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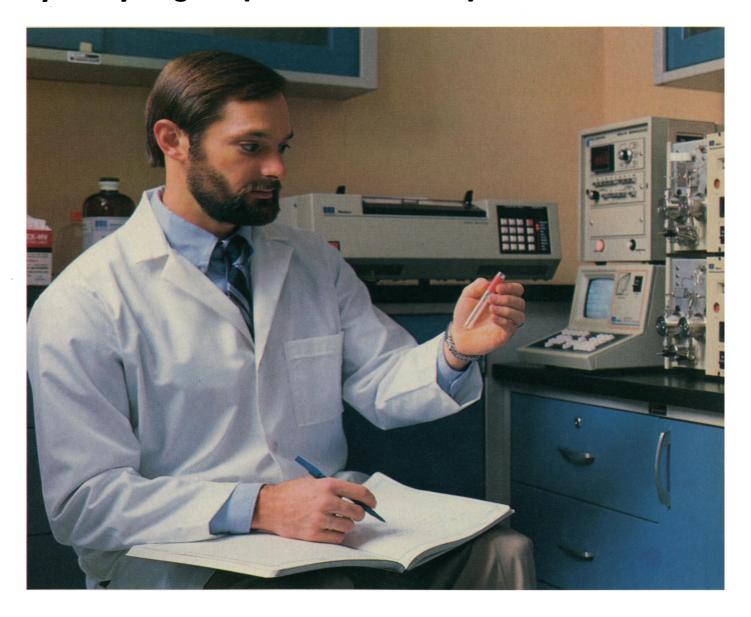
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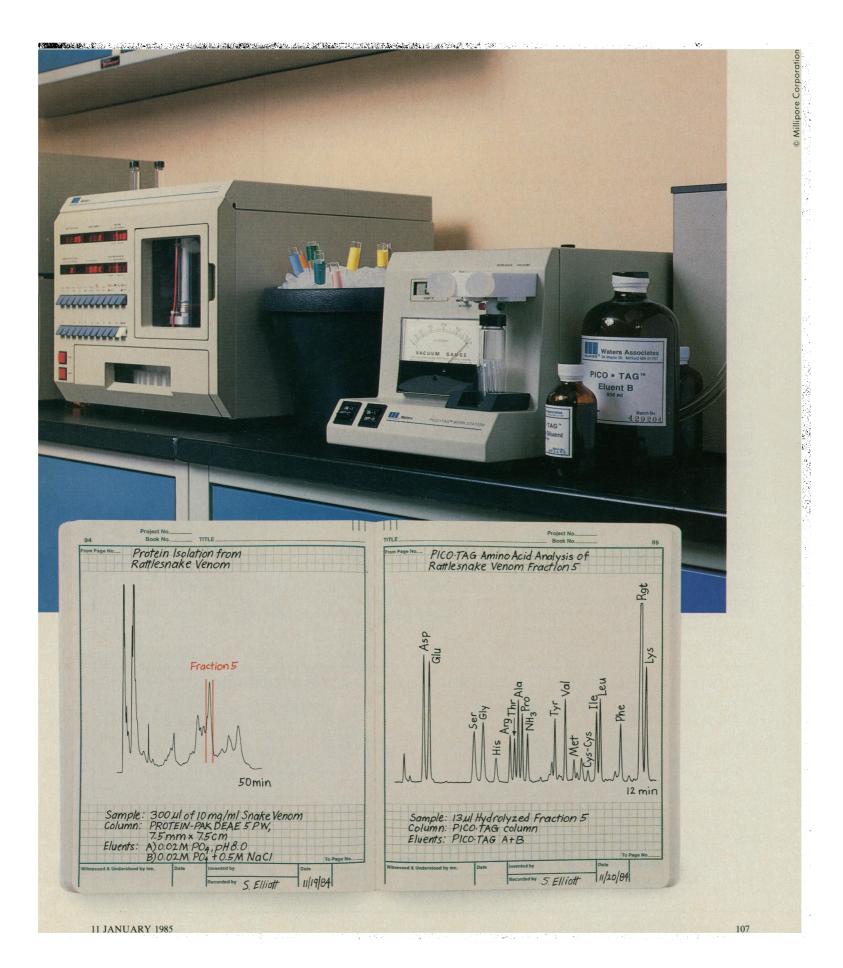
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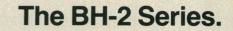
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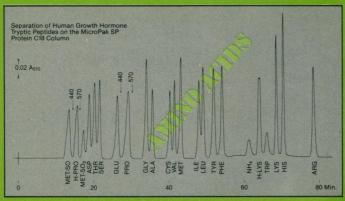
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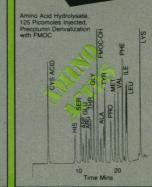
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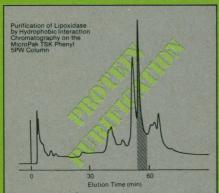
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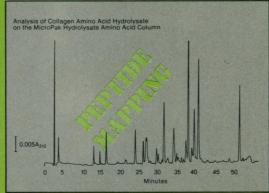
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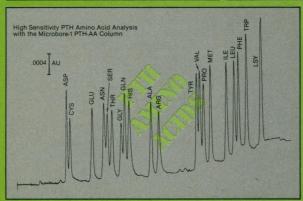
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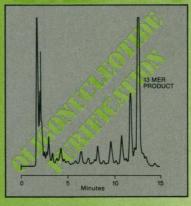












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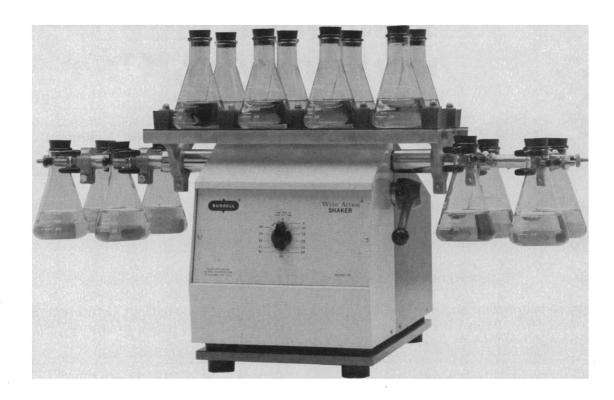
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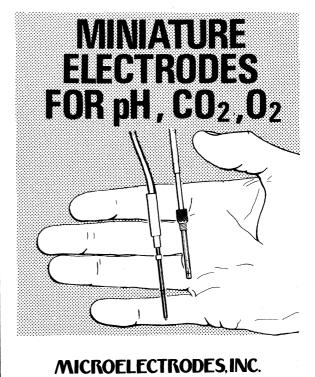


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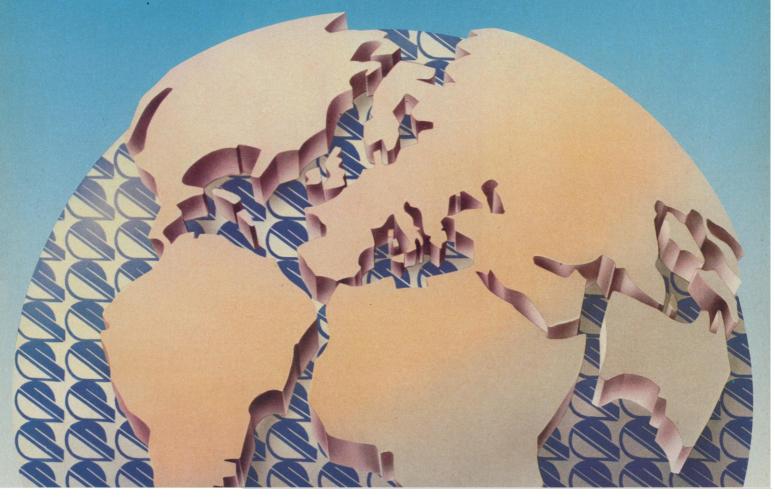
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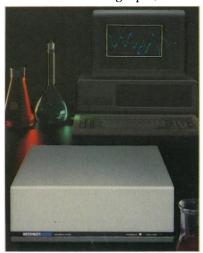
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4 120VAC Outputs	Yes	No	No	+\$638(13)	+ \$265(14)
System Features					
Programmable Timers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	+\$555
Realtime Clock	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Power Supply	Yes	+\$350	Yes	Yes	Yes
Software System Data Acquisition BASIC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Foreground/Background	Yes	No	Yes(15)	Yes(15)	No
Data Analysis	Yes	No	No	No	No
Realtime Graphing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Engineering Units	Yes	No	No	No	No
Package Price	\$4800	\$6387	87887	\$6277	89654

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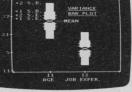
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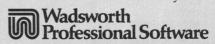
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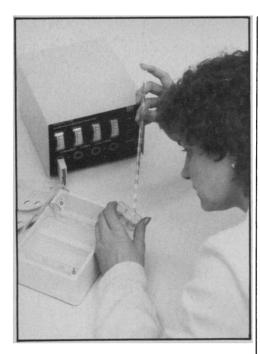
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ful in the treatment of Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia in AIDS patients (4).

Although we are especially familiar with DFMO (2, 3, 5), many other viable approaches are being investigated, some in our own laboratories and many others in the laboratories of our colleagues.

CYRUS J. BACCHI

Haskins Laboratories and Department of Biology, Pace University, New York 10038

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#### **Biological and Chemical Warfare**

In R. Jeffrey Smith's article about concerns raised by the Army's proposed new facility for testing aerosols of lethal biological agents (News and Comment, 7 Dec., p. 1176), a number of scientists are quoted as criticizing the project on the basis of its being defensive "overkill" and the likelihood that it will generate information leading directly to the development of offensive biological weapons. No one questions the value of defensive studies per se. But a policy of developing defenses against biological and chemical weapons that the Soviet Union might possibly develop entails serious risks. The same policy is sure to be adopted reciprocally by the Soviet Union, leading almost inevitably to a superpower race to develop and perfect increasingly lethal weapons, for, as many scientists have pointed out, biological studies for defensive and offensive purposes are virtually indistinguishable. Many smaller nations also have the capacity to join the race and might do so for both deterrent and protective purposes. Ultimately, some of the perfected weapons could fall into the hands of terrorists. A world bristling with sophisticated biological and chemical weapons will be a good deal less safe than it is now, even if the weapons are not used, as shown by the present dangerous state of our decaying chemical weapons stockpile.

Not to develop defenses against con-

ceivable biological and chemical weapons also entails risks. But if such a policy were clearly avowed and openly maintained, thereby lessening the perceived threat to other nations, those nations might be encouraged in their own selfinterest to follow suit, and an international treaty might result. Taking a chance on mutual security in this sphere is considerably less dangerous than preparing for the worst, for no defense against biological or chemical weapons can be fully satisfactory, and the defensive preparations themselves, like "star wars," will make offense more likely.

BARBARA HATCH ROSENBERG Molecular Biology and Virology Unit, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York 10021

#### **Chemical Information Online**

I was pleased to see that Science is continuing to present articles regarding the status of the Chemical Information System (CIS), which we used to provide to the public on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency. I was also pleased to see that Jeffrey L. Fox indicates in his most recent article (News and Comment, 16 Nov., p. 816) that we will now be making the CIS available to the public commercially.

The article states that we will not leave the system "intact." While this is semantically correct, it implies that we will be dismantling the CIS. In fact, we will be adding new databases and system capabilities.

The article also erroneously states that Information Consultants Incorporated will be putting the contents of *The Merck Index* online. Actually, on 28 November the final signatures were placed on a contract between Fein-Marquart Associates and Merck & Company; The Merck Index Online-an updated version of the published 10th edition—is now the only public, online access to The Merck Index. This and many other new and updated databases will be placed onto the CIS, as provided by our subsidiary, Chemical Information Systems,

ALVIN E. FEIN

Fein-Marquart Associates, Inc., 7215 York Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21212

Erratum: In the article "Panel says Depo-Provera not proved safe" (News and Comment, 23 Nov., p. 950), the dosages of Depo-Provera, a progestogen, and estrogens used in cancer therapy and as a contraceptive were incorrectly reported. In cancer therapy, the hormones are used in large doses. In contraceptives, the dosages are small.

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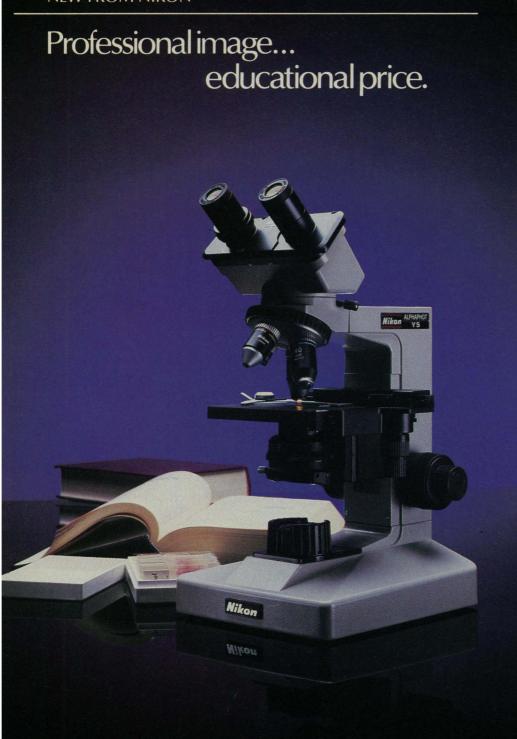
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## An Editor's Quest (I)

Breathes there the scientist, with soul so dead, Who never to himself hath said. "I'd like to publish in Science! Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned As specialized journal pages turned Knowing his latest research has earned A right to be ranked with the giants? (With apologies to Sir Walter Scott)

There will of course be some individuals who are born specialists, enjoy being specialists, and are content to live and die as specialists. There are physicists, bombarded by mesons, bosons, monopoles, and quarks, who are not charmed by a world below high energy. There are biochemists, drowning enjoyably in seas of ammonium sulfate and ethidium bromide, who rapidly become saturated when exposed to the lowest concentration of Bessel functions or economic cycles. There are chemists living high on NMR peaks who disdain subjects that cannot be crystallized or lack melting points. There are paleontologists wandering around in the Pliocene epoch, perfectly happy at being millions of years behind the times.

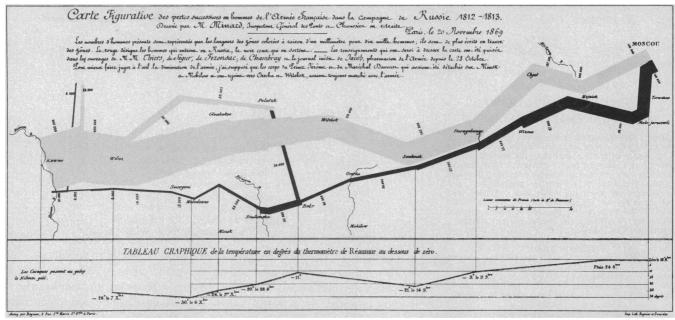
No one in his right mind would wish to interfere with such bliss, particularly in a world fraught with nuclear missiles, stagnant economies, and grant renewals. Nevertheless, there is a function for a journal that brings together the best from all disciplines. For the scientific community it means that those involved in the common enterprise of expanding the frontiers of knowledge will be exposed to discoveries at the cutting edge of another discipline. For the research scientist it has the practical concomitant that inventive minds will often find a way for a technique or concept of one discipline to create a new frontier in a second. Chemists now use the NMR discovered by physicists; archeologists are helped by the carbon dating discovered by chemists; evolutionists use the DNA sequencing discovered by biochemists. The list could go on, but it emphasizes that no science is an island unto itself.

There is a great need for a journal to serve not only the community within its discipline but also the information flow between disciplines. Science has reported on and published scholarly articles in the entire spectrum from mathematics to social science, and this new editor would like to carry on that tradition and possibly improve and enlarge it. We will actively solicit those articles that are considered to be breakthroughs within a discipline, even if some of them may be difficult for the nonspecialist.

The first criterion should be excellence; within that criterion, the more general will be favored over the more particular. All things being equal (which they rarely are), an article that is comprehensible to more than one disciplinary group will be favored over one that has a more narrow focus. The more general may not always be the more important, but generality seems an appropriate goal for a multidisciplinary journal, which Science has been and, in my opinion, should remain.

To publish the best while providing for interdisciplinary communication, we shall attempt to make the abstracts understandable to the nonspecialist, even though the body of the article is written for the specialist. Thus we shall welcome the first announcement of a laser, a recombinant DNA, a Phillips curve, or an Oldowan chopper, even if the detailed evidence is beyond the general reader.

Next week I shall describe some procedures that are being designed to implement these general goals.—Daniel E. Koshland, Jr.



This map, drawn by the French engineer Charles Joseph Minard in 1869, portrays the losses suffered by Napoleon's army in the Russian campaign of 1812. Beginning at the left on the Polish-Russian border near the Niemen, the thick band at the top shows the size of the army (422,000 men) as it invaded Russia in June 1812. The width of the band indicates the size of the army at each position. In September, the army reached Moscow, which was by then sacked and deserted, with

100,000 men. The path of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow in the bitterly cold winter is depicted by the dark lower band, which is tied to a temperature scale (note how the path of retreating army and the temperature line move in parallel). The remains of the Grande Armée struggled out of Russia with only 10,000 men. Minard displayed six dimensions of data on the two-dimensional surface of the paper. It may well be the best statistical graphic ever drawn.

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