Forswear, and let your critics have their way.

Till you demean your calling in vain hope Of sharing theirs?

Brutus:

I would not if I could, For I can strike a stronger blow for Man

By doing what I best have learned to do And making it my life, than giving heed To ev'ry thoughtless wight who may reproach

Me and my science, with false cries of shame

And guilt we feel not. Did not Cassius say,*

"Of your philosophy you make no use If you give place to accidental evils"?

KENNETH V. THIMANN

Office of the Provost, Crown College, University of California, Santa Cruz 95060

* Julius Caesar, Act IV, Scene iii

France: Reducing the Ratio

According to a letter addressed by Prime Minister Jacques Chaban-Delmas to the French University Teachers Union (see *Le Monde*, 19 Sept.), there are this year, in the public higher education system, 38,102 teachers for 679,000 students. That makes a student-faculty ratio of about 18 to 1 and not the preposterous figure of 80 to 1 cited by D. S. Greenberg in "Academic finance . . ." (14 Aug., p. 658).

S. WOLFENSTEIN

Département de Mathématiques, Faculté des Sciences de Paris, 9, quai Saint-Bernard, Paris 5^e, France

Molecular Biology: Origin of the Term

In the September 1970 issue of *Physics Today*, in an article "The future of physics," Freeman J. Dyson, of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, speaks of the disapproval on the part of his physicist friends of the fact that Sir Lawrence Bragg, the director of the Cavendish Laboratory, was interested in supporting activities in a field which, Dyson states, did not "even have a name when Bragg was appointed in 1938."

Dyson is here referring, as his article makes clear, to molecular biology. When I pointed out to Dyson that the term "molecular biology" had in fact been used in 1938, he wrote me that he had based his remark on the fact

