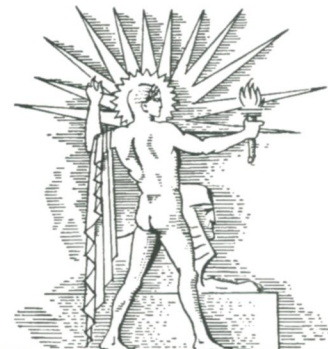
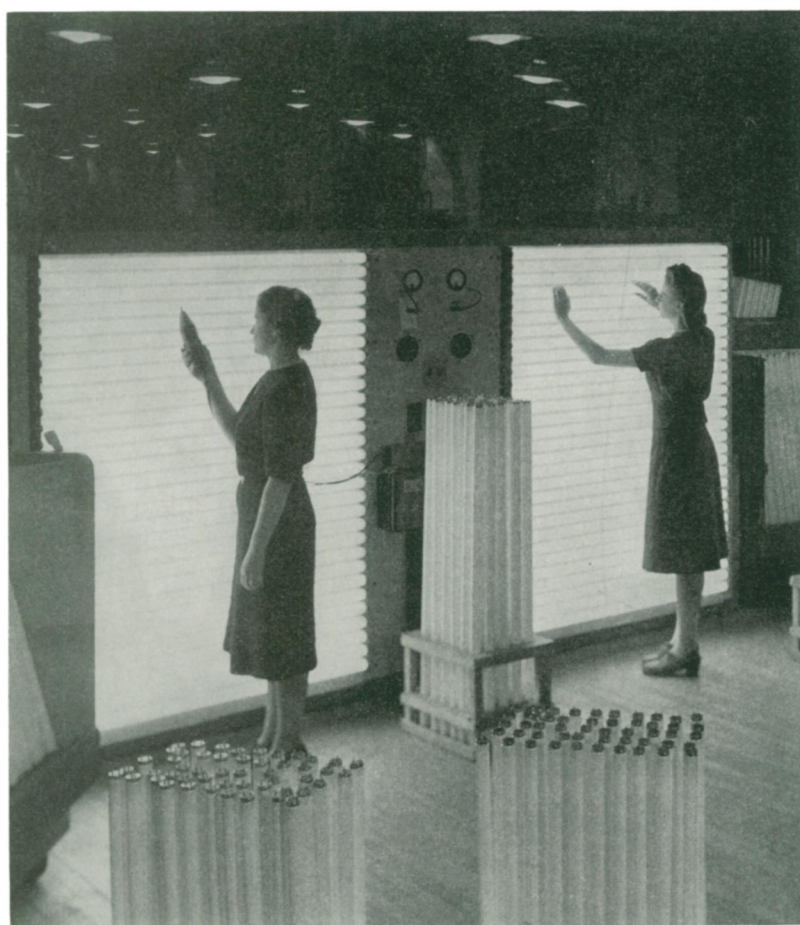


PRICE  
15¢

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



March 23, 1940

## "Aging" Test

See Page 190.

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?

Carillon bells weigh from 10 pounds to 10 tons.

Theodore Roosevelt, commenting on soil conservation, once said: "When the topsoil goes, man goes."

A fox's tail is important in cold weather—it *blankets* the nose and foot pads when the fox is lying down.

*Aqueducts* 100 miles or more in length are planned by the Italian government to bring water to the Libyan Desert in North Africa.

British chemists are improving gas-proof *paints*, which must not be affected by mustard gas and must withstand decontaminating processes following gas attack.

Watching Maori natives going through a war dance, in New Zealand, Dr. W. K. Gregory of the American Museum of Natural History detected in the tunes traces of Moody and Sankey *hymns* taught by early missionaries.

Sea level is not absolutely level: a geologist explains that along a mountainous coast, for example, *gravitation* attraction of the high masses pulls sea level a good deal higher than along a lowland coast.

Field crews working to eradicate the Dutch elm *disease* have orders from the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine to sterilize boots and shoes before entering property where livestock is kept.

## 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

What are the advantages of making an airplane fuel tank of rubber? p. 186.

What provisions are being made for the comfort of airplane passengers? p. 185.

What new machine is speeding airplane manufacture? p. 185.

### BIOCHEMISTRY

How has starch been synthesized? p. 179.

### BIOLOGY

How is the nucleus removed from a one-celled animal? p. 185.

### CHEMISTRY

What sort of cloth can be made from soya beans? p. 191.

### HORTICULTURE

What is multiple cropping? p. 190.

### MEDICINE

How may cold water cause the death of a good swimmer? p. 189.

How rapidly does the new thrombin preparation stop bleeding? p. 179.

What dietary lack causes symptoms like those of neurasthenia? p. 189.

What new chemical has been used on mice to protect against streptococcus viridans? p. 185.

What new vitamin has just been discovered? p. 189.

What vital aid is going from the United States to Hungary? p. 184.

Why does one authority believe that cerebral palsy is not due to birth injury? p. 187.

Why should benzadrine be avoided in sobering up after large amounts of alcohol? p. 188.

### NUTRITION

For what eye disease is riboflavin the remedy? p. 181.

### PHYSIOLOGY—MEDICINE

What does insulin do to cancer cells? p. 180.

### PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

Why might a leaky refrigerator coil kill leaves on your yard trees? p. 184.

### POPULATION

To what extent are the Finns adding to the world's mass migration problem? p. 184.

Who will find Census data useful? p. 182.

Who have criticized political attacks on the Census? p. 183.

### PSYCHOLOGY

Will a young baby make swimming movements if dropped into deep water? p. 184.

New surgical *sponges* are lintless.

*Eggs* freeze at 28 degrees above zero.

A fish's bones need not be so *strong* as those of a land animal—water surrounding the fish serves as support.

Over half a million pounds of *camphor* are used in a year in motion picture film.

Polish *refugee* professors have established a Polish University Abroad in Paris to keep alive Poland's science and learning.

Tests of operating an automobile in congested city *traffic* demonstrate that the cost is about as high as when driving in mud.

A Polish scientist, an authority on solar radiation, will study *sunshine* and cloudiness in southern California, comparing it with Mediterranean coast resorts.

Scientists in Iceland are studying *her-ring oil*, which may prove useful as a drying oil in paints, also in soap making, and possibly for human food.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 37 MARCH 23, 1940 No. 12

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.

Copyright, 1940, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service.

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 Journalistic profession.

Board of Trustees—*Honorary President*: William E. Ritter, University of California. Representing the American Association for the Ad-

vancement of Science; J. McKen Cattell, Editor, Science; Henry B. Ward, University of Illinois; Edwin G. Conklin, *President*, American Philosophical Society. Representing the National Academy of Sciences: W. H. Howell, *Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee*, Johns Hopkins University; R. A. Millikan, California Institute of Technology; Harlow Shapley, Harvard College Observatory. Representing National Research Council: C. G. Abbot, *Secretary*, Smithsonian Institution; Harrison E. Howe, *Editor*, Industrial and Engineering Chemistry; Ross G. Harrison, Yale University. Representing Journalistic Profession: Neil H. Swanson, Baltimore Evening Sun; O. W. Riegel, Washington and Lee School of Journalism. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate: Harry L. Smithson, *Treasurer*, Cincinnati, Ohio; Warren S. Thompson, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; Karl Bickel, E. W. Scripps Co.

Staff—*Director*, Watson Davis; *Writers*, Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, Robert Potter; *Correspondents* in principal cities and centers of research. *Photography*: Fremont Davis; *Librarian*: Minna Gill; *Sales and Advertising*: Hallie Jenkins, Austin Winant, Howard Bandy.