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**The earth's
magnetic reversals**

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OF THE WEEK

- 245 An internal structure for quasars
Progress toward CBW bans
- 246 Science aids drought-stricken farmers
DDT and reproduction in mammals
- 247 IBP biome studies
A Nader study of Academy
- 248 NASA gets two U-2's
Cancer money aids accelerator
- 242 **Earth Sciences:** Magnetic anomaly patterns; Measuring the earth; Abyssal hills; Seismicity patterns; Ages of ocean ridges
- 255 **Environment:** Safe toxic levels; High-speed trains; Economics and ecology; Fear of urban research; Smog model

IN SCIENCE FIELDS

- 249 **Field Theory:** The new math
- 251 **Geophysics:** Earth's magnetic reversals

-
- 244 Letters to the Editor
- 250 Films of the Week
- 253 Books of the Week
-

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The earth's magnetic field reverses its polarity every few hundred thousand years, but geophysicists still do not fully understand why. The symmetrical pattern of magnetic striations on the ocean floor helped confirm sea-floor spreading. See p. 251.

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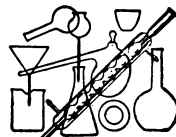
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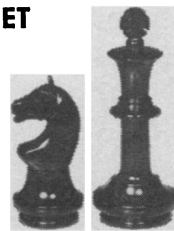


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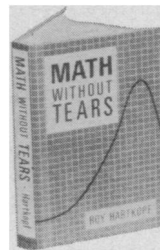


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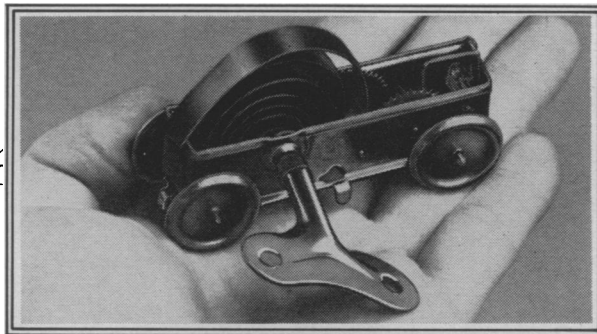
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