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**LETTERS** 

# to the editor

## Where credit is due

The contents of your article entitled "Chromatography Promises Diagnosis before Symptoms" (SN: 4/6 p. 329) was correct in presenting the facts about the research, however, it did not give due credit to appropriate researchers. The idea of applying gas chromatography techniques for the detection of microbial activity in animal bodies was mine. The work which you reported was and is being done in the Department of Agronomy and Virus Research Institute, Cornell University, Ithaca. It is done here by me in collaboration with Dr. L. E. Carmichael and Dr. Martin Alexander. The research is supported by U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research under subcontract to the Electronics Laboratory, General Electric Company, Syracuse,

> Brij M. Mitruka, Ph.D. Research Associate New York State College of Agriculture Cornell University Ithaca, N.Y.

## Carotene

Sir:

RE: "More Colorful Carrots" (SN: 3/30 p. 313): Carotene is converted to Vitamin A, not Vitamin C. There are reported cases of carotenemia due to food fads and excessive intakes with pathological changes as well as non-pathological yellow skin in babies who do not excrete Vitamin A well.

Jack L. Field, M.D. Fort Worth, Texas

# TIMS 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.

ADVENTURE IN NEWFOUNDLAND. 16mm, ADVENTURE IN NEWFOUNDLAND. 16mm, color, sound, 16 min. Tommy, a 10-year-old boy accompanies his uncle and a government ornithologist on a bird-banding expedition in a sanctuary containing gulls, puffins, murres, kittiwakes and other sea birds. Audience: elementary. Purchase \$180 from Universal Education and Visual Arts, 221 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10003.

APOLLO 5 MISSION—MSC-68-461. 16mm, color, sound, 17 min. Portrays the successful test of the lunar module, the spacecraft in which man will make his first landing on the moon. Lunar Module One is boosted into space by the Saturn IB launch vehicle, is tracked by stations around the world, and since it was not designed to return to earth, finally tumbles through the atmosphere until it is destroyed. Audience: general. Free loan from National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Manned Spacecraft Center, AP2, Houston, Texas 77058.

FARTH SCIENCE: MINERALS AND ROCKS. 16mm, color or b&w, sound, 17 min. A description of the nature and charactristics of minerals and rocks and the importance of these attributes for identification and classification. Time-lapse photographs of growing crystals depict the way crystas form minerals in the earth. Various rocks are shown to show that they are composed of combinations of minerals. Audience: junior, senior high. Purchase color \$210 or b&w \$105; rental color \$7.15 or b&w \$4.40; from Indiana University, Audio-Visual Center, Bloomington, Ind. 47401.

FULL WAVE RECTIFIER POWER SUPPLY (WITH PI-SECTION FILTER). Super-8mm regular-8mm, color, silent, cartridge. Shows in animation all of the electron currents which flow in this type of circuit during normal operation. One complete cycle lasts about 20 seconds. Voltage and current waveforms are generated in synchronism with the movements of the various currents. Audience: technical schools, high schools, junior college, colleges. Purchase Super-8mm \$17 or regular-8mm \$15 from Animated Electronic Films, P. O. Box 2036, Eads Station, Arlington, Va. 22202.

GEOLOGY OF THE GRAND CANYON COUNTRY. 16mm, color, sound, 17 min. Beyond the sweeping beauty of the Grand Canyon lies a rich geological history. The Government preserve, which was once beneath the sea, is studied in this film. The results of erosion and deposition as well as volcanic and seismic activities are shown. Fossils and remnants from past eras and periods tell stories of early life in the canyon and its successive development. Audience: elementary, junior high. Purchase \$185 from Bailey Films, 6509 De Longpre Ave. Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

WALKABOUT. 16mm, color, sound, 20 min. The Australian aborigine and his life (companion film to "Tjurunda"). Audience: general. Rental \$5.00 or purchase \$170.00 from Films Officer, Australian News and Information Bureau, 636 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10020 or Western States, Press and Information Officer, Australian Consulate-General, 350 Post St., San Francisco, Calif. 94108.

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