

## EDITORIAL

MANY of ANESTHESIOLOGY's readers and contributors have expressed interest by correspondence and personal comment in the policy of its Editorial Board in respect to material submitted for consideration for publication. Those aspects which would appear to be of general interest will be discussed in order that all interested parties may be informed concerning them.

When a manuscript is submitted, it is reviewed as promptly as possible by various members of the Editorial Committee and Editorial Board. The acceptance by a majority, usually three, insures publication. In addition, requests for the opinions of members of the Consulting Editorial Board are made whenever indicated. In order to maintain the desired quality of material published, it has been necessary to reject, consistently, from the beginning of its publication, a minimum of 30 to 40 per cent of the material submitted. After complete acceptance, the author is so notified. The manuscript is reviewed for possible improvements in grammatical construction, and to make it conform in all respects with our basic publication policies. Finally, it is then sent to the press for setting up in galley proof. After the author checks his galley proofs, they are compared with the galley proofs checked in the Editorial Office and filed until published.

Where revision is not indicated, under ordinary circumstances, publication of a manuscript can be accomplished within the covers of the second or third issue appearing after date of receipt of the manuscript. Factors delaying publication may consist of the time required by indicated revision or other changes requested of the author, the desire to maintain a balance of types of manuscripts published in any one issue, an attempt to publish as soon as possible experimental data warranting early publication, and many other uninteresting but necessary details entering into the final "make-up" of a particular issue. The final steps are completed by selecting the material for an issue, and having it prepared into page proofs. These proofs are checked, and, when approved, returned to the printer for binding and mailing.

About two years ago, the Editorial Committee decided that it would be desirable to publish ANESTHESIOLOGY on a monthly basis. The projected plan was proposed and received without opposition. During the next succeeding year, approximately, the necessary backlog of material acceptable for publication, in proportion to the projected increase requirements, was accumulated. Suddenly, however, the proposed change was found to be impossible, first, because of budgetary complications in respect to the dues for membership in The American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc., and later due to steadily mounting

costs of printing and other operational expenses and difficulties, neither anticipated at the time of the original decision.

The abrupt reversal of the plans allowed no alternative but the decision to continue publication on a bi-monthly basis. Thus the Editorial Committee was placed in the unenviable position of being in possession of material in rather large quantity, which had already been accepted for publication and the author so notified. In order to overcome the situation as rapidly as possible, the number of pages assigned previously for original scientific material was increased about 30 per cent. In spite of this increase, the date of appearance of much of the accumulated backlog was regrettably delayed. We are aware that the unavoidable situation was annoying to both contributors and readers; nevertheless, every attempt was made to rectify the situation as soon as possible.

We are pleased to announce at this time that the interval between receipt of acceptable material and its publication is now approaching the normal period required by a bi-monthly scientific journal. With the mailing of this issue, a negligible amount of accepted material remains unpublished for a greater duration of time than had been customary prior to the difficulties experienced in the immediate past. We are gratified to be able to announce the immediate prospect of the return to normal schedules. The Editorial Board is grateful for the indulgent and understanding attitude of the vast majority of our contributing authors and subscribers.