

To prevent tools, equipment, or cut pieces from falling into the reactor portion of the tank, a plastic-lined sheet-metal cone was suspended beneath the work area during the cutting operation. After some difficulties with loss of visibility due to water clouding, binding of the cutter bearings, and misorientation of the cutter, the basket assembly was successfully cut into three pieces and discharged to the spent-fuel pit without serious incident.

The operation demonstrated to the staff that simple tools and procedures can be devised on an ad hoc basis for the unusual and infrequent disposal problems that are bound to occur at any reactor facility. Details of the design of this particular tool and the procedures employed in this case were presented at the Conference on the Problems of Operating Research and Power Reactors, sponsored by the Reactor Operations Division of the American Nuclear Society in Ottawa, Canada, during October, 1963 and are available from this office.

Garrett V. Sidler
John C. Bouldin
Charles R. Feaveyear

U. S. Army Engineer Reactors Group
Headquarters, Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

THE RIGHT FLAVOR

Dear Sir:

Now that I have had a chance to see the first issue of **Nuclear Applications** I can offer to you and the American Nuclear Society staff my sincere congratulations for producing a journal of great excellence. It looks good and reads well. I particularly like the insertion of the Reader Service Card on the last page and the use of a full-size page for it. But most important of all, I think the flavor has been established. This flavor is one for which I was hoping. The Society can be justly proud of its new publication.

James R. Lilienthal

Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico

A WORD OF CONCERN

Dear Sir:

I have received the first issue of **Nuclear Applications**, and am pleased to send you a few comments.

I have enjoyed the presentation of the journal; the type, in particular, is very attractive: neat, large, simple, and pleasing to the reader. I certainly welcome the change in the name of the journal; when I learned that the name "**Nuclear Technology**" had been accepted, at first, I thought it was definitely going to be a birth defect. It is precisely in relation to the contents of the journal where I would like to add a word of concern. Despite the name change, this first issue impresses me as

totally technological. I have enjoyed the article on burn-up, but it still represents "fall out" from reactor technology. Let us not forget that there are two large fields for which reactors are mere tools: activation analysis, with its whole series of interesting new basic studies and developments, and applications of radioisotopes to basic sciences. Moreover, in these fields one may sometimes forget the existence of reactors altogether, as in 14-MeV, or charged-particle activation analysis, for example. I hope articles on these, and related subjects will find some room in future issues of **Nuclear Applications**.

E. Ricci

Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

(Ed. Note: We agree with Mr. Ricci's concern and hope that publication of his letter will stimulate action from potential authors of such papers and of papers on other subjects within our scope but not adequately represented in these early issues. We cannot publish papers which we don't receive.)

A LOGICAL VEHICLE

Dear Sir:

Congratulations on the first issue of **Nuclear Applications**! The articles are stimulating, the format refreshing and lively. I was most interested in your commentary about things to come as well as philosophy for the journal. We of the Shielding Division have eagerly awaited the birth of a new American Nuclear Society journal, which may be a logical vehicle for a group of shielding papers that have not previously had a proper home in ANS publications. We have urged members of the shielding community to give earnest consideration to submission for possible publication in **Nuclear Applications**, and I hope you will receive good papers from our colleagues.

W. E. Kreger

Chairman, Shielding Division
American Nuclear Society

DESCENDING TO THE READER

Dear Sir:

I have just reviewed the first issue of **Nuclear Applications**, which we had been awaiting with keen anticipation. There is certainly a need for such a Journal to be published by the American Nuclear Society. I was impressed, in general, with the technical content of the papers, and think you are to be congratulated on making a fine start in the difficult job of initiating such a journal.

However, I was not favorably impressed with the format, which seemed quite imitative of commercially

published trade journals. We had been looking forward to a journal that would deal with nuclear applications, using the same general format as **Nuclear Science and Engineering**. The latter format has evolved over a period of years and is now from many standpoints highly desirable.

In particular, I would like to see the abstract of each paper printed separately from the article, with either a blank or advertisement backing page. This would make it quite easy to remove abstracts from the Journal for clipping to index cards for personal-information retrieval systems.

The inclusion of author photographs strikes me as serving little purpose. The American Nuclear Society neither needs to, nor should, imitate commercial trade journals.

The layout of the articles is quite disturbing. Perhaps I am prejudiced toward the layout of **Nuclear Science and Engineering**, but the print seems too large and distracting for continuous reading, and the vertical lines between columns inhibit rapid scanning.

A more standard cover, with the same general format as **Nuclear Science and Engineering**, with perhaps a change of colors, would be highly desirable.

In general, it appears that the layout of **Nuclear Applications** is much closer to that of **Nuclear News** than that of **Nuclear Science and Engineering**. **Nuclear News** has as its primary function the transferral of casual information, and should, therefore, have a convenient and conversational format. A technical journal, however, even one such as **Nuclear Applications**, should not tolerate such a format.

This letter may assist you in your difficult task of satisfying a wide variety of readers. A disservice may be done the Society and the profession by either bringing the technical content of the journal down to a low level, or by bringing its layout down to a conversational format. If the average reader of **Nuclear Applications** cannot accept the format of a technical journal, then either the Society or the profession is in serious trouble. One must bring the average reader up to a standard, rather than descending to the level of the average reader.

This is said in full knowledge of the problems we have, particularly in the education of nuclear scientists and engineers. There is no easy way out of this problem, but bringing the format of the journal down to a popular level of pseudo public standard is not the proper solution.

Edward D. Jordan

Chairman, Division of Nuclear
Science & Engineering
The Catholic University of America
Washington, D. C.

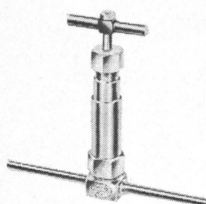
(Ed. Note: We are grateful for constructive criticism such as offered by Prof. Jordan, and we hope that others who may be unfavorably impressed by any aspect of this journal will let us know what bothers them and why. As of April 19, by far most of the relatively few letters received expressed satisfaction with the first issue.)

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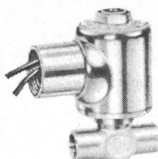
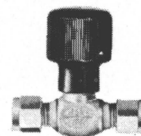


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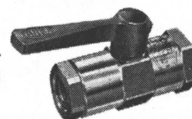


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