

money) would be considered to lie in the engineering and physical sciences (refinements in technology, miniaturization, and so on), an impressive number of contracts would be let to the social scientists, with a view toward dampening adverse activity but also with prospects of valued results (for example, the determination of polygraphy-resistant subjects).

Given a strong international competition, the government may be relied upon to preclude the embarrassment of a "polygraph gap" until private industry has had a chance to develop adequately to meet the burden (indicated by the presence of Poly Tell & Tell's lobby in Washington). At that point the process of polygraphization will be complete. There will remain to be awaited only the great powers' next confrontation—with polygraph.

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Hazards from Mercury Burners

For nearly 11 years I have been a regular reader of your journal. It gives a picture of the present state of the various lines of research, although more specialized periodicals have still to be consulted. . . . The Letters section shows that there is among scientists a strong desire to find the truth and to point out facts which did not come to the knowledge of the authors of the various articles. Also a good portion of humor can be found in this section.

But what I want actually to commend is the letter of V. A. Phillips and J. A. Hugo (13 Mar., p. 1120). This contribution in its way is unique, since the authors feel it worthwhile to alert fellow scientists to possible dangers in working with electron microscopes. This is a very promising sign of cooperation, and the two research workers should be congratulated for this.

On the other hand, it should be an opportunity for the editors of *Science* to encourage scientists working in different fields of research to bring similar cases and problems to the notice of their colleagues. I would mention the hazards arising from stray irradiation from the high-energy mercury burners used in fluorescence microscopy, especially when the work is carried out for very long periods and the consequences of exposure to strong ultraviolet light become obvious only

after several days; also the development of the poisonous gas ozone during work with high-pressure mercury burners and lamps in fluorescence microscopy, fluorimetry, and fluorescence chromatography.

I feel that *Science* could give an example to practically all other scientific journals that cooperation can still be improved among scientists.

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Black Magic?

We have been reluctant to point such a devastating finger at *Science*, but the most objective analysis of the data compels us to implicate *Science* in a clear-cut case of cause and effect. Four weeks of analysis by the most modern computer system proves irrefutably that the occurrence of the earthquake in Alaska on 27 March, the very day that *Science* featured an article on major earthquakes (H. Benioff, "Earthquake source mechanisms," p. 1399) was no mere coincidence.

If you intend again to feature something on earthquakes, or interplanetary collisions, or anything of that nature, please inform us so that we may better prepare ourselves for the event.

WILLIAM W. MITCHELL
C. H. DEARBORN
H. J. HODGSON, L. J. KLEBESADEL
A. C. WILTON, ROSCOE L. TAYLOR
CHARLES E. LOGSDON, ARVO KALLIO
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Indexes to Our Journal

At the bottom of your contents page you state that "*Science* is indexed in the *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*." According to *Ulrich's Periodicals Directory* (10th edition, p. 445), your journal is indexed also in *Biological Abstracts*, *Chemical Abstracts*, *Engineering Index*, *Index Medicus*, *Mathematical Reviews*, *Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews*, *Psychological Abstracts*, and *Science Abstracts*.

Readers' Guide is found in almost

every American library, and since it is less specialized by subject than the other indexes mentioned, it no doubt indexes *Science* more completely than they do. It is only an index, however, whereas some of the other indexes are also abstracts. *Readers' Guide* has only an author-and-alphabetical-subject-heading approach to the material; *Chemical Abstracts* and *Biological Abstracts* have additionally between them formula, systematic, and permuted-title indexes, as well as a more scholarly subject approach, to supplement the popular *Readers' Guide*. Also, some of the abstracts provide photocopy service; although this feature is not so important for *Science*, which is in plentiful supply about the nation, as it is for scarcer items, it might still be of use from time to time.

Ulrich's does not mention the fact that the title pages of *Science* appear regularly in *Current Contents* (which has a service providing tear sheets of articles).

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University of California: Addenda

As one who for 62 years has been in various fashions associated with the University of California, I should like to enlarge on the brief historical note in John Walsh's article about the University of California (News and Comment, 3 Apr., p. 34). . . .

President Benjamin Ide Wheeler . . . brought Jacques Loeb, W. J. V. Osterhout, and others to Berkeley. . . . There was already the nucleus of a strong faculty on the campus through the association with the distinguished astronomers at Lick Observatory and A. O. Leuschner at Berkeley. In geology and paleontology there were A. W. Lawson, C. D. Louderback, and C. W. Merriam; in botany, W. A. Setchell and W. P. Jepson; C. A. Kofoid in zoology, E. J. Wilczynski in mathematics, A. E. Taylor in pathology, A. L. Kroeber in anthropology, G. M. Stratton, H. A. Overstreet, and Morton Prince in psychology, W. C. Mitchell in economics, John G. Howard in architecture, and C. E. Derleth in civil engineering. Wheeler augmented the humanities by adding distinguished philosophers, economists, and historians. It was this faculty of able scholars and men of strong character