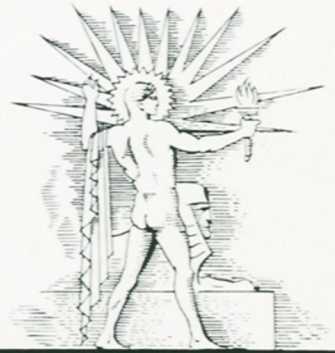
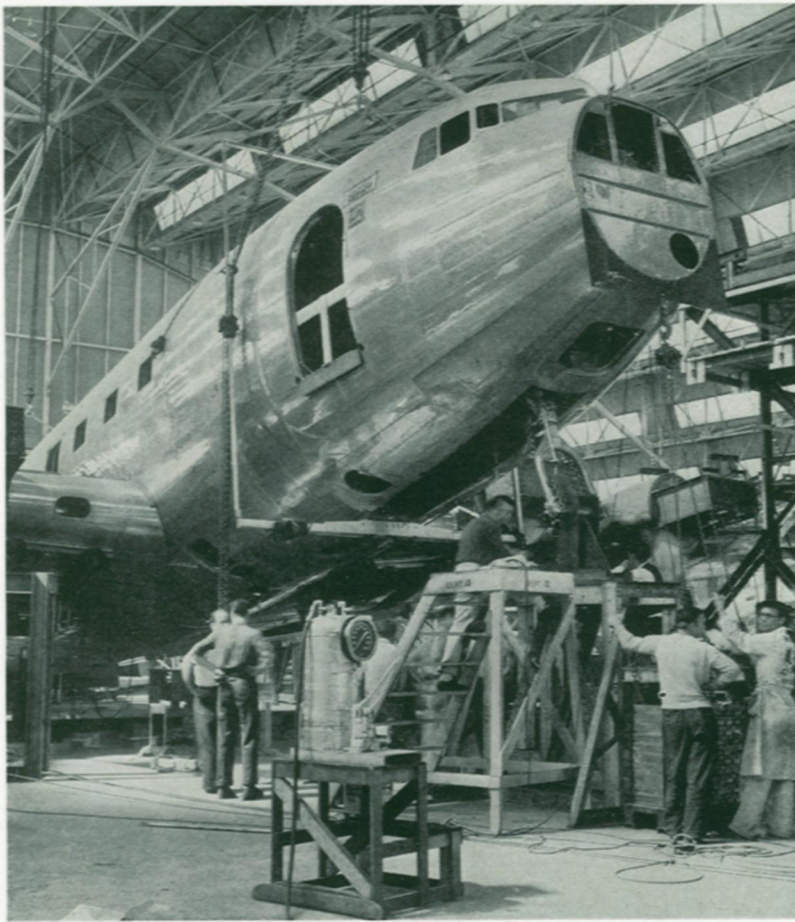


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



June 18, 1938

Tested

See Page 402

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

An international academy for advanced studies in medicine is to be established in Berlin.

Precooling potatoes before they are shipped is proving a good way of drying them, so that they do not develop soft rot.

Indian women of one Mexican tribe, the Huastecs, wore skirts and capes so gay that they were called "clothes of 400 colors."

Discovery of oil in Tripoli, in the course of artesian well drilling, has led Italians to a wide search for oil in that region.

Ancient Egyptian farmers kept ducks and geese, but apparently did not have chickens until Romans brought fowls about 50 B. C.

If a nail is driven into a young tree four feet from the ground, the nail will remain four feet from the ground, no matter how tall the tree grows.

Chromium is named from the Greek word *chroma*, meaning color, because chemical compounds of this metal take on green, orange, blue and other tints.

People who ask government permission to harvest cactus or haul away building stones or any other material from the public domain are told that an act of Congress is necessary to permit private exploitation of the conserved areas.

## 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.

### AERONAUTICS

How does the cost of flying a passenger across the Atlantic compare with the cost of carrying him by ship? p. 396.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

Did ancient Americans have nervous breakdowns? p. 397.

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What kind of clay swells when it gets wet? p. 400.

### ECONOMICS

Can an unbalanced budget be financially sound? p. 401.

### ENGINEERING

Can lava be used as a road material? p. 403.

### ENTOMOLOGY

What equipment do you need for amateur collecting of insects? p. 399.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

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### GEOLOGY

Where does Uncle Sam have a platinum source? p. 395.

### MEDICINE

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Do guinea pigs have asthma? p. 392.

How much adrenalin may a hay fever patient consume? p. 391.

### MEDICINE—PUBLIC HEALTH

Can childbirth anesthetics damage a baby's brain? p. 398.

Should you eat spinach? p. 398.

What measures are recommended for prevention of marriage among the feeble-minded? p. 395.

### PHYSICS—GEOLOGY

How can ordinary lead act as historian? p. 392.

### PSYCHIATRY

Do "queer ideas" show up in a person's brain waves? p. 394.

How does a child's idea of death differ from that of an older person? p. 394.

How long does a metrazol seizure last? p. 393.

What happens if you are mad at the boss and do not say so? p. 393.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Why are custard pies a hazard to summer health? p. 396.

Fertilizers in granulated form are gaining in use.

There are slum conditions on American farms no less than in cities, farm economists point out.

Shortly before the World War, at the instigation of Germany's chief of general staff, a German industrialist built a non-rigid airship with several gondolas, and with the gas balloon divided into separated compartments.

Solid as ordinary rocks look, they can be squeezed into much smaller volume by enormous pressures.

A sea-going plow is being used in planting submarine cables in the ocean floor, where fishermen cannot drag them up.

To scare off wild ducks and other migratory birds without injuring them, grain farmers are using flash guns, revolving lights, and noise-makers.

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