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ALTHOUGH the current issue of *SCIENCE* is devoted to one aspect of AAAS business—the publication of *SCIENCE* and *THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY*. A brief summary of this important operation, specifically as it relates to circulation, will be attempted.

In 1951 the circulation of *SCIENCE* exceeded 33,000 for the first time, and that of *THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY* reached 25,098. For *SCIENCE* this was a modest gain of less than 700 for the year, but for *THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY* it registered a substantial increase—in excess of 2,000. For three successive years the monthly has gained three times as many new subscribers as the weekly, and the ratio of circulation has changed from 38:62 in 1947 to 43:57 in 1951.

The distribution among AAAS members in the several fields of science is both interesting and significant, as shown in an analysis made last May (Table 1). This table does not include nonmember subscriptions and exchanges, which run more heavily to *SCIENCE*. It discloses the fact that a much higher proportion of medical scientists, chemists, and biologists subscribe to *SCIENCE* than members in other fields, and perhaps it reveals why so many articles in these fields are received. Medicine, chemistry, and biology account for nearly two thirds of AAAS membership and over 61 per cent of *SCIENCE*'s subscription list. Although the proportions of articles in the several sciences reflect a complex set of factors, numerical strength is a factor of prime importance. One of the questions constantly before the editors, the Editorial Board, and the Publications Committee is what constitutes a balanced journal. Is it one in which the several fields of science are equally served? Or is it one in which the articles reflect proportionately the specialized interests of subscribers?

The geographic distribution of *SCIENCE* has recently been analyzed (Table 2), and although it bears some relation to population and concentration of scientific institutions, discrepancies in these correlations are

TABLE 1

Section	SCIENCE	THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY	Both journals	Neither journal	Totals
Mathematics	337	584	88	11	1060
Physics	1386	1335	351	14	3086
Chemistry	4867	3365	895	20	9147
Astronomy	130	170	29	3	332
Earth Sciences	611	1093	210	8	1922
Zoology	2955	1355	459	23	4792
Botany	1602	755	283	8	2648
Anthropology	129	231	43	2	405
Psychology	897	1210	194	12	2313
Social Sciences	185	504	55	3	747
History of Science	67	183	28	0	273
Engineering	815	1887	336	6	3044
Medicine	7253	2527	1652	24	11,456
Dentistry	206	232	81	1	520
Pharmacy	317	83	67	1	467
Agriculture	633	618	133	5	1389
Education	177	479	49	5	710
Industrial Science	12	15	28	1	54
Unclassified	286	360	292	5	943
TOTALS	22,905	16,986	5246	179	45,313

TABLE 2

New England	2373
Middle Atlantic (N. Y., N. J., Pa.)	8192
South Atlantic (Del. to Fla.)	4000
East North Central (Ohio to Wis.)	5780
East South Central (Ky., Tenn., Ala., Miss.)	906
West North Central	2078
West South Central	1524
Mountain states	849
Pacific states	3375
Territorial	250
Foreign and miscellaneous	4002
TOTAL	33,329

undoubtedly significant; no interpretation will be attempted, however.

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Chairman, Editorial Board

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