NOTICE TO READERS

Half life of ^{14}C. In accordance with the decision of the Fifth Radiocarbon Dating Conference, Cambridge, 1962, **all dates published in this volume (as in previous volumes) are based on the Libby value, 5570 ± 30 yr,** for the half life. This decision was reaffirmed at the 8th International Conference on Radiocarbon Dating, Wellington, New Zealand, 1972. Because of various uncertainties, when ^{14}C measurements are expressed as dates in years B.P. the accuracy of the dates is limited, and refinements that take some but not all uncertainties into account may be misleading. The mean of three recent determinations of the half life, 5730 ± 40 yr, (**Nature**, v. 195, no. 4845, p. 984, 1962), is regarded as the best value presently available. Published dates in years B.P., can be converted to this basis by multiplying them by 1.03.

A.D./B.C. dates. As agreed at the Cambridge Conference in 1962, A.D. 1950 is accepted as the standard year of reference for all dates, whether B.P. or in the A.D./B.C. system.

Meaning of $\delta^{14}C$. In Volume 3, 1961, we indorsed the notation Δ (Lamont VIII, 1961) for geochemical measurements of ^{14}C activity, corrected for isotopic fractionation in samples and in the NBS oxalic-acid standard. The value of $\delta^{14}C$ that entered the calculation of Δ was defined by reference to Lamont VI, 1959, and **was corrected for age.** This fact has been lost sight of, by the editors as well as by authors, and recent papers have used $\delta^{14}C$ as the **observed** deviation from the standard. At the New Zealand Radiocarbon Dating Conference it was recommended to use Δ only for age-corrected samples. Because we have no complete transcript of the recommendations made by the conference, we will comment in more detail in the next issue of **Radiocarbon.**

Radiocarbon Measurements: Comprehensive Index, 1950-1965. This index, covering all published ^{14}C measurements through Volume 7 of RADIOCARBON, and incorporating revisions made by all laboratories, has been published. It is available to all subscribers to RADIOCARBON at ten dollars U.S. per copy.

Publication schedule. Beginning with Volume 15, RADIOCARBON will be published in three numbers: Winter, Spring, and Summer. The next deadline is June 1, 1973. Contributors who meet our deadlines will be given priority but not guaranteed publication in the following issue.

List of laboratories. The comprehensive list of laboratories at the end of each volume will now appear in the third number of each volume.

Index. All dates appear in index form at the end of the third number of each volume.