## Editorial

It is with some sense of surprise that I find myself, if not exactly in the editorial hot seat, at least nudging my predecessor off his cushion. Scanning back numbers (for inspiration?) I quickly established that I am only the sixth editor in the journal's 55 year existence. The first two, G.F. Heuser and R.G. Japp, both from the US, made rare forays on to the editorial pages and then only to make rather turgid reports. When the editorship crossed the Atlantic Ocean in 1973 into the hands of R.F. Gordon, then Director of the Houghton Poultry Research Station, a full twopage editorial was produced and the purposes and policies of the journal clearly espoused. Subsequently, Dr Gordon used the editorial pages to pass on relevant factual information to his readers and comments appeared in most, although not all, issues. His successor, J.D. Blaxland, whom I had the pleasure of knowing well, also followed that style, although comment appeared in rather fewer of the journals. His successor and my predecessor, Chris Hann, who took over the reins under rather sad and challenging circumstances when David died very suddenly, has been very fastidious in producing editorial copy for each issue, frequently trying to stimulate debate on articles in the journal or other topical issues (he even volunteered to ghost this one!). In his first Chris stated that his prime endeavour was to preserve the standards and reputation of the journal established by David Blaxland. He can retire well satisfied that his goals have been comfortably exceeded. I have two objectives: to sustain the high standards set by Chris and, if possible, like the journal's first editor, Dr Heuser, to retire to Lakeland, Florida.

Iim McNab

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Typescripts should be in English and should be sent in duplicate, to the Editor, World's Poultry Science Journal, Dr J. M. McNab, Roslin Institute (Edinburgh), Roslin, Midlothian EH25 9PS, UK. Contributions, which will be subject to scrutiny by independent referees and editorial revision, should normally not be longer than the equivalent of 8–10 pages of the journal (or approximately 6000 words) including tables, illustrations and references. Longer reviews are accepted from time to time, but it is advisable for authors to contact the Editor before submission. Papers should be typewritten on one side of the paper only and the typing should be double-spaced between lines with ample margins on each side of the sheet. The automatic numbering of lines in the margin is a great advantage. Pages should be assembled in the order: title; name and postal address(es) of author(s); where applicable, name and address of institution where the work was done; summary of between 100 and 300 words; keywords (up to 8); text of paper; references; tables; figures; figure legends (on separate page); abbreviated title (for use as a running headline). The pages of the paper itself should be numbered in the upper right-hand corner and should only be fastened by means of a paperclip. To enable summaries to be translated into French, German, Russian and Spanish, contributions should be accompanied by an additional copy of the summary (in English) of 100-300 words, typed on a separate sheet of paper.

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#### **Back numbers**

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