

REPORT OF THE EDITOR, IJDVL FOR 1986

This year, I am glad to report that our journal has been approved by the Excerpta medica and the Year Book Publishers and thus the papers published in our journal should soon start getting abstracted in these publications. We have already started sending copies of our journal to these two organisations.

The number of papers received during the last year was 126 and this is apart from the Letters to the Editor, CME articles and the books received for review in our journal. I wish to convey my thanks to the authors for their support and interest in the IJDVL, but also urge upon them to check their manuscripts very thoroughly before sending these over to me. Many of the manuscripts are still not according to the IJDVL pattern, the references often do not contain the last page numbers, sometimes the author's initials are missing and sometimes their names, or the journal or other components of a reference are missing. Abstract is another feature which is often poorly prepared, and does not include the salient features of the study or the case report. This makes us waste a lot of our time. We do have the option to reject poorly prepared manuscripts, but it is my earnest appeal to all authors, to read Instructions to the Authors which we publish in January-February issue of every year (This year it got omitted somehow), and also to consult the papers already published in the journal for the style of each component of the manuscript. If the manuscripts are not properly prepared, these are likely to get delayed for publication.

I would like to remind our authors that it generally takes me 3-4 months to get a paper reviewed, so if you do not receive any reply after 4 months, do send me a reminder, but please avoid asking me earlier than that, because that leads to avoidable correspondence.

The financial position of our journal still requires much more to be done. The pharmaceutical industry continues to shy away from advertising even though they continue to spend large sums elsewhere. And I am unhappy to record that we still need a lot of co-operation from our members to convince the pharmaceuticals to contribute to our journal. I find no reason, why our association should not boycott the firms which ignore us as a speciality. During the last year our journal has received approximately Rs. 29,000 from the Delhi branch as 1/3 of the savings and the interest from the conference held approximately 10 years ago. There have been a few other small contributions as donations from some of our patients. We have also been able to recover some outstanding dues from the pharmaceuticals. The total account of receipts and expenditures, will be submitted by Dr. Parmanand. My request for increasing the journal contribution from the members is already in the agenda and your approval will help to ease our financial tensions.

The quality of printing still needs further improvement especially the photographs, but we cannot switch over to photoset and off-set printing unless we have better finances. Let us hope that our members will contribute their might and help us achieve this goal in the near future.

We also receive some complaints from the members about the non-receipt of the journal. The correct approach would be for the member to approach his branch secretary who should confirm that the member's journal contribution and his/her correct address have been sent to Dr. Parmanand. I might re-emphasize that the journal will not be despatched to those members who do not send their subscription by 31st March every year and we will not be responsible for the back

issues if the subscription is received late.

The reports of the annual conference i.e. the presidential address, the orations, the secretary's report, the editor's report, the office bearers of the IADVL and its branches will be printed only in the January-February issue. Every one concerned is expected to send their materials by February at the latest, and this must be sent in duplicate. The pattern will be the same as printed in previous year's reports. The editor will not be responsible for badly prepared reports or those which are received late. Similarly, the chairman of the scientific committee for the next year's conference is also requested to send this programme/instructions by May for inclusion in the jour-

nal. It must be properly typed and sent in duplicate. Because of financial restrictions, we are not able to announce or report the activities of the state branches so far, even though we wish to do so. Major achievements of our members may still be published in the news column.

And lastly, I do wish to reiterate that our journal is a reflection of our calibre and potentialities. So contribute your best to the journal to help raise our standards the world over. The future is ours and let us make the best use of it. On behalf of the editorial board, I wish you good writing and good reading.

JS Pasricha