



Editorial

Starting from January 2003 the printed version of the Bibliography Section in *J. Chromatogr. A* will be replaced by the online version, which will be available for free via www.elsevier.com/locate/chroma. As I worked on the Bibliography Section almost since its start I must admit that this change brought a few nostalgic thoughts to my mind. I think that in its days, which covers the period of nearly forty years, the Bibliography Section became quite popular among our readers and was (and still is) the first Bibliography specifically devoted to a particular analytical technique. All this started with a joint idea in the late 1950s and early 1960s of Michal Lederer, then the Editor of *J. Chromatogr.* and his friends, in particular Karel Macek and Jaroslav Janak. I joined shortly after the gang. Originally the Bibliography Section was devoted solely to the then flourishing thin-layer and paper chromatography which was followed soon by the GC section and Electrophoresis. Professor Janak will retire

from the Bibliography Section as per, January 2003, and this Editorial is also a good opportunity to thank him for his excellent contribution over the years. Dr. Pavel Kuban is to take over Jaroslav's duties in the electronic version and we can only wish him all the possible success in this activity (Michal Lederer and Karel Macek have retired quite a few years ago already).

The printed version of the Bibliography has, in my opinion, contributed to the growth of separation techniques in the past century and in a way anticipated the information boom that we are currently witnessing. In spite of all the Bibliographies available through the Internet today, I believe that owing to its specialized profile the electronic version of this Bibliography will still keep its place and help separation science in its targeted development in the future.

Let me paraphrase the saying "The king is dead, long live the king". The old, printed, Bibliography dies, let the new one live for another forty years.

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