GENERAL SCIENCE

Engineering Academy Approved by NAS

➤ THE NATIONAL ACADEMY of Sciences may have a young "brother," the National Academy of Engineering, formation of which was approved at the 100th annual meeting in Washington, D. C.

The Engineering Academy will be patterned after the National Academy, particularly in giving requested advice to the Government on engineering matters.

Proposal to form the new academy was made by the Engineers Joint Council. It will be a non-profit organization, with funds from both Government and private sources.

Its aim is to give engineers a platform to help solve the "broad technological problems of the country." The Engineering Academy will likely be composed of 395 members elected on the basis of "outstanding personal contributions to engineering through the application of science for the good of mankind."

Science News Letter, 83:303 May 11, 1963

CONSERVATION

Mirrors Warn Deer From Highway Death

➤ TWO TINY metal mirrors about three inches square keep wildlife from death along highways in The Netherlands.

The mirrors are mounted on slender posts set across from each other on highway shoulders. As cars approach at night, their headlights shine on the mirrors, reflecting light into the forest at a 90-degree angle.

This reflected light expands as the car travels. At 30 feet, the reflected light covers an area about 30 feet square.

When the deer see the light, they freeze still. This slight pause prevents them from crossing at the time a car is passing.

This system has been used for years in The Netherlands. The mirrors are especially successful in the eastern part of the country where there are more woods, The Netherlands Embassy reported in Washington, D. C.

Science News Letter, 83:303 May 11, 1963

ZOOLOGY

Noise Keeps Ducklings On the Right Track

➤ YOUNG DUCKLINGS have trouble following a silent "mama." They need some noise to keep them on the track, Dr. Gilbert Gottlieb of the Dorothea Dix Hospital, Raleigh, N. C., has found.

Older ducklings, however, have a better sense of vision and can readily follow a silent model, although sound also makes following easier for the older ones, Dr. Gottlieb said.

He reported in Science, 140:399, 1963, that as ducklings mature, their sense of sight improves, and that sound is a good attention-getting device for ducklings of all ages.

• Science News Letter, 83:303 May 11, 1963



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