

Editorial

This issue marks the end of the eight-year tenure of George E. Pierce as Editor-in-Chief of JIM.

The Journal and its parent society, the Society for Industrial Microbiology, owe a great debt to George Pierce. Without his efforts there would not be a JIM. George established the Journal as a natural outgrowth from *Developments in Industrial Microbiology*. He saw it through its infancy and developed it to the point where it has gone from a bimonthly publication of 360 pages per year to a monthly publication of nearly 1000 pages per year. He guided it through a very difficult time, and spent nearly two years identifying potential new publishers and carrying on extensive negotiations with them, which resulted in our present agreement with Macmillan Publishing Company.

More important than all of those activities, however, is that George established a journal of quality. From the outset, he insisted that JIM publish only the best science and that the material be presented in a readable style. He established high standards for authors, reviewers and senior editors.

In recognition of his service to the Society of Industrial Microbiology, George received the Porter Award at the Society's annual meeting in Toronto, Ontario last August.

We are fortunate that George will continue his association with the Journal as Chairman of SIM's Publications Committee where both his business acumen and his editorial experience will be of great value to the Society and to the Journal.

Joseph J. Cooney
Editor-in-Chief