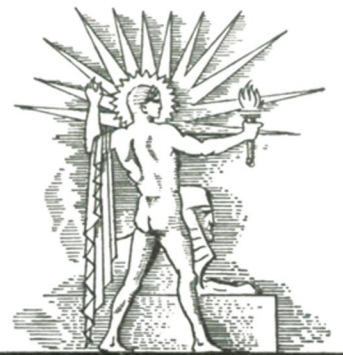
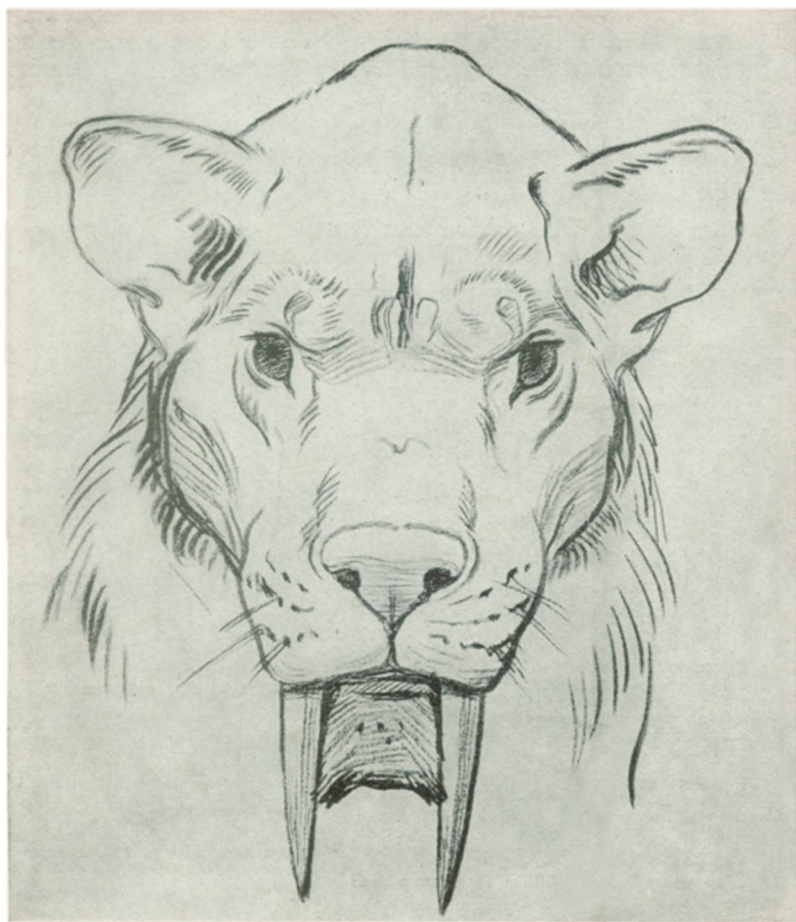


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



MARCH 11, 1933

Terror of the Tar-Pits

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## DO YOU KNOW?

The horned lizard does not drink water but absorbs it when sprinkled on its skin.

A new food made of milk and corn meal, developed by Cornell University, is said to have varied possibilities.

The coral lilies, which wear the Christmas red color, can be forced for Christmas bloom, government experiments show.

More than 18,000 barberry bushes have been destroyed in 15 years of government campaigning to protect wheat against stem rust.

Hoover Dam will create the largest artificial reservoir in the world, holding water enough to cover New York State to a depth of one foot.

Rain water has so worn off the cornice of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, that now, to save the cornice, rain is carried down inside the building.

The Rocky Mountain goat ranges higher on the mountains than the Alpine chamois or the goral of the Himalayas.

The British Museum has acquired a stone tablet dated about 1850 B.C., which describes the building of the temple at Nineveh.

One meat packer is putting a "bacon perfume" into the ink he uses for bacon labels, so as to make the package smell more appetizing and less like wrapping paper.

While deaths from cancer have mounted among white men over 45 years old, the cancer death rate among white women of the same age level has not changed.

A government scientist has discovered that grapes may be made shatterproof—so that they do not drop from the stem in shipping—by the application of carbon dioxide gas.

## WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

### ARCHAEOLOGY

Why has Tejupan become of great importance to archaeologists? p. 149. *Ancient Civilizations of Mexico and Central America—Herbert J. Spinden—American Mus. of Nat. Hist., 1928, \$1.*

### ASTRONOMY

Are the external galaxies actually distributed irregularly in space? p. 157.

How much overdue is the outburst of the sun? p. 152.

### BIOLOGY

How long has Ireland been without snakes? p. 158.

### CHEMISTRY

How much heavier than ordinary water is the world's heaviest water? p. 147.

With how much maleic acid must fats and oils be treated to delay their becoming rancid? p. 156.

### ENGINEERING

What is the size of the electric locomotive modeled for the Century of Progress Exhibition? p. 149.

### ETHNOLOGY

To whom is Dr. William Patterson a god? p. 147.

### GEOLOGY

Why are geologists interested in the sinking of a fishing boat full of herring? p. 154.

### INVENTION

How are metal blackboards enameled to get a smooth surface? p. 153.

### MEDICINE

Are very high voltage tubes useful in the treatment of cancer? p. 158.

What poisoning does isoamylethylbarbiturate combat? p. 147.

Where are typhus fever vaccines and serums being given human subjects? p. 152.

### METEOROLOGY-AERONAUTICS

Where are efforts to predict wind gusts being made? p. 153.

### PALEOBOTANY

How many points have fossil sweet gum leaves found in Wyoming? p. 152.

### PALEONTOLOGY

Do the La Brea tar pits bury animals today? p. 150. *The Felidae of Rancho La Brea—John C. Merriam and Chester Stock—Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1932, \$8.*

### PHYSICS

Can sugar be chemically decomposed by mechanical vibrations? p. 152.

How may water be used successfully against oil fires? p. 153.

### PHYSICS-ASTRONOMY

Why does the radiometer whirl around? p. 148.

### PHYSIOLOGY

How does Norway protect nervous persons from drunkenness charges? p. 148. *Alcohol and Man—Ed. by Haven Emerson and others—Macmillan, 1932, \$3.50.*

Should the blood of normal persons contain carbon monoxide? p. 154. *Tobacco and Mental Efficiency—M. V. O'Shea—Macmillan, 1923, \$2.50.*

### PSYCHOLOGY

Can a legislator's vote be explained by an equation? p. 148.

What proportion of people turn to the right after entering museums? p. 152.

### SEISMOLOGY

Of what concern is Tuscarora Deep to Japan? p. 156.

*These curiosity-arousing questions will be especially valuable to the teacher. Book references in italic type are not sources of information of the article, but are references for further reading. Books cited can be supplied by Librarian, Science Service, at publishers' prices, prepaid in U. S.*