

Do You Know?

The United States has the capacity for producing 44% of the world's steel.

Animal horns are of bone encased in horny covering, whereas antlers are entirely of bone.

Made without spinning or weaving, newest carpets are of burlap, coated with rubber cement into which wool pile is locked by vulcanizing.

BOTANY

Gather Pink Elephants Without Any Headache

See Front Cover.

IN THE high meadows of the Rocky Mountains it is possible to find quantities of pink elephants like those on the cover of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER with no unfortunate after effects.

The plant is *Pedicularis groenlandica*, or more descriptively if not more accurately *Elephantiella groenlandica*, according to Dr. Robert S. Snell, botanist of Utah State Agricultural College, who secured this photograph. Popularly, it is called "Little Pink Elephant."

Science News Letter, April 19, 1941

RADIO

Dr. Hugh S. Taylor, of Princeton University, who delivers the Franklin Medal Lecture of the American Philosophical Society, the same evening, will join with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, in giving news of the meeting on "Adventures in Science," over the coast to coast network of the Columbia Broadcasting System, Thursday, April 24, 3:45 p.m. EST, 2:45 CST, 1:45 MST, 12:45 PST. Listen in on your local station. Listen in each Thursday.

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 39 APRIL 19, 1941 No. 16

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: Scienservice, Washington.

Entered as second class matter at the post-

NEW BOOKS ON SCIENCE—SPRING 1941

This issue contains the semi-annual list of current books in various scientific fields, published or to be published during the first half of 1941. Some of them are the first books published in America on new advances in science. Others are revisions of standard works which you need in your library.

Science Service will obtain for you any American book which is in print, paying postage in the United States. Send check or money order to cover regular retail price (\$5 if price is unknown, change to be remitted). When publications are free, send 10c for handling. Address: Book Department, SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C.

NUTRITION

Nutrition Authorities See No Danger From Vitamin

PEOPLE who eat the new enriched bread and flour containing additional amounts of the morale vitamin B₁ (thiamin), are in no danger of toxic effects such as Dr. Clarence A. Mills, University of Cincinnati, reports resulted from vitamin overdosage in Panama. This assurance is given by Dr. Helen Mitchell, director of nutrition, Federal Security Agency, and Dr. Henry Sebrell, nutrition authority of the U. S. Public Health Service.

These two authorities and officials of the U. S. Food and Drug Administration, which is now working on standards for enriched flour containing added amounts of vitamin B₁, do not think the national program for improving American diets involves any danger at all of poisoning from overdosage.

Conference between Dr. Sebrell and Dr. Mills revealed that the amount of the vitamin which caused the toxic effects observed by Dr. Mills in Panama was eight

or nine times the amount the average person will get from eating the new enriched flour or bread.

Dr. Mills told Dr. Sebrell he is in favor of the national program for improving the diet by adding vitamins to staple foods and that his findings, he believes, apply only to persons in the tropics who take very large medicinal doses of the vitamin, in addition to that obtained from food, and for very long periods of time.

Even this is considered a new observation needing further study and confirmation.

Science News Letter, April 19, 1941

● Earth Trembles

Information collected by Science Service from seismological observatories resulted in the location by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey of the following preliminary epicenter:

Tuesday, April 7, 5:41.1 a.m. EST
In Pacific Ocean, 70 miles south of Kodiak Island. Latitude, 56.0 degrees north, Longitude, 153.0 degrees west. Strong shock.

Monday, April 7, 6:29.2 p.m., EST
In Caribbean Sea 170 miles southwest of Jamaica. Latitude, near 17.0 degrees north. Longitude, 78.5 degrees west. Very strong. Quakes not frequent in that region.

For stations cooperating with Science Service, the Coast and Geodetic Survey and the Jesuit Seismological Association in reporting earthquakes recorded on their seismographs, see SNL, Feb. 22, 1941.

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. Smithson, 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. Business Manager: Alvin C. Stewart. Sales and Advertising: Hallie Jenkins, Austin Winant. Correspondents in principal cities and centers of research.