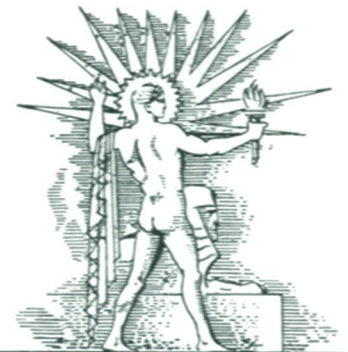
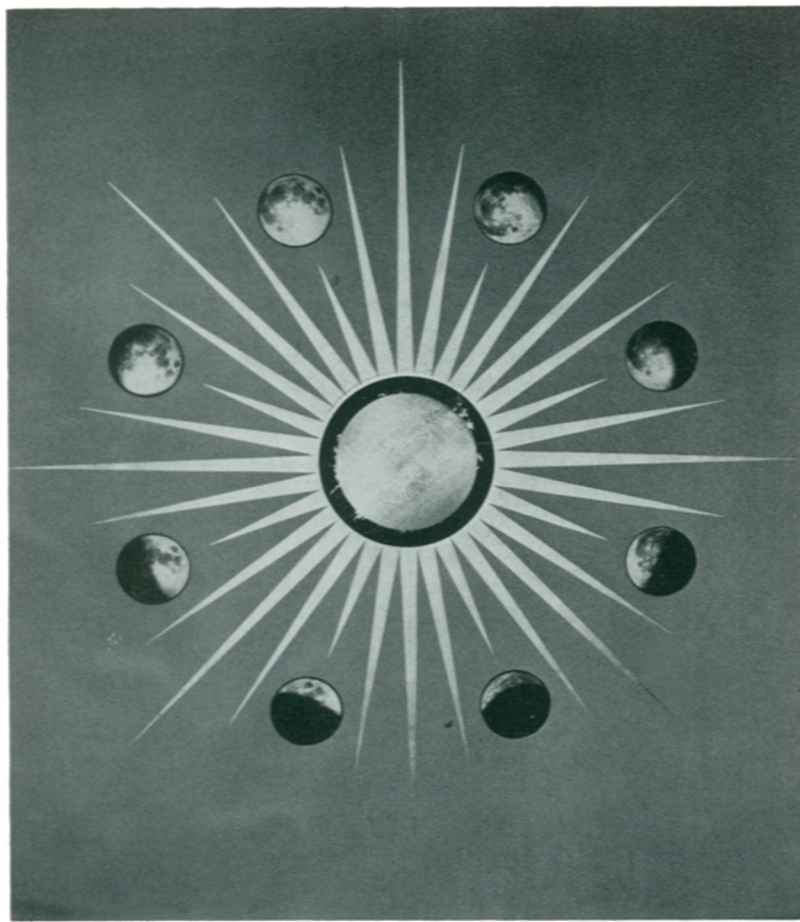


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



December 17, 1938

Heavenly Ornaments

See Page 391

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Vaccination gets its name from the Latin word for cow.

The shad spends most of its life in the sea, but migrates into fresh water to spawn.

A Johns Hopkins University eye specialist has set out for the Arctic, to see whether he can aid Eskimos suffering from night blindness.

European countries are so anxious to become self-sufficient in motor fuel as a safeguard against wartime blockades, that in 1937 substitute motor fuels attained an all-time record use in Europe.

The Talmud, ancient Jewish book of canonical and civil law, ascribed contagious diseases to tiny "dangerous ones" which were destroyers—a good description of germs for an era long before the discovery of the microscope.

A Danish physician reports that there has been an outbreak of "parrot fever" every September for the past five years among women in the Faeroe Islands, and that it is apparently carried by the Arctic petrels which the women prepare for food.

Among cities specializing in profuse planting of flowers are Belleville, Michigan, which goes in for petunias; Tampa, Florida, the "Oleander City"; Grand Rapids, Michigan, which borders its sidewalks with wild violets; and Rochester, N. Y., which features lilacs.

QUESTIONS DISCUSSED IN THIS ISSUE

Most articles which appear in SCIENCE NEWS LETTER are based on communications to Science Service, or on papers before meetings. Where published sources are used they are referred to in the article.

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How can starlings be kept off public buildings? p. 390.

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How have physicians found that college athletics do not enlarge the heart? p. 392.

PSYCHIATRY

What is "emotional divorce"? p. 393.

PSYCHOLOGY

Can an unwrapped dollar bill go safely through the mails? p. 392.

PSYCHOLOGY—ENGINEERING

How does the roller coaster aid in building roads? p. 397.

PUBLIC HEALTH

How do chemistry and physics improve health? p. 393.

Where has horse sleeping sickness now spread? p. 392.

Average-sized tires on an automobile revolve 43,000 times an hour if the car is driven at 60-mile-an-hour speed.

Carbolic acid, important to Japanese munitions industry, is running short in Japan and distribution may be controlled.

The American Red Cross made itself a new record last year by instructing half a million persons in life saving, first aid, and swimming.

The Russian dramatist Chekhov was a physician, and gave his pet dogs medical names—Bromide and Quinine.

A stretched rubber band snaps at 204 miles an hour, as measured by ultra-high-speed motion pictures recently taken.

New house roofing materials introduced in Germany are featured in camouflage colors of green, brown, and yellow.

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