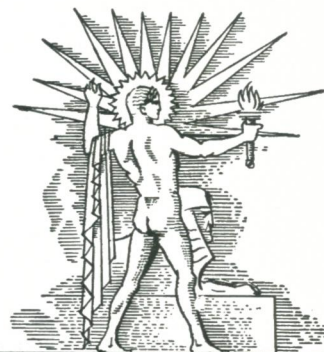


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THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



OCTOBER 27, 1934

Soviet Spectacle
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DO YOU KNOW?

The world's champion watermelon weighed 175 pounds.

Italian asphalt is to be exploited as a raw material for liquid fuel.

Bakeries first began using brewers' yeast in the nineteenth century.

It is rare for lightning to leave a conspicuous mark on the earth.

Egypt had 350 pharaohs in her long history, but some ruled sections of the country jointly.

Air-conditioning equipment is to be provided for three new streamlined western trains.

After three years' research, a successful commercial all-metal butter churn has been announced.

Andrew Jackson's home, the Hermitage, famous for its beautiful trees, has 28 kinds of trees on the lawn.

The "Radio Amateur's Handbook" has been published in raised Braille type for the blind by the American Radio Relay League, so that more blind people may become amateur radio operators.

The island of Capri, off the coast of Italy, has been made a bird refuge.

Norwegian experiments show that if hay is dried rapidly, it retains best the Vitamins A and D, needed by cattle.

In 1761, the British Museum permitted only 15 persons at a time to visit the exhibits and they could stay only two hours.

Throwing a temporary bridge across the swift Columbia River in 14 days is one of the tasks set for contractors at the Grand Coulee dam.

Pneumatic tires were invented in 1889 by an Irish physician who wanted to make a long bicycle ride to school more comfortable for his young son.

In the eighteenth century cancer was ignorantly regarded as contagious and sufferers from the disease were subjected to needless neglect and cruelty.

An expedition is heading for eastern Tibet to collect the snow leopard, wild horse and other Tibetan animals for habitat groups to be exhibited by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

ARCHAEOLOGY

How long do fingerprints last? p. 260.

ASTRONOMY

Why do astronomers hold out the possibility of brilliant Leonids this year? p. 262. *Our Stone-pelted Planet*—H. H. Nininger—Houghton-Mifflin, 1933. \$3.

What is the brightest star now in the northern half of the sky? p. 263. *Field Book of the Skies*—W. T. Olcott and E. W. Putnam—Putnam's, 1929. \$3.50.

Where will the 200-inch telescope be erected? p. 265.

CHEMISTRY

What two elements compose the new "super caustic"? p. 259.

What heavy elements are now used in industry? p. 267.

How can the chemist aid in crime detection? p. 267.

ETHNOLOGY

Whence came Hallowe'en? p. 270.

EUGENICS

What precautions should be taken by cousins who wish to marry? p. 264. *Genetic Principles in Medicine and Social Science*—Lancelot Hogben—Knopf, 1932. \$3.75.

MEDICINE

How does evipan differ from ether? p. 260. Why may anesthetic research add to knowledge about life and death? p. 268.

NUTRITION

What is the new way of preparing vegetables for babies? p. 264.

What part of bread is least digestible? p. 265.

PHYSICS—MEDICINE

What radioactive substance produces the most penetrating artificial gamma rays? p. 259.

PHYSIOLOGY

How are sex, cancer, vitamins and virus diseases related? p. 266.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How is malaria combatted in Panama? p. 265.

SURGERY

Can grafting the cornea restore sight? p. 261. How are cow's horns used in surgery? p. 264.


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

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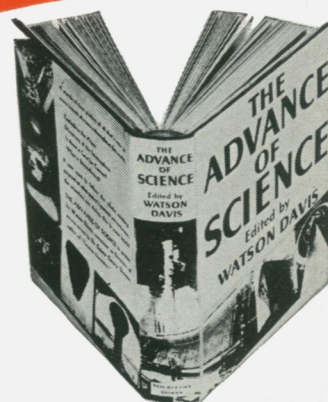
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