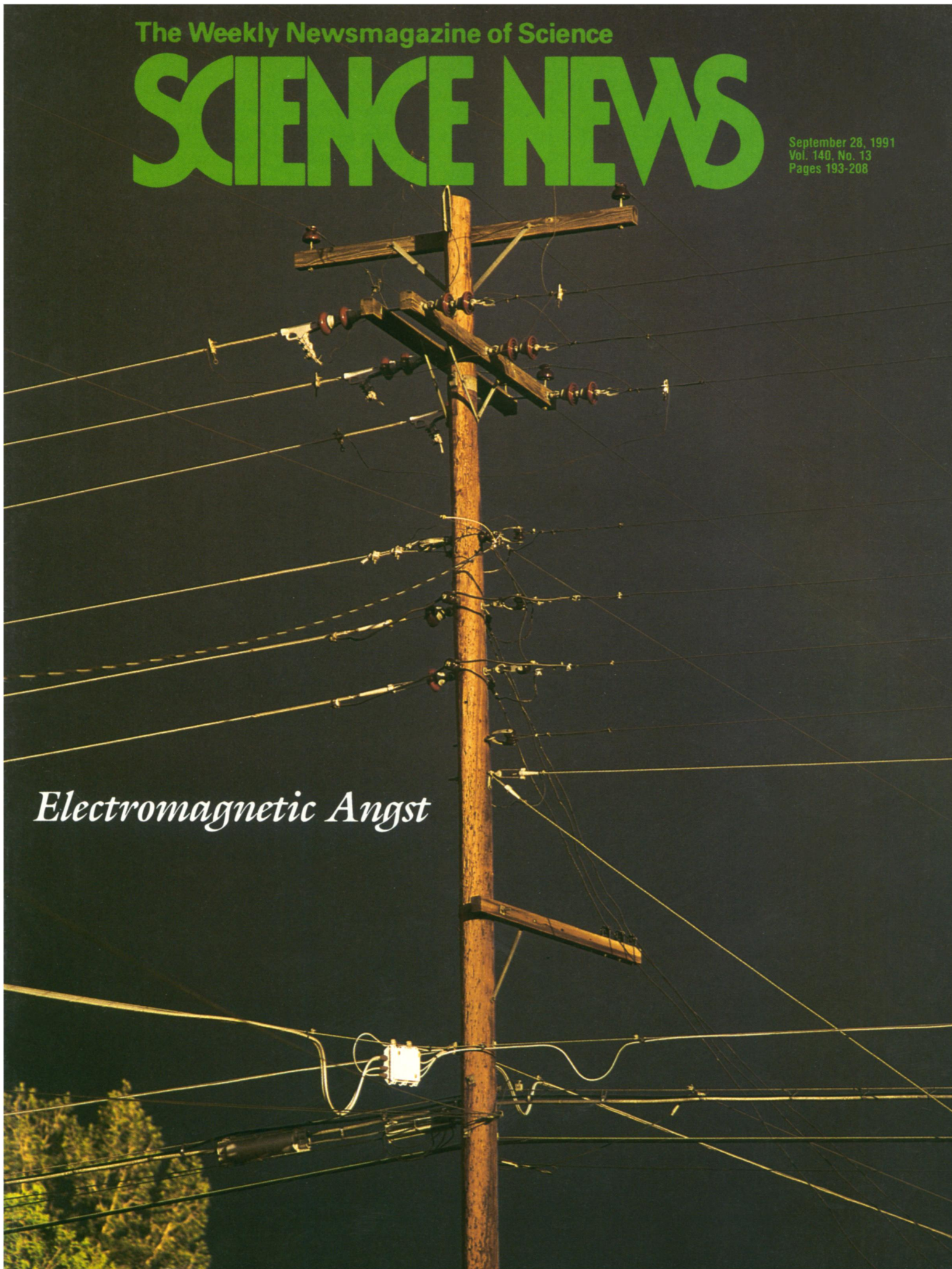


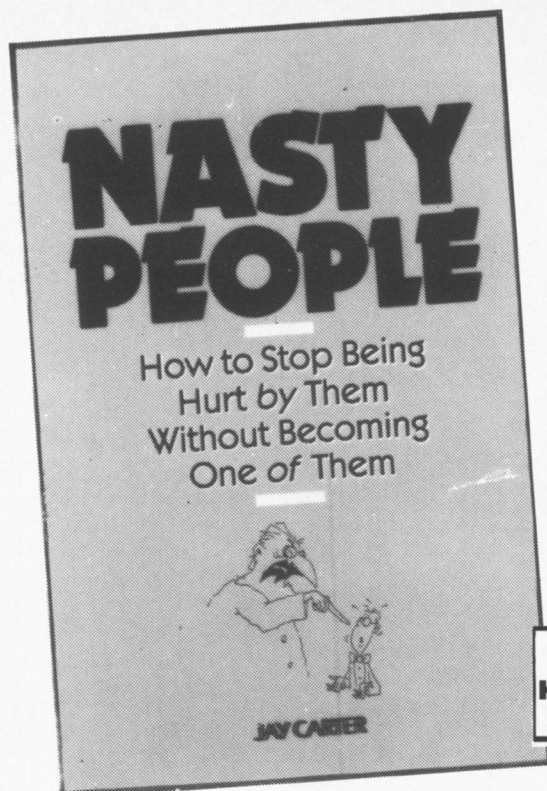
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Electromagnetic Angst





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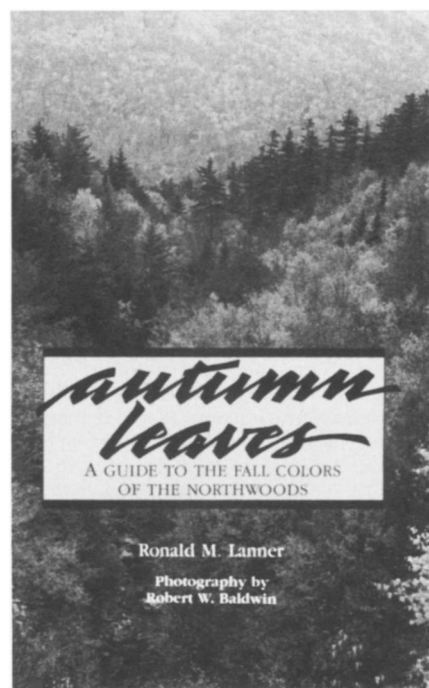
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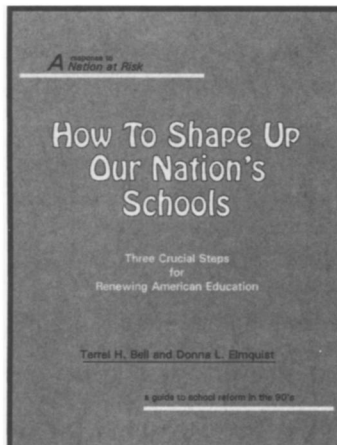
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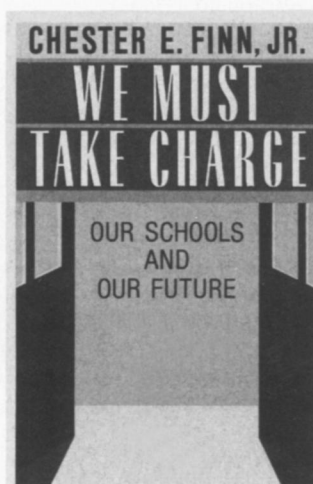


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It is becoming increasingly clear that improving science and math education requires more than just revising the curricula; the quality of education and the effectiveness of schools as a whole must be improved. These two important books address the problems faced by our schools and suggest measures that can be taken to mitigate them.

In *How to Shape Up Our Nation's Schools*, Bell and Elmquist argue that poor student motivation, lack of parent involvement, and inadequate electronic technology in teaching all seriously restrict the impact of any science and mathematics curriculum, old or new. They formulate a number of ideas for dealing with these problems and suggest specific ways to apply those ideas within today's educational system.

We Must Take Charge proposes that we reorganize our school system in order to establish a national standard of achievement that all students must meet. Such a standard would require a national curriculum of core subjects, including science and math, as well as reliable testing methods to determine how students are performing in relation to this standard. Finn also argues that in order to revitalize education from the bottom up, educators in each school must be given the authority to revise and improve their teaching methods, and in turn be held responsible for their performance.