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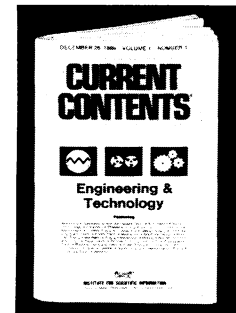
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## ... letters

chairmen to date (George Kistiakowsky and, currently, Harvey Brooks). Also, in reviewing the past contributions of the committee, no mention was made of its recent report on Technology Assessment, which is probably its most influential one so far. It seems, in short, that the article was based almost entirely on an interview with President Philip Handler of the NAS, who is certainly an impeccable source, but without some of the supporting research that I think your readers deserve.

To close on a positive note, I find SCIENCE NEWS a useful and interesting periodical and I, for one, would like to see you do more on science policy and, in general, on the social implications of scientific and technological developments.

*Emmanuel G. Mesthene*  
Office of the Director  
Harvard University  
Program on Technology and Society  
Cambridge, Mass.

## Not a fish

Regarding your article "Improving shark and herring" (SN: 8/29, p. 167), I cannot help but call to your attention that according to most marine biologists neither the squid nor the whale is a fish.

*John E. Hoffman*  
Roslyn Heights, N.Y.

## Timely topic

Frazier's article "Geopolitics of plate tectonics" (SN: 7/11, p. 29) accurately discussed a timely topic that, to my knowledge, has not been reported before. Certainly, it is very appropriate "science news" and very well done.

*Dr. John M. Bird*  
Chairman, Department of  
Geological Sciences  
State University of New York  
Albany, N.Y.

## Environmental perspective

I think that Richard Gilluly definitely did an excellent job ["Politics important" (SN: 7/11, p. 36)] on summarizing the major points on my article (accepted for publication in *BIO SCIENCE*) as well as the more important papers of the Interdisciplinary Resource Biology conference of AIBS at the University of Wyoming. I met with him during the conference and he has an unusual knack and talent for sharp, analytical thinking on the topic at hand. I believe that he has an environmental perspective, which many people in the field lack. It is good that you have people like him.

*Dr. Daniel H. Henning*  
University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, N.M.