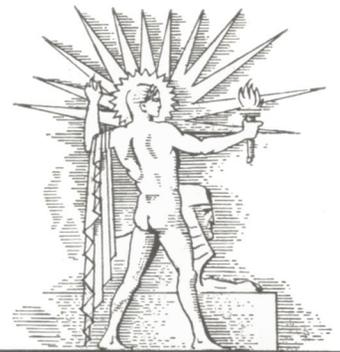
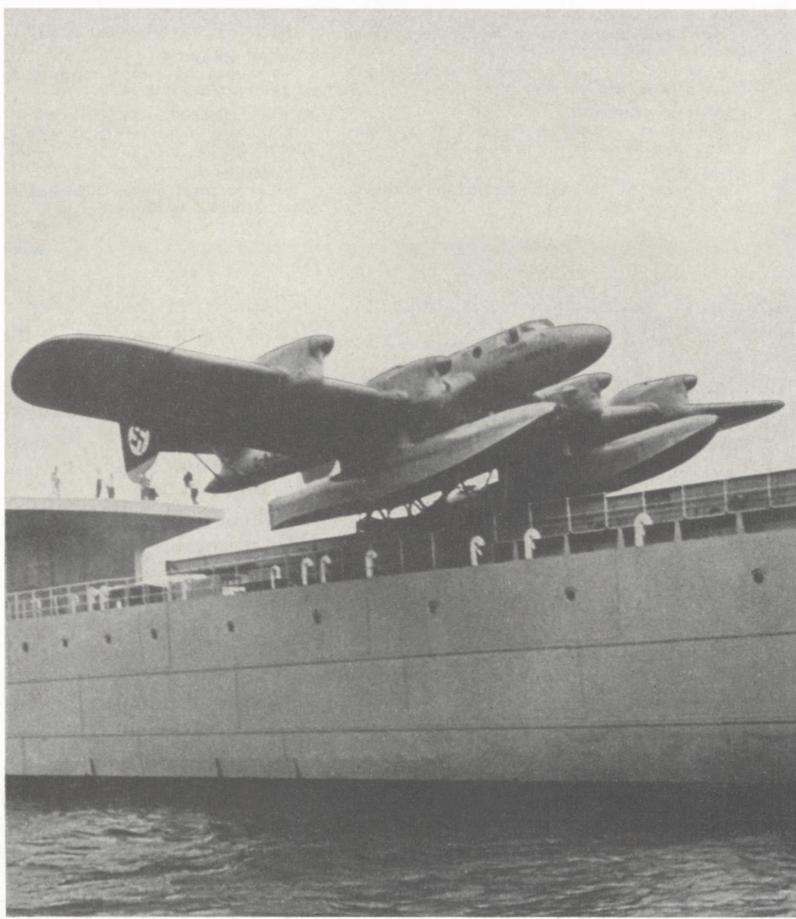


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



February 7, 1942

Nazi Threat?

See Page 90

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Even *skunks* dislike their own smell.

The *bat* is the only mammal capable of true flight.

The *Cila Monster* is the only known poisonous lizard.

Heart disease is still the nation's leading cause of death.

Many female *spiders* devour their spouses after mating.

Owyhee Dam in Oregon-Idaho is built on an ancient crater.

Birds are descended from reptiles, their feathers being evolved from scales.

Fer-de-lance *snakes* have fangs and poison at birth, and can inflict dangerous wounds.

Once considered poisonous, the *tomato* now is believed the most important of all vitamin and mineral-carrying vegetables.

A life-sized *glass woman* with a "heart" which beats 72 times a minute is installed at the Newark (N.J.) Museum.

By "lengthening" the fall days artificially with electric light, a Canadian experimenter persuaded his captive *crows* to fly north.

Whirligig beetles which skate on water, sometimes catch an air bubble beneath their wing-covers, and dive until the air is used up.

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

What provision do German bombers have against barrage balloon wires? p. 89.

What sort of ships have the Germans used for catapulting seaplanes and flying boats? p. 90.

Where has a propeller-less airplane been flown? p. 89.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Where were the cities Coronado's army sought for gold really located? p. 89.

ASTRONOMY

What is the brightest nova on record? p. 92.

CHEMISTRY—ENTOMOLOGY

What ammunition for the war against insects can be found in the soil of the South? p. 93.

ENGINEERING

How can you make your home safe against falls in darkness? p. 84.

How can more power be secured from existing equipment? p. 87.

How can you tell a good re-treading job from a poor one? p. 86.

GENERAL SCIENCE

What sort of world is foreseen by a geologist as coming after the war? p. 85.

GEOLOGY

On what is the soil erosion in southern fields blamed? p. 91.

HOROLOGY

How will the new time affect the time differences between the United States and other places? p. 83.

MEDICINE

How has the treatment for syphilis been made safer? p. 88.

How long does it take to determine your blood group with the new paper method? p. 89.

What method reveals the coming of twins earliest? p. 92.

NUTRITION

What vitamins build resistance to pneumonia? p. 88.

PHYSICS

What sort of tones would be good for air raid sirens? p. 85.

PSYCHOLOGY

What was found from a personality study of spastic cases? p. 88.

When do rats bite their nails? p. 88.

PUBLIC HEALTH

What has happened recently to the cost of the morale vitamin? p. 84.

PUBLIC HEALTH—RESOURCES

Why will hemp be grown in the United States? p. 88.

SEISMOLOGY

What natural enemy attacked Netherlands New Guinea? p. 88.

Shellac is a secretion of the lac bugs of India.

Munitions makers use *spider webs* as hair-lines in gun sights and periscopes.

Army *parachute troops* are provided tiny, folding stoves, heated by chemical tablets—the stoves warm emergency rations, can be fitted into a pocket.

A new and extremely showy flower, called *spider-lily*, found in Guatemala, may soon be available to U. S. gardeners, according to the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

Hundreds of cattle every year are killed in South America by the *piranha*, an 18-inch, poisonous fish.

A long extinct "grandfather" fish was the ancestor of all backboneed animals, including man.

Synthetic rubber made from *petroleum* is less permeable by gases than natural rubber.

A thirty-foot skeleton of a marine *reptile* which lived 100 million years ago was found in a South Dakota pasture recently by scientists of Chicago's Field Museum.

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