



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 United States License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 171 Second Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.

EDITOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In times of financial uncertainty, such as these, editors, and especially publishers, need to scrutinize their operations— for obvious reasons. But it would seem that, at this time, examination of editorial procedures and consciences is a more pressing need. Exponential increase in scientific publication has reached crisis proportions, seemingly as a result of factors having rather little to do with desire of authors to add to our store of knowledge (see Broad, W.J., 1982, *Bioscience* 32 (8): 645–647). Associated with this increase has been an increase in cost, an increase in presentation of false results, an increase in plagiarism, an increase in repetition of content, an increase in multiple authorship with a corresponding decrease in responsibility for material reported, a decrease of information per publication (the ultimate being publication of “least publishable units”, or LPU’s), a possible decrease in quality of content, and major problems for working scientists to cope with the volume of published pages. Mr. Broad, a reporter for *Science*, concludes that scientific papers seem to have become more tools for careerists to advance their own causes, rather than principal vehicles for transmission of knowledge. He refers to the situation as “the disease of paper inflation”.

It seems to me that responsibility for this state of affairs is partly that of editors, and this is why an examination of conscience is called for. Each editor can contribute to the needed cure for paper inflation by first, identification of how his journal might have contributed to the disease, and second, by a vigorous attempt to expunge those procedures deemed undesirable. While not wishing to be self-righteous, I hasten to point out that *Quaestiones Entomologicae* cannot be accused of contributing to paper inflation by encouraging publication of “LPU’s”, and I am confident that our authors are not guilty of the other types of offenses listed. In general we have sought extensive, original, treatments of varied entomological topics. I think this volume is a fair sample of the sorts of papers published over the years, and I thank the authors for choosing this journal.

As I write these lines, preparation of Volume 18 is nearing completion, and by resorting to the expediency of publishing the entire year’s offering between two covers only, it seems likely that we will achieve our goal of again issuing an entire volume in the same year that is designated on the cover. Mrs. Suseela Subbarao, Publications Manager, is in large part responsible for this, and I am grateful to her for her dedicated effort.

Although an editor is responsible for what appears in his journal, he seeks from others the advice he must have about quality and accuracy of content of submitted manuscripts. He is not compelled to accept all of the advice given, though it is probably in his best interests and that of his journal to do so. Whether or not a reviewer’s advice is accepted, it is appropriate to acknowledge assistance rendered. It is in that spirit that the following are acknowledged, and the appearance of their names here does not imply endorsement of the contents of this volume. Be that as it may, I am grateful for the assistance of:

- H. E. Evans, Department of Zoology and Entomology, Colorado State University,
Fort Collins, Colorado;
- J. R. Spence, Department of Entomology, University of Alberta;
- D. D. Wilder, Insect Identification laboratory, Agriculture Research Service, U. S. D. A.,
United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.;
- D. M. Wood, Biosystematics Research Institute, Research Branch, Agriculture

Canada, Ottawa, Ontario;

G. C. Williams, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford, California.

D. A. Craig served as editor during part of the summer, and undertook a substantial portion of the chores associated with this volume. J. F. Landry prepared French translations of several of the abstracts. J. H. Cumming and D. J. Williams read proof.

I am grateful to all of these individuals, and I look forward to receiving their cooperation in preparation of future volumes.

George E. Ball
September, 1982.