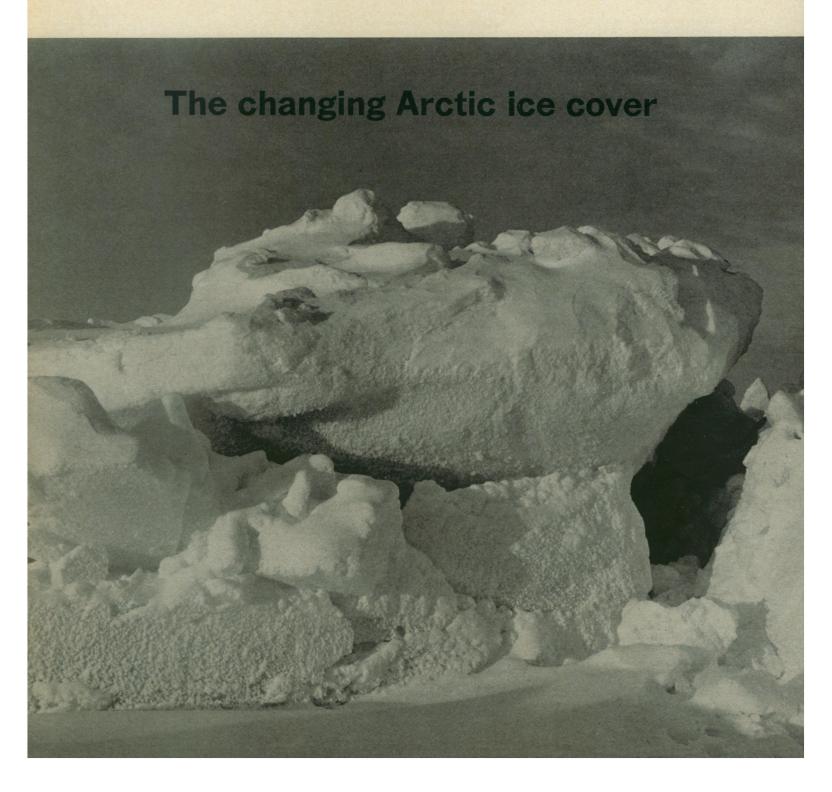
July 31, 1971 vol. 100, no. 5, pp. 69-84



Advisory secrecy



science news

A Science Service Publication Vol. 100/July 31, 1971/No. 5 Incorporating Science News Letter

Watson Davis, 1896-1967 Publisher: E. G. Sherburne Jr.

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Advertising: Scherago Associates, Inc.

Circulation: Gustave T. Wescott

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SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT 231 WEST CENTER STREET MARION, OHIO 43302

Subscription rate: 1 yr., \$7.50; 2 yrs., \$13.50; 3 yrs., \$19.50. Special trial offer: 39 weeks, \$3.97. Single copy, 25 cents. \$1.00 per year for foreign postage. Change of address: Four to six weeks' notice is required. Please state exactly how magazine is to be addressed. Include zip codes.

Printed in U.S.A. Second class postage paid at Washington, D.C. Established as Science News Letter ® in mimeograph form March 13, 1922. Title registered as trademark U.S. and Canadian Palent Offices. Indexed in last Science News of June and December, in Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, Abridged Guide and the Engineering Index. Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation. UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Published every Saturday by SCIENCE SER-VICE, Inc., 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. NOrth 7-2255. Cable Address: SCIEN-SERV.

ADVERTISING STAFF Director: EARL J. SCHERAGO Advertising Sales Manager: RICHARD L. CHARLES Production Manager: BONNIE F. SEMEL

Address all advertising to Scherago Associates, 11 W. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10036.

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The thin layer of ice covering the Arctic Ocean is one of the greatest variables on the earth's surface, and one of the least understood. An international effort is now under way to determine the interaction between ice, ocean and atmosphere and, ultimately, to predict ice movement and world climate. See p. 80. (Photo: U.S. Navy)

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