"""""current comments"

Who Is Publishing In Science--and How Much?

April 28, 1971

This week ISI® is mailing out to subscribers ISI's Who Is Publishing in Science (WIPIS') for 1971. This volume continues, with many significant improvements, the series formerly called International Directory of Research and Development Scientists® (IDR&DS®)1,2. The change in name should eliminate much of the confusion that derives from the term "directory." WIPIS like its predecessor is compiled from the address listings in Current Contents®.

For each of the three previously published IDR&DS annuals, names and addresses were cumulated from the weekly issues of only two of ISI's Current Contents editions: CC®/Life Sciences and CC/Physical Sciences. The new WIPIS cumulates names and addresses from all seven editions of Current Contents published in 1970: CC/Life Sciences; CC/Physical Sciences; CC/Chemical Sciences; CC/Engineering & Technology; CC/Education; CC/ Behavioral, Social & Management Sciences; CC/Agricultural, Food & Veterinary Sciences. Thus, the number of names and addresses as well as scientific disciplines has been increased.

In the last (1969) IDR&DS annual, there were 187,364 author entries from 1969 issues of Current Contents. The 1971 WIPIS annual has 236,429 author entries from 35,144 organizations, an increase of more than 25%. A great deal of manual checking was performed to correlate slightly different versions of an organization's

name for the organizational index. The geographic section has also been carefully checked.

WIPIS will be easier to use. The page size has been reduced to 8 ½" by 11", for easier handling. Since WIPIS is "Fototronically" photocomposed from computer tapes, the format is much more legible than the computer printouts used previously. This change is similar to the recent change in the CC author address directories.

The 1971 WIPIS follows without break the coverage of the 1969 IDR&DS. Annual WIPIS volumes will be dated by the year in which they are published, rather than the year of Current Contents from which the addresses were obtained.

WIPIS is a cumulation of the names and addresses of the first authors of papers published in journals covered by the various editions of Current Contents. Secondary authors are not included in CC's weekly directories. Since co-workers frequently vary the order of their names in by-lines, a majority of otherwise secondary authors' names do eventually appear in WIPIS.

For this and other reasons the 1971 WIPIS is not a replacement for, but a supplement to, the previously published volumes of the IDR&DS, which should be retained. It is generally known that about 10% of the world's scientists publish half the papers, but for the time being the number of scientists is still growing exponentially. The change

in the number of authors per paper may offer some hope that the rate of literature growth will taper off, but not in the next few years.

A significant confirmation of this phenomena is obtained from analysis of data for ISI's five-year cumulation of the *Science Citation Index*[®]. Whereas 350,000 authors published about that number of articles in 1970, only

700,000 authors were responsible for the 1,500,000 items published from 1965 to 1969.

Nevertheless, most scientists will publish one paper every four or five years. Therefore, each volume of WIPIS, and of IDR&DS, will remain a valuable reference source, especially when used in conjunction with the Science Citation Index.

- 1. Garfield, E. IDR&DS®—an international directory of publishing scientists. Current Contents/Life Sciences 12(30): 9, 1969.
- Does ISI's international directory of R&D authors and organizations perpetrate alphabetic discrimination? Current Contents/Life Sciences 14(1): 4-5, 1971.