COMMENTS

This issue contains a number of important articles, both in the standard technical paper section and in the special section on activation of structures in fusion devices. Also the department section contains two interesting meeting summaries and a review of an important recent book.

I wish to thank Mike Stauber, on behalf of the journal staff and readership, for organizing the special sessions at the 1982 Winter Meeting of the American Nuclear Society that led to the special section on activation. Certainly this topic is very crucial to the development of fusion power. The next-step experimental devices will burn deuterium-tritium fuel and unless activation of structural materials is properly handled, induced radioactivity could cause an unfortunate slow down of the experiments. Anyone who has carried out experiments in a research fission reactor or at an accelerator facility knows the problems that can arise when it is necessary to gain access to make changes or corrections in the experimental capsule, loop, or sample. A word to the wise is "plan ahead." These issues become even more crucial when power reactors are considered. All of the problems of maintenance critically depend on the amount and location of induced radioactivity. If maintenance is delayed and/or cumbersome due to problems caused by large amounts of radioactivity, the losses in revenue (dollars) can be staggering. Ease of maintenance appears to be one of the essential elements necessary to make fusion economically attractive. Hence, the articles in this special section seem especially timely and important and I trust that you, the reader, will find them a valuable addition to your fusion library.

George Miley