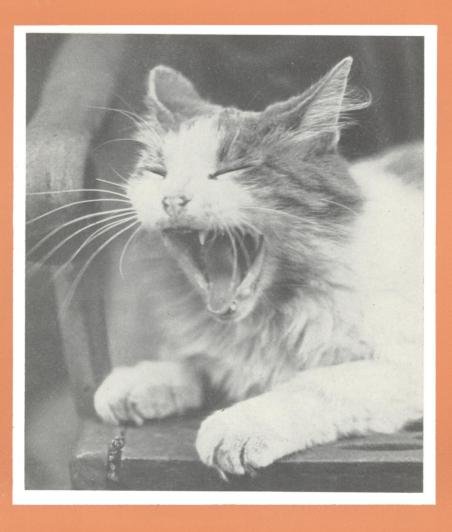
SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE.





MAY 23, 1931



Ho-Hum! Even the Cat Gets It

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DO YOU KNOW THAT

It has been suggested that leather flooring would help use up America's surplus of 100,000 hides.

A method of classifying stars according to brightness was worked out by Hipparchus in the second century B. C., and is still in use.

In order to accustom themselves to the weight of chain mail, young esquires of the middle ages would take vigorous exercises and turn somersaults while wearing complete armor with the exception of the helmet.

Female tarantulas have been known to live 13 years.

Bloodroot juice was sometimes used by Indians when they painted their faces for war dances or fighting.

Five whooping cranes, a species nearly extinct, are reported to have wintered on the coastal prairies of Texas.

A library of more than 3,000 manuscripts has been unearthed by Dr. Sven Hedin's expedition in ruins in the Gobi Desert.

A recently developed boring machine drills holes for drainage pipes beneath highways without interrupting traffic.

The state of Idaho has set aside 1,000,000 acres of its wildest mountain territory as an area never to be "civilized" but left untouched for vacation travelers.

A method of collecting chlorophyll, the green pigment in plants, in quantities large enough for convenient study has been perfected by a scientist in the U. S. Bureau of Chemistry and Soils.

To determine the solidity of cabbage heads, an ingenious research worker measures the displacement of water by each head of cabbage, the volume and density being thus determined.

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THE DISTANCES OF OUR NEAREST STARS

By Dr. John A. Miller, director of Sproul Observatory, Swarthmore College Friday, May 29, at 2:45 P. M., Eastern Standard Time

Over Stations of

The Columbia Broadcasting System