Active, year-round programs at MBL would superficially appear at odds with the passive, idyllic summer mecca portrayed by Carter. In fact they are not a compromise, but a necessity to the continued success of MBL. By advancing the waning fields of natural history, MBL has already departed from its summer traditions and created another quiet, but significant revolution in modern biology.

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Upward Spiral of Costs and Dues

The recent announcement by the AAAS Council of an increase of over 40 percent in membership dues raises questions as to how AAAS funds are being spent. Apparently some unspecified additional obligations assumed by the Board of Directors have contributed to the large increase. I believe that a raise of this magnitude should not be made without some attempt to determine the consensus of the membership. (Perhaps some changes, such as placing the table of contents of *Science* on the cover, could even reduce present expenditures.) In any event, perhaps a majority of the membership would agree with me in feeling that every attempt must be made to keep the fee down, and that if there must be a raise, the membership should receive a complete and candid explanation of the options open to the Board, and their reason for raising the fee. I am particularly concerned because AAAS income exceeded expenses by over $100,000 in 1966, the last fiscal year, and this apparently represents an increase over the excess of 1965, which was in turn greater than the excess of 1964. Yet, in 1967, fees are raised over 40 percent.

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The statement that AAAS income exceeded expenses by over $100,000 in 1966 and by smaller amounts in 1964 and 1965 is correct. For 1967 there will be a deficit of the order of $150,000.

The options open to the Board of Directors were to decrease expenditures or to increase income. *Science* rep-

resents the principal expense, the principal source of income, and the principal benefit of membership. It therefore serves as the best example of the problem involved in the decision by the Board of Directors to recommend, and the decision by the Council to approve, an increase in AAAS dues and the subscription charge for *Science*. No substantial decrease of expenditures could be achieved without reducing the size of *Science*. Periodic surveys of random samples of the members indicated they do not wish *Science* to be decreased in size.

Since 1958 (the year of the last dues increase) the cost of editing, printing, and mailing *Science* for a year to one member has increased from $12.30 to $24. Income to meet this cost comes from dues, subscriptions, and advertising. Advertising rates have been increased annually since 1958, with the total increase from that year to 1968 being over 200 percent. The pending dues increase will be slightly over 40 percent. Fortunately, scientists' salaries have increased about 60 percent in the 10-year period.

DAEL WOLFLE

AAAS

Chromatography Warning

I wish to draw attention to a serious disadvantage in the use of either black or amber rubber tubing for chromatography. They contain a water-soluble antioxidant which has a maximum optical absorption at 227 mμ. There is also considerable absorption at 260 mμ and 280 mμ, which would invalidate any estimation of the ratio of optical density at these wavelengths. For example, on leaving a sample of distilled water in a piece of unused tubing, the optical density at 280 mμ was greater than 1 after 24 hours. Boiling the tubing in detergent for 1 hour had little effect in reducing this absorption.

At best, use of this tubing for chromatography, and measurement at 280 mμ may slightly raise the background value, but should the flow of the solution be stopped for a time and started again, it is quite possible to obtain a spurious peak owing to a build-up of antioxidant by slow diffusion from the rubber into the solution.

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