

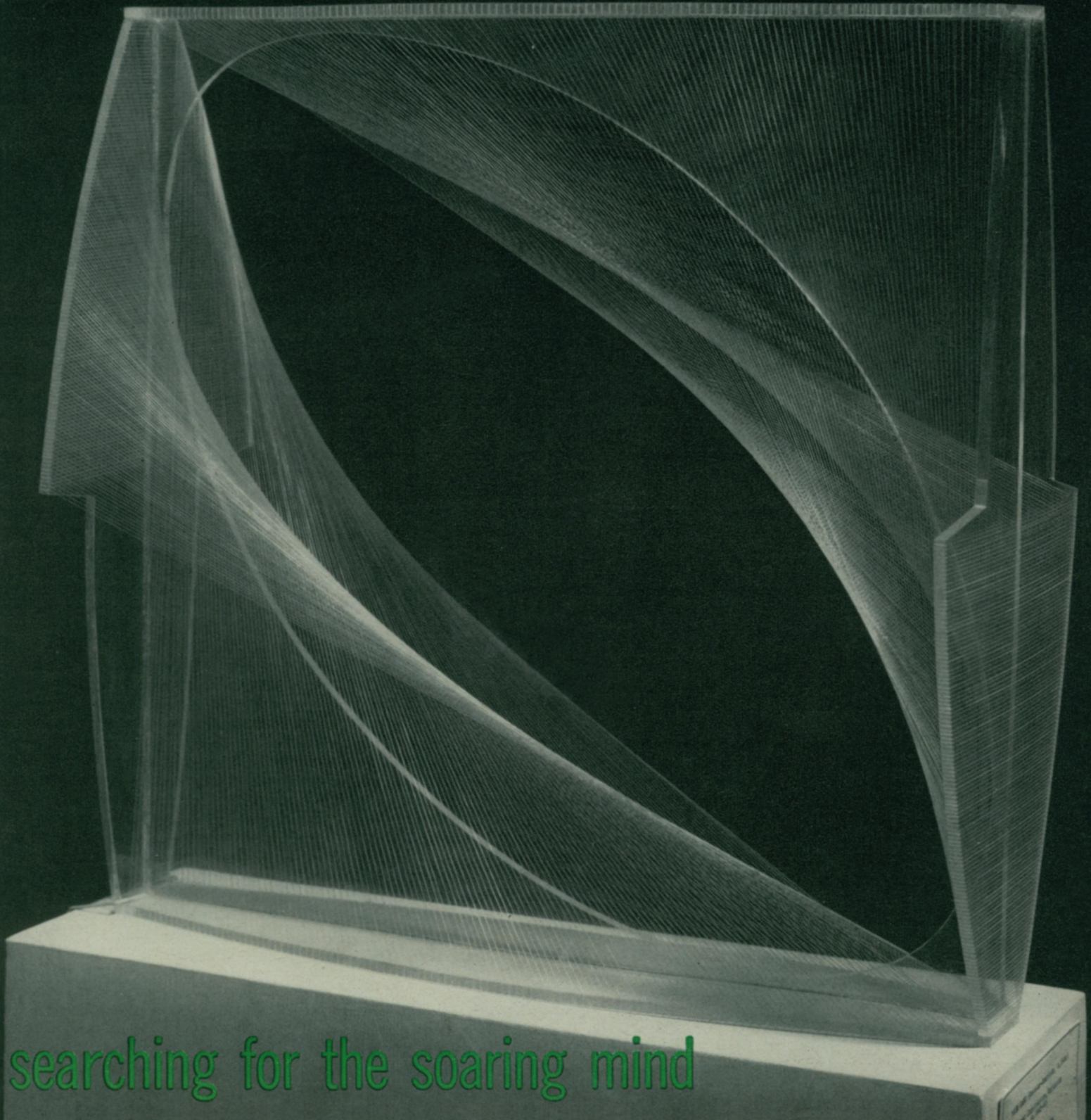
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MAY 18 1968/VOLUME 93/No. 20 P. 465-488

SCIENCE NEWS

international science fair
space probes shot from guns
letter from Bombay



searching for the soaring mind



The first time POP (that's the nickname for AC's Perpendicular Ocean Platform) went for a dip in the ocean off Santa Barbara, California, it caused quite a stir.

You see, POP is a new 220-foot underwater research craft developed by AC Electronics' Defense Research Laboratories. It floats on the surface like any other seagoing vessel. But when its forward ballast tanks are filled, POP swings up to a vertical position in the water. With almost 90% of the hull below the surface.

In this position, POP forms a stable platform, almost completely free of movement from high winds or rough seas. From it, scientists lower sensitive instruments toward the ocean floor in the development of acoustic tracking and submarine noise measurement systems.

Two men can live aboard POP. They work above surface or 80 feet down in a decompression-observation chamber.

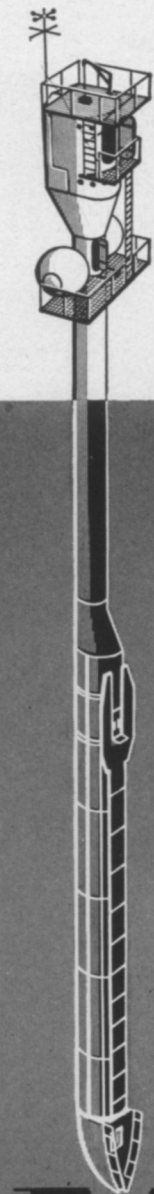
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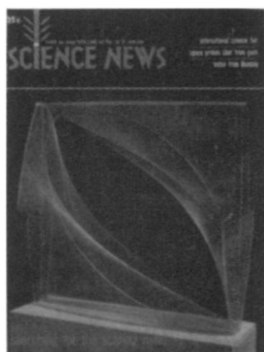
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SCIENCE FAIR

- 469 From the publisher's desk
- 474 International Fair in Detroit
- 479 What predicts creativity? Activity outside school

OF THE WEEK

- 471 Defense institute faces loss of sponsors
- 472 Research budgets under Federal ax
Memory is more than simple chemistry
- 473 Soviet space: an eventful month
Transfusion: new route to interferon
- 474 A spate of heart transplants; a look at the future
- 475 **Computer Notes:** Heavy-duty medical computer; Simulating plant growth; Fourth generation delineated; Standardizing user control modes; Electronic ballpoint pen
- 476 **Medical Sciences Notes:** Smokers' placentas show enzyme activity; Fertilization minimizes fallout; Flu spray superior to shots; Estrogen affects eyes; Cancer-alcoholism link suspected
- 477 **Life Sciences Notes:** Rat arthritis calmed by diabetes; Waste phosphorus removed at sewage plant; Chemicals may cause mutations; Salmonella found in drain cleaners; Role of L-asparagine in tumors; Weed-killer may cause fires
- 478 **Technology Notes:** Soil freezing studied for tunnel building; Recipe for superplastic metals; Copper alloy corrosion rate investigated; Oscillations in germanium; Trace elements determined; Inflatable masts beat ice peril
- 487 **Current Patents:** Pumped-in dam to protect fresh water; Doping semiconductors; Improving cathode ray tubes



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Vol. 93/May 18, 1968/No. 20
Science News Letter®

FROM ABROAD

- 486 **Letter from Bombay:** Agricultural research blossoms

IN SCIENCE FIELDS

- 484 **Space Technology:** Gunning for space

DEPARTMENTS

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 482 Books of the Week | 486 Ideas and Products of the Week |
| 468 Films of the Week | 468 Letters to the Editor |

COVER

A construction in plastic and thread by Naum Gabo symbolizes creativity, a quality elusive to testers but highly valuable in both arts and sciences. p. 479. (From the Phillips Collection)

Watson Davis, 1896-1967

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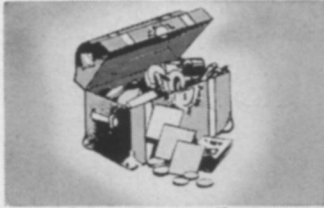
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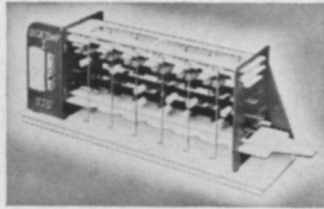
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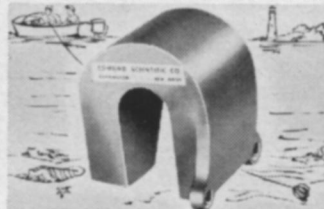
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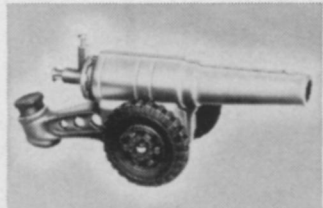
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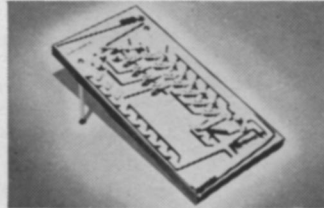
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How much do you know about ANT POWER?

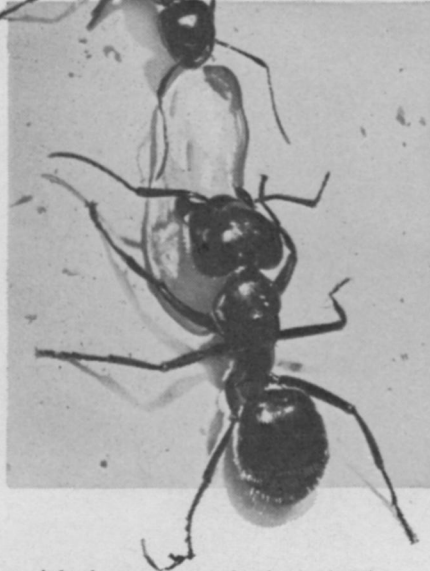
Do you know:

■ The tiniest ants can lift objects from ten to fifty times their own weight, carry them considerable distances, and do this several times daily. (In comparison, a strong man would have to carry a half-ton load at a brisk trot for several hours.)

■ South American army ants march in file over a 3- to 20-yard front, devouring all small prey in their path: tarantulas, scorpions, snakes, lizards, and small mammals.

■ Ant nests, or cities, sometimes house up to half a million ants and extend over areas of several square yards, mostly underground.

■ Ant colonies last for years, and the queen ant, around whom the whole society revolves, has been known to live from 12 to 20 years.



are among the cleanest of insects, and ant farms require minimum upkeep. The ants do all their own work.)

How to set limits on ANT POWER

This book will also give you advice on what sorts of chemicals and pesticides to use against troublesome ants. Whatever your interest in ants, this book by an expert will answer your questions. As David Costello says, "I have never met anyone who was not interested in ants." When you read his fascinating book, you will see what "Ant Power" really means. The world of the ant is something you should know more about — and you will when you read *The World of the Ant*. Send today for your copy of this informative book. Mail the money-back coupon below.

THESE are just a few of the amazing facts about ants you will discover in the new book, *The World of the Ant* by David Costello, latest addition to the unique *Living World* series of illustrated nature books. And here are some more remarkable things that this book tells you about nature's most numerous creatures.

Termites, sometimes called "white ants," are not ants at all. The World of the Ant tells you why, and explains how you can tell one kind of ant from another (one scientist states that there are more than 10,000 varieties of ants).

The ant's worst enemy is man. Woodpeckers, flickers, anteaters, bears, toads and frogs are natural enemies of the ant. But none of them threatens entire species of ants as does man, if unintentionally, with great quantities and varieties of pesticides and soil conservation chemicals.

Ants hibernate in winter. Most ants survive the cold winter months by storing food in their bodies and going underground, or under wood, until spring — a rare characteristic among insects.

Ants are the oldest, most dedicated communistic society in the history of the world. Mankind has been around for a million years, but ants have lasted a hundred times as long under a system of all for one and one for all, a function for everyone and everyone for a function.

Now you can discover this strange, wonderful new world

You have noticed ants of many colors, many kinds, all your life, but have you ever *watched* them? This book will show you how to observe ants — watch them gather food and build their intricate nests

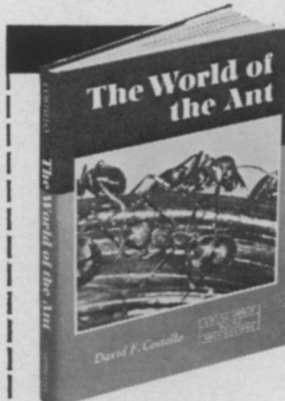
— right in your own back yard. The author of *The World of the Ant* has studied ants for thirty years, often in his back yard. With his camera, and infinite patience, he has photographed dozens of different kinds of ants in their natural surroundings. More than a hundred of these photographs, including detailed closeups and spectacular enlargements, appear throughout the book.

How to housebreak your own ants

Did you ever think of keeping ants as pets? This book will show you how to build your own indoor ant city using simple materials — panes of glass and strips of wood — found in your home. (Note: ants

You can order other books in this series at the same time

The World of the Ant is the latest in Lippincott's highly praised *Living World* series, edited by John K. Terres. All books in the series are designed for your reading pleasure and offer authentic information about wild creatures in their natural habitats, plus up to 100 excellent action and detail photographs. "As the *Living World* series continues to expand," writes famous naturalist-writer-photographer EDWIN WAY TEALE, "so does my admiration for it. It is one of the really solid contributions to the library of anyone interested in nature." A complete list of books available appears in the coupon. Use it in ordering any you wish.



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