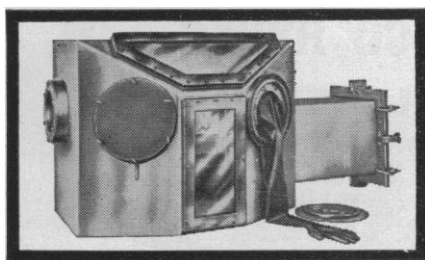


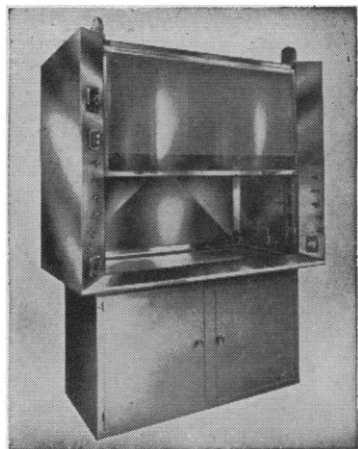
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representative and most revealing from among a total of several thousand curves that I have made which set forth the relationship between age and creative achievement. These curves were obtained by study of the accomplishments of over 30,000 individuals—more than half of the creative "greats" of Christendom. When duplicate names and the names of living persons are deleted, the total number of individual achievers is still quite large. Not all of my data have been analyzed as yet, and my task is not yet ended. I say all this not boastfully, but merely to point out that it is impossible for any one investigator to do everything.

In criticizing a research report it is more important to note whether the investigator has achieved his goal than to say that he should have selected other goals or additional goals. Although Farber mildly chides me because I did not set for myself goals that he would have set, and although it is his privilege to do so, his criticism is not at all relevant to the integrity of my findings. When he asserts that I did not "carefully weigh individual factors and causes," I can only say in reply that that statement is correct.

HARVEY C. LEHMAN

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Soviet Scientific Literature

I have read with great interest the article "American use of Soviet medical research," by Saul Herner [*Science* 128, 9 (1958)]. While my experience with Soviet scientific literature is in the fields of chemistry and related sciences, some 27 years of experience lead me to conclusions very similar to those of Herner. Much of the work is excellent, some is indeed mediocre. Some bears the earmarks of plagiarism from previously published Western work, but some is also pathbreaking.

From my point of view as an abstractor for *Chemical Abstracts*, one of the most exasperating things about Soviet scientific literature is the carelessness of the editing. Frequently references to the literature contain typographical errors, and typographical differences between what would appear to be the same mathematical equation on different pages have more than once cost me considerable time in rechecking a derivation.

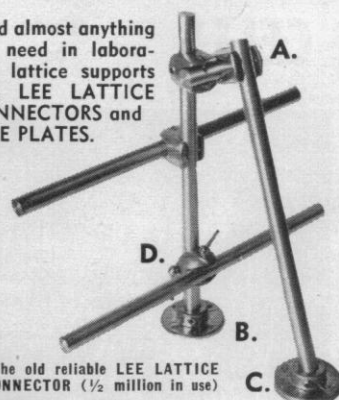
Soviet book reviews I have in general found to be very detailed and critically analytical. Unlike journal articles, they do at times tend toward the nationalistic and political.

FRANZ H. RATHMANN

*School of Chemical Technology,
North Dakota Agricultural College,
Fargo*

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