

## Environment message

President Nixon's environmental message last week was short on wholly new proposals. For instance, his proposed tax on sulfur oxide emissions had been proposed before.

An interesting and perhaps significant new initiative, however, was his announcement that he had instructed the Department of Housing and Urban Development to change insulation requirements for Federally-insured housing. The new standards would reduce heat losses one-third from earlier maximum permissible levels for single-unit dwellings, and 40 percent for apartments. The cost of the additional insulation can be paid for in a year in the case of the single-family dwellings, the President said—through savings in energy. Some scientists say that such simple expedients could go a long way toward solving the energy crisis.

Wildlife enthusiasts are pleased with the President's announcement that the Fish and Wildlife Service will halt most programs for poisoning of predators on public lands. □

## Energy policy

In a report last week, Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton called for a long-range energy policy. The policy could, he said, be best administered by the earlier proposed new Department of Natural Resources.

In some ways the new report closely resembles an earlier report by the National Petroleum Council. Both assume a continuation of the last 25-years' pattern of exponential growth in energy demand and use in the United States. That assumption has been increasingly criticized by many environmentalists and scientists who see ultimate disaster in exponential energy use growth. They call instead for rigorous conservation of energy resources.

The new report also notes that domestic reserves of gas and oil have declined in recent years, "reflecting insufficient incentive . . . in exploration and development" of new reserves. But critics point out incentives to the oil industry in general are already provided by large Federal subsidies. □

## Luna 20

The Soviet Union announced Feb. 14 the launch of Luna 20. The announcement was couched in terminology similar to that used for Luna 16—an unmanned landing craft that returned samples of Mare Fecunditatis to earth. Western space officials speculate that if the craft were launched from earth orbit (as one report said) the Soviets may be trying to get to an area of the moon west of their last site. □

### BOOK ORDER SERVICE

For the convenient purchase of any U.S. book in print you may avail yourself of Science News Book Order Service, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. We pay postage. Send 25¢ handling charge. Regular retail prices on all books.



—GAIN FABULOUS  
SPEED, ACCURACY!

## Rapid Calculations

Amaze yourself and friends. Use simple short cuts . . . eliminate wasteful number juggling. Save time, money, unnecessary work—yet BE PERFECTLY ACCURATE! Solve complicated problems fast—often mentally!

Great refresher for accountants, busy shoppers, engineers, salesmen . . . workers in any occupation requiring fast, accurate number calculations.

You can Multiply 56837 by 2467 or Divide 385623874369 by 89 IN 20 SECONDS, MENTALLY!!! Thousands of other "impossible" feats are easy after studying RAPID CALCULATIONS by famed mathematician A. H. Russell. Order today. NO RISK! 10-Day Money-Back Guar.

287-page book • Self-teaching Exercises with Answers. Rush only \$4.95 plus 30c handling.

EMERSON BOOKS, Inc., Dept. 872-T  
251 West 19th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

## SCIENCE EXPLORING AT SPRUCE MOUNTAIN CAMP FOR BOYS

BRYANT POND, MAINE  
New knowledge, new skills, new challenges in 3 major areas—Science Exploring, Outdoor Exploring and Lifetime Sports. Boys 10-15. Field, mountain, canoe trips. Outpost at Mt. Katahdin. SAFARI I wilderness program. SAFARI II in Canadian Rockies. Ham radio, photography, plants, animals, weather, geology, ecology, astronomy. Staff inquiries invited. Catalog:  
William T. Harty, Director  
12 Highland St., W. Medway, Mass. 02053

## CARPENTRY SKILLS SAVE YOU MONEY



With over 300 show-how pictures. World-famous master Craftsman Charles H. Haywood shows you how. Here are detailed, step-by-step illustrated instructions on the use of hand tools, woods and fasteners; on fitting locks, building doors and drawers, and mortising. There are dozens of home, garden and workshop projects; money-saving tips on tool care, and material buying. There are tips to save you money on materials, tools and the furniture you make instead of buying. Order now!

CARPENTRY FOR BEGINNERS  
by Charles H. Haywood

Only \$5.95, plus 30c handling. 10-Day Money-Back Guarantee.

EMERSON BOOKS, Inc., Dept. 873-T  
251 WEST 19 ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10011

## LIVE IN THE WORLD OF TOMORROW . . . TODAY! UNUSUAL BARGAINS NEW PRODUCTS • NEW MATERIALS • NEW IDEAS

## SCIENCE OPTICS ELECTRONICS

### TEST AIR, WATER, LAND POLLUTION



Now you can easily detect ALL three . . . AIR, WATER and LAND Pollution—with one low-cost kit. Loaded with safe chemical & apparatus for hundreds of fascinating hours of scientific environmental measurement. 40 experiments to detect and, in many cases, measure degree of 5 major pollutants; measure alkalinity and acidity levels. Also instructs in biodegradables, anti-litter activity. Ideal introduction to ecology and good citizenship. Includes 48-page illustrated instruction booklet.

Stock No. 71,548Q ----- \$9.95 Ppd.

### PARISCRAFT® HELPS YOU CREATE!



Combining high-strength fabric and plaster of paris, Pariscraft's ideal for creating models, prototypes, molds, sculpture with amazing simplicity and speed. Scissors and water are all you need. Then just cut, wet, model, let dry (no oven, baking or firing!) and paint. Great for ornaments, textured paintings, sculptured casts, scenery. 20 lb. package includes 50-60 3-yd. rolls, from 3 to 6" wide. Instructions.

Stock No. 71,558Q ----- \$15.95 Ppd.  
5 ROLLS (3" wide) No. 71,553Q ----- 3.50 Ppd.

### NEW FLEXIBLE FRESNEL LENS



Versatile 11" dia. flat wide-angle Fresnel acts as image multiplier. Use as wide-angle, fish-eye, around-corner & distortion lens. Turns restricted view into panorama, great for op art, unique decor. Sticks to glass w/water, pull to remove—no marks. Plano-concave neg. Fresnel lens, —12" F.L. Asph-

erized to elim. spherical aberration. 16-pg. project bk. shows how to make solar furnace, overhead projector, camera obscura, more.  
Stock No. 71,542Q ----- \$5.25 Ppd.

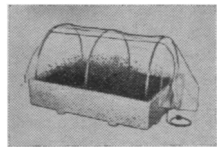
### 5 GASES IN LOW COST 6-PACK



Now you can use low cost space-saver sample containers of Oxygen, Carbon Dioxide, Nitrogen, Argon and Helium instead of costly large cylinders. Economy size hard-to-find 12.1 liter aerosols ideal for research and school labs. Perfect for science projects, school demonstrations showing differences and similarities of each, use as convenient pure gas sources for Boyle's Law, Charles' Law, etc. Six cans, incl. 2 Helium, 1 each of others.

Stock No. P-71,546Q ----- \$16.00 Ppd.

### STARTS SEEDS IN 3 TO 5 DAYS!



New thermostatically controlled electric greenhouse provides constant 70° growing temperature. Accelerated germination, helps produce healthy thriving plants ready for outdoor planting. Big 3 sq. ft. planting area—29" x 15" x 4" box holds ½ bushel of growing medium. Germinates tomato seeds in 3-5 days; asters, dahlias, petunias, wk. or less. Incl. 3 x 4 ft. clear plastic cover, supports 4 pkgs. of veg. & flower seeds. Uses reg. home current.

Stock No. 80,153Q ----- \$12.95 Ppd.

### MAIL COUPON FOR GIANT FREE CATALOG

#### 148 PAGES! MORE THAN 4,000 UNUSUAL BARGAINS

Enormous variety of telescopes, microscopes, binoculars, magnets, magnifiers, photo components, lenses, prisms, optical instruments, parts, Science Fair kits, projects and accessories. Write for Free Catalog "Q" Edmund Scientific Co., 300 Edscorp Building, Barrington, New Jersey 08007.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**EDMUND SCIENTIFIC CO.** 300 EDSCORP BLDG.  
BARRINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08007  
ORDER BY STOCK NUMBER • SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER • MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE