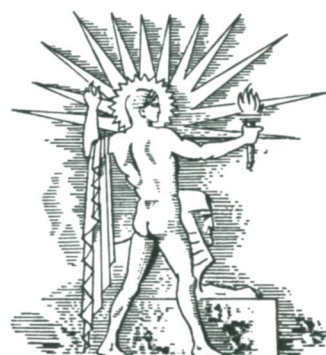
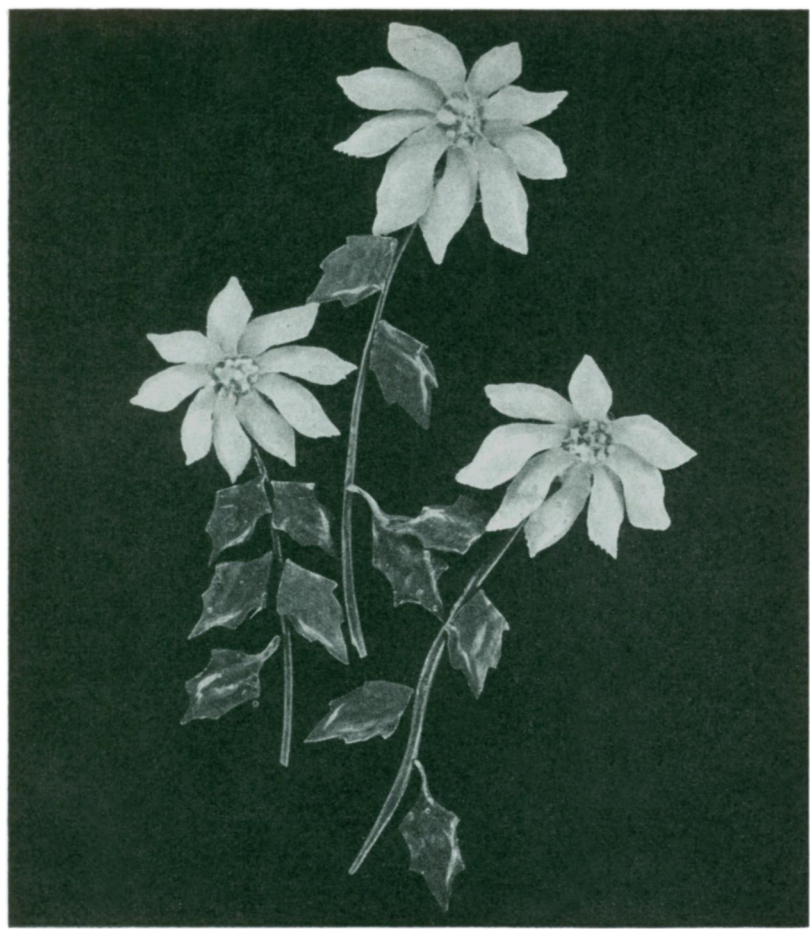


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SCIENCE REVIEW OF THE YEAR

# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



December 23, 1939

From Fish to Flower

See Page 408

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?

The U. S. Bureau of Reclamation has built 156 dams, large and small, and none has ever been a failure.

Pheasants are not likely to roam far, provided feed and cover are satisfactory, banding experiments indicate.

Ancient Rome skillfully weakened enemies by setting tribe against tribe, in similar fashion to modern Nazi tactics.

Growing vegetables in standard sizes and shapes—to pack better into standard containers—is a recent idea for agriculturists.

Danger of a typhus outbreak is feared in Warsaw, where more than 1,300,000 persons are crowded in what remains of the city's buildings.

The oldest metal musical instruments of Europe are the signal horns called lurs, used probably to summon people to battle or to worship.

A new outlet for cherries is a "cherry cocktail" which New York State chemists have evolved from two kinds of cherries plus sugar syrup.

The ibis is adept at catching locusts, which may have something to do with the ancient Egyptians' veneration for this bird, considering how locusts have plagued Egypt.

## 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 \$200,000-purchase will enable the French army to carry their airports around with them? p. 408.

### AGRICULTURE

How big a tomato crop is expected from Wake Island's soilless farm? p. 409.

What spray will prevent apples from falling off the tree? p. 410.

### ARCHAEOLOGY

How did scientists discover the bones of Chief Powhatan's tribesmen? p. 408.

### ASTRONOMY

What substance is so heavy that a cubic inch weighs tons? p. 410.

### BOTANY

What good is ragweed? p. 408.

### CHEMISTRY

How is the mobilization of chemical science for emergency being facilitated? p. 408.

What discovery will make hydrogen peroxide cheaper? p. 409.

### GENERAL SCIENCE

What international science congress is planned for next May? p. 406.

### MEDICINE

With what new chemical remedy do physicians hope to control staphylococcal infections? p. 407.

Why can diet and iron prevent one type of cancer? p. 409.

### PHYSICS

How much can the most powerful microscope in the world enlarge? p. 411.

### PHYSIOLOGY

To what extent are American women growing slimmer? p. 412.

What sort of water prolongs the lives of lower marine animals? p. 407.

### POPULATION

In what proportion does Russia outnumber Finland in fighting-age population? p. 406.

### PSYCHOLOGY

What is the attitude of surveyed Americans toward making war? p. 410.

### RADIO

What device is considered the most important development in radio since invention of the audion tube? p. 406.

### ZOOLOGY

How widespread is the practice of artificial breeding of stock? p. 409.

Why are the British fighting against rabbits? p. 408.

Indian artists are painting 24 scenes of Indian life on the walls of the Department of the Interior cafeteria.

The original stool pigeon was a bird tied to a stool or box by market hunters in order to attract passenger pigeons into nets.

Evidence that wheat can be safely stored on a farm under good conditions: wheat stored in a steel bin in Kansas for 11 years was recently found marketable.

Every herd of cattle in the United States has been tested at least once for tuberculosis.

American cotton is more popular overseas as a result of an improved method of baling—use of cotton bagging provides neater bales and better protection.

The color in hair of horses is produced by just one amber-colored pigment, says Fred Gremmel of the University of Arizona's department of animal husbandry.

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