

tains that in the steady-state model "No arbitrary initial conditions are involved" (p. 194). In the reviewer's opinion, there are at least three: (1) the cosmological constant of repulsion; (2) the rate of spontaneous creation of hydrogen (why not γ rays, mesons, neutrinos?); (3) the condition of an existing invariable universe. It is nowhere mentioned that the model leads to a perpetual increase in the total number of nucleons in the universe which, thus, is not "steady" at all. The oscillating models are given thirteen lines on p. 173 and then forgotten. The same happens to Charlier's hierarchical model which the author describes but ignores, despite its conformity with the observable part of the universe.

Although popular, for the scientist, too, the book may be a source of stimulating ideas. In fact, a few passages, and some illustrations, despite their popular guise, would require a trained mind to decipher.

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