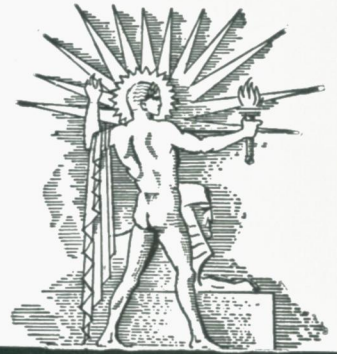
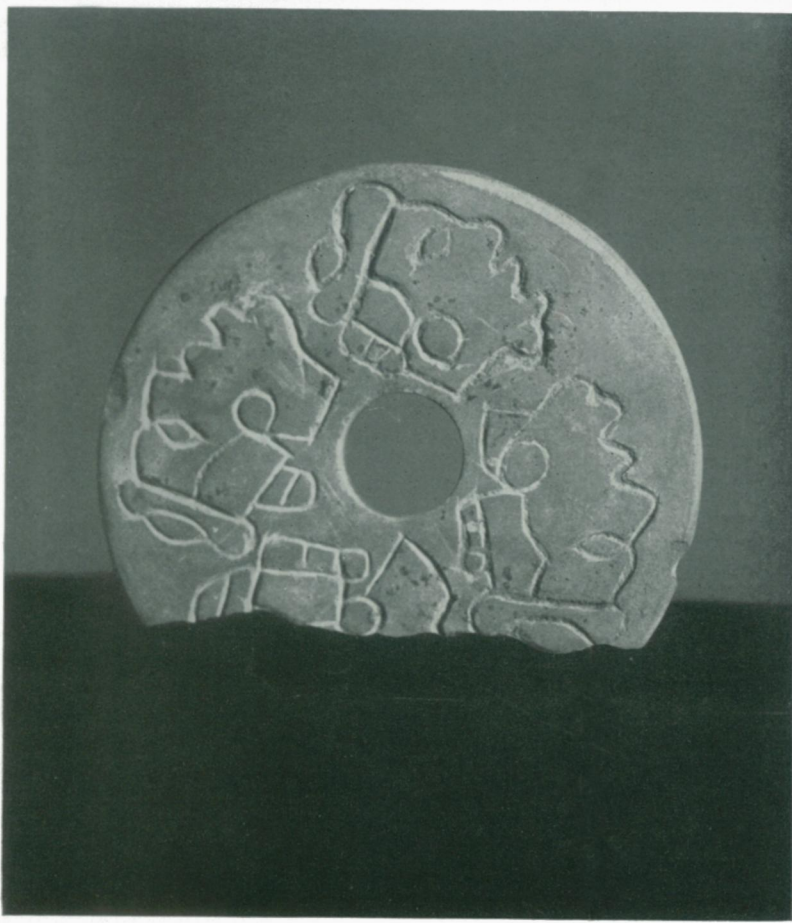


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AUGUST 25, 1934

Oklahoma Earring

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DO YOU KNOW?

There are six kinds of lightning: ball, bead, ribbon, rocket, streak, and zigzag.

The Field Museum herbarium, in Chicago, now contains over 700,000 plant specimens.

Photographs showing that lightning does strike in the same place twice, or more often than that, have been obtained by electrical engineers.

The Soviet Union has almost 800 engineers and chemists, all young, at work on research connected with synthetic rubber.

A psychologist, collecting fragments of conversation, reports that weather is far from the favorite topic; business, men, and clothes are much more discussed.

A new family of wood-boring insect immigrants almost slipped into the United States recently when a customs inspector found them in the wood of an old oil painting.

Europe expects to harvest an unusually big walnut crop this year.

The United States' birthrate declined from 38 per thousand in 1870 to 18 per thousand in 1931.

Why cocks crow at midnight is being investigated by a French astronomer who says he has often heard and noted the time of this crowing.

The longest incandescent lamp in commercial use is the "yardstick" so called because it stretches light along a 34-inch tungsten wire.

In five years, the plant at Amarillo, Texas, has produced more than 57 million cubic feet of helium, or about half of all the helium ever recovered in the world.

Tuberculosis was once so poorly understood and so feared that one Congressman introduced a bill to require a tuberculous person to wear a bell or rattle to warn all other people.

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ZOOLOGY

Is a rattlesnake born with a "button"? p. 126.

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 references for further reading. Books cited can be supplied by Book Department, Science News Letter, at publishers' prices, postpaid in the United States.