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Important Notice to Contributors

BECAUSE of the number of articles submitted for publication in *SCIENCE*, and because of the considerable length of many papers, the editors find it increasingly difficult to keep from falling farther and farther behind in the schedule of publication. In order to assure publication of new work with a minimum of delay, and in order to provide a much wider range of interest in each issue of *SCIENCE*, the Editorial Board announces the following change in policy:

1. Only under exceptional circumstances, such as suitability for a lead article, will any technical paper of more than four manuscript pages, double spaced (ca. 1200 words), be accepted. This includes space occupied by references, figures, and tables. *Most papers should be limited to 900 words.* This does not mean that abstracts which state conclusions without supporting data will be acceptable. *Supporting data should be included to the extent necessary*, particularly in the form of concise tables.

2. Once the accumulated manuscripts have been published, every effort will be made to publish technical papers within ten weeks of receipt. This will require the cooperation of authors, first in respect to conciseness and brevity of expression; second, in careful attention to the standard forms used in *SCIENCE* for references, abbreviations, legends to figures, headings of tables, etc.; and third, in prompt correction and return of proofs.

3. Every manuscript must be submitted in duplicate in order to expedite editorial handling. In case of return to authors, one copy will be retained in the Editorial Office pending final disposition.

4. Lead articles of greater length (up to 10,000 words) are invited for consideration. These may be general articles or reviews of recent advances in some field. Writers of such articles should keep in mind the broad audience of *SCIENCE* and should write in sufficiently non-technical terms to be intelligible to a general scientific audience.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD

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