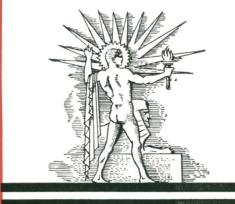
SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE.





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DO YOU KNOW?

Only about two per cent. of the world's crude rubber is taken from wild

France, like the United States, now has a wind tunnel big enough to test a full-sized airplane.

The Romans back in the first century A. D. had the custom of putting statues of famous authors in their libraries.

The giant Irish elk, now extinct, was the biggest member of the deer family that ever lived, with antlers that sometimes spread 11 feet.

With curve-free tracks and advanced dispatching systems, railroad trains could speed across country at 150 to 200 miles an hour, predicts one designer.

For the past 12 years, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has not had any free seed to distribute, yet thousands of people ask uselessly for free seed each year.

French manufacturers are reported to be planning to make electric lamps filled with the rare gases xenon and krypton.

A tiny parasite called Aphelinus mali is helping scientists fight the woolly apple aphid and canker disease in Northwestern apple orchards.

A new type of cabbage developed at Cornell University is said to be nonsmelling, and also a little more easily digested than other varieties.

How a muskrat swims, an old subject of argument among naturalists, is believed settled by observations in a clear water pool at Louisiana State Uni-

Indians of Guatemala still use the color symbolism of the ancient Mayas in their textiles: black represents the color of weapons made of obsidian; yellow, the color of corn, symbolizing food; red, the blood of sacrifice; and blue, royalty.

WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

Most articles are based on communications to Science Service or papers before meetings, but where published sources are used they are referred to in the articles.

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