

to the editor

Space camera

I read the editorial and article on space camera systems (SN: 11/27/71) with interest and have sent it to others within the Manned Spacecraft Center.

The space program is truly in an emerging state. Cartography is just one of many fields where the space program has application. With a projected population of 7 billion in less than 30 years and our environmental problems, agriculture and ecology also become important fields where this technology has application. NASA is a service organization, and the close cooperation of many Government agencies is required to provide the most effective benefits of space technology to the country.

John L. Swigert Jr.
NASA Astronaut
Manned Spacecraft Center
Houston, Texas

Hats off to Kendrick Frazier for his bold commentary. It was sharp, to the point, and scathing.

Louis Blazquez
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Teaneck, N.J.

Model for journals

I am appreciative of the compact and accurate summary of the paper I gave at

the neuroscience meeting (SN: 11/6/71, p. 313). I find, however, that SCIENCE NEWS is usually outstanding in informative reporting, and think most professional journals would do well to model their format on it and cut out most of the useless verbiage.

Virginia Johnson, Ed.D.
Clinical Psychologist
Los Angeles, Calif.

More on journal references

Let me back up B. I. Silkin's request (SN: 11/6/71, p. 306)—but I fail to find even the name of the journal and the date of issue cited in most of your articles. To get this information I'd have to hunt down the address of the scientists you mention. Example: Nov. 6, "Talking with a chimp" article.

In some of the articles, you refer to a meeting; but there's no word about how to get the proceedings involved. In many such instances, I strongly suspect that an article may already be in press; it would help to know this, since journals are usually more easily obtained than precedings.

SCIENCE NEWS is a very necessary addition to the 10 to 12 journals to which I already subscribe, but it is far less useful than it might be. (In the same issue, the memory transfer article on p. 308 men-

tioned three colleagues on this campus, only one of whom I'd heard of, via the local newspaper. We have to depend on you, to the shame of campus and city media, to get news from the adjacent building on our own campus!)

Edgar Crane
Professor, College of
Business Administration
University of Houston
Houston, Texas

(We are conscious of the problem cited by Prof. Crane; we have to handle the frequent requests from readers writing to us for additional information. For that reason we try faithfully to refer to journal publications when used as sources, or to mention future place of publication when that can be ascertained. But as a news magazine, much of the material we report on hasn't found its way into the literature yet. And even if the article idea originates with a journal paper, a meeting presentation, or a news announcement from a researcher's institution, our news articles frequently contain additional information and perspectives obtained by our reporters' talking to sources directly. That is why SCIENCE NEWS should be regarded, from a scientist's viewpoint, as a supplement to the scientific literature, not as merely a summary of it. Incidentally we are happy to learn we fill intracampus communications gaps.—Ed.)

films OF THE WEEK

AETNA. 16mm, color, sound, 11 min. Mt. Aetna is on the island of Sicily and is Europe's highest volcano, with a crater and cone that constantly fluctuate. The film shows through closeup photography and slow motion filming about Mt. Aetna and the forces that shape it. Audience: elementary, secondary. Purchase \$150 or rental \$15 from American Educational Films, Dept. SN, 331 N. Maple Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210

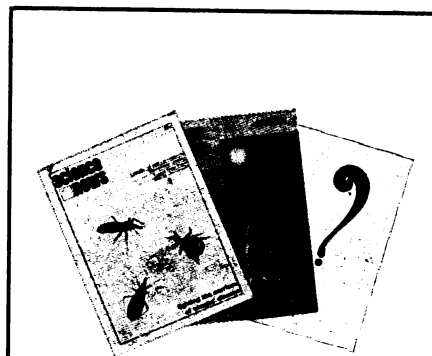
BUILDING A FREEWAY. 16mm, color, sound, 11 min. Shows process of developing a freeway: establishing need for a freeway; engineers studying possible routes to determine the best one; holding public hearings to select the final route; purchasing land and buildings along the route; bulldozers and scrapers leveling the ground; destroying or removing buildings as necessary; compacting the ground and filling lowlands; constructing overpasses and underpasses; laying pavement; installing barriers, fences and markers; and final inspection. Audience: primary, middle. Purchase \$130 from AIMS, Dept. SN, P.O. Box 1010, Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

INVOLUNTARY CONTROL. 16mm, color, sound, 21 min. This film deals with the organism's control of its involuntary behavior. It shows laboratory experiments with rats in which subjects are trained, by use of brain stimulation as a reinforcer or reward, to significantly increase or decrease their heart beats. Control of involuntary reflexes in humans is shown by a method actor producing tears. Finally, a human subject is shown producing and controlling the emission of brain alpha waves. Dr. Neal Miller of Rocke-

feller University is interviewed during the film and discusses his ongoing research and possible implications of these findings for broader areas. Audience: psychology students, general. Purchase \$275 or rental \$25 from John Wiley and Sons, Dept. SN, 605 3rd Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

THE ELECTROMAGNET. 16mm, b&w sound, 15 min. Deals with the principles of the electromagnet. After a brief introduction, simple experiments demonstrate the production of magnetic fields when electric current is passed through a wire. The effect of introducing a soft iron core into a solenoid is shown. The retention of magnetism by a steel core is described and the reason for using iron cores for electromagnets is explained. The application of electromagnets in a magnetic crane and a rubbish separator is shown, as is the construction and operation of an electric bell. This leads to a consideration of the telephone receiver and to the use of electromagnets in various parts of the telephone exchange. A sequence on the self-starter of a motor vehicle is followed by an explanation of the principles of both AC and DC motors. Audience: high school. Purchase and rental information from International Film Bureau, Dept. SN, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60604 (Film contains British terminology and spelling.)

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.



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