EDITORIAL

This morning, one of my patients, usually normotensive, had a raised blood pressure and tachycardia. He attributed this to an electricity bill he had just received, 150% higher than for the same period a year ago.

This morning, I received the printer's bill, 150% higher than for the same period last year! As paper is priced in US dollars, the balance of pound against the dollar means an increase in the price of paper of over 30% since the beginning of the year. We are also receiving many more publishable articles, some of length, so the present issue and the last have each contained 80 pages instead of the usual 48. To endeavour to keep the cost of the journal stable, we must reduce either the number of articles we publish (a disappointment to many of our authors, especially those who submit their first publication) or reduce substantially the length of articles and limit references to those most relevant to the topic. Similar reductions can already be seen in such as the British Medical Journal, World Medicine, Medical News and many others.

The present issue contains the usual balance of clinical and exercise physiology papers, from Hong Kong, South Africa, the USA, Scandinavia, Ireland and the UK. The final article by Dr. H. Selcon tells of an outdoor track and circuit training course in the Bay of Biscay area, which could well be copied in this country at little cost. Outdoor gymnasia, tracks and other training facilities have been made in Rio de Janeiro on the initiative of the doctors of the Brazilian Sports Medicine Association. Can some of our members in the UK not do the same?

We hope to devote much of the December issue to papers presented at the London meeting that took place before the Marathon. Other papers already received relevant to Marathons will also, we hope, be included.

CONGRESS '84 BASM

It is hoped that our members will make a special effort to support this venture. Many other organisations get over 30% of their members attending weekend courses, physiotherapists in sports medicine, remedial gymnasts, members of the American College of Sports Medicine. Surely we can do the same? Booking forms will be sent out with the AGM notices, but non-members wishing to attend are requested to write to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. Chapman, Half Moon Place, Burwash Road, HEATHFIELD, East Sussex.

The usual Call for Subscriptions is included near the back of the journal. The only change in rate is for the Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness. We have been informed that the cost next year will be $30, so unless there is a very substantial fall in the value of the dollar it will be necessary for us to charge £24 to cover administration, bank charges and postage. Overseas members paying us in US$ will need to pay $35 to cover bank commission and administration. The full price of this journal will be $60 unless ordered through our association by our members or through other associations affiliated to FIMS.

The computerisation of membership data, including subscriptions, is under consideration by the Executive Committee, and we have been advised that this would work most efficiently if subscriptions were paid by direct debit. This would also be a good opportunity to find out more about our members' interests, qualifications, commitments to treating patients, assessing fitness and personal participation in sport. More helpers would be needed at regional level if any scheme of active sports medicine participation were to succeed.

Dr. Brian Williams, a contributor to this journal, editor of the Journal of Community Medicine and a prominent member of the medical team for the Sheffield Marathon has recently been appointed to the Chair of Community Medicine in the University of Sheffield. We send our congratulations.

Dr. John G. P. Williams, MSc, FRCS, DPhysMed, a former Hon. Secretary of BASM and former Secretary General of FIMS, has been awarded the Doctorate of Medicine by the University of Cambridge.