

EDITORIAL

The change in title of our Society's principal publication marks a new development in its history. Hitherto the publications of the Society have consisted of the Report and the Distributors' Report, each published annually.

It is intended in future to substitute for the annual Report a Journal, of which this is the first number, to be published three or four times a year, and a Year-book to be published annually. The Year-book will contain those matters which are of interest to members of the Society only, such as Members' Lists, Reports of Officers and Excursions. The journal will contain the familiar features, Plant Records, Plant Notes and Nomenclature, and Abstracts from Literature, each of which will be published in a separate number. Each number will also contain papers and, at times, reviews and obituaries. The Distributor's Report will continue to appear separately.

There is at present no periodical devoted primarily to those aspects of British botany in which our Society is interested, notably the taxonomy and distribution of the higher plants, and we hope that *Watsonia* will supply this need. It is intended that the scope shall be wide. Papers will be published not only on systematic botany and distribution in the narrow sense, but also on any aspect of botany which adds to our knowledge of British plants considered as living organisms in the field (other than purely ecological papers, which are catered for elsewhere). The papers in this number have been chosen as far as possible to suggest the scope intended, though it is obvious that other types of paper are possible.

It is hoped to publish in each number something that will interest every member, whether a beginner or a more advanced student of the subject.

The title of the journal has been chosen with two points in mind, firstly to suggest its scope and secondly for ease in citation and the avoidance of confusion with other publications. An appreciation of the work of H. C. Watson, after whom the journal is named, appears in this number.

The basis of editorship of the journal has also been altered. The following members have kindly agreed to be responsible for the different regular features:—

Mr A. H. G. Alston—Abstracts.

Miss M. S. Campbell—Advertisements and Personalia.

Mr J. E. Lousley—Obituaries.

Mr W. R. Price—Index.

Mr E. C. Wallace—Plant Records and Revision of the *Comital Flora*.

Mr A. J. Wilmott—Plant Notes, Nomenclature and Revision of the *British Plant List*.

Material intended for any of the above regular features may be sent either to the Hon. Editor or to the members concerned, whichever is more convenient. The Hon. Editor will be responsible for original papers and reviews as well as for general supervision. Contributions from non-members as well as from members will be welcome.

It is hoped that members will appreciate the more frequent appearance of the Society's publications and that contributors will find that there is less delay in the publication of their papers than has been inevitable in the past.