

Is the newton a unit of avoirdupois yet

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2004-06/1880.html>

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Date: 06/10/04

Date: 10 Jun 2004 03:55:00 -0700

My not being a physicist, except an amateur of it; leads me to ask the following questions of you who ARE real physicists:

When the metric system first came out why didn't the people of France like it? Why did Napoleon grant a reprieve from it?

Now please, if you don't mind, will only real physicists who have what they believe something constructive to say answer? I've been flamed enough already.