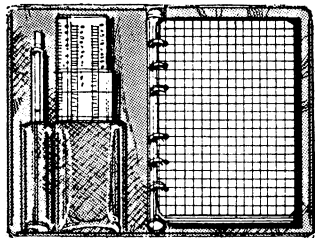


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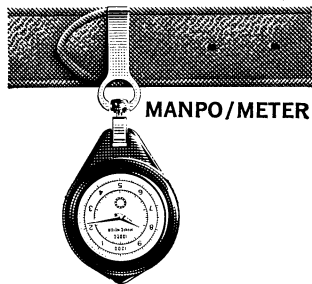
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films OF THE WEEK

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.

THE BLACK SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY: METAMORPHOSIS AND DEVELOPMENT. 16mm, color, sound, 14 min. Shows the changes that take place during the life cycle of the black swallowtail butterfly and points out, in addition, the special food requirements necessary for the survival of the black swallowtail, its predators and the protective adaptations of the black swallowtail larvae. Audience: grades 5 to 8 and 10th grade biology. Purchase \$185 or rental \$12.50 from McGraw-Hill Films, Dept. DF, 330 W. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10036.

DUODENUM—HEAD OF PANCREAS; EXCISION FOR PANCREATIC LITHIASIS. 16mm, color, English sound, 17 min. Easily recognized on a straight X-ray film, lithiasis of the pancreas, whether diffuse or strictly localized represents a special form of chronic pancreatitis. Whatever the cause of the formation of the calculi, their presence gives rise to a certain number of mechanical consequences which are discussed in detail in this film. Audience: medical. Loan for \$5.00 service fee from Society for French-American Cultural Services and Educational Aid, 972 5th Ave., New York, N.Y. 10021.

EARLY DETECTION OF ORAL CANCER—M-1532-X. 16mm, color, sound, 16 min. Alerts the public to the danger of oral cancer and stresses the importance of cytological examination of abnormal tissue in and around the oral cavity. Describes early oral cancer, its course and outcome. Explains the techniques used in examination and diagnosis, and results of successful treatment. Audience: general. Purchase from Vital Research Films, 6400 W. Park, Suite 490, Houston, Tex. 77027, or free loan from National Medical Audiovisual Center (Annex), Chamblee, Ga. 30341, Attn: Film Distribution.

THE FUTURE OF HIGH-ENERGY PHYSICS. 16mm, b&w, sound, 60 min. Provides unrehearsed films of sequences from a series of invited lectures and a roundtable discussion by well-known experts as they participated in a symposium on elementary particles sponsored by the New York State Section of the American Physical Society. The film does not provide a complete picture of high-energy physics, but rather it presents a broad representation of techniques and ideas. Participants include Ernest D. Courant, Max Dresden, Maurice Goldhaber, M. L. Good, Paul Grannis, S. J. Lindenbaum, Yuval Nieman, John Toll and Victor Weisskopf. Audience: university, professional level. Loan for \$3.00 handling charge from Booking Office, State University Film Service, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12203.

THE WEATHER EYE. 16mm, color, sound, 13 min. Story of the design, development and fabrication of SNAP-19, a small, long-lived radio-isotope-fueled nuclear generator whose mission is to be the auxiliary power supply to produce electrical power aboard a Nimbus satellite 600 nautical miles above the earth. As the orbiting Nimbus monitors changing weather patterns in the atmosphere, SNAP-19 supplements the work of solar cells in powering the data-gathering instruments and transmitters that supply information continuously to meteorologists on earth. Audience: general. Purchase \$76.51 from Byron Motion Pictures, 65 K St., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, or loan information from Audio-Visual Branch, Department of Public Information, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C. 20545.

LETTERS

to the editor

Circumcision

Your abstract (SN:3/29, p. 307) on "Tonsillectomy and Circumcision Called Ritualistic" seems rather far fetched. Why quibble over whether circumcision is a ritual or not, when over 25 percent of all cancers involve those sex organs in the uncircumcised that are vulnerable to V.D.

When Moses discovered that the foreskin in adults led to serious illnesses, to assure compliance, he issued a religious decree that all newborn male Israelites should be completely circumcised. Properly done, before the pain sensation is developed, it is an innocuous operation. A more careful study would reveal why St. Paul suspended the early Christian requirement to circumcise all prospective converts, most of whom were adults.

Dr. Bolande seems unaware of the multiplicity of authoritative literature in support of the concept first presented by me in the JOURNAL OF UROLOGY, September 1942, that cancer of the prostate and cervix is initiated by a viral venereal infection arising from the smegma under the foreskin. The incidence of prostate cancer among a large number of more or less sexually segregated Jews operated on by me in Brooklyn was 1.7 percent vs. 20 percent among largely uncircumcised non-Jews. This concept was very recently verified by the finding of viruses in cancer of the prostate and cervix and the isolation of type 2-Herpes virus in human smegma.

Dr. Bolande's contention that adequate hygiene rather than circumcision could prevent these cancers is wishful thinking. Such hygiene, short of thorough precoital surgical-like sterilization, would be impossible to attain during the excitement of sexual intercourse.

Abraham Ravich, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Miami Beach, Fla.

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