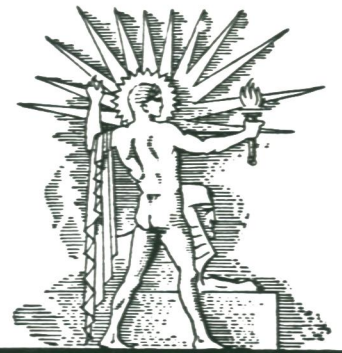
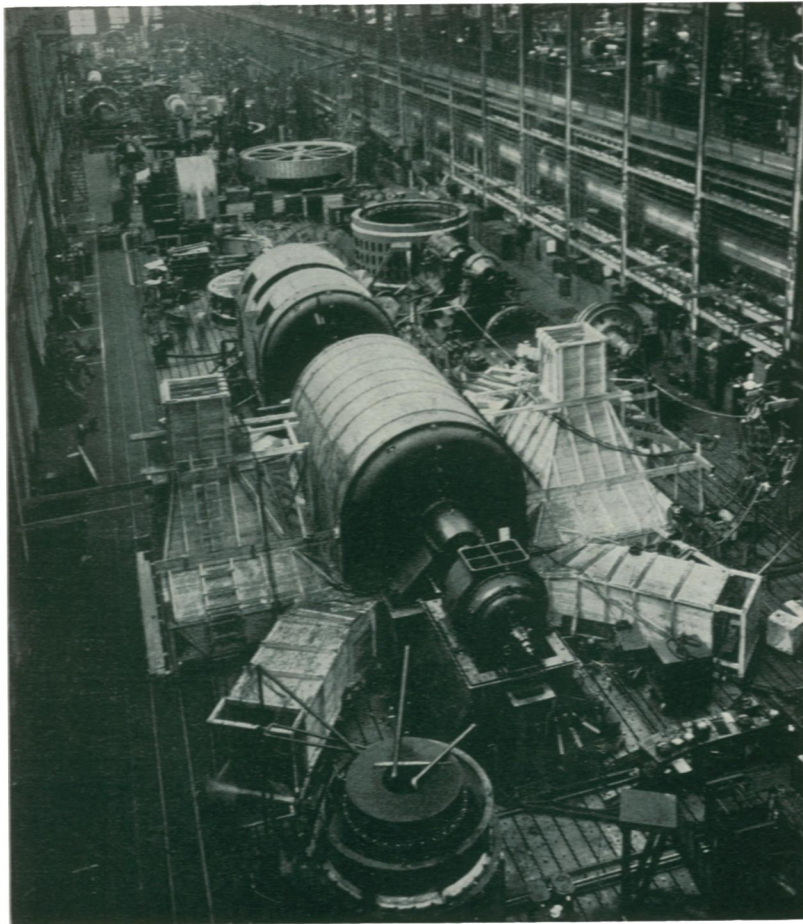


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



November 6, 1937

## Giants of Electricity

See Page 295

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?

Avocado trees grow wild and in profusion in Colombia.

Placing equipment overhead in a factory is a way of saving considerably in what managers call "handling expenses."

The tuberculosis death rate among unskilled workers in this country is nearly seven times as high as that among professional workers.

As many as 20 ancient shorelines, representing different stages of ancient Lake Lahontan, which vanished shortly after the Ice Age, may be seen near Lovelock, Nevada.

The Parthians, who were great fighters and formed an empire in the region of Persia in Roman days, could not make war in winter because their bows relaxed in the wet weather.

A veil in the desert is useful to keep sand out of mouth and nose, but scientists have never found out why men of the African desert have a strict custom of going veiled everywhere in public, even while eating.

A curious fact about Africa's gorgeous birds, the touracos, is that the red in their wing feathers will vanish if dipped in water containing a little ammonia; but fortunately for the birds they do not normally encounter water likely to fade their feathers.

Some insects go fishing—and kill and eat fish up to an inch and a half long.

Ancient Chinese regarded the soybean as sacred and essential to their civilization.

A new kind of orchestra leader's baton is made of an extremely clear plastic, so that it glows in the dark.

Mountain goats are aided in their agile mountaineering by the rubberlike pads and sharp edges of their hoofs.

Discovery in Ecuador of rich deposits of manganese, an ore used in steel manufacture, is reported by Cyril von Bauermann, explorer.

More than 500 varieties of chrysanthemum are included in the Department of Agriculture's chrysanthemum show at Washington, this November.

Soviet Russia is building a new 337-mile highway in the East, from the Turksib railway at Semipalitinsk to Karagai, near China's frontier.

The Government and 44 states are working together to take inventory of how many miles of road, good and bad, there are in the United States.

The thin-shelled English walnut has developed from a wild species of thick-shelled small nut no better than ordinary seedling black walnuts are today.

## 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

How does civil strife in Spain affect the study of Stone Age Man? p. 297.

What kind of hairnets were worn by the ladies of Egypt 1600 years ago? p. 296.

## AVIATION

What new aid to air navigation is now being installed? p. 292.

## BOTANY

What did England's first known human look like? p. 302.

## BOTANY

What can be attained through "plant engineering"? p. 300.

## CHEMISTRY

What is a source for Japanese gasoline? p. 296.

## ENGINEERING

How can ground noise be eliminated from talking pictures? p. 296.

What scientific object is attained by freight car collisions? p. 297.

## GEOGRAPHY

How is the crunching of biscuits made noiseless at the North Pole? p. 300.

## MEDICINE

How does refrigeration seem to aid in treatment of cancer? p. 292.

Is scalping unknown today? p. 291.

## PHOTOGRAPHY—PHYSICS

How large is a drop of water? p. 293.

## PSYCHIATRY

What nations are considered sane by a psychiatrist who thinks most of the world is mad? p. 301.

## PSYCHOLOGY—STATISTICS

Is telepathy reality or fiction? p. 298.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

How prevalent is malaria in the United States? p. 294.