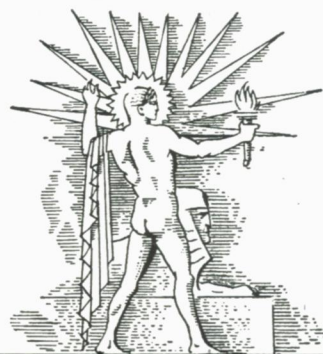


PRICE  
15¢

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



March 8, 1941

For Heat and Cold

See Page 152

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?

Oiled silk "raincoats" with zippers are new for *books*.

One of Palestine's newer industrial plants makes *buttons* from camel bone.

German chemists have evolved a rice-like new *food*, mainly made of potatoes and whey.

Germany for a number of years has over-cut its *forests* by 50%, says an American forester.

England expects to start using quantity supplies of *bread enriched* with synthetic vitamin B<sub>1</sub> by May.

Says the American Wildlife Institute: *Snapping turtles* have been known to bite completely through the blade of an oar.

*Butterfat* production is improved when cows are milked by a timing device that rings at the end of four or five minute periods, experiments in New York State show.

Brownish color on used *tin pans* is tin oxide, home economists explain, and this is a better conductor of heat than tin itself, all of which explains in part why cakes brown better on the bottom in old tin pans than in new ones.

Investigating the digestion of an *alligator*, a scientist reported finding these in an alligator stomach: 11 heavy brass rings, a glass bead necklace, 18 stones in assorted sizes, several porcupine quills, black cord, and assorted bones.

## 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.

### ASTRONOMY

When can you next see "blood on the moon"? p. 150.

### CHEMISTRY

A germ provides a test for the presence of what vitamin? p. 153.

How are soy beans used in automobile upholstery? p. 148.

### ENGINEERING

How can dredges walk to work? p. 153.

### HORTICULTURE

What are the advantages of a new patented mango? p. 153.

### INVENTION

How can radio "fingers" pick up a night flying airplane? p. 147.

### MEDICINE

Why are blood transfusions sometimes given through the bones? p. 151.

### ORNITHOLOGY

What kind of bird invariably has twins? p. 153.

### PHOTOGRAPHY-AERONAUTICS

How are aerial photographs finished in seven minutes? p. 148.

### PHYSICS-RADIO

What particles from the sun are "perhaps of the structure of a string of pearls"? p. 158.

### POPULATION

Why is China troubled by a labor shortage? p. 150.

### PSYCHOLOGY-PHYSIOLOGY

What would be the advantage in spinning student pilots? p. 157.

Why is the Londoner's bread a protection against jittery nerves? p. 149.

### RADIO

How is television in color made possible? p. 154.

### WILDLIFE

Why are wildlife administrators worried about crop surpluses? p. 151.

### ZOOLOGY

What rare baby is being guarded on "monkey island"? p. 147.

Purple *inspection stamps* on meat are a harmless vegetable coloring which need not be cut off before cooking.

Milk in summer may contain twice as much *vitamin D* potency as winter milk, says a British nutritionist.

A Canada *goose* with a broken leg treated itself by straightening the leg with its beak, and using its wings as crutches in hopping until the leg healed.

On a building site cleared in London and left for about two years, a botanist found growing 28 flowering *plants* and ferns, as well as mosses and liverworts.

Scientists in Moscow report their intention of building a 50-million volt *cyclotron*.

The United States is now having a farm-to-suburb *migration*, replacing the older trend of moving from farm to city.

*Gelatin* manufacturers say that glue may contain gelatin, but gelatin never contains glue: they are made by different processes.

*Dental decay* has a seasonal trend, judging by studies of school children which showed new cavities most numerous in late winter and spring.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 39 MARCH 8, 1941 No. 10

The Weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C. Edited by WATSON DAVIS.

Subscriptions—\$5.00 a year; 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 your old address as well as the new one, at least two weeks before change is to become effective.

Copyright, 1941, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service.

Cable address: Scienservc, Washington.

Entered as second class matter at the post-

office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 18, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Indexed in Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, Abridged Guide, and in the Engineering Index.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have privilege of subscribing to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at \$3 a year.

The New York Museum of Science and Industry has elected SCIENCE NEWS LETTER as its official publication to be received by its members.

Advertising rates on application. Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

SCIENCE SERVICE is the Institution for the Popularization of Science organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation.

Board of Trustees—Nominated by the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Henry B. Ward, University of Illinois; Edwin G. Conklin, American Philosophical Society; J. McKeen Cattell, Editor, Science. Nominated by the National Academy of Sciences: R. A. Millikan, California Institute of Technology; Harlow

Shapley, Harvard College Observatory; William H. Howell, Johns Hopkins University. Nominated by the National Research Council: Ross G. Harrison, Yale University; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution; Harrison E. Howe, Editor, Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. Nominated by the Journalistic Profession: O. W. Riegel, Washington and Lee School of Journalism; A. H. Kirchofer, Buffalo Evening News; Neil H. Swanson, Baltimore Evening Sun. Nominated by the E. W. Scripps Estate: Karl Bickel, E. W. Scripps Co.; Warren S. Thompson, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio; Harry L. Smithton, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Officers—Honorary President: William E. Ritter. President: Edwin G. Conklin. Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee: Harlow Shapley. Treasurer: O. W. Riegel. Secretary: Watson Davis.

Staff—Director: Watson Davis. Writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, James Stokley. Photography: Fremont Davis. Librarian: Minna Gill. Sales and Advertising: Hallie Jenkins, Austin Winant. Correspondents in principal cities and centers of research.