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LETTERS

tive Service on behalf of an employee or grantee. The official report of the Public Health Service to the President's Commission on the draft not only elevated Selective Service needs above the long-run needs of American science and civilization, but also did so on the basis of unscientific extrapolations from the conclusions of a small number of old, poorly designed, and largely irrelevant studies.

M. G. SASLOW
University of Washington

How many postdoctorals?

I read with interest and no little astonishment the note under RESONANCES on page 71 of the September PHYSICS TODAY, having to do with the number of postdoctorals in physics in US institutions. Since I was the source of the data mentioned in the statement, I would like to correct the conclusion drawn.

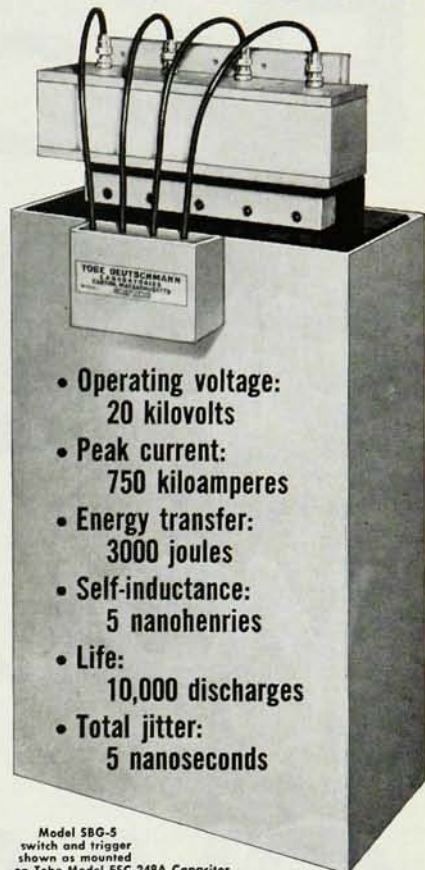
We have received returns from 11 000 postdoctorals working either in this country or as US citizens abroad. Of these 9 786 have been analyzed at this writing. Of those analyzed 13.6% or 1 332 are physicists. Almost exactly one-half of the postdoctorals are foreign citizens, and of the Americans only 446 are "immediate" postdoctorals, that is, within one year of their PhD. Furthermore if we take the average postdoctoral appointment to be two years, only 233 physics PhD's go immediately into postdoctoral work. Since this is only 21.3% of the 1 046 PhD's produced in the United States last year, it is certainly an exaggeration to suggest that most US PhD's enter postdoctoral training.

RICHARD B. CURTIS
National Research Council

Erratum

The book review appearing in the September issue, page 93, under the title "History of Kinetics," is for the book *Kinetic Theory, Vol. 2: Irreversible Processes* (Pergamon Press, 1966, cloth \$4.95, paper \$3.95). The book title was mistakenly printed as *Kinetic Theory, Vol. 1: The Nature of Gases and of Heat*. □

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