

ANNOUNCEMENT: PAGE CHARGES

The sad situation caused by drastic cuts in research funds could perhaps reduce the honoring of page charges. Therefore the *Physical Review* has to impose the two-track system again. Whenever the nonhonored pages threaten to exceed 15%, we shall have to delay those papers which form the excess. This means that we now have a page budget of about 50 pages in each issue for nonpaid articles. In the past this was enough to cover the needs of small institutions for which paying page charges was a real hardship.

We hope that we can maintain this equilibrium so that no delays have to be imposed at all. The two-track system discriminates unjustly against small institutions. It is therefore, in our opinion, the duty of the larger institutions to make sure that their page charges will be honored. An increase of nonhonored pages from the normal 15 to 20% would mean a loss of \$85 000 per year, which the American Physical Society cannot afford. In 1968 the deficit for the *Physical Review* reached \$280 000; the year before it was \$80 000. This cannot continue.

We remind our authors that page charges keep the subscription prices down and thus promote wide distribution. Also, without page charges a library subscription for the *Physical Review* would cost about \$1800 per year, which would reduce the libraries' budget for books. Publishing papers in other archival journals without page charges would have the same effect since their library subscription rate is proportional to the number of pages published, and this rate is about eight times the *Physical Review* rate for the same amount of material.

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