
Journal of Materials Science

Editorial

When I became Editor of Journal of Materials Science in 1975, our monthly issue contained 125 pages. Since then, the inflow of submitted articles to the Journal has increased every year, with a corresponding increase in the issue to our 1981 level of 300 pages a month. Moreover, far from showing any sign of abating, this year has seen a further marked increase in the number of articles accepted for the Journal, from which we have estimated that a monthly issue in excess of 300 pages will be required in 1982.

As is our normal practice, we intend to expand the Journal accordingly next year to meet the increased number of articles meriting publication and to maintain our publication time at its current level.

In addition, we plan to use the opportunity presented with the attainment of 300 plus page issues by publishing the Journal in an alternative form, which we consider will have some advantages for our authors and readers. Starting in January 1982, we propose to publish the Journal in two parts, namely *Journal of Materials Science* and *Journal of Materials Science Letters*. *Journal of Materials Science* will include, as at present, review articles, papers and those letters which comment or reply to comments on published papers, but will not contain the majority of short communications currently published as Letters to the Editor. Instead short communications will be published exclusively in *Journal of Materials Science Letters*. This will be a new monthly publication starting at Volume 1, which will have exactly the same format, style and publication procedures as for *Journal of Materials Science* and I shall edit both Journals at Queen Mary College. However, *Journal of Materials Science Letters* will be bound separately and have its own distinctive cover photograph – a feature which has proved so popular in the *Journal of Materials Science*. We intend to utilize the separation of short communications into *Journal of Materials Science Letters* to obtain a reduction in publication time to less than 5 months from the date of receipt, for this type of article. This end will be achieved by streamlining our editorial and publication procedures, rather than by the substitution of camera-ready copy, as I feel strongly that the traditional standards of quality associated with *Journal of Materials Science* should be maintained for *Journal of Materials Science Letters*.

In 1982, we are planning monthly issues of *Journal of Materials Science* of just over 300 pages and for *Journal of Materials Science Letters* of about 48 pages. Subscribers to *Journal of Materials Science* should note that in 1982 the annual subscription will cover both *Journal of Materials Science* and *Journal of Materials Science Letters*.

I hope all our contributors and readers will find these changes to be beneficial.

William Bonfield
Editor