LETTERS

(Continued)

(1) A quarterly cumulating list of the papers in journal A showing the papers in journal B that refer to each. A similar list should also be issued of items in journal B showing later comments. (These indexes need not, indeed do not, replace standard author and subject indexes.)

(2) The individual papers should be removable (perforated in the margin) without destroying the journal. Personal users will find this convenient. Librarians with uncoöperative readers will probably find it a menace, but it does give them the opportunity, after a period, of removing papers no longer of current interest and keeping only those that seem likely to be of fairly permanent value so reducing the bulk.

(3) Papers in journal A that prove to have some permanent value might eventually be made available together with any commenting items in journal B in microform or as a third journal.

Some of your readers may think that by proposing journals as an alternative to PIE I have missed the point. Please be assured that this is not so. I appreciate the disadvantages of the present preprint and publication methods and that PIE offers one solution to them. What I wish to suggest is that adaptations of existing methods may be preferable to introduction of a completely new system.

D. Alasdair Kemp
Royal Observatory, Edinburgh

A CORRECTION: On page 103 of the November issue of PHYSICS TODAY an editorial change altered the meaning of one of the sentences of Edwin McMillan's obituary of Vladimir Veksler. McMillan's independent discovery of the principle of phase stability did not take place at Berkeley as stated but at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, where he was on leave from the University of California. The work was submitted for publication on his return to Berkeley after the end of the war. □