should give me their opinion as to the value of the method, how it may be improved and where arithmetical errors be.

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ERRORS IN TRANSCRIPTION

LITTLE did I think when, in my review of *Computers in the Science of Medicine* (*Opl Res. Q.* **20**, 135), I selected for comment the grievous problem of inaccuracies in the prime documents and the introduction of further errors during transfer in the hospital service, that the printed version of my review, which I did not see in proof, would dramatically illustrate how this can come about. My manuscript referred to the paper by Dale and Roberts on "Error in a Hospital Record System" and to the paper by Holland and Bennett on "The Medical Record and the Computer". The printed version read Wale and Roberts and Holland and Brunell. My manuscript is said to be difficult to read but not more so than that of many doctors whose handwriting is notoriously illegible. Clearly we must seek an alternative to the manuscript patient case record if we wish to improve the information system generally.

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