9-1-1958

Meteorites

Rocket City Astronomical Association
Space Enterprises, Inc.

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United States

The 3-cent IGY commemorative stamp placed on first-day sale in May in Chicago depicts an area of intense solar activity of a type which is currently being investigated during the IGY. Superimposed above the solar disk is a detail from Michaelangelo's fresco "The Creation of Adam."

Ervine Metzl, designer of the stamp, explained that "In the small confines of a postage stamp we have endeavored to picture man's wonder at the unknown together with his determination to understand it and his need for spiritual inspiration to further his knowledge."

Japan

Japanese and American scientists estimate that the launching site of the Soviet satellites and intercontinental missiles is located in the Karakorum desert (Turkmenistan) at 41° north latitude and 61° east longitude. These figures were derived from calculations of the orbits of the first two Russian satellites.

Russia

Under a recent picture in a Soviet newspaper was the following caption: "The time a space ship needs to circle the Earth is 1 ½ hours at the most. The round trip to the Moon will require 10 days; while the trip in an elliptical orbit, intersecting the orbits of Venus and Mars, giving the possibility of a return to the Earth, will take at least one year."
United States

The journalism faculty of the University of California recently published the results of an investigation into the treatment which the launching of Earth satellites received in the world press. According to the survey, the average number of printed lines per newspaper is

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satellite</th>
<th>Lines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sputnik I</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sputnik II</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explorer I</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explorer II</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanguard I</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explorer III</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

England

The British Interplanetary Society, which is second largest of the national astronautical societies, celebrates its 25th birthday this year. The organization now has 2500 members. Its Journal of the British Interplanetary Society has been published for 17 years. In October, 1956, the society began publishing its very popular magazine Spaceflight.

Japan

According to a recent Japanese announcement, rocket engineers in Akita have developed a "supersound [sic]" rocket. The rocket has two stages and will be launched during the IGY for research purposes. The first test flights have already been made. The rocket weighs 300 pounds and is approximately 25 feet long. The first stage is reported to boost it to an altitude of 12,000—15,000 feet.

Czechoslovakia

Laika makes a reappearance in the form of Soviet propaganda. Sputnik II’s little canine recently cropped up as an epitaph on a card printed in Prague and widely distributed in eastern Europe. Note the misuse of interplanetarian.