EDITORIAL

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ESO TECHNICAL LYBRARY

The new journal will try to cope with three tasks:

- (1) To publish review articles on techniques of chromatography etc. and applications to various fields and problems.
- (2) To publish original papers dealing with chromatographic methods and their applications in analysis and pure chemistry. In the XVth Congress of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (Lisbon, 1956) which was devoted to Analytical Chemistry, the publications were divided in sections as to the methods used. While every section of analytical chemistry seems to have either an international or national journal specifically devoted to its problems (e.g. Mikrochimica Acta for Microchemistry, Z. für Elektrochemie for Electrical Methods, Spektrochimica Acta for Optical Methods, J. of Inorg. and Nuclear Chem. for Radiochemical Methods) no journal dealing with the problems of chromatography and paper electrophoresis etc. seems to exist although the number of contributions in journals and congresses is often greater than that on micromethods or optical methods.

It was thus believed that the existence of a chromatographic journal would be justified especially as many publications in the field no longer fall in the scope of analytical methods but also deal with theoretical questions of structure and constitution.

(3) Chromatography, especially paper chromatography and gas-liquid chromatography have produced a new set of physicochemical constants for the identification of unknown substances (the R_F value and the retention volume). Some modern textbooks on practical organic chemistry already cite these similarly to melting and boiling points.

Many of these data are published in little read journals. It is intended to present collections of these data in each issue of the *Journal of Chromatography*. The subscriber will thus possess in each volume a collection of the more important R_F value tables etc. published during the year.