

# SEE LIFE.

Dead, stained specimens on slides. Is that what sea life is? Not with Olympus's CK, the inverted microscope with oceanography research capabilities.

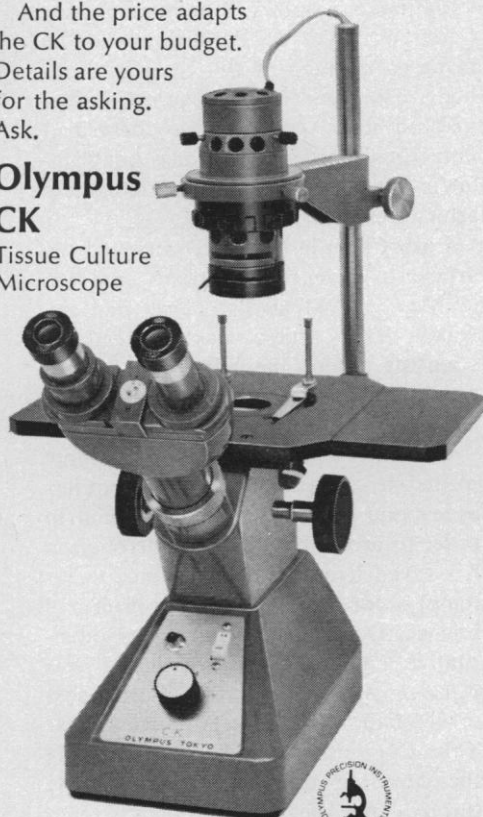
It's inverted to let you study living specimens in culture bottles, test tubes (with optional holder) or Petri dishes. Inexpensive phase contrast accessories make "invisible" specimens visible without staining.

And the CK comes with the same Olympus optics as our laboratory research microscopes (Achromatic 4X, 10X and 20X objectives; comfortable, high-eyepoint, wide-field 10X eyepieces).

Accessories adapt the CK to photography and to polarized-light observations. Options include monocular, binocular and trinocular heads and two mechanical stages.

And the price adapts the CK to your budget. Details are yours for the asking. Ask.

**Olympus CK**  
Tissue Culture Microscope



OLYMPUS CORPORATION OF AMERICA  
PRECISION INSTRUMENT DIVISION / DEPT. S  
2 Nevada Drive, New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11040

stroyed by NLF rocket fire from a completely defoliated area that the team had visited.

Chamlin concludes that "given a choice between the life of a tree, and the life of an American soldier, we must choose in favor of the life of an American soldier." His point is irrelevant as our article attempted to describe some of the ecological effects of war in Vietnam and was not an assessment of the military value of defoliation. However, U.S. policy is not in accord with Chamlin's conclusion. French rubber plantations have always been off limits to defoliation attacks, which led U.S. military commanders to complain bitterly to us that, during the battle on the Dau Tieng (Michelin) plantations, French rubber trees were apparently worth more than American soldiers.

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## International Association of Microbiological Societies

The tenth International Congress of Microbiology was held in Mexico City from 9 to 15 August 1970. At this meeting the International Association of Microbiological Societies (IAMS) adopted new statutes and bylaws to define and govern its operations.

At present, the American Society for Microbiology is the only representative of the United States within IAMS. However, under the new statutes, any national scientific or technological society that is principally concerned with microbiology, and whose members have been trained at the university level, is welcome to join the IAMS, subject to the payment of basic annual dues of \$100. For the establishment of eligibility, microbiology is defined as the study of bacteria, viruses, yeasts, and microfungi.

The IAMS will be financed by an annual contribution from each member nation. The amount of the contribution, to be decided by the executive board of IAMS, will vary from year to year, depending on the association's budgetary requirements and the number of microbiologists in the member societies of each nation. Thus, the total annual contribution from member nations may exceed the total of the basic annual fees assessed against member societies of each country.

Officers of societies that are con-

sidered eligible for membership in IAMS may write to Donald E. Shay, Secretary, American Society for Microbiology, Department of Microbiology, Schools of Dentistry and Pharmacy, University of Maryland, 666 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. The American Society for Microbiology would like to negotiate with all eligible and interested societies in the United States for the formation of a national committee, in order that the United States may be represented in the IAMS.

ASGER F. LANGLYKKE

American Society for Microbiology,  
1913 Eye Street, NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20006

## After the Storm

Since when has patriotic service to the United States become a crime of such magnitude as to disqualify a man, otherwise highly qualified, from nomination as president of an association ostensibly devoted to "the advancement of science" ("AAAS presidency: Controversy flares over Seaborg candidacy," 11 Dec., p. 1177). The concept of "conflict of interest with the public" could apply to practically every university professor. Those who are not on some public payroll are subsidized through government grants to their students and by the tax exemption allowed their institutions. Many work on government contracts. . . .

The furor over the nomination of Seaborg was raised by a group of members who are highly emotional, who espouse dissent for the sake of dissension, and who condemn the intelligence, morals, and ethics of anyone who dissents from their dissension. . . . Perhaps the AAAS should stick to its knitting as a scientific society and not try to run the country through demonstrations and partisan politics.

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Suppression of news during the AAAS election has not only damaged *Science*, the magazine, but science, the enterprise. Suppression of news is just as much interference in the election process as publishing news. The question is: Whose interests are more important, the "establishment" of science or the general public of science (as represented by *Science* readers)? This is