

From the Editor and Publisher

WE BEGIN THE NINTH VOLUME OF OUR PUBLICATION with still further very major advances. First, and foremost, we are now a fully fledged member of "Index Medicus". Although only one of the citation indexes, this is the version which most physicians view as the "Blue Riband". We hope that our acceptance in Index Medicus will now encourage still more authors to send us their very best work for publication. Our next goal has to be to improve markedly our impact factor. This can only be achieved when we receive outstanding manuscripts. In anticipation of an increase in papers submitted for publication, and so as to clear more rapidly those manuscripts still awaiting publication, we will now, from this issue, publish six fascicles each year. Thus, after this issue appearing in January, subsequent issues are scheduled for publication in March, May, July, September and November. With the added pages available through this increase, we hope to be able to match our aspirations of publishing all material within six months of its date of acceptance, and ideally even more rapidly than that. We are only too well aware that some manuscripts, particularly brief reports, have been waiting for quite some time to appear. We apologize to those who are still waiting, but hope that all are aware of our efforts to speed up our publishing schedule. We also anticipate that, in 1999, all issues will appear on schedule. Another major innovation to appear in this issue is the first induction to the Paediatric Cardiology "Hall of Fame". Halls of Fame are very familiar to all those who have spent time in the United States of America. It was

a colleague of the Editor-in-Chief, Michael Rigby, who sowed the seed for such a Hall in Paediatric Cardiology. As we wrote in the July issue (8/3) of 1998, we have been much impressed by the interviews conducted by Bill Roberts and published in *American Journal of Cardiology*. The Hall of Fame seemed an excellent way of emulating these interviews, introducing neophytes in the field to the giants of yesteryear. In this issue of the *Journal*, therefore, Catherine Neill and Ed Clark introduce our first inductee. It is only appropriate that we should start with Helen Taussig, generally acknowledged as the Mother of the specialty. In a perceptive and thoughtful review, Catherine and Ed provide an excellent opener. The problem now is who comes next? Those who do, or don't, get into the American Halls, be it baseball, football, or whatever, are always the source of controversy. We hope that for our Hall, at least for the initial inductees, there will be no such problems. Induction is in the hands of the Editor-in-Chief working together with Bob Freedom. Either would be interested to hear from any of you who may wish to nominate, and submit a biography of, any future inductee, taking the portrait of Helen Taussig as the exemplar. In this way, we hope to keep very much in touch with the huge achievements of the last half-century, using them as an important bridge to the next millennium.

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