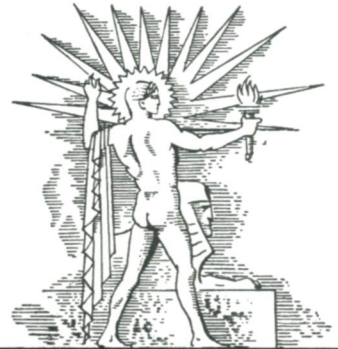
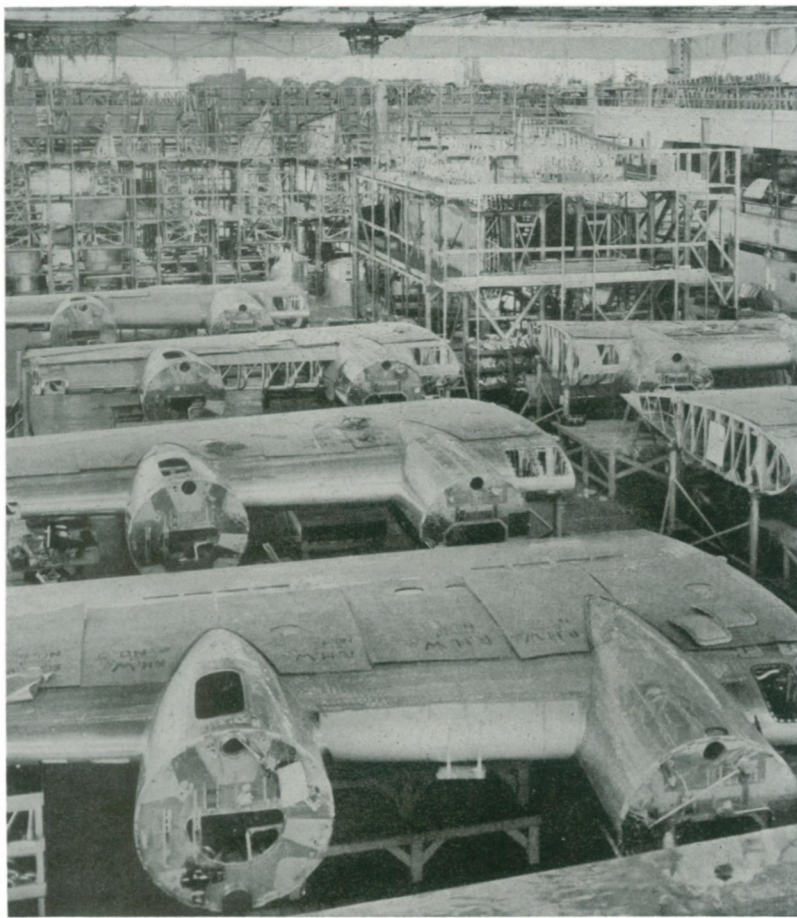


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



February 3, 1940

Wings for Fortresses

See Page 72

A S C I E N C E S E R V I C E P U B L I C A T I O N

Do You Know?

Seattle has the largest community forest in America—66,000 acres.

Farm families are the best-fed population group in the United States, village families the poorest fed, a survey shows.

In buying gold from their subjects, Ashanti kings of West Africa used to employ an exceptionally heavy set of weights.

War in Finland has caused a mass migration of 400,000 Finns, mainly women and children who have fled toward Norway and Sweden.

Makers of incandescent lamps use extreme care: moisture of a single drop of dew would be enough to cause early blackening of half a million lamps.

The oldest pottery yet found in China, says C. W. Bishop, Freer Gallery archaeologist, is a thick, coarse, gray-colored ware shaped by hand.

Highest voltage X-ray tubes yet made are turned out for the National Bureau of Standards: one use will be measuring X-ray dosage for medical purposes.

Indians of Turtle Mountain Reservation, North Dakota, canned more than 38 tons of wild fruit and berries last summer.

In an Egyptian tomb, archaeologists found a picture of a black puppy under his master's chair; and the dog's name in hieroglyphics was "Ebony."

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.

Aeronautics

How rapidly are the flying fortresses being completed? p. 72.

What system of blind landing has been selected as the standard? p. 69.

Aeronautics—Engineering

On what military discoveries have patents been recently granted? p. 70.

Agriculture

What peaceful use has been found for tear gas? p. 78.

Anatomy

To what is a shortage of human skulls attributed? p. 72.

Astronomy

How did scientists seek the date the Egyptians started their calendar? p. 71.

Bacteriology

Where do we get the agar used as a culture medium in the laboratory? p. 68.

Biology

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Chemistry

What war uses have been found for plastics? p. 73.

Dentistry

What new cure has been found for tooth abscesses? p. 67.

Eugenics

To what number would birth control advocates limit the family? p. 70.

Engineering

What part is air conditioning playing in munitions manufacture? p. 73.

Engineering—Biology

Why is a firefly's cold light not practical for man? p. 72.

Geology

How did the oil wells in Michigan aid in the discovery of new wells in Nebraska? p. 79.

Medicine

For what ill are snake venom and Indian arrow poison used? p. 68.

What new hope is there of a specific cure for Rocky Mountain spotted fever? p. 71.

Military Science

To what sort of movie does the rookie have to go? p. 74.

Why is it thought that Germany's artillery has few surprises in store? p. 78.

Ornithology

How did a single bird cause a submarine scare? p. 73.

To what depth does a duck dive for food? p. 72.

Photography

How can fine woods be imitated photographically? p. 77.

Psychology

How is emotional stability measured electrically? p. 76.

Public Health

How does friendliness act to spread influenza? p. 67.

Radio-Aeronautics

How does the German bomber find his way to England blind? p. 77.

Zoology

Why does the London zoo want someone to "adopt" a sea lion? p. 73.

India's population is expected to be 383,000,000 when the 1941 census is taken.

A storage battery in good condition is 100% efficient at 80 degrees temperature, but only 42% efficient at zero, an automotive engineer states.

Over 41% of the United Kingdom's imports in recent years have consisted of foodstuffs.

Cherry juice extracted hot has superior color and body, but when pressed cold it tastes better; so combining the two is technique for "all-round quality juice."

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