

that, in order to compensate for our successful death control, we must introduce a conscious, well planned, and vigorous program of birth control.

STERLING BRACKETT

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Hickman's "Oases for the future" (4 Nov., p. 612) provides startling data and interesting speculation regarding the uses and conservation of our water supplies. Human ingenuity is probably capable of achieving the science-fiction advances that Hickman discusses. But it should be recognized that the primary purpose of such proposals is to make room for increasing populations. If, instead of developing such schemes, men have the courage and wisdom to direct even a fraction as much ingenuity, effort, and capital into a program of population adjustment to bring the birth and death rates into balance during the next two or three decades, the quality of living for individuals and the world generally would be incomparably better and more attractive.

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"Krow" Units: A New Evaluation

Considerable discussion revolves around the productivity of research workers and its lack of criteria for evaluation. It occurred to me that such productivity could be expressed in some objective form. This would greatly facilitate evaluation and also provide criteria for determining when a unit of research work is completed. I would like to suggest that the minimal unit of research activity which is internally consistent and illustrates a specific cause and effect relationship be designated as one "Krow" unit. I recognize that there are research activities and publications which qualify as "Multi-Krow," and similarly, the individual steps or logical progressions which ultimately constitute a "Krow" could be designated as "Milli-Krow," while the elemental beginnings of an investigation (and in some less fortunate circumstances, the actual work itself) might be considered as "Micro-Krow" units.

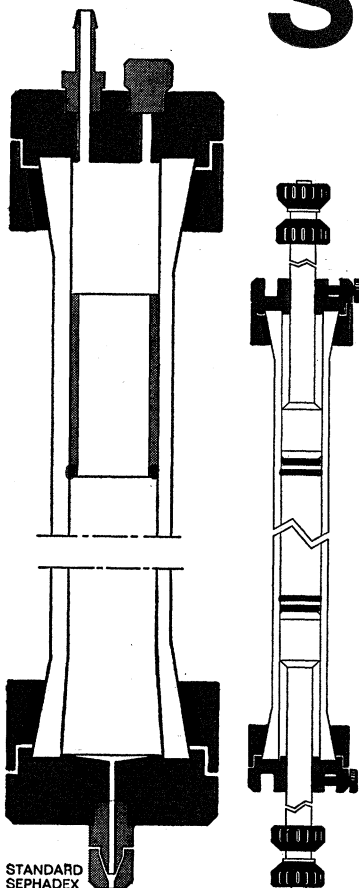
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