

## Do You Know?

The weight of a dozen *eggs* may vary as much as 10 or even 15 ounces.

The human eye reaches its full size when the individual is about 10 years old.

Vegetarians, farm workers, miners, and some industrial workers are eligible in Britain for a special *cheese* ration of 12 ounces per week.

Stones from the size of pebbles to rocks have been found in *stomachs* of the seal, walrus, and sea lion, but scientists do not agree as to the reason.

Since black fabrics are depressing, special efforts to develop *blackout fabrics* that are more attractive indoors have been made in England.

One and two-humped *camels* are crossed in the Middle East, producing a one-humped hybrid of superior strength and endurance.

If ordinary grease were used to lubricate *submarine fins*, an oil trail would be left on the water for enemies, but grease that leaves no "slick" is available.

*Animals and fish* carved on rocks in Scotland are recent discoveries indicating that Scandinavia's Arctic Culture reached eastern Britain and penetrated a good way inland in prehistoric times.

A report from Moscow says that, preparing for *winter fighting*, soldiers in the Moscow area have practiced marching on skis over rough terrain, tossing grenades and shooting from various positions on skis; and first aid detachments on skis have been organized.

## 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.

### ANATOMY

What evidence indicates that man's evolutionary ancestors did not swing in trees? p. 393.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

Is it possible to tell a Japanese from a Chinese by his looks? p. 394.

### BIOLOGY

In what way does a virus act like a gene? p. 393.

### ENGINEERING

Into what new field has FM been introduced? p. 395.

### ETHNOLOGY

What are the Japanese traditions with regard to fighting? p. 394.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

How old is Science Service? p. 389.

What missing link between humans and lower animals was found in embryos? p. 393.

### PHYSICS

What tiny projectiles cause the explosions of giant stars? p. 393.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

How is WPA aiding in rehabilitation of rejected selectees? p. 393.

What drug may protect U. S. troops against plague? p. 394.

## Christmas Meetings

Coming issues of the Science News Letter will contain reports by the Science Service staff of important end-of-the-year scientific meetings. These will include:

American Anthropological Association, American Folk Lore Society, Society for American Archaeology, Andover, Mass., Dec. 27-30.

American Association for the Advancement of Science and affiliated societies, Dallas, Texas, Dec. 29-Jan. 3.

American Association of Economic Entomologists, San Francisco, Calif., Dec. 29-31.

American Chemical Society, Industrial and Engineering Chemistry Symposium, Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 29-30.

American Chemical Society, Organic Symposium, Ann Arbor, Mich., Dec. 29-31.

American Chemical Society, Physical and Inorganic Chemistry Symposium, Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 29-31.

American Economic Association, American Sociological Society, American Statistical Association, and related groups, New York, Dec. 27-30.

American Historical Association, Chicago, Ill., Dec. 29-31.

American Library Association, Chicago, Ill., Dec. 28-31.

American Mathematical Society, Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 29-31.

Archaeological Institute of America, Hartford, Conn., Dec. 29-31.

Geological Society of America, Boston, Mass., Dec. 29-31.

Mathematical Association of America, Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 31-Jan. 1.

Society of American Bacteriologists, Baltimore, Md., Dec. 29-31.

Methods of making wall board from seaweed have been developed in Ireland.

A writer on food chemistry says that medieval England knew only three vegetables—beets, leeks and lentils.

### AERONAUTICS

## Portable Landing Surface Makes Emergency Airport

See Front Cover

THE ANSWER to Japan's attack on Hawaii's Hickam Field may lie in portable landing surfaces like the one pictured on the front cover of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

With surfacing like this, a landing field can be laid down anywhere on mud or rough terrain and moved again without delay to another undisclosed location. The picture, taken during recent maneuvers, is an official photograph of the U. S. Army.

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