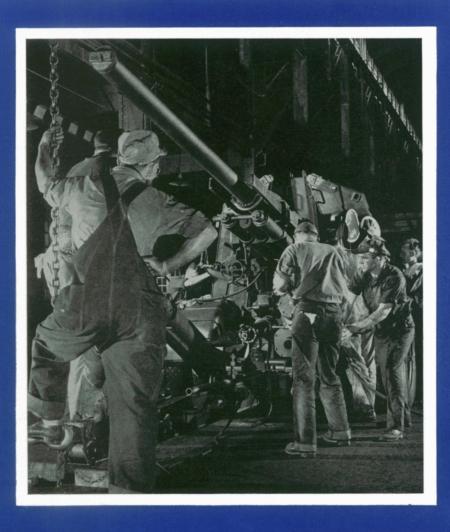
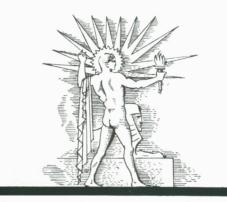


THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE .





October 11, 1941



Private Industry's First

See Page 238

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Calling a man a skunk should be a compliment, declare wildlife experts: the skunk yields fur and eats insect pests, besides.

A steel historian says that twelfth century Russian tribesmen in the Ural Mountains wore shoes with iron soles an inch thick.

To counteract yellow sunlight in a bright room, a little blue added to paint on the opposite wall evens up the walls in color value.

To open new sources of supply of oil, Soviet Russia is prospecting for oil wells in the Volga basin, on slopes of the Urals and other regions.

Varied by cross-breeding, the guppy tribe of fish includes such interesting members as lacetail, chiffon tail, platinum, rainbow, and many others.

A Soviet chemist not long ago received the Stalin Prize for glass-making formulas which speed up the hardening process and make it possible to turn out glass in shorter time.

When you see a U. S. Army airplane designated B-26, etc., A is for attack bomber, B for bombardment, C for cargo transport, FM for fighter, O for observation, P for pursuit, T for trainer; the number means the model number; a letter after the number indicates that the original model has been improved; an X preceding the symbol means an experimental model.

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

How did a comet astonish astronomers with its peculiar behavior? p. 228.

What kinds of atmosphere are possessed by stars? p. 235.

What new theory would indicate that planetary systems may not be nearly so rare as supposed? p. 230.

CONSERVATION

How can you save fuel next winter? p. 234.

GENERAL SCIENCE

How is space in Washington being sacrificed for defense? p. 230.

What sort of world do scientists look for after the present war? p. 227.

MINERALOGY

How small are the smallest mineral crystals? p. 237.

ENGINEERING

How does an airplane fly? p. 232.

MEDICINE

How are tear glands and cancer linked? p. 229. What cause and relief for arthritic pain

has just been discovered? p. 231.

PHYSIOLOGY

What hormone is peculiar to human beings? p. 229.

Where will the Army Air Corps' psychological research centers be located? p. 237.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How is the typhus vaccine being tested? p. 231.

ZOOLOGY

What is happening to wild creatures in Europe? p. 236.

A new scientific device for measuring light is able to "see" light the way an ordinary human eye sees it.

The European war has caused a serious tulip bulb shortage in the United States, and Long Island growers are increasing acreage of tulips.

Using an ice-cream machine with large capacity, a Michigan hospital has successfully tried freezing some of the fresh fruits and vegetables it uses.

To reduce night traffic accidents in Navaho Indian country, efforts are being made to have Navaho wagons equipped with red reflectors visible 300 yards.

British and German scientific and technical periodicals seem to average about half their peacetime size.

Young marble shooters now get their marbles, not from Germany and Czechoslovakia, but from West Virginia, which is turning out millions.

Setting a new plastic record, one electric refrigerator model has an evaporator frame said to be the largest plastic piece ever injection-molded.

In connection with its engineering defense training program, Purdue University is giving intensive courses in chemistry of powder and explosives.

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