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■ **SCIENCE** is published weekly on Friday, except the last week in December, and with a supplement in March by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Second-class Non-profit postage (publication No. 484460) paid at Washington, DC, and at an additional entry. Copyright © 1990 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The title **SCIENCE** is a registered trademark of the AAAS. Domestic individual membership and subscription (51 issues): \$75. Domestic institutional subscription (51 issues): \$120. Foreign postage extra: Canada \$46, other (surface mail) \$46, air mail via Amsterdam \$85. First class, airmail, school-year, and student rates on request. **Single copy sales**: Current issue, \$3.50; back issues, \$5.00; Biotechnology issue, \$6.00 (for postage and handling, add per copy \$0.50 U.S., \$1.00 all foreign); Guide to Biotechnology Products and Instruments, \$20 (for postage and handling add per copy \$1.00 U.S., \$1.50 Canada, \$2.00 other foreign). Bulk rates on request. **Authorization to photocopy** material for internal or personal use under circumstances not falling within the fair use provisions of the Copyright Act is granted by AAAS to libraries and other users registered with the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) Transactional Reporting Service, provided that the base fee of \$1 per copy plus \$0.10 per page is paid directly to CCC, 27 Congress Street, Salem, Massachusetts 01970. The identification code for *Science* is 0036-8075/83 \$1 + .10. **Change of address**: allow 6 weeks, giving old and new addresses and 11-digit account number. **Postmaster**: Send Form 3579 to *Science*, P.O. Box 1723, Riverton, NJ 08077. *Science* is indexed in the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* and in several specialized indexes.

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COVER Reading room, Boston Athenaeum. Housed in a building that has been described as combining “the best elements of the Bodleian, Monticello, the frigate *Constitution*, a greenhouse, and an old New England sitting room,” the Athenaeum 183 after its founding “remains a retreat for those who would enjoy the humanity of books.” See page 870. [Photograph by B. Metta/Uniphoto]

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**248 (4957)**

*Science* **248** (4957), 791-912.

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