

EDITORIAL

The British Association of Sport and Medicine has now been in existence for just over twenty five years, its first full business meeting taking place in 1953, though a steering committee had been formed a year before, as detailed in the Foreword by the President, the Rt. Hon. Lord Porritt. To celebrate our Silver Jubilee, the Editorial Board decided to bring out a special jubilee number of the journal, and that all members of the board should contribute. The wide variety of topics that follow; philosophical, physiological, clinical, descriptive, political, — all reflect the variety of interests and special attributes of the members of the board, and we appreciate the time and care these members have donated, in addition to their help with the refereeing of articles submitted for publication, and the most helpful advice they give, to be transmitted to the authors. Their efforts have been one of the principal factors in any improvements in the standards of papers and their presentation during recent years.

Another factor that has helped with the journal is useful advertising revenue, which we have been used for administration of the journal and the Association, and which will be used in the future for commissioning review articles and other major papers from invited experts. We still, however, will continue to use the journal as a publication outlet for good papers from our members and from other contributors, and for publishing the relevant proceedings of our own meetings, and sometimes of meetings run by organisations relative to our inter-disciplinary association.

The second section of this number is devoted to the proceedings of the symposium held in June at the Royal Society of Medicine, "Exercise — a prescription for Health?" The convenor of the meeting, Dr. Dan Tunstall-Pedoe, has written the leading article for these proceedings, summarising points brought out in discussion, and has carried out the preliminary editing of this section of the journal.

The third section is as usual designed to give news of the BASM, its members, its business and plans for the future. The Hon. Secretary has included his regular column, and also has listed the members of the enlarged Executive Committee from whom it is hoped that the association's activities can be expanded in a constructive way, with more regional meetings, and perhaps courses as well. With a membership now of well over a thousand (over 250 new members were enrolled this year), the work has got beyond the scope of one or two officers who do everything. During this year two new regions, Welsh and Yorkshire, have been formed, and we await details from them about their programmes for meetings and courses during 1979.

The 21st World Congress of Sports Medicine took place in Brazil this September, and besides the four delegates from the U.K., the Hon. Treasurer being the official representative of BASM, we met many of our overseas members, and recruited several more. A report of this meeting is included in the third part of this number, the 'Bulletin of BASM' section. This is also the number in which both Author and Subject Indices are given for the volume.

We have not re-advertised the Sports Medicine Course, due to be held at the University of Loughborough during the first week of April, as we already have over sixty serious enquiries for fifty places, but it might still be possible to include anyone else on a waiting list, or as non-residents. For those who cannot get on this year's course, we will soon be opening a file for the 1980 course, again in April, and at Loughborough, April 13th—19th, 1980.

May we take this opportunity of wishing all our members, and our many external and library subscribers, a very happy and active New Year.

NEWS OF MEMBERS — NEW YEAR HONOURS

We are pleased to announce that Dr. James Lugton of Edinburgh has been awarded the Membership of the British Empire.

We regret the extreme delay in publication of this number. It was due to several factors outside the control of the Editor and the Printer.