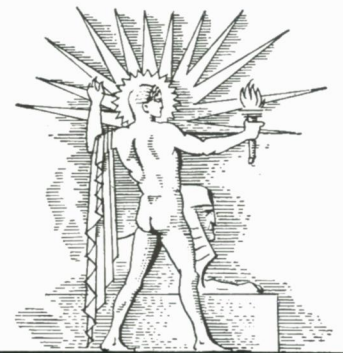
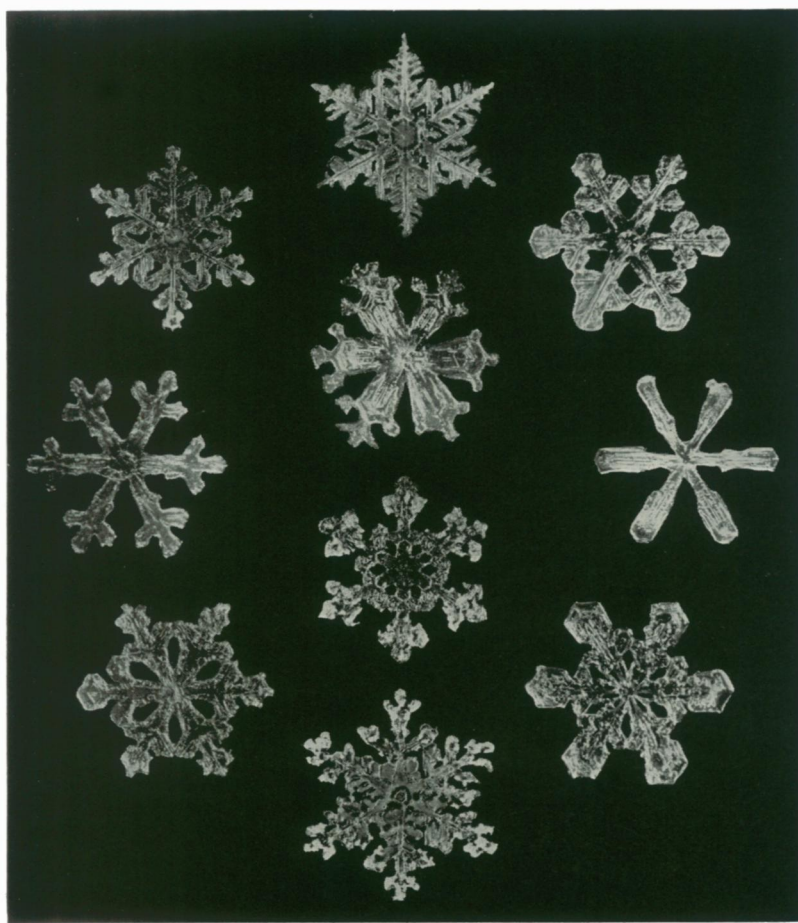


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



March 15, 1941

Fossil Flakes

See Page 172

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?

England's *potato* crop is the biggest in many years.

Rapid cooling hardens ordinary steel, but it softens chromium-nickel *stainless steel*.

Peanut oil is being increasingly used in shortenings and oleomargarine, due to its resistance to rancidity.

Washington State's *apple orchards* trace history to apple seeds brought by a member of the Hudson Bay Company.

Government agriculturists report that *smoke* is a popular food flavor and now includes smoked cheese, turkey, game, salt and oysters.

In the isolation of the ancient world, it took the invention of *wheeled vehicles* about 2,000 miles to reach Egypt from western Asia.

British engineers report that *rubber fenders* for automobiles and trucks resist denting, are waterproof and rustless and save metal.

Besides his famous singing, the *mocking bird* broadcasts noises that have been likened to radio squeals, creaking doors, and the postman's whistle.

Kansas rates its *coal reserves* larger now than they were 20 years ago, because advances in strip-mining technique permit mining of coal beds so thin that they were formerly not considered commercially valuable.

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 new type of plane carries a smaller one inside? p. 169.

ANTHROPOLOGY

What discussion has been started by a wrist-bone from a South African cave? p. 172.

What peoples have been found to have unusual big lower jaws? p. 169.

ASTRONOMY

How do scientists account for the report of a star seen to change color? p. 168.

BACTERIOLOGY

In what sort of soil do nitrogen-fixing bacteria work best? p. 163.

CHEMISTRY

How can snowflakes be "fossilized"? p. 172.

How can thin films of a soap be used to detect viruses? p. 164.

ENGINEERING

What new building material may cut down earthquake damage in California? p. 172.

Why is a factory being built inside a box? p. 169.

ENTOMOLOGY

What borers-from-within cause a property damage annually of \$300,000,000? p. 174.

HORTICULTURE

To what new disease are carnations subject? p. 169.

MATHEMATICS

How should Congress decide on the reapportionment of seats? p. 174.

MEDICINE

How can chlorophyll be used for healing? p. 170.

What sort of illness is caused by toxoplasma? p. 166.

Where is the anti-measles vaccine being tried? p. 165.

PHYSICS

How much energy has been produced by the splitting of Uranium 235? p. 164.

What are the latest artificial radioactive substances? p. 164.

What tracer element has a half life of a thousand years? p. 163.

PHYSIOLOGY

How shrill a sound can a bat hear? p. 168.

PSYCHOLOGY

How can people be protected against mental breakdown in time of great fear? p. 167.

PSYCHOLOGY-GENETICS

What evidence is there that noise sensitivity is inherited? p. 166.

PUBLIC HEALTH

What American troops will be vaccinated against yellow fever? p. 168.

When will the measles epidemic reach its peak? p. 165.

SURGERY

Why is it necessary for a surgeon to remove carefully the talcum powder from his gloves? p. 168.

In 20 years, scientists studying *bird habits* have banded more than 3,000,000 birds, and have obtained reports later on 200,000 of them.

An original record of *Thomas Edison's voice* has been presented to the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia by the Edison Birthday Committee.

To help solve the problem of *shelter* for migrant farm families the Farm Security Administration has established 53 camps, providing for 10,000 families.

Plastic is being carefully tested by airplane builders as a substitute for metal in flooring, cowl covers and engine baffles.

A Science-in-Sports Department and a Sports Gallery are new *museum* ventures at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

Cambridge University has a collection of *potato* specimens collected in South America prior to the war, with a view to improving potato varieties.

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