

# science news

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**Problems with the pill**



**BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE GOES UNDERSEA**

# science news®

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Experiments during the Tektite II manned under-  
water habitat project gave experimenters an  
opportunity to observe scientists in a stressful  
and socially isolated situation. Here a Tektite  
female aquanaut examines undersea plant life.  
See p. 400. (Photo: NASA)

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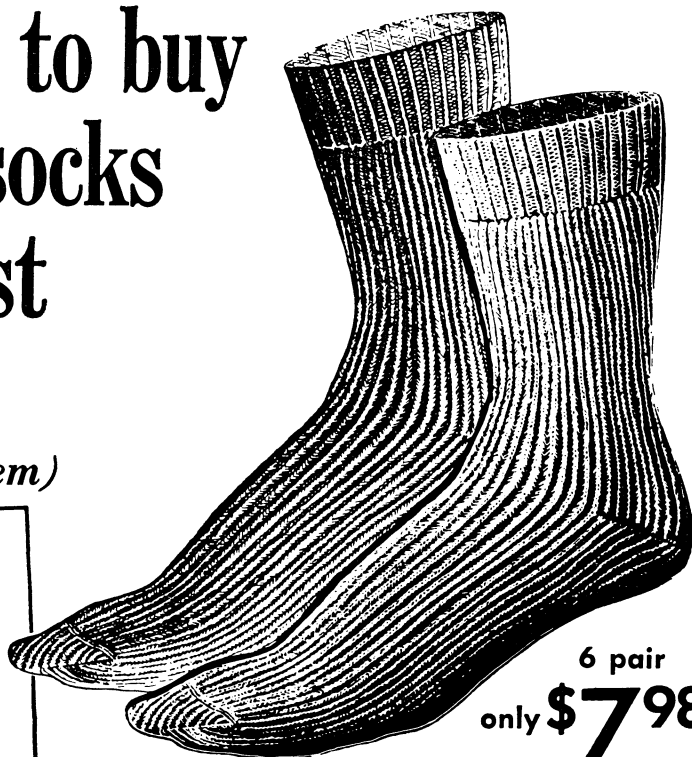
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When our new merchandise man was offered an exclusive on these indestructible nylons socks, he called the manufacturer a liar.

"Can't be done!" he said. "If the socks are as strong and durable as you claim, they've got to be so stiff underfoot, they'll be unwearable!"

"Kitten-soft," said the manufacturer.

"Then they won't wash satisfactorily."

"Always come out like new," barked the manufacturer. "Permanent colors, lasting texture and shape."

"Or you'll weasel the guarantee," added our man, doubtingly.

"Unconditional!" snapped the manufacturer.

"What's the catch?"

"No catch, no secret!" said the manufacturer happily. "68 filaments of DuPont nylon per inch, throughout the sock. Woven so closely, they make most ordinary socks look like they're three-quarters air, by comparison! Styled by one of the world's great sock designers — for perfect proportion and fit. The yarn is guaranteed to be practically indestructible, in normal use. That "normal use" simply means regular ordinary wear — don't burn holes in them deliberately, or try to cut them with a scissors or razor."

We still had to be shown. So we got samples. And we wore them. And wore them. And machine washed them. And Laundromatted them. And tortured them. Like wearing one pair for a week

straight—till we thought they'd drown in sweat. Then we washed them—with no sweat! They looked and felt like new. The socks didn't surrender. We did. They're for real— and forever!

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