

EDITORIAL

The advances in Ophthalmology in the past decade have been staggering. Although the most obvious change in practice has been the universal acceptance of the posterior chamber intra-ocular lens implant with extracapsular extraction, there have been major advances in vitreous and retinal surgery, increasing awareness of the possibilities in strabismus surgery with the introduction of adjustable sutures and botulinum toxin, increased sophistication in the scope of ocular plastic surgery and the increased understanding in the mechanisms of ocular inflammation to mention only a few.

Many of these advances have originated in this Country and it is in the British literature that they should first appear. This is what *EYE* is for. It is appropriate that this Journal which has evolved from the others which date back to 1880, should assume this role and become a prime source of reference in the world's ophthalmic literature. It is regrettable that before the Transactions of the OSUK appeared in "Current Contents", much original work was lost and remains unquoted; even to this day some of our American colleagues freely admit that they never refer directly to Journals which are not published in the USA. It is time this changed. *EYE* in its new form has emerged as a fully refereed journal. Copyright is maintained over papers which have been selected for and presented to, the Annual Congress of the Ophthalmological Society, the Oxford Congress and the Cambridge Ophthalmological Symposium, certain eponymous lectureships and papers which have been given to all affiliated societies in the United Kingdom. Should these papers fail to reach the standards required by the editorial committee, the copyright is released so that they may be published elsewhere. The Journal also encourages free papers from any Country, particularly those which have a high scientific content and, because there are few places where extended articles can be published, these will be considered, provided they present a comprehensive and readable presentation of new knowledge which cannot be presented without an extended format. Short case presentations of unique cases and preliminary results of exciting experiments or techniques, will be published quickly if presented as a letter to the Editor.

Extending the interests of the Journal in this way has inevitably led to a demand for extra space. The Journal used to be published annually, then quarterly, now bimonthly, and within the next few months we shall be introducing some special issues, one of which will be to commemorate the 40 years in which Patrick Trevor-Roper has been the Editor of this Journal, paving the way for a monthly format.

It is important in this atmosphere of change not to lose sight of the needs of the practising ophthalmologist, which has always been the prime purpose of the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress. The articles in this issue were presented at the Congress and include the contents of the Symposium on the therapy of complex ocular motility problems, the use of botulinum toxin therapy, the Doyne Memorial Lectureship and the prize winning paper of Drs Chuang. The presentation of such valuable reviews will remain the policy of this journal, helping to keep British Ophthalmology in the forefront for the rest of the Century.

P. G. Watson