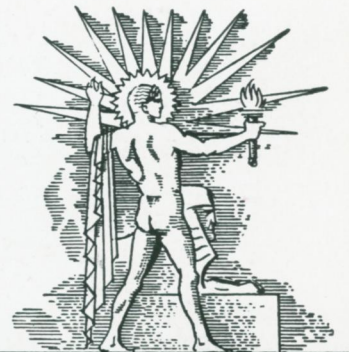
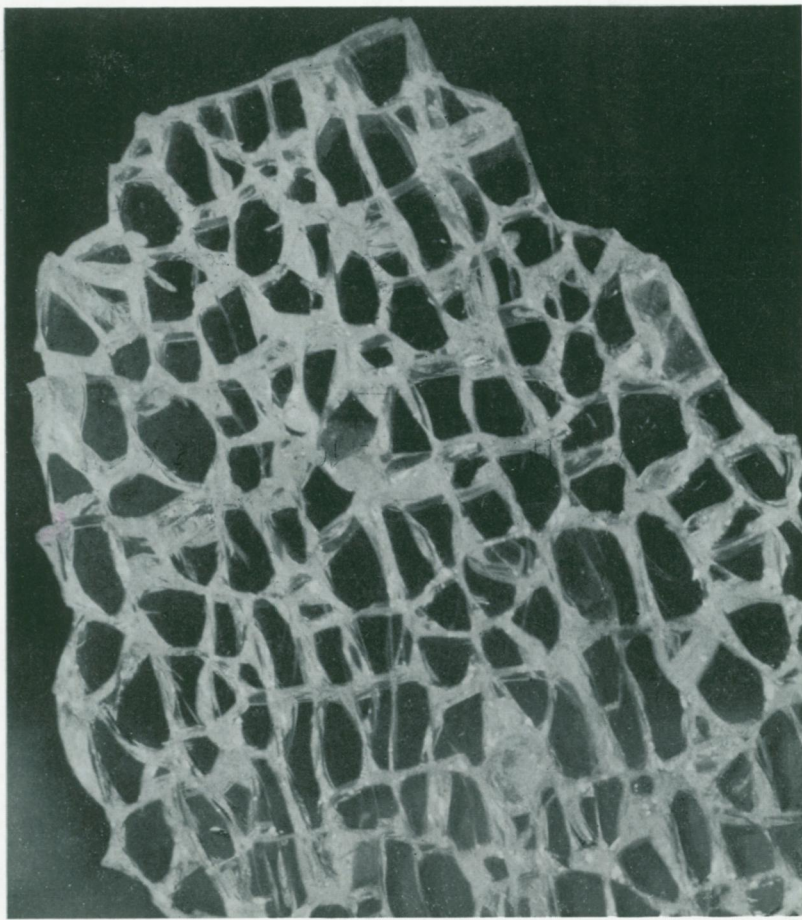


PRICE
15¢

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



DECEMBER 5, 1936

Glass Without Splinters

See Page 355

A S C I E N C E S E R V I C E P U B L I C A T I O N

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DO YOU KNOW?

Benjamin Franklin experimented with electric cooking.

Since 1930, 152 scientific, cultural, and learned societies have been founded in China.

Approximately forty per cent of hunting accidents are caused by hunters shooting themselves.

The sapphire's romantic blue is prosaically explained this way—chemical action of one part of iron on 100 of aluminum.

An apple exposed to warmth of 85 degrees Fahrenheit for a single day will lose as much of its keeping quality as it will in three weeks of storage at 32 degrees.

A poultry expert makes his cocks crow at the right time over the radio by keeping them confined in small covered cages until the time of the broadcast—cage covers are then quickly removed, and each bird thinking it is dawn strives to make the most noise.

Grasshoppers, served as food in China, are known as "shrimps of the earth."

The wool laboratory at the University of California has what is believed to be the finest collection of world-wide wools in the United States.

Irrigation is sometimes provided for orchards where rainfall is as high as 50 inches a year, because the fruit may suffer if it lacks moisture at some critical time.

To establish the metric system, eighteenth-century French engineers found—as nearly as they could—one-ten-millionth of the distance from north pole to equator, and this became one meter.

In a scientific experiment, a starfish was given 180 lessons in 18 days as to a certain arm to use to right itself when it was placed on its back; and after a seven-day vacation, the starfish demonstrated that it had not forgotten its lesson.

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

How old is Man? p. 360.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Were round buildings common in Mayaland? p. 360.

How are fragile mosaics lifted? p. 365.

ASTRONOMY

What new element has been found between the stars? p. 361.

DENDROLOGY

How old do Big Tree cones become? p. 360.

ENDOCRINOLOGY

Of what gland is glutathione apparently an active principle? p. 359.

ENTOMOLOGY

Where is the "cradle gland" of a bee? p. 360.

What did our earliest mammalian grand-parents eat? p. 367.

GENERAL SCIENCE

Has error ever built a road for truth? p. 366.

Can scientists afford to ignore war? p. 367.

GEOLOGY

How can advance and retreat be simultaneous? p. 363.

INVENTION

Is the U. S. patent system old at 100 years? p. 355.

Can two transparent sheets stop light? p. 356.

Can sound melt wax? p. 357.

How are invisible things made visible? p. 358.

What has Prof. Einstein invented? p. 362.

MEDICINE

How are patients "analyzed" for radium? p. 361.

Must diabetic children starve? p. 361.

How might lack of vitamin cause cancer? p. 366.

PALEONTOLOGY

Have rhinoceroses always had horns? p. 361.

PHILOSOPHY

What can physics teach regarding freedom of the will? p. 363.

PHYSIOLOGY

What is the function of the blood platelets? p. 364.



STRONG GLASS

Will bear the weight of C. J. Phillips; if broken does not splinter but cracks into relatively harmless round crumbs (see front cover). Glass textile drapes in background.

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The Centennial Celebration of the American Patent System presents

RESEARCH PARADE

Demonstrations of Scientific Achievements That May Become the Industries of Tomorrow

Arranged by Science Service and Directed by Watson Davis
NOVEMBER 22 and 23, 1936

Overture

PROLOGUE

The End of Human Improvement
Time—1844 Place—Patent Office

Direct Current Transmission
DR. ALBERT W. HULL, General Electric Company

Power from the Sun
DR. C. G. ABBOT, Smithsonian Institution

Polarized Light
DR. L. W. CHUBB, Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co.
GEORGE W. WHEELWRIGHT, 3d, Land-Wheelwright Laboratories

Inaudible Sound
DR. R. W. WOOD, Johns Hopkins University

Sound Reproduction
E. H. SCOTT and MURRAY G. CLAY,
E. H. Scott Radio Laboratories

The Electron Image Tube
DR. V. K. ZWORYKIN, RCA Manufacturing Co.

Tests for the Consumer
WARREN E. EMLEY, National Bureau of Standards

Glandular Extracts
ARTHUR STEINBERG, Philadelphia Institute for Medical Research

Lignin, Enigma of the Forest
CARLILE P. WINSLOW and DR. E. C. SHERRARD,
U. S. Forest Products Laboratory

Chloroprene Rubber
ERNEST R. BRIDGWATER, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.

Old Glass in New Forms
DR. J. C. HOSTETTER, Corning Glass Works

Maid of Science
Raiment Made Possible by Research

Exit March



SILK PURSE

Actually made of the proverbial sow's ear. "Maid of Science" exhibits this historic purse, made 1921, by A. D. Little.

POLARIZED LIGHT

Polarizing material placed in both headlights and windshields is anti-glare device for night motoring, allowing driver to see own car's light, stopping light from oncoming cars. E. H. Land (left) and George W. Wheelwright, 3d, demonstrating.

ELECTRON IMAGE TUBE

Electrons, arising from rays of invisible infra-red radiation, strike a fluorescent screen—and you can see invisible things. Dr. V. K. Zworykin demonstrating.

