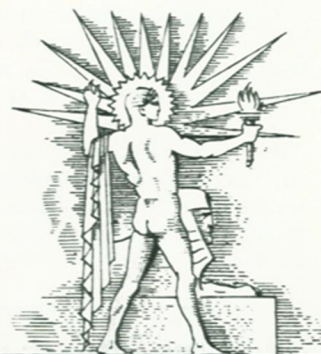


PRICE
15¢

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE



October 8, 1938

Still Life

See Page 233

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 United States uses over half the world's silk supply.

Some kinds of brick if unpainted may absorb 10 to 30 per cent. of their weight in water.

There are six separate "forests" of fossilized wood in the Petrified Forest National Monument.

Some one has figured that a falling meteorite will strike some one in America about once in 9,300 years.

With assistance of a rubber company in Michigan, a sculptor has succeeded in making sponge rubber hands for the maimed.

The south side of a building in the latitude of New York gets four and a half times as much sunlight in a year as the north side does.

It is believed that ancient and medieval people did not have whooping cough among their diseases; no description of it prior to 1578 is known.

The Chinese excelled in carving jade back in the Shang period, which dates from 1400 to 1100 B. C., and was the earliest historic period of China.

Aided by high water, an ocean-going ship recently passed through the Bonneville Dam locks and reached a point on the Columbia River 200 miles from the sea.

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 large are France's new transatlantic flying boats? p. 232.

What does the United States spend for aviation research? p. 236.

BIOLOGY

Why is the male the weaker sex? p. 233.

CHEMISTRY

What substitute for type metal has been found? p. 237.

FORESTRY

What new danger threatens New England? p. 229.

GENERAL SCIENCE

What proportion of research funds are spent for military purposes? p. 229.

GENERAL SCIENCE—PSYCHOLOGY

What new trend shows cooperation among scientists? p. 232.

MEDICINE

How is the blood shed in war put to use? p. 232.

What new drug may be non-habit forming? p. 233.

METEOROLOGY

What caused the tropical hurricane to hit New England? p. 228.

NAVIGATION

How old is the compass? p. 238.

OCEANOGRAPHY

Where is there a canyon as big as the Grand Canyon? p. 233.

PHYSICS

What is the cost of rust? p. 230.

POPULATION

Why is the proposed population movement in Czechoslovakia difficult? p. 231.

PSYCHIATRY

Why is Hitler said to be "infantile"? p. 227.

Why is war a form of suicide? p. 231.

PSYCHOLOGY

Can apes distinguish colors? p. 232.

How can you recognize propaganda? p. 234.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How did scientists plan to protect civilians from air raids? p. 233.

How might the threat of air raids promote public health? p. 235.

Why are the young people of Germany unfit for long marches? p. 239.

Few migrating birds fly higher than 3,000 feet.

Trees struck by lightning sometimes explode.

Cud chewing must have been a life saver for some of the less aggressive animals in their wild state, because they could snatch a meal at a grazing spot and then chew it at leisure in a safer place.

The American red fox is a smaller animal than the fox hunted in England.

Henry VIII at one time closed all the hospitals of England, in order to stamp out abuses in those institutions.

Modern paints are still manufactured on the basis of formulas worked out by Leonardo da Vinci and his successors who found Renaissance paint unsatisfactory.

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol 34 OCTOBER 8, 1938 No. 15

The Weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C., Edited by WATSON DAVIS.

Subscriptions—\$5.00 a year; two years \$7.00; 15 cents a copy. Ten or more copies to same address, 5 cents a copy. Back numbers more than six months old, 25 cents.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have privilege of subscribing to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at the reduced price of \$3 per year. Applications for this privilege should be accompanied by privilege card obtained from the Permanent Secretary, A.A.S., Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

In requesting change of address, please give your old address as well as the new one, at least two weeks before change is to become effective.

Copyright, 1938 by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, maga-

zines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service.

Cable address: Scienserve, Washington.

Entered as second class matter at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 18, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Indexed in Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature and in the Engineering Index.

Advertising rates on application. Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

SCIENCE SERVICE is the Institution for the Popularization of Science organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation, with trustees nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the E. W. Scripps Estate and the journalistic profession.

Board of Trustees—Honorary President: William E. Ritter, University of California, Representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, J. McKeen Cattell, Editor, Science, Garrison, N. Y.; Henry B. Ward, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.; Edwin G. Conklin, President, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pa. Representing the National

Academy of Sciences, W. H. Howell, Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; R. A. Millikan, Director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.; Harlow Shapley, Director, Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass. Representing National Research Council, C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Harrison E. Howe, Editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Washington, D. C.; Ross G. Harrison, Director, Osborn Zoological Laboratory, Yale University, New Haven, Conn. Representing Journalistic Profession, John H. Finley, Editor, New York Times; J. Edwin Murphy, Managing Editor, Baltimore Evening Sun, Baltimore, Md.; O. W. Riegel, Director, Lee School of Journalism, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithon, Treasurer, Cincinnati, Ohio; Warren S. Thompson, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Staff—Director, Watson Davis; Writers, Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, Robert Potter, Leonard H. Engel; Correspondents in principal cities and centers of research. Photography: Fremont Davis; Librarian: Minna Gill; Sales and Advertising: Hallie Jenkins, Austin Winant, Howard Bandy.