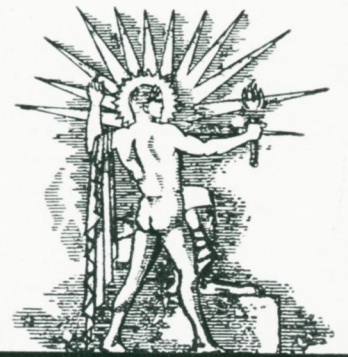


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



AUGUST 3, 1935

Putting the Model To Test

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## DO YOU KNOW?

Garden lovers are reviving interest in "old" roses that were grown in gardens before the modern hybrids were developed.

To replace imported cork, German scientists have developed as a new heat insulating medium a chemically-hardened foamy substance, a so-called cellular glue.

To speed root formation in tree and shrub cuttings, University of California scientists make slit cuts in the base of the cutting and cover the wounds with a light clay paste.

The Smithsonian Institution at Washington has three terra cotta cones which a king of Ur of the Chaldees had inscribed and buried in a temple wall at Ur 4,000 years ago.

The Missouri Experiment Station says that it is a mistaken idea that weeds turned under in plowing for wheat will add fertility to the soil; for weeds contain too little nitrogen and too much woody matter.

One under-sea valley off the Maryland coast drops 9,000 feet below sea level.

A British physician once said: "The infant mortality rate is the most sensitive index we possess of social welfare."

Five of New Mexico's Spanish missions and Indian pueblos have been made state monuments, thus preserving them against vandalism.

Ancient Mexico knew the idea of "cutting speech," for old Indian picture writings show men in an argument pictured with knives coming out of their mouths.

A giant stone hand-axe, over 15 inches long and weighing over 14 pounds, has been unearthed in England, and its use to Stone Age man is a puzzle.

If vineyards become infested with leafhoppers—whitish insects with red and yellow markings—a season of good weather, good soil, and good cultivation can be spoiled for the grape grower.

## 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.

## AERONAUTICS

How are storms simulated for the testing of zeppelin models? p. 75.

How did the Soviet stratosphere flyers escape death and save their scientific instruments? p. 73.

## ANIMAL NUTRITION

How does cod liver oil affect grass-eating animals? p. 77.

## ASTRONOMY

How can scientists know of light that never reaches earth? p. 73.

What American was honored by the International Astronomical Union? p. 73.

What may be the cause of the storms that rage in sun spots? p. 76.

## BOTANY

Can you get hay fever from goldenrod? p. 78.

## CHEMISTRY

How is power obtained from exhausted oil wells? p. 72.

Why does the gas pressure in carbon dioxide wells not decrease as the gas is withdrawn? p. 78.

## CHEMISTRY-ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

In how small a concentration can the poisonous selenium be detected in soil? p. 69.

## CONSERVATION

What effect does increase in population have on soil erosion? p. 76.

What single ill results from drought, wind, and flood alike? p. 77.

## ENGINEERING

How is a radio message transmitted from New York to Addis Ababa? p. 73.

What disadvantage does the steam locomotive have in the desert? p. 76.

## GEOLOGY

What effect is Boulder Dam expected to have on the earth's crust? p. 76.

## MEDICINE

How many cases of snake bite have occurred in the United States in the past 8 years? p. 67.

In which direction is the infantile paralysis epidemic traveling? p. 70.

To what is lactic acid in the spinal cord fluid a clue? p. 72.

## METEOROLOGY

At what time of year do the serious Mississippi floods occur? p. 73.

## NUMISMATICS

Why are holes sometimes customary in coins of small value? p. 72.

## PHYSICS

How does the enlarged cross section of cotton differ from that of rayon? p. 67.

Who has come to the defense of the quantum theory? p. 69.

## PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

How does heavy water affect the food-making activity of plant cells? p. 79.

## PSYCHOBIOLOGY

Does a chimpanzee mother teach her babies? p. 68.

## PSYCHOLOGY

Are stuttering children likely to be quiet? p. 72.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

Where has the condition of mottled teeth been increasing? p. 72.