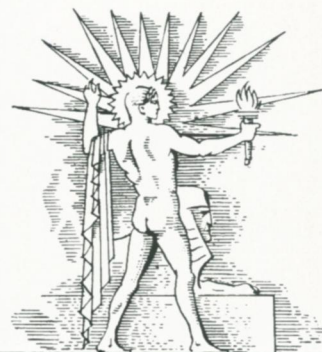
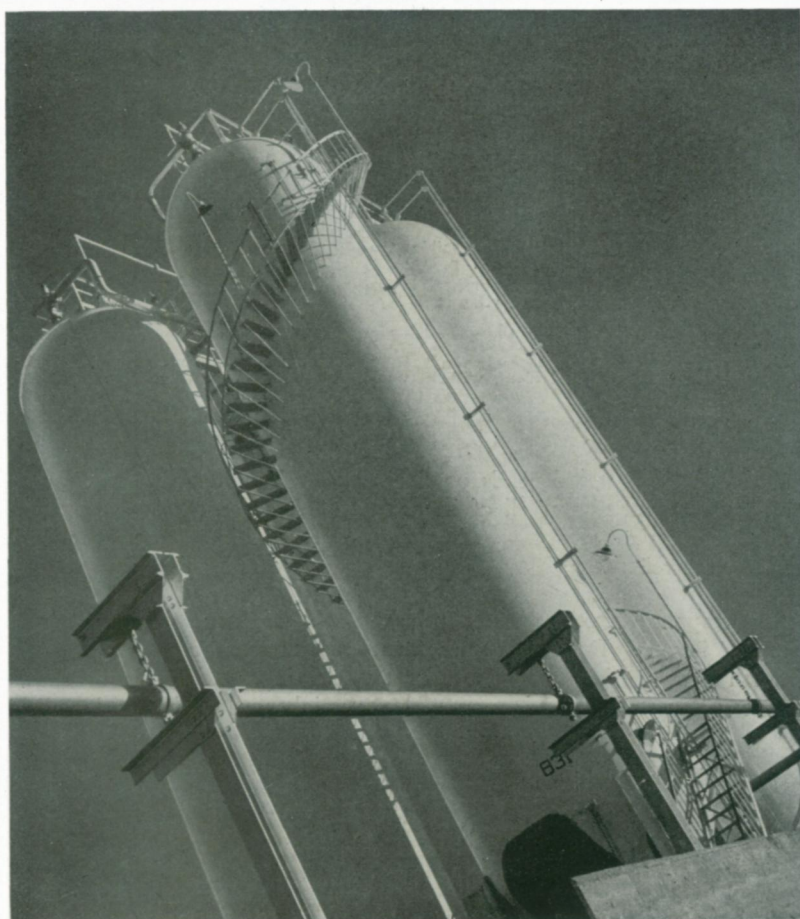


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



November 9, 1940

Towers for Defense

See Page 298

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

Raisin seed oil finds a use in soap.

The biggest of *whales* may weigh as much as 37 elephants.

In early railroading days, experimenters tried equipping some cars with *sails*.

More than 500 articles of military equipment are made partly or wholly of *leather*.

Casein from about 30 quarts of milk is needed to make the *synthetic wool* for a dress.

Contrast in *sizes*—the largest male angler fish is one to two inches long, whereas the largest female is about three feet.

Sheep-like, the fighting *tarpon* can often be lured to the surface if shiny, fish-shaped decoys are drawn up as a "suggestion."

To train weather experts, important to national defense, the University of California has established a new division of *meteorology*.

The Aztecs of Mexico, says an anthropologist, practised *human sacrifice*, not because they held life cheap, but because it was the greatest gift to a god.

Puzzling to Alaskans, *lightning* has been frequent in the Mount McKinley area in the summers of 1939 and 1940, although previously it was almost unheard-of there.

## 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.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

Where have scientists found relics of Bronze Age war? p. 296.

### ASTRONOMY

Why does an astronomer doubt that "old" spiral nebulae are formed from "young" elliptical nebulae? p. 295.

### BACTERIOLOGY

How do bacteria from Wisconsin aid industry in Puerto Rico? p. 297.

What accounts for the grouping of streptococcus germs in chains? p. 301.

### CHEMISTRY

What role will be filled by oil in our defense program? p. 298.

### CONSERVATION

What has war done to whaling? p. 303.

### GEOLOGY

Where have the Japanese struck oil? p. 297.

### MEDICINE

What combination of dietary factors have been found to cause cancer? p. 293.

What discovery may lead to better protection against influenza? p. 291.

What substance has made possible the grafting of wound-torn arteries? p. 302.

Why should patients with broken bones not be given extra doses of vitamin D? p. 303.

### NUTRITION

What creature can get along without vitamin A? p. 302.

### PHYSICS

How can water be made dry? p. 302.

How will polarized light aid in airplane detection? p. 294.

How will television aid the electron microscope? p. 300.

### PHYSIOLOGY

What single substance is recommended for providing quick energy to athletes? p. 297.

What sort of substance is the new anti-baldness vitamin? p. 296.

### PHYSIOLOGY—AERONAUTICS

How soon would a pilot lose consciousness if without oxygen at 30,000 feet? p. 292.

What happens to the brain as a result of repeated periods of oxygen deprivation? p. 292.

Why should oxygen be used in flights at altitudes as low as 5,000 feet? p. 293.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

How many cases of alcoholism occur in the United States annually? p. 297.

### RADIO

What football games can you see by radio? p. 296.

### RESOURCES

Why has medical work been dependent upon German sources of glass? p. 296.

### ZOOLOGY

In what danger is the original specimen of the kouprey, previously unknown wild ox? p. 291.

The United States depends on Spain and Portugal for almost all of its *cork*, but California may start growing cork trees commercially.

By dropping into the water pebbles dipped in *oil*, Dalmatian fishermen smooth the water's surface in order to detect fish more easily.

A human being requires 10 years of *adolescence* to grow out of childhood into adulthood, but an ape requires only two years for this change.

A highway engineer says that some features of *road design* reduce snow drifting, and roads in snowy country might well be designed accordingly.

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