Dear Gentle Reader:

It is with great sadness that I write to tell you the halcyon days of "something for nothing" have officially ended, and that, starting immediately, we will have to begin charging our readers a subscription fee for the DIGEST. You are responsible for our success; you are also responsible for our impending bankruptcy. It costs us more than a dollar for each copy of the DIGEST which we print. When we had but a dozen readers or so, or even just a couple of hundred, we could afford to absorb the cost. Now, with more than 2,000 "subscribers", and with 15 to 20 new people clamoring to be added to the list each week, we reluctantly realize that we've been caught in a trap of our own devising.

Therefore, effective at once, we regretfully but firmly institute the following subscription rates:

One issue, $1.25
Three issues, $3.00

If you think it's worth the money, fill in the enclosed form, attach a check or money order, and return them to us at once. The next issue of the DIGEST (by far the biggest and best we've ever put together) is now at the printer's. If you wish to receive this gala, worm-packed issue, you must return the subscription blank (and send some money) immediately. Otherwise, you'll never know what finally happened to Alice in Evolutionland, learn how planarians are penetrating the Iron Curtain, nor who the Nacirema are and why they worship the bathroom. And, equally obviously, if we don't hear from you, you won't hear from us again either.

One other thing. Many of you have requested back issues, which we have been unable to send you for very good, above-mentioned, financial reasons. If you're still interested in obtaining such, see the next issue of the DIGEST for information on how to order them.

And for those of you who will prefer not to pay for your subscriptions, let me quite sincerely thank you for your past interest in our work and our worms.

James V. McConnell
Editor