from double standards whereby certain endeavors are said to be desirable and yet do not appear to be rewarded. There is no evidence that much thought is ever given by those who exercise fiscal control of universities to any consideration other than the enhancement of the current and future standing and reputation of the specific institution involved. All evidence suggests that the quality of classroom teaching does not greatly alter the reputation of the modern university. We may be occasionally annoyed by this as individuals, but we must admit that it is generally true. The current, unspoken attitude is that a professor in a university worthy of the name must devote a calculable fraction of his time to research or scholarship, whether he is drawn to these pursuits or not. If he refuses to conform, he will find advancement slow or lacking. If he conforms but is inept, his future is just as discouraging. Rarely—very rarely—he will be fired. Should he leave university teaching? Is he at fault, or is the "system"? How good a teacher must he be to compensate for obvious inadequacy in the other required facets of his profession?

The important ingredient for personal success in a university should be no



secret by this time. The aspect of the professor's efforts which enhances the university's reputation is not classroom teaching. Unfortunately, the ambivalent attitude of administrators toward teachers who do nothing but teach well has been confused by some with a lack of sympathy for good teaching (as contrasted, say, with profuse publication). The problem is confused further by the erroneous notion that the man who prides himself on being a teacher and nothing more is necessarily a good teacher. All of us in the universities have known some proud but terrible teachers, as well as others who were quite mediocre. Rare indeed is the really first-class university classroom teacher, and, in my experience, he is not likely to limit his interest to the dry, classroom aspect of his subject. I have often heard professors modestly deprecate their efforts in research, but I have never heard one deprecate his effectiveness as a teacher.

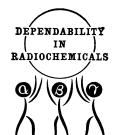
I would suggest that we must soon segregate from the main body of professors all those who wish to gratify their egos by teaching only, and those who wish to attain the same end by only doing research. The former should enter the public schools, high schools, technical schools, and junior colleges, where they are badly needed. The latter should seek employment in research laboratories within or without the university structure. Only those who can perform both functions of a professorship and who are anxious to do so should form the great mass of university staffs. Governing boards must stop equivocating in their policies.

Universities must make clear to their teaching staffs, present and future, exactly what they conceive the role of the ideal professor to be. They must not beg questions such as those on the length of summer vacations, on what is considered to be true scholarship, and on what is a fair evaluation of teaching ability. They must stop paying fatuous lip service to "plain good teaching" and make clear that in a university it alone is not enough. They must end the callous pretence (aimed at an expedient increase of their teaching staffs in the approaching crisis of numbers) that it is enough. If they do not do these things, they will awaken one fine day to find that the reactionaries have effectively taken over.

J. V. BASMAJIAN

Anatomy Department, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

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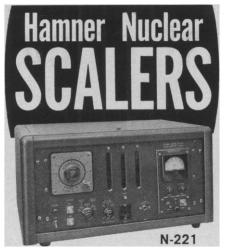
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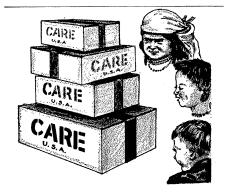
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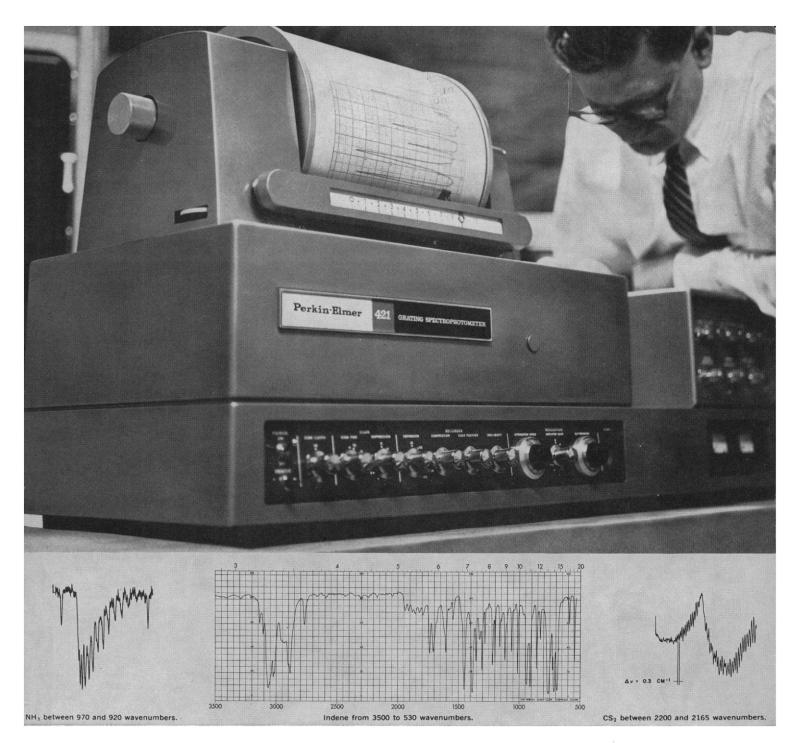
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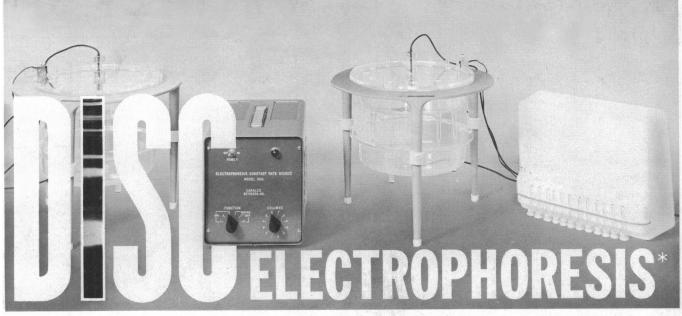
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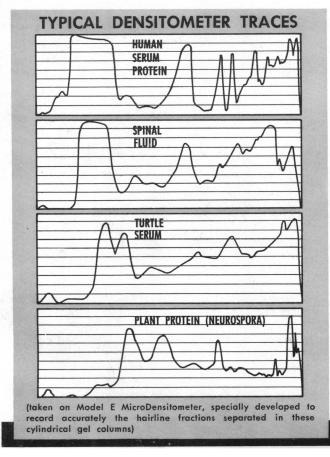


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