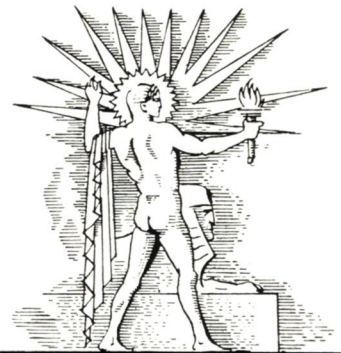


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



September 5, 1942

Young Defiance

See Page 153

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?

Pyrethrum, basis of various insecticides, is made from the dried flower heads of a chrysanthemum species.

First use of poisonous or suffocating *gases* is recorded in 431-404 B.C., when the Spartans burned wood saturated with pitch and sulfur, to drive off enemy Athenians.

Plastic *identification* disks, inscribed with name, birth date, school registration number and home city, have recently been given to 1,600,000 school children in New York City.

Plywood layers are being bonded by *high-frequency waves* in one plant, replacing the common hot press bonding method and shortening production time from hours to minutes.

New plastic tubing for industrial use is chemically resistant, non-corrosive, non-scaling; withstands freezing without bursting, pressure up to 100 pounds, and heat up to 175 degrees Fahrenheit.

In developing aerial *color photography*, now successful at 15,000 feet, huge felt strips of different colors were photographed from planes and the resulting pictures compared with the original felt for color matching.

When the machine shop of a technical high school was given a "sub-contract" to produce *machine parts* for a war plant recently, the results were so highly successful that the program is being expanded.

Question Box

Page numbers of Questions discussed in this issue:

AGRICULTURE

In what new area is rice being grown in the United States? p. 150.

ARCHITECTURE

What is the ideal war factory like? p. 153.

INVENTION

What new type of cargo plane has recently been developed? p. 153.

MATHEMATICS

How can science tell whether death by a fall was an accident or suicide? p. 149.

MEDICINE

Of what value are certain fungi found growing in earth and manure? p. 147.

NUTRITION

What can be used instead of bananas in a normal baby's diet? p. 157.

What new forms of food are likely to be used on American tables? p. 154.

What new form of food is now available for babies? p. 150.

PHILOSOPHY

How is American brain power being wasted? p. 150.

PHYSIOLOGY

How do muscles use food energy in their contraction? p. 148.

What do scientists now believe prevents a "tanned" person from becoming sunburned? p. 158.

What new knowledge has been discovered concerning animal reproduction? p. 148.

What discovery was made recently by using vegetable "guinea pigs"? p. 148.

PLANT PATHOLOGY

How do certain germs act on plants? p. 156.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Has the incidence of tuberculosis increased here as it has abroad? p. 159.

How much leprosy is there in this country? p. 151.

What new disease has been added to the weekly reports of the Public Health Service? p. 147.

RESOURCES

What new use has been found for castor oil? p. 152.

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.

Soda ash has been successfully used in biological filters, to control odor and acidity in vegetable cannery wastes.

Transparent *plastic splints* for sprained or broken wrists keep the injured part of the arm immobilized, allow free use of fingers, and permit X-raying.

Aluminum sheaths for the knives of packing-house workers are being replaced by sheaths made from scraps of *plexiglas* a transparent plastic, left over from aircraft manufacture.

In the farming of Paraguay the *oxcart* is the principal mode of transportation.

Although black *pepper* is the most important of all spices in terms of total value and extent of production, it is not grown in the Western Hemisphere.

Domestic *cork* is equal to the Mediterranean product and may be used interchangeably with the imported material, according to results of recent experiments.

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