

Editorial

Ten years on

As this issue completes a decade of publication, it is an appropriate time for some reflections on the course of the *Journal of Materials Science*. Readers may recall that at its introduction in 1966, the expressed aim of the *Journal* was to contribute to the development of Materials Science as a subject, through an international and inter-disciplinary forum devoted to the structure, properties and applications of materials. Some measures of our approach towards this objective are provided by the expansion of the *Journal* from 418 pages in 1966 to 2194 pages in 1975 (and a planned 2400 pages in 1976), the global coverage it now enjoys, with subscribers in more than 40 countries, and the continuing balance between subject areas, in which metals, ceramics and glasses, polymers, composites and electrical materials are almost equally represented. Earlier this year, from a survey of the Advisory Board and discussions of the Editorial Board, a consensus emerged that the present subject distribution should be continued into the next decade, although with some provision made for developing materials topics such as bio-materials.

In terms of organization, the past decade of growth has produced two changes in *Journal* procedures. First, in 1973, I assumed sole editorial responsibility for submitted papers and letters and this function was centralized in my office at Queen Mary College. Second, this year, we changed the printing process from letterpress to offset-litho. Some small variations in style have been made, but we have preserved the traditional quality of the *Journal*. With these changes, we anticipate that the *Journal* is on a secure operational base and equipped to meet the challenges of the late 1970s.

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Executive Editor