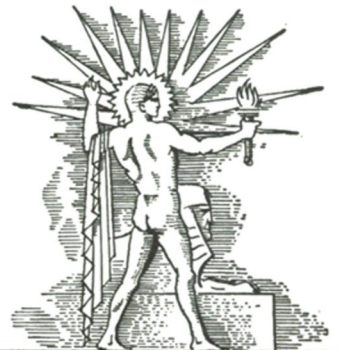
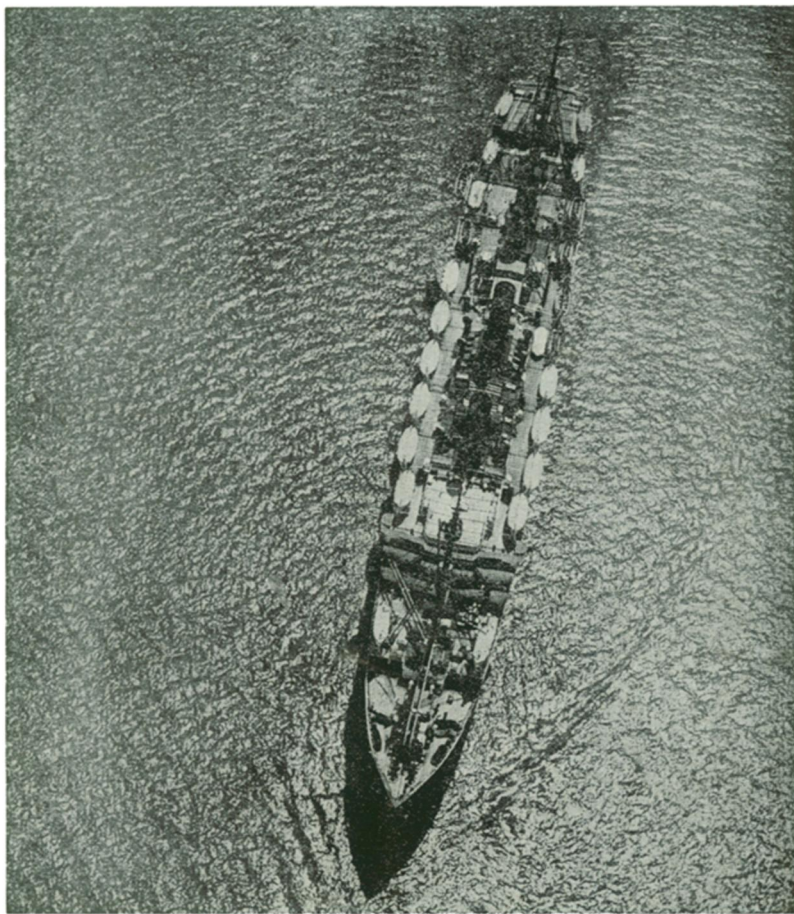


PRICE  
15¢

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE



JULY 29, 1933

On a Sparkling Sea

See Page 69

A

SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. XXIV

No. 642

The Weekly  Current  
Summary of Science

Published by

SCIENCE SERVICE

The Institution for the Popularization of Science organized under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Edited by WATSON DAVIS

Subscription rates—\$5.00 a year postpaid; two years \$7.00; 15 cents a copy. Ten or more copies to same address, 5 cents a copy. Back numbers more than six months old, 25 cents.

In requesting change of address, please give old as well as new address.

Advertising rates furnished on application.

### Board of Trustees of Science Service

*Honorary President.* William E. Ritter, University of California. Representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, J. McKeen Cattell, *President*, Editor, Science, Garrison, N. Y.; Burton E. Livingston, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; Raymond Pearl, Director, Institute for Biological Research, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. Representing the National Academy of Sciences, W. H. Howell, *Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee*, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.; R. A. Millikan, Director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.; David White, Senior Geologist, U. S. Geological Survey. Representing National Research Council, Vernon Kellogg, Secretary Emeritus, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Harrison E. Howe, Editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Representing Journalistic Profession, John H. Finley, Associate Editor, New York Times; Mark Sullivan, Writer, Washington, D. C.; Marlen E. Pew, Editor of Editor and Publisher, New York City. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithton, *Treasurer*, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, West Chester, Ohio; Thomas L. Sidlo, Cleveland, Ohio.

### Staff of Science Service

Director, Watson Davis, Staff writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, J. W. Young; Librarian, Minna Gill; Sales and Advertising Manager, Hallie Jenkins.

Copyright 1933, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited since it is distributed for personal, school, club or library use only. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service, details and samples of which will gladly be sent on request.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have the privilege of subscribing to the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at the reduced price of \$3 per year. Application for this privilege should be accompanied by privilege card obtained from the Permanent Secretary, A. A. S., Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

Publication Office, 1930 Clifton Ave., Baltimore, Md., Editorial and Executive Office, Constitution Ave. at 21st St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Address all communications to Washington, D. C. Cable address: Scienservc, Washington.

Entered as second class matter October 1, 1926, at the post-office at Baltimore Md., under the act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trade-mark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices.

## DO YOU KNOW?

Roman swimming pools 2,200 years ago were built very much like modern pools.

Asbestos and mica are unusual minerals in that they can be bent without breaking.

Many of the earth's deep canyons that lie under the sea have walls thousands of feet high.

A new instrument to aid in straightening cross-eye in children has been designed by scientists at the University of California.

When the British weather bureau was first established in 1854, its main duties were for the sea and navigation, and its chief was an admiral.

The ancient surgical operation of cutting a hole in the skull to remove pressure or "let out the evil" is still practised in Algeria.

President Roosevelt has arranged to plant 36,000 trees of 15 different species on his Hyde Park estate in New York this summer.

Twenty-three companies operating electric street cars are interested in a research program for developing quieter, faster, lighter, and better-looking cars.

A book on first aid was published as far back as 1633.

Diamonds subjected to intense heat burn away in layers.

Doctors have been counting the pulse by watches ever since 1690.

After 16 years of work, Japan has completed a tunnel almost five miles long under the Hakone Mountains.

Poison ivy is found in almost all parts of the United States, except high mountains and deserts.

The famous Tyrian purple, worn by kings, came into use about fifteen centuries before Christ.

Of 10,000 redwood trees planted on the Island of Hawaii in the past 10 years, 97.9 per cent. have survived.

The chief insect pests that damage citrus groves in Japan are entirely different from the major pests of groves in California.

Wearing goggles, hard shoes and other protective garments would safeguard miners from many accidents.

A memorial stone set up to a Roman soldier by his "heir" about 100 A. D. was recently found near the English town of Chester.

## WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

### ARCHAEOLOGY

Where has the new type of prehistoric Indian Pottery been found? p. 68.

### ASTRONOMY

How many planetaria are in America? p. 68.

What is 1933HH? p. 73.

Where will the Perseid meteors come from? p. 70. *The Earth and the Stars*—C. G. Abbot—Van Nostrand, 1925, \$3.

### ENGINEERING

What makes possible outside building walls almost entirely of glass? p. 73.

### EMPLOYMENT RESEARCH

What becomes of the Minnesota experiment in public employment? p. 77.

### ENTOMOLOGY

What bird aids man in war on the potato beetle? p. 79.

### INVENTION

What keeps fence wire barbs from being pushed down? p. 74.

### MEDICINE

At what age are children in greatest danger from diphtheria? p. 75.

Is silicosis increasing? p. 67.

### METEOROLOGY

Why did the Greeks think the influence of Sirius baleful? p. 67.

### NUTRITION

How is the rate of blood flow measured with dye? p. 72.

### PHYSICS

What is the servo-mechanism? p. 69.

Why is iron not satisfactory for light wave standards? p. 67. *The Spectroscope and Its Uses in General Analytical Chemistry*—T. Thorne Baker—William Wood, 1923, \$3.

Why may there be two kinds of cosmic ray particles? p. 68.

### STANDARDS

Who will make tests in connection with setting of commercial standards? p. 78. *Bureau of Standards—Brookings Institution, Service Monographs—1925, \$2.*

*These curiosity-arousing questions show at a glance the wide field of scientific activity from which this week's news comes. Book references in italic type are not sources of information of the article, but are references for further reading. Books cited can be supplied by Book Dept., Science News Letter, at publishers' prices, prepaid in the United States.*