

EDITOR'S PAGE

A new volume, a new colour for the cover, a new internal format, new features. These things are part of the natural evolution of a journal which this month is one year old, and they come as a result of an enthusiastic, if sometimes critical, reader response to a first volume that has necessarily been experimental. For those who have no time or inclination to read the other editorial statements on adjacent pages, it should be remarked that the journal, while evolving, remains the same in purpose and scope. Those who have read the preceding four issues carefully will note an increasing specificity of content and improvements in presentation: this is as much due to evolution among our contributors as to any other factor.

In handing over the editorship to me, DR. DANIEL J. STANLEY is in no sense deserting the cause, for an early-established principle of policy was an annual change of editorship. This gives opportunity for different approaches to the work to be developed, and also has a good effect upon the editorial mortality rate. I would like to pay a sincere tribute to Dr. Stanley's achievement in producing the first volume of MARITIME SEDIMENTS, for without his efforts it would almost certainly not have seen the light of day, at least in this form. The original conception developed from discussions I had with other earth scientists on the problems of communication, and early in 1964 I decided that an information journal should be produced. Hot on the heels of this decision came an offer of sabbatical leave, presenting me with a dilemma; but this was resolved when Dr. Stanley joined DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY and offered himself as editor for the first volume. Stanley took up the task with considerable vigour, and in short order rounded up an editorial staff, a cover artist, a printer, financing and a whole bucketful of relevant geological information. From Britain, my contribution was mainly limited to recommendations on editorial policy. Much credit must also be given to DRS. PELLETIER, SCHENK and SWIFT as Associate Editors, and a bevy of Dalhousie graduate students who helped out manfully at press time.

The expanding use of the journal by contributors as a means of publishing reports rapidly is reflected in this issue by an increase in size of about 50%; present indications are that the trend will continue. In order to maintain what may be a world's record for speed of publication of geological reports, we are going to have to urge contributors to observe the 1200-word limit on length, to be exceeded only where the subject warrants it. Similarly with illustrations: we are now able to reproduce photographs (the quality of reproduction will be obvious to readers, but at time of writing is unknown) but will do so only when fully justified by the topic. However, we now have an illustration fund to which a number of companies have contributed generously, and we hope that production costs of diagrams, maps and photographs will be fully covered by this. Comment on the financial situation of the journal will appear in the next issue.

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EDITOR