

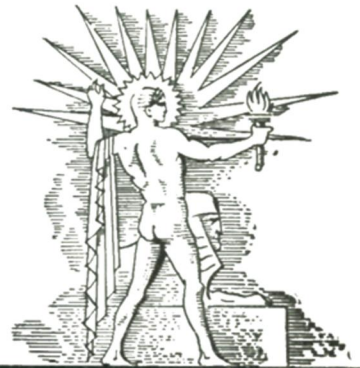
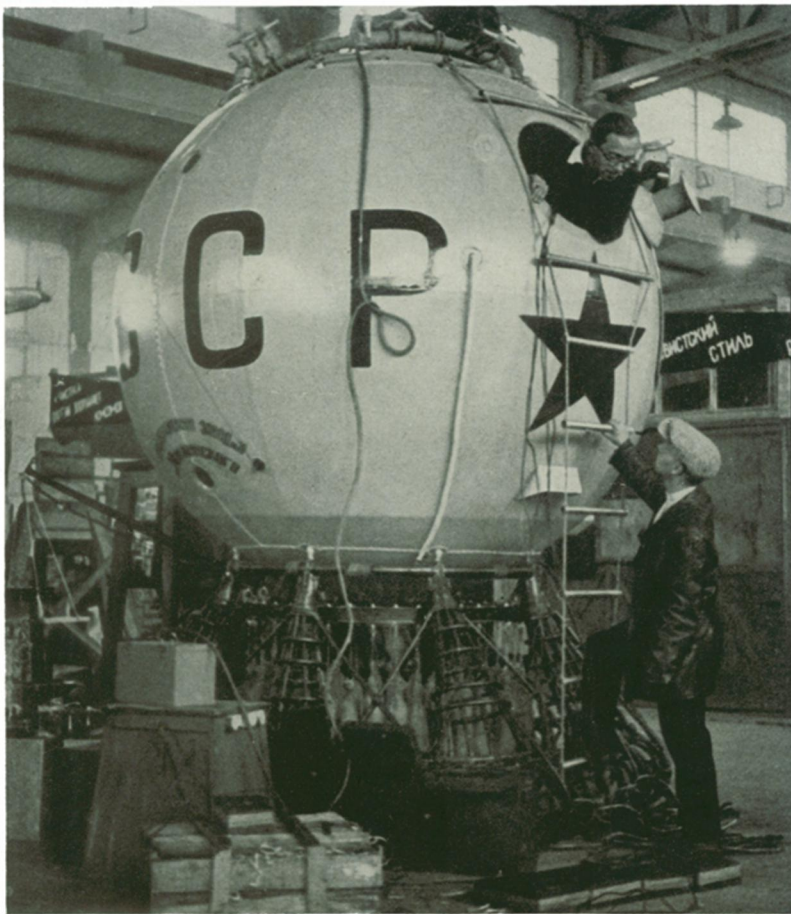
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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER



THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



OCTOBER 14, 1933

Three-Passenger Stratosphere Gondola

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## DO YOU KNOW?

The earth gets about 44,000 thunderstorms a day.

Forty years ago there were just four automobiles in the United States.

There are about five to six million red blood cells in the body of a grown man.

The silkworm industry is carried on in more than 2,000,000 Japanese farm houses.

When the funeral custom of mummifying a body was at its height in Egypt, the process required more than two months.

The young of a grizzly bear at birth may weigh less than a pound although the mother tips the scales at 500 to 1,000 times that much.

Newfoundland has capitalized on its wild growth of blueberries since 1927 by shipping almost a million dollar's worth to the United States.

Some new German refrigerators use dry ice as the cooling agent.

Jerusalem's population has increased 44 per cent. in about ten years.

The word electricity was coined by Queen Elizabeth's physician, William Gilbert.

The sargassum fish has a mouth so large that it can gobble up a crab or fish almost its own size.

Art of the cave man, found on a number of cave walls in France and Spain, is extremely rare in England.

A family should spend from one-fifth to one-third of its food allowance money for milk and milk products, says the Bureau of Home Economics.

A huge block of lapis lazuli two feet long, a foot wide, and eight inches thick is one of the rare exhibits at the Field Museum; it was obtained from the grave of an Inca of Peru.

## WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

### AERONAUTICS

What is the world altitude record? p. 245.

### ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGY

Can animals be fooled by phonographic sounds? p. 247.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

What is Mexico doing about her mixed breed problem? p. 248.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

How large are the beads of the 37-foot string? p. 243.

How was Minturno first surveyed? p. 246.

### BACTERIOLOGY

What happens to typhoid fever patients given bacteriophage? p. 243. *The Bacteriophage and its Behavior*—F. D'Herelle, translated by G. H. Smith—Williams & Wilkins, 1926, \$8.

### BIOCHEMISTRY

Why is X-rayed water poisonous to protozoa? p. 249.

### BOTANY

When did the cactus last perfect its flower? p. 243. *The Cactus Book*—Arthur D. Houghton—Macmillan, 1930, \$2.25.

Where do cacti grow in swamps? p. 249.

### CHEMISTRY-BIOLOGY

What does heavy water sell for? p. 245.

### ECOLOGY

What lake has a floating island? p. 248.

### ENTOMOLOGY

Why was grasshopper damage slight in Minnesota? p. 244. *The Insect Menace*—L. O. Howard—Century, 1931, \$3.50.

### EPIDEMIOLOGY

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### LINGUISTICS

What is the Oxford accent? p. 248.

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What is microclimatology? p. 244. *Physics of the Air*—W. J. Humphreys—McGraw-Hill, 1929, \$6.

### OPTICS

What is the magnifying power of the metallurgist's new powerful microscope? p. 252.

### PEDIATRICS

During what kind of weather do children sleep most? p. 249.

### PHYSICS

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### PHYSIOLOGY

What vitamin is ascorbic acid thought to be? p. 249.

### PSEUDO-HISTORY

Why is Plato thought to have made up the story of Atlantis? p. 247.

### PSYCHOLOGY

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### PUBLIC HEALTH

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How is the cure of pellagra indebted to convicts? p. 244.

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### ZOOLOGY

What do the world's biggest reindeer weigh? p. 247.

### ZYMOLOGY

Where do people drink half-per-cent beer and like it? p. 253.

*These curiosity-arousing questions show at a glance the wide field of scientific activity from which this week's news comes. Book references in italic type are not sources of information for the article, but are references for further reading. Books cited can be supplied by Book Dept., Science News Letter, at publishers' prices, prepaid in the United States.*