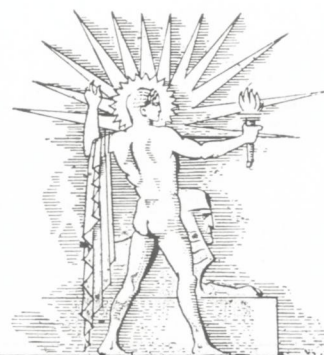


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



June 13, 1942

To Push a Ship

See Page 374

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?

An airplane requires from 86 to 180 pounds of *rubber*.

Modern four-engined bombers require some 300 *instruments*.

Among African Negroes, the wandering *barber* is still a surgeon.

A milch *cow* requires as much care in a year as an acre of apple orchard.

A *cork tree* must grow for 15 years before its bark is ready for "stripping."

Bath sponges have a skeleton of sponge in which is chemically related to silk.

The California *flying fish* can attain a speed of 35 miles per hour on the take-off.

Waste collected from British kitchens provides monthly 12,000 tons of feed for poultry, pigs and rabbits.

Tadpoles fail to transform into frogs if kept in water with no trace of iodine, and fed upon a diet free from iodine compounds.

Four-leaf clovers by the million are the unusual crop harvested in Panama from seeds developed by an engineer-turned-floriculturist.

Gas used on a hundred-mile auto jaunt will drive seven "jeeps" with seven guns and 21 fighting men 20 miles closer to the enemy.

Question Box

Page numbers of Questions discussed in this issue:

AERONAUTICS

What three developments in aviation may spring a surprise on the enemy? p. 372.

AGRICULTURE

What new crop is now being grown in Florida? p. 372.

GENERAL SCIENCE

What plan is proposed to aid boys to go through college in preparation for commissions in the armed services? p. 380.

HEREDITY

What sciences should be represented on the staff of a research institute for studying human heredity? p. 375.

MEDICINE

From what weed can hay fever victims expect new sneeze trouble? p. 376.

How can patients with varicose veins prevent fainting? p. 372.

What danger is there in making the sulfa drugs more powerful? p. 377.

What is being done to make the Kenny treatment for infantile paralysis more generally available? p. 378.

What sort of heart disease is treated with sulfa drugs? p. 377.

Where does the hidebound condition of the skin of "men who turn to stone" originate? p. 376.

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.

Why does artificially induced fever reduce high blood pressure? p. 371.

MICROBIOLOGY

What new agent has been found for making the plant mosaic virus ineffective? p. 377.

NUTRITION

Why is the acreage in wheat, cotton and tobacco to be reduced? p. 374.

PHYSICS

What new value has been obtained for the constant of gravitation? p. 383.

PHYSIOLOGY

When you can't get gasoline, how should you walk? p. 377.

PSYCHIATRY

Out of what sort of difficulties does the mental illness develop that brings "cranks" to Washington to see Government officials? p. 375.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How short of food are the people of Germany? p. 373.

STATISTICS

How much has the infant's expectation of life increased in the last 60 years? p. 376.

What chance has the "old maid" of 45 years of getting married? p. 376.

Typhoid germs may live as long as 60 days in shell oysters.

The spawning grounds of the *tuna fish* have never been discovered.

Quillay, or *soap bark*, is used to produce foam on nonalcoholic carbonated beverages.

There were 365,377,000,000 cubic feet of gas burned in the manufacture of *carbon black* in 1941.

Over 100 species of *insects* have been found living in termite nests.

Plastic water faucets have been adopted by the Army to replace critical brass.

It takes about 250 flying hours to train an air corps pilot, and 12,500 gallons of *gasoline*.

One hundred thirty cities were without a single *traffic* fatality in 1941, according to the National Safety Council.

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Wanted: Future Faradays and Curies

ALL OVER AMERICA there are high school seniors . . . boys and girls . . . who have potential scientific ability and budding creative genius of a high order. These talents are latent . . . awaiting the opportunity for further development through higher education.

To provide this opportunity, Science Clubs of America, sponsored by Science Service, is now conducting an *Annual Science Talent Search* . . . made financially possible by Westinghouse. This Talent Search has three major objectives:

1. To discover and foster the education of boys and girls who possess exceptional scientific skill and ability.
2. To focus the attention of large numbers of gifted youth on the need for perfecting their creative and research skill . . . as future contributions to winning the war and the peace to follow.
3. To help make the American public aware of the role of science in war and in the post-war reconstruction.

High school seniors, who enter the Science Talent Search competition, must take special examinations in their local schools to determine their aptitude for science, and must submit essays and school records.

Each year, forty winning contestants are to be given all-expense trips to Washington, D. C., during July where they will meet some of the country's foremost scientists, visit scientific institutions, and take part in scientific programs. While at the Nation's Capital, these embryo scientists will be given additional written and oral tests.

Judges will then select the two most talented youngsters . . . a boy and a girl . . . who will be awarded Westinghouse Grand Science Scholarships of \$2400 each. Additional Westinghouse Science Scholarships . . . each valued at \$200 . . . will be given to eighteen contestants.

By aiding the education of these gifted boys and girls today, we hope to help develop the scientists of tomorrow who will lead the way in the advancement of research and engineering.



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