Questions

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ENGINEERING—Which dust control for roads has surpassed water? p. 52.

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NUTRITION—How does the niacin in light roasted coffee compare with that in dark roasted coffee? p. 51.

Photographs: Cover, Detroit Zoological Park; p. 51, Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Company; p. 53, Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory, Inc.; p. 55, Sperry Gyroscope Co.; p. 64, Eastman Chemical Products, Inc.

AGRICULTURE

Clover Blooms in Tropics With High Elevation

HIGH ELEVATION appears to be an important factor in getting white clover to bloom in the tropics.

It is the low night temperatures associated with higher elevations that seems to enable this "foreign," temperate zone plant to grow and flourish, reports E. J. Britten of the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station.

A set of experiments, reported in *Science* (Jan. 8), showed white clover *(Trifolium repens)* that flowered under natural conditions failed to flower if subjected to cool days and warm nights. Furthermore, plants that did not flower in Hawaiian areas from which they originated did flower under warm day-cool night conditions.

There is some diversity in the clover's adaptation to life in the tropics, the researcher says. Some groups or clones flowered freely without exposure to cold nights. This seems to indicate that flowering is an apparent or phenotypic response of the genotype to its environment.

Science News Letter, January 23, 1960

ENGINEERING

How to "Lay Dust" Told At Highway Meeting

HIGHWAY engineers were told how to "lay dust" kicked up by trucks rumbling along highway construction sites—and keep it down.

Ernest Zube, research engineer for the California Division of Highways, told the Highway Research Board meeting in Washington, D. C., that tests showed water to be the most expensive and "for the most part the least effective method" for combating the dust problem.

Tests aimed at showing performance and economic advantages of various dust binders were conducted recently on a highway under construction in California, he said. Surpassing water as a means of dust control were a diluted asphaltic mixing emulsion, a lignin product and an asphaltic resin product.

Sprinkling dirt roads with water long has been used to keep down the dust raised by construction, particularly in residential areas. But the water soon evaporates and another sprinkling is needed.

Dust should be controlled not only because it poses a public relations problem but, even more urgent, because it is a health hazard to the workmen, Mr. Zube said.

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