

# Editorial

## THE I.J.P.P.

For the past six years the Indian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology continued to be published under the supervision and affectionate patronage of its previous Editor, Professor Vishanu D. Mullick. All this time, he kept the torch lighted against heavy odds. Steadfastly, studiously, and intelligently, he guided its publication. Starting from the receipt of manuscript to its processing through the referees, and then seeing it through all the stages of the printing press till the final despatch to its readers, everything was managed by him single handed. This is a record of service which all members of the Association will appreciate with gratitude. This is an achievement which any individual can justly feel proud of. We are happy that Dr. Mullick has kindly accepted to be a member of the Advisory Board and therefore, will continue to be associated with the journal and give his advice.

The editorial desk has now shifted from its previous location in the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi-1 to its new office in the Department of Physiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi-16. The first issue published from the new office is in your hands. While we have made some efforts to improve the get-up of the journal, we want to assure our readers that we are quite conscious of the fact that a large number of things remain to be done.

Our immediate attention will be devoted to square up the publication lag. We are determined to bring out the remaining three issues this very year. At the same time we shall continue making efforts to improve the quality of publication. This will mean the use of better quality of paper, better reproduction of figures and tables, a more aesthetic get-up of the printed pages, and of course the least number of errors in printing.

Journal publishing in the modern age is quite a specialized job. Foreign scientific journals are published by highly technicalized publishing offices which employ qualified staff who do all the proof readings till the galley turn-out, arrange the material so as to give a lay-out which is pleasing to the eyes, look after the accounts and business side, and even manage to impart a distinctive literary style. For the journal of your Association, all this slogging is done by the three editors. Howsoever hard a labour they may put in, the journal cannot be expected to acquire the professional publishers's touch. Even the best of efforts will remain amateurish. To bring the journal to the required standard of publishing, it is necessary to acquire sufficiently qualified staff to do these jobs. All this, of course, will need money and additional money. We, therefore, have to make strenuous efforts to augment the revenues of the journal. I am happy to say that a number of members of the Association have given me their unstinted support in these efforts, and I am quite sure that many more will join hands with the editors in putting the journal on a sound financial footing by using their influence in getting more advertisements and donations.



While it is true that a journal with a high quality of printing and publishing gets a wider circulation and therefore attracts the publication material from good authors this also is an inexorable truth that the prestige of a scientific journal and therefore the wideness of its circulation to a large measure depends on the quality and standard of the scientific material that is published in it. A number of our good scientists prefer to publish their first-rate works in foreign scientific journals. Considering the fact that the IJPP does not enjoy as wide a circulation as some of the well established foreign journals, and that much remains to be done with the quality of our printing and publishing, their desire to publish in the foreign journals is understandable. Their motivation to get recognition in the international circles of science for their hard labour is legitimate and genuine. Nevertheless, the vicious circle has to be broken. We shall, therefore, not only make efforts for improvement in the style and quality of printing and publishing, but also do our best to attract first-rate publishable material from wherever possible.

This in brief is the outline of jobs ahead which the editors of the IJPP intend to perform, unitedly and with determination. The editors are conscious that this will involve an immense amount of hard work and burning of midnight oil for they have in addition their own jobs to look after. But they will gladly do this for they are convinced that their labours are being spent in the good cause of progress of science in India.

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*EDITOR*