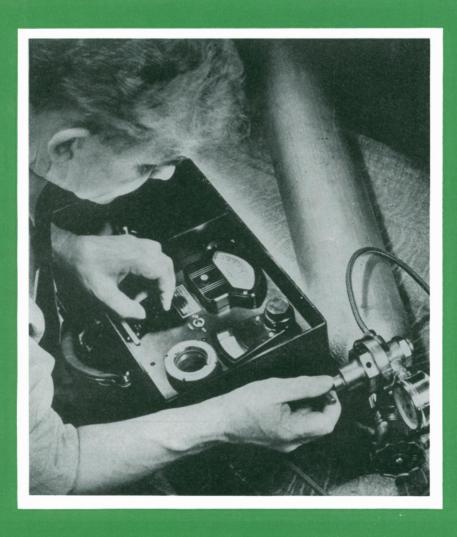
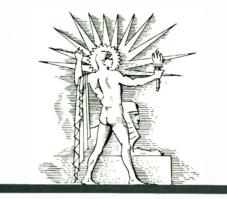
# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE.





September 16, 1939



Aids Airplane Safety

See page 191

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# Do You Know?

About 50 kinds of orchids grow wild in Britain.

A factory without windows being built for a Massachusetts company will have artificial lighting in 1,440 positions.

A recent accident victim in Rhode Island was identified solely by his eyeglass prescription.

Two boys were recently poisoned drinking tea made from Jimson weed berries.

Indians who taught Pilgrim housewives how to make succotash had a different name for it: mishkutotash.

Methyl bromide, useful as a fire extinguisher, is now "extinguishing" insects in a new fumigating preparation tested by government scientists.

Five specimens of the largest living carnivorous animal in the world, the great Alaskan brown bear, have been acquired by the American Museum of Natural History.

California's cantaloupe industry was once rescued from a fungus disease by crossing plants with a wild, almost inedible variety of cantaloupe from India, which could resist the disease.

A physician says that malaria affects one-third of the world's population, and renders the agricultural and industrial development of some of the world's richest regions practically impossible.

## 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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### CHEMISTRY

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Who profited by the war before it started? p. 184.

### **ECOLOGY**

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### GEODESY-GEOPHYSICS

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### MICROBIOLOGY

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### ORDNANCE

When were rockets first used in war? p. 186.

### PALEOBOTANY

What good can science get out of a shell-hole? p. 184.

### PHYSICS

How has American science again profited by a European "race purge"? p. 185.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Why are germs too dangerous to use as a war weapon? p. 182.

### RADIO

How can weather affect radio wave reflection? p. 185.

### SEISMOLOGY

Where has the Strasbourg earthquake center gone? p. 181.

### VETERINARY MEDICINE

What new use has been found for  $H_2O_2$ ? p. 184.

Mongolia has no railroads.

At one time in history roads were financed by charitable donations of pilgrims.

The development of an entirely new method of glass manufacture, resulting in ultra-low-expansion glass that rivals expensive quartz, is announced by a research laboratory.

Taking the rattle out of manhole covers has been achieved by a city engineer, who found the noise was due to irregular metal surface and remedied it by a smoothing-off process.

A dormouse makes three kinds of nests: one for shelter, one for a nursery, and one for hibernation.

Fifty-six pounds is the weight of one suit of armor, complete from head to foot, in a British collection.

A method of turning Irish potatoes into plastics has been developed by a German chemist now living in the United States.

When Peiping fell in 1937, all of the national universities there were moved to the interior, and 90% of the students went with them.

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