

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS ISSUE marks the fourth anniversary of the JOURNAL OF LIPID RESEARCH. Certain changes in publishers and editors and in the location of Journal offices have occurred since the issue of October 1963, and we wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Journal's indebtedness to the outgoing Editor. For two years Dr. Daniel Steinberg of the National Heart Institute has most capably and graciously managed the Journal's affairs. All who have had dealings with him will have realized the great wisdom, diplomacy, and insight brought to the editor's desk by Dr. Steinberg. The Editorial Board and the officers of Lipid Research, Inc., wish to record their gratitude to him for his skill as an editor and for his good-humored approach to a difficult and demanding task.

Executive Editor. From this issue on, the sacrifice of time demanded of the Editor will be considerably lessened by the institution of a new office on the Journal Board, that of Executive Editor. Dr. F. Peter Woodford, who has until recently been studying arterial and plasma lipids at the Department of Physical Chemistry, Leiden University, Holland, and was Editorial Secretary of the Journal of Atherosclerosis Research, accepted this post in time to help in the preparation of this issue. He will carry on his own investigative work at The Rockefeller Institute in the Editor's laboratory, while assuming an increasingly large share of editorial responsibility for the Journal. We are indeed fortunate in having found someone who has considerable experience in editorial work, and also is a competent investigator in the lipid field.

Publisher and Printer. The production and business management of the Journal will henceforth be carried out by The Rockefeller Institute Press. Hence the editorial and production offices of the Journal will, for the first time, enjoy the benefits of physical proximity. As a result of the availability to us of the Press's designer, certain changes in format have been made with this issue which will, we hope, improve the readability and attractiveness of the Journal. Printing and mailing of the Journal will remain in the hands of the Mack Printing Company.

Instructions to Authors. Contributors' attention is called to a revised set of Instructions to Authors which appears on the inside back cover of this issue. In particular, the editors request that summaries be limited to 200 words with a minimum of numerical data, and with stress on general conclusions drawn from the work.

Page Charges. Beginning with the July 1964 issue, a charge of \$25 per printed page will be requested from authors of original articles and Notes on Methodology. Notification of this charge will be given at the time that galley proofs and reprint orders are mailed to authors, at which time the authors will be asked to indicate their ability (or inability) to pay the charge. Thus, the decision to accept and to publish articles will in no way be influenced by authors' payment of page charges. Moreover, when it is stated by authors that grant or institutional support is lacking or insufficient, the option not to pay page charges will be accepted by the Journal without discussion.

This policy decision was made after painstaking discussions with many other editors and with our Advisory Board. It represents a partial shift from direct support by the National Heart Institute, which now pays about 60% of the cost of this Journal, to indirect support by institutions and granting agencies via the authors.

Many research workers are familiar with the page charge mechanism for support of increasingly costly scientific publications, but for those who are not, two major justifications should be mentioned. First, since research cannot be considered complete until the results are a matter of record, the cost of research properly includes the cost of recording the results. Government and other supporting agencies and institutions now accept that the expense of publication is as much a part of the total costs of research as that of laboratory equipment and supplies, illustrations, slides and reprints. Second, journals which publish an author's results are rendering a service to him and to his institution. While it seems rational to aim at collecting from the reader those costs of publication which are referable to the printing and mailing of each issue and maintenance of subscription services, it seems equally justifiable to charge

the author for some part of those costs which are proportional to the number of pages printed.

This Journal's present income from subscriptions, reprints and back issues does not cover the "per subscriber costs", nor will the collection of the page charges that are now planned meet the "per page costs" of this operation. Deficits in both categories will still be large, and our National Heart Institute grant will continue to balance these deficits by direct support. Nevertheless, there is a distinct advantage to the Journal in shifting toward indirect support, since it will give the Journal greater flexibility in meeting its financial obligations, as the Journal grows in size and simultaneously in cost. To meet these costs by raising the subscription fees can only reduce our list of personal subscribers, a truly negative feedback.

Research workers whose support is insufficient to pay these additional charges will not suffer discrimination, either at the stage of editorial review of manuscripts or later when the page charges are made. This is an important consideration for a journal which has an international list of contributors and editors.

An excellent and comprehensive review of the page charge mechanism—its history, philosophy and operation by those physics journals which originated the practice in 1932—has been written by Henry A. Barton and published in *Physics Today* **16**: 45, 1963.

Subscription Price. The subscription price of \$6 per year to subscribers who pay the charge from personal funds has been set at a low figure in order that lipid re-

search workers may have their own copies readily available rather than be forced by high subscription rates to rely on departmental or institutional library subscriptions. The institution of page charges in July 1964 will allow the Journal to avoid raising its present low subscription rates to personal subscribers and to institutions.

Subscriptions now total 1900, of which one-third are personal, two-thirds institutional. Foreign subscriptions account for about one-half of total subscriptions. The editors are encouraged by these figures, since no extensive promotional efforts have been made. Readers who consider that the Journal fulfills an important function may wish to urge newcomers to the field to become subscribers.

Subscribers should note that standing orders for subscriptions can be placed with the Business Office; in such cases an annual billing will be made automatically. Foreign subscribers can avoid the inconvenience of arranging payment in American currency by placing subscription orders through recognized agents.

Readers' Suggestions. The editors welcome the cooperation of our readers and contributors in helping to achieve the Journal's primary purpose—namely, the dissemination of articles of high quality on topics of fundamental importance from a wide variety of scientific disciplines. To this end, suggestions and comments on matters of editorial content, reviewing procedures, format, and general policy will be gratefully received.

E. H. AHRENS, JR