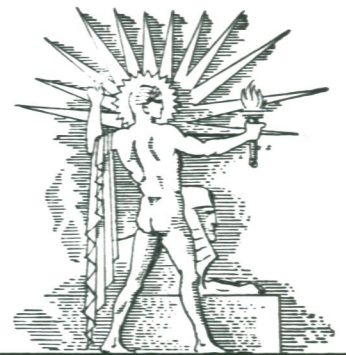
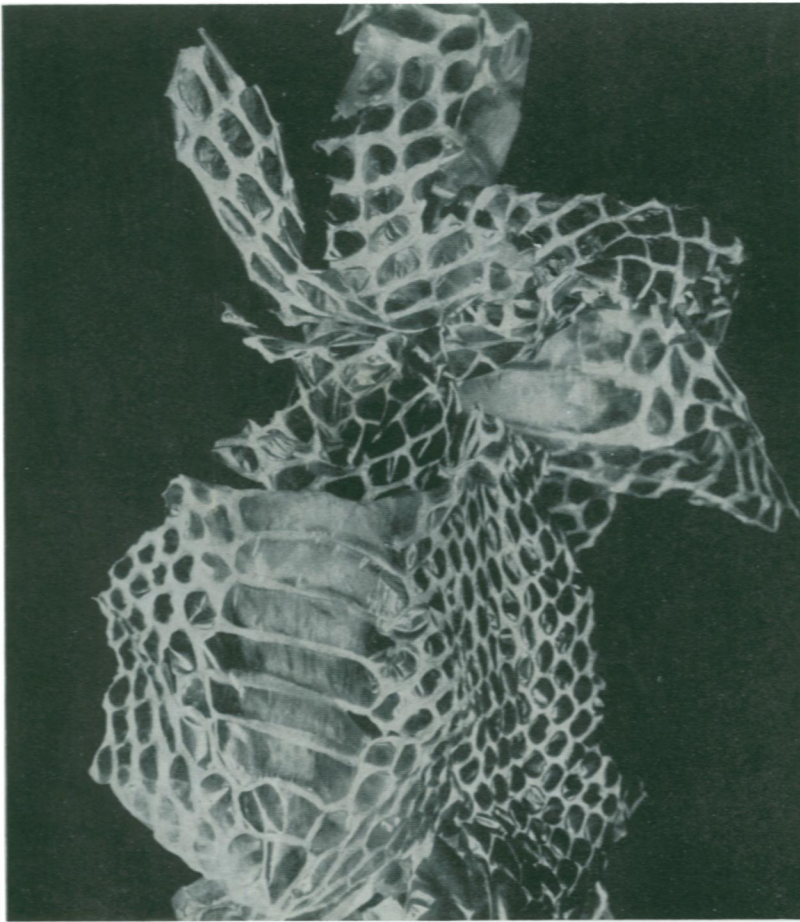


PRICE  
15¢

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



MARCH 13, 1937

## Cast-Off Garments

See Page 172

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. XXXI

No. 831

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, 1937, 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: Scienservc, 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.; Representing E. W. Scripps Estate, Harry L. Smithton, *Treasurer*, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert P. Scripps, Scripps-Howard Newspapers, West Chester, Ohio; Warren S. Thompson, Miami University, Oxford, 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 ?

Emeralds owe their green color to chromium.

Eggs of the sea shrimp are so tiny that 24 of them could rest on a pin head.

A coconut grove has been planted on Oahu Island, Hawaii, to honor George Washington.

A list of 4,400 ancient monuments that have state protection in Great Britain has been prepared.

In the past half million years, the basic design of teeth in man has not changed, says a British dentist-anthropologist.

A speed record for road building in China was set when a 50 mile stretch in Hupeh province was finished in less than a month.

Along the Tigris River, Turkish farmers raise watermelons so large that 100 pounds is not unusual, and melons weighing 150 pounds have been reported.

Typewriter ribbons can be made of synthetic textiles.

A tunnel under the Euphrates River was constructed by the ancient Babylonians.

A European hypnotist has reported success in hypnotizing a chimpanzee in the London zoo.

When eggs in winter have thin shells, this is because the hens were fed a ration short in minerals or Vitamin D.

Pneumonia was a disease that afflicted ancient Egyptians, it was learned from evidence in the lung of an Egyptian mummy.

The musk-ox has no tail for fly-swatting purposes, but the musk glands provide a protection against mosquitoes and flies.

Naturalists are puzzled at finding seeds of the tropical papaya in the stomach of a Wisconsin duck, killed in autumn when such birds are flying south.

## 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

Who was Kanam Man? p. 163.  
 How much chin did Sinanthropus have? p. 164.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

When was the Book of Kells written? p. 166.

### ASTRONOMY

Will we see Wilk's Comet? p. 168.  
 What is an eclipsing variable? p. 174.

### BIOGRAPHY

What famous scientist "flunked" twice? p. 170.

### CRYPTOGRAPHY

Did the revolutionists of 1776 know about invisible ink? p. 168.

### ENGINEERING

What peculiarity makes bentonite useful? p. 169.  
 How can windmills fight rust? p. 169.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

How can science work against dictators? p. 170.  
 Which gets most support, industrial research or cancer research? p. 170.

### HERPETOLOGY

Is it safe to help a snake out of its skin? p. 172.

### HORTICULTURE

When should potatoes be planted? p. 174.

### PALEONTOLOGY

When did Dimetrodon live? p. 172.

### PHARMACOLOGY

What is 300 times as hot as red pepper? p. 173.

### PHOTOGRAPHY-SPORTS

Is a "camera finish" decisive? p. 169.

### PHYSICS

What is a neutron howitzer? p. 165.  
 How can an "electric eye" be made more sensitive? p. 173.

### PHYSIOLOGY

Do moods have any effect on brain waves? p. 168.  
 What happens to the heart of a scared cat? p. 173.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Why are the Danes vaccinating their children against whooping cough? p. 169.

### SEISMOLOGY

What should you watch if caught in an earthquake? p. 165.

### ZOOLOGY

Are coyotes sportsmen? p. 168.