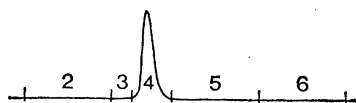


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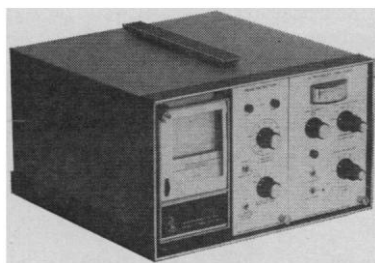


The ISCO Peak Separator detected a UV absorbing peak while tube three was filling, and signaled the fraction collector to move tube four into position to collect it. At the conclusion of the peak, tube five was moved into position to resume normal collection.

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One also has to weigh such factors as the course content, the level of scholarship demanded, the ability to counsel students, and the talent for turning students on. It would appear obvious that an undergraduate and a department chairman would weight these factors differently. It is my feeling that this difference in attitudes has a more profound influence on the academic conflict in question than does the teaching versus research controversy (which has assumed dimensions of jousting with windmills).

Many of the teaching-versus-research studies that have been done simply result in quantifying the obvious. One only has to look for an academic position to realize that one's apparent research potential as evidenced by publications is an important criterion in hiring. Thus it is not surprising that it is also an important factor in promotion. Studies of this sort might be more useful if they employed more realistic indices of research achievement, such as the number of times an author's paper is cited rather than how many papers he has produced.

DAVID DOW

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Hayes's article provided some interesting bits of data heretofore unavailable. However, it is my opinion that his measures of "teaching ability" were entirely inadequate. He showed that his two measures—student evaluation of the teachers' performance and quality of teaching as judged by the department head—do not covary (his figure 2), then tried to relate these measures to other variables. Before any definitive answers can be made to the questions posed by this article, student performance must be made to play a central role in the evaluation of "teaching ability."

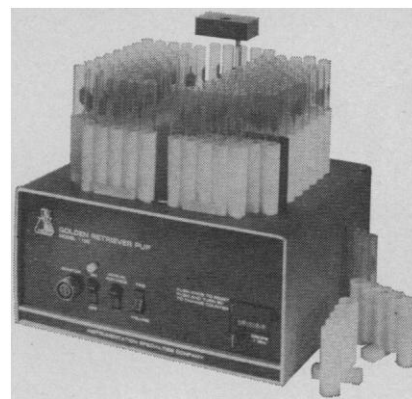
TIMOTHY F. ELSMORE

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Rockville, Maryland 20853*

Transliterations' Pitfalls

The "barbarisms" of transliteration that Wartofsky points out in his review of an English translation of a Russian collection of essays on the logic of scientific knowledge (19 Feb., p. 662) results from the unfortunate translator's attempt to comply with the "International System for the

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Transliteration of Cyrillic Characters" as prescribed by the International Organization for Standardization. Granted that N'juton and Čerč for Newton and Church are abominations that should have been corrected by the editors or even the proofreaders of the volume in question, the fact remains that Russian scientific authors, when citing non-Russian literature, still seem (in general) to avoid the obvious palliative of giving both the original name and a Russian transliteration, at least in the bibliographies if not in the text. Surely this is a matter that the AAAS, *inter alia*, could take up with the competent authorities in the U.S.S.R.

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 Geneva, Switzerland

Nobel Prizes

The recent death of fourfold Nobel-late Herbert McLeane Evans suggests that it might be pertinent to raise a question regarding the value to our culture of the Nobel prizes. Quite obvious are apparent misjudgments both in omission and in commission. Yet, committees being human and ever operating on the compromise of the least common denominator of agreement, the record of over 70 years of awards is impressive in the effort to reward merit. Is the effort socially beneficial, or is it even necessary that merit receive reward beyond itself?

It may now be time, however, to propose that the Nobel prizes are outliving their social usefulness. Choices are ever more difficult. There are ever more worthy candidates. There seems to be a growing unpleasant competitiveness between rival scientific groups or between rival national literary cliques. In science, this engenders unseemly scrambles for priority. In general, this rivalry jeopardizes the ideals of scientific or literary endeavor. Political considerations may cloud choices.

In addition, while many awardees remain pleasant and cheerful, others tend to become arrogant, authoritative, and autocratic. There may be a built-in snobbishness in the whole Nobel prize business. My strictures apply to most other awards.

Perhaps I am quite wrong in my critique. If so, I welcome the opportunity to be set right. As of now, however, I think the Nobel and similar prize

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