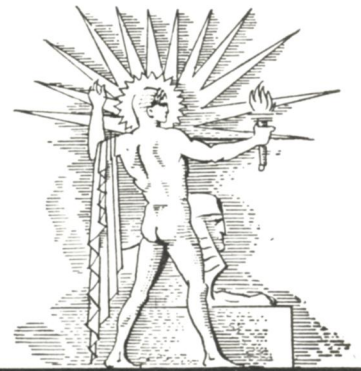
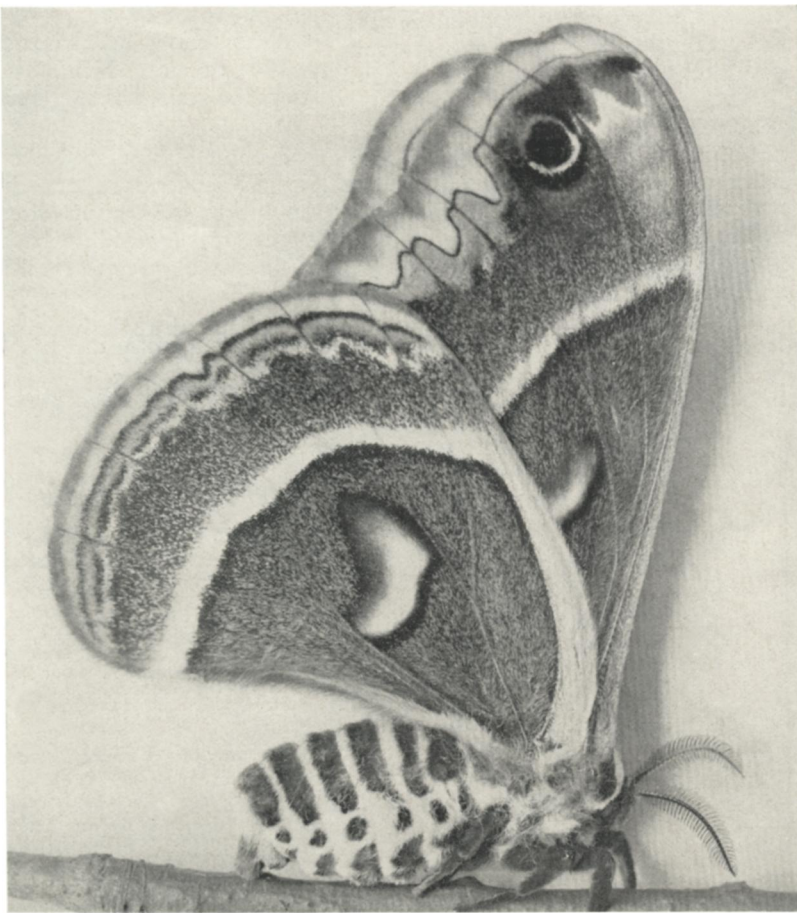


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



OCTOBER 1, 1932

Warning Spots or Targets?

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SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. XXII

No. 599

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.

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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.

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## DO YOU KNOW THAT

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The average American spends six dollars a year on medicine.

A kind of coffee that grows at Grand Comoro Island, off South Africa, contains no caffeine.

Tests by government scientists show that woodwork can be stained attractive brown shades by use of ammonia gas.

Observers are gathering data to show how much tropical heat is carried by the Gulf Stream each day toward northern countries.

One German highway is guarded by a wooden figure of a policeman with red eyes that glare brightly at night, and one hand pointing to a speed limit sign.

A new kind of floor coating contains a special pigment said to be three times harder than steel, and resistant to normal abrasion on concrete and wood floors.

The famous New England preacher Cotton Mather dared to approve inoculation for smallpox, and was attacked by having a hand grenade thrown through his window.

The owl is a natural enemy of bats.

The Navajo Indian word for motorcycle means "Son of an automobile."

To make rugs slip-proof sew a triangle of corrugated rubber under each corner.

If there were men living on the moon, they would exist in a world of complete silence.

Otters enjoy playing by sliding head first down a slope covered with snow or mud.

A mysterious new disease of wheat, yellow mosaic, which completely destroys the grain, has appeared in Kansas.

In the Hopi Indian Snake Dance, the Snake Priests use eagle feathers to herd the snakes in a given direction, since eagles are supposed to be the masters of the snakes, preying on them.

Carbonated apple juice, produced by a method worked out at a New York State Experiment Station, is hailed as a new outlet for surplus fruits.

## WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

Curiosity arousing questions for the teacher and general reader. Book references in italic type are not sources of information of the articles, but are references for further reading. Books cited can be supplied by Librarian, Science Service, at publisher's price, prepaid in U. S.

### AERONAUTICS

How much larger than her nearest rival will the Army's new non-rigid TC-13 airship be? p. 217.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

How did ancient people in Germany bury their dead during a plague? p. 219.  
How large was Queen Hetepheres' portable bed-sitting room? p. 209.

### ASTRONOMY

What year holds the record for the number of comets discovered? p. 208. *Comets—Charles P. Olivier—Williams & Wilkins, 1930, \$3.50.*

### CHEMISTRY

What products may be made in a new way by the action of chlorine on natural gas? p. 219.

### COSMOGONY

Are there more planetoids? p. 209. *The Universe Around Us—Sir James Jeans—Macmillan, 1931, \$4.50.*

### ENGINEERING

How would proposed ventilation standards save fuel? p. 207.

### ENTOMOLOGY

Will grasshoppers do more damage this season? p. 213.

### EVOLUTION

How did insects make the earth fit for man to live on? p. 217.

How well does the toad's color and poison protect him from his enemies? p. 210. *Effectiveness in Nature of the So-called Protective Adaptations in the Animal Kingdom—W. L. McAtee—Smithsonian Institution, 1932, 75c.*

### FORESTRY

What parts of the country are causing concern to forest fire fighters? p. 212.

### GEOGRAPHY

At what altitude is the new low pass in the Rocky Mountains? p. 213.  
How are submarine canyons made? p. 208.

### GEOLOGY

How many years passed during the formation of the Chilean salt deposits? p. 216.

### PHYSICS

Do scientists hope to produce artificial cosmic rays? p. 207.

How do lightning flashes affect cosmic ray counters? p. 213.

### PHYSIOLOGY

To what two groups of people is carbon tetrachloride especially poisonous? p. 211.

### PSYCHOLOGY

What use is suggested for the word "psychobiology?" p. 218.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Why are the general and infant mortality rates for the past year low? p. 218.