

films OF THE WEEK

THE UNIVERSE . . . FLIGHT TO THE STARS. 16mm, color, sound, 21 min. On an imaginary space flight, we closely examine the moon, the other planets of our solar system and beyond—to the stars. Each stop on our journey is described with the most up-to-date concepts, as we are swept into the great vastness of galaxies, each with its own million, billion stars. The latest in filmic technique and special effects have been incorporated into the film. Audience: upper elementary, secondary, adult. Purchase \$250 from Aims Instructional Media Services, Dept. SN, P.O. Box 1010, Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

ALCOHOL AND YOU. 16mm, color, sound, 28 min. What are the consequences of dependence on alcohol? This documented treatment of drinking explores the social pressures and the drinking habits that can lead an individual into becoming an alcoholic. Medical authorities testify to the ill effects of alcohol to contribute to an awareness of the many mental and physical maladies of the chronic drinker. Audience: high school. Purchase \$335 from Bailey-Film Associates, 11559 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90025.

DESERT ECOLOGY. 16mm, color, sound, 14 min. Introduction to plants and animals living in a desert climate. Emphasizes the daily living patterns of some animals which enable them to survive in the great heat, and the adaptation of both plants and animals which enable them to withstand long dry periods. Plants examined include creosote bushes, the saguaro cactus, the ocotille and the palo verde. Animals include the kangaroo rat, gila woodpecker, road runner, desert coyote lizards, tortoises and rattlesnakes. Audience: elementary science. Purchase \$185 or rental \$10 from International Film Bureau, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60604.

GROWTH OF REFRACTORY SINGLE CRYSTALS AT HIGH TEMPERATURES. 16mm, color, English sound, 23 min. The development of many modern industries is related to the knowledge of the properties of solid materials. These properties are usually measured on polycrystalline samples. However, in this case, the boundaries separating crystals have a large influence on the data obtained, and are not characteristic of the material itself. The real properties of the material being studied can only be measured on a single crystal. The easiest method for growing a crystal consists of solidifying a liquid. In most cases, crystallization is initiated at several points. Using a special technique, crystallization can be started from a single seed and then only one crystal is obtained. Audience: scientists, engineers. Loan for \$5.00 service charge from French American Cultural Service and Educational Aid, 972 5th Ave., New York, N.Y. 10021.

MARRIAGE UNDER STRESS. 16mm, b&w, sound, 40 min. Several of the causes of difficulties among married people are examined. Millions of married couples consider bringing up children as fulfilling and worthwhile, but for many couples, the first real stress of marriage comes with the arrival of children. Some couples can cope with economic uncertainty, sexual incompatibility, but are unprepared for handling children. For other couples, there are certain pressures that bring marriage to the brink of disaster, and they are forced to consider a future apart from each other. What happens when a marriage is finally over? Who suffers most? What chance of a new life is there? Audience: adults, teenagers. Purchase Time-Life Films, 43 W. 16th St., New York, N.Y. 10011 (BBC-TV production).

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 or circle the appropriate number on the Reader Service Card.

to the editor

Fifth reason

I am no scientist nor psychologist, but as a homespun philosopher and ordinary observer of human nature, I take issue with Dr. Albert Rabin's scientific and psychological analysis of the four reasons why "people have children" (SN: 8/15, p. 148). I believe he is being very superficial in listing only four. The fifth, and most important reason may be classified, not as intellectual, not as emotional, not as narcissistic and not as basically unselfish, but simply as philosophic—that man is basically creative, that man does wish to produce fruit, whether that be the fruit of his mind—such as a great concerto, the fruit of his hands—such as sculpturing or painting, or the fruit of his love—such as that of a child. To attribute to man only the four motives as Dr. Rabin did in the article, "The psychology of human reproduction," by James Moriarty is to show man stripped of his highest potential as man.

*Sister Ann Vincent
School Sisters of Notre Dame
Cape Girardeau, Mo.*

Misinterpretation

The note entitled "Cattle and groundwater" (SN: 8/15, p. 139) contains a couple of misinterpretations of the paper from which it was taken. It is misleading to say that unless precipitation occurs, no runoff results. The statement from which the note was taken indicated that the body wastes produced in a typical feedlot amount to somewhat less than one-half ton per acre per day on a dry weight basis.

*Dr. Dan M. Wells, Director
Water Resources Center
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, Tex.*

Problem with units

Your article on "Soviet research in Antarctica" (SN: 8/29, p. 185) was marred by an error. It states that "24 million cubic meters of ice in the continent conceal sources of information." This amount of ice would allow only a uniform covering with ice of a thickness not more than two meters, hardly enough to cover anything! Yet later you refer to the thickness of the ice as about 10,000 feet. Which is true?

*Fritz M. K. Werdouschegg
St. Paul, Minn.*

(The figure for ice volume should, of course, have read 24 million cubic kilometers, not meters. This represents about 1.5 percent of the earth's total water. Ed.)

Polluting space

The article "Waste disposal in orbit" (SN: 8/8, p. 118) might have been enlarged and published as a horror story. Surely the United States of America would never consider such shamefully immature behavior.

Can you imagine the Russians adopting such a primitive procedure?

America has all but spoiled its surface environment, dumping trash. Let us not rob the citizens of the U.S.A. by beginning to pollute the space environment.

*E. G. Waddell
Henryville, Ind.*

Father's importance

The only thing I would add to your article on my work, "Teachers as identity figures" (SN: 7/4, p. 12), is that I feel strongly that we should try to deal with children's motivation by working with parents, peers and other identifying figures, rather than with the individual child alone; of these identifying figures, the importance of the father in achievement motivation comes through quite strongly.

*Dr. T. A. Ringness
Professor, Educational Psychology
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wis.*

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ADVERTISING STAFF
Director: EARL J. SCHERAGO
Advertising Sales Manager:
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