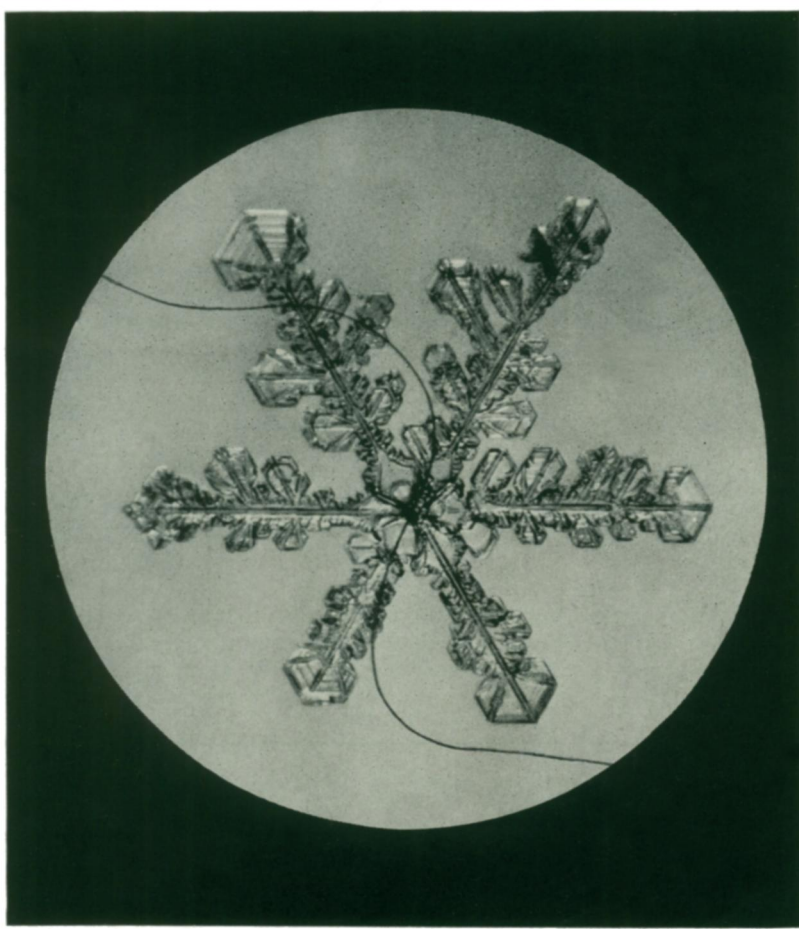


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



January 21, 1939

Laboratory Product

See Page 38

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Whooping cough has been known to occur in babies a day old, and in individuals of 80 years.

More than 7,000 young men are training to become aviation mechanics in Federally aided vocational schools and classes.

An Italian archaeologist reports finding a fragment of a poem by Sappho among 12,000 papyrus writings discovered in Egypt.

Scientists in India have proposed using more of the waste molasses from India's sugar industry to provide fertilizer for the soil.

Ancient Greeks named ticks after croton seeds, while the Romans called them after the castor bean; ticks resemble both these seeds in appearance.

Several scientists who have measured skeletons of four African pygmies report that smaller skulls are found among both primitive and white people.

To show how anesthetics deaden pain, a full-sized mechanized model of a man will be shown on an operating table at the New York World's Fair medical exhibit.

A family of skunk kittens play near the home of a National Park Service employee in New Mexico, and he says they "do everything that the progeny of a house cat would do."

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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the United States independent in the matter of morphine and quinine? p. 44.

Why are domestic animals relatively free from heart disease? p. 40.

PHYSICS

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How can snowflakes be made in the laboratory? p. 38.

PSYCHOLOGY—SOCIOLOGY

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PUBLIC HEALTH

What kind of industrial poisoning can lead to paralysis and mania? p. 37.

What new disease has been discovered by the Public Health Service? p. 41.

SPORT

How does the swing of an iron golf club differ from that of a wooden driver? p. 37.

TECHNOLOGY

What are the advantages of paper for gas masks? p. 40.

Hospitals in one state alone—Pennsylvania—spend about a million dollars a year on anesthesia.

The U. S. Bureau of Mines has patented a process for producing 99.7 per cent. pure manganese metal from low-grade domestic ores.

U. S. Forest Service engineers worked nearly two years to develop a sled-pulling snow tractor for use in Oregon's Cascade Range.

A huge river that flows about half a mile under the surface of the Pacific has been discovered off the California coast.

A promising source of camphor has been found in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, in ocimum oil obtained from leaves of a plant growing there.

The British Museum has acquired a collection of more than 14,000 ferns, said to be the most important private collection of these plants.

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