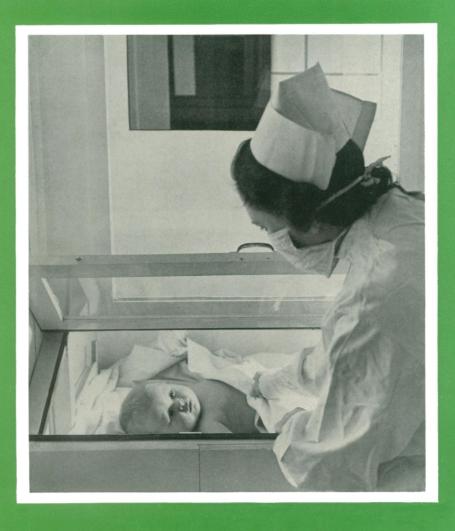
# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE.





August 17, 1940



Safe From Germs

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SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# Do You Know?

Experiments have shown that *whey* is one of the richest sources of lactoflavin, or vitamin B...

There are more than 100 *crops* in the industry that is ordinarily summed up as "agriculture."

"After babyhood, most children have the right kind of *food* only when the whole family is well fed," government nutritionists declare.

Located in the New Mexican desert, the world's largest *ice cave* has a 30 degree temperature and the floor is solid ice of unknown thickness.

About 15,000 trout were recently planted in glacial lakes in Montana by a flying game warden who *dumped* the fish from overhead out of a tank.

A Chinese physician of the sixth century A.D. concocted a "flying elixir" of gold, cinnabar, azurite, and sulfur in the belief that *drinking* it would cause a man to fly.

By testing fabric under ultraviolet light, cleaners say they can now settle arguments over *holes* blamed on chemicals used in cleaning—holes eaten by chemicals fluoresce.

There is no *scientific* reason for milking a cow from the right side, says a Cornell professor, and no practical reason unless it is that a few cows, used to being milked from the right, make trouble if the usual procedure is changed.

## 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.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

How did the Smithsonian Institution acquire Sitting Bull's pipe? p. 105.

### ASTRONOMY

Where is the newest super-nova? p. 104. Who first told the world about the theory of Copernicus? p. 108.

### AVIATION

How is "blue tape" hampering Britain's air force? p. 109.

### BACTERIOLOGY

What are cross-infections? p. 102. What fungi can kill bacteria? p. 106. How do soil germs kill other germs? p. 107.

### BIOLOGY

How did Mormon crickets get their name? p.~108.

### BOTANY

What plants secrete hydrocyanic acid? p. 106.

### CHEMISTRY

What type of plastic is most used? p. 100. Why is Germany conserving iodine? p. 104.

### ENTOMOLOGY

How is Mexico helping us to fight an invader? p. 109.

### ETHNOLOGY—HERPETOLOGY

Which are more dangerous, copperheads or rattlers? p. 103.

### FORESTRY

Where are college men forming fire-fighting teams? p. 99.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

What measures are being taken to keep French science alive? p. 99.

How will the scientific brains of this country be counted? p. 101.

### GENETICS

What are double sneezers? p. 106.

### INDUSTRY

What proportion of the nation's plate glass is used in automobiles? p. 110.

### INVENTIONS

Who are serving on the new National Inventors Council? p. 100.

Why is a moving target desirable in an X-ray tube? p. 110.

### MEDICINE

What new diseases have been conquered by sulfanilamide? p. 105.

How can an insane man break his back? p. 105.

Why is the "bottle bacillus" so called? p. 107.

### METEOROLOGY

Where do most hurricanes come from? p. 104.

### MINING

What minerals is Canada seeking? p. 100.

### PALEONTOLOGY

Where are the biggest dinosaur bones? p. 104.

### PHYSICS

Where are lightning-strokes on the Trylon reproduced in miniature? p. 99.

How long does a mesotron last? p. 105.

### PSYCHOLOGY

How much more sensitive are you to pain than other people? p. 99.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What is your chance of dying of a chronic disease? p. 101.

What was unusual about the 'flu epidemic in Puerto Rico? p. 105.

### ZOOLOGY

What is a duiker? p. 104.

A housefly may travel several miles.

A "bridge" less than 18 feet long is not a *bridge*, says a railway engineer—properly it is a culvert.

Epidemics of *boils* are unknown, says a physician.

A silkworm *startled* while spinning may jerk a knot in the cocoon thread.

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 38 AUGUST 17, 1940 No. 7

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.

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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.

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