films OF THE WEEK

Listing is for readers' information of new 16mm and 8mm films on science, engineering, medicine and agriculture for professional, student and general audiences. For further information on purchase, rental or free loan, write to distributor.

GETTING THROUGH—M-1520-X. 16mm, b&w, sound, 20½ min. Explores smoking as a complex paradox in our society, and concludes that the final decision for young people about smoking is not up to parents, teachers, medical science, or advertising, but is a personal decision which each must make after weighing the facts. Audience: young adults, teachers, youth workers, parents. Free loan from National Medical Audiovisual Center (Annex), Chamblee, Ga. 30005, purchase from DuArt Film Laboratories, 245 West 45th St., New York, N.Y. 10019.

HAND TOOLS FOR METALWORKING. 16mm, color, sound, 25 min. Discusses the everyday tools of mechanics and craftsmen, including hammers, screwdrivers, pliers, wrenches, files and hacksaws. Purchase information from Bailey Films, 6509 De Longpre Ave., Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

PUTTING SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION TO WORK. 16mm, color, sound, 35 min. Shows methods of attacking the various information bottlenecks which face researchers today. Audience: scientists, engineers, librarians, documentalists. Loan and purchase information from Institute for Scientific Information, 325 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106.

A RADIO VIEW OF THE UNIVERSE. 16mm, color, sound, 28½ min. Shot on location at the Harvard College Observatory and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Greenbank, West Virginia, the work of Dr. Morton S. Roberts is followed and his methods of studying the age and evolution of galaxies are explained. Audience: high school seniors with some mathematical background, but can be used from seventh grade through college. Rental or purchase information from Modern Learning Aids, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036.

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LETTERS

to the editor

Kudo minus one

Sir:

Congratulations (a bit belated) on the transformation of your magazine from sophomoric to sophisticated, in format and in literary production.

Generally, the articles show competence in presentation of material.

The current issue (Nov. 18) unfortunately opens with a naive and unscientific presentation of the F-111. It's difficult to conceive that your publication would devote virtually the entire article to Mr. Davis and his opinions, rather than to some more objective views on the plane by competent critics.

In all, the magazine is now at an adult level and serves a useful function. Good work!

Louis Singer
Speech Pathologist
Washington, D.C.

SCAT fading

Sir:

You carried an item on a transistor device (SN: 9/16) patented by Dr. William Shockley and assigned to International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation.

The theoretical frequency limit of the Silicon Controlled Avalanche Transistor (SCAT) is greater than 10 gigahertz. The common bipolar transistor has, with present processing technology, frequency capabilities greater than 3 gigahertz.

The initial enthusiasm regarding SCAT has waned because laboratory produced devices have only shown practical power gains at frequencies up to 100 megahertz. If it is accepted that SCAT is not the extremely high frequency device that at first it was thought to be, it is not inconceivable that it may find its place as the solid state answer to high power broadcasting at the megahertz and lower frequency bands, say in the kilowatt or greater range, because of the power considerations mentioned in your item.

W. E. Naugler
ITT Semiconductors
West Palm Beach, Fla.

Thanks

Sir:

I would like to congratulate you on your useful and informative publication.

Gary W. Hull
Harvey Mudd College
Claremont, Calif.