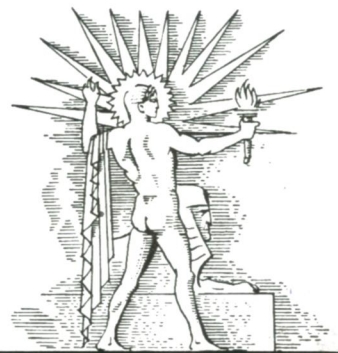
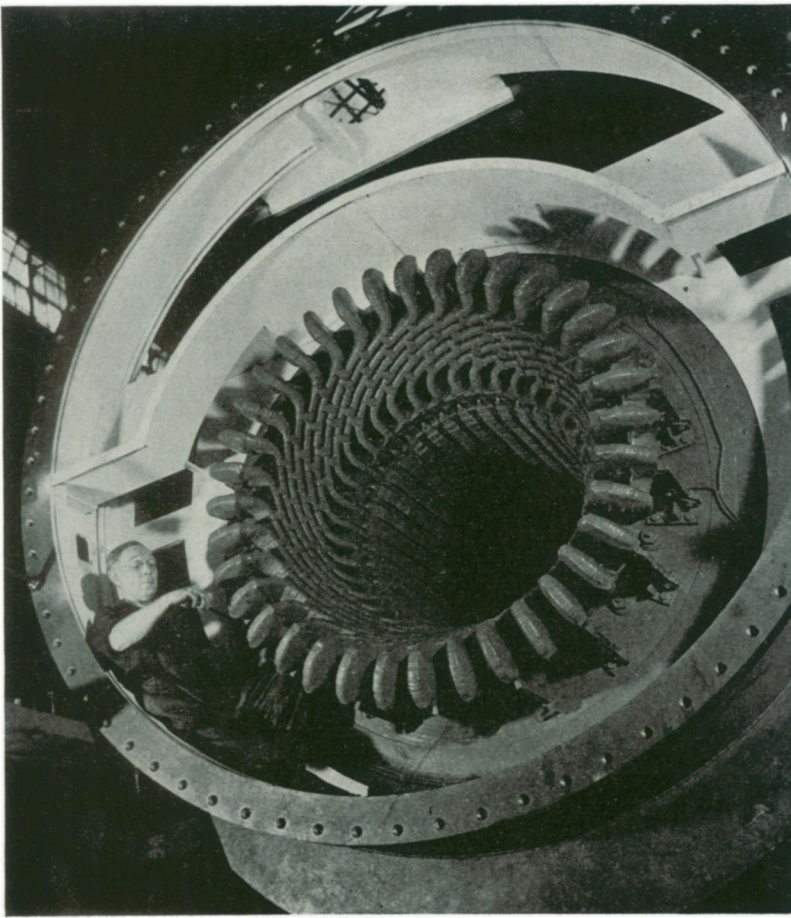


PRICE  
15¢

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



November 8, 1941

Power

See Page 303

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

To get much-needed *scrap* metal, Japan is salvaging sunken ships.

*Dakar*, says a geographer, is the only city—as we think of cities—in all West Africa.

White *plastic* traffic lines applied to roads instead of white paint are said to have good wearing qualities.

A new kind of transparent *glass* building block provides “almost window-like vision” for panel use in non-transparent glass walls.

The electron microscope reveals that *smoke* particles from burning metals have characteristic forms, many of them crystalline.

Scientists have extracted from *ragweed* pollen a colorless chemical containing nitrogen, believed to be a major cause of hay-fever.

Cases for storing *silver* are apt to be red, gray, green or tan, rather than white, because sulfur in bleached goods may cause tarnish.

At some British clinics, children are given a special *black currant* syrup, reported to contain five times as much vitamin C as orange juice.

Indians who send *code messages* for the Army in their native languages may refer to tanks as turtles, and airplanes by insect names, and in this un-military talk the messages are doubly disguised by phrase and by language.

## 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

How far has a parachutist intentionally jumped without pulling his ripcord? p. 294.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

What important information is lacking about American feet? p. 300.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

Where can pyramids be found in the United States? p. 291.

### ASTRONOMY

How old is the sun? p. 301.  
What job is waiting for competent amateur astronomers? p. 295.

### BOTANY

How can you demonstrate the tendency of plant roots to grow downward? p. 297.

### DENTISTRY

What has Deaf Smith County, Texas, to teach the nation? p. 292.

Why do false teeth look false? p. 292.

### MEDICINE

How has the defense program snatched away the cure for gray hair? p. 293.

What gland disorder may cause pyorrhea? p. 299.

What operation may prolong the lives of patients with malignant high blood pressure? p. 291.

What remedy has been found for bacillary dysentery? p. 300.

What serious illness is relieved by removal of the thymus gland? p. 302.

What substance produced by germs may be better for sinus and other infections than the sulfa drugs? p. 299.

### PHYSICS

How does an acoustic mine work? p. 296.

What does an aurora smell like? p. 295.

### PLANT PATHOLOGY

How do plants use cork for their protection? p. 302.

### PSYCHIATRY

How can vitamin B<sub>1</sub> make safer the insulin shock treatment for mental disease? p. 294.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What winged enemy is more of a threat to the Burma Road than Japanese flyers? p. 298.

### VETERINARY MEDICINE

How can hogs be kept free from cholera? p. 295.

### ZOOLOGY

In what way is “Pinkie” the pink-eyed opossum unique? p. 293.

Wind is the main hazard to *parachute jumpers*, Army doctors report.

Gray wild *wolves* and black sheep dogs have been crossed establishing a hybrid line for study, a geneticist reports.

High-speed *photography* proves useful in determining correct cutting angles for cutting metals with machine tools.

*Peanut oil* and charcoal are fuels to be used by motor vehicles on the new desert road from French North Africa to Dakar.

Before becoming stale or rancid, most *nuts* become almost tasteless.

A *giant panda* captured in China will be brought to the New York Zoo.

The U. S. Army's new *shoe fitting* machine takes three foot measurements, and measures both feet at one time.

A health officer says a sanitary *milk* supply is very important—one-fifth of the average diet is cows' milk in some form.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 40 NOVEMBER 8, 1941 No. 19

The Weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 1719 N St. N. W., 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.

In requesting change of address, please give your old address as well as the new one, at least two weeks before change is to become effective.

Copyright, 1941, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service.

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.

The Science Observer, established by the American Institute of the City of New York, is now included in the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

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.

SCIENCE SERVICE is the Institution for the Popularization of Science organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation.

Board of Trustees—Nominated by the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Henry B. Ward, University of Illinois; Edwin G. Conklin, American Philosophical Society; J. McKeen Cattell, Editor, Science. Nominated by the National Academy of Sciences: R. A. Millikan, California Institute of Technology; Harlow Shapley, Harvard College Observatory; William

H. Howell, Johns Hopkins University. Nominated by the National Research Council: Ross G. Harrison, Yale University; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution; Harrison E. Howe, Editor, Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. Nominated by the Journalistic Profession: O. W. Riegel, Washington and Lee School of Journalism; A. H. Kirchhofer, Buffalo Evening News; Neil H. Swanson, Baltimore Evening Sun. Nominated by the E. W. Scripps Estate: Frank R. Ford, Evansville Press; Warren S. Thompson, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; Harry L. Smithton, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Officers—Honorary President: William E. Ritter. President: Edwin G. Conklin. Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee: Harlow Shapley. Treasurer: O. W. Riegel. Secretary: Watson Davis.

Staff—Director: Watson Davis. Writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, Morton Mott-Smith. Science Clubs of America: Joseph H. Kraus, Margaret E. Patterson. Photography: Fremont Davis. Librarian: Minna Gill. Business Manager: Alvin C. Stewart. Sales and Advertising: Hallie Jenkins, Austin Winant. Correspondents in principal cities and centers of research.