

## Message from the Editor

### PUBLICATION SCHEDULES

With this issue of the IRE TRANSACTIONS ON MICROWAVE THEORY AND TECHNIQUES, we begin a new publication schedule of six issues per year appearing on alternate months. The principal reason for adopting this more frequent schedule is to reduce the interval between the receipt and publication of a paper. The rate of progress in microwaves is now so rapid that publication delays are a significant factor to both authors and readers. Thanks to our competent and conscientious editorial board, papers are reviewed promptly. However, with our previous quarterly publication cycle, papers received in the wrong phase were inevitably held up for several extra months. This factor will now be much reduced.

Letters ordinarily do not require review procedures, and the new publication schedule should particularly benefit the correspondence section. We therefore take this opportunity to invite communications from those who read the TRANSACTIONS. Letters afford a simple means for communicating pertinent results and comments in a minimum time. To achieve this result, they should be concisely written with only a few simple illustrations.

### SYMPOSIUM PAPERS

The January issue of these TRANSACTIONS is traditionally devoted to the PGMTT National Symposium. We have departed somewhat from this policy in the present issue. While several pages are devoted to symposium events, the technical papers have been assembled without taking note of whether they were presented at the symposium or not. Although a unified symposium issue appears attractive, there are several advantages in an independent treatment of papers. These include freedom from added delays for non-Symposium papers, and the absence of an absolute deadline for symposium authors. More important than the time element is our ability to review each published paper in the normal manner. The constructive criticism and occasional rejection of manuscripts by the editorial board greatly improve the technical level of the published papers. Both authors and readers benefit from the consistent use of this editorial review. All published papers, whether presented at the symposium or not, are now subject to the same review.

—DONALD D. KING