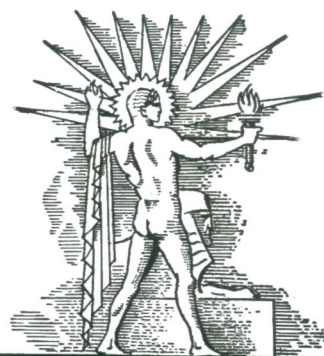


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THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



JANUARY 13, 1934

Proving That He Can See

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DO YOU KNOW?

Coffee is a native plant of Abyssinia.

True squashes and pumpkins will not cross when grown side by side.

Counting up its weed pests, California finds almost 300 species that are importations from other places.

The number of children born in the United States in 1933 is estimated at about 600,000 fewer than in 1921.

The weasel dons its snowy white coat for winter only in cold regions; in southern regions it remains brown.

Of all the world's cities of 100,000 or more people, seven out of ten are located on the water, and 34 per cent, are on the sea coast.

Xylose syrup made from corncobs and stalks has almost no food value and apparently does not have the bad effect on diabetics that ordinary sugar has.

Factories of the world produced seven times as much rayon as silk in 1933.

There are moths in the American tropics which measure almost a foot in wing spread.

A steamboat invented by a Spanish seaman in 1543 had a speed of three miles an hour.

Scientists have developed an instrument to show the amount of gloss and curl on karakul-sheep skins.

Reports on school conditions in over 600 cities show that in 74 cities home-making classes have been dropped.

Cotton and linen textiles do not usually shrink after the third laundering, and most shrinkage occurs in the first washing.

An Iowa man who found that his house stood over an underground cave ingeniously pipes the cool air from the cave into his house in summer.

WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

ARCHAEOLOGY

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How many Indian mounds and village sites have been found in the Tennessee Valley area? p. 25.

How old is the Xiu family? p. 30.
Where did King Ahab get his palace art? p. 20. *Archaeology and the Bible*—George A. Barton—American Sunday-school Union, \$3.50.

ASTRONOMY

What is the diameter of the Large Magellanic Cloud? p. 20.

BIOCHEMISTRY

What substances in man's body may be poisonous? p. 29.

BIOLOGY

What may be the reason for the longer life of the female? p. 24.

BOTANY

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Through what distance is the beam of the Army's most powerful searchlight visible? p. 19.

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Why might people who eat whole cereals abundantly develop pellagra? p. 31. *The Vitamins*—H. C. Sherman and S. L. Smith—Chem. Cat. Co., 1931, \$6.

Why was hydrochloric acid chosen for injection into anesthetized persons? p. 19

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How does water rise in plants? p. 22. *The Plant in Relation to Water*—N. A. Maximov—Macmillan, 1929, \$6.50.

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PSYCHOLOGY

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What was the death rate for 1933? p. 21.

ZOOLOGY

Where did the buffalo come from? p. 31. *The Hunting of the Buffalo*—E. Douglas Branch—Appleton, 1929, \$3

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 Department, Science News Letter, at publishers' prices, prepaid in the United States.