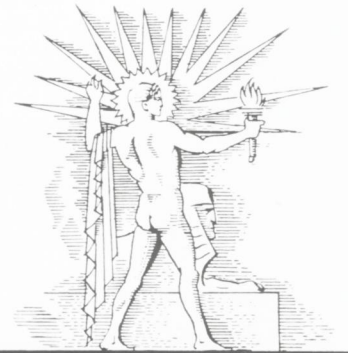
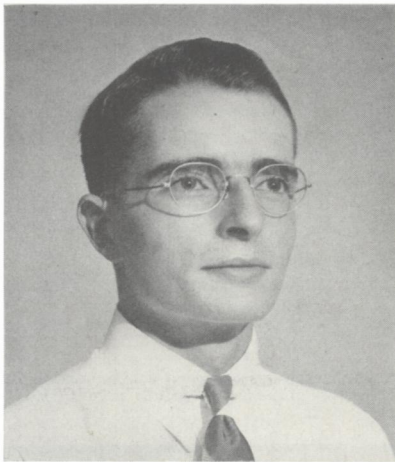


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



July 25, 1942

Scientists of Tomorrow

See Page 54

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

Spring *burning* of pasture land damages grass and timber, destroys soil fertility and starts erosion, according to forestry experts.

"*Fiddlesticks*," air pressure gauges for quickly checking pressure of tires, are carried by army officers in the manner of a swaggar stick or riding crop.

*Pomades* to prevent chapping of lips and face may soon be put up in lipstick-like cases for soldiers stationed in cold climates, if present experiments warrant their use.

Helmholtz in 1881 showed that the force of attraction between the oxygen and hydrogen atoms in a molecule of water is 21 billion times the force of gravitation.

As the war is creating a shortage of fish liver oils, livestock farmers and poultrymen are depending more and more upon alfalfa meal, kale, yellow corn, and carrots for needed *vitamin A*.

American Indians, for whom dried beef and dried vegetables have long been staple foods, are helping the U. S. Department of Agriculture develop improved ways of *food dehydration* for war-time use.

Recent experiments with *bean* plants showed that yields of beans were improved when one-fourth or even one-half of the leaves of the plants were removed at certain periods during the growing season.

## Question Box

### Page numbers of Questions discussed in this issue:

#### AERONAUTICS

When will movie houses aid the airplane model building drive? p. 56.

What reinforcement do airplane tires now receive? p. 57.

#### BOTANY

How many plant species are native to Midway? p. 57.

#### CHEMISTRY

Who saw rubber made while they waited? p. 56.

From what country did our magnesium fertilizer formerly come? p. 57.

#### ENTOMOLOGY

When does guayule's worst insect enemy attack? p. 56.

#### GENERAL SCIENCE

What honors had Science Talent Research winners already achieved in high school? p. 51.

Against what spiritual dangers were the winners warned? p. 52.

How do scientists fight? p. 53.

Why are science students recommended for draft deferment? p. 58.

#### INVENTION

What are blackout buttons? p. 62.

How is wood replacing steel? p. 62.

#### MEDICINE

Where will an intensive five-year study of infantile paralysis be made? p. 57.

Why is a skin test recommended before plasma transfusion? p. 59.

#### MEDICINE—NUTRITION

What vitamins have been found lacking in high blood pressure cases? p. 58.

#### MILITARY SCIENCE

Where were our scientific weapons developed? p. 53.

Why should soldiers know how to swim? p. 56.

How hot is the steam now used in the Navy? p. 60.

What is a pancake engine? p. 61.

#### NUTRITION

What is the trend in "Victory lunches"? p. 57.

How can food be enriched from the roots up? p. 63.

#### ORDNANCE

How long have cannon been made in India? p. 58.

#### PHYSIOLOGY—PSYCHOLOGY

Why are tall, thin men not wanted for paratroopers? p. 63.

#### PSYCHOLOGY

Over what hurdles did Science Talent Search winners make their way? p. 54.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

What was last year's U. S. death rate? p. 56.

Whence did the new contagious eye ailment come? p. 59.

*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.*

The heaviest *bird mortality* occurs within two days after leaving the nest, some authorities estimating it to be as high as 50%.

Not only does the *cucumber beetle* feast destructively upon cucumber, muskmelon, squash, and pumpkin; it also spreads bacterial wilt and mosaic disease.

*Scales* which are accurate within 40 billionths of a pound are used to measure the tungsten filament wire of electric lamps.

*Lemurs*, more primitive than other primates, are believed to be relatively unmodified descendants of one of man's early ancestors.

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