



Editorial

Histories make men wise
Francis Bacon 1625

*If men could learn from history, what lessons it might
teach us!*

Samuel Taylor Coleridge 1835

Our scientific and medical historical background to a large extent controls the activities of successive generations. Anyone who disregards the importance of the history of ideas is removing a whole dimension of understanding. Neither current research nor a body of knowledge can exist in its own right without reference to its 'environment' whatever the value of the individual contribution may be. However, it is difficult, if not impossible in an original article to include a comprehensive historical review.

I propose, therefore, to print historical reviews or notes and also to reprint important or interesting articles which have appeared in the Journal many years before, but which are still of great interest. Contributions and ideas are welcome to what I hope will become a regular section of the Journal, Histories.