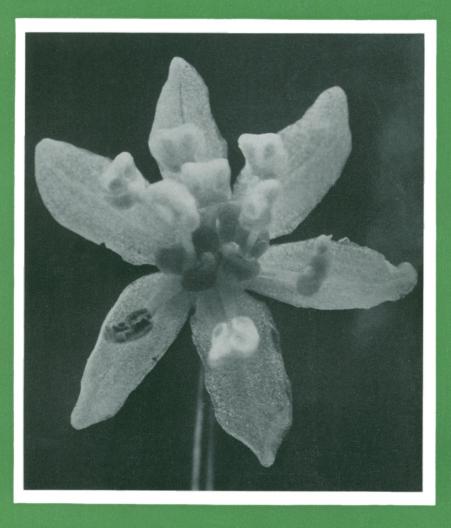
SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE .





APRIL 4, 1936



"Neglected Beauty"

See Page 218

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. XXIX No. 782 The Weekly Summary of

Current Science

Published Every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C.

THE INSTITUTION FOR THE POPULAR-IZATION OF SCIENCE organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation, with trustees nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the E. W. Scripps Estate and the journalistic profession.

Edited by Watson Davis

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.

Canadian subscribers please add 50 cents a year, foreign subscribers 75 cents a year to regular subscription rate to cover postage.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have the privilege of subscribing to 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.A.S., Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D. C.

In requesting change of address, please give your old address as well as the new one in notification to Circulation Department, Science News Letter, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C., at least two weeks before change is to become effective.

Copyright, 1936, by Science Service, Inc. Republication of any portion of the Science News Letter is strictly prohibited. Newspapers, magazines and other publications are invited to avail themselves of the numerous syndicate services issued by Science Service.

Cable address: Scienservc, Washington.

Entered as second class matter at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of March 3, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices.

Advertising rates furnished on application. Member Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Board of Trustees of Science Service

Board of Trustees of Science Service

Honorary President, William E. Ritter, University of California. Honorary Vice-President, Vernon Kellogg, National Research Council. 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.; Henry B. Ward. Permanent Secretary, A.A.A.S. Representing the National Academy of Sciences, W. H. Howell, Vice-President and Chairman of Executive Committee, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; R. A. Millikan, Director, Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena. Calif.; Harlow Shapley, Director, Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass. Representing National Research Council, Ludvig Hektoen, John McCormick Institute for Infectious Diseases, Chicago, Ill.; C. G. Abbot, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.; Harrison E. Howe, Editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Washington, D. C. 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. Smitthon, Treasurer, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, West Chester, Ohio; Thomas L. Sidlo, Cleveland, Ohio.

Staff of Science Service

Director, Watson Davis; Staff Writers: Frank Thone, Emily C. Davis, Jane Stafford, Marjorie Van de Water, Robert Potter; Astronomy writer, James Stokley. Correspondents in principal cities and centers of research. Librarian, Minna Gill; Sales and Advertising Manager, Hallie Jenkins.

DO YOU KNOW?

Antarctic explorers find that Little America is afloat on a sheet of ice over 250 feet thick.

Industries that consume the output, of platinum include not only jewelry, but rayon, book binding, and electricity.

A survey credits Toledo with a lower crime rate than any other American city of comparable size.

Putting dry ice in rat holes, and stopping up the holes, is being tried in Germany to suffocate rats.

A new breed of pig produced in Germany and pronounced extra-healthy is a cross between an ordinary domestic pig and a fierce wild pig in the Berlin

The unwrapping of the mummy of an Egyptian princess who lived about 2000 B.C. is shown in a historical film recently made in Egypt.

To withstand hurricanes, houses on the Florida Keys are being built of concrete reinforced with steel, and anchored to the rock under the thin

The blue sheep of China's mountains is a bluish gray animal, with some traits of sheep and some traits of goats.

To make a model of his plow invention exactly the desired shape, Jethro Wood over a century ago whittled his model in potatoes, using up bushels to get results.

A child two to four years old is likely to fight or quarrel with his mates about every five minutes, but the squabble ordinarily lasts only half a minute.

Sixteenth century pharmacists sold no flyswatters, clocks, or flashlights, but their stock included love powders, live toads, and pulverized precious stones.

To help check the spread of fruit tree diseases, millions of sick, wild, and abandoned peach and citrus trees are being uprooted in the southeastern states.

It is so cold on the planet of Neptune that rubber in that frigid atmosphere would be brittle as china, cloth could be broken, and mercury would make good metal for hammers.

WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

Most articles are based on communications to Science Service or papers before meetings, but where published sources are used they are referred to in the article.

ARCHAEOLOGY

From what country did the alphabet come to Rome? $\, p. \, 213. \,$

What new device warns the airplane pilot of fire? $\,$ p. 216.

BOTANY

Do many trees bear beautiful flowers? p. 218.

CHEMISTRY

How does the German synthetic rubber differ from the American Duprene? p. 222.

What branch of study is known as the "detective of science"? p. 217.

How are massage and electric current used together to revive hearts? p. 216.

Why does anemia sometimes follow infec-on? p. 217. tion?

METEOROLOGY

Why should weather maps be made in three dimensions? p. 211.

Why does spinach have less food value than has been supposed? p. 215.

ORNITHOLOGY

Do ducks nest in trees? p. 214.

How do scientists test for amount of vitamin B_1 ? p. 214.

PHARMACY-PUBLIC HEALTH

How can a physician's prescription transmit disease? p. 216.

Physics-Astronomy

How far away is the new super-nova? p. 222.

Physiology

Do babies on a "good diet" get enough of vitamins A and B? p. 217.

How does excitement change the specific gravity of the blood? p. 216.
What has vitamin B to do with the body's fat production? p. 221.

What should you eat to live long? p. 211.

PUBLIC HEALTH

At what age should a child be vaccinated against smallpox? p. 213.

What disease is one of the greatest enemies of public health? p. 212.

How can physicians tell when a person poisoned by arsenic received his dose? p. 217.