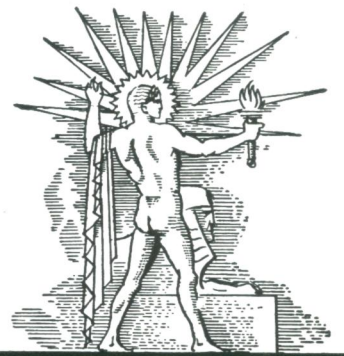


PRICE
15¢

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



NOVEMBER 10, 1934

House of Steel

See Page 296

A

SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. XXVI

No. 709

The Weekly Summary of



Current Science

Published Every Saturday by

SCIENCE SERVICE

THE INSTITUTION FOR THE POPULARIZATION OF SCIENCE organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation, with trustees nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the E. W. Scripps Estate and the journalistic profession.

Edited by WATSON DAVIS

Subscription rates—\$5.00 a year postpaid; two years \$7.00; 15 cents a copy. Ten or more copies to same address, 5 cents a copy. Back numbers more than six months old, 25 cents.

Canadian and foreign subscribers please add \$1 a year to regular subscription rates to cover postage.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have the privilege of subscribing to the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at the reduced price of \$3 per year. Application for this privilege should be accompanied by privilege card obtained from the Permanent Secretary, A. A. A. S., Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

In requesting change of address, please give your old address as well as the new one in notification to Circulation Department, SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 21st and Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C., at least two weeks before change is to become effective.

Copyright, 1934, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service.

Publication Office, 1930 Clifton Ave., Baltimore, Md., Editorial and Executive Office, 21st and Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C.

Address all communications to Washington, D. C. Cable address: Scienserv, Washington.

Entered as second class matter October 1, 1926, at the post-office at Baltimore, Md., under the act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trade-mark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Advertising rates furnished on application.

Board of Trustees of Science Service

Honorary President, William E. Ritter, University of California. Representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, J. McKeen Cattell, *President*, Editor, Science, Garrison, N. Y.; Burton E. Livingston, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; Raymond Pearl, Director, Institute for Biological Research, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. Representing the National Academy of Sciences, W. H. Howell, *Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee*, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; R. A. Millikan, Director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.; David White, Senior Geologist, U. S. Geological Survey. Representing National Research Council, Vernon Kellogg, Secretary Emeritus, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Harrison E. Howe, Editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Washington, D. C. Representing Journalistic Profession, John H. Finley, Associate Editor, New York Times; Mark Sullivan, Writer, Washington, D. C.; Marlen E. Pew, Editor of Editor and Publisher, New York City. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithon, *Treasurer*, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, West Chester, Ohio; Thomas L. Sidlo, Cleveland, Ohio.

Staff of Science Service

Director, Watson Davis; Staff writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, Robert Potter; Astronomy writer, James Stokley; London correspondent, Donald Caley. Correspondents in principal cities and centers of research; Librarian, Minna Gill; Sales and Advertising Manager, Hallie Jenkins.

DO YOU KNOW?

The mummy of Queen Hatshepsut, Egypt's feminist ruler, has never been found.

Plants can be transplanted more successfully from a dry region to one with more moisture than the reverse.

Grapefruit refuse—the peel, rag, and some of the seeds—is being dried and fed to cattle with good results, in Florida.

To keep bacteria at just 86 degrees Fahrenheit, biologists at one university installed a heater inside an electric refrigerator.

Poplar trees, although producing a forest cover and useful timber in 25 to 50 years, do not reach maturity until nearly 100 or even 150 years old.

A British astronomer predicts that aluminum surfaced mirrors are likely to displace entirely silvered mirrors for astronomical purposes.

Rayons of the acetate type, such as celanese, melt in chloroform and acetone; these chemicals should not be used in removing spots.

Wild horses in northern Florida are to be rounded up and broken, to provide plow horses for relief families in the state.

At the ruins believed to be Homer's Troy, an altar with votive stones was recently found, and these suggest that Troy had a religion different from that prevailing in the Aegean.

An apple tree in the Ukraine is reported to have flowered for a fourth time this year, while fruits in all stages of ripeness hang on the tree from the second and third flowerings.

Pharaoh Akhnaton so earnestly believed in truth and realism that he permitted realistic portraits of himself and family, even to showing a cataract in the queen's eye.

WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

AGRICULTURE

What is rotenone used for? p. 292.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Did the Pharaohs know of the pygmies in Central Africa? p. 295.

What fabrics were worn by Persians of medieval days? p. 293.

DENTISTRY

How can you avoid tooth decay? p. 300.

ENGINEERING

What is the easiest way to solve simultaneous equations? p. 297.

EVOLUTION

How far back can your dog trace his ancestry? p. 297.

GENETICS

How do scientists expect to measure the gene? p. 302.

GEOLOGY

How fast does a meteorite travel? p. 292. *Our Stone-Pelted Planet—H. H. Nininger—Houghton Mifflin, 1933, \$3.*

How long can the impression of waves on sand be preserved? p. 296.

MEDICINE

How soon does divinyl ether take effect? p. 293.

NUTRITION

Is it harmful to eat proteins and starches at the same meal? p. 296.

ORNITHOLOGY

Do wild fowl use many flyways? p. 297.

What bird is found all around the earth? p. 303.

ORNITHOLOGY-PHYSICS

What peace-time use has the airplane detector? p. 299.

PALEONTOLOGY

What is the origin of the name *Gaioatberium Browni*? p. 296. *Vertebrate Paleontology—Alfred S. Homer—Univ. of Chicago, 1933, \$5.*

PHARMACY

What medicine is made from the lily-of-the-valley? p. 297.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Who developed the animated cartoon? p. 295.

PHYSICS

What do echoes tell the mariner? p. 291.

PHYSIOLOGY

Can old cattle be rejuvenated by gland transplantation? p. 301.

How was a wandering heart revealed to scientists? p. 296.

POPULATION

How many daughters can be expected of each 1,000 English girl infants? p. 298.

What effect will slum clearance have on the population? p. 294. *Dynamics of Population—Frank Lorimer and Frederick Osborn—Macmillan, 1934, \$4.*

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.