A. Armstrong
Mary E. Baker, C.N.
Sgt. H. Bruce Baker
Sgt. Howard Baker
Sgt. Leo C. Baker
Cpl. Max Baker
Pfc. Newell C. Baker
Pfc. Roger P. Baker
Robert Baker, A|S
Pvt. Lasca O. Baker
Bernard N. Bertrand, C.Ph.M.
Pvt. Richard Beihl
Pvt. Dennis Beihl
Sgt. Peter C. Breiding
Pfc. Everett Briggs
MT-Sgt. Clyde R. Briggs
Sgt. Raymond Briggs
Sgt. Milton A. Briggs
Cpl. Howard Brewster
Lt. Edward P. Brewster
Pvt. Kenneth Brown
Lt. Wilfred S. Brown
Cpl. Leslie W. Brundage
Pfc. Carl B. Budinger
Sgt. Lloyd W. Burdick
Cpl. Ernest Burdick
S|Sgt. Clifford Burdick
T-5 Clayton Burger
1st Lt. John L. Cannon
T-5 Clarence E. Carson
Capt. Edward Cannon
Pfc. Conrad Church
Pvt. Harold C. Church
Sgt. Ernest Clark
1st Lt. Francis Clarke
Sgt. Elwin E. Clark
Cpl. William W. Clarke
S|Sgt. Richard Clair
Pvt. Francis N. Cornelius
Garland Crandall, C.M. 1|c
Jack Truman Coats, Ph.M.2|c
Pvt. Kenneth Cook
Wisner H. Cook, Ph. M. 2|c
Capt. J. Robert Common
Richard Cronk, S.1|c
Sgt. Edward J. Dean
Sgt. George Dean
Pfc. Laurence E. Dean
John Dean, Y.3|c
Donald DeRemer, C.M. 2|c
Pvt. Louis John Dodge
Sgt. Edward J. Doherty
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Sgt. Thomas B. Drew
Norman Drew, G.M. 3|c
James C. Driscoll, R.M. 3|c
Sgt. William Dugan
Cpl. Paul D. Dunham
Pvt. Floyd William Ellis
Cpl. Donald J. Emery
Pvt. Llewellyn O. Fairbanks
Pvt. Raymond Flynn
Lt. Leo Fulkerson
Pvt. Louis C. Fulkerson
Lt. James W. Fuller
Pvt. Theodore Foster
Pvt. Robert H. Freeland
Pvt. Oliver A. Freeland
1st Sgt. Howard L. Gath
T-5 Charles E. Gath
Pvt. Kenneth Gath
T|Sgt. Walter Gath
Pfc. Michael V. Gavin
Pvt. Elwin L. Gayhart
Pvt. Miles Gorsuch
Pvt. George C. Greenan
Cpl. Lester LaVern Greene
Capt. E. C. Greene, M.C.
S|Sgt. Montrose Greene
Sgt. LeRoy Guilford
Cpl. Charles E. Hall
Raymond Hall, Sea. 1|c
Cpl. Robert Hall
Pfc. Frederick P. Hammell
2nd Lt. Unnolee Hammell
Anna Hardy, C.N.
Pfc. Arnold C. Hawks
Sgt. Jason Hawks
Capt. John S. Herrick
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James Holt, A|S
Pfc. Carl Honegger
Sgt. Alvin M. Hoover
Lenford Horton, Sea. 2|c
Pvt. Otto D. House
Pfc. Comer Howard
Sgt. Harold Howland
Pfc. John Howland
Sgt. Lawrence R. Howland
L. L. Howland, C.T.M.
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Pvt. Carl R. Ingraham
Pvt. Paul L. Jackson
Sgt. George Joyce
S|Sgt. Donald L. Joyce
Clare L. Jackson, B.M.2|c
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George Karcanes, S.1|c
Kaliopy Karcanes, S.C.3|c
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Roland P. Kemp, E.M. 2|c
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Pfc. Orville J. Kupp
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Pfc. Arnold B. LeBar
Cpl. Wilbur C. Lehman
Pfc. George Leslie Lehman
Cpl. Arthur Weslie Lehman
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Pvt. Leo Lewis
Pvt. John J. Lewis
1st Lt. Merle Linza
Sgt. Mark E. Ludden, Jr.
Sgt. Raymond Lynch
S|Sgt. Donald J. Lynch
Pvt. William Marvin
Ardean Matison, F.1|c
Cpl. Lynn Matison
S|Sgt. William Martin
Sgt. Joseph McAndrew
T|Sgt. Richard B. McAndrew
Pvt. Howard E. McAndrews
Vincent McAndrew, Mo.M.M.1|c
Capt. Francis McAndrew
Vincent Mitchell, C.C.M.
Robert W. Mitchell, S.2|c
Cpl. Anna M. Mitchell
Pvt. Kenneth R. McClure
Pfc. Joseph Monroe
Lawrence Monroe, Mo.M.M.1|c
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Cpl. Floyd Neupert, Jr.
Pvt. Charles J. Nevol, Jr.
Pvt. Bernard A. Neville
T-5 Donald L. Nichols
F.O. Frank T. Nye
Sgt. Victor Oakes
S|Sgt. Robert W. O'Boyle
T-5 George E. O'Dell
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Pfc. Burdette Ordiway
Pvt. Donald J. Ordiway
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Pfc. Robert Perry
Glenn L. Perry
Elaine Pope, C.N.
Ensign Farnham G. Pope
Richard Potter, S.1|c
George E. Prue, E.M. 2|c
Chester D. Prue, A.M.M. 2|c
T-Sgt. Joseph A. Ray
T|Sgt. John J. Regan
Lester Regan, F.1|c
Pvt. Ferdinand L. Reisman
T-3 Daniel M. Reisman
Pvt. James K. Reisman
S|Sgt. Harold Rice
Pvt. John P. Richardson
Regina A. Richardson, S.1|c
Pvt. Earl Riffle
Jean Rogers, C.N.
Pfc. Raymond Rogers
Cpl. Stanley Ruger
Paul Ryan, H.A. 1|c
S|Sgt. John W. Saunders
T|Sgt. Robert E. Scott
C. Roland Shaff, C.M. 3|c
Cpl. Harold F. Sisson
Pvt. Clyde J. Shellman
Sgt. Claude L. Shellman
Staff Sgt. Leslie Sherwood
Sgt. Stanley W. Sherwood
Pvt. Darwin Shutt
Pfc. Merle Shutt
Doris Sick, C.N.
Arthur Silsby, Sea. 2|c
Sgt. Ralph H. Skinner
Ruth O. Slocum, C.N.
Ferdinand J. Smith, Jr., S.2|c
Pvt. Raymond Craig Snyder
Pfc. Edward S. Steebell
Richard Stewart, Chief A.M.M.
Sgt. Walter Strouse
Sgt. Richard Stockman
Pvt. Walter Storms
Lt. Barbara E. Temple
Arthur R. Temple, A|S
Kenneth J. Tidd, M.M.1|c
Richard Trowbridge, R.T.2|c
1st Lt. Alan Tuttle
T-4 Roger Tuttle
Sgt. Paul F. Updyke
Wendall Vars, Ph.M.3|c
Cpl. T-5 Fred W. VanCuren
T-5 Robert VanCuren
Cpl. Herman L. Wallace
Pvt. William Weed
Pfc. Lyle West
Pvt. Harold E. West
Quintin West, Sea. 2c
Cpl. Carl Will
William S. Wahl, Sea. 2c
Pvt. Kenneth R. Williams
Pfc. James S. Witter
Pvt. Floyd E. Woodworth
Rose E. Yannie, Sea.1|c
S|Sgt. Victor Yannie
Clyde M. Yorton, C.M.1|c

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Howard H. Alvord, A|S
Pfc. John E. Baker
Pfc. Clifford Bixby
Pvt. Nathan Burdick
Pvt. John C. Brownson
Pvt. Elbert D. Cable
Sgt. Francis E. Cable
Sgt. E. Gordon Cartwright
Cpl. Paul Childs
Lloyd Clair, A|S
Floyd C. Coats, F.1|c
T-5 Richard Coates
Pvt. John Connor
Pvt. Burrel H. Cole
Cpl. Leo DeRemer
Pvt. Theron Jack Ellis
Homer G. Glover, A|B
P.F.C. Jeane E. Greenan
Pvt. Linford Grossman
Cpl. Fordyce E. Hall
Cpl. Frederick Halsey
Pvt. Gerald W. Hann
M|Sgt. Allen M. Harvey
Pvt. Albert T. House
Capt. Howard J. Leahy
Pfc. Rex Linza
Richard C. Ludden, S 2|c
Pfc. Earl Matison
Cpl. Mary Driscoll O'Connor
Pvt. Clifford E. Perry
Pfc. Ernest D. Rice
Pvt. Louis P. Sherwood
William C. Slocum, A|S
Pvt. Floyd E. Sweet
Sgt. Kenneth Vars.
Cpl. Clarence S. Wagner
Sgt. Raymond Winchell
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Anxious

"I do hope you keep your cows in a pasture," said Mrs. Newlywed as she paid the milkman.

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