## How Polaroid Land 4x5 Film gives you both negative and positive in 20 seconds outside the darkroom.

It's this simple to get both negative and positive without using the darkroom. Time required: 20 seconds.



Put a Polaroid Land  $4 \ge 5$  Film Holder in the back of any camera that uses a Graphic or similar back.



Insert a Type 55 P/N Film packet into the holder, and expose as you would with any panchromatic film rated at A.S.A. 50.



20 seconds later you have a fully developed, fine grain negative and a positive that matches the negative in every respect. Positive and negative develop in their own packet outside the camera, outside the darkroom. The negative needs only to be washed and dried to be ready to print or enlarge. Resolution is better than 150 lines per mm.

Type 55 P/N Film is one of three special Polaroid Land Films for  $4 \times 5$  photography.

Type 52 Film produces a virtually grainless paper print in 10 seconds. It has an A.S.A. rating of 200 and is ideal for general purpose  $4 \times 5$  photography.

Type 57 Polaroid Land Film has an A.S.A. rating of 3000 for use in extremely low light conditions. It also produces a finished print in 10 seconds.

The Polaroid Land 4 x 5 system gives your camera more versatility, opens up new opportunities for you in 4 x 5 photography. POLAROID® Polaroid Corporation, Cambridge 39, Massachusetts.

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—seem to be accepted without question from the picture agencies, or dashed off by members of the junior editorial staff who may have had a freshman course in science or who may recall a little science from their high school days.

Isaac Asimov's Intelligent Man's Guide to Science, for example, was embellished by sheafs of photographs placed with no reference to the text, and with captions that seemed in some cases to be the result of a layman's misreading misinformation. Life generally goes to more trouble than this, with the results Throckmorton describes.

Ideally, perhaps, an author should insist on a contract which gives him the right to approve every detail of *his* book. This is not very practical, however, either for the publisher—who has had bitter experiences with hairsplitters who insist on adding footnotes to footnotes or changing 20th century back to 19th century style—or for the writer. Supermarket illustrations are easier for the publisher to get and use than struggling with the author over the rights to pictures that may illustrate well enough but be copyrighted by a competitor.

If reviewers took extra pains to separate the sins of the author from those of his publisher when it is reasonably evident who is to blame, perhaps publishers would eventually mend their ways.

P. SCHUYLER MILLER Fisher Scientific Company, Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania

## Keeping up with Current Research: Science Information Exchange

The Science Information Exchange (formerly Bio-Sciences Information Exchange) was originally established in 1950 to help federal research directors and administrators quickly exchange up-to-date information on their current research activities. This service has expanded so that it now serves the entire scientific community. A staff of more than 30 scientists and specialists in life and physical sciences review, classify, and index the resumés of more than 50,000 projects that are annually registered in the Exchange. To cover the many multi-disciplinary relationships, now so evident in modern research, more than 18,000 reference points are used.

In order to provide comprehensive services to the scientific community, the Exchange receives resumés of current research projects on a voluntary basis from all available sources. Notice of new work comes to hand long before it may appear in normal publication channels, and any research scientist or engineer, who is associated with a research institution, foundation, or laboratory may request and receive, without charge, up-to-date information on who is currently working on a specified topic, problem, or project. Research resumés are accepted and released only under the condition that they will not be used for publication or publication reference without the express permission of the principal investigator.

The Exchange is especially organized to provide reference on detailed technical points. It also provides information covering broader fields and topics of basic and applied research, but it should be borne in mind that broad subject fields are difficult to define, especially in terms of their related and interdisciplinary aspects, and usually result in very large and unwieldy numbers of project records. For instance, all cancer research now in the S.I.E. files would include about 6500 records.

At present, the Exchange collection is fairly comprehensive in the life sciences including almost 90 percent of all the basic and applied research sponsored or conducted by the Federal agencies. In addition, more than 100 non-government foundations, universities, and state and city governments actively cooperate in furnishing records of their programs, and an annual growth rate of about 20 percent is being maintained.

Registration of basic and applied research in physical sciences began this year and is now being developed as fast as current research records can be identified and secured. In such areas as chemistry, materials, electronics, and earth sciences, useful information can be obtained already, even if not complete or comprehensive at this point. However, if the Exchange can furnish even a few records of new research not yet known to the scientist or engineer, it will be an increasingly useful service to the scientific community.

> Monroe E. Freeman David F. Hersey

Science Information Exchange, Smithsonian Institution, 1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington 9, D.C.