

## Great Glass Disc Cooling

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annealing safely, it is not known what will be done with it. The St. Gobain works were demolished, and many of their most skilled workers killed, in the war, so large discs are very hard to obtain. Several American observatories are in the market for big discs for reflecting telescopes, but just how the Bureau's disc could be transferred to one of them is not certain. There are legal difficulties hampering the sale or gift of the glass, and so it might take an act of Congress to dispose of it.

But the Bureau officials are not worrying about this bridge at present. What they are chiefly interested in is whether or not they have the disc.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

Tarahumara children of Mexico run distances of 20 to 30 miles a day after their fathers.

The Alpine willow, the smallest tree in this country, does not exceed six inches in height.

It is never too cold to snow, but the great dryness of very cold air may make snowfall unlikely.

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## They Say

### Peccavimus!

In reading the article on Dr. John M. Coulter which appeared in the October 29th issue of the SCIENCE NEWS-LETTER I find several errors. Dr. Coulter went from Lake Forest University to the University of Chicago, not from Indiana University as was stated. He is a member of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Scientific Advisors of the Boyce Thompson Institute, not the "head"; Dr. William Crocker is the director and executive head of the Institute and has been since its organization. It was along the lines of Dr. Crocker's suggestion that the Boyce Thompson Institute was established and it was when Colonel Thompson was looking for a plan by which he might aid food production that Colonel Thompson and Dr. Coulter met for the first time.

—Zeliette Troy, Librarian, Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Yonkers, N. Y.

(In "Who's Who in America," Dr Crocker is listed as director of the Boyce Thompson Institute, and Dr. Coulter as its head. The SCIENCE NEWS-LETTER was led into this particular error through a literal adherence to the wording of the latter biographical note.—Ed.)

### Orientation

I am having our students in the course in Orientation in Science use the SCIENCE NEWS-LETTER as a text and we find it most satisfactory.

—Prof. David W. Cornelius, University of Chattanooga.

### Valuable

The weekly NEWS-LETTERS are indeed fine, and I have found them valuable more than once in my courses.

—Frances Diebold, Kalamazoo College.

### Interest

I find this publication invaluable for creating interest in my science classes, both with students of high school grade and college students.

—Kathryn A. Gilmore, Marion Junior College.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

Chinese children rarely have rickets, chiefly because they get plenty of sunlight.

A new device that weighs two ounces can be attached to a bird's back to register the number of its wing strokes in flying, and how far the wings move.

A dinosaur skeleton found in East Africa was so large and heavy that 80 natives were needed to carry the bones to the ship.

It is reported that a minutely cut inscription has been found on the famous statue of the Apollo Belvedere, stating that Apollonius, son of Nestor, made the statue.

## 1927 Summer Cool in East

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Missouri valley and adjacent territory. It may also be pointed out that the interval between these cool summers is exactly twelve years. If we go back another twelve years to 1891 we find that the mean July temperature of that year was the lowest on record up to that time in a large part of the country. The flood-producing rains were, however, absent to a great extent. Whether the heavy rains are the primary cause of the cool summers or whether both events are due to a common cause, is, of course, unknown."

In Alaska and Canada, Prof. Henry points out, a period of warm weather began at the same time as the cool weather in the United States.

Prof. Henry also suggests that the coolness of 1816 may have been exaggerated. During that year, he says, "there is not the slightest justification for assuming that the summer temperatures generally throughout the United States were unduly low."

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

A new ultra-violet ray machine reveals invisible erasures and alterations in important documents and checks.

The pilgrimages taken by so many millions of people in India each year are held to be one cause of spreading disease.

Tarahumara Indians engage in Marathon dances that last all day and all night without a single instant for rest.

In the past seven years, twelve kinds of foreign parasites have been turned loose in fields infested by the corn borer to fight the pest.

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