

Scientists Ask Riddle, 'What's Like Fuzzy-Sided Ball of Yarn?'

LOS ANGELES (U) — What's like a "ball of yarn with a very fuzzy edge"? Or perhaps more "like a cloud whose trailing edges gradually disappear into the blue?"

Give up? Then here's another clue: Obtaining its characteristics is "like trying to determine the shape of a house, on pitch-black darkness by bouncing tennis balls off it."

VA Reports Vets Work With Heart Conditions

WASHINGTON (U) — The Veterans Administration reports that almost all veterans with heart conditions who have received vocational training now have jobs. The VA says 96 out of every 100 rehabilitated veterans with heart and circulatory ailments are "working toward as productive wage-earning citizens."

The answer: An atom's nucleus. These hazy descriptions of it were provided Thursday by a group of UCLA scientists who are sifting information from laboratories all over the world to determine its nature.

The scientists are the first to admit that it's "rather a fuzzy picture."

Dr. David Saxon, who heads the group of theoretical physicists, says the problem is being tackled by both human and electronic brains and a fuzzy picture is just beginning to emerge. The scientists know that a nucleus is made up of many tiny and different particles. What they seek to learn is how the particles are arranged and how they behave.

The reference to bouncing tennis balls off a house applies to studies with cyclotrons, linear accelerators and other instruments. "Neutrons and protons (atomic particles) fired by these atom

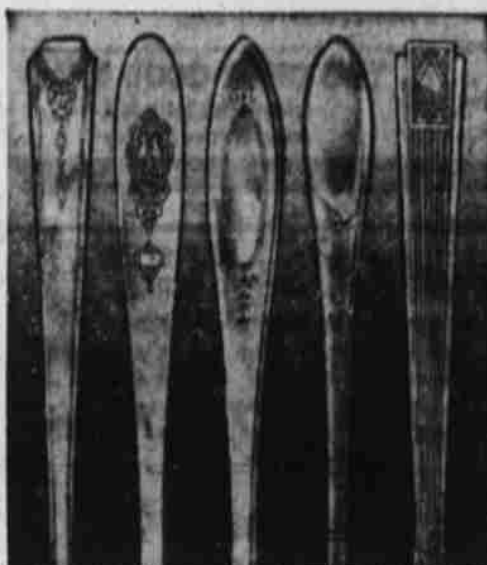
smashers are like luminous tennis balls," he says. "By noting the way the balls bounce we are beginning to get an idea of the shape of the atom's core."

Air Transport Hours Talled

WASHINGTON (U) — The Military Air Transport Service's planes flew about 1,180,000 hours and carried 733,400 passengers in 1955.

Li. Gen. Joseph Smith, commander of the service, says the total of last year's flying hours was 24 per cent higher than the total for 1954. Smith also notes that last year there were fewer accidents per 100,000 hours of flying time than ever before in the service's seven and a half year history.

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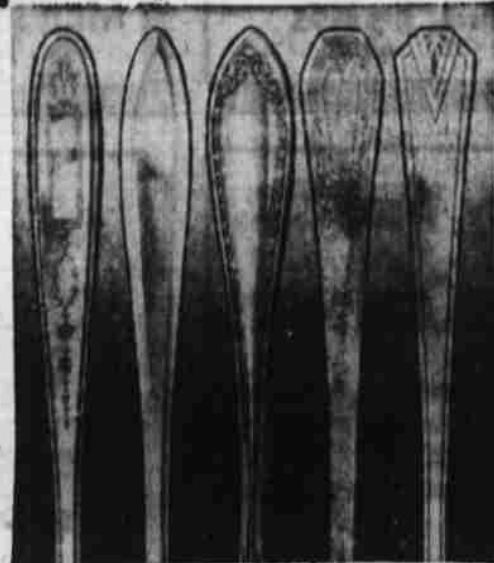
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