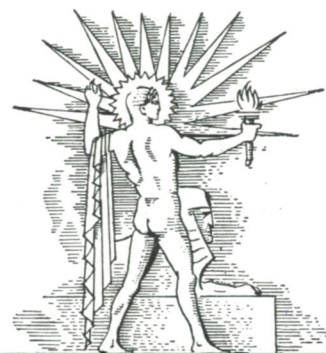


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



July 5, 1941

Atom Sorter

See Page 9

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?

It takes seven years at the shortest to get a *rubber* plantation to the tapping stage.

The most powerful anti-aircraft *search-lights* can throw beams visible five and one-half miles.

Geologists are making special efforts to investigate *Alaskan* sources of nickel and other metals important to defense.

A canopy of glaring *lights* over a city would be better air raid protection than a blackout, one lighting engineer claims.

Careless handling of *eggs*, says a Cornell poultry scientist, caused loss of 175,000,000 eggs in 1939 in the United States.

Less than 150 years elapsed from the time when Egypt had its first *stone* masonry architecture until the great pyramids were being raised.

Unearthing ruins of a palace at Hamath, Syria, Danish archaeologists found many little baked clay rolls, believed to have served in fixing royal *curls*.

A number of cases of *gas poisoning* are reported among garage workers in Finland, where wood and charcoal gas generators have replaced gasoline motors.

With three miles of work completed in a year, scientists say that the 13-mile *Continental Divide tunnel* in Colorado may be finished in five years, instead of seven.

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## 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

What sort of poetry did Mohammed write? p. 14.

Where are CCC boys excavating an ancient log stockade Indian town? p. 8.

### ASTRONOMY

Where will the new Van Gent comet be visible this fall? p. 4.

### BACTERIOLOGY

What two species of bacilli can kill many kinds of bacteria? p. 13.

### CHEMISTRY

How can fabrics be made mildew proof? p. 5.

What discovery brings nearer the possibility of a commercial method for extracting gold from sea water? p. 6.

### CONSERVATION

In what policy are practically all American republics in agreement? p. 10.

### ENGINEERING

How is glass being used in tires? p. 9.

### ENTOMOLOGY

What sort of chemical lures the tent caterpillar? p. 15.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

What people first used the device of terracing sloping fields? p. 7.

### GEOLOGY—ENGINEERING

Where did nature carve an amphitheater out of the rocks? p. 3.

### MEDICINE

What is now believed to be the cause of cirrhosis of the liver? p. 13.

What vitamin prevents cirrhosis of the liver? p. 8.

### METALLURGY

Where does America have a huge domestic source of aluminum? p. 3.

### NUTRITION

How can livestock feed be made "out of thin air"? p. 5.

What do faulty irrigation practices do to potatoes? p. 9.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

How can photography reveal the writing on charred documents? p. 8.

### PSYCHOLOGY

How will students be selected for the Army's new school for military psychologists? p. 5.

What has war deprivation done to English artists? p. 9.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

How many hours must drafted men spend in the dentist's chair? p. 6.

What dangerous disease carrier has been found in Kansas? p. 8.

### VETERINARY MEDICINE

What is thought to be the carrier of fowl paralysis? p. 15.

A recent survey shows 36,641 students studying *Spanish* in 121 universities in the United States.

British women with advanced *mathematical* knowledge are attached to combatant artillery units to take charge of range finders and prediction calculating machines.

During high altitude flying, going without food increases the fliers' *oxygen* needs, and it is found that carbohydrates such as sugar and plain chocolate bars require least oxygen in digestion.

Useful in making *sweetpotato* starch, a new machine cuts the potatoes into chips which can be dried readily.

Borrowing a gridiron idea, the U. S. Army is making *parachute troops'* uniforms of the tough, slick goods in football pants—smoothness helps prevent tangling with parachute lines.

Using a two-way speaker system, Iowa school districts are bringing school to more than 100 *crippled children* at home, so that they not only hear a teacher but can recite and be heard by the class.

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