

Editorial

The launching of any new journal, even in such an important and rapidly-expanding area as pharmaceutical and biomedical analysis, is not a task that publishers and editors nowadays embark upon lightly. The *Journal of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis* nonetheless commences publication in an atmosphere of optimism and high expectation. The field of interest covered by the Journal is not conveniently covered by any other publication of which we are aware; and it is a field of tremendous growth and still greater potential. We are particularly hopeful that many colleagues in the pharmaceutical industry, clinical chemistry and related organizations will be able to contribute to the Journal and subscribe to it.

We have done our best to develop a format which combines a high standard of publication with a pleasant appearance and an interesting variety of contributions. In addition to an authoritative review on a topic of immediate importance, and conventional and short papers, the Journal will contain book reviews and reviews of current instrumentation. From time to time we also expect to publish the proceedings of major international conferences: the first such occasion will see the publication of the plenary and keynote lectures from the 1st International Symposium on Drug Analysis, to be held in Brussels in June 1983.

We take this first opportunity to thank most warmly our friends and colleagues in many parts of the world whose encouragement and editorial help have contributed so much to the launching of the Journal. We believe, indeed, that we have assembled an Editorial Advisory Board of outstanding quality, and would encourage all our potential authors to contact members of the Board for advice on preparing publications. It is a matter of great sadness to us that the late Professor Ronald Belcher, who contributed so much to early discussions on the establishment of the Journal, did not live to see the publication of this first issue in his capacity as the original Chairman of the Board. But we are delighted that Mr C. A. Johnson, Scientific Director of the British Pharmacopoeia Commission, has agreed to take up the Chairmanship and we look forward to a long and flourishing life for the Journal under his distinguished and erudite leadership.

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