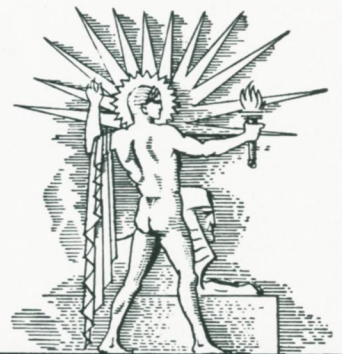
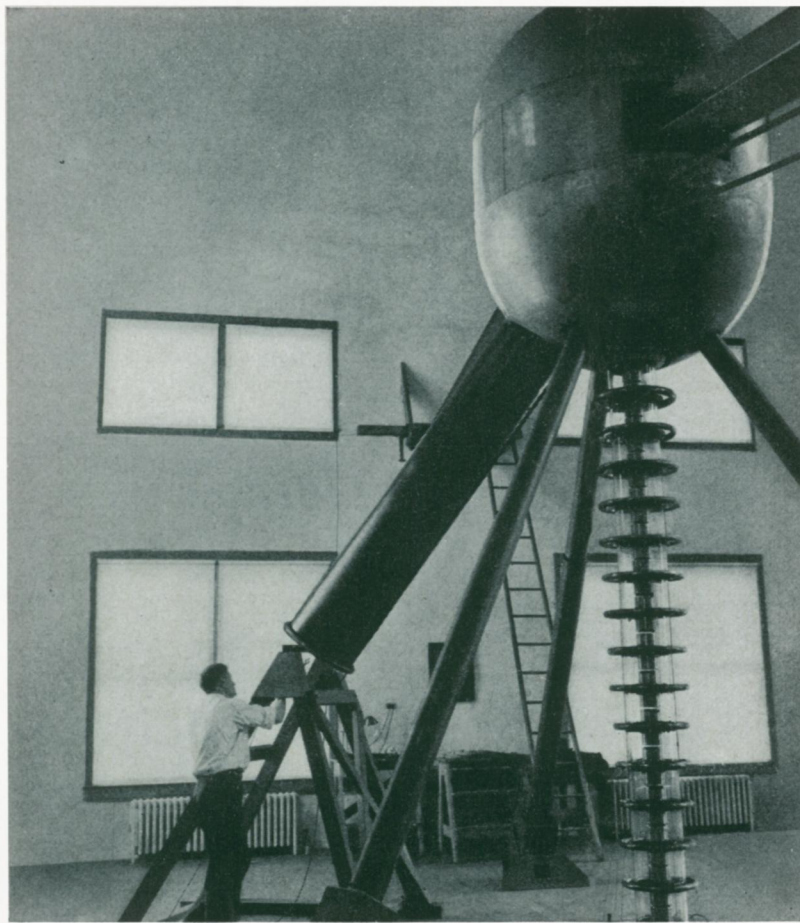


PRICE  
15¢

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



MAY 9, 1936

**Atom Smasher**

See Page 296

A S C I E N C E S E R V I C E P U B L I C A T I O N

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

VOL. XXIX

No. 787

The Weekly  Summary of

## Current Science

Published Every Saturday by

SCIENCE SERVICE  
2101 Constitution Avenue,  
Washington, D. C.

THE INSTITUTION FOR THE POPULARIZATION 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

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. Reproduction 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: Scienserve, 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 13, 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

*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. Smithton, *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?

Grapefruit seed yield a high quality salad oil.

A weather curiosity in London is that no rain has fallen on the morning of March 16 in the past 50 years.

A parasitic fly imported from Europe in 1931 is being used to fight earwigs that infest regions of the United States.

Braids and curled fringes of false hair were worn by Egyptian queens of the first dynasty over 5,000 years ago.

Talking movies of nursery school children are found helpful by educators studying child behavior.

Melons fully ripened on the vine can be shipped to city markets if the fruit is coated with paraffin wax when it is picked.

Archaeologists were reminded of the Bible story in which the jawbone of an ass was a weapon when they found in Moravia a spade-like tool made from the jaw of a wild horse, and used in the Old Stone Age.

A porcupine cannot voluntarily shoot its quills, but it may lose them in moulting time as a bird loses feathers.

Spinach is not "just spinach," says a New York crop specialist, for there are about 20 distinct varieties on the market.

Museums have found that original snake skins mounted are not nearly so lifelike as reproductions made of cellulose acetate.

Early explorers in America told of finding Indians keeping bees in hives for the honey and wax, and Indians raising cochineal bugs for red dye.

Among the devices for improving package goods, manufacturers have thought up non-drip spouts for medicine oil bottles, and non-slip bottles for furniture polish.

British archaeologists have at last put together and read a Roman tombstone, part of which has reposed unidentified in the British Museum since 1852, whereas the other fragment was dug up in London last summer.

## 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.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

Which part of the face stops growing first? p. 306.

### AVIATION

What are some of the causes of airplane vibration? p. 301.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

Does everyone make the same response to the sound of a revolver shot? p. 297.

Is scientific research endangered in the United States? p. 296.

### MEDICINE

How many blood transfusions can one person give in a year? p. 300.

What new weapon has been found effective in killing animal tumors? p. 295.

### MEDICINE-AVIATION

What is aeroneurosis? p. 300.

### PHYSICS

Can radio waves be carried in a pipe? p. 302.

How will the "bullets" from the Carnegie Institution's atom fortress be used? p. 296.

Is concrete any protection against X-rays? p. 300.

Is there an instrument precise enough to measure an atom? p. 305.

What color is the sky as viewed from the stratosphere? p. 299.

What reduction in weight has been achieved for the Wilson cloud chamber? p. 304.

### PHYSIOLOGY-PSYCHOLOGY

Do children have brain waves of the same frequency as adults? p. 298.

### PSYCHIATRY

Can mental patients be treated in groups? p. 303.

### PSYCHOLOGY

How do brain injuries affect learning? p. 301.

### PSYCHOLOGY-PHYSIOLOGY

Is a monkey color-blind? p. 298.

### RADIO-ASTRONOMY

How often do the new-found short wave radio fadeouts take place? p. 300.