

## EDITORIAL

Starting a new journal is not an easy matter, nor is it a matter free of controversy. This is especially the case where a new journal, as this one, is started without the support of an existing society. This journal is intended as a meeting ground for papers on all aspects of the biology of the Lepidoptera, moths and butterflies alike. Too many entomological journals don't offer publication of articles of the length necessary to present sound data and completeness of effort. The Lepidoptera are a group of insects second to none in the scope of our knowledge about them: work in this field has reached the higher levels of learning and a journal is required to keep pace with this knowledge at the same level.

A journal with a wide scope is our aim — narrow in the taxonomic sense but wide in the biological sense. The journal will attempt to publish primarily only critical and complete papers of an analytical nature, though there will be a limited section devoted to shorter papers and notes. There will be emphasis on environmentally and genetically induced variation, population analysis, evolution, phylogenetic taxonomy, zoo-geography, comparative morphology, ecology, geographical variation, speciation, physiology, etc.

It has been very gratifying to receive so many subscriptions on the basis of merely a brochure; every effort will be made to keep the journal up to the standard expected of us. The response in so short a time has served to show those who have generously provided the finances that a journal of this type has been needed and will fill a desirable niche.

We are happy to publish in this first issue a number of papers which the authors were able to get ready on "short notice". There is a preponderance on one taxonomic group, but with different points in mind. With this first issue out, *we offer the pages of this journal to all with papers to publish on the Lepidoptera that fit the intent of the journal.* A wider range of papers will come in future issues.