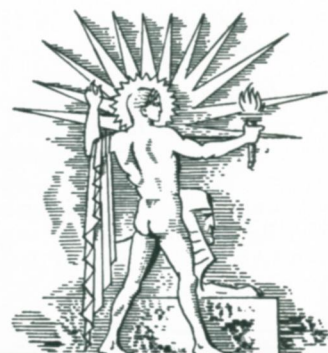


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



December 9, 1939

Visiting Eagles

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A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

Pneumonia is a common cause of death among wild animals.

Canals scattered through the Southwest show how extensively prehistoric Indians practised irrigation.

Aside from owls and marsh hawks, birds in general see out of one eye on each side of the head instead of focusing with both eyes on an object.

The biggest army of ancient times was that of Persian conqueror Xerxes, fifth century B.C., who had over 2,600,000 fighters, according to Herodotus.

Hemp for making rope is being grown in Kentucky, but because the plant also yields the marihuana drug, a Federal permit is required for its cultivation.

Valuable oyster fisheries off Puget Sound are threatened with destruction, due to inroads of a marine snail or borer introduced from Japan with seed oysters.

A wax film, useful in keeping many vegetables fresher in storage, did not work well with leafy vegetables or bunched root crops, in experiments at Cornell University.

Close correlation of events in East and West is nothing new, says Dr. F. J. Teggart of the University of California: between 58 B.C. and 107 A.D., forty uprisings of barbarians in Europe followed outbreak of war in western China or on eastern frontiers of the Roman Empire.

## 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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What chemicals are critical for a nation at war? p. 381

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### ORNITHOLOGY

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### PHYSIOLOGY

How can hibernation be produced in warm-blooded animals? p. 376

### POPULATION

Where has the biggest migration in the world recently taken place? p. 373

### PSYCHIATRY

Why do some people hate their jobs and other feel "addicted" to it? p. 378

Why is murder seen as a form of suicide? p. 377

### PSYCHOLOGY

How do religious groups differ on how to keep America out of war? p. 380

What are the most unpopular jobs? p. 374

What trade names are commonly mistaken for generic terms? p. 374

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Why are reports of alcoholic deaths misleading? p. 376

### PUBLIC HEALTH—ENGINEERING

Why has a coroner recommended windshields that will knock out when struck from within? p. 372

To harvest buffalo grass and seed, which mature close to the ground, a government scientist cleverly adapted an ordinary lawn mower.

A bird can change its wing area in flight, which is something man has been unable to do in a plane, says the American Wildlife Institute.

The federal government distributed a few yards of calico to each of 3,332 Indians in six New York tribes during November—annual fulfillment duty from a peace and friendship treaty signed with the Iroquois Nov. 11, 1794.

About one-third of the potatoes grown in this country are used on the farms where grown.

Tests for predicting ability in pharmaceutical work are being studied by the Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

A 12-year-old boy won the award for the best bloom in the recent Rose Show conducted by the Portland Rose Society.

Airplane equipment is virtually a "must" for extensive scientific exploration in unknown regions, says the American Museum of Natural History.

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