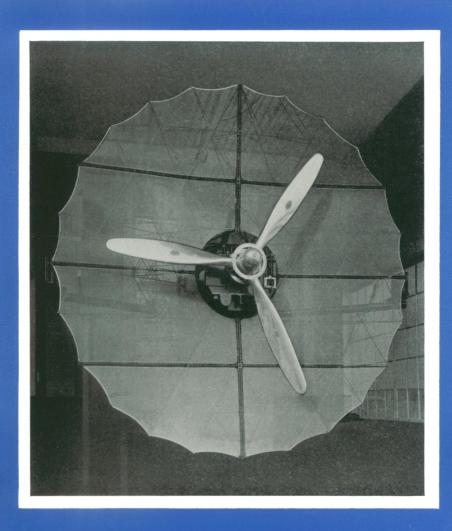
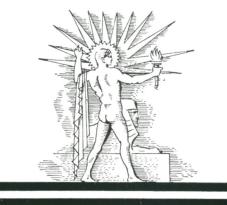
# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE .





May 3, 1941



Useful Web

See Page 281

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# Do You Know?

Chromium-nickel stainless steel is nonmagnetic.

Stronger pewterware can be made from new alloys, it is reported.

A queen ant may live to the old age of 15 years, says an entomologist who knows of such a case.

Papier-mache, known to the ancient Chinese, was probably the first plastic, a chemist points out.

A cow will graze only about eight hours in 24, regardless of how good the pasture is, Cornell University scientists have found.

Having stored its valuable antiquities, the British Museum is "carrying on" by exhibiting some duplicates and models of little value.

Cotton coats to keep older sheep warm in chill weather are used experimentally and may help the sheep to produce more and better wool.

Sheets of "tempered" nylon have possibilities for use in currency, aircraft windshields, film for safety glass, window shades, and other uses.

More than 62,000 spearmint, sweet basil and other herb plants were distributed to New Hampshire farmers last year in a cooperative project of the University of New Hampshire and the WPA, to test the state's ability to grow for the market herbs no longer available from Europe.

### 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.

#### ARCHAEOLOGY

What were the customs of the unknown people who lived in Ur before the flood? p. 281.

Where in the United States was Spanish chain mail unearthed? p. 280.

#### GENERAL SCIENCE

How are seedless tomatoes produced? p. 276.

What effect of X-rays on workers may be evident thousands of years from now? p. 276. What evidence has been found that the earth is in the suburbs, not the downtown section, of the galaxy? p. 275.

Who was awarded the National Academy of Sciences' Draper Medal? p. 276.

#### ICHTHYOLOGY

What remedy has been found for anemia in trout? p.~280.

#### METEOROLOGY

For what purpose is the "flight similitude chamber" used? p. 279.

#### NUTRITION

What element is necessary for providing vitamin C in tomatoes? p. 281.
What is blamed for the poor teeth of

draftees? p. 287.

#### PHYSICS

How can you make a white diamond into a green one? p. 277.

How is the earth itself used as an instru-

ment in the study of cosmic rays? p. 279. What characteristics of the molecules make

it possible to wave hair and crease trousers? p. 284.
Why does Prof. Compton think that cosmic

rays are mostly protons? p. 278

#### PSYCHIATRY

To what danger is the war exposing American children? p. 280.

#### **PSYCHOLOGY**

Are the fits produced in rats by noise the same as epilepsy in humans? p. 285.

To what diseased ways of thinking is the present world war due? p. 285.

What does noise do to the nervous system of rats? p. 284.
What nation has taken the lead in military psychology? p. 277.

Why is it impossible for the psychologist to measure pure intelligence? p. 277.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

What serious disease has now been found to affect chickens and pigeons? p. 286.

#### ZOOLOGY

Do you believe in the okapi and the duckbilled platypus? p. 280.

Scientists calculate that there is about one-third as much water in the earth as in all the oceans.

High grade tungsten ore, strategic for hardening steel in defense industries, has been discovered in Idaho.

Water cannot percolate deeper into the earth than six miles, because of tremendous pressure and tight packing at great depths, it is believed.

Most desert snakes and lizards go into underground hibernation in winter in shallow retreats.

Vegetable oils to substitute for mineral oils as lubricants in internal combustion engines are being tested in India.

Stammering is so unusual in women that male stammerers, according to estimates, outnumber female at least 10 to 1, and possibly 20 to 1.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

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