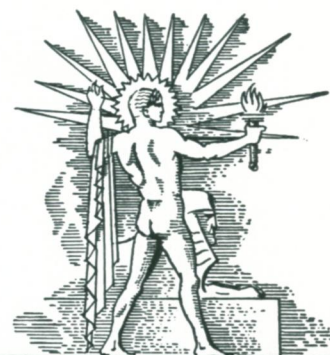


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



OCTOBER 31, 1936

Door for Ghosts

See Page 281

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DO YOU KNOW?

The American turkey crop this year is the biggest on record—20 million birds.

British automobiles and motor cycles are being designed to make less noise, to aid in the anti-noise campaign.

The tiny golden frogs of British Guiana are less than three-fourths of an inch in length.

Most fungi thrive on rain, but an exception is the powdery mildew common on red clover, which is adversely affected by rainfall.

A physician states that intelligent "mother love," rather than misdirected "smother love," is the first requisite in care of a child.

Automobiles that can use gas as fuel are expected to appear on the German market, and filling stations will then be equipped to sell this fuel.

Some tin cans carry yellow linings, because the enamel thus applied keeps red fruits from bleaching and keeps certain other products from discoloring.

Sharks of tropical seas are considered more ferocious than those of cooler waters.

Hunting the great American, or bald, eagle from airplanes is a new sport explored by a California zoologist.

Shrubs planted around a house should be set at least 20 inches from the foundations, lest they suffer from too much dryness.

Government scientists are working on a new line of canned soups, ice cream mixes, and other foods in which whey will be used as a milk constituent.

Forest experts say that prejudice against lumber from dead trees is not justified; that lumber from trees killed by insects or fire is just as good as lumber from live trees of similar soundness.

Bone combs to adorn high head-dresses, and spoons made of mammoth bones are among discoveries from ruins of an ancient settlement of about 200 A.D. found by Soviet archaeologists in Siberia north of the Arctic Circle.

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.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Do primitives chew more than does civilized man? p. 284.

ARCHAEOLOGY

What is the origin of the tombstone? p. 281.

ASTRONOMY

What winter constellation is now coming into view? p. 282.

ASTRONOMY-GENERAL SCIENCE

Is the earth likely to die in fire? p. 276.

BACTERIOLOGY

Is bacteriophage always beneficial? p. 275.

BIOLOGY

How do scientists perform surgery on a fruit fly? p. 275.

DENDROLOGY

What tree now rivals the California Big Trees in age? p. 280.

ENGINEERING

How can depth be given to animated cartoons? p. 277.

ETHNOLOGY

Did the North American Indians eat jelly? p. 284.

GENETICS

Are twins rare in Japan? p. 281.

What qualities are plant breeders trying to develop in corn? p. 285.

GEOPHYSICS

How do electric currents affect the earth's crust? p. 279.

NUTRITION

How can men living on meat alone avoid scurvy? p. 281.

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What proportion of mental disease cases are due to syphilis? p. 280.

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Are voters influenced by the name of a party? p. 277.

What sense does the blind man use in place of vision? p. 284.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How long can a tick live without food? p. 278.

SURGERY

What is the cause of most injuries? p. 280.

TECHNOLOGY

What materials are used in China for paper-making? p. 280.

ZOOLOGY

Do gibbons often have young in captivity? p. 280.

LET A NATION-WIDE CONSUMER ORGANIZATION ADVISE YOU *which brands are best buys*



ELECTRIC SHAVERS

How do electric shavers compare with ordinary safety razors in the closeness of the shave, in freedom from irritation, in the time consumed in shaving, and in other important factors? For a comparison based on actual tests read the report on electric razors in the current issue of *Consumers Union Reports*, monthly publication of Consumers Union of United States. Of three nationally-advertised makes, including Schick and Packard, only one is rated as a "Best Buy"—the others as "Not Acceptable."



... MEN'S SHIRTS

Will unadvertised shirts selling at less than \$1 wear as well as widely-advertised \$2 brands? How do they compare on such points as shrinkage, color-fastness and ability to withstand laundering. These and similar questions are answered in a report on men's shirts based on wear and laundry tests and on fabrics and construction. *In terms of brand names*, ten brands of shirts are rated as "Best Buys," "Also Acceptable," and "Not Acceptable." Included in these ratings are such brands as Arrow, Van Heusen, CD, Montgomery Ward, and Sears Roebuck.



.. HOW TO BUY and USE FUEL

"Stick to stove coal and avoid trouble . . . buy No. 2 oil, No. 4 is too heavy for your type of burner," say many fuel dealers in response to queries about the most suitable types or grades of fuel. What do heating engineers say? *How to Buy Fuel* in this issue will tell you how to buy anthracite or bituminous coal, coke, or fuel oil, will show you how, by careful selection of coal and by skillful firing, you may be able to cut fuel bills 20 to 25 per cent.



.. TOOTH PASTES and POWDERS

Based on chemical and physical analyses and on investigations by *unbiased* authorities, a report in this issue tells which dentrifices are safe; which are injurious; whether powders or pastes are better, and what scientific bases there are for the claims made by dentrifice manufacturers. Fifty brands of dentrifices, including such widely-exploited brands as Pepsodent, Squibb's, Forhan's, Iodent, Ipana, Colgate and Dr. Lyon's, are rated.

ALSO RATED IN THIS ISSUE—on the basis of tests by *unbiased* specialists—are many brands of other products.

COMING IN NOVEMBER . . .

The November issue of *Consumers Union Reports* will report on radios, vacuum cleaners, wines and fountain pens and will rate as "Best Buys," "Also Acceptable," and "Not Acceptable" leading brands of these and other products.

CONSUMERS UNION OF UNITED STATES

Published monthly by Consumers Union of United States—rapidly growing, non-profit membership organization of consumers headed by Professor Colston E. Warne, of Amherst, Arthur Kallet, co-author of *100,000,000 Guinea Pigs*, and D. H. Palmer—*Consumer Union Reports* now go to nearly 15,000 members throughout the country.

These *Reports*—with ratings, *in terms of brand names*, of competing products and other information helping you to save money and to buy intelligently—PLUS A YEARLY GUIDE; to be published late in the year, are available at the low fees of \$3 and \$1 a year.

(The \$1 limited edition of *Consumers Union Reports* is intended primarily for those whose income restricts their purchases to low-priced essential products. It does not include reports on such things as automobiles, oil burners, etc. The \$3 edition covers both types of products.)

By using the coupon below you can immediately secure a copy of the current issue.



IF YOU WISH your membership to begin with a previous issue, please note the month on the coupon. Leading reports in past issues (complete editions) were: toilet soaps (May); automobiles (June), refrigerators (July), oil burners, hosiery (August), shoes, tires and whiskeys (September).

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To CONSUMERS UNION of U. S., Inc., 22 E. 17th St., New York, N. Y.
I hereby apply for membership in Consumers Union.
I enclose:

- \$3 for one year's membership, \$2.50 of which is for a year's subscription to the complete edition of *Consumers Union Reports*. Subscriptions without membership are \$3.50.
- \$1 for one year's membership, \$.50 of which is for a year's subscription to the limited edition of *Consumers Union Reports*. (Note—the electric razor report is not in this edition.)
- I also enclose (\$2 to \$25) as a contribution toward a permanent consumers' laboratory.

I agree to keep confidential all material sent to me which is so designated.

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