

a good term if we want to find one which will win friends and influence people."

My point is, we have a good American word in "radionics," highly descriptive, looked upon with favor by engineers and physicists, and easily understood by the general public. A word that, in my opinion, is fit to describe the miracles now being wrought behind the secret panels of radionic laboratories—wrought for the winning of the war. A word that includes the entire field of radar, electronics and radio in one covering term.

Over the long distance telephone in the past few days I have talked with most of the leaders of the industry, and of the two terms all of them seem to feel the American term "radionics" is more descriptive and will be less confusing to the public.

For the sake of our entire industry I would be deeply interested in the reaction of the press. May I have your opinion?

E. F. McDONALD, JR.

MAKING MOSQUITO SURVEYS WITH A JEEP AND THE PBY-5

THE Patrol Bomber (PBY-5) and particularly the Jeep have been found indispensable in carrying out mosquito survey work at the U. S. Naval Air Training Center near Corpus Christi, Texas.

The success of the Jeep lies in its ability to go anywhere. She can wade through water that covers the floor boards, or scoot through brush that is higher than the car. Her four-wheel drive mechanism pulls her over sand dunes or through axle-deep mud. Throughout the design of the Jeep all waste space has been eliminated, but two men with collecting and camping equipment can successfully live out of her for days. Many successful reconnoitering survey trips have been made that included four individuals.

For the preparation of the survey map, it was found that a drawing board measuring 20×36 inches could be built into the rear seat. Each end of the board rests on the fender frames. A piece of 2×4 or 2×6 board is attached to the under side of the drawing board where it not only acts as a stop to keep the board from shifting, but raises it up to a more desirable level for drawing. Drawing paper can then be thumb-tacked to the board or sealed with decorator's self-sealing tape.

This type of arrangement has worked successfully in the preparation of maps in which the scale has been 2 or 4 inches equal to 1 mile. Thus, by means of the speedometer readings, compass, protractor and ruler, the location of the ponds, lakes, marshes, roads, creeks, etc., can be accurately plotted. It was found that there was no incorrect degree of deviation of the compass when it was held in the center of the drawing board. The mosquito breeding places have been lo-

cated and plotted in an area of over 100 square miles in less than a week by the use of this method.

At many times, it is desirable to see the extent of the mosquito breeding area from the air, and for this the PBY-5 has been most frequently used. This ship is equipped with so-called "glass blisters" in the fuselage. This has the advantage of permitting one to see the ground in all directions. The PBY-5 is capable of flying at low speeds and from an altitude of 100 feet, detailed examination of the ground can be made and sketch maps prepared.

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DR. A. W. GRABAU IN CHINA

THE following communication from Mrs. Amadeus W. Grabau (Mary Antin) will be of interest to many geologists. Dr. Grabau, who has long been engaged in paleontological work for the Chinese government, is still living in Peking.

In November I received a very short letter dated August 4, 1942, in my husband's own hand. He stated briefly that he and his household were getting along tolerably well with the help of a subsistence allowance from our State Department which, as you probably know, all American nationals in enemy territory receive through the nearest Swiss representative. This letter was brought out of Peking by a friend, Dr. A. B. D. Fortuyn, who came out with the first lot of various nationals to be exchanged.

Later I called upon Dr. and Mrs. Fortuyn in New York. They gave me a reassuring picture of my husband. When they last saw him in August (1942), he was in no worse health than he had known for years past and was able to concentrate in his usual energetic fashion on his writing. Publication is of course very doubtful now, but at least there is no interference with his writing. His current secretary-housekeeper, a German lady—one of a succession of refugees whom Dr. Grabau has sheltered in his compound from time to time—seemed to be efficient and devoted. Some of his Chinese friends are still at hand to look after him as in years past. Also Dr. Hoeppli, formerly on the staff of Peking Union Medical College, now representing the Swiss government to look after American citizens in Peking, is well acquainted with my husband and sure to look after him.

General conditions in Peking were not too bad. The food situation was tolerable as of early August. American citizens, with the exception of two or three administrative officers of P.U.M.C., had the freedom of the city and were carrying on pretty much as in former days. My husband was left undisturbed in his own compound with a sufficient domestic staff.

A significant item was relayed to me by Dr. Roger S. Greene. In a news letter from Chungking dated November 10, 1942, was the following reference to my husband: "Professor Grabau has been given \$6.00 local currency a month by the Japanese in token of their recognition