

12-1-2010

On the Cover

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Recommended Citation

(2010) "On the Cover," *Sci-Tech News*: Vol. 64 : Iss. 4 , Article 1.
Available at: <http://jdc.jefferson.edu/scitechnews/vol64/iss4/1>

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SciTech News

The Official Bulletin for the Chemistry, Engineering, and Science-Technology Divisions and the Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division and the Materials Research and Manufacturing Section of the Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association



THE "KING" AND THE "TWELVE WIRED" BIRDS OF PARADISE.

Volume 64, Number 4 (2010)
ISSN 0036-8059

SciTech News

Ellis Mount, Editor Emeritus



On the Cover



Alfred Russel Wallace spent 8 years in Indonesia, 1854-62, in what was then called the Malay Archipelago, collecting specimens, and thinking about the origin of species. He is best remembered for a letter he sent to Charles Darwin in 1858, which stimulated Darwin to write his own book on the origin of species, but Wallace made many valuable observations on the fauna of places like Borneo and Papua New Guinea. He was one of the first westerners to see close-up the fabled birds of paradise, which had been known for hundreds of years only through specimens obtained by natives. The image of the "King" and the "12-wired" birds of paradise is from his Malay Archipelago (London, 1869; photo and caption courtesy of the Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering & Technology).

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Copy Deadline

Issue Number 1	Feb 1
Issue Number 2	April 1
Issue Number 3	Aug 1
Issue Number 4	Nov 1

SciTech News

Volume 64, Number 4 (2010)

ISSN 0036-8059

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SCITECH NEWS (ISSN 0036-8059) is published quarterly (March, May, September, December) by the Chemistry, Engineering, and the Science-Technology Divisions, the Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division, and the Materials Research and Manufacturing Section of the Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association, University of Louisville, LL38 Ekstrom Library, 2301 S. Third Street, Louisville, KY 40292, (502) 852-8731.

Publication Policy: *SciTech News* is the official bulletin of the Chemistry, Engineering, Science-Technology Divisions, the Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division, and the Materials Research and Manufacturing Section of the Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association. The contents of articles and editorials are not to be construed as being or representing the official position of the sponsoring divisions.

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Manuscripts: The Editor solicits papers of interest to the community of science and technology-oriented special libraries. Manuscripts of articles should be sent via E-mail (Microsoft Word or Plain Text format) to james.manasco@louisville.edu or sent by FAX to: (502)852-8714.

Subscriptions: Special Libraries Association members in the Chemistry, Engineering, Science-Technology Divisions, the Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division and the Materials Research and Manufacturing Section of the Chemistry Division automatically receive subscriptions to *SciTech News*. Their annual subscription fee of \$3.50 is paid from their annual dues to the Special Libraries Association.

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