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Publisher *Taylor & Francis*

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International Journal of Polymeric Materials

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713647664>

Introduction

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To cite this Article Kaufman, Herman S.(1971) 'Introduction', International Journal of Polymeric Materials, 1: 1, 1

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/00914037108071846

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00914037108071846>

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Introduction

The initial recognition of the need for a journal devoted to polymers as *materials* came as the result of the editor's twenty years of experience in the polymer industry coupled with a long-standing involvement with education in polymer science and technology. It has become evident that designers and users of polymeric materials have achieved a level of sophistication which requires that they have available sound, scientific property information unencumbered by ancillary areas which are of little or no interest to them. Thus we shall not accept papers relating to polymer chemistry as such.

Researchers in the field also require a suitable vehicle for the broadest and most useful coverage of their work. The need for this information has loomed all the more important when one considers that the projected world usage of polymers in the 1980's is 500 billion pounds per year.

Recognizing the international character of the need for information, we have obtained broad representation on our editorial board and we shall indeed broaden the involvement so to encourage the widest possible participation.

Papers are requested and they may be sent to one of the associate editors or the editor. They will be given most rapid attention in preparation for early publication. The latter appears to be assured due to the very well developed production technique of the publishers, Gordon and Breach.

Indeed we regret the delay in appearance of the first issue but this was caused by the change from an earlier publisher.

It is our sincere wish that interested readers and researchers will assure the success of the journal by contributing papers and urging their associates to do so too. Suggestions for important areas that should be considered for emphasis will be most welcome.

HERMAN S. KAUFMAN