""""""""CUPPENI COMMENIS" A New Multidisciplinary Section For Current Contents® Services

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With this issue of *Current Contents*, we begin an experiment that we have been planning for some time. Till now, the contents pages of multidisciplinary journals like *Nature*, *Science*, the *Doklady*, the *Comptes Rendus*, have appeared at the front of each issue of *Current Contents*. In this issue, and in those that follow, you will find the contents pages of such journals, and of some others, in a center section, separately paginated, printed on tinted paper for easy identification. Some journals whose contents pages will appear in the new section may not be as truly multidisciplinary as *Science* and *Nature*, but we know that they are of interest to many readers of two or more editions of *Current Contents*. This latter group includes journals in chemical physics, analytical chemistry, spectroscopy, and statistics. Finally, the new center section of *Current Contents* will allow us to include in the individual discipline-oriented editions many journals that are of interest to our readers as scientists, rather than as chemists, physicists, biologists, etc. I believe that, as scientists, they will welcome the occasional injection of social science that this last group of journals may sometimes include.

The advantages of this new arrangement are significant: we can print these contents pages only once instead of four times for different editions of *Current Contents* and thereby increase coverage of each of four editions and improve timing without increasing our production staff. The new multidisciplinary section begins with coverage of 62 journals. In the case of *Current Contents/Chemical Sciences*, this coverage adds 48 titles to the overall journal list. Titles new to this edition of *Current Contents* are indicated by an asterisk in the multidisciplinary journal list printed on page 6 of this issue. As we add these 48 new titles to *Current Contents/Chemical Sciences*, we are discontinuing the *Permuterm®* subject index. In three recent readers surveys, we found that our subscribers prefer expanded coverage to a continuation of a subject index in these weekly issues.

During more than a decade's publishing of *Current Contents*, I have been continually amazed by our readers' apparently insatiable appetite for expansion of journal coverage. It is a very rare day that doesn't bring mail with suggestions for additions to the journal list of one or more of our services. So, I am fairly confident that this new arrangement of multidisciplinary and other journals will meet with our readers' approval. If, however, we've misjudged their preferences, we won't hesitate to revert to the previous format.

As a part of the new center section, we are introducing a new feature of *Current Contents:* a series of *Current Comments* by Professor Jushua Lederberg of Stanford University. These columns will be selected from the weekly syndicated series he writes for the Washington *Post*. Dr. Lederberg has been a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *Current Contents* almost from its inception. In a subsequent issue, it will be my pleasure to comment on his unique qualifications as a multidisciplinarian *extraordinaire*.