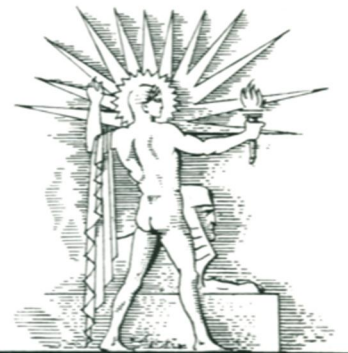


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



September 17, 1938

Gathered to Its Ancestors

See Page 190

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?

Romans made cement by mixing volcanic ash with lime.

In 1895 the total number of automobiles registered in the United States was four.

Fresh vegetables retain their vitamins and their sugar better if kept in a cold place.

The Soviet Union's 12,000,000-volume library in Moscow is called the world's largest.

Radio sets are now being especially made for use in hot and rainy countries of the tropics.

More than half the desert lands of Arizona are covered with creosote bush and salt bush.

When the Pilgrims landed in America they found Indians using crude oil as a medicine.

Shooting deer with bow and arrow will be permitted in southern Wisconsin for one month this fall.

Lick Observatory in California is credited, among its achievements, with discovery of 4,000 visible double stars and 36 comets.

Mica has long seemed to be a mineral without a substitute, but now something just as good can apparently be made cheaply by centrifuging bentonite.

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.

AGRICULTURE

What new plan is being followed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture Yearbooks? p. 190.

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How many feet of blood vessels in a pound of fat? p. 189.

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What nation has most molybdenum? p. 186.

PHYSIOLOGY

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PSYCHOLOGY

What are the best war-checking slogans? p. 182.
How do convicts react to ink blots? p. 184.
How many 90-year-olds go to movies? p. 191.

SURGERY

What can surgeons do for hideousness? p. 185.

A number of rivers that reach London become lost, being hidden in tunnels or carried along far underground.

Coins for small change in Italy are to be made of a new alloy called acmonital, presumably containing very little nickel.

A British bird fancier who advises against giving cake and other sweets to cage birds points out: "You don't give your children birdseed for a treat."

Feather-leaved nipa palms of the Eastern tropics grow in swamp lands which, according to Dr. B. E. Dahlgren of Field Museum, probably constitute the world's largest potential source of cheap alcohol.

An American physician, returned from visiting European hospitals, finds that local anesthesia is preferred to the general anesthesia produced by inhaling ether or other gases in these countries except England.

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