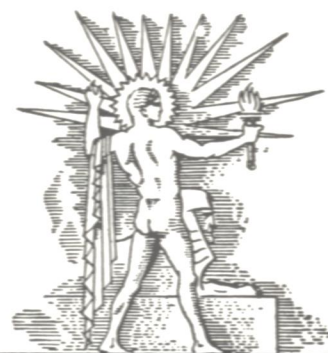


PRICE  
15¢

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



August 7, 1937

Royal Treasure

See Page 85

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

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. XXXII



No. 852

The Weekly Summary of

## Current Science

Published Every Saturday by  
**SCIENCE SERVICE**  
 2101 Constitution Avenue  
 Washington, D. C.

THE INSTITUTION FOR THE POPULARIZATION OF SCIENCE organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation, with trustees nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the E. W. Scripps Estate and the journalistic profession.

Edited by WATSON DAVIS

Subscription rates—\$5.00 a year postpaid; two years \$7.00; 15 cents a copy. Ten or more copies to same address, 5 cents a copy. Back numbers more than six months old 25 cents.

Canadian subscribers please add 50 cents a year, foreign subscribers 75 cents a year to regular subscription rate to cover postage.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have the privilege of subscribing to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at the reduced price of \$3 per year. Application for this privilege should be accompanied by privilege card obtained from the Permanent Secretary, A.A.A.S., Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

In requesting change of address, please give your old address as well as the new one in notification to Circulation Department, SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C., at least two weeks before change is to become effective.

Copyright, 1937, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service.

Cable address: Scienservc, Washington.

Entered as second class matter at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices.

Advertising rates furnished on application. Member Audit Bureau of Circulations.

### Board of Trustees of Science Service

*Honorary President*, William E. Ritter, University of California; *Honorary Vice-President*, Vernon Kellogg, National Research Council. Representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, J. McKeen Cattell, Editor, Science, Garrison, N. Y.; Henry B. Ward, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.; Edwin G. Conklin, *President*, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pa. Representing the National Academy of sciences, W. H. Howell, *Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee*, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; R. A. Millikan, Director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.; Harlow Shapley, Director, Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass. Representing National Research Council, Ludvig Hektoen, John McCormick Institute for Infectious Diseases, Chicago, Ill.; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Harrison E. Howe, Editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Washington, D. C. Representing Journalistic Profession, John H. Finley, Editor, New York Times; Mark Sullivan, Writer, Washington, D. C.; Dean Carl W. Ackerman, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York City. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithton, *Treasurer*, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, West Chester, Ohio; Warren S. Thompson, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

### Staff of Science Service

Director, Watson Davis; Staff Writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, Robert Potter; Astronomy writer, James Stokley. Correspondents in principal cities and centers of research. Librarian, Minna Gill; Sales and Advertising Manager, Hallie Jenkins.

# DO YOU KNOW?

A Swiss scientist has patented a way of de-nicotinizing tobacco.

Seventy-one women are among the research workers in the Soviet Arctic.

Bibles for natives in the tropics are being bound in waterproof and insect-proof fabric.

The only water bird of North America whose nest has never been found is Ross's snow goose.

Egyptian laborers working on royal tombs staged a sit-down strike in 1179 B. C., when their wages were overdue.

A school where man, woman, or child pupils may learn to build model airplanes and other models has been opened at New York's Museum of Science and Industry.

Egyptian sculptors did not first model a work in clay and then make it of stone; instead, they drew outlines on the four sides of a stone block and then cut into the block by these guide lines.

Air acetylene torches can be used in burning nests of tent caterpillars.

Some glass fibers have a strength of about 2,000,000 pounds per square inch.

The steel industry in the United States alone spends more than \$9,000,000 a year on research.

The iodine industry foresees a five-fold increase in use of this product, if it gains as wide medicinal use for animals as for man.

A Swedish professor of medicine has devised a special stairway on which patients walk at measured rates to test reserve power of the heart.

A new tree-moving crane is capable of handling a tree 45 feet in diameter, and weighing with its ball of earth on roots about 18,000 pounds.

The Sanseveria, one of the most common house plants, is variously known as the snake plant, leopard lily, mother-in-law's-tongue, and bowstring hemp.

## 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

Where is the United States Government searching for evidence of human occupancy during the Ice Age? p. 86.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

What makes the pieces of carved ivory recently unearthed in Armageddon, of particular interest to scholars? p. 85.

### ASTRONOMY-PHOTOGRAPHY

How can photographs of meteors be made? p. 83.

### BIOLOGY

What new research weapon may throw light on the size of the genes? p. 86.

### BOTANY-PHYSIOLOGY

What plants are responsible for most cases of hayfever? p. 90.

### ENTOMOLOGY-BIOGRAPHY

Who was Thomas Say? p. 94.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

Is the scientific research of children profitable? p. 88.

### MATHEMATICS

Why is training in mathematics important to good citizenship? p. 93.

### MEDICINE

On what scientific research was Miss Amelia Earhart engaged? p. 92.

What drug can save the lives of those with gas gangrene? p. 88.

### MENTAL HYGIENE

Is love a cure for moodiness? p. 89.

### METALLURGY

What metals cannot be produced in the United States? p. 85.

Where will scholars search for new uses for silver? p. 89.

### METEOROLOGY

Do hurricanes worry Hawaii? p. 88.

### POPULATION

At what age do Chinese girls marry? p. 83.

### PSYCHOLOGY

What could account for the voices heard by mediums? p. 89.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What disease affects one hundred times as many individuals as does infantile paralysis? p. 84.

### ZOOLOGY

Is the muskrat friend or foe? p. 94.

# Which Brands Are Best Buys?



Consumers Union Reports for July give you unbiased judgments of experts on the products below—in most cases with ratings as “Best Buys,” “Also Acceptable,” and “Not Acceptable” based on laboratory and use tests.



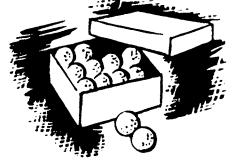
## Miniature Cameras

**WHICH IS BETTER—LEICA OR CONTAX?**

Camera experts report on the comparative quality of over 40 leading makes of American and foreign made miniature cameras—including Leica, Contax, Rolleiflex, Eastman Bantam Special, Korable, National Graflex, Argus and Retina.

## Electric Fans


Tests of 22 models show marked differences in efficiency between apparently similar fans. Only one is rated a “Best Buy.”



## Golf Balls

**THERE'S A 30-YARD DIFFERENCE**

between the yardage you can get from one of the good balls in this test and one of the poor ones. Sixteen brands are rated.



## Summer Gasolines

**SAVING 1 to 4c ON EACH GALLON**

Sixty-seven samples from the East, South, Mid-West, and West, including Esso, Sinclair, Tydol, Co-op, and Shell, were tested this year. Savings of from one to four cents a gallon can be made on some of the “Best Buys.”

## Sunburn Preventives

**SOME WORK-SOME DON'T**

CU's tests of sun oils, lotions, and creams disclosed only one that gave complete protection, three that gave reliable partial protection, five that were fair, and fourteen that were “Not Acceptable.”

## Bathing Suits

Seven women's and seven men's models were tested. The most expensive suit tested had very poor colorfastness to sunlight. The cheapest suit tested had the best colorfastness to sunlight.


## Tennis Balls AND RACKETS

**A Popular Ball Was Poorest**

Leading brands of balls, rackets, and strings are rated as “Best Buys,” “Also Acceptable,” and “Not Acceptable.” American-made balls compare very poorly with the best English products.


**COMING IN THE AUGUST ISSUE**

REPORTS ON REFRIGERATORS  
INNER TUBES  
PHOTOGRAPHIC FILMS,  
EXPOSURE METERS, etc.  
RAINCOATS



**Start WITH ANY OF THESE ISSUES—**


- ( ) SEPT.—Shoes, Tires, Whiskies.
- ( ) OCT.—Dentifrices, Electric Razors, Gins.
- ( ) NOV.—Radios, Wines, Children's Shoes.
- ( ) DEC.—Vacuum Cleaners, Fountain Pens, Blankets.
- ( ) JAN.-FEB.—Men's Suits, Cold Remedies, Shaving Creams.
- ( ) MAR.—Autos, Face Powders, Flour.
- ( ) APRIL—Shirts, Cold Creams, Gardening.
- ( ) MAY—Trailers, Washing Machines, and the first of a series of articles on the causes and treatment of constipation.
- ( ) JUNE—Large Cameras, Radio Tubes, House Dresses, Sanitary Napkins.



## MECHANICAL Refrigerators

**Ratings of 1937 Models**

Westinghouse, Coldspot, Ward's, Leonard, and Crosley models are rated in this issue on the basis of performance tests. The August issue of the Reports will carry information, including ratings, on a number of other makes.



## Motor Oils

**CHEAP OILS ARE “BEST BUYS”**

Summer oils from 13 to 20 cents a quart are rated as “Best Buys.” Several 25 and 35-cent oils are rated “Not Acceptable.” Penn-Rad, New Texaco, Atlantic, Mobiloil, and Essolube included in tests.

## Ice Boxes


Fifteen models rated. Recent models show great improvement over ice boxes of past years.

## Constipation

The third of a series of articles. This one deals with “auto-intoxication” and other symptoms usually associated with constipation.

**WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE!**

**THIS 240-PAGE BUYING GUIDE**



listing over 1000 tested and rated products goes with your membership in Consumers Union. Get this Guide by mailing coupon NOW!

**To Consumers Union of U.S., Inc.**  
55 Vandam Street, 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*.
- ( ) \$1 for one year's subscription, 50c of which is for a year's subscription to the limited edition of *Consumers Union Reports*. (Note: Reports on higher-priced products are not in this edition.)

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

Signature .....

Address .....

City & State .....

Occupation ..... L-7

**START NOW TO SAVE MONEY!**

Join Consumers Union today! Membership costs but \$3 a year. It brings you twelve issues of *Consumers Union Reports* plus the 240-page yearly *Buying Guide*. You can start with the current issue or any of the previous ones listed above. Mail the coupon now!

