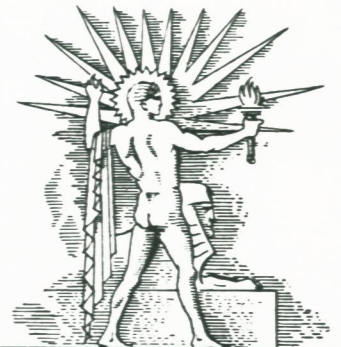


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



December 4, 1937

Rime

See Page 360

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

## Do You Know?

The average passenger automobile uses over 600 gallons of gasoline in a year.

California Indians burned pinon nuts to obtain blue coloring with which they tattooed their faces.

A Chinese emperor, who established a zoo near Peking about 1100 B. C., called it an Intelligence Park.

Fish cannot exist in absolutely pure water, but that doesn't worry the fish because in no stream does such water exist.

Pointing out that Indian speech was not crude, a California anthropologist says that the average Indian of southern California had a vocabulary of about 3,500 words.

Baseball players are apt to be at top form at 28 years, golf players from 25 to 35, bowlers 30 to 34, says a psychologist, who has checked up on best ages for various sports.

The plant for which Hollywood, California, was named is the California Christmas berry, sometimes called California holly, which once grew thick in that neighborhood.

According to a Detroit psychologist, some of the wild and reckless automobile driving is done by motorists who are not very successful in other endeavors, and who get satisfaction out of fancied traffic victories.

## QUESTIONS DISCUSSED IN THIS ISSUE

Most articles which appear in SCIENCE NEWS LETTER are based on communications to Science Service, or on papers before meetings. Where published sources are used they are referred to in the article.

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### PALEONTOLOGY

How are the dinosaurs providing their own monument? page 362.

### PHYSICS

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Is the force of gravity a constant value? page 359.

Male kangaroos keep on growing as long as they live.

The bulk of the world's oil supply comes from wells that no longer "gush."

Mount Pavlof, active volcano of Alaska, is twice the height of its famous cousin Vesuvius.

Use of squared timbers in coal mines is advocated by a state inspector, who points out that round timbers roll, and in other ways may cause accidents.

Spanish moss, used as filling for upholstered furniture and mattresses, yields Louisiana an income of one and one-half to three million dollars annually.

Fragile looking butterflies called "Painted Ladies" fly all the way to England from North Africa, over a thousand miles.

A new process is said to give concrete a glazed surface, making it suitable for walls, table tops or other uses where tiling is ordinarily employed.

Few plants can live in water hotter than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and about 200 degrees is the greatest heat at which plants have been observed.

France is taking steps to safeguard its drinking water supplies, and the latest development is a reservoir at Nantes, pronounced the biggest in Europe.

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