The case of the occasional flasher

There's a nearby but faint, cool, small star, catalogued L-726-8, that seemed no different from the other unvarying stars in the heavens until its image on a Kodak Spectroscopic Plate showed an oddity. At unpredictable intervals, L-726-8 flares up by almost two magnitudes and then in a few minutes sinks back to the 13th magnitude.

Photography has since caught several others in the same act. Now the world's astronomers are searching with excitement for the reason why.

If you would like to learn about the photography of the night sky, you can get the 112-page Kodak book “Photography in Astronomy” ($2.75 at your Kodak dealer's). If your photographic interest extends to other technologies, a copy of the new edition of “Kodak Sensitized Materials for the Scientific and Industrial Laboratory” is yours without cost. Just write to Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester 4, N. Y.
# HOTEL RESERVATIONS
## 118th AAAS MEETING
### Philadelphia, December 26-31, 1951

The list of hotels and the reservation coupon below are for your convenience in making your hotel room reservation in Philadelphia. Please send your application, not to any hotel directly, but to the AAAS Housing Bureau in Philadelphia and thereby avoid delay and confusion. The experienced Housing Bureau will make assignments promptly; a confirmation will be sent you in two weeks or less. Share a room with a colleague if you wish to keep down expenses. Mail your application now to secure your first choice of desired accommodations.

### HOTELS AND RATES PER DAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel*</th>
<th>Single</th>
<th>Double</th>
<th>Twin-Bedded</th>
<th>Suites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADELPHIA</td>
<td>$5.00–$6.00</td>
<td>$7.50–$10.50</td>
<td>$10.00–$12.50</td>
<td>$25.00–$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARCLAY</td>
<td>$8.00–$12.00</td>
<td>$9.00–$12.00</td>
<td>$14.00–$25.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELLEVUE–STRATFORD</td>
<td>$8.00–$10.50</td>
<td>$11.00–$13.00</td>
<td>$20.00–$30.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENJAMIN FRANKLIN</td>
<td>$6.00–$8.00</td>
<td>$9.00–$12.00</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRAKE</td>
<td>$5.00–$7.50</td>
<td>$8.00–$10.50</td>
<td>$11.00–$13.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESSEX</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN BARTRAM</td>
<td>$3.25–$4.50</td>
<td>$5.00–$8.00</td>
<td>$7.00–$9.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PENN SHERATON</td>
<td>$4.75–$5.00</td>
<td>$6.00–$8.50</td>
<td>$9.00–$10.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RITZ-CARLTON</td>
<td>$7.00–$7.50</td>
<td>$11.00–$12.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ROBERT MORRIS</td>
<td>$4.50–$5.00</td>
<td>$7.00–$8.00</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST. JAMES</td>
<td>$4.00–$5.50</td>
<td>$6.00–$8.00</td>
<td>$6.50–$9.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYLVANIA</td>
<td>$9.00–$11.00</td>
<td>$12.00–$15.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARWICK</td>
<td>$9.00–$12.00</td>
<td>$22.00–$24.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cots added to a room are $2.50 each; dormitory style rooms (for 5 or more) are $3.50 per person.

* Hotels starred have sessions in their public rooms. For a list of the headquarters of each participating society and section, please see Association Affairs, Science, August 24, or The Scientific Monthly, September.

### THIS IS YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION COUPON

AAAS Housing Bureau
Architects Building (1st Floor)
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Date of Application ...............

Please reserve the following accommodations for the 118th Meeting of the AAAS:

**TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION DESIRED**

- Single Room(s)  Desired Rate ............. Maximum Rate .............
- Double Room(s)  Desired Rate ............. Maximum Rate .............  Number in Party ...........
- Twin-Bedded Room(s)  Desired Rate ............. Maximum Rate .............
- Suite(s)  Desired Rate ............. Maximum Rate .............  Sharing this room will be:

(Enumerate persons here and attach list giving name and address of each person, including yourself)

**CHOICE OF HOTEL**

First Choice ................. Second Choice ................. Third Choice .................

**DATE OF ARRIVAL ................. DEPARTURE DATE .................**

(These must be indicated)

**NAME .................................................................**

(Please print or type)

**ADDRESS .................................................................**

(Street) (City and Zone) (State)

*Mail this now to the Housing Bureau. Rooms will be assigned and confirmed in order of receipt of reservation.*
Merry Christmas
to our friends,
old and new,
in the
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING YOU MANY BLESSINGS

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ECONOMIC BOTANY. New 2nd Edition


Evaluates the many changes brought about in the agricultural and forest practices as the result of the Second World War—greater production of food, increased acreage, improved methods of cultivation and harvesting, and the introduction and establishment of foreign plants into the Western Hemisphere. Substitutions are also considered as well as the use of new and virtually unknown plants.

THE THEORY OF ISOTOPE SEPARATION. As Applied to the Large Scale Production of U\(^{235}\)

By Karl Cohen, Director, Atomic Energy Division, The H. K. Ferguson Company; formerly Director, Theoretical Division, SAM Laboratories. Edited by George M. Murphy, Washington Square College, New York University; formerly at SAM Laboratories, Columbia University. National Nuclear Energy Series. Division III. Volume 1B. 183 pages, $2.00

The subject matter of this volume is based on the reports issued by the theoretical division of the SAM Laboratories and its antecedents. The work was done over a period of years, from 1940-1945, under contract to various government agencies. However, in some instances, special topics were drawn from outside agencies and some of the material in the volume is new.

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Department of Geology and Geography, University of Missouri • Chauncey D. Holmes

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The Macmillan Company
60 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

December 14, 1951
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X

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X

X

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X

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December 14, 1951
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What GENERAL ELECTRIC People Are Saying

G A. RIETZ
Educational Service Division

PROBLEMS FACING ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE STUDENTS: We are experiencing a growing appreciation of the importance of an adequate supply of well-trained engineers and scientists to this country's immediate and future welfare. And, although this situation creates for science and engineering students such as you excellent opportunities for future employment, it also leaves you plagued by confusion and uncertainty. No doubt you find yourselves searching for the answers to many questions: "Why should I study?" "Should I continue my education or enlist for military service?" "Should I even bother talking to industrial recruiters who visit the campus?"

No one can deny that these are uncertain times. But no one period can truthfully be called normal. The young student or graduate in 1917, 1929, 1937, or 1941 had hard problems to face, too. Life is made up of problems. There is nothing unique in your position.

It is not certain that military service will interrupt your schooling. If it should, however, remember this: You, as college graduates, will normally expect to pursue your individual occupations for something in excess of forty years. Productive work is, then, a lifetime proposition. All your schooling has been a preparation for this. A period of two, or even five, years of service would represent a relatively small portion of your total professional life. It wouldn't seem wise, then, to allow such a brief interruption to prompt unwise decisions that will affect your entire future.

I suppose good advice is a commodity of which there is a surplus, and therefore you may not be inclined to take it seriously. I'm aware, too, that Socrates' life was ended by the poison cup, and he was a giver of advice. However, I'll chance it. The following advice parallels closely that being given by well-informed fathers to perplexed sons in school.

Pursue your studies. Go as far as possible in your chosen field. Don't, because of uncertainty or despair, abandon your studies. Should it become necessary for you to serve in the armed forces, the odds are predominantly in favor of your returning to civil and professional life after a relatively short period. It will be far easier for you to pick up the traces of study than to start from scratch, and you will have the jump on others who were not so wise.

As graduation approaches, discuss job opportunities with many industrial and other recruiters who visit the campus. As a result of these interviews, you might become a permanent employee with promise of uninterrupted service in a company of your choosing. Should your employment be interrupted by military service, you will usually have a company and a job to return to. If you should go into service before employment, at least you will have the advantage of having your record on the books of a number of companies, awaiting your return and reapplication for work.

Now, where does General Electric stand on the employment of people like you in these times? Regardless of Reserve or Selective Service status, we want to interview all students who wish to see us. And, regardless of status, we will make job offers to those young men and women we would like to have as members of the General Electric family.

Should any of these people be called into the service before reporting to us for work, our offers will still be waiting for them on their return.

Barring an exceptional, and unforeseen, military situation of such long duration that an abnormal accumulation of commitments does not permit us to meet the last ones made, those men and women already with us before being called for military service will maintain continuity, and will be assured of employment upon return.

We didn't have to go back on a single commitment following World War II. We trust we will never have to.

Kansas State College
Manhattan, Kansas
October 11, 1951

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