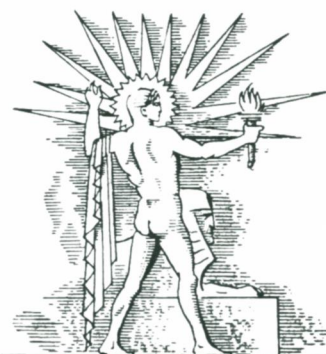


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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



July 15, 1939

Prospecting

See page 36

A S C I E N C E S E R V I C E P U B L I C A T I O N

## Do You Know?

A cutworm is the caterpillar stage of a night-flying moth.

Wet leaves should always be treated as a driving hazard, warns one tire manufacturer.

CCC boys digging a trench for a power cable near Santa Barbara, California, discovered ruins of a huge Indian barracks, once part of La Purisima Mission.

At least 5,000,000 persons in the United States have now been treated with the new and often life-saving chemical remedy, sulfanilamide, it is estimated.

Leonardo da Vinci's mechanical inventions—of which he left sketches—included printing presses, an oil press, screw-cutting lathe, and pile driver with automatic release.

It is believed that there was no pellagra in Europe before corn was introduced, this malnutrition disease being linked with diet in which corn is the main cereal.

Soil for a window box, says Cornell University, should be about three-fourths good garden soil and one-fourth leaf mold, peat, or well-rotted manure, with superphosphate added at the rate of one cup for each bushel of soil.

The late Fred Snare, British maker of gun-flints, was the last of a family of flint-knappers that traced its occupation back to 1066, when a direct ancestor was ordered by William the Conqueror to repair a flint church wall in Kent.

## 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.

### AERONAUTICS

What are the newest materials now being tried for the harness of parachutes? p. 40.

How many blades have the propellers of the new army planes? p. 45.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

How many documents have been discovered at the newly-found Nestor's Palace? p. 38.

### ASTRONOMY

What periodic comet is now back in the region of the sun and earth after a seven-year absence? p. 44.

### CHEMISTRY

If rubber is properly stored, how long will it last in good condition? p. 41.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

How is German science bearing up under the impact of Nazi rule? p. 36.

### GEOGRAPHY

On what sort of terrain are the Soviets and Japanese struggling in their Far-East war? p. 39.

### GEOLOGY

What is the new way of taking samples from deep wells? p. 36.

### INVENTION

How are rockets controlled in flight? p. 46.

### MEDICINE

How are X-rays now aiding the fight against tuberculosis? p. 43.

### METEOROLOGY

What is the long range weather forecast for temperatures of the current summer? p. 44.

### OCEANOGRAPHY

What new food is Germany now trying to get from the sea? p. 46.

### PHYSICS

Just what is the "power of words" according to physical measurements? p. 40.

What is the approximate atomic weight of the super-heavy elements whose transmutations have been suggested as the origin of cosmic rays? p. 35.

### PSYCHOLOGY

What kind of music are experts suggesting will be needed to arouse enlistments in the next war? p. 42.

How can the eye fool the novice camera fan? p. 41.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

What led to the abandonment of North Dakota's health program for medical care? p. 37.

What is the latest fever which science has discovered can be transmitted by water? p. 35.

The most densely motorized area in the world is the metropolitan area of Los Angeles—one vehicle for every 2.8 persons.

A naturalist in the National Park Service is directing a group of school children in Washington, D. C., to plan and label a nature trail.

There should be 2,360,000 grains of sugar in a pound when you buy it, judging by a report that one grain of sugar weighs 68 ten-millionths of an ounce.

An image on the retina of the eye lingers for a fraction of a second after the object is withdrawn from range of vision.

Home life among the raccoons is ideal, says the National Park Service—the male shares responsibility of rearing and training the children.

The volume of water now held behind Federal irrigation dams in the West ready for use in dry summer is reported greater than ever before.

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