The use of graphs as an aid in the interpretation of scientific data presents certain problems to the author and to the editor if the readers of scientific journals are to be served to the best advantage. It is the intent of this paper to set forth briefly a few suggestions regarding the preparation and use of graphs and charts in presenting agronomic data to agronomists without attempting to discuss the application of these devices to the popular interpretation of experimental results, valuable as they are for this purpose. Also, it should be stated at the outset that the writer is not qualified and will not attempt to discuss the mathematical aspects of the graphic analysis of experimental data, although appreciating fully the fact that at least an elementary knowledge of the mathematics involved is essential to the intelligent use of graphic methods.

Possibly, however, the purely editorial point of view toward the construction and use of graphs may have some elements of interest to those who contemplate the preparation of scientific papers. It is certain that much that will be presented here will be decidedly elementary in character, but perhaps the chief criticism to be brought against the graphic presentation of data in the Journal of the American Society of Agronomy is a certain weakness that sometimes appears in the mechanical make-up of the charts and graphs submitted to the Journal for publication.

A question that often presents itself to one who is about to prepare a scientific paper is how far to go in the use of graphs or other illustrations, and it is sometimes truly perplexing to determine just where to draw the line. Dr. Raymond Pearl in his admirable work on Medical Biometry and Statistics says, "Even the most seductively constructed and arranged table of statistics will not convey the story which inheres in the figures with anything like the neatness and dispatch attainable by graphic presentation."

Dr. E. W. Allen in a discussion of "The Publication of Research" has this to say about the use of illustrations and graphs, "A good illustration is often the quickest way to convey an idea. Frequently,