

## Editorial

THE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society is trying to improve its TRANSACTIONS as part of an ongoing effort to better serve our membership. In this spirit, AdCom approved at our January 1981 meeting, my proposal to provide patent coverage in the TRANSACTIONS. Patents, in my experience, have proven to be a very important source of information which is often neglected, because they are not easily accessible to many workers in the field. In this Issue you will find our first collection of Patent Abstracts, which was put together by our new Associate Editor for Patents, Mr. N. R. Dietrich of Bell Laboratories Inc., Allentown, PA 18103. I welcome Mr. Dietrich and look forward to working with him. The Abstracts are intended to give you the minimum information

necessary to decide whether or not you want to examine the patent in more detail. If so, you should obtain the patent through your regular channels. Complete copies of patents are available for a small fee by writing: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Box 9, Washington, DC 20231. The publication of the Abstracts requires judgement on the part of the Editor and Associate Editor and may be incomplete. It is not intended to replace the official, comprehensive publication periodically published in Washington, DC. Mr. Dietrich and I are very interested in your reaction to this service, which we intend to provide on a regular monthly basis.

R. H. KNERR  
*Editor*