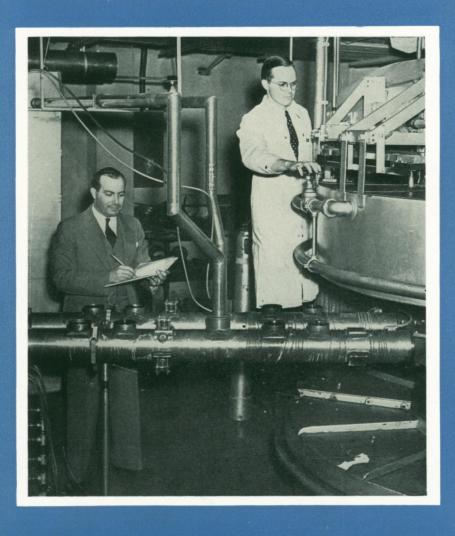
# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE.





February 11, 1939



**Atomic Bombardiers** 

See Page 86

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# Do You Know?

About 45 per cent. of the deaths from burns occur in children under six years old.

Italians report favorable results with experiments in growing wheat in Ethiopia at an experimental farm.

Sixteenth century armor sometimes had fantastic touches, such as a helmet shaped like a lion's head now treasured at the Metropolitan Museum in New York City.

Archaeologists in England have unearthed ruins of a town mansion of the Roman era which degenerated into a slum dwelling and was abandoned by 400 A. D.

A British writer says that when twoyear-old horses are made to race, the neural spines of the withers become malformed, because the animal is not yet mature enough to carry a jockey's weight.

By filling tree cavities with sterilized wax, forced in by steam pressure, and surfacing the cavities with specially prepared rubber blocks, it is reported that the fillings can sway and give with the trees, without cracking.

An Indian chief who played a big role in diplomatic intrigues, when Spain, England and the United States maneuvered to control the Southeast, was Alexander McGillivray, son of a Scottish adventurer and a Creek Indian woman.

### 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.

#### ANTHROPOLOGY

How old is fascism? p. 90.

#### ARCHAEOLOGY

Why did ancient Romans keep family portrait busts? p. 85.
Who took care of one Nilemeter during the fourth century A. D.? p. 91.

By what new process are plywood airplane parts being made? p. 84.

#### BIOLOGY

How may sex be determined? p. 88.

Do you have to catch a whale before you can weigh him? p. 88.

#### CHEMISTRY

How does paper disclose its age? p. 91. Who discovered saccharin's sweetness? p.

#### ENGINEERING

Why are complicated weapons disadvantageous?  $\mathbf{p}$ . 84.

#### **ETHNOLOGY**

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#### FOODS

Where are refrigerated food lockers for rent? p. 88.
What new kinds of juices are about to come on the market? p. 92.

#### MEDICINE

How quickly can thrombin stop bleeding? p. 83.
What is the most important factor in X-ray therapy? p. 83.
How many questions must a diabetic be able to answer? p. 88.
What is new about "air-conditioned" fever therapy? p. 90.

#### PHYSICS

Why are physicists excited over the splitting of the uranium atom? p. 86. What is the klystron? p. 89. When is thunderless lightning possible? p.

#### PLANT PATHOLOGY

Why are scientists worried about persimmon trees? p. 94.

#### **PSYCHIATRY**

How do parents most influence the development of their children? p. 85.
Who suffers from mental breakdowns in Africa? p. 85.
Why do gangsters call bombs "pineapples"? p. 91.

#### **PSYCHOLOGY**

Are all men created mentally equal? p. 89. What are the best ways of forgetting? p. 92. Who's a sissy? p. 93.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

Why are more people being hurt by falls nowadays? p. 94.

An author of a book on shade trees has worked out a table for appraising value of shade trees, according to species, size, condition and location.

European scientists have produced a book describing voices of animals, plus gramophone records, in what is said to be the "first mammal sound book in the English language."

About a million people visited Norris Dam in 1938.

Orange groves are replacing vineyards in some sections of Palestine.

More than 23,000 old Armenian manuscripts kept in libraries in Armenia, India, Persia and other countries, are being catalogued by Armenian scientists.

## SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

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