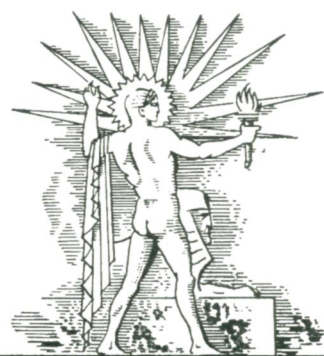


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



January 6, 1940

President, AAAS

See Page 4

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Corn is the best source of oil of all grain crops.

Forest fire fighters may drop from parachutes, if tests with especially designed 'chutes and protective clothing prove satisfactory.

The U. S. Weather Bureau is stationing men on American merchant ships in the North Atlantic to make observations and report on flying weather.

Hunting deer with aid of music is occasionally done in Europe—violinists kneeling in the bushes play, within shooting distance of the game.

Quebec is trying new paint for white lines on highways: containing ground glass, the paint reflects headlights at night making traffic lanes highly visible.

Ruins of Palmyra in the Syrian desert are the chief visible remnant of the empire-building ambitions of Syrian Queen Zenobia, who fought to expand her holdings into a huge Arab empire.

Two geography teachers at Syracuse University declare that the average student entering their general geography course is unable to locate on a map one-third of the States in the Union.

Stranded in the United States by war conditions, Dr. Wladyslaw Gorcynski, a former chief of the Polish Weather Bureau and noted authority on solar climates, is now doing research at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California.

QUESTIONS DISCUSSED IN THIS ISSUE

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.

AGRICULTURE

What effect has the chemical remedy sulfanilamide when used on plants? p. 9.

ASTRONOMY

What is a "super-shell" star? p. 11.

What new star was seen on Christmas Eve? p. 11.

What remarkable spectacle will make 1940 memorable? p. 10.

BIOLOGY

How do some mosquitoes survive the winter? p. 15.

What invaders besides the enemy armies may be expected by nations at war? p. 15.

What woman scientist has seen the formation of cellulose particles? p. 7.

BIOLOGY—GENERAL SCIENCE

Who is the new president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science? p. 4.

BOTANY

How can cotton bolls be produced from unpollinated flowers? p. 8.

CHEMISTRY

From what petroleum product can edible fats be made? p. 6.

How can felt hats be made without fur? p. 9.

What substance is the mother of the body's white blood cells that fight disease? p. 6.

ICHTHYOLOGY

Where are salmon being taken for a ride right around a dam? p. 8.

MATHEMATICS

What is "topology"? p. 4.

MEDICINE

How can high blood pressure be reduced to normal? p. 5.

How is blood for transfusions being kept free from germs? p. 8.

PHYSICS

How is it possible for scientists to learn about the spinning of the nucleus of an atom? p. 3.

Who was honored with the A.A.A.S. \$1,000 prize? p. 3.

PHYSIOLOGY—PSYCHOLOGY

In what do men put their trust? p. 14.
On what should military pilots "tank up" before ascents? p. 12.

What is the nature of the newly discovered barrier to the virus diseases? p. 12.

What new weapon has been found to fight carbon monoxide poisoning? p. 13.

PSYCHIATRY

When did modern mental treatment have its beginnings in this country? p. 9.

PUBLIC HEALTH

In what situation is the League of Nations ready to act? p. 8.

A stream of bats pouring out of an underground opening led to the discovery of New Mexico's remarkable Carlsbad Caverns.

Scientists have been working out a system of evaluating different types of coal, as an aid to those using coal for various purposes.

Angora rabbits would produce wool five to eight inches long in a year, but they are usually sheared four times a year in commercial practise.

Italy is greatly increasing the area devoted to cotton growing.

With gasoline restricted, gondolas in Venice are again driven by an old-fashioned oar.

Virginia creeper will cling to rough brick or stone; Boston ivy will cling even to smooth painted brick.

A substitute for turpentine developed in Germany is reported to be just as good as real gum spirits of turpentine.

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