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NEWS AND VIEWS

GAMESMANSHIP IN JOURNALS

"Journal gamesmanship is the fine and well developed art of seeking inappropriate credit for oneself via publication in a technical or scientific journal. This can mean anything from overt plagiarism to deliberately inaccurate citations What can editors do to prevent these situations? First, we can urge our authors to remember that while the applause of their colleagues is an honourable and worthy goal, it is a reward that must be earned rather than simply appropriated. Second, we can urge our referees to be extremely diligent in trying to find those half-remembered references that come to their minds as they read the manuscript. Third, we can remind ourselves and all of our colleagues how easy it is to steal credit, inadvertently, by laziness (not bothering to look up or list all the appropriate references).... Fourth, we can urge a spirit of tolerance on our authors. Sometimes, several people invent the same thing at roughly the same time. In many cases the inventions are fully independent and each inventor is aware of the other's contribution. This places a significant burden on the author to do a serious literature study before submitting his or her manuscript for publication." — (H. J. Gaulfield in *Optical Engineering*, 21 (2) SR 036, Mar-Apr 82)

[Recently a paper was communicated to *Curr. Sci.* which had been almost a verbatim copy of an article published in *Indian Journal of Physics* several years back! There was another instance where the same paper was published in two different journals by the same of authors!! Editor — *Curr. Sci.*]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOMI J. BHABHA AWARD

Dr. G. S. Laddha, Director, A. C. College of Technology, Madras, has been awarded the Homi J. Bhabha Award for Research for 1980.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WATER HYACINTH

The International Conference on Water Hyacinth will be held at Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad, India during February 7-11, 1983.

The aim of the Conference is: to highlight the problem of infestation of waterways by Water Hyacinth; to critically examine methods available, or likely to become available, for controlling the weed; to utilize to best advantage those methods which show promise to developing countries, and to identify directions for continued research and development.

The topics for consideration in the Conference are: Environment and Ecology, Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, Utilization, Control-Chemical, Mechanical, Biological, International Cooperation.

Further information may be had from: International Conference on Water Hyacinth, c/o Dr. G. Thyagarajan, Director, Regional Reserch Laboratory, Hyderabad 500 009.