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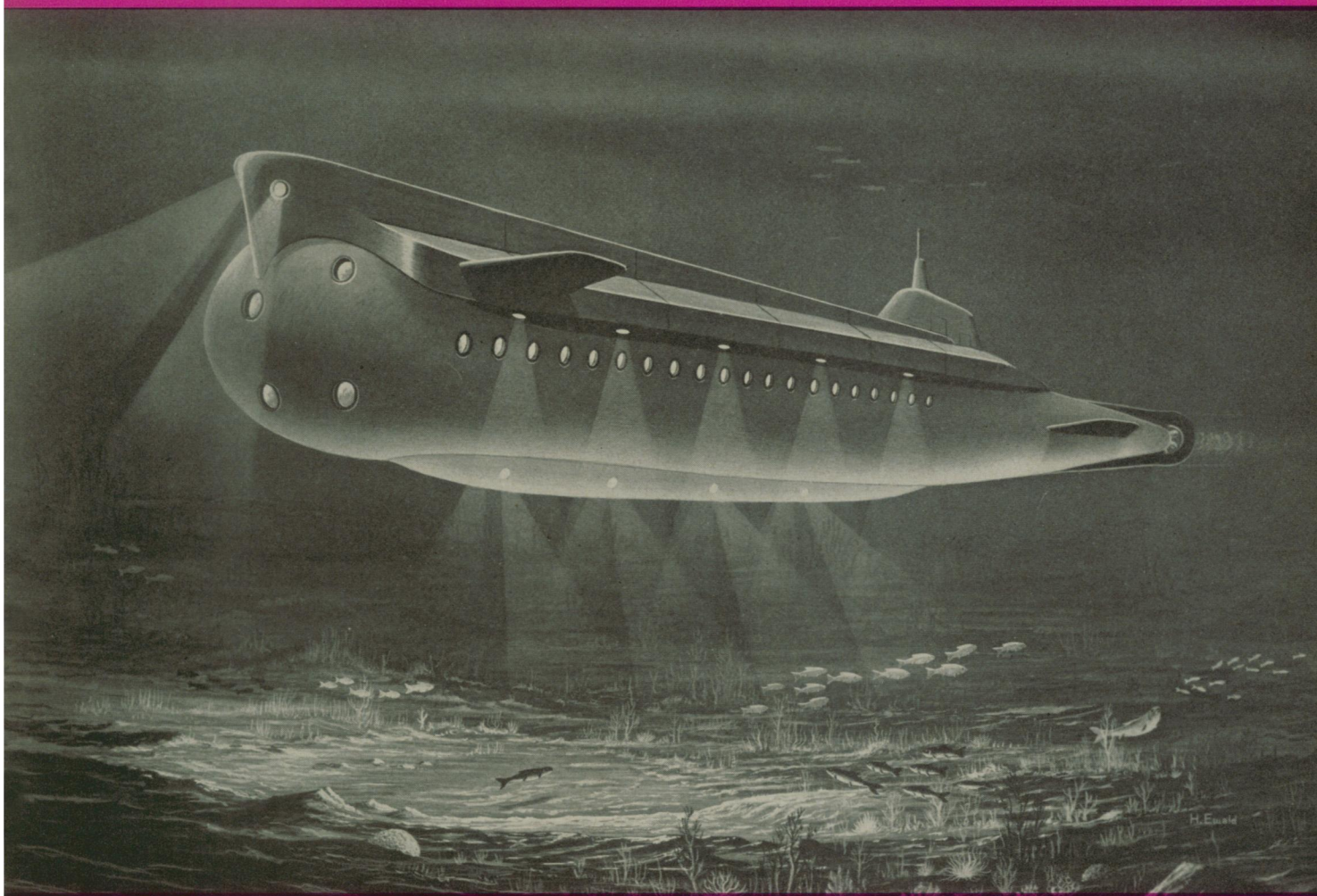
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# SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

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THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE



Jacques Piccard

**Mesoscaph**  
See Page 308

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

# How do computers celebrate?

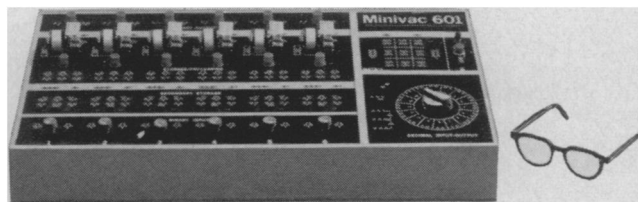
## *Plug in Minivac and see!*

This amazing little machine was conceived by Dr. Claude E. Shannon (now Donner Professor of Science at M.I.T.) to satisfy the clamor of scientists, educators, business men, technologists and all future users of computers who wanted to understand (or teach) how and why digital computers work. Mini-

vac *demonstrates* computer principles. Behind its deceptively simple facade lies circuitry intricate enough to go through all the motions of machines almost as complicated as the human brain. Here is all you have to do to make Minivac come alive:

1. Put it on the table (in your living room, if you like).
2. Glance through any of the six informative Minivac Manuals (amply illustrated and written in easy-to-follow English) and decide which of 200-plus electronic experiments you would like to try.
3. Program Minivac with the insertion of color-coded wires into prescribed terminals. (Programs are easily changed as desired).
4. Feed information through input pushbuttons or switches.
5. Read answers on output lights or on the dial of the motor-driven rotary indicator.
6. Calm your excited audience.

On a small scale, at \$135, Minivac 601 thinks in the same fascinating way as its multi-million dollar brethren. It adds, subtracts, multiplies, divides (in binary). It makes decisions (with or without sufficient information). Explains the handling of payroll problems, employee selection, language translation, inventory control, processing of bank checks.



Minivac 601, a Digital Computer Simulator weighing only 17 pounds. It comes with six manuals, containing 179 pages of information about modern computers.

It delights in tackling simulation assignments, machine coding and decoding (it decodes Morse Code with ease). It transmits messages with differential spacing. And if these functions seem mundane, let Minivac compose poetry. Or, in

your more whimsical moods, have Minivac tell your fortune, or accept its challenge to Tic-Tac-Toe (it will outdo you every time).

Minivac was designed by scientists for the scientifically minded. Yet no special knowledge of mathematics or science is needed to understand or operate it. Perhaps your only pre-requisite is additional information about this amazing little machine. Why not send for descriptive literature or for Minivac 601.

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Scientific Educational Products Corporation, Dept. 139  
30 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

— Rush me your free 12-page brochure, "Minivac 601 — A new Adventure in the World of Computers"!

— Please send Minivac 601 and its accompanying manuals. I understand there is a money-back guarantee of satisfaction. \$135 check or money order enclosed.

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