

An appreciation of Dr Raymond Ing F.R.S., Founding Secretary of the *British Journal of Pharmacology*

Dr Raymond Ing, F.R.S. was Reader in Pharmacological Chemistry in J.H. Burn's department in Oxford, where I came to know him and learnt a great deal from him. He had a vast knowledge of the structure and action of drugs and of how to write papers clearly and simply. He was the first Secretary of the *British Journal of Pharmacology*, and ran it single handed from 1945–53, doing the press editing himself. He had the full support of a distinguished Editorial Board. He was a painstaking editor, with a fine appreciation of English and a fierce determination that the new venture would not just succeed, but be the best Journal of Pharmacology in the world, second to none in science and appearance. He engaged in a series of running battles with publishers and printers to achieve rapid publication and the best layout of tables and figures in an attractive style. The quality of

reproduction of kymograph tracings was a particular problem. It was not an easy matter in those days just after the war to obtain good quality paper that would match the typeface to the wide variety of figures which had to be accommodated. He was meticulous in the use of words, kind and helpful to young authors, authoritative in chemical formulation and strict in applying the rules about approved and trade-names. He was just a bit exact in all these details, and set standards which his successors found easy to follow because British pharmacologists had accepted them. He saw the Journal successfully through its early years, and laid the foundation for its subsequent profitability, from which the Society at last came to benefit. He was gentle, thorough, patient and very persevering. We were fortunate to have had such a gentleman as our first editorial secretary.

G.S. Dawes
(Secretary of the Editorial Board
1953–1959)