

Your reviewer writes as though the report suggests that projects should not be abandoned. On the contrary, it refers to the inevitability of this. But your review is altogether too complacent to claim that none of the cases Dr Reekie reported should cause surprise and that all of them merely represent "unavoidable ups and downs of commercial life". In no fewer than seven of the twenty firms visited development projects had been abandoned because they had been unwittingly duplicated within the same organization. In other cases, there had been several years of successful technical development before any market assessment had been undertaken. Surely no management could claim that such cases were unavoidable? In regard to the timing of abandonment your reviewer appears to agree with the centre—though with an odd twist he suggests that he is saying something different.

We appreciate your having paid so much attention to our first report. But we must advise those of your readers who wish to know what the report says to read it in the original.

Yours faithfully,

DUNCAN BURN

Chairman,
Centre for the Study
of Industrial Innovation,
162 Regent Street,
London W1R 6DD

Those who collect information but who neglect to analyse it must surely not be surprised if others draw lessons from it which may sometimes be unwelcome—Editor, *Nature*.

Erratum

Last week's News and Views editorial "Haemoglobin Synthesized in *Xenopus* Eggs" (233, 161; 1971), contained the

erroneous statement that AUGpolyU is translated when injected into *Xenopus* eggs. Of course, as Gurdon *et al.* reported in their article on page 177 of that issue, this messenger does not promote the incorporation of phenylalanine.

British Diary

Tuesday, September 28

Centralized Control Systems (four-day conference) Institution of Electrical Engineers; and the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers, at Savoy Place, London WC2.

Schizophrenia: Biochemistry, Genetics and Therapy (two-day conference) Schizophrenia Association, at Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1.

Wednesday, September 29

Less Common Methods of Separation (9.30 a.m. symposium) Institution of Chemical Engineers, Midlands Branch, at the University of Birmingham.

Microbial Control in Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Preparations (two-day symposium) Society of Cosmetic Chemists of Great Britain, jointly with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, at Imperial College, London SW7.

Thursday, September 30

Biochemical Engineering (2 p.m. symposium) Institution of Chemical Engineers, at the University of Technology, Claverton Down, Bath.

Friday, October 1

Autumn Meeting and Annual General Meeting (afternoon) Bone and Tooth Society, at the Royal Dental Hospital, London.

The Properties of Anticorrosive Pigments (10 a.m.) Mr J. Bowden, Oil and Colour Chemists' Association, Scottish-Student Group, at the St Enoch Hotel, Glasgow.

Saturday, October 2

Teaching of Mathematics in Schools in Relation to the Teaching of Physics (symposium) Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, jointly with the Institute of Physics, at Eton College, Windsor.

Monday, October 4

Practical Pigment Dispersion (7 p.m.) Mr J. R. Groom and Mr M. Baker, Oil and Colour Chemists' Association, at the Queens Hotel, George Street, Hull.

Reports and Publications

not included in the Monthly Books Supplement

Great Britain and Ireland

An Index to the Systematic Collection of Minerals in the British Museum (Natural History). Twentieth edition. Pp. 39. (London: British Museum (Natural History), 1971.) 20p. [96]

University of Bristol, Department of Agriculture and Horticulture. Long Ashton Research Station—The National Fruit and Cider Institute. Report for 1970. Pp. xv+208. (Long Ashton, Bristol: Long Ashton Research Station, University of Bristol, 1971.) £1.25. [96]

Plant Breeding Institute, Cambridge. Annual Report 1970. Pp. x+126. (Cambridge: Plant Breeding Institute, 1971.) 75p. [106]

Agricultural Research Council. Meat Research Institute—Annual Report 1969-70. Pp. 80. (Langford, Bristol: Meat Research Institute, 1971. Obtainable from HMSO.) 89p net. [106]

Myth, Magic and Archaeology. By Professor F. J. Tritsch. (Inaugural Lectures delivered on 8 December 1970.) Pp. 20. (Birmingham: The University, 1971.) 15p. [106]

Building Research Station Digest, No. 130: Drainage Pipelines—1. Pp. 8. (London: HMSO, 1971.) 5p. [116]

University of Strathclyde. Annual Report 1969/1970. Part 1: Pp. 1-130. Part 2: Pp. 131-193. (Glasgow: University of Strathclyde, 1971.) [116]

HOW TO BUY NATURE

Volumes start in January, March, May, July, September and November, but subscriptions may begin at any time.

The direct postal price per subscription is:

12 MONTHS* (52 issues per title)

	Surface Mail UK and worldwide	Airfreight U.S.A. & Canada
Nature (Friday)	£14	\$48
Nature + Nature Physical Science	£24	\$83
Nature + Nature New Biology	£24	\$83
All three editions	£29.50	\$108
Annual Index	£1	\$3

* Rates for shorter periods *pro rata* (minimum three months)
(Charge for delivery by air mail on application)

Editorial and Publishing Offices of NATURE

MACMILLAN JOURNALS LIMITED
4 LITTLE ESSEX STREET, LONDON WC2R 3LF
Telephone Number : 01-836 6633. Telegrams : Phusis London WC2R 3LF

711 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20004
Telephone Number : 202-737 2355

Subscription Department
MACMILLAN JOURNALS LIMITED
BRUNEL ROAD, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS
Telephone Number : Basingstoke 5431

American display advertisements
NATURE SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS INC
711 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20004

All other advertisements
T. G. SCOTT & SON, LIMITED
1 CLEMENT'S INN, LONDON WC2A 2ED
Telephone : 01-242 6264/01-405 4743
Telegrams : Textualist London WC2A 2ED

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office

Copyright © Macmillan Journals Limited, September 24 1971