

SCIENCE

5 May 1972

Vol. 176, No. 4034

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE



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5 May 1972

Vol. 176, No. 4034

SCIENCE

LETTERS	The Cable Car: <i>D. L. Roth</i> ; Women Academics: <i>K. Thomas</i> ; <i>J. B. Kruskal</i> ; <i>R. W. Adams</i> ; <i>N. J. Bell</i> ; <i>A. Y. Lewin</i> and <i>L. Duchan</i> ; Cooperation: <i>J. G. Wells</i> ; Testing for Teratogenicity: <i>T. D. Sterling</i> ; Sørensen and pH: <i>A. G. Hills</i>	457
EDITORIAL	Intertwined Societal Problems	461
ARTICLES	The Upper Atmosphere Observatory: <i>J. V. Evans</i>	463
	Bioelectric Control of Ciliary Activity: <i>R. Eckert</i>	473
	Nerve Growth Factor and Insulin: <i>W. A. Frazier</i> , <i>R. H. Angeletti</i> , <i>R. A. Bradshaw</i> ...	482
	The Overmedicated Society: Forces in the Marketplace for Medical Care: <i>C. Muller</i> ..	488
NEWS AND COMMENT	Nuclear Reactor Safety: At the AEC the Way of the Dissenter Is Hard	492
	Sierra Club Foiled in High Court	494
	APS Challenged on <i>Bulletin</i> Censorship, Charter Changes, by Activists Concerned about War, Physicists' Role	496
	NAS: Academy Votes NRC Changes, New Formula on Classified Research	499
BOOK REVIEWS	Introduction to Phase Transitions and Critical Phenomena, reviewed by <i>N. D. Mermin</i> ; Adventures in Experimental Physics, <i>R. Geballe</i> ; Statistical Fluid Mechanics, <i>C. H. Gibson</i> ; The Biology of Mycoplasmas, <i>J. Maniloff</i> ; The Biochemistry of Functional and Experimental Psychoses, <i>L. E. Hollister</i> ; Books Received	502
REPORTS	Heat Flow and Convection Demonstration Experiments Aboard Apollo 14: <i>P. G. Grodzka</i> and <i>T. C. Bannister</i>	506
	Pollution Monitor for Nitric Oxide: A Laser Device Based on the Zeeman Modulation of Absorption: <i>A. Kaldor</i> , <i>W. B. Olson</i> , <i>A. G. Maki</i>	508
	Lead Isotopes in North American Coals: <i>T. J. Chow</i> and <i>J. L. Earl</i>	510

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Toxic Substances in Plants and the Food Habits of Early Man: <i>A. C. Leopold</i> and <i>R. Ardrey</i>	512
Trophic Regulation of Acetylcholine Sensitivity of Muscle: Effect of Electrical Stimulation: <i>D. B. Drachman</i> and <i>F. Witzke</i>	514
Iodine-125-Labeled Antibody to Viral Antigens: Binding to the Surface of Virus-Infected Cells: <i>K. Hayashi, J. Rosenthal, A. L. Notkins</i>	516
Delayed Fertilization and Chromosome Anomalies in the Hamster Embryo: <i>M. Yamamoto</i> and <i>T. H. Ingalls</i>	518
Helical Filaments Produced by a Mycoplasma-Like Organism Associated with Corn Stunt Disease: <i>R. E. Davis</i> et al.	521
Reactivated Triton-Extracted Models of <i>Paramecium</i> : Modification of Ciliary Movement by Calcium Ions: <i>Y. Naitoh</i> and <i>H. Kaneko</i>	523
Methadone Binding to Human Plasma Albumin: <i>G. D. Olsen</i>	525
Polyadenylic Acid Sequences in the Virion RNA of Poliovirus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus: <i>J. A. Armstrong</i> et al.	526
Receptor-Estrogen Complex in the Nuclear Fraction of Rat Uterine Cells during the Estrous Cycle: <i>J. H. Clark, J. Anderson, E. J. Peck, Jr.</i>	528
Synaptogenesis in the Rat Cerebellum: Effects of Early Hypo- and Hyperthyroidism: <i>J. L. Nicholson</i> and <i>J. Altman</i>	530
Salicylate: Action on Normal Body Temperature in Rats: <i>E. Satinoff</i>	532
Polychlorinated Biphenyls and DDT Alter Species Composition in Mixed Cultures of Algae: <i>J. L. Mosser, N. S. Fisher, C. F. Wurster</i>	533
Information-Processing by Pigeons: <i>W. S. Maki, Jr.,</i> and <i>T. C. Lewin</i>	535
Splitbrain Monkeys: Cerebral Control of Ipsilateral and Contralateral Arm, Hand, and Finger Movements: <i>J. Brinkman</i> and <i>H. G. J. M. Kuypers</i>	536
Eye and Head Turning Indicates Cerebral Lateralization: <i>M. Kinsbourne</i>	539
Color Adaptation of Spatial Frequency Detectors in the Human Visual System: <i>W. J. Lovegrove</i> and <i>R. Over</i>	541
<i>Technical Comments</i> : Role of Heterochromatin in Homologous Chromosome Pairing: Evaluation of Evidence: <i>M. P. Maguire</i> ; Relative Consumer Species Diversity with Respect to Producer Diversity and Net Productivity: <i>R. Harger; L. E. Hurd</i> et al.; Genetic Polymorphisms and Environment: <i>J. L. King; J. R. Powell</i>	543

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COVER

Sequential exposure of swimming models of *Paramecium* made with five successive xenon flashes, 1 second apart, in a thin layer of a solution of adenosine triphosphate-magnesium ions. Since the first flash was brighter than the others, the first image of each model is the brightest. Swimming direction as well as swimming velocity can be determined (about $\times 22$). See page 523. [Y. Naitoh, University of California, Los Angeles]

The American Association for the Advancement of Science was founded in 1848 and incorporated in 1874. Its objects are to further the work of scientists, to facilitate cooperation among them, to improve the effectiveness of science in the promotion of human welfare, and to increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress.

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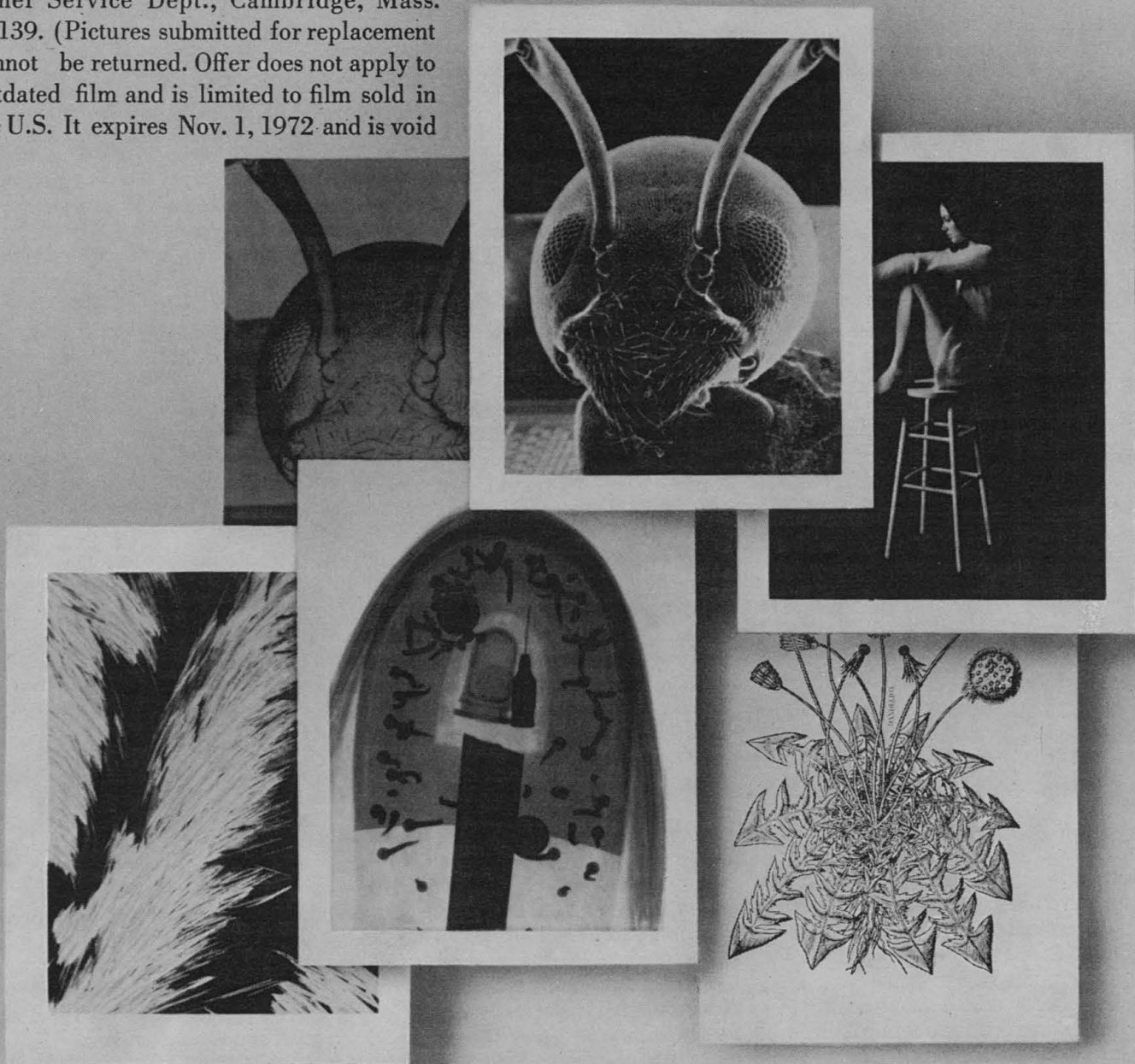
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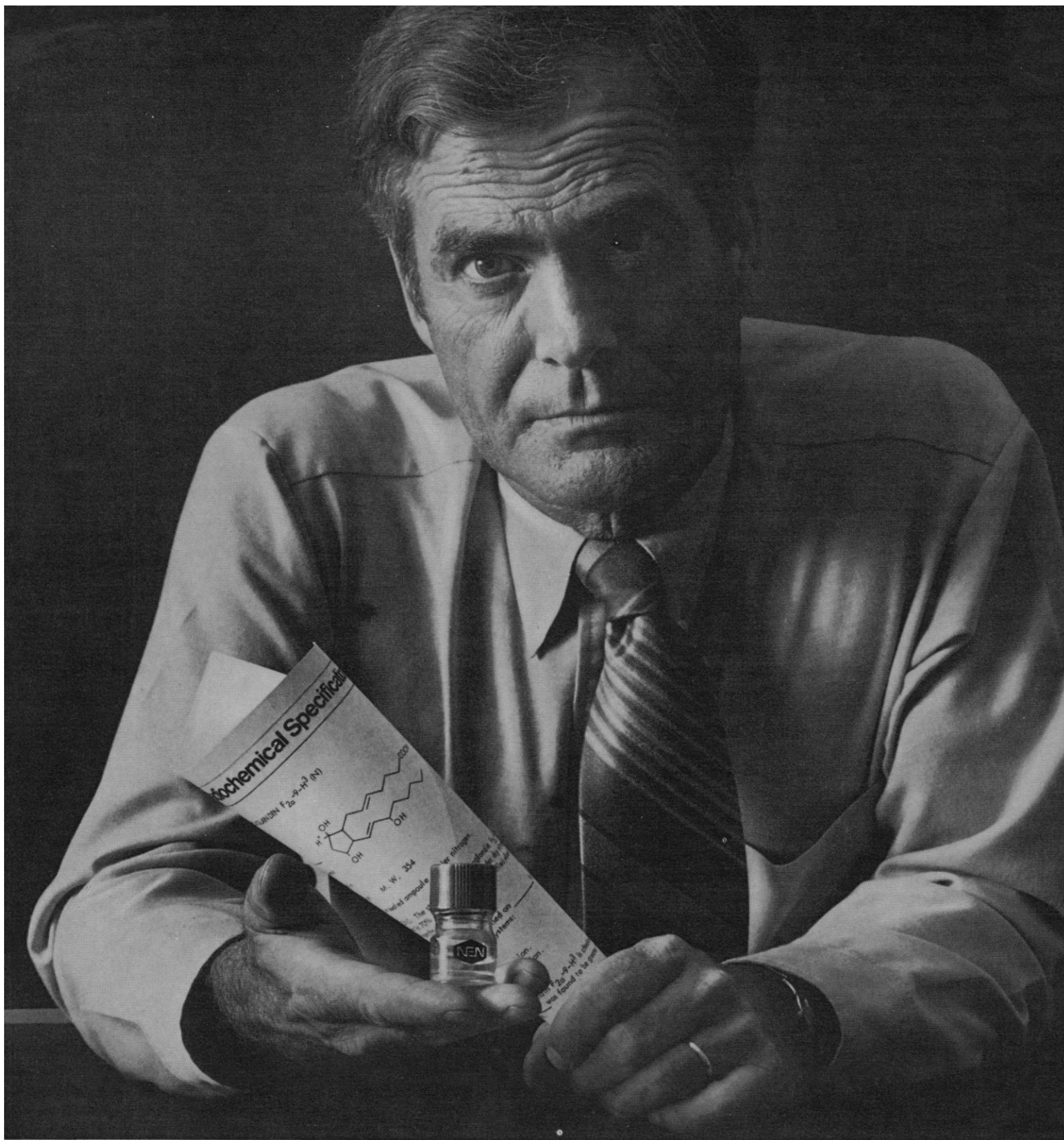
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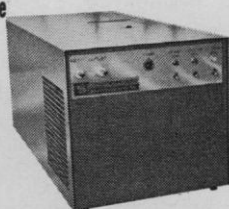


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important if your reported trends approached statistical significance, because then it might be argued that there was at least slight justification for your article. Also, be sure to test, and then discuss at length, each of the comparisons—not just the overall one which you initially report as nonsignificant.

NANCY J. BELL

823 Suburban Apartments,
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The actual data-gathering phase of our study was carried out during the latter part of 1969. At that time, no be-

havioral data on discrimination against women at the time of hiring had been reported in the literature. Naturally, the ideal methodology would have been one permitting the direct observation and evaluation of the actual decision-making process of departments when female applicants were evaluated in competition with male applicants. Although this type of study was not feasible (and still is not feasible), we are pleased that our results, employing a less sensitive methodology, support the discrimination hypothesis and are in agreement with similar studies, such as Fidell (1), and

Table 1. Summary of questionnaire responses of department chairmen by item and classification of sample for average male, average female, and superior female job applicants. Question 1 concerns the general impression of the résumé. The response range is graded *a*, very impressive; *b*, average; *c*, unacceptable. Question 2 concerns the inclination to hire the applicant. The response range is graded *a*, hire the applicant; *b*, indifferent; *c*, reject the applicant. In question 3, an evaluation of the applicant's educational background is requested. The response range is indicated by *a*, excellent; *b*, average; *c*, unsatisfactory. Question 4 concerns the possible change in response if the applicant were not recommended by a colleague of the department chairman. The response range is indicated by *a*, yes or *c*, no; a higher percentage of "yes" responses implies a lower rating of the applicant. The direction of preference of an average male over an average female (M/F) and of an average male over a superior female (M/SF) is also evaluated.

Classification	Question	Response									Preference	
		Average male (%)			Average female (%)			Superior female (%)				
		a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	M/F	M/SF
		Overall comparison of applicants										
	1	72	28	0	68	32	0	89	7	4	+	—
	2	29	68	3	18	71	11	52	48	0	+	—
	3	93	7	0	89	11	0	100	0	0	+	—
	4	25		75	35		65	15		85	+	—
		Geographical location of school										
East-West	1	10	60	30	0	66	34	22	78	0	+	—
	2	0	20	80	0	11	89	0	45	55	+	—
	3	30	60	10	22	56	22	78	22	0	+	—
	4	40		60	45		55	45		55	+	+
Midwest-South	1	30	45	25	30	45	25	67	27	9	0	—
	2	0	23	77	8	15	77	9	55	36	—	—
	3	69	8	0	62	38	0	100	0	0	+	—
	4	23		77	23		77	46		54	0	+
		Quality ranking of school										
Above median	1	14	53	33	0	64	36	29	71	0	+	—
	2	0	14	86	0	0	100	0	29	71	+	—
	3	57	43	0	29	71	0	86	14	0	+	—
	4	29		71	50		50	43		57	+	+
Below median	1	25	38	37	43	43	14	53	38	9	—	—
	2	0	25	75	0	29	71	9	60	31	—	—
	3	50	38	12	71	0	29	92	8	0	—	—
	4	31		69	0		100	46		54	—	+
		Age of department chairman										
Below median	1	25	42	33	9	64	27	100	0	0	+	—
	2	0	25	75	0	0	100	13	62	25	+	—
	3	58	42	0	36	55	9	100	0	0	+	—
	4	17		83	27		73	50		50	+	+
Above median	1	19	50	31	23	42	35	22	61	17	—	—
	2	0	31	69	0	29	71	6	35	59	+	—
	3	44	44	12	53	35	12	78	22	0	—	—
	4	31		69	41		59	39		61	+	+
		Length of time as chairman										
Below median	1	25	33	42	0	70	30	50	25	25	+	—
	2	0	33	67	0	10	90	25	38	37	+	—
	3	50	42	8	40	40	20	75	25	0	+	—
	4	41		59	41		59	50		50	0	+
Above median	1	19	56	25	28	39	33	41	53	6	—	—
	2	0	25	75	0	22	78	0	44	56	+	—
	3	50	44	6	50	44	6	88	12	0	0	—
	4	13		87	34		66	41		59	+	+

with the many statistical surveys subsequently available regarding the hiring and promotion of women in universities. In Table 1, we have reproduced a summary of the statistical data underlying our analysis.

ARIE Y. LEWIN

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LINDA DUCHAN

*Albert Einstein College,
Bronx, New York 10461*

Reference

1. L. S. Fidell, *Amer. Psychol.* **25**, 1094 (1970).

Cooperation

On the report "Human environment conference: search for a *modus vivendi*" (News and Comment, 18 Feb., p. 736), Nigel Hawkes states, "Throughout the preparations for the conference, U.N. sources have been complaining privately of the obstructive attitude the British have taken."

Quite to the contrary, the British representatives have been very cooperative and sources of constructive criticism and productive ideas. Whatever successes the Stockholm conference may have in June will be due in no small measure to the contributions of the United Kingdom. I make these observations after having recently completed a 6-month assignment with the conference secretariat.

JOHN G. WELLS

*21 route de Florissant,
1206 Geneva, Switzerland*

Testing for Teratogenicity

The eminent gentlemen who signed the protest (Letters, 5 Nov. 1971, p. 545) against *Science's* treatment of the 2,4,5-T advisory committee report (News and Comment, 13 Aug., p. 610) appear to say that if a study *does* find a teratogenic effect in some species when doses of a chemical are given that are far in excess of any possible human exposure, it does not constitute scientific grounds for banning the chemical. Presumably if a study *does not* find a teratogenic effect in some species, it also does not constitute scientific grounds for banning the chemical. What then are the scientific grounds for banning a chemical because of its pos-

sible teratogenic effects? Obviously the answer is, "There are none," since studies are not made of the effects of doses that are below any possible human exposure. (Toxicological experiments of the type needed to permit the labeling of 2,4,5-T or similar substances are usually performed on a few animals that are exposed to high doses; little effort is made to tell what would happen to the animals—not to say anything about man—if they were given low doses.) In fact, Alvin M. Weinberg (Letters, 5 Nov., p. 546) makes it clear that the establishment of a teratogenic effect from low doses is believed to be "trans-scientific," since it would take too many animals to establish such an effect.

It is not clear whether the council of the Society of Toxicology speaks for all toxicologists, for a majority of toxicologists, or simply expresses the view of an establishment in toxicology. It is curious, nevertheless, that the main appeal in the letter is to respect the views of authority (that is, of the council of the society) and of the majority (that is, of toxicologists)—not very persuasive arguments for scientists to advance.

If the council believes it has a case, then the Society of Toxicology ought to sponsor an open examination of these issues. They are "fundamental" to all interests, and light, not heat, is needed to illuminate them.

THEODORE D. STERLING

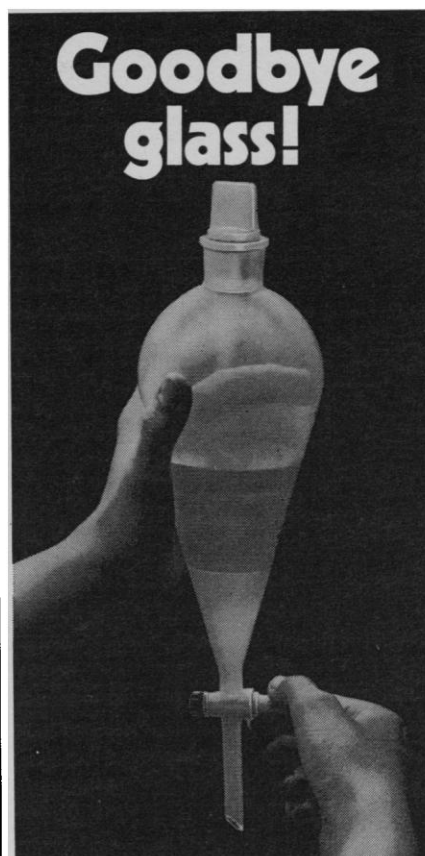
*Department of Applied Mathematics
and Computer Science, School of
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Saint Louis, Missouri 63130*

Sorensen and pH

John Walsh is safe in writing (News and Comment, 3 Mar., p. 973) that S. P. L. Sørensen "achieved the first really accurate method for the determination of pH," because nobody had ever before determined it. It was in fact Sørensen's brilliant achievement to perceive that the acidic intensity of an aqueous solution is best expressed as a logarithmic function of the concentration of H_3O^+ . Today, pH is a vigorous near-septuagenarian, some premature obsequies in the recent clinical literature notwithstanding.

A. GORMAN HILLS

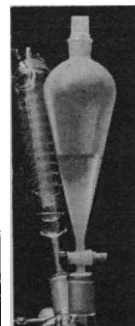
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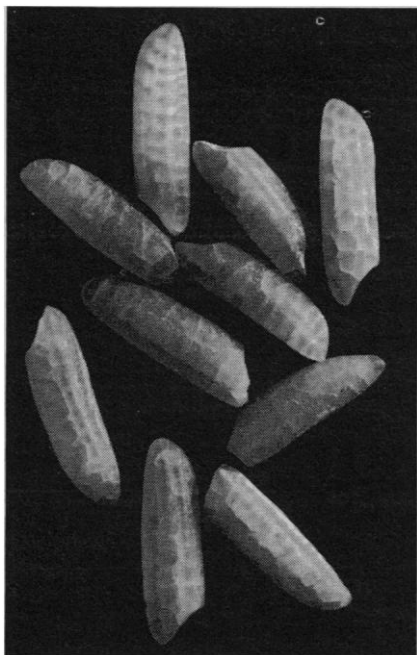
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We want to be useful ...and even interesting

Getting in close



If you had some rice grains and wanted to make a point about the cracks in them, it would be well to know a thing or two about photographic lighting. Otherwise the fanciest of cameras and the finest of films won't help. In conveying unadorned fact, one sometimes needs quick, convenient photography and sometimes eloquent photography. Kodak, a house built on convenient photography, considers its books on technique for eloquence to be products worth their price just as much as camera and film.

One such book is H. Lou Gibson's "Close-up Photography and Photomacrography," a hard-cover production that belongs in any library serving patrons whose interests encompass more than interpersonal relations. Carries a jacket price of \$10. Order from a photographic dealer as Kodak Technical Publication No. N-16. Separately bound without hard covers, the two subjects each carry a \$2.75 price. Note that the second of the subjects is not photomicrography but photomacrography, the photography of subjects which visually require a hand lens but not a compound microscope.

Expression of faith

Science isn't all it's cracked up to be, according to readily available curbstone opinion. There have been indications that a few prominent names in American industry have come to share this opinion, however reluctantly. Not Kodak. We seem to be plowing ahead as though there were no tomorrow. Or to put it more sharply, because there is a tomorrow.

This year—this month in fact—we began giving prizes to brilliant high schoolers at the International Science and Engineering Fair. Now! With the Sputnik scare receded 15 years into ancient history!

These prizes, as well as over 200 regional ones, are awarded for effective use of photography in a science project. It figures. Good for business.

Good for business at a different level is the program of Eastman Kodak Research Grants. This vehicle of old-fashioned faith in science has been plowing on through thick and thin for years at selected universities and colleges, large and small. They are selected not by contests but by a simple-minded criterion: we know them well.

Some are known as well to the rest of the world. They are fountainheads. In their debt stands any business that builds technology on science.

Often, however, a product of some lesser-known institution does nice work for us, gets to enjoy the job, fails to hide this enthusiasm from Old Siwash, attracts other high-performing Siwashians to Kodak. Strong Kodak-Siwash bonds form. Research grants from Kodak help upgrade the Siwash graduate program. After a while Siwash Ph.D. theses and post-docs turn up some basic things.

Basic research, honestly defined, occupies about 2% of the in-house R&D budgets of many research-minded companies. (Kodak's happens to run much higher.) The distinction from the remaining 98% has to do with the depth to which objectives are planned and who does the planning. Basic research is sometimes seen as a gambler's game with constantly lengthening odds. This bothers some businessmen. It doesn't bother scholars. Good for business that it doesn't.

Random samples of facts recently learned with the help of Kodak bucks on campuses and scattered to the four winds by scholarly dispersal mechanisms:

The 4-element, 6-atom molecule formamide exists in interstellar space and has been identified by microwave spectroscopy.

The route by which nature synthesizes nicotinic acid in green plants is quite different from the route followed in molds and animals, including man.

In a reaction such as $F + H_2 \rightarrow HF(v) + H$, the HF product is highly excited vibrationally. Its average energy content accounts for more than 60% of the exothermicity. Such studies provide new insights into some elementary chemical reactions.

Light waves may be used as a kind of radar to follow the Brownian motion of macromolecules in solution.

In the CS_2/O_2 electrically pulsed laser system, the lasing is done by CO that is produced by oxygen atom attack.

When a molecule absorbs light, the manner in which the energy is redistributed within its structure governs the subsequent photochemical reactions.



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and so should you

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Intertwined Societal Problems

The public is aware of problems with respect to the environment, energy, balance of payments, and national security. However, there does not seem to be general awareness of the extent to which these problems are intertwined.

The demand for clean energy has continued to grow, while reserves of natural gas and petroleum have diminished. Imports of hydrocarbons have expanded sharply and seem destined to increase much more. Already these imports are responsible for much of our deficit in the balance of payments. Continuation of present trends must lead to much deeper deficits, more devaluation, and massive loss of confidence in the dollar. At the same time, we are becoming vulnerable to petroleum blackmail.

The demand for clean energy has caused major shifts in the utilization of fuels. To the householder, electricity is the cleanest form of energy possible, and his use of it continues to increase. Emissions from the generating plants are someone else's problem. The utilities, under pressure to reduce sulfur dioxide pollution, have turned from coal to oil. Near the Atlantic coast, the number of electric generating stations burning coal has dropped sharply. In New York City, for the first time in 90 years, not one pound of coal is being burned by Consolidated Edison. Along the East coast during the period from 1968 to 1972, some 28 million tons of coal were displaced by oil from foreign sources.

The desire for clean energy has also increased the demand for natural gas, which is one of the most convenient and pollution-free forms of energy. However, gas distributing companies in many states are finding it necessary to refuse to serve new applicants. Last year, consumption of natural gas was 22 trillion cubic feet. Current reserves are 278 trillion cubic feet, and new discoveries fall far short of matching consumption.

A number of installations are now developing processes for obtaining methane from coal, but the level of effort hardly seems commensurate with the need. In addition, schemes are being implemented to import liquefied natural gas from North Africa. This procedure has the drawback of depending on sources that have not heretofore proved reliable.

Our major, and perhaps most vital, source of energy is petroleum and its various refined products. These materials provide 44 percent of our energy needs, but reserves and producing capacity are falling. In 1957, during the Suez crisis, we were able to supply our own needs and much of Europe's. Today, about 25 percent of our needs are supplied from abroad, and imports are increasing rapidly. Last year, total consumption of petroleum and its products was 5,523 million barrels. Reserves in the 48 contiguous states dropped to about 28,000 million barrels. New discoveries during the year contributed a trifling amount.

In the face of this deteriorating position, we are projecting increased consumption of gasoline. Schemes for controlling auto emissions entail losses in engine efficiency ranging in the neighborhood of 17 percent.

A continuation of our present trends in the utilization of energy and in growing dependence on foreign sources must lead to problems of unprecedented magnitude. We must place more emphasis on finding means of curtailing energy consumption while moving vigorously to develop acceptable substitutes for oil and natural gas.—PHILIP H. ABELSON

An excellent set of hearings on energy was conducted by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives under the chairmanship of Wayne N. Spinall (D-Colo.). Committee prints will be available about mid-July from your congressman.

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