

Editorial Note

This issue of the *Journal of Dairy Research* is the last which will bear the name of Dr J. A. B. Smith as Editor, as he feels that the time has come to hand on his responsibilities to others. He succeeded Dr N. C. Wright as the editorial representative of the Hannah Dairy Research Institute at the same time as he became Director of that Institute in 1952. Since then he has collaborated with a series of editors from the National Institute for Research in Dairying, providing an invaluable element of continuity with experience and responsibility even after his retirement from active research directorship in 1971.

Dr Smith has always brought the meticulous care of the Scot to his editorial work, tolerating slovenliness neither in the scientific content of a paper nor in the language in which it was presented. However, the scientific content has always been of primary importance and if a sound paper, for example from a non-English-speaking source, has needed modification for its merits to become apparent, he has taken great pains over constructive criticism in its fullest sense.

Those who have collaborated with him on the *Journal* for the last 20 years have had reason to be grateful to him for the work he has done, for his encouragement and understanding, and not least for his tactful support in the difficulties which face all editors from time to time. Those of us who continue the work will hope to maintain the standards he has contributed so much to establishing.

H.B.