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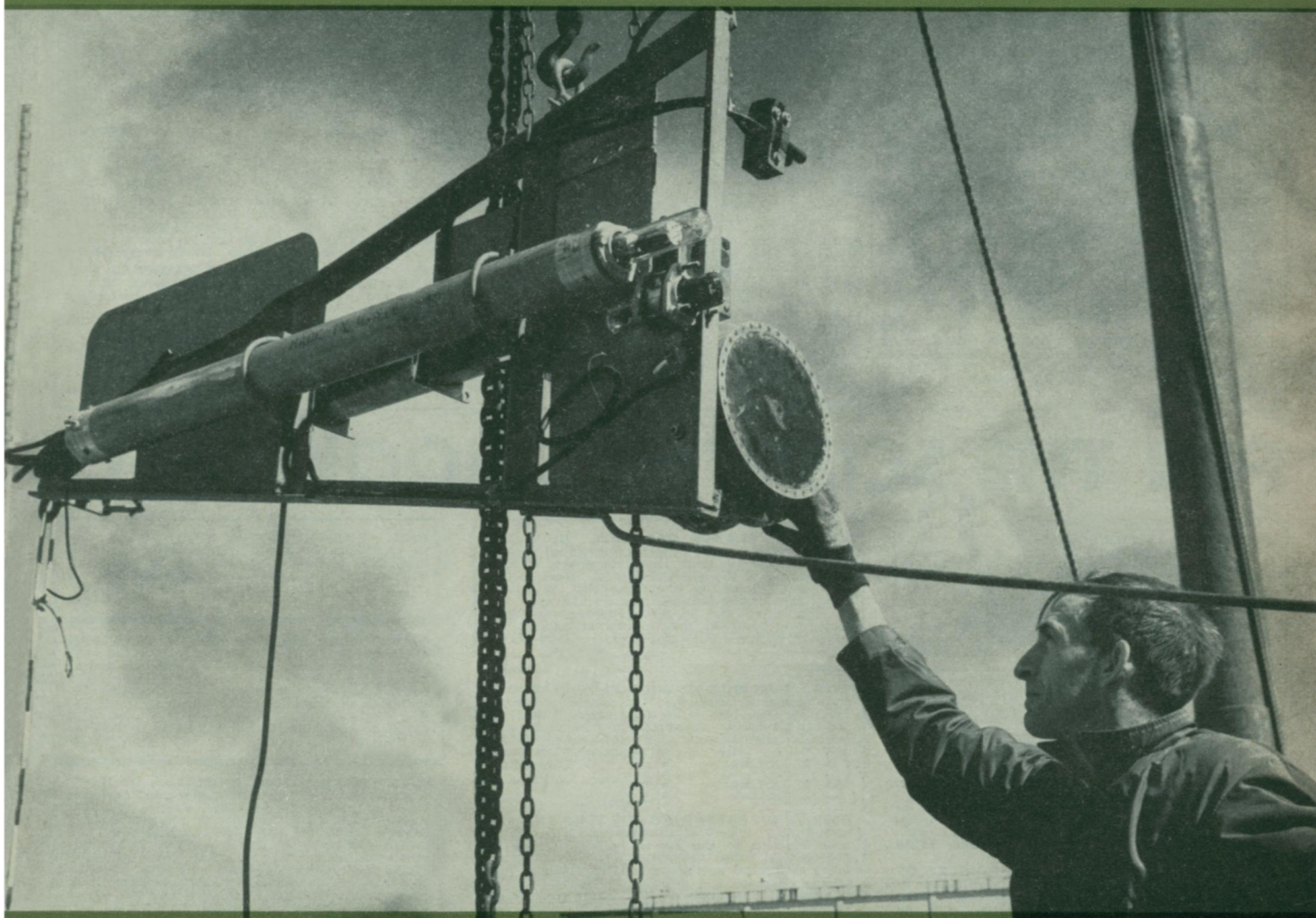
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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

®

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE



Underwater Eye

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A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# FIELD BOOKS FOR NATURE LOVERS

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**FB30. THE BOOK OF WILD FLOWERS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.** By F. Schuyler Mathews. Studies from nature written in narrative form, beautifully illustrated in color. Index, illus., large 12 mo., 397 pages. Grade seven. **\$3.95**

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WE'RE LEARNING  
WHY TWO EARS  
ARE BETTER THAN ONE



Which speaker is making the sound? In echoless chamber at Bell Labs, Robert Hanson measures test subject's ability to localize sounds — observes how two ears operate in partnership. This and other tests may point the way to better telephone instruments.

In listening to stereophonic music, how is it that our ears and brain construct a picture of the entire orchestra with but two samples (the sounds from two speakers) to work with?

How is it that our ears and brain are able to pinpoint *one* voice in a roomful of talkers—to listen to it alone and ignore the rest?

What makes *two* ears better than one?

Bell Telephone Laboratories scientists are searching for the answers. For in finding them, better telephone instruments and better ways of transmitting sound will surely result.

Our hearing performs feats that no electronic system can yet duplicate. How? Laboratories scientists believe the secret lies in the way our two ears function in partnership and in the way

our neural network connects them with our brain. *The problem:* to discover what functions the network performs and to see whether electronic duplication might enhance understanding.

The work is under way. Electronic circuits that simulate the operation of nerve cells have already been created—and conceptual models of the neural network are being constructed.

Alexander Graham Bell's interest in deafness and hearing led to the invention of the telephone. Bell Laboratories' current explorations in binaural sound may well lead to important new advances in the transmission of speech and music.



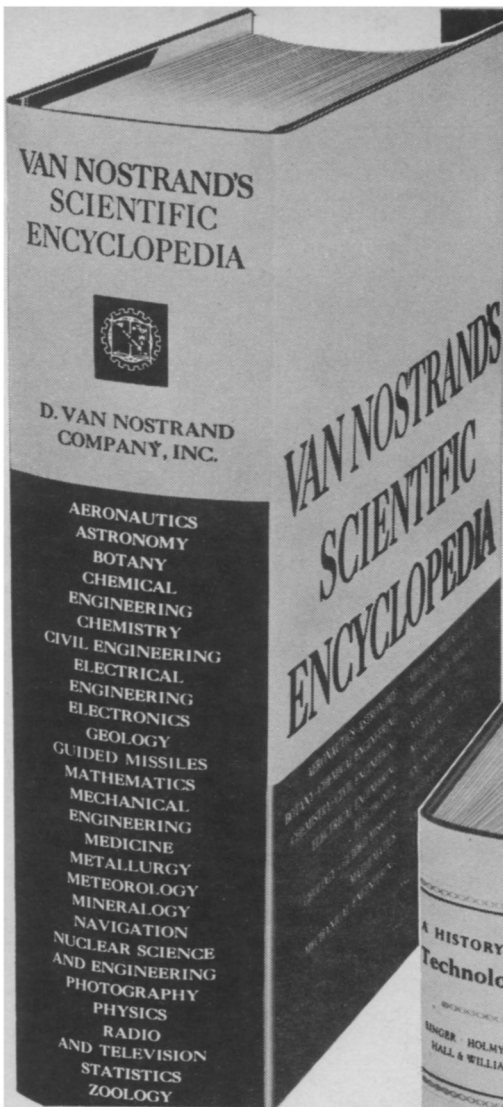
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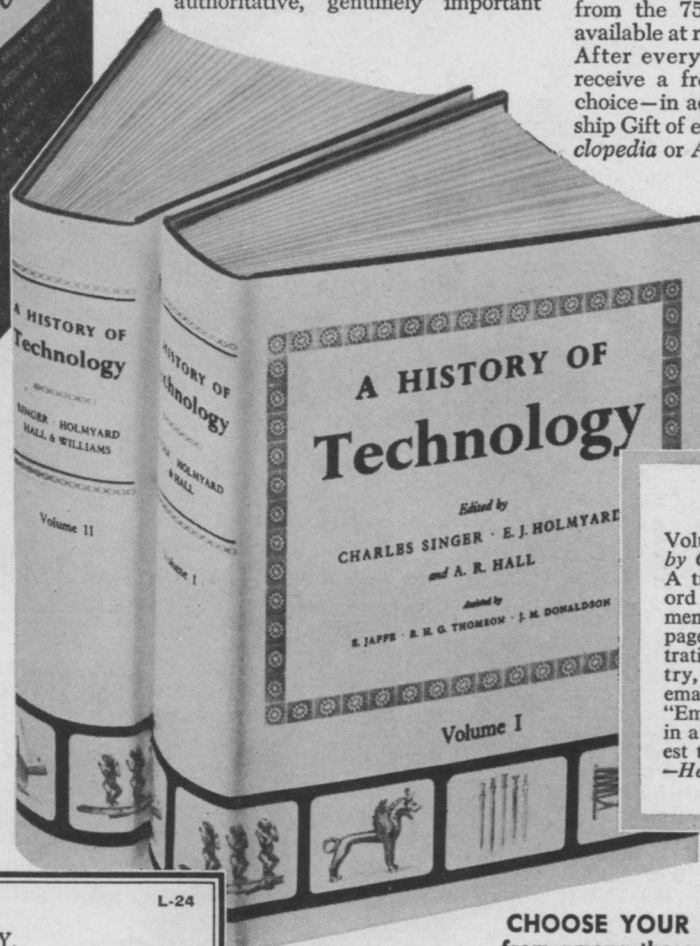
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