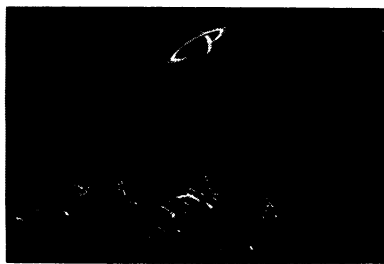


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## to the editor

### What sort of system?

I find it incredibly appalling that, in the case of the Trans-Alaska pipeline system, "The next move appears to be up to Judge Hart" (SN: 5/20/72, p. 325).

What sort of system of Government is this, that a decision of this magnitude should rest on one man? The forces arrayed in battle are almost unbelievable. On the one side we find perhaps the largest lobby in the land: the energy industry. On the other side, scientists—the respected brain trust of our nation—and virtually the entire conservation movement.

And in the middle, one man: Judge Hart.

He is supposed to make an accurate and intelligent decision, and do it quickly. The pressures on him are hard to even guess at.

Is it time we considered another method for arriving at environmental decisions?

*Robert A. Bergen*  
Teacher, Marine Biology  
Palm Beach Gardens High School  
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

### Denial to automakers

The decision denying the automakers' request for an extension of the 1975 deadline (SN: 5/20/72, p. 325) was particularly gratifying to me, as it vindicated the belief held by myself and many other members of Congress that strict emission control could indeed be met by the auto manufacturers once firm deadlines were set toward which developments in new technology could be directed.

*Edmund S. Muskie*  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C.

### Science education

I am grateful to you for noting the disparity between Congressional and Administration objectives for science education programs under the National Science Foundation (SN: 5/6/72, p. 296). I and many of my colleagues are concerned over the lack of commitment to science education evidenced by the Administration, and your article is certainly a strong contribution to the healthy debate over priorities in this area.

*John W. Davis*  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

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## films OF THE WEEK

**CLOUD OVER THE CORAL REEF.** 16mm, color, sound, 30 min. Shows graphically and accurately how the dark cloud of pollution is transforming the exotic and invaluable coral reefs of the tropics into undersea graveyards. Emphasis is placed on the destruction of corals by sewage pollution and by sedimentation from land clearing projects. The film was made to dramatize the seriousness of undersea pollution and to alert the public to the need for immediate remedial action. Audience: Ninth grade to adult. Purchase \$350 or rental \$50 from Moonlight Productions, Dept. SN, 2650 California St., Apt. #13, Mountain View, Calif. 94040.

**DRUGS THAT AFFECT THE MIND.** 16mm, color, sound, 30 min. Presents a clinical view of what happens inside the brain when certain drugs are used, and the corresponding behavior that can be expected. Prof. Richard D. O'Brien, director of the division of biological sciences at Cornell University, examines the cellular structure of the brain. He explains the physical interactions of the brain cells, how the interactions affect a person's mental state, and what happens when the interactions are influenced by drugs. Animated film sequences, a color model of the brain, and graphics help to illustrate the effects of six categories of drugs. They include narcotics, tranquilizers, stimulants, hallucinogens, sedatives and one that O'Brien puts into a class by itself, marijuana. Near the end of the film, O'Brien expresses his opinion on the social implications of drugs. He emphasizes that the viewpoints are his alone and may be contrary to the opinion of others in the scientific community. Audience: Community groups, professional. Purchase and rental information from Film Library, Dept. SN, Roberts Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 (also available on two inch, one inch and 3/4 inch videotape).

**HORIZON OF HOPE.** 16mm, color, sound, 15 min. A look at the special school at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute where researchers and teachers are searching for ways to help children with learning disabilities. The children's difficulties are due to various causes including mental retardation, brain damage, psychological impairment and cultural deprivation. Shows several teachers using reinforcement learning techniques—rewarding the child when he does something correctly. Observes children of different ages with different disabilities; in several kinds of learning situations: image recognition, color discrimination, language development, and self-care in home. The children seem happy and are often warm and enthusiastic about their learning experience, showing the beneficial results of the trend away from custodial institutions to the modern teaching and research center. Audience: Medical, teachers, general. Purchase \$180 from University of California Extension Media Center, Dept. SN, 2223 Fulton St., Berkeley, Calif. 94720.

**MUSCLE,** 16mm, color, sound, 30 min. Combines the latest animation techniques with commentary to vividly show the dynamics of muscle tissue and the processes involved in muscle contraction. The three types of muscles—smooth, striated and cardiac—are extensively demonstrated and explained with animated drawings based on the anatomical sketchbooks of Leonardo da Vinci. Constantly interposed are the involved electrical, mechanical and chemical processes needed to produce a single muscle cell contraction. A discussion of electronic feedback therapy is included. Audience: High school, college, professional. Sale \$325 or rental \$30 from CRM Productions, Dept. SN, 9263 W. Third St., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210.

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.