

Books

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The Audubon Society Guide to Attracting Birds — Stephen W. Kress, foreword by Roger Tory Peterson. Tells how to increase bird varieties on all types of land, whether a small yard or a large farm. Begins by explaining how to take a bird inventory. The author then shows how to improve your property for wildlife by landscaping and providing plants that are most attractive to birds. Explains how water, from birdbaths and backyard pools to ponds and marshes, can be used to attract birds. Provides information on nesting structures and feeding. Scribner, 1985, 377 p., illus. by Anne Senechal Faust, \$24.95.

Comet Halley: Once in a Lifetime — Mark Littmann and Donald K. Yeomans. Details and illustrates the history, lore and science of this most famous of the short-term comets. Sky-charts and descriptions point out exactly when and where to view Comet Halley from November 1985 to June 1986. Includes a glossary and bibliography. Am Chemical, 1985, 175 p., illus., \$19.95, paper, \$12.95.

Halley's Comet — Donald Tattersfield. The history, composition and motion of Halley's comet for those interested in this once-in-a-lifetime event. The author assumes no scientific knowledge on the part of the reader but provides scientific background for the understanding of comets. Explains how to photograph Halley's comet; discusses the space probes that will travel to the comet and what astronomers do not yet know about comets. Provides computer programs in BASIC suitable for the Commodore 64, TRS-80 and the Apple II to demonstrate the motion of a comet in its orbit around the sun, to determine its altitude and bearing and to demonstrate the relative motions of Halley's comet and the earth. Basil Blackwell, 1985, 176 p., illus., \$12.95.

The Mars One Crew Manual — Kerry Mark Joëls. Technological innovation and imagination are here combined to provide this step-by-step manual for a mission to Mars in 1996. The spacecraft is described — in fact, the book is written — as if the reader were a member of the Mars One crew. Living and working in space are discussed. The mission is first outlined and then each aspect is described in detail. Excellent illustrations accompany the text, including a map of the landing site on Mars in the Candor Chasma region. Ballantine, 1985, 160 p., color/b&w illus., \$24.95, paper, \$12.95.

The Mystery of Comets — Fred L. Whipple. Tells the story, from ancient time to the present, of our progress in understanding comets. "Comets," says the preface, "appear to be the most primitive bodies in the solar system and may even have played an important role in making life on Earth possible." Early chapters present clues and theories developed before the 20th century. Later chapters provide up-to-date information on the significance and nature of comets, their origin, their possible relation to life on earth and space missions to comets, particularly Comet Halley. Smithsonian, 1985, 276 p., illus., \$24.95, paper, \$12.50.

Letters

Tooth or consequences

The before-and-after X-rays used to illustrate the article on "Mouth Immunity" (SN: 10/5/85, p. 221) are an example of healing by substitution of evidence. A close look reveals that the filling in the bicuspid disappears in the "after" film without leaving a cavity behind it. The molars could have received the new restorations, but there is insufficient evidence of caries to justify them. Since the tooth morphology in the two radiographs is so similar, it is possible that an image of the opposite side was substituted when the article was prepared.

Max H. Schoen, D.D.S., Dr. PH.
Professor of Public Health and
Preventive Dentistry
University of California
Los Angeles, Calif.

Mea culpa! The before-and-after photos we supplied for your fine article on localized juvenile periodontal disease were meant to show healing and bone repair after antimicrobial therapy, but they were not the same teeth. Please forgive us for this inadvertent error.

Anthony A. Rizzo, D.M.D., M.S.
Chief, Periodontal and
Soft Tissue Diseases Branch
National Institute of Dental Research
Bethesda, Md.

Copyrights and wrongs

Has the state of our university system deteriorated so much that we have professors who write and sell commercial software ("Bits of Ownership," SN: 9/21/85, p. 188)? It seems to me that the issue is not whether or not the universities should share in the profits but whether they should support profit-oriented "research."

John N. Barrer
Vienna, Va.

While a number of very good points are made in "Bits of Ownership," I am concerned that your readers may be misled by the implication that rights in copyrights can be handled in a manner similar to other intellectual-property rights, such as trade secrets, inventions and patents.

While it is simple to agree ahead of time to a transfer of an invention, know-how or the like, the 1976 Copyright Act (effective 1/1/78) specifically provides for initial ownership of the rights in copyright. These initial rights vest upon "fixation" (i.e., creation) of the work, and provide that the copyright in a work vests initially in the author or authors. In the case of "works made for hire," the employer or other person for whom the work was prepared is considered the author. The scope of those works included within the "works made for hire" provision is severely limited by the definition thereof to only two categories: (1) a work prepared by an employee within the scope of his or her employment; or (2) a work specially ordered or commissioned for use as a contribution to a collective work, as part of a motion picture or other audiovisual work, as a translation, supplementary work, compilation, instructional text, test, answer material for a test or atlas, if the parties expressly agree in a written instrument signed by them that the work shall be considered a work made for hire.

Thus, in the case of software and similar

works, it seems quite unlikely that any work would vest in a university or similar institution unless the same is "prepared by an employee within the scope of his or her employment." The use of university facilities and supplies would seem to have no bearing whatsoever on this issue. Students would not appear to be covered at all, and neither employed students nor professors would appear to be covered unless the software was prepared within the scope of employment.

I believe that universities and like institutions would be well served to approach this matter via the employment route (through appropriate employment agreements defining the scope of work and compensation) for their professors and students, rather than, or at least in addition to, an agreement to assign, which likely will become effective after the event of fixation.

Samuel B. Stone
Attorney
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Hyperactivity and abuse

It seems to me that there are at least two other questions to be asked about hyperactive children ("Hyperactivity: Will it stay or go?" SN: 10/19/85, p. 245): (1) how healthy is their diet, i.e., is there "junk food"; and (2) are they victims of sexual, emotional or physical abuse? The behavioral patterns of hyperactive children are similar to those of abused children (i.e., inattention, alcohol and drug use/abuse, school truancy and expulsion, vandalism, thefts and criminal arrests).

Susan B. Yewell
Pasadena, Calif.

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