

Editorial

You only have to look at the cover and title page of the Journal to realise that the first issue of 1991 heralds a new era in the history of the *Journal of Biosocial Science*.

Up to now there have only been two Editors of the Journal. Sir Alan Parkes, founded the Journal 22 years ago and served as Editor for 10 years. On his retirement from the editorship Sir Alan became Consultant to the Journal, a position he held until his death in July 1990, and would have continued to hold until the end of that year.

For the past 11 years the Journal has been in the very capable hands of Professor Derek Roberts. He retired from the editorship at the end of 1990. Under Derek's stewardship the Journal has continued to flourish. Papers on biosocial issues have been published from developed and developing countries on a wide variety of topics. Over 1000 papers have been submitted to the Journal in the 11-year period and Derek has treated each paper with the same degree of care and attention. Many papers have been sent to the Journal by authors whose mother tongue is not English; sometimes papers have been sent in French or German. Derek personally took on the task of translating or rewriting such papers. His enthusiasm and professional zeal will not be lost from the Journal since he has agreed to stay on as Consultant.

Up to now the Journal has been published by the Parkes Foundation. Sir Alan was keen to see the Journal associated with a learned society and over the last 2–3 years he initiated and encouraged new links with the Biosocial Society, which he had helped to found in 1981. Thus, as from January 1991, full responsibility for the Journal is being transferred to the Biosocial Society, and the Journal will be published, and the Editor appointed, by the Society.

Biosocial studies incorporate many fields of interest. The Galton Institute has for many years supported research in these fields of interest and from January 1991 members of the Galton Institute will receive the *Journal of Biosocial Science*. At the same time the Galton Institute will cease publication of its own journal, *Biology and Society*. To mark this collaboration between the Biosocial Society and the Galton Institute, the cover of the Journal has been modified to signify the incorporation of *Biology and Society*. The Galton Institute has also appointed two members to the new Editorial Advisory Panel.

The content of the Journal will also change. There will be review articles, and this issue includes a review of biosocial influences on stature. There will also be short reports and the book reviews section will be enlarged. Finally, it is hoped to widen the coverage of the Journal to include aspects of nutrition, growth and development, health and epidemiology which include discussion of social and biological elements.

Finally the editorial office has moved. It still maintains a Cambridge address but is now located in the Department of Biological Anthropology, University of Cambridge, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DZ. The Biosocial Society is delighted that Mrs Margaret Herbertson is continuing at present as Associate Editor.

C. G. N. MASCIE-TAYLOR