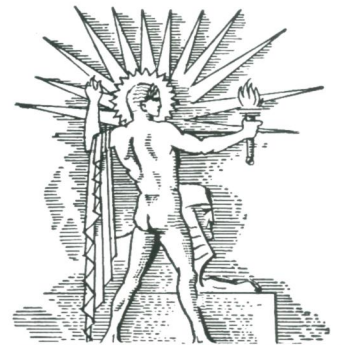


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



DECEMBER 15, 1934

World Without Man

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SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

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## Current Science

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## DO YOU KNOW?

The black walnut crop this year was above average in quantity and quality.

France is experimenting with rosin as an ingredient in road-surfacing materials.

A new material for insulating electric cords is expected to make the handling of electric appliances safer.

Pig iron got its name because the trenches and side channels in which the molten metal runs suggest sows with their rows of suckling pigs.

A scientist who examined 230 skulls of ancient Egyptians reported that the practice of pulling diseased teeth was apparently not known.

Florida scientists have found that zinc is helpful in treating the bronzing of tung oil trees, mottle-leaf of citrus trees, and certain other plant diseases.

A German psychiatrist estimates that 400,000 people in Germany may be affected by the eugenic sterilization program there, 360,000 being mental and nervous cases.

Smoked fruit is an unusual delicacy, but the Chinese preserve some varieties of the jujube in this way.

Cinchona trees—source of quinine—can be grown along the southeast coast of the Black Sea, judging by success of experimental plantings.

Language specialists reduced Navajo to writing some time ago, and now young Navajo Indians are to be taught to read and write the language.

Game animals and birds cannot tolerate crowding; even under the best range management, one bird per acre or one deer per 20 acres is about the limit.

A new device to keep a baby from sucking his thumb or scratching an infection is a transparent cuff which does not prevent him from seeing his fingers or holding a toy.

A prize of 1,000 Swiss francs for the best work on encephalitis—so-called "sleeping sickness"—has been offered by the Berne University Foundation for the Advancement of Researches on Encephalitis.

## WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

## ARCHAEOLOGY

How was the home of Senator Plautius Lateranus beautified? p. 382.

What did Perseus look like? p. 377.

Will the bones of Paris and Hector ever be recovered? p. 381.

## ASTRONOMY

Why is Jupiter unable to support life as we know it? p. 378.

## BIOLOGY

How can students see into fish without dissecting them? p. 374.

## BOTANY

Why did the mistletoe mystify the ancients? p. 382.

## GEOLOGY

How does the radio serve the geologist? p. 377.

## ICHTHYOLOGY

How are factory wastes made less toxic to fish? p. 376.

## MEDICINE

What drug is to be tested for its addiction property? p. 371.

Why is the isolation of purified protein substance from the tubercle bacilli of vast importance to public health? p. 372.

## PALEONTOLOGY

How old is the world's oldest egg? p. 371.

## PHYSICS

How are Uncle Sam's postage stamps kept in alignment in printing? p. 376.

How can the radioactive form of an element be separated from its inactive isotope? p. 375.

What is the lifetime of radioactive iodine? p. 377.

Why is liquid air cold enough to liquefy the oxygen in air? p. 377.

## PHYSICS-AERONAUTICS

How high have stratosphere balloons risen? p. 372.

## PHYSIOLOGY

What is the physiological parallel to Alice in Wonderland's magic mushroom? p. 377.

## PLANT PATHOLOGY

How much more money is needed to wipe out the elm disease? p. 373.

## PSYCHOLOGY

What is Gertrude Stein's experience in scientific research? p. 374.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

What proportion of accident victims have alcohol in the blood? p. 376.

## SEISMOLOGY

How was news of the Honduras earthquake first received? p. 376.