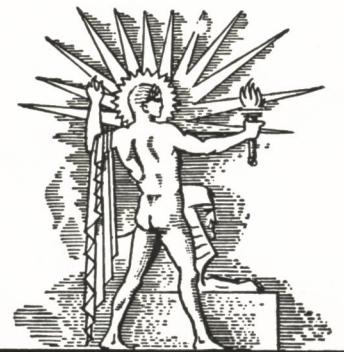


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THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



August 14, 1937

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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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DO YOU KNOW?

Japanese chemists are attempting to make rayon from soy bean husks.

In Java a bridegroom who cannot come to the wedding ceremony may send his kris—his dagger—to represent him.

Government scientists are crossing northern and southern blueberries to get a plant for the south bearing fine quality fruit.

One thing the country needs is a variety of watermelon to fit the average ice box—plant scientists are trying to produce one.

Entomologists in Kansas have observed bandit beetles in grain fields: the beetles waylay and rob red ants carrying home loads of seed.

Cross-eyed children should have early treatment, says one physician, because the condition affects a child's looks, his morale, and his physical efficiency.

In a study of commercial and home methods of washing five cotton fabrics, it was found that commercial methods weakened fabrics less in the first 15 launderings, but thereafter weakened them more.

Absolutely pure alcohol has no odor.

It is believed that birds can neither smell nor taste their food.

A geography of the Soviet Union in 36 volumes is being prepared.

There are over 50 species of *Sansiviera*, popular house plant sometimes called snake plant.

The New Testament has been translated into the African Nyore dialect spoken by 300,000 natives of Kenya.

A standard distress signal, consisting of three quickly repeated calls or visible signs, has been approved for use in serious emergencies in National Forests.

Two military log bridges found in France are believed to have been built for Caesar's cavalry to cross swampy ground in his second campaign against the Bellovaci.

Not all mentally deficient children owe their condition to heredity, says Dr. D. A. Thom, psychiatrist; about 40 per cent. owe their dullness to various causes "which may arise any time after conception up to the fifth or sixth year of life."

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.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

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GEOLOGY

How do scientists secure samples of the ocean's floor for study? p. 103.

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PSYCHOLOGY—SOCIOLOGY

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PUBLIC HEALTH

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Will Japanese troops invading China meet favorable health conditions there? p. 104.