

## References

1. L. F. Pourtales, *Coast Survey Report* (U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D.C., 1869), appendix XI; A. Lindenkohl, *Amer. J. Sci.* **29**, 475 (1885).
2. J. W. Spencer, *Amer. J. Sci.* **19**, 1 (1905).
3. F. P. Shepard, *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.* **48**, 1354 (1937).
4. R. R. Lankford and J. R. Curran, *Bull. Amer. Ass. Petrol. Geol.* **41**, 2114 (1957).
5. M. Ewing and J. Ewing, *ibid.* **46**, 708 (1962).
6. J. I. Ewing, J. L. Worzel, M. Ewing, *J. Geophys. Res.* **67**, 2509 (1962).
7. M. Ewing, J. L. Worzel, C. A. Burk, *Initial Reports of the Deep Sea Drilling Projects* (Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1969), vol. 1, pp. 3-9.

## "Women's Lib"

Arguments for "women's lib" appear in many publications. I can accept the shallow, subjective stuff in other periodicals, but certainly *Science* should publish arguments other than those for equal pay and maternity leave.

How about extended leave to provide offspring with the love, discipline, and care that young mammals need? Surely biologists can describe the needs of mammalian offspring generally, and the needs of man's offspring specifically.

Are certain women (a minority, I am sure) trying to repeal another of nature's laws? Haven't we bought ourselves enough problems by trying to diverge in various directions from the highways nature intended?

Women certainly deserve fair and enlightened treatment; but what should it be? What can it be—without bringing up more children who will become problems for all of us to contend with?

R. G. LYNCH

8121 Stickney Avenue,  
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53213

## Bureaucracy

The publication "Interim Description and guidelines for proposal preparation," sent to me by the National Science Foundation in reply to a letter of inquiry concerning grants under the RANN (Research Applied to National Needs) program, must represent a new high in the bureaucratization of science funding.

Even after an initial letter of inquiry, with a general description of the contemplated research, it is still necessary to submit a preliminary proposal. This preliminary proposal itself imposes formidable requirements, including an

abstract, narrative (containing a "discussion of the implications of the proposed research for national needs or societal problems"), research plan, management plan (including "a schedule indicating major accomplishment milestones foreseen in achieving the research objective"), related programs and activities of the organization, related programs in other organizations, dissemination of research results ("It is particularly important to identify the potential beneficiaries or users of the anticipated research results and to plan for effective information transfer to them..."), as well as the usual vitae and bibliographies, current support, applications to other federal agencies, and budget. However, this preliminary proposal is still to be treated only as a basis for discussion regarding the development of a formal proposal if "review indicates that the project would be a strong competitor for support by the RANN program."

Aside from the demands on the researcher's time imposed by this excessively cumbersome procedure, are not national needs likely to change considerably before the research gets done? An accelerated, rather than prolonged, application period would seem to be a more logical way to get at urgent societal problems.

MEYER CHESSIN

Department of Botany,  
University of Montana,  
Missoula 59801

## Courtesy

All those except hermits are probably aware of the current crises in job openings and funding. May I call attention to a concomitant, perhaps resultant, crisis in courtesy—courtesy among educational institutions.

Many colleges respond to job inquiry letters with Silence. If this is not an extreme in rudeness and discourtesy, it is certainly at least a failure to empathize with the job-seeking individuals in a poor job market.

Some may suggest an economic justification for this silence, but when \$6 for postcards plus a little time for printing a form letter saying "No, thank you" could relieve some of the anxieties of 100 applicants, the economic argument seems difficult to accept.

L. G. SILVERSMITH

22 Harding Terrace,  
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

## NEW BOOKS FROM VAN NOSTRAND REINHOLD

### BIMOLECULAR LIPID MEMBRANES

By Mahendra K. Jain. Presents the conceptual framework for bimolecular membrane phenomena, emphasizing functions associated with biomembranes. Discusses membrane properties in terms of known laws of physics and chemistry. Describes simple properties of lipid bilayer membranes and progresses to more complex electrical, active and transport phenomena. 480 pp., illus., 6 x 9, \$22.50

### THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GEOCHEMISTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Edited by Rhodes W. Fairbridge. 20,000 alphabetically arranged articles written by distinguished specialists from widely diverse areas of physical science. Brings rapid, accurate answers to your questions concerning our planet's chemistry and compositional evolution. 1344 pp., 542 illus., 7 x 10, \$49.50

### PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES IN PLANT VIROLOGY

Edited by C. I. Kado & H. O. Agrawal. From methods and concepts of inoculation and transmission of virus, this book proceeds into biological behavior of the viruses, bringing you techniques for isolating, purifying and characterizing them. 688 pp., illus., 6 x 9, \$29.50

### BIOPHYSICS AND PHYSIOLOGY OF EXCITABLE MEMBRANES

Edited by William J. Adelman, Jr. Various approaches to studying membranes of the nervous system. Includes voltage clamp techniques; modeling concepts as they apply to any field of science; analytic approaches used in X-ray crystallographic analysis of lipid films; and computer reconstruction of membrane currents and nerve impulse. 528 pp., 190 illus., 6 x 9, \$24.50

### —FREE 10-DAY EXAMINATION—

Van Nostrand Reinhold Co.  
300 Pike Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Please send me a copy of the book(s) I have checked below for a 10-day free examination. At the end of this time I will remit for the book(s) I keep plus a few cents for delivery costs, or return the book(s) and pay nothing.

☐ Jain, BIMOLECULAR LIPID MEMBRANES (F4086-0006) \$22.50

☐ Fairbridge, THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GEOCHEMISTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (F5642-9984) \$49.50

☐ Kado & Agrawal, PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES IN PLANT VIROLOGY (F4207-0002) \$29.50

☐ Adelman, BIOPHYSICS AND PHYSIOLOGY OF EXCITABLE MEMBRANES (F0264-0000) \$24.50

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

SAVE! Enclose payment with order and publisher pays shipping and handling. Same return-refund guarantee. Add local sales tax where applicable.

Prices subject to change. S-1072