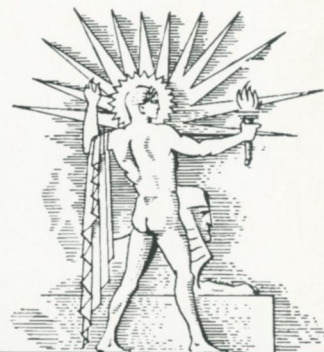
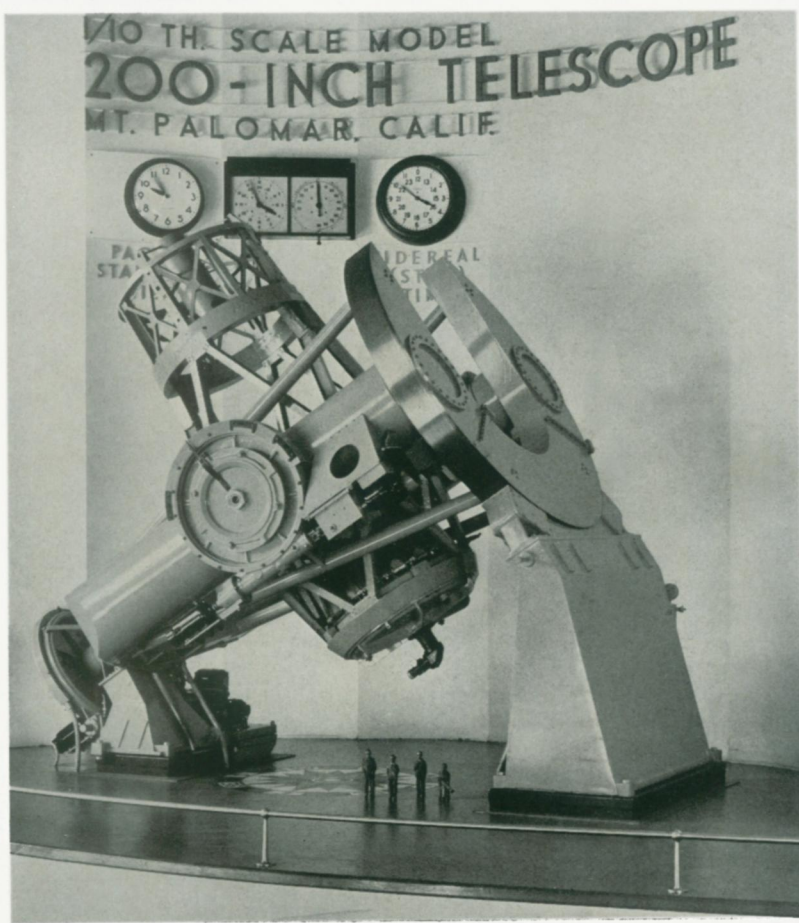


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



August 3, 1940

## Giant's Portrait

See Page 72

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

Barring mishaps, a *termite* may live five years.

Meteoric *iron* serves as material for some of the Malay daggers known as kris.

Arab traders who brought *cinnamon* from Ceylon to ancient Greece and Rome kept its origin a secret.

Even the United States, most self-sufficient in minerals of any country, has to *import* quantities of 15 industrial minerals.

Automobile tires of the future will be *smaller* with flatter and wider treads and lower air pressure, a rubber engineer predicts.

Earthworms are blind and deaf, and a writer in *Natural History* compares their voices to water dripping from a leaky tap.

Although temperatures in central Australia have gone as low as 14 degrees above zero, natives of this region wear *no clothing*.

Yokuts Indians of California marked a girl baby's *cradle* with a zigzag line and a boy's with a band of parallel diagonal lines.

High speed motion pictures show that a hummingbird's wing turns so far on the backward and downward stroke that it is *upside down*.

## 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.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

At what ages did Paleolithic people die? p. 68.

What are mandibular hyperostoses? p. 75.

### ASTRONOMY

What does the 200-inch telescope weigh? p. 72.

### BACTERIOLOGY

What does gramicidin do? p. 77.

### BIOCHEMISTRY

What is solanain? p. 72.

### BOTANY

Why is Venezuela seeking better kinds of grass? p. 72.

What is the color of ragweed flowers? p. 78.

### CHEMISTRY—MEDICINE

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### CLIMATOLOGY

Why is it always hottest after midsummer? p. 74.

### ENGINEERING

How much sag can be tolerated in a long, heavy rotor? p. 67.

### ENTOMOLOGY

What kind of planes accompany ant armies? p. 78.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

How can the Nobel Prizes be kept going? p. 67.

### GENETICS

What breeds entered into the ancestry of Chantecler? p. 75.

### GEOGRAPHY—HISTORY

Where is the Mech-e-se-be river? p. 70.

### INDUSTRY

Who can find jobs in the U. S. defense industries? p. 72.

### MEDICINE

How can an Andy Gump chin be corrected? p. 73.

### OCEANOGRAPHY

How can water be substituted for gunpowder? p. 68.

### ORDNANCE

Of what material are trench mortar shells made? p. 76.

How does the cost of a pursuit plane compare with that of an anti-aircraft gun? p. 77.

### PHYSICS—RADIO

How was Uranium 235 put to work? p. 73.

### PHYSIOLOGY

Why are "pep drugs" probably unsafe for bomber pilots? p. 68.

When is alcohol an aid to vision? p. 69.

What kind of food will reduce your golf score? p. 74.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What chlorine concentration in water fails to kill poliomyelitis virus? p. 69.

### RADIO—AVIATION

How does the new radio map work? p. 73.

### VITAL STATISTICS

What state has most suicides? p. 73.

### WILDLIFE

Where are grouse suffering from cancer? p. 72.

*Snow surveys* made by an army of 2,000 men in western mountains each winter help forecast the later water flow in western streams.

A recent act of Congress *protects* the bald eagle against hunters and collectors within the United States and its possessions, excluding Alaska.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

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