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abstract stating explicitly his view of the scientific location and linkages of his work? But more fundamental is the need to recognize that science needs a whole new corps of specialists to play a role in relation to science similar to that of the critics and historians of the arts.

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Citation indexing seems certain to gain widespread use because it reduces the untidy process of library searching almost to a rote method. But we must beware of the possibility that the procedure will replace old, less systematized, search methods to the extent that the busy worker, hurrying to publish ever faster, will avoid the responsibility of a truly complete library search. In some cases the referees will point out an overlooked paper, but they too may be using the same method, and papers overlooked by one author will be overlooked again many times as others follow his citation-lead.

Another objection discussed by Margolis concerns evaluation of the method. He states, "A new scale of values based upon citations is by no means infallible or, in many cases, even fair, but at least it provides an alternative to the existing one, which is at the root of the crisis." I would say that the existing method, paper-counting, is not considered a respectable method by most, whereas weighted citation counting has the sound of enough respectability to insure its acceptance by most (commonly cited) workers as well as by the paper counters. Therein lies its danger.

In general, people concerned with making evaluations are going to accept, without effective qualification, Margolis' statement, "It is reasonable to expect that the best contributions would have been among those cited most, while relatively unimportant papers would have attracted few, if any citations." There remains an obvious inequity owing to papers, however bad, being heavily cited, while other papers remain uncited because they are too far ahead of their time. When the method is used for evaluation, these refinements must be safeguarded.

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Will, Money, and Giantism

Nelson’s report on dramatic developments at State University of New York at Albany (News and Comment, 24 Mar., p. 1521), explains everything as a miracle produced by a peculiar vitality shared by the governor, the president of the state system, and an aggressive academic vice president. He notes that it exudes a “sweet smell of money.” What Nelson misses, however, is the background of strenuous, and often embittered, struggle for a broad and rigorous system of public higher education in a rich but lagard state.

A recent system president, Carlson, advocated dramatic development just a trifle prematurely, and he had to leave the state. Dean Blegen of Minnesota issued a research report on the New York lag in higher education and research and it received scanty attention in official circles. Faculty members who, as recently as 4 years ago, advocated or even predicted a fraction of the support that is now provided the university were distinctly unpopular with powers which still wield substantial authority. That power is now shared with newcomers. . . . Meanwhile the Albany student body remains, as Nelson indicates, extremely homogeneous in class and regional background. Few come from other states, few from the metropolis, and, of course, the percentage of minority racial or religious elements is vanishingly small. If pluralism stimulates intellectual alertness, this is a sign of continued lag.

Nelson correctly assessed the architectural giantism of Edward Durell Stone as a contribution to university vitality and lure. It is true that there is a will to attract to Albany both scientists and humanists who have “an edge” over the average men in their respective fields. And all this would be less important if it were not evidence that the academic motivation in the Empire State resembles that of several other states, as well as half a dozen other nations. Everywhere there is the will to “do better.” If an unclassified university is to aspire to the higher ranks, is the combination, then, of will, money, and giantism the winning formula?

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