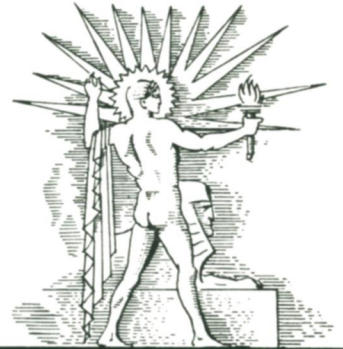
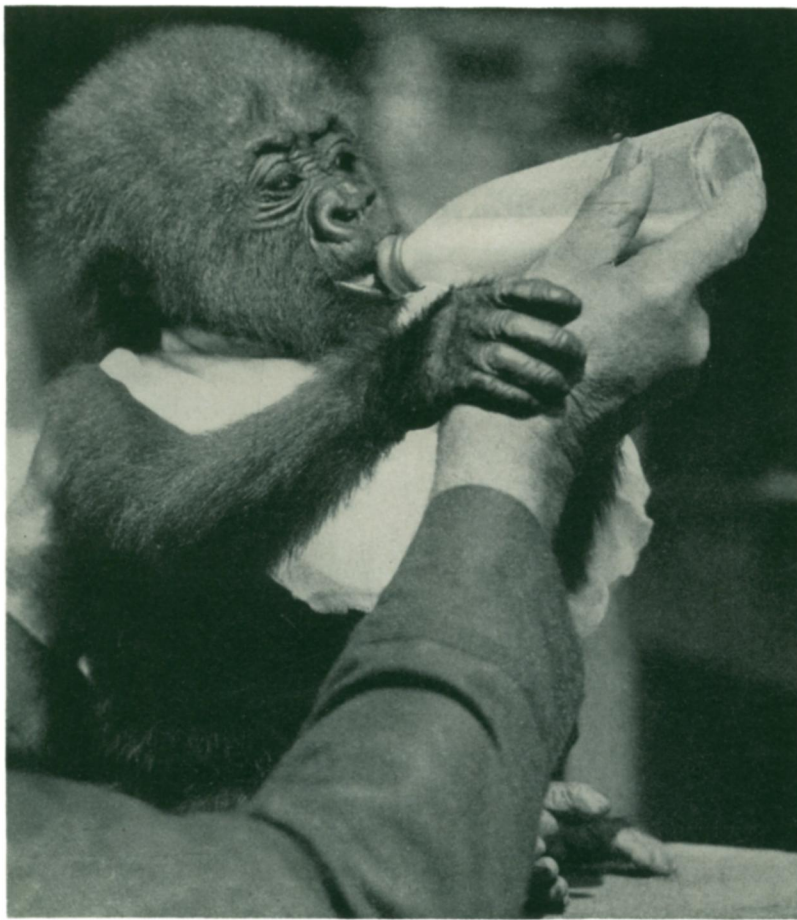


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



May 20, 1939

Cute Baby, But—

See Page 309

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

An agricultural college says that only a few cats are good rat catchers.

The twisted tube of a French horn contains from 16 to 23 feet of brass tubing.

The caterpillar that turns into Abbott's sphynx moth is able to make a curious squeaking sound.

In 30 years, cases of blindness from babies' sore eyes have been reduced 75 per cent in the United States.

Recent figures list more than 12,000 women scientists in Soviet Russia, or 30 per cent of the country's scientific workers.

Apples and other fruits can be wrapped in thin latex as protection in shipping, by use of a new dipping process.

The ideal sound-proof room—which cannot be built—would be a box within a box, with absolutely no connection between the two.

Measured just after a two-hour nap some children were found to be as much as half an inch taller than at other times of day, after playing.

A new kind of paint can be applied to mattresses and pillows to close the pores and prevent dust particles from escaping; object: to aid hay feverites who are susceptible to proteins in pillow fillings.

## 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

On what phase of aeronautical research is the emphasis being placed at Langley Field? p. 311.

### ASTRONOMY

How dense is the heaviest star? p. 307.  
How has the Hassel Comet added to its name? p. 318.

In what part of life is our universe? p. 308.

Why is Dr. Milne's theory of the universe likely to prove of major importance? p. 307.

### CHEMISTRY

What new use has been found for coffee? p. 312.

### MEDICINE

What are the most common ills? p. 312.  
What has the laboratory produced for the improvement of Addison's disease patients? p. 309.

When we convert our lunch into energy, what gland is in command? p. 309.

### PHYSICS

What new discovery facilitates the manufacture of liquid helium? p. 314.

### PHYSIOLOGY

Why is the vitamin alphabet going out of style? p. 318.

### PSYCHIATRY

How can the patient's brain signal a guiding message to the physician giving insulin shock treatment? p. 310.

How does playing football aid the epileptic? p. 315.

How is carbon dioxide linked with epilepsy? p. 315.

What makes psychiatrists think the brain has no special speech center? p. 310.

What new drug prevents the fits of epileptics? p. 315.

### PSYCHOLOGY

What is the surest way to cut out smoking? p. 308.

### STATISTICS

Which will get the younger husband, widow or spinster? p. 313.

The site of Solomon's palace in Jerusalem has never been found.

When glass breaks, the cracks move at a speed of nearly a mile a second.

Hens that are fed lobster shell will produce eggs with red-orange yolks.

Because it has high acid content, the tomato is one of the easiest foods to can.

Estimates regarding the native population of Africa range from 138 million to 163 million.

An insurance company finds that 50 percent of killings in 500 cases were due to temper aroused by trifling causes.

Almost all eyes that become blind by cataract alone can be helped, says an eye specialist; but, if the retina is damaged by disease, removing the opaque lens will not help.

Oysters are cultivated in Denmark's waters as a result of bottling up inlets sheltered from wind, introducing a layer of fresh water to help store heat, and adding a copper solution to induce oyster seed to "take root."

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