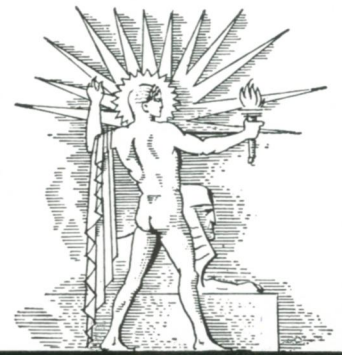


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



August 30, 1941

Autumnal Spectre

See Page 137

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?

Russia gets 80% of its oil from the Caucasus region.

There are historic records of Norwegian whaling as early as 417 A.D.

Applying knowledge of vitamins and balanced diets to animal rations is credited with prolonging many animal lives in zoos.

Iceland's many waterfalls would provide 2,500,000 horsepower, according to estimate, but this water power is practically unharnessed.

A new apartment building in Washington will have ultraviolet conditioned air, as a device to prevent air-borne infections from spreading.

Plastics that Brazil has started to produce from coffee can be made without use of foreign materials—which might prove bottlenecks just now.

Safety helmets of plastic, pronounced sturdy enough for mining and construction jobs, can be made from heavy cotton treated with a soybean material.

The Pacific Ocean has the greatest known depths, the greatest being 35,400 feet, whereas deepest Antarctic waters yet sounded are no more than 14,274 feet.

One South American fish can climb vertical stone walls in a stream bed, aided by a modified sucker-like mouth and an apparatus formed by the lower surfaces of its pelvic fins.

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.

AGRICULTURE

How can peaches be obtained from pits in two years? p. 136.

ANTHROPOLOGY

What aided the defeat of America's famous fighting Aztec Indians? p. 134.

ASTRONOMY

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Where can you see a comet during early September? p. 141.

BOTANY

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CHEMISTRY

Who was the first chemist of record? p. 142.

CHEMISTRY-MATHEMATICS

Who has demonstrated the possibility of a group of elements beyond uranium? p. 135.

ENGINEERING

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ENTOMOLOGY

Against what insect is a million dollars being spent? p. 136.

GENERAL SCIENCE

What must scientists do to preserve their liberties and support? p. 132.

MEDICINE

How is plastic surgery being used for tonsil removal? p. 137.

How was a boy eleven years old saved from giantism? p. 132.

What local anesthetics check the action of the sulfa drugs? p. 136.

What revolutionary treatment for burns eliminates the need for skin grafts or plastic surgery to efface scars? p. 133.

Who has made 8,500 gallons of typhoid vaccine during the past year? p. 137.

PHOTOGRAPHY

How was it demonstrated that cosmic rays do not cause the deterioration of photographic film? p. 134.

What are the new color prints for amateur photographers like? p. 136.

PHYSIOLOGY

What effect does ascorbic acid have on the oxygen use of animals? p. 137.

With what sort of a cocktail should you start your day? p. 141.

PSYCHOLOGY

How are hates and loves built up in a people? p. 140.

Why is it lucky for a blast-concussion victim if he is also wounded? p. 142.

PUBLIC HEALTH

In what state have two deaths from plague occurred this summer? p. 131.

What part of the country is suffering from sleeping sickness? p. 132.

Most birds will not eat hairy caterpillars, says a zoologist.

Fresh peas lose about one-third of their vitamin C when kept at room temperature for three days.

The first air-mail letter, sent to Benjamin Franklin when he was living in France in 1785, was carried in a balloon across the English Channel.

No rubber substitute as cheap as rubber has yet been evolved.

British efforts to salvage wastepaper are said to have saved Britain 60 shiploads of paper.

At weaning time, a Navajo lamb already shows the kind of fleece it will have when grown, whether coarser or finer.

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