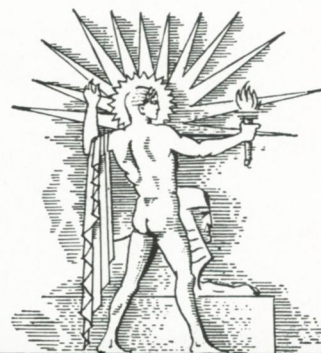


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



June 7, 1941

Modern Betsy Ross

See Page 359

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Only about 22% of the United States population receives *dental care*.

Gibraltar has been an island since 1940, when the British completed a canal back of it as additional defense.

Velvet made of nylon—not yet commercially produced—is said to resist crushing and wrinkling.

Shoshone Indians of Nevada had dice games popular with men and other dice games that women played.

The *Army Medical Library* in Washington has about 1,000,000 books, magazines and other reference items.

Some Eskimos believe that *killer whales* are really wolves that take this form when they jump into the sea.

In the Field Museum's *Egyptian* collection are mummies of a goose, two vultures, hawks, cats, a gazelle, an ape, and what may be a lizard.

The Chinese take it for granted that the *Burma Road* will have such frequent washouts in mountain passes in rainy months that working squads must be on duty along the way.

World War *camouflage* was designed chiefly to distort vision so that the enemy would not get the range of ships, whereas now camouflage aims to conceal objectives and to produce dummy objectives that will delude the enemy into wasting ammunition.

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.

AGRICULTURE

How can America's surplus of wheat be used in the reconstruction of a post-war world? p. 357.

How can garden seedlings be protected against fungus? p. 358.

How can vitamin B be fed to plants? p. 360.

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ARCHITECTURE

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BIOLOGY

What is the structure of the human spermatozoon? p. 355.

FORESTRY

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GEOLOGY

What is inside the earth? p. 363.

HISTORY

Who wants to know about the "marvelous mule" for which the Bishop asked the Duke? p. 360.

INVENTION

Where can you get a screwdriver with a headlighted handle? p. 360.

LANGUAGE

What new tool will build friendship with Latin America? p. 361.

MEDICINE

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What drug may be used as a substitute for quinine in treating malaria? p. 361.

Why should first aid for person suffering shock not include hot water bottles at the feet? p. 366.

MILITARY SCIENCE

How many days does it take to embroider an American eagle on a flag? p. 359.

PSYCHOLOGY

What organization is making a survey of German military psychology publications? p. 355.

What vitamin is reported to reduce color blindness? p. 356.

RESOURCES

Where will chromite be obtained? p. 360.

WILDLIFE

How can beavers be put to useful tasks? p. 356.

Aluminum for one bomber would make 60,000 coffee percolators.

The "electric eye" can be used to measure the *protein* in wheat, government grain specialists find.

A cache of 700 *jade* axes, pendants, ear plugs and other objects of jade was recently unearthed in southeastern Mexico.

In Napoleon's time, one man making *supplies* was sufficient for each two soldiers; today it takes 18 men in industry to maintain one soldier.

In 1830 there were just 23 miles of *railway track* in the United States.

Hummingbirds do not live entirely on nectar—they consume quantities of insects.

Since the Social Security Act became a law in 1935, 1,577 counties have full-time *health departments*, compared with 762 before.

The first printed *road map* was published in Nuremberg, at the end of the fifteenth century, for the guidance of pilgrims on their way to Rome.

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