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SN-702

## 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.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF BOUNDARY LAYERS.** 16mm, b&w, sound, 24 min. Demonstrates the basic aspects of viscous incompressible boundary layers: 1. what causes them, 2. how they grow, 3. how they respond to pressure gradients, 4. the main stages in the transition of laminar layers to turbulent ones, 5. the differences in behavior of laminar and turbulent layers. The behavior of boundary layers is demonstrated by hydrogen-bubble and smoke visualization of flows past flat plates and airfoils, and in converging and diverging passages. Audience: college level. Purchase and rental information from Encyclopedia Britannica Educational Corp., 425 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

**QUANTITATIVE CHEMISTRY LABORATORY TECHNIQUES.** Super 8mm, color, silent, six cartridge films about 3½ min. each. Demonstrations of volumetric and gravimetric techniques. Titles include: "Measuring Volumes of Solids and Liquids," "Pipetting I: Cleaning and Using a Transfer Pipet," "Pipetting II: Graduated Pipet and 3-Valve Bulb," "Titration," "Weighing I: Balance Construction and Weighing an Object," and "Weighing II: Weighing Out Substances." Audience: first-year students in college or high school. Purchase \$22.95 each or \$137.70 for set of six from Kalmia Co., Concord, Mass. 01742.

**SPEEDSCENE: THE PROBLEM OF AMPHETAMINE ABUSE.** 16mm, color, sound, 17 min. Offers graphic evidence against the use of amphetamines in any form for other than medical reasons. Psychological dependence on these drugs frequently leads to the use of other dangerous, addictive drugs such as heroin. The most malignant form of abuse is the repeated intravenous injection of high dosage amphetamine, one form of which is called "speed." In addition to the physical dangers of hepatitis, malnutrition and even death, are the psychological problems inherent involved. Audience: high school, college, adult. Purchase \$210 from Bailey-Film Associates, 11559 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90025.

## to the editor

### Feeling the pinch

I was much heartened by your report (SN: 1/10, p. 44) that ecology is beginning to receive greater recognition. Then I received the listing of projects for superior secondary students to be funded in 1970 by the National Science Foundation.

It would appear that mathematics is the magic word at NSF. Twice as many pure math projects were funded as compared to any other pure disciplinary projects. Forty-three out of the 106 projects receiving support are either pure mathematics or math-connected.

The seventies are being billed widely as the environmental decade yet:

- One ecology (mathematics connected) project was funded.

- Two environmental science projects were funded.

- Three catch-all projects included ecology.

The total number of student spaces in these projects, available to the superior students who will be needed in ecology in this coming decade, is 123—even if we accept the totals in the "catch-all" programs.

In other words, less than 2 percent of the 4,100 available spaces for the disciplinary area about which it is said: "We either solve it soon or perish." Apparently NSF hasn't heard.

Some of us have been battling for 10 years to get ecology-based projects accepted. We thought that this might be the year that a crack appeared in the wall. It's disappointing.

Benton P. Cummings  
Newark State College  
Union, N.J.

(There may be some light at the end of the tunnel. Shifting priorities are evident in the 1971 Science Foundation budget (SN: 2/7, p. 144). Ed.)

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