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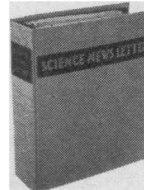
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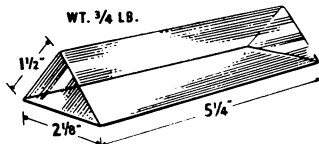
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## Questions

**CONSERVATION**—What new proposal has been made to aid conservationists? p. 4.

**MANPOWER**—What percentage of the American labor force is composed of women? p. 7

**PSYCHIATRY**—How does lack of sleep affect an individual's behavior, according to observations of one person? p. 6.

**Photographs:** Cover, Westinghouse Electric Corporation; p. 3, Bell Aircraft Corporation; p. 5, Raytheon Manufacturing Company; p. 7, Indiana University; p. 10, Manchester Memorial Hospital; p. 15, General Electric Research Laboratory; p. 16, Jobar Industries, Inc.

## Do You Know?

An electron *accelerator* creates a high-energy stream of positively charged protons or negatively charged electrons which bombard matter under study.

A relationship between *spinal arthritis* on the one hand and leukemia and heart disease on the other has been discovered.

The rapid, deep breathing that results from heavy doses of *aspirin* is one way of helping rheumatoid arthritis patients to increase their range of motion and muscle strength.

### MANPOWER

## Women Scientists Use Their College Training

► "ENTHUSIASTIC" is the way some 276 Barnard College alumnae feel about their scientific training, according to a report published by the women's college.

Their responses to a questionnaire indicate their six to ten years of training is worthwhile if for no other reason than to attract more young persons into science through teaching. Most are now working as teachers, researchers or in other fields of science.

Asked about the role of women in science, almost half pointed out that a woman's patience for detail, her acceptance of routine and her success in work involving personal contact place her ahead of a man for some aspects of science. Also, women will work for less financial and social rewards.

Many of the alumnae believe a thorough training in science is more important for science teachers than training in "how-to-teach." A number of comments stressed that interest and aptitude "which come from within" are requisites for a career in science.

The Barnard faculty notes, however, that the increase in the number of independent research projects begun by students has stimulated many to continue graduate work in science.

The importance of women to science, in view of the manpower shortage in the field, is illustrated by the fact that while they make up one-third of the working force, women represent only one-twentieth of the nation's scientists.

Science News Letter, July 5, 1958

### GEOPHYSICS

## Europe and America Once Close to Equator

► EUROPE AND AMERICA were close to the equator within the last million years.

So concludes Dr. S. K. Runcorn of Cambridge University, England, from his studies on the earth's axis of rotation in long-ago times. He compared the rotation axis as found in fossil magnetic rocks with that indicated by wind direction in fossil sand dunes.

Dr. Runcorn assumed that, wherever the poles and the equator were located, there was likely to be a belt of trade winds. Size of the trade wind belt might expand or contract over a period of time.

He found a 20-degree shift of the poles would place Europe and America close to the equator. Then the wind directions shown by fossil sand dunes would be caused by trade winds. They were uniform over a large area and over a long time, thus suggesting the winds resulted, not from a local condition, but from something affecting the earth as a whole.

Dr. Runcorn's conclusions are reported in *The Observatory* (April), a publication of the Royal Astronomical Society.

Science News Letter, July 5, 1958