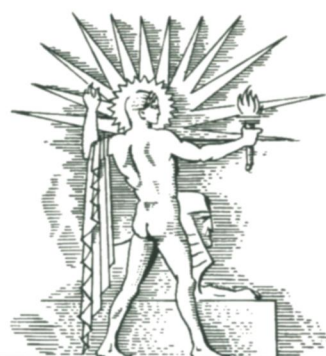


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



May 6, 1939

Honored

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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?

Greek archaeologists plan to excavate at the site of Plato's academy in Athens.

Fisheries of the bleak North Atlantic coast were an attraction important in the colonization of North America.

Delaware is the only State in which no big game animals were reported when the U. S. Biological Survey took recent inventory.

Despite popular belief, an ostrich does not stick its head in the ground; it lies down and stretches out its neck—keeping its eyes open.

To lessen the guesswork in maple syrup making, New York scientists have devised a simple thermometer for measuring sap density.

An invention for highway safety is a large prismatic lens set overhead at the crest of a hill, to show motorists what is coming up the other side.

For the sake of preserving the wild flowers, conservationists urge nurserymen and plant dealers to grow as much stock as possible from seed.

If science could evolve a chemical or gas distasteful to sharks, it might help shipping, airlines, fishermen, and pearl divers, says Dr. Harden F. Taylor.

An observer has reported watching a mother eagle teaching a young bird to fly by repeatedly dropping it and then swooping down to catch it on her back.

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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How can the "unsafe period" for birth control be discovered? p. 276.

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What sometimes hinders one ape from learning from another? p. 286.

PSYCHOLOGY—SOCIOLOGY

Which are the best cities distinguished for, dentists or clergymen? p. 284.

A new camera judges bread and cake by taking a picture of the inside cell and crumb structure.

When Jacques Cartier's crew landed in Labrador in 1535 they were suffering from scurvy, which Indians treated with a decoction of spruce needles—a good source of vitamin C, though no one knew about vitamins then.

In a health study made at Cornell University, only six per cent. of almost 3,000 people interviewed appeared to be "living without worries and without waiting for something."

About 5,000 of the goats running wild in Hawaii's National Park were removed last year to conserve park vegetation.

A bottle of "nothing" prepared with the best vacuum facilities available still contains quadrillions of molecules of assorted rare gases.

An American expedition recently found in the New Guinea jungle a tribe with such advanced farming practices as crop rotation, use of trees as windbreaks and to prevent soil erosion, and a system of land irrigation and drainage.

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 35 MAY 6, 1939 No. 18

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.

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Cable address: Scienservc, 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, Abridged Guide, and in the Engineering Index.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have privilege of subscribing to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at \$3 a year.

The New York Museum of Science and Industry has elected SCIENCE NEWS LETTER as its official publication to be received by its members.

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.

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