



◊ * ○ ● SYMBOLS FOR STARS IN ORDER OF BRIGHTNESS

seen just above southern horizon if the sky is clear enough, from southern Florida, but is better from more southerly points. From Rio de Janeiro, for example, at this time of year it can be seen in the southern evening sky about halfway from the horizon to the zenith. One would have to go beyond the southern tip of South America to see it directly overhead.

Coma Berenices Legend

Two other of the minor constellations are shown on our maps high in the south, with one actually directly overhead. These are Coma Berenices and Canes Venatici.

The first name means "hair of Berenice." According to legend she was the queen of Ptolemy Eurgetes, or Ptolemy III, king of Egypt from 246 to 221 B. C. It is said that when he went on a dangerous military expedition against the Assyrians, she vowed that she would sacrifice her beautiful hair to the Goddess of Beauty if he returned safely. He did, and she did, but the court was shocked soon afterwards when it was found that the tresses had vanished from the altar in the temple of Venus where they had been placed.

However, Conon of Samos, who was the royal astronomer, came to the rescue when he pointed out a group of faint stars in the sky and said that Jupiter had been so pleased that he had placed her locks in the sky. Before that these stars had been considered the hairy brush on the end of the

tail of Leo, the lion, but since that time men have called them the hair of Berenice.

The Hunting Dogs

Canes Venatici, the hunting dogs, are contained within the curve of the handle of the Great Dipper. This constellation is a relatively modern one, invented by the Polish astronomer, Johannes Hevelius. In his book of star maps, published in 1690, he introduced several constellations mostly made of fainter stars to fill up spaces in the sky which the ancients had left blank. Leo Minor, the lesser lion, which is just above the big one, and Lyncis, the lynx which is shown in the western sky below the great bear, are other groups that he added.

TIME TABLE FOR MAY

May	EST	
1	10:19 p. m.	Full moon
	12:00 midnight	Moon nearest, distance 221,800 miles
4	early a. m.	Meteors visible radiating from constellation of Aquarius
8	3:32 p. m.	Moon in last quarter
9	8:42 p. m.	Moon passes Jupiter
12	6:55 p. m.	Moon passes Venus
14	11:00 a. m.	Mercury between sun and earth
15	3:00 p. m.	Moon farthest, distance 252,600 miles
16	5:54 p. m.	New moon
24	2:28 p. m.	Moon in first quarter
25	7:32 a. m.	Moon passes Saturn

26 4:50 a. m. Moon passes Mars
 30 9:00 a. m. Moon nearest, distance 222,600 miles
 31 5:43 a. m. Full moon
 Subtract one hour for CST, two hours for MST, and three for PST.
 Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

CHEMISTRY

Fumes of Modern Air Crumble Athens' Acropolis

THE Acropolis of Athens is slowly crumbling away because the acid-producing sulfur dioxide polluting today's air is disintegrating its marble, Dr. A. J. Sofianopoulos of the University of Dayton told the American Chemical Society. The remedy is periodic washing with pure water. Previous centuries of pure air left Athens' marble monuments relatively untouched.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

INVENTION

Wheel-Mounted Dustpan Operates with One Hand

ONE hand is all that is needed to operate a wheel-mounted dustpan with a rotating brush for which a government patent was issued during the past month. No stooping is required with it. By means of a single handle, it is operated in an upright position.

The feature is a rotating brush at the forward edge of the dust pan. It gathers in the sweepings without the use of an ordinary broom. Each of the small wheels on which the pan is mounted carries a belt that passes over pulleys on the ends of the brush axle. When the device is pushed forward, the belts cause the brush to rotate to drive pick-up material back into the pan.

The device is not a carpet sweeper as the term is generally used. However, it can be employed to gather scattered debris on a carpet. The rotating brush can be swung upward to make emptying the pan easy. The inventor is Victor Filonowicz, Detroit, and the patent is 2,502,936.

Science News Letter, April 22, 1950

KITS for Teaching Electricity
 Use the Famous CROW Training Aids for Teaching:

1. Basic or elementary electricity.
2. Advanced electricity.
3. Elementary electronics.
4. Rotating electrical machines—all types of motors and generators, both DC and AC.

Write for an examination copy of: "Learning Electricity & Electronics Experimentally"

Considered by authorities to be the best school book ever written on electricity. A new approach and a new method of teaching this subject.

For full information write
UNIVERSAL SCIENTIFIC COMPANY, INC.
 Department E2 Vincennes, Indiana

Gadgets! Inventors! Hobbyists!
THE BUY OF THE YEAR!

INVENTOR & GADGETEER MAGAZINE is a thorough, practical publication devoted to the needs of inventors, gadgeteers, designers, engineers, homework shop enthusiasts, and the great horde of American gadgeteers and tinkerers. It's NEW! Nothing like it ever before published! It's the trade paper for gadgeteers, inventors, etc. Published monthly. Contains exclusive features, news stories, etc., on The Inside of Inventing, Trade Marks, Inventions Needed, U. S. Patent Laws, Selling Inventions, Manufacturing Inventions, Review of Successful Inventions and Gadgets, many other fascinating and profitable articles each month. You can't afford to miss a single issue! **SPECIAL—3 Big Issues 50c pp.**

INVENTOR & GADGETEER
 6602 Lexington, Hollywood 38, Calif.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

WYOMING

Ride, fish, geologize or just relax. How?

Paton Ranch will give you trout fishing in a mountain stream as it flows out of a canyon in the Big Horn Mountains, daily horseback rides along the picturesque trails and excellent food—most of which is grown on the ranch.

The region abounds in geological and historical interest—dinosaur bones, marine fossils and Indian implements are found nearby.

Write for folder—Paton Ranch, Shell, Wyoming.

