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sociated with the object and time them. Proceed to the position of touchdown and search for material objects. Notice any smell, as of ozone, at this point. Feel for a temperature gradient. Pace off the heelmark from a permanent landmark for later transfer to a map reference. Obtain a watch correction to the nearest second, preferably from a radio time signal. Forward a fair copy of the notes to the nearest observatory.

Practice this for a few evenings on meteors, to get the hang of it. And next time Venus is a daylight object, go to a busy intersection with a companion and point it out to him. (Look! A flying saucer! See how fast it goes, past those clouds!) The reports in the press the next morning will be very entertaining.

F. P. HUGHES

315 Poplar Street, Hawkesbury, Ontario, Canada

A Poverty of Spirit in Underdeveloped Nations

Parsegian made some valuable points concerning the factors that spur underdeveloped nations toward greater productivity and self-reliance (Letters, 21 Apr.). But he fails to consider the problems of a population debilitated by chronic diseases such as malaria, vitamin deficiency, intestinal parasites, semistarvation due to insufficient food, and, worst of all, by a poverty of the spirit, the result of living for generations at an animal level of existence.

One does not have to leave the limits of the United States to find areas where, a generation ago, the population suffered from malaria, vitamin deficiency, and all the other conditions that lead to debilitation. In various military training camps in the South during World War II, there was a constant alert for the presence of the anopheles mosquito, a malaria carrier. The state of Missouri closed its trachoma hospital about 1950, only because of the availability of antibiotics. The derogatory appellation of "redneck" usually describes one of the symptoms of pellagra, a vitamin deficiency disease.

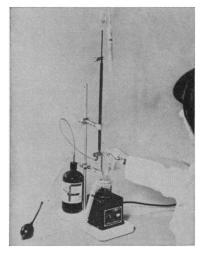
Debilitation in parts of the South, in earlier years, led to the conclusion that the people were lazy, good-fornothing, and that there was no need to help, for the money would be wasted. Many conditions have been



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1802H Second Street Berkeley, California 94710 corrected, but often the poverty of the spirit remains, induced by a continual struggle to exist. American Indians living on their reservations exemplify this problem.

Foreign aid programs are not doles, inasmuch as a dole implies a welfare program in which the function is only to keep the recipient alive. The various aid programs allocate funds for specific projects which, in the long run, should help the people raise their standard of living. A good example of the benefits of aid programs was the recovery of Western Europe after World War II, more rapid than Eastern Europe which received the Soviet type of negative foreign aid. However, recipient nations which are underdeveloped cannot improve their living standard until they overcome their food and population problems.

Over-regulation, as Parsegian points out, has not assisted the situation. Often the governments have modeled themselves after ideological models which were proposed for nations in Western Europe a century ago to correct conditions then existent. In these instances, a flexible, pragmatic approach to government and regulation would be more helpful.

H. P. Leighly, Jr.

Department of Metallurgical Engineering, University of Missouri at Rolla, Rolla 65401

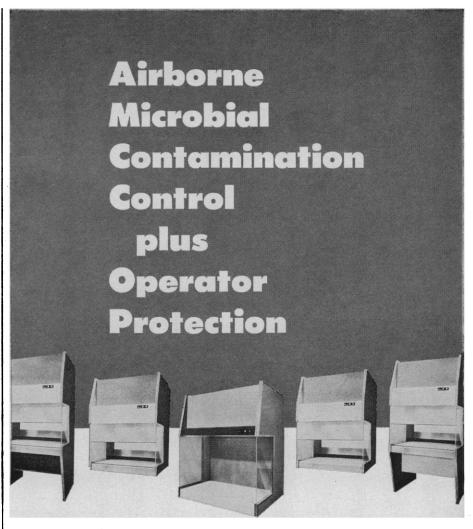
NSF Defends Individual Rights

The enclosed resolution on freedom of expression was passed unanimously on 6 March 1967 by the Los Angeles Division of the Academic Senate, University of California, and a copy sent to Leland J. Haworth of the National Science Foundation.

The University of California Academic Senate, Los Angeles Division, strongly commends the National Science Foundation for its recent reaffirmation of its policy which clearly sustains the right of an individual whose research is supported by the NSF to hold and express dissenting views, as any other citizen can, subject only to the restraints contained in the laws of the land. The adherence to this policy in the case of Professor Stephen Smale shows that the NSF defends this right in deed as well as words. The Academic Senate, Los Angeles Division, congratulates Director Leland J. Haworth on his forthright statements in this matter.

THOMAS L. JACOBS

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