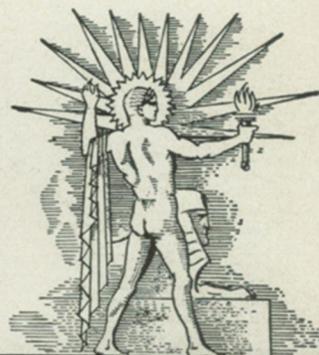


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THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



OCTOBER 21, 1933

Could You Do This At 18 Months?

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DO YOU KNOW?

A study of goiter in Japan shows that only one Japanese in a million has this disease.

About two-thirds of the States have to buy the major part of their lumber supply from outside their own borders.

A stone temple with walls decorated in gaily painted arabesques has been dug out of the earth near Lima, Peru.

Suet is a good base for the feeding of birds during the winter, since it furnishes the heat producing substances they need.

Excavations in Athens along the Academic Road have led to the discovery of a site believed to be that of Plato's famous Academy.

Naples has a museum devoted to exhibits of ancient technology, such as Roman oil presses, scales, and flour kneading devices.

A new rubber compound that will withstand temperatures as low as 60 degrees below zero has been developed in rubber laboratories in Ohio.

The Babylonians did not exactly have modern bank checks, but they wrote "orders to pay" on the small clay tablets that they used instead of paper.

A horse blanket made of bronze plates, used as horse armor in the third century, was found recently at the ruins of Dura on the Euphrates River.

The stone known to ancient Greece and Rome and Israel as the sapphire was what we call today lapis lazuli.

The amount of sugar consumed by the average person in the United States increased during the past century from 10 pounds to 105 pounds a year.

An artificial mountain of soil brought from all over the world will be raised at the hundredth anniversary of the State of Victoria, Australia, next year.

In a series of tests to find out what color is scientifically best for traffic markings on pavement, it was found that white markers are most efficient.

A carved scarab commemorating the marriage of Queen Tiy to Pharaoh Amenhotep III was discovered recently at the site of Beth Shemesh, Palestine.

Muskrats originally kept in a fenced-in farm in Shasta County, California, have spread up and down the Sacramento River, threatening the entire levee system.

Glacier milk, sometimes called glacier flour, is neither a drink nor a food; it is finely ground rock particles which give some glacial waters a milky appearance.

Correction—Third paragraph of "Do You Know?" in last week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER (Oct. 14) should read: There are about five to six million red blood cells per cubic centimeter in the body of a grown man.

WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

ARCHAEOLOGY

What does a cockhorse look like? p. 262.

ASTRONOMY

What is the greatest riddle of astronomy? p. 262.

What was the cause of Europe's recent meteor shower? p. 259. *Meteors—Charles P. Olivier—Williams and Wilkins, 1925, \$6.*

AVIATION

What has been the difficulty with wearing parachutes? p. 259.

ENTOMOLOGY

What insect is mistaken for a honeybee? p. 260. *Fieldbook of Insects—Frank E. Lutz—Putnam, 1918, \$2.50.*

MEDICINE

How can radium be applied directly to internal organs? p. 259. *The Science of Radiology—Ed. by Otto Glasser—Thomas, 1933, \$4.50.*

PALEOBOTANY

What could account for a tree only partly carbonized? p. 261.

PHYSICS

How is the charge of the positron determined? p. 262.

What materials screen out visible light but admit ultraviolet? p. 261.

PSYCHOLOGY

Can all babies swim without instruction? p. 262.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How many American children are hungry? p. 260.

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.