EDITORIAL

In this first issue of Volume 4 it seems appropriate to review the journal's activities since our editorial of March 1982 marking the resumption of publication under the auspices of Butterworth Scientific Limited.

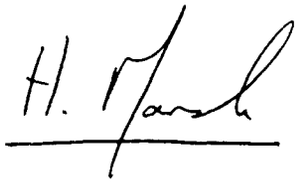
We have been greatly encouraged by the support we have received from the authors of the many manuscripts submitted for consideration for publication. So much so that, as readers of Volume 3, Number 4, published in December 1982 will have noted, it was necessary to increase the journal's pagination to maintain our objective of reasonably rapid publication. This growth in the rate at which papers became available for publication depended critically on the promptness with which they were reviewed, and therefore could not have been achieved without the ready co-operation of a large number of referees. We would like to take this opportunity of acknowledging their contribution and thanking them for their services; in so many cases they have helped to improve the papers published. Support for the international character of the journal has been maintained through the publication of papers from Australia, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Rumania, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United States. Each issue has carried an authoritative review paper; the topics covered to date include the fluid mechanics of turbomachinery, orifice plate standardisation, geothermal energy, turbulence modelling and in this issue the effects of blade tip gap in turbomachines. Articles planned for future issues include mixed convection and prediction methods for gas-particle flows, with particular reference to turbomachinery.

The past year has seen a welcome increase in the number of technical and research notes in the range of 200–2000 words. These relatively short contributions are by their nature so often immediately useful to the engineering designer, thereby fulfilling a prime objective of the journal. The June 1982 issue marked the inception of a 'Letters to the Editors' column which promises a lively exchange of correspondence on matters of interest to readers. We have also been able to include a large number of book reviews, and each issue contains a calendar of forthcoming meetings and conferences.

We aim, where possible, to provide readers with conference reports, as was the case for the IMEKO 9th World Congress and the 27th ASME International Gas Turbine Conference at Wembley in 1982. In some cases, such as the 7th International Heat Transfer Conference at Munich in September 1982, the scope of the meeting is so wide-ranging as effectively to rule out reports on other than particular topics, unless they be personal impressions of the success of the meeting as a whole. We would nevertheless welcome contributions from readers who feel so-minded. The Munich meeting reinforced the need we expressed a year ago for papers in the less traditional areas now emerging, such as solar and geothermal energy; in fact the energy crisis of the 1970's has brought about a marked shift towards applications orientated research. Other areas singled out for attention were post-burnout and transition boiling in two-phase flow and interphase phenomena; there is a growing need for papers on microfield heat transfer, ie involving dimensions of less than 25 μm.

Last year we expressed confidence that the journal would rapidly be re-established on a truly international basis. We believe that the foregoing provides solid evidence of progress towards those objectives. That we can look forward with even more confidence owes much to the members of the Honorary Editorial Advisory Board and our Consultant Editors.

B W Martin



H. Marsh