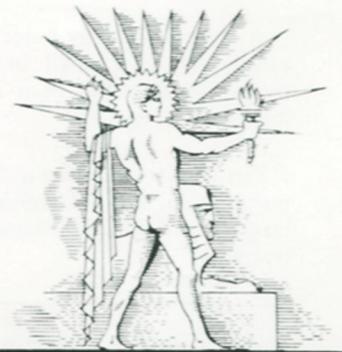


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



September 10, 1938

Finding Fault

See Page 169

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

Grain and circus animals were the chief exports of north Africa during its Roman empire days.

The ship's surgeon on one trans-Atlantic liner says that injecting atropine is a quick remedy for seasickness.

A new telegraph system is capable of carrying 96 telegrams simultaneously in one direction over a single circuit.

Even though a wax film applied to vegetables is only one ten-thousandth of an inch thick, it reduces wilting.

Although copper coins are thought of as cheap, Sweden issued a copper in 1659 weighing 31 pounds and valued at \$5.20.

The U. S. Forest Service has compiled maps showing the distribution of 170 species of forest trees in the United States.

The Egyptian word mummy comes from mumiya, meaning asphalt, because this material was used in preparing the bodies.

A farm psychology note: calves dislike eating out of a small box, and waste more feed that way than if fed from a big box.

Tea plants are grown for decorative purposes in South Carolina; the glossy leaves and white blossoms are very attractive.

## 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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Where did *Lespedeza sericea* come from? p. 174.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

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When did Arabs first ride horses? p. 167.

Did Stone Age hunters have dogs? p. 169.

### ASTRONOMY

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When should an aviator have his foot thumped? p. 169.

### BACTERIOLOGY

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### BIOLOGY

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How abundant are twin turtles? p. 165.

### CHEMISTRY

In what may America become independent of China? p. 166.

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### CONSERVATION

Should improved streams have straight channels? p. 173.

### ENGINEERING

How quickly can concrete bombproofs be built? p. 169.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

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### GEOGRAPHY

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### INVENTION

Must traffic lights always change suddenly? p. 172.

### PATHOLOGY

What is toxoplasma? p. 165.

### PHYSICS

Who are eligible for the A. Cressy Morrison prizes? p. 168.

### PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

Can you make a plant grow faster by hurting it? p. 168.

### TESTING

How are ladies' hose tested? p. 170.

### ZOOLOGY

Of what use are beaver to woodpeckers? p. 174.

A giraffe's neck contains no more vertebrae than your own neck.

Malaria is blamed for over a million deaths in the British empire each year.

At Philadelphia's baby pet zoo, where children may play with small selected animals, the most popular pets are ordinary kittens and other domestic animals.

Unlike most fruits, oranges do not ripen further after they are picked.

Men in the CCC gain an average of six pounds during their first two months in camp.

A botanist says that in Central America more people are killed by falling trees loosened by rains than are killed by snakes.

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# The Inside Story of Coca-Cola !

Does Coca-Cola contain a mysterious habit-forming drug? Why did the government bring charges against Coca-Cola under the Food and Drugs Act? Is there any important difference between Coca-Cola and cheaper beverages of the same type?

You'll find these questions answered in *Coca-Cola: The Great What-is-it*, a report on "Cola" type beverages published in the current (August) issue of *Consumers Union Reports*, monthly publication of Consumers Union of United States.

Worms are a standard ingredient of practically all brands of tomato catsup. And because they're present in such large quantities in most brands at least one state has had to set a legally permissible limit of worm fragments. You'll find proof of these facts in a report on government tests of 43 brands of catsup which also appears in the current issue of *Consumers Union Reports* and which names the brands. Other reports in this issue evaluate new cameras and other new camera equipment; and expose deceptions commonly practised in the marketing of fur coats.

**Catsup  
with  
Worms!**

**Shampoos**  
**Heating  
Equipment**  
**Children's  
Shoes**

In the September issue you'll find reports on leading brands of SHAMPOOS, HEATING EQUIPMENT, CHILDREN'S SHOES, MEN'S SHIRTS, INFANTS' FOODS and other products. These reports will name names and will include ratings of brands for comparative merit as "Best Buys," "Also Acceptable," and "Not Acceptable." The report on HEATING EQUIPMENT is the first of two reports on this subject and will cover hot air furnaces and boilers. The second report, which will appear in October, will cover oil burners, coal stokers and other automatic heating equipment. The September issue will be ready for mailing in about ten days.

Going back an issue you'll find one of the most interesting and valuable reports Consumers Union has ever published. It's on cigarettes. It's based on smoking and chemical tests; it includes 35 brands; and it tells you whether Camels contain more nicotine than Chesterfields; how ten-cent cigarettes compare with fifteen-cent cigarettes; what is known about the effect of cigarette smoking on health; whether filter holders actually eliminate nicotine, and dozens of other things you've always wanted to know about cigarettes and about smoking.

**35  
Brands of  
Cigarettes**



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