## **EDITORIAL**

A quick reference to the editorial written at the launching of this journal will show that this was with the explicit purpose of correlating scientific information on commercially important polysaccharides and presenting this to the scientific community at large.

When the Editors were approached about the possibility of publishing the proceedings of the conference held at Torviscosa, Italy, in November 1981 on the topic of 'Polysaccharide Solutions and Gels' they were naturally interested. After perusal of the manuscripts, it was evident that the contents of this conference accorded closely with the aims of the journal and therefore we gladly acceded to such a request.

Within these short papers and abstracts will be found a valuable indication of the activities of research scientists in the field of commercially important polysaccharides, with in some instances a clear pointer to industrial applications.

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