

Since Halley's comet came very close to Castor and Pollux, it must also at one time have been directly over Bethlehem—"where the young child was."

Although Dr. Richardson admits that there are certain objections to this idea, he concludes that perhaps "it is better that some of the questions remain unanswered. The story has endured for 2,000 years because of its beauty and simplicity."

• Science News Letter, 80:386 December 9, 1961

#### ENTOMOLOGY

### Insect Preservation Allows More Field Work

► A NEW METHOD of insect preservation using chlorocresol crystals eliminates the need of pinning and mounting specimens in the field.

Lloyd M. Martin, associate curator of entomology at the Los Angeles County Museum who recently completed a two weeks' expedition collecting moths and other insects in Palo Duro Canyon, Texas, applied this technique, introduced from Australia, for the first time in the United States.

In the bottom of a plastic box a teaspoonful of chlorocresol crystals is placed and the moths as collected are placed in layers over the crystals, each layer being separated by tissue paper. When the box is filled, the top is sealed on with masking tape.

According to Mr. Martin, the specimens stay moist and relaxed until ready for processing in the laboratory, thus allowing more time that is needed for the actual collecting.

From six collection stations set up in this canyon, which is a 1,200-foot deep gash in the elevated flat Llano Estacado of West Texas forming an isolated insect trap, Mr. Martin was able to capture as many as 1,370 specimens in a single night.

The thousands of insects he collected were all packed in the crystals which had been imported from England.

• Science News Letter, 80:387 December 9, 1961

#### NATURAL RESOURCES

### Suburban Growth Makes More Water Problems

► THE SPRAWLING GROWTH of suburbia into the surrounding countryside is creating water problems.

Areas of fields and forest are rapidly being covered by streets, parking lots and buildings, cutting off rainfall from the moisture-absorbing soils. The "roofing-over" of the land causes increased flooding of low-lying areas and accelerated erosion, U.S. Geological Survey scientists, John Savini and J. C. Kammerer, reported.

Fifty-six percent of the nation's population lives in 168 metropolitan areas covering only seven percent of the land area. The crowding together also increases stream pollution and reduces the amount of drinking water available.

"These urban effects upon water deserve increasing study to provide the best use of water and land resources for the nation's urban centers," the scientists concluded.

• Science News Letter, 80:387 December 9, 1961



### Multiply Your Research Capacity with WETZLAR BINOCULAR MICROSCOPE

#### INTRODUCTORY OFFER

Fine and coarse adjustments, 120MM square built-in dual control mechanical stage, binocular head, 1.20 Abbe condenser.

Huyghens 8X and 15X paired eye pieces. 5X, 10X, 45X, and oil 100X spring mounted and plano concave mirror.

**\$299.50**

#### Request Free Literature

4" Metal Bound, Bone Handle magnifier \$1.49

**WARBUCKS PHOTO SUPPLY, INC.**

Scientific Division, 80 E. 11th St., N. Y. 3, N. Y.

### PERSONAL CHECK WRITER



Gives same positive protection, as machines costing hundreds of dollars, at amazingly low cost of .....\$9.95

Postage paid, satisfaction guaranteed

**KEYCITY ASSOCIATES**

P. O. Box 2031  
Mankato, Minn.

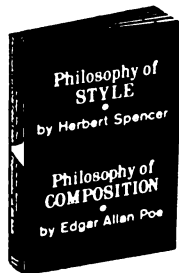
### BINO-TACH Connector \$3.00 p.p.

Makes it EASY for everyone to use the highest powered binoculars. Bino-tach secures any make prism binocular to any photographic tripod or pan-head. On/off in seconds. Reduces fatigue, seeing improves 100%! It's steady! Precision turned aluminum, brush finish. Original price almost \$7.00. Closing out, limited stock, \$3.00 each p.p.



**HARRY ROSS**

Scientific & Lab Apparatus  
61-L Reade St., N.Y. 7, N.Y.



### IF YOU WRITE FOR MONEY!

Enrich your writing by applying Herbert Spencer's and Edgar Allan Poe's classic principles that have inspired many of the world's greatest authors. Indispensable if you want to get published! Send \$1.00 to

PAGEANT PRESS  
Dept. SN  
101 5th Ave., N.Y.C. 3.

### The Battery That's Used in Guided Missiles Now Released as Government Surplus

For Photography, Aircraft, Models, Searchlights, Radios, etc. \$1.95 ea. Postpaid Sintered-plate Nickel-Cadmium alkaline storage batteries designed for "NIKE" missile and now surplus due to design change. A lifetime battery with no known limit of service (over 5000 recharges on test without loss of capacity). Other features: Virtually indestructible, compact & lightweight, withstands heavy shock and vibration. Flat voltage curve during discharge retains charge year or more, high discharge rate up to 50 amps. for this cell, no corrosive fumes to harm clothing or equipment, spill-proof construction, discharge in any position, indefinite storage without deterioration, operates in temperatures -60°F to +200°F. Each cell is approx.

4 ampere hour capacity. Nominal voltage per cell is 1.2 volts. (A 6 V. battery requires 5 cells.) Cell size 6" H. x 2" W. x 1/2" T. Wt. 6 oz. ea. Uses Potassium-Hydroxide (30%) electrolyte. Negligible loss during lifetime service. Add only distilled water once a year. A fraction of Government cost. Used Test Cells... \$1.95 ea. Postpaid Brand New Cells... \$2.95 ea. Postpaid 6 AMPERE HOUR CELLS size 4 1/2" H. x 2 1/2" W. x 3/4" T. Used test cells... \$3.95 ea. New cells guaranteed to your satisfaction or money refunded (less postage).

**ESSE RADIO COMPANY, Dept. SNL**  
42 W. South St. Indianapolis 25, Indiana

## Gift Books

### THE TREASURY OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC By W. L. Reed, Editor; Foreword by Sir Adrian Boult



A musical treasury which will add joy to the Christmas season year after year. Favorite carols, traditional and new Christmas songs from all over the world, with many verses and music for each—voice, chorus, and piano; some with more than one arrangement. Plus a special section of instrumental music (Brahms, Handel, Corelli, Bach)

and a section of modern Christmas melodies. 80 selections. 150 pages. Large, handsome gift format. \$4.50

### THE HOLIDAY PAINTER

By J. Martin-Barbaz

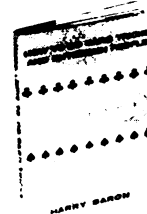
A book for the serious amateur, providing detailed instruction in painting, and covering artistic styles, interpretation, elements of drawing, color, composition, design, and the technical aspects of painting. The book enables the amateur to develop his own style, arrive at his own philosophy of art, and achieve artistic integrity. There is a discussion of themes suitable for the amateur, and a special chapter on criticism, which will enable him to judge his own work. Illustrated \$2.95



### HOW TO DO CARD TRICKS AND ENTERTAIN PEOPLE

By Harry Baron

The author describes a repertoire of card tricks and shows how to perform them so they have the greatest impact on the audience. The tricks include: the three-card trick, dealing a hand of trumps, telling what card a person is thinking of, making cards pass mysteriously from one place to another, causing a card to change color, multiply, and disappear—and many more. Everything is simply explained, amply illustrated. 91 photographs \$3.95



### THE MATH ENTERTAINER

By Philip Heafford

Mathematical teasers, ticklers, and twisters designed to puzzle and delight the reader. "A varied offering for the person who enjoys recreational mathematics."—*American Library Association Booklist*. "When he is all through, the reader will have had a lot of fun—and is likely to have a better grasp of mathematics and mathematical reasoning."—*Bulletin of the National Association of Secondary-School Principals*. Answers and explanations are given. Illustrated \$2.95



### EVERY BOY'S JUDO

By A. P. Harrington

"Youngsters . . . will be fascinated by the information concerning proper footwork, various throws and counters, balance and position, and specific holds and locks. Comprehensive, detailed account written simply and vividly, ranging from simple to more complex techniques and further clarified by 87 illustrations. Glossary of Japanese terms." *Library Journal*. 87 line drawings \$2.95



**ORDER NOW!** ☆ All prices postfree  
10-Day Money-Back Guarantee  
**EMERSON BOOKS, Inc., Dept. 386-M**  
251 West 19 Street, New York 11