

Editorial note

25th Anniversary Volume

Towards the end of 1987 those engaged in the production of this Journal realized (with some surprise) that 1988 would represent the twenty-fifth year of its existence. It seemed appropriate to mark this anniversary by the publication of a special volume, and the Regional Editors thus invited some of their regular eminent contributors to send for such a volume either brief reviews of their own work or papers or preliminary communications that they regarded as especially interesting. There was an excellent response to the invitation, as this volume will show. We are most grateful to the contributors for joining in the celebration.

The creation of the Journal in 1963 was very timely, and it was quickly accepted as a major outlet for organometallic papers. Its growth is illustrated by the numbers of volumes in selected years, namely: 1963–64, 2; 1966, 2; 1968, 5; 1970, 5; 1970, 8; 1972, 13; 1973, 15; 1974–87, 20; and in 1988, 21. Its success inevitably attracted the envious attention of other publishers, who set up new journals in the same field, but these have had little effect on the number of papers received for the Journal.

There is no doubt that part of the attraction of the Journal to authors lies in its truly international character; this is reflected in the appearance of a substantial number of papers in French or German, and, for example, in the proportion of papers received from Eastern Europe. It is of interest to look back through the volumes to see how research activity in organometallic chemistry has spread through the world, and how the balance of the activity between various countries has changed in twenty five years.

The success of the Journal depends, of course, primarily on the willingness of authors to submit papers to it and on the freely-given help of referees in evaluating the contributions, and we take this opportunity of thanking both groups. With their continuing support we can look forward to next twenty five years, while acknowledging that the rapid progress in means of communication may mean that the Journal will have a very different form in the year 2013.

Regional Editors