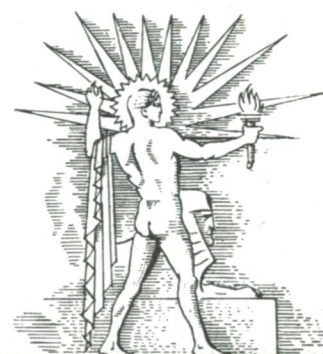


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



November 29, 1941

Light for Liberty

See Page 345

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

## Do You Know?

The U. S. Army has evolved a time-saving way of *packing* Army clothing by baling it.

The Romans launched their *ships* by sliding them into the water on timbers greased with animal fat.

*Sawdust* from beech and alder trees is found satisfactory as a roughage element in diets of fish in hatcheries.

Heating *grapefruit* before it is pressed or canned removes most of the objectionable peel oil taste, Government scientists say.

Two American firms in Seattle and Alaska are experimenting with a start in the *king crab* industry in Alaskan waters.

Ways of reducing primitive languages to *writing* will be discussed at an institute of linguistics at the University of Oklahoma next summer.

Importance of *arc welding* in South Africa's war effort is recognized by issuance of a special postage stamp picturing a modern welder at work.

*Scales* used in checking filament wires in lamps are delicate enough to weigh a signature—"George Washington" written in pencil weighs .00089 grams.

More than one-fourth of the *steel* made in the United States and Canada for defense this year is coming from automobile junk yards and other scrap heaps.

## 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.*

### ANTHROPOLOGY

What new archaeological find has been made in Virginia? p. 344.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

To what use have scientists put timber cut in the year 217? p. 341.

### ASTRONOMY

Where are this year's four Christmas stars? p. 346.

### DENTISTRY—NUTRITION

Lack of what vitamin has been linked with tooth decay? p. 341.

### MEDICINE

Of what new use is a mold? p. 341.

To what injury are fat men prone? p. 349.

What is the cause of tiny limestone formations in the lungs? p. 340.

### MEDICINE—BIOLOGY

How big is the virus that causes influenza? p. 339.

### METEOROLOGY

How many stratospheres are there? p. 348.

### METEOROLOGY—GENERAL SCIENCE

In what ways are meteorologists contributing to national defense? p. 347.

### NUTRITION

What is Pantothene? p. 344.

### PHYSICS

On what does the hardness of a plastic depend? p. 342.

What does the Arctic winter do to the atmosphere's "roof"? p. 340.

What new practical use has been found for heavy water? p. 345.

### POPULATION

How do statistics contribute to Russia's defense? p. 345.

### PSYCHIATRY

How can mental breakdowns in the armed forces be avoided? p. 343.

Why won't the returning soldier fit into a job held for him? p. 348.

Russia's Volga river and its tributaries are navigable for about 10,000 miles.

Supervised by Ohio State University chemists, WPA workers are making an index on research for new uses of *starch*.

China can send only limited quantities of *tung oil* to the United States now, but is accumulating large supplies for future export.

The surface around the *Grand Canyon* rim is rising at the rate of a few inches a century, and the canyon is cutting slowly downward, too.

Some states are saving *steel* by not issuing new automobile license plates, using instead dated inserts or cover strips or dated windshield stickers.

The *mourning dove* is a close relative of the extinct passenger pigeon.

A transparent plastic window in *surgical casts* is proving helpful in British treatment of bomb wounds and fractures.

Boy Scouts in Indiana are competing in a contest of gathering *tulip poplar* seed, to meet a shortage and an increasing demand.

An artificial lake on which troops can learn *pontoon bridge* construction is being made by the WPA at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.

To prevent icing of *windshields*, one United States air line is installing a double windshield, between the layers of which heated air is kept moving.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 40 NOVEMBER 29, 1941 No. 22

The Weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 1719 N. St., N. W., 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.

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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. The Science Observer, established by the American Institute of the City of New York, is now included in the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

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.

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