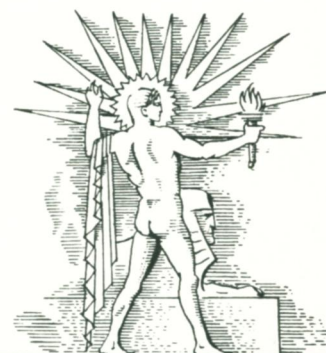
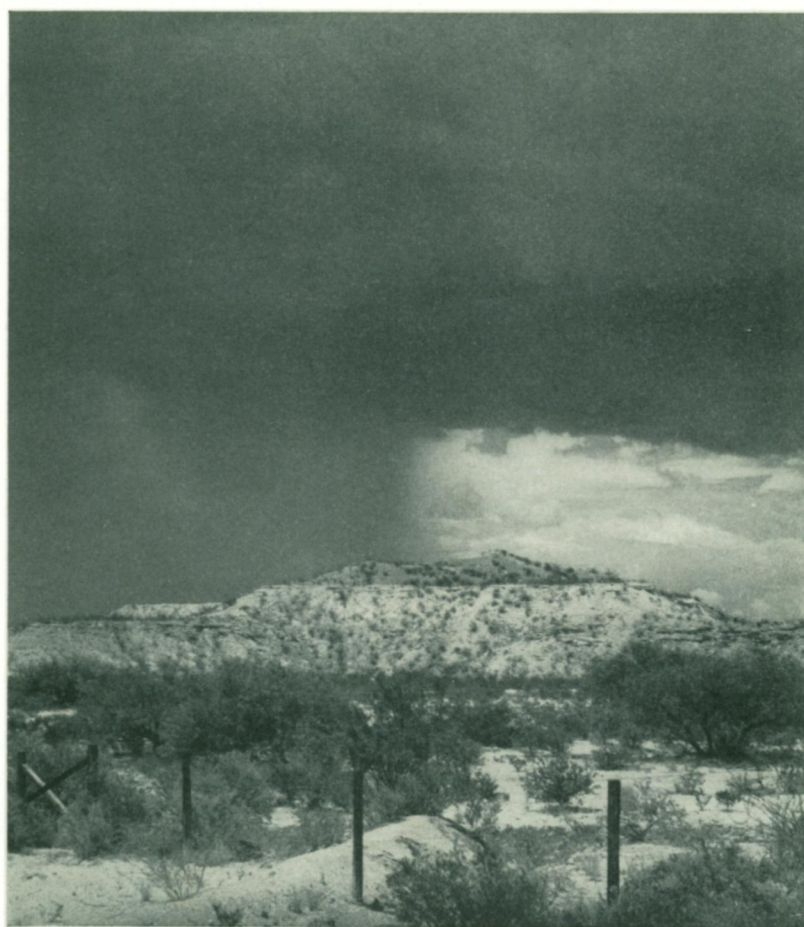


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



April 22, 1939

Deluge in the Desert

See Page 244

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Ostriches can only kick forward.

A new lightweight, folding anchor made of monel metal has been devised.

An albino skunk and an albino porcupine can be seen at Wisconsin's State fur farm.

A bronze statue near Middlebury, Vt., honors a horse, progenitor of the Morgan breed.

Weather-proof mirrors have been devised for use in astronomical and optical measuring instruments.

A folder on food for children of all ages over one year has been prepared by the U. S. Children's Bureau.

To aid in combating fur racketeers, a method of identifying beaver bloodstains has been evolved at the University of Minnesota.

A Navy Yard Commandant states that about 85 per cent of the cost of every ship, regardless of size or type, goes to labor.

A case of anthrax infection in minks has been reported by a St. Louis physician, who warns that fur farmers should take precautions.

X-rays used in inspecting industrial goods range in penetrating power from soft 5,000 volt rays, used in examining asbestos cloth, to 600,000 volt rays that penetrate five inches of steel.

NEW BOOKS ON SCIENCE—SPRING 1939

This issue contains Science Service's semi-annual comprehensive bibliography of current books in various scientific fields. It lists those published or promised during the first half of this year. Books are intelligent companions for recreation or useful tools for research. Books like those in this list will make exceptional gifts. SCIENCE NEWS LETTER will obtain for you any American book or magazine in print. Send check or money order to cover regular retail price (\$5 if price is unknown, change to be remitted) and we will pay postage in the United States. When publications are free, send 10c for handling. Address: Book Department, SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C.

Glass cooking dishes transmit heat faster than other kinds.

Plants well nourished with the soil elements they need can better resist disease and insect pests.

A television studio in Italy is near completion, and 50 transmitting stations are to be installed this year.

The Pilgrims used to freeze succotash, which they made by Indian directions, and they would chop off a chunk as needed for cooking.

Linters, the tiny tufts of cotton left clinging to cotton seeds after ginning, are used in 36 products, from guncotton and smokeless powder to cushions, horse collars, and films.

Calling tularemia "rabbit fever" is considered unfair to domestic rabbits, since the infection is not caught from them but from wild rabbits and certain other mammals and insects.

Ordinarily it takes a cataract of the eye five to ten years to reach its mature stage.

Federal chemists have discovered that lignin from corn cobs effectively removes iron from hard water.

A population study shows that in 28 leading countries the largest city is more than twice as large as the next in rank.

Pamphlets on growing 14 different medicinal herbs are being prepared for public use by WPA workers in New York.

The aristocratic Borzoi dog of Russia was the result of crossing Saluki hounds of the Near East with collie-like Russian dogs.

The rare Chinela orchid has petals four inches long on opening, but they grow about two inches a day, drooping like streamers until they may become 30 inches long.

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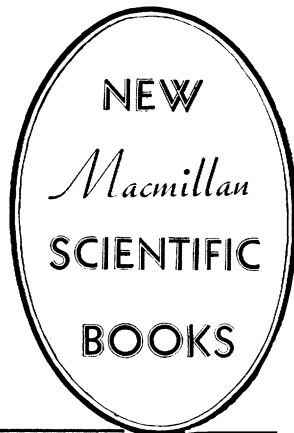
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