

## Editorial

Beginning with Volume 49 the readers of "Theoretical and Applied Genetics" will miss a name on the front page: that of Professor Hans Stubbe.

Hans Stubbe served TAG for many years: he took over the journal from his teacher Erwin Baur and after the war, already in 1946, he started it again with Volume 17/18, as co-editor with several other geneticists. Beginning with Volume 33 (1963) he became editor. With Volume 38 (1968) this function was changed to a managing editorship. Hans Stubbe saw and stimulated the transformation of our journal from "Der Züchter", via a short period of "Genetics and Breeding Research" to "Theoretical and Applied Genetics"; from a scientific journal, publishing almost exclusively plant breeding articles in German, to an internationally recognized world-wide accepted periodical with most articles in English.

Hans Stubbe's contributions to genetics and plant breeding have been recalled in detail by Georg Melchers on the occasion of his 70th birthday (see *Theor. Appl. Genet.* **42**, 1-2 (1972)); his editorial contributions to scientific publications in the huge field of biology in general, and to genetics and plant breeding in particular, have not yet been fully recognized. [Maybe they are too great to be described.] The co-editors, members of the editorial board throughout the years of TAG, wish to thank him for his constant and always friendly cooperation. Many thousands of manuscripts passed through his hands and over his desk during these decades. His scientific judgement was always critical, but benevolent and constructive. The

new editorial board will miss his experience and working capacity.

The retiring members of the editorial board also deserve much credit for all the work they have contributed to TAG by the acquisition of good manuscripts, reviewal of papers and many valuable suggestions to publisher and editor. New men will take over these crucial duties, which are essential and decisive for the level of a scientific periodical.

The assistance behind the scenes should also not be forgotten: Mrs. Elisabeth Williges, who took care of the secretarial work for about 20 years, which included more than merely writing letters and controlling galleys. Thanks to her for all that she did for TAG!

Beginning with Volume 49 the number of editors on the board has been increased. All editors will take care of rapid publication, high standard of papers in the whole field of breeding research and a world-wide contribution to applied genetical knowledge. Therefore, beginning with Volume 50, only manuscripts in English will be accepted. A rapid editorial procedure will guarantee the publication of any accepted paper within a few months. A close cooperation with the other related journals of Springer, such as "Molecular and General Genetics" and "Chromosoma", will guarantee a streamlined publication policy for applied genetics and affiliated fields of research. Publisher and editors hope for the continued confidence of authors and readers of TAG.

H.F. Linskens, Managing Editor