

films OF THE WEEK

EINSTEIN. 16mm, b&w, sound, 42 min. A biography of Albert Einstein, whose life covered 76 years from his birth in 1879 shortly after the Franco-Prussian War, until his death in 1955 in the era of the hydrogen bomb. Tells how, as a clerk in the Berne Patent Office, he published the first work on the theory of relativity which so profoundly affected twentieth century science and brought him world fame. The nature and the importance of Einstein's theory of relativity are explained in simple terms. Although he constantly strove for aloofness, the position in which Einstein found himself of being a world figure put enormous responsibilities on his shoulders. One of these was being associated with the development of the atomic bomb. The tragedy was that Einstein, the pacifist who hated war, was instrumental in developing such a weapon of death. Audience: general. Purchase \$350 or rental \$35 from Time-Life Films, 43 West 16th St., New York, N.Y. 10011.

MATHEMATICS FOR TOMORROW. 26mm, color, sound, 29 min. Takes viewer into elementary and secondary classrooms where children are learning in new ways the many mathematical insights and skills they will need to function effectively in the scientific world which they will inherit. Basic principles involved in these new methods are emphasized, and the increased importance of mathematics is shown. Audience: parents, teachers, general public. Purchase \$100 or rental \$5 from Audio-visual Sound Studio, National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

THE PEOPLE NEXT DOOR. 16mm, b&w, sound, 79 min. This Emmy-winning CBS Playhouse Special examines some of the drastic and tragic consequences of the misunderstanding, lack of communication and distrust associated with the "Generation Gap." Two families face an ordeal involving one daughter who "freaks out" on LSD, her brother whose hippie appearance causes animosity and distrust from his father, and the boy next door whose apparent respectability disguises his role as a drug pusher. Audience: high school, college, adult. Purchase \$475 from Bailey-Film Associates, 11559 Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, Calif. 90025.

A WONDERFUL BIRD WAS THE PELICAN. 16mm, color, sound, 26 min. On the Anacapa Islands off the coast of Southern California is the last refuge of a dying breed of brown pelicans, which has become a victim of man's increasingly dangerous pollution of our natural environment. How has man affected the pelican? DDT and other chemical pesticides are the answer. Used by commercial growers, the poison works its way into the streams down to the ocean, where it is absorbed by the phytoplankton on which fish feed. As pelicans feed on the fish, the result is disaster, cutting the breeding and making the calcium content of eggs laid so weak that they break from the mother's weight. Audience: general. Purchase \$250 from United Productions of America, 145 E. 49th St., New York, N. Y. 10017.

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.

to the editor

Behavioral science

I should like to take a moment to comment on the letter by R. D. Liccini of Los Angeles, Calif. (SN: 6/13, p. 570), who attacked SCIENCE NEWS for printing "An Inevitable American Tragedy" (SN: 5/9, p. 451). Since 1962 I have been consistently pleased by the excellent job of science reporting done by SN, and it seems to me that Mr. Liccini has a very narrow view indeed. Perhaps he would be happier if the article had been categorized in the behavioral sciences—maybe in sociology.

In any case, I believe the article was an important contribution toward understanding student confrontation in general and Kent State in particular. This understanding is necessary since the radicalization of students is becoming a widespread phenomenon. To say that such reporting has nothing to do with science news is an oversimplification. Such radicalism and confrontation affect the colleges where science is studied, the students who study science, the instructors who teach science and the society that uses science—to say nothing of the scientists outside the college environment. As such it has a definite impact on the scientific community and is leading to revolutions not only in the study of science but also in the applications of scientific knowledge. Thus, it would be asinine to expect the relegation of such subjects to only ordinary news journals. As for SN being on a "political soap box," all I can say is that the article seemed a superior, objective piece of reporting and for this SN is to be commended.

As long as SN retains this quality of reporting and its admirable coverage of new scientific activities, it need never fear my cancellation.

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I should like to both thank and congratulate you for the article on the Kent State incident (SN: 5/9, p. 451): an excellent statement and honest reporting of my own statement and position. Knowing both Boulding and Feuer, I think they, too, will in general feel the same way as I do about Richard Gilguly's handling of the whole matter. I wish we had more journalists and writers who were both as skillful and dedicated to their profession.

Having said this, I must go on to say that this is what I meant when I mentioned professionalization for the police and others who must in the future handle riots in the United States.

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Because of summer production schedules and the inevitably reduced flow of news during the summer months, SCIENCE NEWS will consolidate several of its issues during the months of July and August. The issues of July 18 and Aug. 22 will be merged respectively into the issues of July 25 and Aug. 29, which will be double issues. □

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