

and businesses. In the past such communities have presented a serious problem when land was to be set aside as national parks, wildernesses or similar places.

National defense would still be maintained, since land can be set aside for this purpose by executive order.

Since these 9,000,000 acres are a range, not a refuge, they are not closed to mining, oil and gas leasing. As Theodore Stevens, assistant secretary of the Department of the Interior, said: "We do want to permit the proper exploitation of any mineral deposit found there and necessary for the development of Alaska." This can be done by using particular mining techniques that do not unnecessarily disturb the land surface.

Passage of H.R. 7045 is uncertain. What is certain is that without such a law, Alaska and the rest of the United States will suffer an irrevocable loss.

Science News Letter, September 5, 1959

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

### Prize Photo Shows Bee Collecting Pollen

See Front Cover

MEDICAL and scientific photography were the subject of a meeting in Montreal, Canada, of the Biological Photographic Association.

A new method for studying unstained, living bacteria, cells and other specimens by color phase "optical staining" was reported. A new technique for photographing vocal cords in action was also described.

Various prizes were given for the best photographs in several categories. The photograph on the cover of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER was an award-winner in the natural science, monochrome prints category. Taken by William P. Nye of the U. S. Bee Culture Laboratory, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Logan, Utah, it shows a bumble bee collecting pollen from the Caragana or peatree.

Science News Letter, September 5, 1959

## Questions

**ARCHAEOLOGY**—What is the new technique for dating prehistoric rocks and pottery based upon? p. 148.

**PLANT PHYSIOLOGY**—How does a Russian scientist claim to have made plants drought-resistant? p. 147.

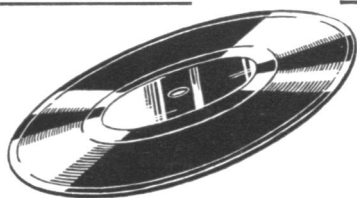
**TECHNOLOGY**—How have synthetic sapphires been made? p. 152.

**Photographs:** Cover, Biological Photographic Association, Inc.; p. 147, Climax Molybdenum Company; p. 149, Pitney-Bowes, Inc.; p. 153, Smith Kline & French Laboratories; p. 154, Herb Crisley—*The Living Wilderness*; p. 160, Furlong M.A.P. Co.

## Do You Know

The melting of *ice* along the Antarctic coast in the summer causes a rapid decrease in the saltiness of the neighboring sea.

The incidence of *Rocky Mountain spotted fever* shows a marked decrease in the mountain and Pacific States where once more than 99% of cases occurred.



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