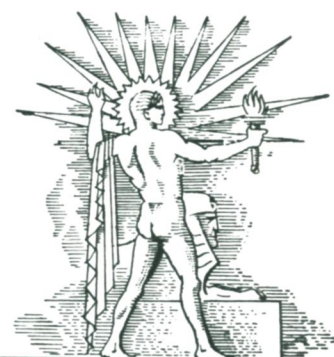
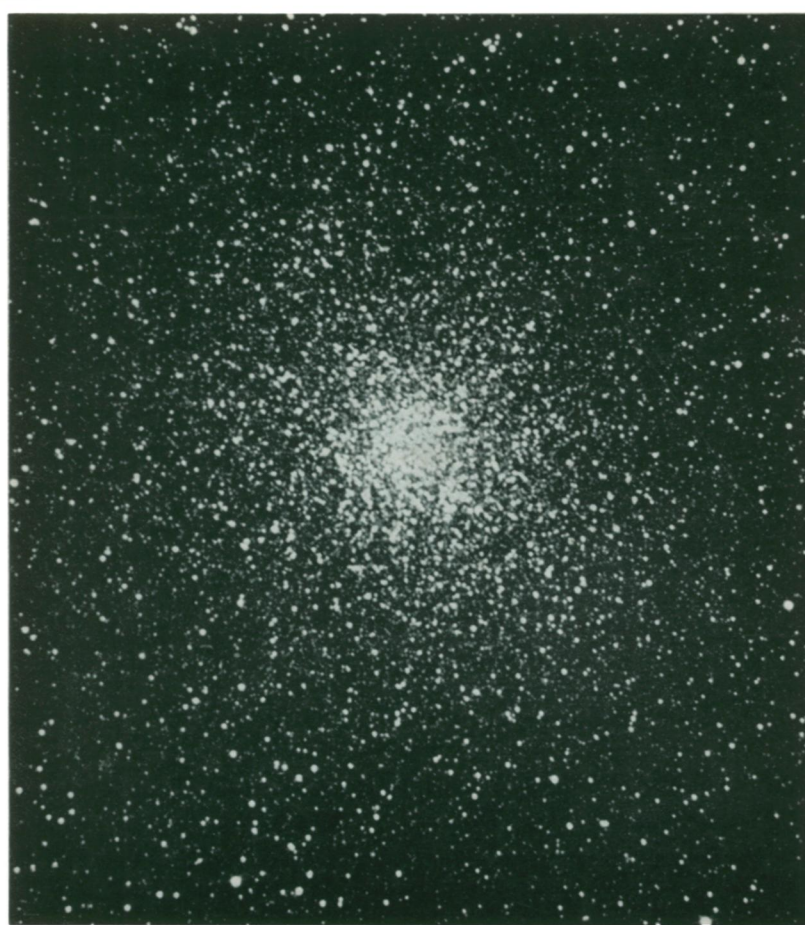


SCIENCE NEWS LETTER



THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE •



APRIL 30, 1932

Jewels for Andromeda's Necklace

See Page 282

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DO YOU KNOW THAT

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Out of 1,735 forest fires in New York State last year, 918 were caused by smokers.

A study of deaf-mutes in Germany shows that about 10 per cent. of the cases are born deaf and 21 per cent. are the result of scarlet fever.

Excavations in downtown Philadelphia recently uncovered cypress stumps, one 17 feet in circumference, which grew there in an earlier geological age.

On the one-mile strip of highway near Kansas City that is experimentally lighted with 400-candle-power electric lights, automobiles can safely drive at night with only dim head-lights burning.

Weather observers find that on still, cold nights the temperature may vary by as much as ten degrees within a few feet of distance.

A new process makes the basic color of Portland cement tan instead of gray.

Firearms figure in at least two-thirds of the homicide deaths in this country.

Skeletons of two men and a woman, still wearing their rings and other jewelry, were recently found in the ruins of a villa in old Pompeii.

Soapstone was first used in the United States by the Indians, who recognized its heat-retaining qualities.

Tests show that white objects photograph sharply in the movies, and consequently pale gray materials are more commonly used for "white" clothing.

The Field Museum has a yellow silk handkerchief covered with thousands of tiny characters of Chinese writing, which is identified as a "pony" used by a Chinese student of the seventeenth century in taking an examination.

Electrically heated uniforms and shoes for traffic policemen have been demonstrated.

Until recently, the alligator pear appeared to have no insect enemies in California, but a spider, a beetle, and a scale have begun to make trouble for growers.

WITH THE SCIENCES THIS WEEK

CURIOSITY-AROUSING questions are prepared concerning the most interesting and important news in each issue. These questions should be a mental stimulant for the adult reader and a boon to the teacher who uses the Science News Letter to add zest to her classroom instruction.

Book reference in italic type is not the source of information of the article, but a reference for further reading on the subject of the article. Books cited can be supplied by Librarian, Science Service, at publisher's price, prepaid in U. S.

ARCHAEOLOGY

What is the only date on the jewels of the Monte Alban treasure tomb? p. 272 *Ancient Civilizations of Mexico and Central America—Herbert J. Spinden—Amer. Museum of Natural Hist.*, 1928, \$1.00
Who was Cymbeline? p. 280

ASTRONOMY

How far away is the Andromeda nebula, pinwheel of the sky? p. 282
The Delporte Object is thought identical with what comets? p. 281
What experiment indicates that electric waves may cause variability in stars? p. 276
Why does Venus sometimes have a crescent shape? p. 274

BACTERIOLOGY

How long have bacteria been kept unchanged in laboratory cultures? p. 277

BOTANY

Common tropical water-lilies have all colors but what? p. 273
Why has no one ever pulled up a spring beauty by the roots? p. 283

CHEMISTRY

What chemical compound was rediscovered by an American? Who first prepared it? p. 275
Who discovered the double-weight hydrogen isotope? p. 277

ECOLOGY

What animals were studied by scientists in beech-maple forests of northeastern Ohio? p. 273

INVENTION

Upon what theory was the new "deaf speaker" worked out? p. 271. *Recent Advances in Laryngology and Otology—R. S. Stevenson and E. W. Martin—Blakiston*, 1930, \$3.50.

MEDICINE

How does the infantile paralysis germ escape from the body? p. 277

METALLURGY

How many impressions will a new chromium-plated die stand up under? p. 276. *The Metallurgists and Chemists' Handbook—Comp. by Donald M. Liddell, McGraw-Hill*, 1930, \$5.

PHOTOGRAPHY

On what sort of a screen is the three-dimension movie projected? p. 273. *Sound Motion Pictures—Harold B. Franklin—Doubleday, Doran*, 1929, \$3.

PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

All forms of energy may be resolved into what two factors? p. 278

PHYSICS

What does the ultra-centrifuge consist of? How does it operate? p. 281

PLANT PHYSIOLOGY

What is the effect of ethylene gas on tomato plants? p. 283

PUBLIC HEALTH

How can leprosy be eradicated in the U. S.? p. 276