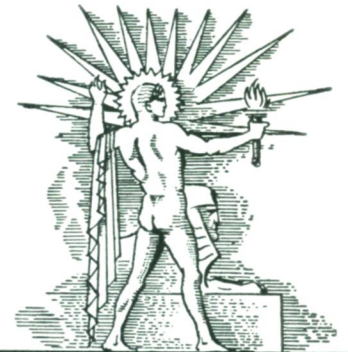


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



JULY 20, 1935

Aircraft Beware!

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SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

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## DO YOU KNOW?

Indians and the early settlers collected, and also grew, mint for their use.

Storage of avocado pears and handling in shipment is being studied by British scientists.

Poison sumac is less common than poison ivy but contains more of the trouble-making poison.

A new tomato, the Glovel, which is notably free from growth cracks and resists wilt and rust, has been developed by government scientists in Florida.

Farmers in northern New York State have discovered that the alfalfa snout beetle is responsible for alfalfa losses which they were laying to drought and sour soil.

To aid weather observers, the U. S. Weather Bureau has written definitions of light, moderate, and heavy rainfall in everyday terms of puddles, sound on roofs, and wetting of suit cloth.

The planetarium idea is not new; Archimedes, Greek philosopher of the third century B. C., built one.

Idaho's "Craters of the Moon" is a region of 63 extinct volcanic craters in the southern part of the state.

A "Who's Who" of American plants and animals is being compiled by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to list the superior strains.

The skeleton of a giant Irishman, seven feet seven inches tall, is one of the remarkable specimens in the College of Surgeons, London.

Germany finds bartering advantageous and is now exchanging German manufactured articles, including pharmacy preparations, for Egypt's onions.

The Smithsonian Institution has a photographic copy of an Aztec medical treatise written by two college-bred Aztecs in Mexico in the sixteenth century.

## 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 article.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

What clues were found to the culture of a prehistoric miner found in Mammoth Cave? p. 39.

What did the flesh-hooks of Biblical sacrifices look like? p. 37.

## ASTRONOMY

How big is the star Altair? p. 40.

## BIOLOGY

How concentrated are the particles producing tobacco virus? p. 38.

## BOTANY

What baffling problem does the green leaf present to scientists? p. 36.

## ENGINEERING

How many natural frequencies of vibration has a large liner? p. 47.

## FORESTRY

How fast do forest trees store the sun's energy? p. 44.

## GENERAL SCIENCE

What secret "ink" will chemical methods not reveal? p. 42.

## GEOGRAPHY

How large an area can be photographed at one shot with the new aerial camera? p. 45.

What is the history of the "lost" island, Gillis Land? p. 45.

## GEOLOGY

Of what does the continental layer of rock consist? p. 36.

## HOME ECONOMICS

How far does a French peasant woman walk in doing her household chores? p. 40.

## MEDICINE

From what animal is the vaccine for infantile paralysis prepared? p. 35.

Is iron still valued as anemia treatment? p. 40.

What is acute lymphocytic choriomeningitis? p. 36.

What is the danger of taking unknown reducing preparations? p. 39.

What is the possible danger of using thorium dioxide in making X-rays of the brain? p. 41.

## MEDICINE-BIOLOGY

What significance to medicine has the discovery of protein crystals as the agents of tobacco mosaic? p. 38.

## MEDICINE-PHYSICS

What is Prof. Fermi's method of producing artificial radioactivity? p. 37.

## METALLURGY

How are non-tarnishing metallic dress materials made? p. 41.

## MYCOLOGY

Is a fungus ever a cannibal? p. 40.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Of what safe material are movie window panes made? p. 41.

## PHYSIOLOGY

Of what importance is temperature in measuring metabolic rate? p. 44.

## PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

What effect do super-sonic waves have on the growth of potatoes? p. 41.

## PSYCHOLOGY

What is the best way to make the baby smile? p. 44.

## ZOOLOGY

What is the origin of the name dachshund? p. 47.