

Message from the Outgoing Editor

Because of the normal time required in publication processes, I am writing this message in January for the April issue. At this moment, our new editor, S. Okwit, is about to take office, although by the time you read this, he will probably have been functioning as editor for four months.

During the last three years, the annual number of pages published in these TRANSACTIONS has increased from 625 in 1962 to 909 in 1965. This made feasible the change of publication schedule from bimonthly to monthly. The small increase in cost of publication (less than 10 per cent) was felt to be justified in view of the promise of more rapid publication of results. It was also considered desirable that the publication schedule of our TRANSACTIONS should match that of the TRANSACTIONS ON ELECTRON DEVICES and the IEEE JOURNAL OF QUANTUM ELECTRONICS.

The Correspondence section has increased from 44 pages in 1962 to 103 pages in 1965. The increased activity in the design of microwave filters was recognized by a special issue (September, 1965) on this subject. The section on microwave abstracts of foreign journals, edited by K. Tomiyasu, began in the March, 1965, issue. The appointment of W. K. Kahn as Associate Editor for quantum phenomena and optical techniques in 1964 was followed by eventual cosponsorship of G-MTT and G-ED of the IEEE JOURNAL OF QUANTUM ELECTRONICS.

Since the AIEE-IRE merger, there has been increased recognition that the IEEE publishes far more pages in the TRANSACTIONS than in the PROCEEDINGS and SPECTRUM combined, and that the TRANSACTIONS are an important, large segment of the technical literature. Thus, they constitute the life blood of the body of the IEEE publications, and contribute strongly to the overall image of the IEEE. Much concern has been expressed regarding promptness of publication of the TRANSACTIONS. As a result, a panel of TRANSACTIONS Editors was formed in 1964 to study ways of improving all of the TRANSACTIONS. Your TRANSACTIONS Editor has been one of the prime movers in this development. One goal of this panel is to achieve more prompt and more rapid publication. Efforts are also under way to improve information retrieval. One of the aids to indexing is the inclusion of key words with each pub-

lished paper. Accumulation of key words in our TRANSACTIONS will lead to production of a microwave microthesaurus which will aid in classifying, indexing, and retrieving microwave papers.

The number of people involved and the amount of cooperation required in publishing the TRANSACTIONS is astonishing. There are authors, typists, draftsmen, reviewers, editors, secretaries, proof and copy readers and markers, layout and dummy preparers, other editorial assistants, engravers, typesetters, printers, clerical aides, computer operators, and many others. Many steps are involved, each of which must be carefully and reliably taken. Communication by word of mouth, telephone, telegraph, by memo, and by mail is extensive. An appreciation of this helps to take the edge off of the impatience with which some of us await receipt of our copy of the TRANSACTIONS.

The Editor, in particular, appreciates the contributions of authors and the services of the Editorial Board of reviewers. The work of the Editor's secretary, Mrs. Mary J. Kardoes, deserves special recognition. She willingly worked overtime to meet deadlines, and helped avoid delays in the editorial and review processes by her careful and efficient work. I feel that in view of the importance of this work it would be appropriate to list the name of the editorial secretary on the masthead of the TRANSACTIONS. The IEEE Editorial Department takes the accepted manuscripts and works with the printer to produce a TRANSACTIONS which has a good appearance and is remarkably free from errors. The IEEE Editorial Staff, supervised by E. K. Gannett and Helene Frischauer, contributes greatly to this result. They are concerned about promptness of publication and are taking steps to improve the present situation.

Finally, I would like to express my confidence in the new editor, S. Okwit, and his staff. He is currently active in performing microwave research, is well known in microwave and IEEE circles, and has published and reviewed papers. His company, the Airborne Instruments Laboratory, Long Island, N. Y., is generously providing the necessary support for his activities as editor. I wish him well and feel confident that the future of the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON MICROWAVE THEORY AND TECHNIQUES is assured.—ROBERT W. BEATTY