

Yet another journal

In June, page 50 carries a full-page advertisement for yet another North-Holland journal, *Solid State Ionics*. Every paper listed in the projected contents could have found a suitable existing avenue for publication without the introduction of yet another journal. North-Holland does the scientific community a disservice by its constant introduction of unnecessary, low-circulation, commercially motivated journals. Those who accept editorial positions and who submit or referee papers for these journals are equally culpable. The establishment of these journals deals a blow to all scientists attempting to keep abreast with developments in science. The blow is even more devastating to those scientists working in developing countries.

It is time physicists took positive action to eliminate this scourge. I suggest that we physicists adopt a three-prong attack and (1) refuse to subscribe to any new commercially motivated journals; (2) refuse to accept editorial posts with these journals; (3) refuse to submit or referee papers connected with these journals.

I would ask all physicists to join in such an attack on *Solid State Ionics* and assist in its early demise as has happened on earlier occasions.

B. G. WYBOURNE
University of Canterbury
Christchurch, New Zealand
8/12/80

Fair use photocopying

The "Guest Comment" by H. William Koch in November cannot be allowed to pass without some response. In one short statement, Koch manages to denigrate both the copyright law and the librarians who attempt to live under it. To speak to all of the points Koch raises is impossible in a letter of this sort, but I should like to mention just a few of the more glaring misstatements and overstatements as I see them.

To intimate that the fair use section of the law (108) goes beyond fair use is merely an opinion on the part of one publisher and should have been stated as such, rather than as absolute fact. I would agree that, *if abused*, the section could have "more than a trivial effect," which is precisely why the five-year review process for the law was written into it.

Secondly, I believe it is beyond Koch's purview (and obviously his expertise) for him to propose to speak for librarians. It may come as some surprise to a publisher, but librarians have as much integrity as the population at

large and an equally high level of professional responsibility, both to our users and ourselves. We have for many years operated under a fair use concept, the same concept that was incorporated into the law, and have adhered judiciously to the National Commission on New Technological Uses of Copyrighted Works (CONTU) guidelines. Certainly it is more work to keep abreast of the law and to keep more detailed records and to write for permissions to copy in specific instances, but we do it conscientiously nonetheless. To say that librarians are "either not complying with the law, or they are severely limiting their photocopying..." is to ignore the facts and to insult professional librarians.

Finally, to suggest, as Koch does in his last section, that the solution to these perceived problems is for libraries to turn into commercial photocopying establishments is patently absurd. Librarians are there to connect users with the sources of information, not publish it for them. We purchase and try to make access to information as easy as possible, but we do not wish to get into Koch's business of producing it. I am hopeful he will try in future statements to become more cognizant of the facts before speaking. In a very real sense, he and I are both trying to achieve the same ends and this achievement can only be hurt by not becoming more informed about the other's methods. For us as librarians to try and circumvent either the spirit or the letter of the law by wholesale photocopying would be poor economy, knowing as we do that fewer subscriptions mean higher prices in the long run. Perhaps it would be more useful to all concerned if those like Koch spend their time trying to find ways of publishing more economically rather than verbally attacking other members of the information profession.

SARAH S. MARTIN
Chair
Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division
1/21/81 Special Libraries Association

THE AUTHOR COMMENTS: The letter of Sarah Martin demonstrates the problem of developing a constructive dialog between librarians and publishers to solve the photocopying problem. Let me just address one point—that of being "cognizant of the facts." I will explain how AIP has attempted to learn the facts and to develop solutions together with librarians.

Many large industrial and some public libraries photocopy more than several hundred thousand pages per year. In order to understand the nature of that photocopying—whether it complies with the law, its present and prospective impacts on publishers, and the possible inhibition to information flow

500 Watts of H.F. Power

ENI A-500 broadband power amplifier delivers 500 W/ 0.3 to 35 MHz



Here is the biggest, toughest, ruggedest, solid state Class A linear amplifier we make. It's designed to stand up in hostile environments, yet it's easy to field service because all major subassemblies are "plug in" replaceable. Designed for use in HF transmitters, RFI/EMI applications, linear accelerators, and gas plasma equipment, the ENI Model A-500 broadband power amplifier is capable of delivering more than 500 watts of output over the frequency range of 0.3 to 35 MHz. And like all ENI power amplifiers, the A-500 features unconditional stability, instantaneous failsafe provisions, and absolute protection from overloads. For more information, a demonstration, or a full line catalog, please contact us at ENI, 3000 Winton Road South, Rochester, N.Y. 14623. Call 716/473-6900 or telex 97-8283 ENI ROC.

ENI



The advanced design line of power amplifiers

Circle No. 13 on Reader Service Card