

Editorial Notice

Beginning with the January 1961 issues of the NBS Journal of Research, the covers of Journal sections have been redesigned so as to emphasize the subject content of each of the four sections. Thus the name of this section becomes RADIO PROPAGATION, Section D of the JOURNAL OF RESEARCH, National Bureau of Standards. However, it is recommended that the present method of citing the Journal remain the same except for the addition of the section title so that better continuity can be maintained with the referencing of prior issues; see example below.

For the future the Bureau has adopted the following system as the preferred method of referencing. References are to be indicated in the text by the insertion in brackets of the author's name and the year of publication, thus: [Trelease, 1951]. If the author's name is part of the text, only the year is bracketed, thus: ". . . in a paper by Trelease [1951]." If there are two or more references citing different papers published in the same year by the same author, distinguish them by the letters a, b, c, after the year. If two or more references are given in the same brackets they should be given chronologically, thus: [Bean, 1953a and c; Harrison and King, 1955b]. At the end of the paper, list all references alphabetically by the authors' names. Include in each entry the following: name of senior author, followed by his initials; names of junior authors, each preceded by his initials, title of paper (or book); title of publication or journal; volume number (and section title); issue number; inclusive page numbers; month and year of publication, thus:

Bean, B. R., and B. A. Cahoon, The use of surface weather observations to predict the total atmospheric bending of radio waves at small elevation angles, Proc. IRE **45**, No. 11, 1545-1546 (Nov. 1957).

Brite, C. O., C. W. Tolbert, and A. W. Straiton, Radio wave absorption of several gases in the 100 to 118 kMc/s frequency range, J. Research NBS **65D**, (Radio Prop.), No. 1, 17-22 (Jan. 1961).

Slater, J. C., Microwave transmission, first ed., p. 24 (McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York, N.Y., 1942).

The provision of this complete information should be helpful to the reader in the following ways: the complete title provides a brief indication of the expected content of the reference; the beginning and ending pages indicate the length of the reference; and the volume number, issue number, month and year will assist the reader in locating the reference in libraries even in those cases where the cited reference contains a typographical or other errors.

The above described preferred method of referencing has been adopted primarily to aid the reader by providing directly in the text information relative to the author and year of the reference. This method also is most convenient for the author in preparing his original manuscript since it provides a simple and unambiguous means of relating the references in the text to the bibliography at the end, and also facilitates the introduction of additional references in later drafts.

In the case of papers in which all references are referred to only once and which also do not require a bibliography at the end, the literature references may be given as footnotes on the same page.

Footnote references are to be designated by superscript numbers. In the case of short papers involving only a single literature reference, and in such cases as those described above, the literature references may be given as footnotes.

KENNETH A. NORTON, *Guest Editor.*

November 18, 1960.