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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER



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THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE



Deep Sea Fossils
See Page 158

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION



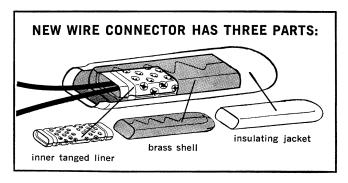
Telephone craftsman uses special pneumatic tool to flatten connector onto insulated wires. Metal tangs pierce insulation and produce a splice that is equivalent to a soldered joint.

Along the cable routes of the Bell System, wires are spliced at a rate of 250,000,000 a year. Conventionally, connections are made by "skinning" the insulation, twisting the bare wires together, and slipping on an insulating sleeve. Now, with a new connector initiated at Bell Telephone Laboratories, (diagram at lower right) splices can be made faster, yet are even more reliable.

The craftsman slips the two wire ends—with insulation intact—into the connector, then flattens the connector with a pneumatic tool. Springy phosphor bronze tangs inside the connector bite through the insulation to contact the copper wire. The stable, low-resistance splice established is maintained for many years, even under conditions of high humidity, corrosive atmospheres and vibration.

Ultrasensitive measuring techniques devised by our engineers demonstrate that the new connector provides the equivalent of a soldered connection, even with voltages as low as 25 millionths of a volt.

Working with our manufacturing partners at Western Electric, our engineers developed this connector into a design capable of being mass-produced at low cost. It is being introduced in the Bell System.





Make over 200 Small

Computing and Reasoning Machines with . . . BRAINIAC®

ELECTRIC BRAIN CONSTRUCTION KIT

EQUALS THE ORIGINAL 1955 electric brain construction kit PLUS many improvements and additions: over 600 parts-including 116 improved patented wipers so that all switches work well. The BRAINIAC K18 Kit gives full specifications for 201 computing, reasoning, arithmetical, logical, puzzle-solving and game-playing machines . . . 155 BRAINIACS (1957-58-59), etc., 13 TYNIACS (1956), and 33 original GENIACS® (1955).

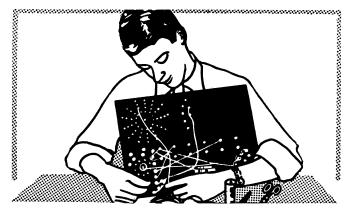
WITH OUR BRAINIAC KIT K18, you can build over 200 small electric brain machines and toys which "think," compute, reason and display intelligent behavior. Each one works on a single flashlight battery . . . is FUN to make, FUN to use and play with, and TEACHES you something new about electrical computing and reasoning circuits. All connections with nuts and bolts—no soldering required. The Brainiac K18 kit is the result of 12 years' design and development work with miniature mechanical brains including: the original 1955 kit, Tyniacs (1956), Relay Moe (automatic relay machine playing tit-tat-toe-pictured in Life Magazine, March 19, 1956), Simon (miniature automatic digital computer with 129 relays—see "Simple Simon" by E. C. Berkeley in Scientific American, November 1, 1950), Squee (electronic robot squirrel-see "Light Sensitive Electronic Beast" by E. C. Berkeley in Radio Electronics, December 1951), etc.

WHAT CAN YOU MAKE WITH BRAINIAC KIT K18? Over 200 machines including-Logic Machines: Syllogism Prover, Intelligence Test, Boolean Algebra Circuits, Douglas MacDonald's Will Analyzer, A Simple Kalin-Burkhart

WHAT COMES WITH YOUR BRAINIAC K18 KIT-Complete Plans, Instructions, Explanations & Hardware:

- Every part needed to build Brainiacs, Tyniacs over 600 pieces including control panel, multiple switch discs, jumpers, improved wipers (Pat. No. 2,848,568), bulbs, sockets, washers, wire, battery and special tools.
- Complete descriptions of 201 experiments and machines in book of 256 pp.
- Over 170 circuit diagrams including 13 exact wiring
- Manual "Brainiacs—Small Electric Brain Machines -Introduction and Explanation" by Edmund C. Berkeley.
- "Introduction to Boolean Algebra for Circuits and Switching" by Edmund C. Berkeley.
- "How to Go from Brainiacs to Automatic Computers" by Edmund C. Berkeley.
- List of references to computer literature including "Minds and Machines" by W. Sluckin, published by Penguin Books (Baltimore), 1954, 233 pages, and other references.

... MORE VALUE • MORE FEATURES



Logical Truth Calculator, Diagnosing Motor Car Trouble, etc. GAME-PLAYING MACHINES: Tit-Tat-Toe, Nim, Wheeled Bandit, Black Match, Sundorra 21, etc. COMPUTERS: To add, subtract, multiply or divide using decimal or binary numbers, Forty-Year Calendar, Prime Number Indicator, Money-Changing Machine, etc. CRYPTOGRAPHIC MACHINES: Coders, Decoders, Lock with 15,000,000 Combinations, etc. PUZZLE-SOLVING MACHINES: The Missionaries and the Cannibals, Age-Guessing Machine, Submarine Rescue Chamber, Daisy Petal Machine, Fox-Hen-Corn & Hired Man, Uranium Space Ship and the Space Pirates, The Three Monkeys Who Spurned Evil, General Alarm at the Fortress of Dreadeerie, etc. Quiz Machine: How to Tell an Aardvark from an Armadillo, The Waxing and the Waning Moon, Polar Air Routes, history, geography, trigonometry, grammar, statistics, calculus, etc.

WHO IS EDMUND C. BERKELEY? Author of The Computer Revolution, Doubleday, 1962, 249 pp.; Author of Giant Brains or Machines That Think, Wiley 1949, 270 pp. (15,000 copies sold); Author of Computers: Their Operation and Applications, Reinhold, 1956, 366 pp.; Author of Symbolic Logic and Intelligent Machines, Reinhold, 1959, 203 pp.; Editor & Publisher of the magazine, Computers and Automation; maker and developer of small robots; Fellow of the Society of Actuaries; Secretary (1947-53) of the Association for Computing Machinery; Designer of all the Tyniacs and Brainiacs.

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