

asked, living organisms using silicon instead of carbon?

The question cannot yet be answered.

Celestial Timetable for December

DEC.	EST	
1	12:25 a.m.	Moon in first quarter
	2:00 a.m.	Moon passes south of Saturn
2	11:00 p.m.	Mercury between earth and sun
8	12:22 p.m.	Full moon
9	7:00 a.m.	Moon passes north of Jupiter
11	1:00 a.m.	Moon nearest, distance 226,500 miles
12	4:20 a.m.	Algol (variable star in Perseus) at minimum brightness
15	1:10 a.m.	Algol at minimum
	4:52 a.m.	Moon in last quarter
17	10:00 p.m.	Algol at minimum
18	4:00 a.m.	Jupiter opposite sun
20	6:50 p.m.	Algol at minimum
21	noon	Venus at greatest brightness
	5:00 p.m.	Mercury farthest west of sun (visible for a few days around this time low in east before sunrise)
	8:41 p.m.	Sun farthest south, winter begins in Northern Hemisphere
22	4:03 p.m.	New moon
25	4:00 a.m.	Moon passes south of Mars
	11:00 p.m.	Moon passes south of Venus
27	2:00 a.m.	Moon farthest, distance 252,100 miles
28	noon	Moon passes south of Saturn
30	8:47 p.m.	Moon in first quarter

Subtract one hour for CST, two hours for MST, and three hours for PST.

• Science News Letter, 22:346 November 27, 1965

ASTRONOMY

'Shooting Stars' Fall Heavily in November

► THE SO-CALLED SHOOTING STARS that result from a meteor shower again rained heavily from mid-November skies.

During Leonid meteor showers the number of shooting stars seen by a single observer can jump from the usual seven per hour to at least 17 and even as high as 27.

Because the shooting stars appear to radiate from the constellation Leo, the lion, the meteors are called the Leonids. They appear every year, but in some years put on a much more brilliant display than in others. The constellation of Leo is low in the southern sky, so the display was seen best after midnight.

The Leonid shower which will occur two years from now is predicted to be unusual. It might rival the one in 1833, when so many shooting stars fell that they were reported to resemble snowflakes.

The Leonids move around the sun in an egg-shaped orbit that the earth crosses every November.

The brightest showers occur because there are more meteors in the stream at one place in the orbit than another.

The meteors appear to radiate from the constellation of Leo only because of perspective. The paths of meteors are actually parallel, although they seem to converge in the distance in the same way that the parallel tracks of a railroad appear to come together at the horizon.

• Science News Letter, 22:347 November 27, 1965

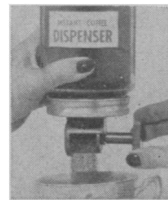
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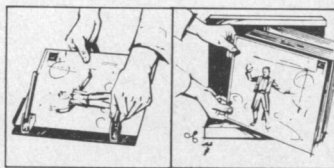
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