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The Journal of Organometallic Chemistry was started in 1963. It rapidly became established as the major outlet for papers in organometallic chemistry, and grew as the subject flourished. A pleasing aspect of the Journal from the start was its truly international character; all five continents are regularly represented in its pages, but a notable feature in recent years has been the striking growth in the number of papers from continental Europe. One measure of the success of the Journal was revealed by a recent analysis of the importance of journals as judged by the number of 1978 and 1979 papers in them which were cited in 1980 (J. Emsley, Chemistry in Britain, 19 (1983) 29); this showed the Journal to be sixth in the league table for all chemical journals, a remarkable performance for a specialist journal.

The appearance of Volume 100 in 1975 and that of Volume 200 in 1980 were marked by the publication of special issues containing invited reviews from those authors judged by sizeable juries of their peers to be making the most important contributions to organometallic chemistry, and we expect Volume 300 to have the same character. It was felt, however, that the appearance of Volume 250, representing some kind of 'silver' occasion, was also worthy of special note, and so the Regional Editors invited some outstanding organometallic chemists (necessarily fewer than they would have liked) from their regions to contribute ordinary papers, preliminary communications, or short reviews. There was a gratifyingly favourable response to the invitations, and furthermore almost all those who promised contributions delivered them on time, a fairly rare state of affairs. We are most grateful to them.

We take this opportunity of thanking once again all those who contribute to ordinary issues of the Journal, and thereby make it the success it is.