

muda. Almost all the scientists at the Station are also professors.

Their work is supported, in large measure, by grants from many sources—either their universities, the Station itself, or such Government agencies as the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Office of Naval Research.

The Station, in turn, is supported by funds from an original endowment by the Rockefeller Foundation, grants, and by fees charged to the scientists who use its research boats, laboratories, equipment and housing facilities.

Historically, the Bermuda Biological Station for Research was established in 1903 through the joint efforts of the Bermuda Natural History Society, Harvard University and New York University. The present Station was officially opened in 1932. Although it had its ups and downs until after World War II, the Station today is considered one of the best of its kind in the Western Hemisphere.

Because of its location in the Atlantic Ocean, it offers scientists ready access to the study of problems in oceanography and biology. Collecting and field work can be maintained throughout the year.

Important, too, is the fact that life at the Station for both the permanent staff and the visiting scientists is a pleasant one. In many respects, it resembles a college campus in its friendliness and atmosphere.

The character of this marine biology station is perhaps best caught when the layman strolls around and eavesdrops, as this writer did. On his first visit, the first words he heard were, "Hey, Dave, your eggs have hatched!"

Science News Letter, October 4, 1958

ENGINEERING

Solar Furnace Features Front-Surface Mirror

See Front Cover

► A GIANT solar furnace, dedicated at the U. S. Army's Quartermaster Research & Engineering Command in Natick, Mass., on Sept. 30, can bring a sample of material at the image position to a temperature of 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

The photograph on the cover of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER shows some of the 180 spherical mirrors, each two feet square, that make up the concentrator or heart of the furnace. All the mirrors are contained in a 30-square-foot frame.

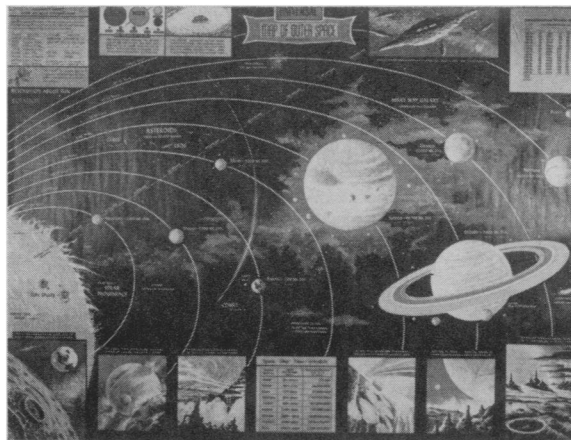
Through the development of a special slumping technique, American Optical Company scientists were able to curve each mirror to a radius of 472 inches without grinding and polishing. The collector mirror is front-surfaced by vacuum deposited aluminized reflecting material with a protective silicon monoxide coating.

It is believed that the use of a front-surface mirror will be more efficient than the conventional back-surfaces due to less heat loss by absorption. Concentration of the sun's radiation results in an image approximately four inches in diameter focused within the test chamber.

Science News Letter, October 4, 1958

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