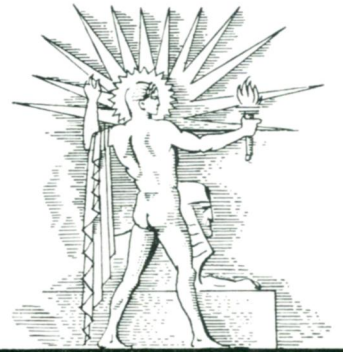


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



May 11, 1940

Returning Trumpeter

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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?

The project of constructing a mammoth *power plant* at Assuan Dam is being intensively studied by the Egyptian government.

To stretch the supplies of *road materials*, highway builders in Manchukuo are laying mere ribbons of concrete, four to a highway.

Home-made revolving beacons are suggested to farmers by government biologists as a device for protecting *crops* from migrating waterfowl.

*Quick-frozen foods*, properly prepared and stored, show little vitamin and other nutritional losses, says Dr. Mary Swartz Rose of Columbia University.

A map of North America dated 1687 and now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art is believed to be one of the last maps to show California as an *island*.

One advantage of a *windbreak* is to conserve moisture for the field it protects—so agriculturists explain, adding that soil, like Monday's wash, dries faster in a breeze.

A white-petaled *rose* with a red center, brought to England from Tibet in 1924, is now rated as a species new to science, rather than a new variety, as was first thought.

Automobile *engineering* would be 40 years ahead now, says a University of California engineer, if inventors had not been influenced by the idea of horses pulling wagons and therefore put the automobile engine in front.

## 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.*

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How did man's brain change his face? p. 291.

How does Gargantua differ from other gorillas? p. 291.

What has civilization done to the teeth of head-hunters? p. 291.

Where were the New World's first wars of conquest? p. 301.

### ASTRONOMY

What discovery is considered evidence that the moon was once part of South America? p. 303.

### BOTANY

How many kinds of plants are carnivorous? p. 296.

### CHEMISTRY

What new fiber may soon compete with wool? p. 303.

### ECONOMICS—POPULATION

What proportion of large families in the United States are poor? p. 295.

### ENGINEERING

How is machine gun fire simulated in the theater? p. 299.

### GENETICS

What relation has age of parents to likelihood of having twins? p. 302.

### GEOLOGY

Where are the Japanese hunting for gold? p. 296.

### MEDICINE

How can the community battle against pneumonia? p. 296.

How can the knitting of broken bones in the elderly be speeded? p. 298.

What commonly-used drug has been found to be habit-forming? p. 296.

### PHYSICS

How can a musician now enhance the production of an orchestra? p. 294.

What kind of ice will melt without heat? p. 292.

### PSYCHIATRY—MEDICINE

What new usefulness has been suggested for oxygen? p. 298.

### PSYCHOLOGY—SOCIOLOGY

What sort of planning is necessary for democracy? p. 297.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What enemy is being battled in Brazil? p. 300.

### RADIO

What sort of forecast is now being made in connection with radio? p. 296.

### RESOURCES

How many years does it take for Sitka spruce to mature? p. 293.

### SURGERY

What new life-saving technique has been developed for amputations? p. 297.

### ZOOLOGY

Why are biologists hunting for short-legged coyotes? p. 297.

Most dairy herds give twice as much milk in *spring* as in fall.

*Sealing wax* is not wax; it is shellac and rosin plus coloring matter.

Four *Chinese children*, two in China and two in Chicago, have helped the Field Museum of Natural History prepare an exhibit showing typical modern Chinese school children.

It takes 28 million hens to lay *eggs* to feed New York City's people.

A *porcupine* will risk almost anything to get salt, as campers have often learned.

St. Louis' *traffic lines*, painted by machine in three narrow white stripes, instead of a wide stripe, are reported to give better visibility and save 25% in paint.

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