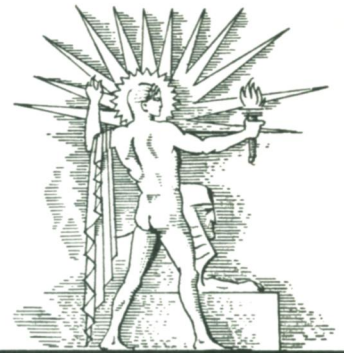
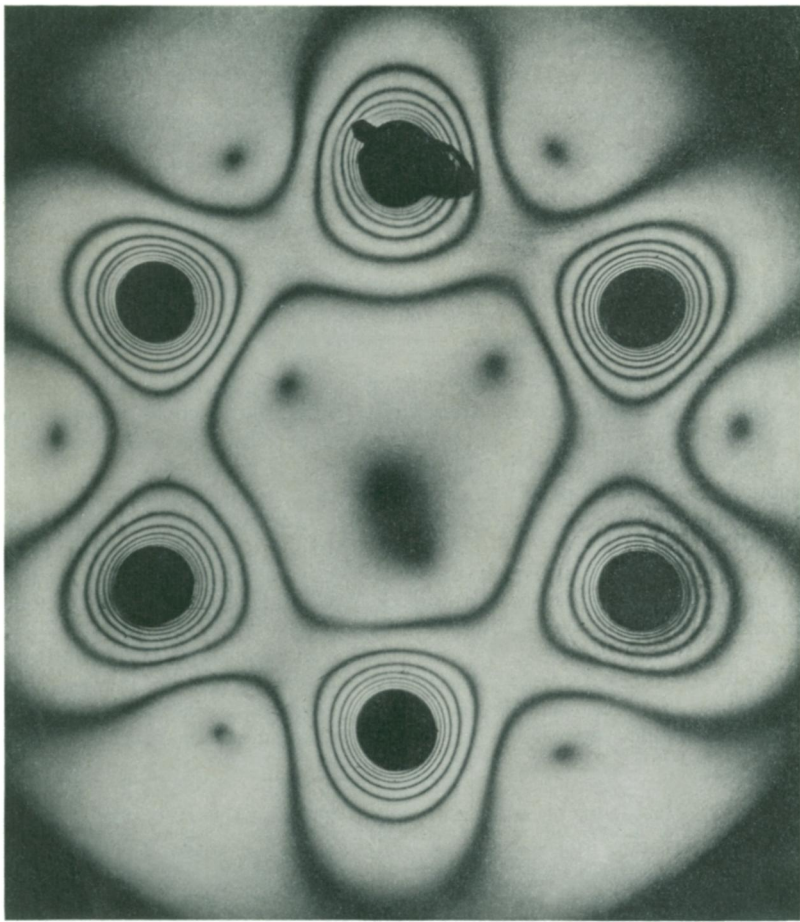


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



July 1, 1939

Strain Design

See page 6

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

Alabaster is a variety of gypsum.

Forty-three species of cone-bearing trees grow in California.

In the past 50 years weather records show about 280 great storms in eastern United States.

Electric irons of rotary type are used in pressing wrinkled documents in the National Archives at Washington.

More than 1,500 farm boys and girls in New York State were taught to plant trees by Cornell extension foresters this spring.

Contrary to popular belief, dairy cows do not drink much more water in hot weather than in cool weather—experimenters have watched them.

To photograph racing finishes, a new camera records what it sees through an optical slit—replacing the shutter which exposed the outer or inner side of the track first.

A beehive shaped tomb recently found on the island of Crete is older than similar tombs on the Greek mainland, thus showing that early Greeks got this odd type of construction from Crete.

Papago Indians in southern Arizona appropriated \$3,000 of their slim voluntary tribal fund in order to exhibit their fine baskets and leather lariats and quilts at the San Francisco exposition—and they are making good sales.

## 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 do the French hope to compete with U. S. in transatlantic air transportation? p. 3.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

What was the straw for in Egyptian brick making? p. 11.

Why were artists powerful men in Stone Age days? p. 10.

### CHEMISTRY

How does the U. S. Army make good charcoal for gas masks out of ordinary wood? p. 6.

What is sulfur now used for? p. 14.

### ENGINEERING

How can a treadmill be used to make waves stand still to have their pictures taken? p. 5.

How can engineers pack 4,242 separately insulated wires into a single two-and-five-eighths-inch cable? p. 8.

### ENTOMOLOGY—AERONAUTICS

What passengers on the first transatlantic clipper flight will help the asparagus crop? p. 13.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

How does the newly discovered vitamin K aid young babies? p. 7.

What experiments indicate that diet can prevent the need for surgery? p. 7.

### INVENTION

Who has the patent on a flying submarine? p. 8.

### MEDICINE

How can a person harm himself by dosing himself with sulfanilamide? p. 4.

How can Addison's disease patients avoid taking frequent doses of hormone? p. 15.

Why is damage from virus not always in proportion to its abundance? p. 6.

### ORNITHOLOGY

When do grazing cattle damage the nests of birds? p. 8.

### PALEONTOLOGY

Where are ancient reptiles entombed by the thousands? p. 9.

### PHYSICS

How can glass be "pre-shrunk" to avoid breakage under extremes of temperature? p. 3.

How can the very thin films of chemistry be shrunk? p. 5.

Who discovered that electricity could be used to kill a man? p. 9.

### PHYSIOLOGY

What newly found hormone may prevent deaths from drowning? p. 12.

Which is the first vitamin? p. 3.

### PSYCHOLOGY

What classical compositions made use of syncope? p. 12.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

How do public health engineers add to our lives? p. 9.

A few infants try to fix their eyes on a small light within 10 days after birth.

India's Ganges delta is, in places, more congested with people than China's lower Yangtze.

A farmer can get bigger crops by planting and tilling around a hillside, instead of straight up and down the hill.

Ways of landscaping air raid shelters by vines and flower beds are suggested to British home owners.

The Dead Sea is so rich in mineral salts that it could supply some of these materials in sufficient quantity to meet world needs.

The Craters of the Moon area in Idaho has more volcanic features than any other section of its size in the United States.

A new plastic compound cheaper than anything on the market has been developed from the agricultural waste product of sugarcane known as bagasse.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 36 JULY 1, 1939 No. 1

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.

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.

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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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