

## Foreword

More effective dissemination of scientific and technical information is the primary objective in subdividing the Journal of Research of the National Bureau of Standards into four separate sections (effective July 1, 1959). In the past, the Journal has reported results of Bureau research in most fields of the physical sciences and engineering. Subdividing the Journal by subject matter should make it more valuable to the individual scientist or engineer.

With this objective in mind, the editors of the Section on Engineering and Instrumentation plan to present material of interest chiefly to the applied scientist and the engineer. Within the broad field of instrumentation, emphasis will be placed on papers dealing with standards, measurement methods, individual instruments, and instrument systems. It is believed that papers of this type will be of general interest to all readers of this section. Engineering reports will be concerned mainly with the properties of materials and structures and with general engineering devices and techniques. Papers in these areas should find a large, though somewhat more specialized, audience.

In addition to reports on research and development, there may be occasional review articles, tables of useful data, and compilations of information on subjects closely related to the Bureau's program. Thus, Section C is planned to include some of the material which heretofore the Bureau has been publishing in its nonperiodical series of publications. A complete listing, with selected abstracts, of NBS nonperiodical publications and of articles by the Bureau staff in professional journals will also be a regular feature.

It is hoped that this editorial policy will result in a journal sufficiently defined in scope to be valuable to specific groups of readers. However, if a large volume of material develops in both engineering and instrumentation, consideration may be given to dividing Section C into two separate sections, each devoted exclusively to one of these fields.

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