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August 5, 1985

Professor D. Brian Spalding
Editor, International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer
Mechanical Engineering Department
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Exhibition Road
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Dear Professor Spalding,

Many thanks for publishing my "letter to the editor" in the February issue of the Journal. (I was surprised to note that the published version did not exactly agree with the proofs I received and returned. One of the equations was correct in the proofs and incorrect in the published version.)

Turning to another matter, I would like to submit a rather unusual manuscript if you agree that the subject matter is appropriate for the Journal. The manuscript deals with the myth that Newton originated the concept of the heat transfer coefficient. This myth has been propagated in virtually every American heat transfer text since McAdams. The reference cited in support of the myth is Newton's "Scala graduum Caloris" published in 1701 in the Transactions of the Royal Society.

The manuscript I propose to send you examines this myth, and this examination leads to the surprising conclusion that the myth is unfounded. The manuscript is in two parts:

Part 1 is an English translation of Newton's article. The article is very short and will require only 2 pages in the Journal.

Part 2 is an appraisal of the myth based on examining Newton's article. The examination reveals that there is no direct or indirect evidence of the heat transfer coefficient concept. The literature post 1701 is reviewed, and this review strongly suggests that Fourier be credited with the heat transfer coefficient concept. This review also demonstrates that Fourier's concept has been modified, and that the heat transfer coefficient no longer has the meaning he intended.

In The New Heat Transfer, I discuss the above subject quite briefly. In the proposed manuscript, I deal with it in a definitive and final way.

If you feel that the above is a proper subject for the Journal, please let me know and I will be happy to submit the manuscript for review.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugene F. Adiutori". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Eugene F. Adiutori