

ACTA ORTHOPAEDICA SCANDINAVICA 1976

The increasing number of publications on orthopaedic surgery—books, reports and periodicals—indicate the flourishing development within orthopaedic practice and research. It is with great pleasure that we welcome the Italian Journal of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, edited by Mr. E. A. Nicoll, as a member of the international orthopaedic concert.

Acta, approaching its fiftieth volume, has reflected, like other journals, the trends and developments within the speciality from case reports, the problems of skeletal tuberculosis, polio management, and arthrodesis through the sphere of traumatology into the recent phase focusing on joint reconstruction and on fundamental research.

The growth of our speciality has also been experienced by Acta. The number of reports submitted is increasing and the circle of subscribers is still growing. Within the past decade the number of subscribers has increased from 1517 to 2943 and the individual volumes from 500 pages to 1035 pages.

The Acta Board welcomes authors, readers and advertisers to Acta in its new format, which has been adopted as a practical measure. To the reader it facilitates diagonal reading. To the publisher it means a practical change. Certain tables and figures may be accommodated within one column instead of spanning a full page. Admittedly, to the careful collector the change is a nuisance, which we certainly regret. We have however en-

deavoured to keep the dimensions as close as technically possible to those of the past volumes.

The new structure also places demands on our contributors; the number of reports submitted for publication is increasing rapidly. Due to the limited capacity we urge our contributors to consider before submission: Did I respect the instructions? Did I provide sufficient scientific support for my conclusions? Did I condense my message so as to occupy a minimum of space? We must unfortunately reject a rather high percentage of contributions because the above questions have not been sufficiently considered or appreciated.

It should also be taken into consideration that the increasing quantity of new publications does present a problem to the orthopaedic surgeon and articles must be carefully adjusted in conformity with the amount of new information submitted. The aim of the editorial board of Acta, therefore, will continue to be the publication of short and well-documented articles making it easier for the orthopaedic surgeon to survey the scientific developments in the field.

During 1975 Acta had the pleasure of collaborating with SICOT in publishing the "Review Lectures" presented at the Copenhagen Congress. The response to that special issue has encouraged the board to publish editorials or surveys on pertinent subjects in the same way. Indeed, the Acta board envisions a fertile

future collaboration with all who wish to cement the structure of orthopaedic science and service, both established and emerging.

Knud Jansen

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