

Appendix A: Command line options

Laurel has several command line options that can be specified when you invoke it from the Alto Executive.

Mail file selection

Laurel's default action, triggered when you type

```
>Laurel CR
```

is to perform an implicit **Mail file** on Active.mail. If you type

```
>Laurel filename CR
```

Laurel will read *filename*.mail instead. If you supply an explicit extension, Laurel will respect it, otherwise it will add the .mail suffix.

In-box interrogation

You can also request that Laurel access your in-box automatically when it begins execution.

Type

```
>Laurel/n CR   or
>Laurel/n filename CR
```

Laurel will first perform an implicit **Mail file** on the indicated or defaulted file (see above). It then will check to see if messages are present in your in-box. If so, Laurel performs an implicit **New mail** command. Upon the completion of the **New mail** command (if performed), Laurel is available for normal use.

You may also invoke Laurel by

```
>Laurel/c CR   or
>Laurel/c filename CR
```

If messages are present in your in-box, Laurel will behave as though "/n" were specified. If no new mail exists, Laurel will omit the implicit **Mail file** and return directly to the Alto Executive. A fine point: if Laurel is unable to contact your in-box(es), it returns to the Alto Executive. Laurel will not return to the Alto Executive, however, if there is no password on your disk. In this case it will allow you to log in with the **User** command and continue to run Laurel.

Send message mode

If you merely want to send a message, you may request that Laurel omit its implicit **Mail file** when it begins execution. Type

```
>Laurel/s CR
```

Instead of reading a mail file, Laurel will perform an implicit **New form** as it starts up. You may then compose and deliver your message in the usual way. If, after doing so, you wish to process a mail file, simply invoke **Mail file** and supply a file name as described in section 3.1.3.

