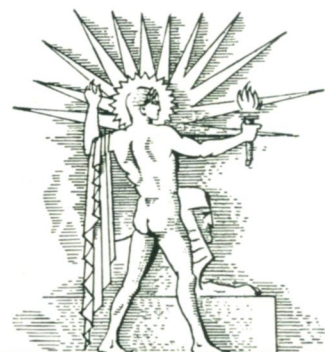
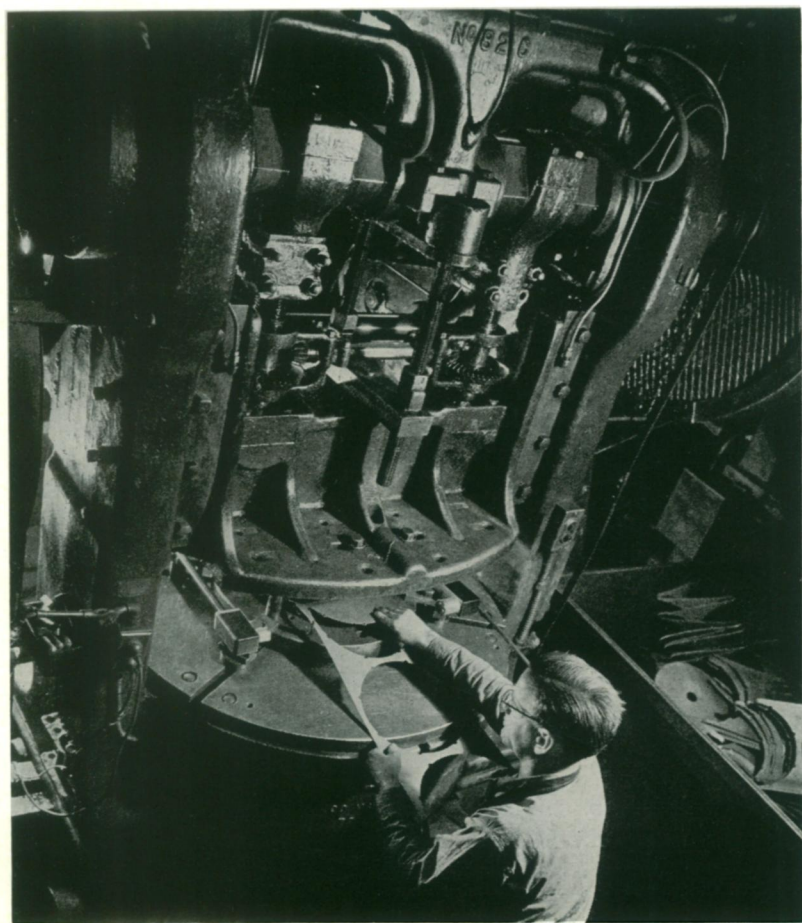


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



November 30, 1940

“Safety Engineer”

See Page 344

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?

A pigeon's bones weigh less than its feathers.

A series of 27 tests will be given to 2,500 New York school children, to find out how well *nourished* they are.

There are still at large in foreign countries 20,000 kinds of *insect pests* which have not got into the United States.

One of the largest *target* fields in the United States for use of Army fliers will be made from 1,500,000 acres of federally owned range land in Utah.

Latest reports from China say that *student* enrollment in the 13 Christian colleges has increased by almost 1,200, in the fourth year of China's war.

In the United States' 3,000,000-mile highway system, 75,000 miles are designed as *strategic highways* linking important industrial and military points.

A *skunk* is employed by the New York State Conservation Department at the congenial job of digging up white grubs (its favorite food) in a forestry nursery.

In tribal wars, natives of New Britain in the South Pacific sew *wounds* with banana fiber thread and a needle of flying-fox bone.

University of California chemists have found that methyl bromide *gas* brings out a blush on peaches, but damages the flavor; so a gas is now sought to brighten color without damage.

## 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 fast can a fighting plane climb? p. 341.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

What new characters in American pre-history have been introduced? p. 349.

### ASTRONOMY

By how much were astronomers wrong in predicting the time that Mercury would cross the sun's face? p. 343.

What institution will be located at Blue Hill? p. 345.

What unusual opportunity will December bring to those who watch the skies? p. 346.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

How do scientists know of a star they have never seen? p. 339.

How does a flying lemur "fly"? p. 340.

How many amateur scientific groups are there in Philadelphia? p. 344.

What are cosmic rays? p. 339.

What is the lowest temperature possible to attain in the laboratory? p. 339.

### ICHTHYOLOGY

Who says that sailors can take a walk on the back of a live shark? p. 345.

### MEDICINE

In what common food was an anti-stomach-ulcer vitamin found? p. 345.

What causes acne? p. 342.

What new remedy for tuberculosis is being studied? p. 344.

What new weapon has been found against leukemia? p. 350.

### PHOTOGRAPHY-MEDICINE

In what new way are color movies being used to add to medical knowledge? p. 341.

### PHYSICS

How can X-rays be used in television? p. 344.

What is the composition of the iron in meteorites? p. 344.

### PHYSICS-PSYCHOLOGY

How can singers be given on the concert stage, the acoustical advantages of the bathroom? p. 342.

### PHYSIOLOGY-PSYCHOLOGY

What effect may the noise of bombardment have on babies yet unborn? p. 348.

### RESOURCES

Why are the Japanese making their silk-worms make wool substitutes? p. 340.

Scientific experts on physics, engineering, biology, and chemistry all serve on the British *Camouflage* Committee.

The least explored area along the entire route of the proposed *Pan-American highway* is in the Darien Indian region of Panama.

*Horses* are so terrified by the odor of camels that the Persian King Cyrus won a battle by using baggage camels to frighten enemy cavalry.

The American Forestry Association is making a nation-wide search for the *largest trees* of 200 species in this country, hoping to preserve these 200 giants.

British scientists say that a *plate glass* window within 200 feet of a bomb explosion has little chance of survival.

The *pineapple* got this name because Spanish explorers thought the fruit looked like a pine cone and called it "pina."

To prevent rickets and bone deformities, *dogs* must have sufficient vitamin D, calcium and phosphorus in their diet, a nutritionist warns.

*Greenland*, which appears twice as big as the United States in some map projections, is actually less than one-fourth the size of this country.

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