

**NEW GIANT 148-Pg. CATALOG FREE!**  
 Completely new, 1969 ed. New items, categories, illustrations, easy-to-read pages with nearly 4000 unusual bargains. Enormous selection of Astronomical Telescopes, Microscopes, Binoculars, Magnifiers, Lenses, Prisms, parts, accessories, math learning aids, do-it-yourself kits, exciting exclusives. Write for free Catalog "Q."  
**EDMUND SCIENTIFIC CO., BARRINGTON, N.J. 08007**

**ASTRONOMY**

For You Each Month!

Enjoy **SKY AND TELESCOPE** magazine, devoted to astronomy and space science. Profusely illustrated. Observing and telescope making departments, monthly planet and star charts. Subscription in U.S.: \$7.00, 1 year; \$13.00, 2 years. Sample copy 75 cents.

Dept. SNL  
**SKY AND TELESCOPE** Cambridge, Mass. 02138



**SEE MIRACLE OF BIRTH**

**\$4.98** POST PAID WITH SIX QUAIL EGGS (\$3.25 Without Eggs.)

You get the new clear plastic dome CHICK-BATOR with 6 Bobwhite Quail Eggs (available year-round) and Egg Hatcher's Guide Book. Complete — nothing else to buy. Send check or Money Order today.

G.G.F. MFG. CO., DEPT. CL, BOX 152, SAVANNAH, GA.

**NOW PRICED LOWER THAN EVER**

**GIANT BALLOONS** 25 ft.  
 10 ft. Guaranteed size brand - new surplus. Durable heavy-duty neoprene rubber, 5' size -2 for \$1 + 25¢ pp. 10' size - \$1 + 25¢ pp. Great fun at beach or play. Huge 25' size: Inflate with auto air hose or vacuum cleaner or fill with locally available gas. Fly advt. sign high in sky. Terrific crowd gatherer for sales, openings, sports, meteorologists, etc. Nat'lly adv. at \$10—now only \$4 + 50¢ pp-2 for \$7 + \$1 pp-3 for \$10 + \$1.50 pp.

No COD's. NOVEL PROD., 31 2nd Ave., Dept. B-68, NYC 10003

**Are You Reading Your Own Copy of Science News?**

If not, avail yourself of this Special Trial Offer for non-subscribers.

**39 weeks for only \$3.97**

Mail this coupon and \$3.97 to Science News 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

This offer for non-subscribers only  
 39 Weeks Science News only \$3.97 5/31

**BENDING THE STICK**

**Pollution control by suasion**

Under the Water Quality Control Act of 1956, the Secretary of the Interior can step in and order delinquent states to clean up their pieces of interstate waterways or face court action. But before he—or more specifically the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration (FWPCA)—can do so, a formal series of conferences and hearings must be held.

To those who regard the threat of court action as a tool for getting states to put their water in shape, last week's acknowledgement by the Department of Interior that it decided to emphasize personal diplomacy instead of conferences and hearings constituted an abandonment of an aggressive water pollution control policy on the part of the Administration. Assistant Secretary of the Interior Carl L. Klein vehemently denies that this shift is a major policy switch by the department. He sees it instead, as an augmentation.

Specifically, under the Water Quality Control Act, there are three legal steps that the FWPCA must go through to force a state to comply with a water pollution edict. The first step is the conference procedure, whereby evidence is presented to the state showing that harm was being done to an interstate body of water.

If the state refuses to accept the evidence, then the second stage, or formal hearing, must be held. Here, testimony under oath is given. If at this stage no acceptance is obtained, a court action is instituted, and the FWPCA seeks a cease and desist order against the polluting activity.

By subordinating these proceedings and employing informal, behind-the-scenes talks to convert rather than to compel, the Interior Department appeared to some to serve notice that it would rather switch than fight.

One person concerned with the shift is Sen. Edward S. Muskie (D-Me.), a leader in the fight against water pollution. Muskie, to put it mildly, is not happy with the change. This shift, says Muskie's office "violates the idea of public participation." Or put another way, without the public spotlight of the formal conferences and hearings, states will feel less disposed to spend the money and press their industries to prevent or roll back pollution.

The Senator was afraid something like this would happen when he opposed the transfer of the FWPCA in 1966 from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to the Department of the Interior. It was Muskie's belief that the dual aims of the Interior Department—conservation and exploitation of re-

sources—could conflict, but he reluctantly went along with the switch.

Defending the use of personal diplomacy is Assistant Secretary Klein. Sounding like a crack salesman with a great product, Klein vigorously defends using personal negotiations to augment formal conferences and hearings. He says he gets results that way. He cites, as one prime example of his success with informal negotiations, the recent U.S. Steel Corp. agreement not to dump its wastes in Lake Erie.

He sees avoiding the conferences and hearings in the same way a good lawyer tries to avoid going through a law suit to achieve his objective. He has not ruled out the formal conferences and hearings. Where necessary, they will be instituted. He still intends to keep them in his armament, but "it is a weapon of the last resort, and its edges should not be dulled," he says. "I will use everything else before using that."

Defenders of the soft over the hard policy will meet their crucial test in getting 25 states to comply with the 1965 amendments to the Water Quality Act. These amendments to the 1956 act, required all states to submit water quality standards by June 30, 1967, or Washington would set them for them. All the states have complied, but the standards of 25 of them are still unacceptable in parts, raising the prospect of a vigorous Federal response.

As it stands now, the FWPCA has had to do very little arm twisting. Of the 45 actions since 1956 which have reached the conference stage, only five have gone on to the second, or hearing stage, and only one—against St. Joseph, Mo.—has reached the court stage. Rep. John A. Blatnik (D-Minn.), another water quality advocate, attributes this record—as do many others—to the fact that Murray Stein, head of the office of enforcement of the FWPCA, has effectively presented the polluters with evidence of their misdoing.

This was generally done in formal conference, with the threat of further legal action in the wings.

But it is now being interpreted as a traditional reliance on negotiation. "The record speaks for itself," says Stein. "It shows that we only had to go to court once."

But Muskie is not sure that, once court action no longer hangs so closely over their heads, the states and their industrial constituencies will continue to be so cooperative.

Klein himself is worried that he may be forced to return to legal conferences and hearings, now the word is out on the new modus operandi. ◇