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13. H. A. Kramers, *Quantum Mechanics*, North Holland, Amsterdam (1957).
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9/84

Journals for the taking

I have some unbound journals that I plan to discard if no one can use them: *Journal of Applied Physics*, January 1946–December 1970, (missing February 1946); *Science Abstracts Sec. A. Physics*, January 1937–December 1968.

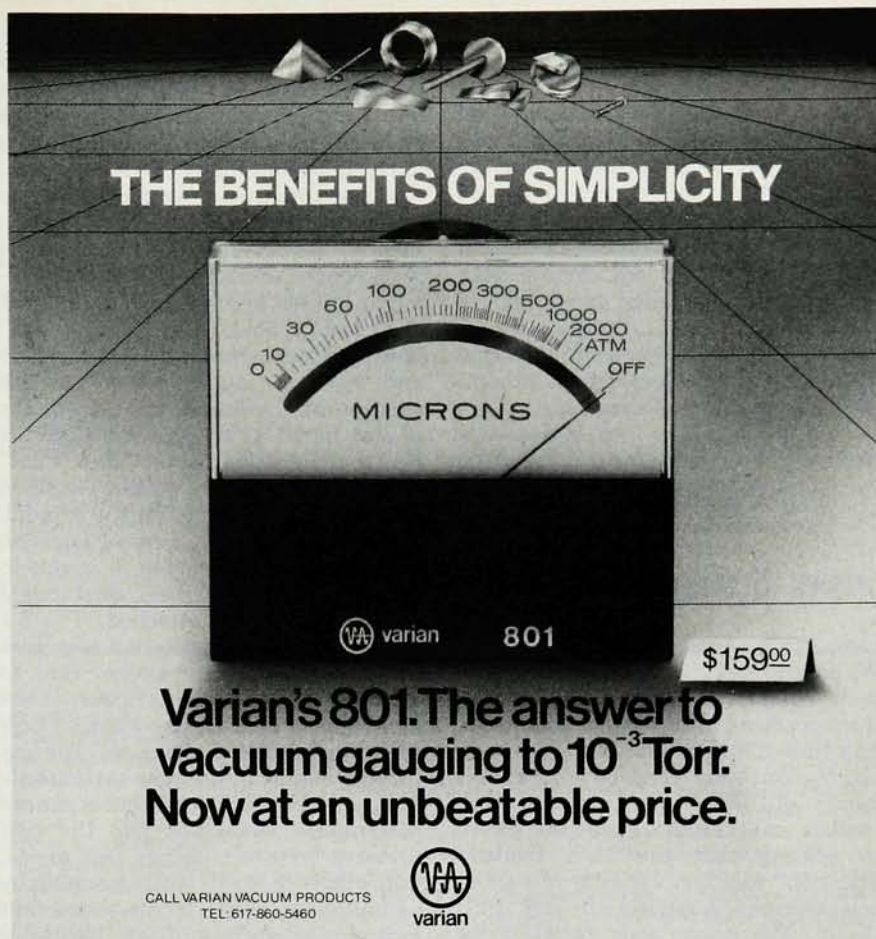
I'll let anyone have them who will pay the cost of packaging and shipping. If interested, please get in touch. My telephone number is (412) 222-4400, Ext. 253.

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Nuclear medicine

What chords resonated on reading the letter by Robert Yaes in your issue of August (page 13)! I, too, had followed the path from physics to medicine and had been astonished by the amount of rote learning necessary to obtain a medical degree. The transition from senior faculty member to student in the same institution is a unique one, not always to be recommended. However, the choice of a final medical specialty for a former physicist requires very much care if one wants to retain some value from one's physics education. Radiation therapy, though seeming to depend on principles of physics, in fact does not do so, as Yaes has discovered. The relevant principles are automated or have become province of medical physicists. The physician has little to do with these physical principles.

However, one specialty that uses physics every day is nuclear medicine, a field that is now steadily advancing its techniques, very many of which require knowledge drawn directly from physics and mathematics. In fact, in some countries such as France, a higher degree in physics is a recognized step towards specialist recognition in nuclear medicine. Further, the recent arrival of nuclear magnetic resonance imaging is an even more fertile field for the medical doctor with a strong physics background. I am convinced this technique will become at least as com-



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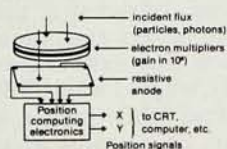
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