fact, Wolfram's position on the board of directors of the Computer Mathematics Corporation (CMC) was not contrary to Caltech policy.

A recent article in *Physics Today* (May 1983, p. 66–68) is more accurate about this aspect of the matter. What actually happened was that, in May 1982, I sent Barry Barish and Wolfram a memorandum stating that "I have decided that it is not appropriate to license use of . . . [SMP] . . . to the CMC organization because there is a conflict of interest between your continuing financial interests in the company and your participation on behalf of Caltech in the preparation and distribution of the program." Wolfram (unlike Barish) chose not to give up his financial interest in the company and subsequently sent me a letter of resignation to be effective when a licensing agreement with CMC was completed.

With Wolfram's concurrence, terms for a mutually acceptable licensing agreement were worked out between CMC and Caltech before my acceptance of Wolfram's resignation.

JOHN D. ROBERTS
Department of Chemistry,
California Institute of Technology,
Pasadena 91125

The article was prepared on the basis of both personal and telephone interviews, as well as a variety of documentary material, including Roberts' memorandum.—Eds.

Action on Fraud

The continuing discovery and disclosure of research frauds (News and Comment, 27 May, p. 936) demands immediate action. The abstracts, journal papers, and book chapters of the fraudulent investigators should be identified and flagged in the computerized data bases in which they have been entered and notification sent to all individuals and medical libraries subscribing to the journals in which they appeared. "Erratum" slips are periodically issued by journals and book publishers, so a mechanism to do this is available.

The Emory University report on the John R. Darsee case concludes "that 7 of 10 papers and several book chapters . . . contain problems and need to be withdrawn from publication or corrected. One of the papers, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, may have been entirely 'fictitious' " (*1*). It is up to all of us—scientists, physicians, researchers, medical librarians, and publishers—to insist that some action is now taken in order to protect future literature searches and research.

PHYLLIS RUBINTON
Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic,
New York Hospital–Cornell Medical Center, 525 East 68 Street,
New York 10021

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1. F. Butterfield, *New York Times*, 19 May 1983, p. A18.

Chemistry and the Law

I have read with interest the recent editorial by Anna J. Harrison entitled, "Scientists and engineers in the world of lawyers, legislators, and regulators" (13 May, p. 669). Her comments with respect to the interaction of scientists with the legal and legislative process are all quite valid. She suggests that it might be worthwhile considering the formation of a section of AAAS devoted to the analysis of barriers to effective participation of scientists and engineers in courts and at legislative hearings.

It might be useful for AAAS members to know that the Division (probationary) of Chemistry and Law was recently established by the American Chemical Society, which is concerned with such matters as well as with regulatory affairs, patents, and other topics related to the chemical-legal interface. Should any AAAS members desire information about this probationary division, they should contact its membership chairman, Shirley B. Radding, 2994 Cottonwood Court, Santa Clara, California 95051.

HUBERT E. DUBB
Suite 1740,
Four Embalcadero Court,
San Francisco, California 94111

Radon in the Home

The "collision" between the desire to make houses near-airtight to save heat and the desire to minimize the accumulation of the radioactive gas radon mentioned by C. L. Osterberg (Letters, 17 June, p. 1226) is avoidable. Two solutions are available. The owner of an existing house can install an air-to-air heat exchanger that will ensure a steady input of fresh air and recovery of heat from the outgoing air. The designer of a new house can arrange for the collection and storage of an especially large amount of solar energy—enough to not only supply the entire wintertime heat need of the house but also to make up the heat loss associated with ample fresh air intake. Very recently a way has been found to provide such a generously large solar energy intake without incurring room overheating on warm sunny days and without increasing construction cost (the small added expenses of collection and storage are offset by savings from having no furnace, oil tank, radiators, woodstove, or chimney). Both of these solutions have been documented in the last year (*1*).

WILLIAM A. SHURCLIFF
19 Appleton Street,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

References

1. W. A. Shurcliff, *Air-to-Air Heat-Exchangers for Houses* (Brick House, Andover, Mass., 1982); *Saunders Shrewsbury House* (W. A. Shurcliff, Cambridge, Mass., ed. 3, 1983).

Acronyms and Abbreviations

In attempting to read the recent reports in *Science* (and other journals) concerned with proto-oncogenes in vertebrate cells (POVC's), their expression in various types of neoplasia (VTN), and their potential roles in normal cell growth, differentiation, and development (NCGDD), I find myself slowing perceptibly after the first paragraph or two of introduction as I attempt to decode the acronyms and other abbreviations (AOA's) with which these reports are so richly larded. By the second page I find the thicket so impenetrable that the temptation to skip over to the final summarizing paragraph is almost irresistible.

Is there anything that can be done to render these POVC papers more intelligible to the uninitiated reader, who is otherwise quite interested in VTN's and their relation to NCGDD?

COLE MANES
Center for Neurologic Study,
Suite H, 11211 Sorrento Valley Road,
San Diego, California 92121

Correction

In Jean L. Marx's briefing "Bar Harbor investigation reveals no fraud" (News and Comment, 17 June, p. 1254), the report of the investigating committee was incorrectly quoted to have said that Hoppe "cannot rule out the possibility that the embryos were switched before implantation." What the report actually says is, "Nevertheless, he [Hoppe] could not rule out the possibility that deliberate switching of young mice in experimental litters took place."