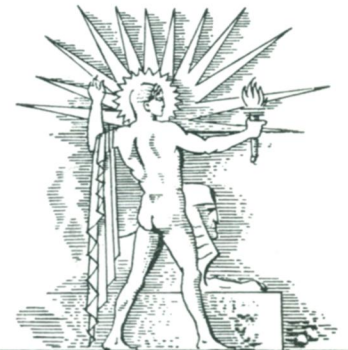


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



October 14, 1939

Ears for Mars

See Page 246

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

As a rule, larger cows produce more butterfat.

Blind stenographers take dictation in Braille, raised type.

Some of the coal miners in Belgium work in levels 4,000 feet deep.

About half of Palestine's 8,800 square miles is rated unproductive for farming.

Four-wheeled carriages were used by Etruscans of Italy in the sixth century, B. C.

Bark gets its brown color as a result of air and moisture acting on the tannins in dead cells.

The heaviest traffic total in ten years has passed through the Panama Canal during the past fiscal year.

Probably the oldest wheat samples in existence are charred grains from Jemdet Nasr, Mesopotamia, 5,500 years old.

A new kind of baby Persian melon weighing six to seven pounds and of high quality will be grown in California.

Babylon, a ruined site since about 600 A.D., had a career of almost 3,000 years under Babylonian, Greek, Persian, and Arab rule.

The turkey is an expanding crop: in 1929 America raised less than 17 million turkeys and in 1938 there were more than 26 million.

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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What new oil process unavailable in the United States does Germany have? p. 245.

CHEMISTRY—EDUCATION

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GENERAL SCIENCE

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EDUCATION

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Why are rivers being mined for anthracite coal? p. 247.

FORESTRY

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MEDICINE

What are the nine battle lines against pneumonia? p. 254.

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What medical questions may be answered by a new cancer campaign? p. 244.

What new medicinal value has been found for pineapple juice? p. 248.

METEOROLOGY

What new service is offered by the Weather Bureau? p. 253.

MILITARY SCIENCE

How does an airplane detector work? p. 246.

MILITARY SCIENCE—VOLCANOLOGY

When was bombing used to save lives? p. 249.

PHYSIOLOGY

How does cold protect against disease? p. 248.

POPULATION

How will the 1940 census taker list those born in changing parts of Europe? p. 243.

PSYCHOLOGY

How can you protect yourself against propaganda? p. 250.

PSYCHOLOGY—ARCHAEOLOGY

How did the ancients scare their enemies? p. 254.

PUBLIC HEALTH

What effect has malnutrition on peoples' attitudes? p. 247.

RADIO

How can one nation black out the broadcasts of another? p. 252.

Polish coal may compete with Pennsylvania anthracite, if Germany keeps her Polish territory long enough to start exporting the land's rich resources.

Traffic lights on a commercial truck are new in safety; when an automobile honks, the truck driver signals green, meaning all right to pass, or red, meaning danger.

The elderberry is the most popular native fruit with birds: at least 106 species of birds feed on it.

To find out the appearance of an ancient, fossil animal's brain, scientists sometimes pour liquid rubber into the brain cavity of the skull; when dry, the flexible rubber can be pulled out intact without damaging the fossil skull.

SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

Vol. 36 OCTOBER 14, 1939 No. 16

The Weekly Summary of Current Science, published every Saturday by SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc., 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C. Edited by WATSON DAVIS.

Subscriptions—\$5.00 a year; two years \$7.00; 15 cents a copy. Ten or more copies to same address, 5 cents a copy. Back numbers more than six months old, 25 cents.

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Cable address: Scienservc, Washington.

Entered as second class matter at the post-

office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Established in mimeographed form March 18, 1922. Title registered as trademark, U. S. and Canadian Patent Offices. Indexed in Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, Abridged Guide, and in the Engineering Index.

Members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science have privilege of subscribing to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER at \$3 a year.

The New York Museum of Science and Industry has elected SCIENCE NEWS LETTER as its official publication to be received by its members.

Advertising rates on application. Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

SCIENCE SERVICE is the Institution for the Popularization of Science organized 1921 as a non-profit corporation, with trustees nominated by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Research Council, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the E. W. Scripps Estate and Journalistic profession.

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