

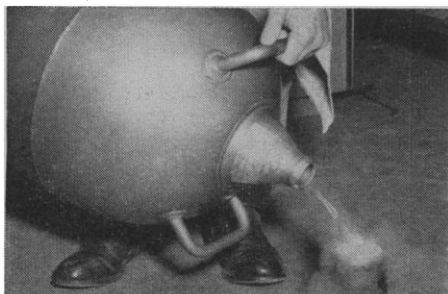
NEW liquefied gas container KEEPS CONTENTS TWICE AS LONG!



Only 22¾ in. high, 15⅝ in. diam., tough, corrosion-resistant welded aluminum construction cuts weight to 19 lbs. Low conductivity neck tube has 1½ in. opening.

Compared to ordinary vacuum-insulated vessels, the LINDE LD-25 has a 50% lower evaporation rate! It's the most practical and economical container available, and can bring substantial savings in the storage of liquefied atmospheric gases. Here's why:

- Holding time—liquid oxygen loss rate at only 4% per day; nitrogen at 5%; neon, 7.5%; argon, 4%.
- Capacity is 25 liters, yet weighs only 19 lbs. empty—less than containers that hold only ⅓ as much.
- Wide neck permits emptying in 90 seconds, 10 times faster than old-fashioned narrow-neck containers. Filling time is also reduced.
- Automatic pressure withdrawal tube, dipper, and roller caster are available.



LINDE guarantees all of its containers against defective material and workmanship for a period of one year from date of shipment. This includes a one year guarantee against excessive evaporation loss.

Linde

UNION CARBIDE

Linde Company, Division of Union Carbide Corporation
Dept. SC-101, 270 Park Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

Please send me information on

- ☐ LD-25 Liquefied Gas Container
☐ other equipment for liquefied atmospheric gases
☐ (please specify) _____

Name _____

Firm Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

"Linde" and
"Union Carbide"
are registered trade-marks
of Union Carbide Corporation.

Letters

The Incorrect Use of "Base"

The ions of calcium, magnesium, and potassium, especially when they are held as exchangeable ions on colloids, are often referred to collectively as "bases" by workers in soils and some related subjects. This absurd mistake is made by men of some repute and extends to recent textbooks, which must thereby confuse the next generation of students. The offenders may excuse themselves by saying that they want to distinguish calcium and magnesium ions (which produce trivial acidity on interaction with water) from aluminum and ferric ions (which produce much acidity), and that *base* is the only word they can think of for the former.

It is apparently useless in dealing with such people to point to the work of Brønsted of over 30 years ago, so perhaps we should make it easier for them to reform. In fact, no short term exists for "rare-earth cations of charge one or two other than beryllium." "Nonhydrolyzing cations" (which comes closer to the intention) is also too long. The word *alkalon* has been suggested, by analogy with *lanthanon*, which could replace the clumsy "elements of the rare earths." Whether or not *alkalon* is acceptable, it is important that a short alternative term be invented, in order to put an end to the present misuse. Editors might then be bold enough to refuse to print the word *base* when it is used, as it commonly is, to mean "very weak acid."

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Blood Typing of Aged Material

Madeleine Smith's article on "Blood groups of the ancient dead" [*Science* 131, 699 (1960)], published under the heading "Current problems in research" and summarizing the work done to date in blood typing of aged bone or tissue, gives the impression that paleoserology presently provides a useful tool for research into the history and genetics of ancient populations. Unfortunately, this is not the case, at least at present.

Smith, in summarizing the developments in technique and reports of typings since the beginning work of Boyd in 1933, fails to include in her bibliography the paper by F. P. Thieme and C. M. Otten entitled "The unreliability of blood typing aged bone" [*Am. J. Phys. Anthropol.* 15, No. 3 (1957)],