

letters

cieties and journal publishers to provide each other's readers and members with reprint services would provide decreased cost and increased income to publishers, and wider dissemination of physics information.

Also identification of specific interests of members and subscribers could provide increased interest to advertisers, which would decrease the cost of specialized reprint services.

JEHUDA ZIEGLER
New York University
New York, N.Y.

COMMENT FROM AIP: *The Journal of Physical and Chemical Reference Data* published jointly by AIP and ACS for the National Bureau of Standards inaugurated a reprint program with the start of publication of this journal in 1972. These reprints are produced at the same time as the journal. Each article is separately bound in individual orders. The same technique is about to be implemented for *Reviews of Modern Physics* published for the American Physical Society by AIP.

In addition, an advertisement in the March issue of *PHYSICS TODAY* (page 91) announced the start of AIP's new reprint service for all of the journals published by AIP. All an individual has to do is to send us the article title, author, journal and date, and we will mail a reprint of the article. Orders are filled on the same day they are received. The price is 25¢ per article page, plus postage.

Current Physics Advance Abstracts subscribers can order an article reprint even before the article is published. As soon as the article is published, the requested reprint will be mailed.

ROBERT H. MARKS
Associate Director of Publishing
American Institute of Physics

Disability insurance

Disability resulting from accident or disease is one of the most serious hazards of life. The deficiency most frequently found in personal insurance programs is a lack of balance between disability insurance and life insurance. Even when a person carries disability insurance, the particular policy may not be suitable or adequate. In taking leave from the University of Maryland for a year, I was faced with acquiring my own fringe-benefit package because the University Research Foundation I went to had no package.

Most of the APS membership know that life insurance is available through the society and elsewhere at competitive costs. I have always thought that

the Society fell down on its responsibility when it endorsed the present life-insurance program without at the same time requiring the presence of a disability insurance. I have found that a good disability policy is expensive. By good, I mean a *professional* disability policy, not the typical policies without the professional coverage or the University policy with a two-year clause. I believe that here is a chance for the APS to do something worthwhile for its membership. Now, when the APS Plan Administrator will be getting proposals for such a program of protection, I urge all members to make known their interest in a program of professional Disability Income Protection.

SHERMAN K. POULTNEY
Newport News, Virginia

COMMENT FROM APS: Our society has moved a long way in its professional concerns responsibilities since the establishment of its Life Insurance Program in 1969. When the Life Insurance Program was first suggested, our attorney and many members of the Council did not think it proper for the APS to endorse this life-insurance program. However, the Tax Reform Bill of 1969 enabled the Society to do something that previously would have been unacceptable. If the Professional Disability Insurance had been proposed to the Council at the time the Life Insurance Program was instituted, I'm sure that it would not have been accepted. The Life Insurance Program of the APS has been very successful, and more than 3500 members of our Society are now covered under this insurance program. Because of the success of this program, the accident and dismemberment insurance program has also been made available, and we are now looking into a Professional Disability Insurance Program. We do not, as yet, have a proposal for a Professional Disability Insurance Program that is acceptable to the APS insurance administrator and the officers of the Society. When we do, the members will be given the opportunity to participate in this new insurance program as soon as possible.

W. W. HAVENS, JR.
Executive Secretary, APS

Disagrees on math

It was interesting to read Robert Hermann's letter (December 1972, page 9) regarding physicists and their lack of mathematical training.

As one whose basic training was in physics and who hires physicists for various jobs, I could not disagree more with Hermann's contention that physi-

continued on page 74

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