



**SWING OF BOBBY BURNS**

*This picture, made with a longer, wooden golf club shows how much flatter is the golf swing than is the view, on the opposite page, of the swing of an iron. This photograph showed that: ball velocity is 225 feet a second, club velocity before impact is 166 feet a second, club velocity after impact is 114 feet a second.*

tioned in print. These included ship and troop movements, location of mine fields, photographs of harbor defenses and the like.

2. Matters of doubtful nature which must be passed on first by the committee. For example, Army and Navy units might be described if nothing of use to the enemy was contained in the description.

3. Matters unrelated to the war.

No such hard-and-fast censorship as characterizes many lands today was ever laid down by the committee. Rather Mr. Creel appeared to depend on his powers of persuasion to keep newspapers in line. Dr. Mock and Mr. Larsen and history as well testify that he succeeded.

*Science News Letter, January 21, 1939*

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

## Warns Against Poison Hazard In Rayon Manufacture

### Carbon Disulfide Poisoning Causes Emotional Upsets, Loss of Memory, Mania, as Well as Physical Symptoms

**W**ARNING that carbon disulfide poisoning threatens the mental and physical health of workers in certain departments of rayon factories appears in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. (Jan. 7)

More than 50,000 Americans are now engaged in this trade, but not all are ex-

posed to the hazard of carbon disulfide poisoning. Facts about this particular industrial health hazard were uncovered in an examination, by specialists of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, of 120 men employed in Pennsylvania factories where the artificial silk is made.

Three-fourths of the men examined showed early symptoms of the toxic effects of carbon disulfide, the poison used in the manufacturing process.

The men were employed at the time of examination in the two departments in which carbon disulfide is present in greatest quantity. Here are some of the symptoms found:

More than 70 per cent. showed psychic disturbances varying from extreme insomnia to uncontrollable anger with rapid changes of mood, marked memory defects and in some instances psychoses, usually of maniacal type. Loss of sexual desire was found in 75 per cent. of the men under 45 years of age.

Seventy-five per cent. of the men suffered pain that was followed later by weakness and partial paralysis.

Fifty-four per cent. showed disturbances of the eye; 71 per cent. showed impaired hearing.

In severe cases of carbon disulfide poisoning, such as have been frequently reported in the medical literature from abroad, paralyses develop, there is temporary blindness, perhaps acute hallucinatory psychoses, impotence, emaciation and cachexia.

The *A.M.A. Journal* calls the attention of physicians to a bulletin, issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, which gives the facts uncovered in the story.

*Science News Letter, January 21, 1939*

**BIOLOGY**

## Man's Egotism Shattered by Life's Thin Film on Earth

**O**NE of the most important philosophical consequences of the rise of science through the centuries is the demolition of the man-centered universe. Copernicus dethroned the earth as the center of the universe. Darwin made man take his rightful place in the grand procession of natural evolution.

Ego-centered man, so powerful in shaping the things of the earth to his own ends, needs to be reminded occasionally of his role in space and time. The earth, so far as we are sure the only oasis of life in the myriad of stars and nebulae, is a minor satellite of a mediocre star, remarkable only because we chance to be on it.

And life is by no means a function of the whole earth. Dr. Oscar Riddle, Carnegie Institution biologist, has described the kind of world picture as interpreted by the life sciences that he feels our schools should present.

"The drama of life," Dr. Riddle says,