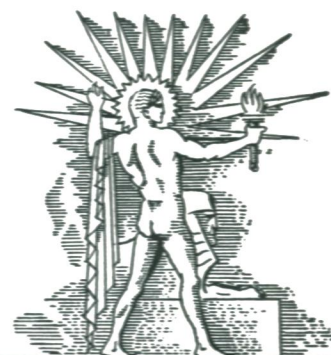


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



MARCH 6, 1937

New Employment

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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

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Vol. XXXI



No. 830

The Weekly Summary of

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DO YOU KNOW?

Moscow has a new museum of architecture.

Electric brooders are being used to raise young pigs in winter and early spring.

Thousands of trees are to be planted in England this year to commemorate the coronation of King George VI.

A new German process for making colored films is an attempt to solve the problem chemically, rather than optically.

Engineers are seeking a material for airplane windshields that will withstand the impact when a bird crashes against the shield.

A survey of what it costs to drive farm motor trucks in various kinds of country has been made by the U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The grizzly bear got this name from a description given by Capt. Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, which brought the animal to scientific notice.

The French postal system now aims to see that letters posted in the evening for any part of the country will be delivered next morning, even if this requires airmail service given without extra charge.

Not many farmers realize that salt will poison hogs, if fed in too large quantities.

Levees were built on Mississippi River banks as early as 1717, at New Orleans.

The nineteenth-century clipper ship has been called one of the earliest experiments in streamlining.

Ancient people had mirrors of polished metal, but glass mirrors were not produced until the eleventh century.

A new kind of plastic is strong, yet so crystal clear that it is possible to see through a cylinder of it ten inches thick.

To warn motorists of approaching curves or crossroads, painted center lines along a road are being made wavy at such points.

A "Chinese First Reader" for study of the language has been prepared with only 500 characters, by a Chinese student at the University of California.

Government scientists find that flies reared in laboratory cages are tougher and harder to kill with chemical fly sprays than wild flies; so that a spray that dispatches "tame" flies is likely to be effective in general use.

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.

BIOCHEMISTRY

Are diseases of animals caused by non-living protein molecules? p. 154.

ENGINEERING

How did labor-saving machinery affect the printing industry? p. 150.

GENERAL SCIENCE

How can science knowledge be made available to the public? p. 156.

MEDICINE

How can patients fake a fever? p. 153.

METEOROLOGY

What is the weather like, 15 miles up? p. 147.

PALEONTOLOGY

What was a popular dish among earliest known Americans? p. 153.

PHYSICS

Can noise solve the smoke menace? p. 148.
 Does an atomic nucleus have temperature? p. 149.

PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

Can climate produce seedless fruit? p. 152.
 Do plants ever refuse to eat? p. 147.

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PSYCHOLOGY

Is an individual's capacity for love limited? p. 155.

RADIO

Can voices be improved for the radio? p. 152.

SAFETY ENGINEERING

Is it long hours of driving that causes motorists to fall asleep? p. 153.

For \$3—a Group of Experienced Technicians Goes to Work for You

HOW can you, a consumer, know what you're getting when you go to market? The government knows what it's getting—because it conducts technical tests of the merchandise it buys. The manufacturer knows what he's getting—because he does the same with his raw materials. It hasn't been so easy for the consumer. Lacking the technical knowledge and the facilities required for testing products, he also lacks the funds to test even a fraction of the products he uses. Now, however, the consumer can have merchandise tested for him—honestly, dependably, without bias, and at a very nominal cost—by a nation-wide, technical organization set up and controlled by consumers interested in getting the most for their money.

The name of this organization is Consumers Union of United States, Inc. Formed on a strictly non-profit, membership basis under the laws of New York State, the purpose of this organization is to serve its members in the capacity of a consumers' testing laboratory by providing them with accurate and unbiased technical information about their everyday purchases. Close to 30,000 consumers throughout the United States are now members of Consumers Union.

To them every month goes *Consumers Union Reports*, a compact magazine, provocatively illustrated, written in straightforward language, and describing and rating tested products by brand names as "Best Buys," "Also Acceptable," or "Not Acceptable."

Competent, unbiased technicians, either on the staff of Consumers Union or employed as consultants, working in university and other laboratories, make the analyses and determine the ratings by means of laboratory and other standard tests, the results of which are painstakingly checked and verified. Products reported on include most of the merchandise you have occasion to buy from day to day: shoes, toothpaste, radios, foods, drugs, cosmetics, vacuum cleaners, soaps, liquors, clothing, tires, oils, and many things besides. Notes are also included in the *Reports* on the labor conditions under which many of the products are manufactured.

Consumers Union has no connection with any commercial interests. Its income is derived solely from membership fees and contributions and is used solely in the interests of its members. The membership fee (which confers voting rights) is \$3 a year. It includes twelve issues of the monthly *Reports* and a yearly *Buying Guide* (the 1937 edition of this Guide, running to nearly 200 pages, is now in preparation). An abridged edition of the *Reports*, covering only the less expensive products, is also available at \$1 a year.

To become a member of Consumers Union, mail the application form below. Your membership will begin either with the forthcoming March issue or with any previous issue you may indicate. Listings of the principal subjects covered in past issues are given in the coupon below.

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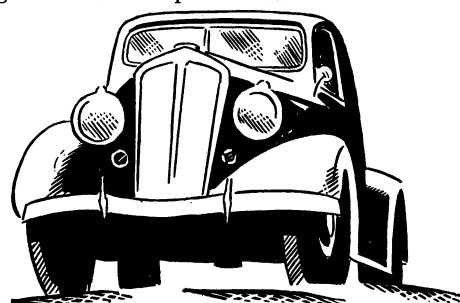
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Ratings of 1937 Cars

Divided into three price classifications under \$1,000, over twenty-five leading models of 1937 automobiles are rated in the current March issue of *Consumers Union Reports*—some as "Best Buys," some as "Not Acceptable," and others as "Also Acceptable" in the estimated order of their merit. Based on such factors as economy, comparative safety of operation, general performance and other engineering features, these ratings were made by competent automotive engineers after thorough examinations and actual economy tests. Such features as hypoid gears, automatic choke, frame durability, driver-visibility, and others are discussed at length. Tables on comparative gas consumption are also given. This report—which should be read by everyone contemplating the purchase of a new car—will be followed in an early issue by ratings of cars in higher-priced groups. Previous issues of the *REPORTS* (still available) have analyzed and rated tires, gasolines, motor oils, and anti-freeze solutions. Also discussed in the March issue are the following products: RADIO SETS, FLOUR, SHEETS, CANNED ASPARAGUS and CHERRIES.



SOME OF THE CARS RATED IN THIS ISSUE

WILLYS	FORD	CHRYSLER
CHEVROLET	BUICK	DODGE
PLYMOUTH	STUDEBAKER	DE SOTO

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MAY—Toilet Soaps, Breakfast Cereals, Milk.

JUNE—Automobiles, Gasolines, Seeds.

JULY—Refrigerators, Used Cars, Motor Oils.

AUG.—Oil Burners and Stokers, Hosiery, Blacklist of Drugs and Cosmetics, Meat.

SEPT.—Shoes, Tires, Whiskies, Women's Coats.

OCT.—Men's Shirts, Gins, Electric Razors, Dentifrices, Anti-freeze Solutions.

NOV.—Radios, Toasters, Wines, Children's Shoes, Winter Oils.

DEC.—Vacuum Cleaners, Fountain Pens, Electric Irons, Blankets, Nose Drops.

JAN-FEB.—Men's Suits, Cold Remedies, Shaving Creams, Children's Undergarments.

MAR.—1937 Autos, Radio Sets, Sheets, Flour, Canned Foods.

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