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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE

• JULY 31, 1943



Simulated Shipwreck

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A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

A heavy bomber, cruising at 250 miles an hour, burns 3-1/3 gallons of gasoline every minute.

The exportable surplus of milled rice from the current Brazilian crop may reach a record total ranging between 225,000,000 and 350,000,000 pounds.

Only the United States and Russia have allowed their civilians to fly in wartime; other belligerents grounded their amateurs as soon as war was declared.

The first paratrooper is reported to be a French captain who jumped in the spring of 1918, with an assistant and a load of explosives, to blow up German communications behind the lines.

Chilian caliche, a natural ore, is the principal source of sodium nitrate, an essential chemical in fertilizers and war production; this industry gives direct employment in Chile to over 50,000 persons.

It is believed that the raccoons living on the islands off the coast of Southern Florida are smaller than those found on the mainland because they have no access to fresh water except during the rains.

To safeguard men and women serving in the tropics, America will produce this year 2,500,000,000 atabrine tablets, the synthetic antimalarial and principal substitute for quinine no longer available to us.

Question Box

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BOTANY

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GENERAL SCIENCE

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What proportion of swing shift workers fail to get proper food? p. 72.

PHYSICS

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PHYSIOLOGY

In what proportion of cases does the so-called gray hair vitamin restore the color of hair? p. 68.

PSYCHOLOGY

What optical illusion affects the accuracy of anti-aircraft fire? p. 72.

PSYCHOLOGY-PHYSIOLOGY

How can "white noise" be reduced in airplanes? p. 67.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How can the spread of infantile paralysis be prevented? p. 70.

RADIO

Who received the Marconi award? p. 70.

SAFETY ENGINEERING

What are some of the dangers of working in an arsenal? p. 69.

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.

Steel leads the list of raw materials supplied Russia, totaling 725,000 tons for the first 19 months of lend-lease.

A self-propelled trouble-shooting car with wheels that can be adjusted to fit any gauge railroad track in the world has been designed for the Army.

By reducing household matches 1/16 and 1/4 of an inch, 7,000,000 board feet of lumber were saved last year.

The Boulder Dam installation has been the first single power plant in history to operate at more than a million kilowatts capacity.

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