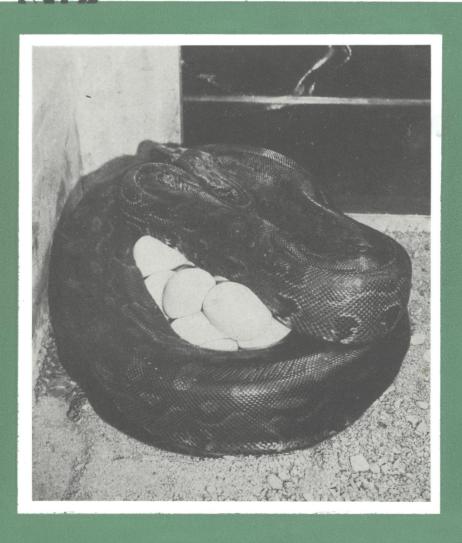
# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE.





MAY 9, 1931

Madame Python Accepts Family Cares

See Page 292

SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

The Weekly Summary of



Current Science

Published by

### SCIENCE SERVICE

The Institution for the Popularization of Science organized under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Edited by Watson Davis

Subscription rates—\$5.00 a year postpaid. 15 cents a copy. Ten or more copies to same address, 5 cents a copy. Special reduced subscription rates are available to members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

In requesting change of address, please give old as well as new address.

Advertising rates furnished on application.

### Board of Trustees of Science Service

Board of Trustees of Science Service

Honorary President, William E. Ritter, University of California. Representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, J. McKeen Cattell, President, Editor, Science, Garrison, N. Y.; Burton E. Livingston, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; Raymond Pearl, Director, Institute for Biological Research, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. Representing the National Academy of Sciences, John C. Merriam, President, Carnegie Institution of Washington; R. A. Millikan, Director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California; David White, Senior Geologist, U. S. Geological Survey. Representing National Research Council, Vernon Kellogg, Permanent Secretary, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Harrison E. Howe, Editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Representing Journalistic Profession, John H. Finley, Associate Editor, New York Times; Mark Sullivan, Writer, Washington, D. C.; Marlen E. Pew, Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee, Editor of Editor and Publisher, New York City. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithton, Treasurer, Cincinnati, Ohio; York City. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithton, Treasurer, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, West Chester, Ohio; Thomas L. Sidlo, Cleveland, Ohio.

### Staff of Science Service

Managing Editor, Watson Davis; Staff writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, J. W. Young, Elizabeth Spence, D. Lindsay Watson; Librarian, Minna Gill; Sales and Advertising Manager, Hallie

Copyright, 1931, by Science Service, Inc. Republication of any portion of the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited since it is distributed for personal, school, club or library use only. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service, details and samples of which will gladly be sent on request

Publication Office, 1930 Clifton Ave., Baltimore, Md. Editorial and Executive Office. Constitution Ave. at 21st St., N. W., Washington,

Address all communications to Washington, D. C. Cable address: Scienserve, Washington.

Entered as second class matter October 1, 1926, at the postoffice at Baltimore, Md., under the act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trade-mark, U. S. Patent Office.

## DO YOU KNOW THAT

British botanists are puzzled to find that the musk plant grown in gardens no longer has its characteristic perfume.

With the increase in good roads and the higher speeds allowed, wind resistance is assuming greater importance in passenger car design.

The life of a skyscraper is apt to be about 30 years, not because the building is worn out by that time, but because it makes way for a newer structure.

A new anti-aircraft gun, built in England, is capable of striking airplanes more than five miles above the earth.

An armored railway car equipped with cells like prison cells is in use in Germany for transporting prisoners from one institution to another.

The smallest fly that bites human beings is the punkie, which can literally pass through the eye of an ordinary

Government plant specialists say that corn earworms cost the farmers \$40,-000,000 a year, and that this could be cut in half if farmers would plant their corn early and select a variety well suited to local conditions and with a long, tight husk.

Indian men and women made perfume from wild bergamot and other fragrant plants, using it to scent their clothing.

Grapevines that are too thickly laden with leaves produce less desirable fruit than vines with fewer leaves, it has been discovered.

# WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

AERONAUTICS Improved Wind Tunnel for Canada	207	OPTICS Glasses Beautify Eves	296
AGRICULTURE	491		2,0
Cattle Disease Gains in U. S.	302	ORNITHOLOGY	
_	502	Birds Excel Machine Flyers	301
Archaeology	206	Sea Eagle Eats Mice	297
Excavate Indian Cemetery	296	Photography	
Home of America's Vestal Virgins	298	Inner Ear Photographed	292
New Kind of Old Art	296	PHYSICS	
ASTROPHYSICS	205	Focus Stream of Electrons	296
Equinoxial Magnetic Storms	295	Gets Million Volt Speed	296
Magnets Quiver Day Late	291	Lifeless Drops Act as Though	
Sunlight Pressure Splits Comet	292	Alive	293
AVIATION		Light Speed Tube Measured	297
Birds Excel Machine Flyers	301	Measure Five Hundredth of Atom	294
Biology	202	Physiology	
Bacteria Like Mixed Diet	303	Brain Used For Normal Sleep	300
Lifeless Drops Act as Though		Manganese's Influence on Parent-	,,,,
Alive	293	hood	291
CHEMISTRY	/	PSYCHIATRY	-/-
Gas Made Non-Poisonous	294	Self Respect Sought for Patients	300
GENERAL SCIENCE		Psychology	500
Dr. Campbell Chosen President	291		
First Glances at New Books	304	Physical Differences Reveal Emo- tions	205
Horticulture			295
Orchid Greenhouse Rotates	295	PUBLIC HEALTH	202
MEDICINE		Urge Control of Methanol	302
Blood Shows Cancer Condition	294	SEISMOLOGY	
Inner Ear Photographed	292	High Earthquake Record	297
Toxin May Yield Serum	303	Zoology	
Nutrition		Curosity of a Raccoon	291
Exercises Make Poor Reducer	297	Python Lays Clutch of Eggs	292

Science Service presents over the radio, an address

### MAN'S CONTROL OF HIS OWN DEVELOPMENT

By Dr. Oscar Riddle, of the Department of Genetics of the Carnegie Institution of Washington located at Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y., who is an authority on internal secretions and sex.

Friday, May 15 at 2:45 P. M., Eastern Standard Time

Over Stations of

The Columbia Broadcasting System