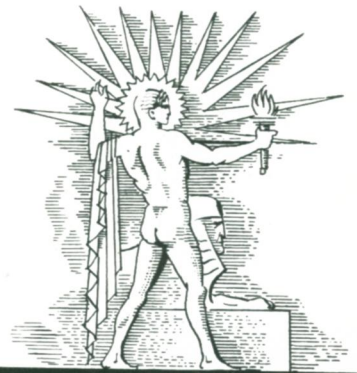


# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



MAY 21, 1932

The Chain of Heredity

See Page 329

A

SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. XXI

No. 580

The Weekly  
Summary of



Current  
Science

Published by

## SCIENCE SERVICE

The Institution for the Popularization of Science organized under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Edited by WATSON DAVIS

Subscription rates—\$5.00 a year postpaid; 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.

In requesting change of address, please give old as well as new address.

Advertising rates furnished on application.

### Board of Trustees of Science Service

*Honorary President*, William E. Ritter, University of California. Representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, J. McKeen Cattell, *President*, Editor, Science, Garrison, N. Y.; Burton E. Livingston, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; Raymond Pearl, Director, Institute for Biological Research, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. Representing the National Academy of Sciences, W. H. Howell, *Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee*, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.; R. A. Millikan, Director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.; David White, Senior Geologist, U. S. Geological Survey. Representing National Research Council, Vernon Kellogg, Secretary Emeritus, National Research Council, Washington, D. C.; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Harrison E. Howe, Editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. Representing Journalistic Profession, John H. Finley, Associate Editor, New York Times; Mark Sullivan, Writer, Washington, D. C.; Marlen E. Pew, Editor of Editor and Publisher, New York City. Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithton, *Treasurer*, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, West Chester, Ohio; Thomas L. Sidlo, Cleveland, Ohio.

### Staff of Science Service

Managing Editor, Watson Davis; Staff writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, J. W. Young; Librarian, Minna Gill; Sales and Advertising Manager, Hallie Jenkins.

Copyright, 1932, by Science Service, Inc. Reproduction of any portion of the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER is strictly prohibited since it is distributed for personal, school, club or library use only. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service, details and samples of which will gladly be sent on request.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have the privilege of subscribing to the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at the reduced price of \$3 per year. Application for this privilege should be accompanied by privilege card obtained from the Permanent Secretary, A. A. S., Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

Publication Office, 1930 Clifton Ave., Baltimore, Md. Editorial and Executive Office, Constitution Ave. at 21st St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Address all communications to Washington, D. C. Cable address: Scienservc, Washington.

Entered as second class matter October 1, 1926, at the post-office at Baltimore, Md., under the act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trade-mark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices.

?

## DO YOU KNOW THAT

?

At one time, aluminum was priced at \$90 a pound.

Bananas contain all the known vitamins except D.

Lamb becomes more tender if kept in cold storage a week to ten days after slaughtering, according to "chewing" and mechanical tests.

Among the famous hailstorms of weather history was the storm of May 8, 1926, at Dallas, Texas, when some of the hailstones were as big as baseballs and the damage after twenty minutes was two million dollars.

The "tornado center" of the United States is almost at the geographical center.

A house made experimentally of sheet metal is reported to have unusual heat and sound insulating qualities.

Chinese soldiers roll cigarettes of tobacco mixed with the narcotic drug heroin, says a German physician.

Museum workers who were reconstructing one of the long-extinct saber-toothed tigers, devised false teeth of monel metal to make the animal look more real.

Persons walking on rural highways at night should carry lights, urges an insurance company, pointing out that 2,300 walkers were killed on highways last year.

Eleven different mountains, lakes and other natural features in the National Forests of the United States have been named after Forest Service officers who lost their lives in the World War.

The cotton-boll weevil has 66 bird enemies.

Potash was manufactured from the ash of sunflowers in Russia as far back as the sixteenth century.

A new gas-fired machine that dries wet cotton direct from the fields, is expected to prove useful to growers in rainy and foggy sections.

## WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

**CURIOSITY-AROUSING** questions are prepared concerning the most interesting and important news in each issue. These questions should be a mental stimulant for the adult reader and a boon to the teacher who uses the Science News Letter to add zest to her classroom instruction.

Book reference in italic type is not the source of information of the article, but a reference for further reading on the subject of the article. Books cited can be supplied by Librarian, Science Service, at publisher's price, prepaid in U. S.

### ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGY

What conclusion is drawn from the experiment with fresh-water fish in an artificial environment? p. 324

### ARCHAEOLOGY

What stands on top of the Castillo of Chichen Itza? p. 324

### ASTRONOMY

How fast is the new Reinmuth object moving across the sky? p. 330

### ENGINEERING

What are the two systems used in home talking machines? p. 325. *The Talkies—Arthur E. Krows—Holt, 1930, \$2.*

What are three uses of iodine? p. 328  
What vessels will be benefited by the proposed canal across northern Florida? p. 319

### ENTOMOLOGY

How are the wings of the hawk-moth different from those of the Luna moth? p. 331

### EVOLUTION

Where did Prof. William Patten find his long-sought-for "missing link"? p. 322. *The Ways of Life—Richard Swann Lull—Harper, 1925, \$3.*

### GENETICS

How many genes were found in each cell of a lily? p. 329

### GEOLOGY

Is the crust of the earth thicker or thinner under mountain ranges? p. 326

### MEDICINE

How does thorium oxide make the liver visible on X-ray plates? p. 319

In what sort of an apparatus is the asthmatic patient placed to receive the new electrical fever treatment? p. 320

What germs have been found to cause chronic rheumatism? p. 321. *Conquering Arthritis—H. M. Margolis—Macmillan, 1931, \$2.*

What is the new test for determining a person's susceptibility to yellow fever? p. 328

Why should drug addicts be isolated? p. 325

### ORNITHOLOGY

From what were Germany's swallows rescued? p. 321

### PALEONTOLOGY-ARCHAEOLOGY

What question was raised by the finding of an arrow head in association with the jawbone of a mammoth? p. 320

### PHOTOGRAPHY-AERONAUTICS

Of what value are aerial maps to archaeologists? p. 321

### PLANT PATHOLOGY

What type of enemies levy the biggest tax on wheat? p. 331. *Outlines of Agricultural Economics—Henry C. Taylor—Macmillan, Revised ed., 1931, \$3.25.*

### PHYSIOLOGY

How long a wait is there before the pupil of a normal eye accommodated to the dark will begin to contract from the effect of a light flashed upon it? p. 328