PREFACE

We all love Paris and she did not fail us this year, providing a superb venue and facilities for a most successful and stimulating Scientific Congress as well as a splendid social programme. We had the unique opportunity of sharing an afternoon with our colleagues of the International Society of Artificial Organs. The proceedings of this joint session are at the end of this book and by mutual agreement will also appear in ‘Artificial Organs’. We are indebted to the publishers of that Journal for permission to reproduce contributions from ISAO members.

The production of our Proceedings is never a solo effort, cooperation and contribution by many persons is required. We are very grateful to the Congress President, Professor Funck-Brentano and the Congress Secretary, Dr Drüeke for ensuring excellent arrangements for the Editorial office. Monsieur Contenay, the Congress Manager, took great trouble to ensure that we had the facilities we required and no problem was too large or too much trouble for Mlle Sophie Tixier to solve for us. We offer them our sincere thanks. The recordists and hostesses in the auditorium were always alert and helpful and in the office, Mrs Julia Ellis and Mrs Brenda Norris once again provided speedy and accurate transcripts of the discussions.

The authors and discussants are of course the most fundamental of all, for without them the Proceedings would not exist, and it is a pleasure to record my thanks to the very great majority of our contributors who have taken much trouble to prepare their typescripts for publication and who met our deadlines. We also thank the very large proportion of congress members who came to our office to correct discussion transcripts and offered helpful advice. I believe the corrected discussions are a valuable part of our record.

This year we have indicated the author presenting the paper at the Congress in bold type.

We deeply regret that one contribution to our Proceedings is missing because of the tragic death of Professor Leber, a valued and respected colleague and member of the Association.

This will be my last volume as Editor of the Proceedings. I inherited a very healthy and well planned tradition from my predecessors, Doctors Kerr, Cameron and Moorhead, and I feel that my main task has been to try to ensure that the quality is maintained and the position as a publication of world-wide repute is consolidated — I hope I have to some extent succeeded. Our sales grow every year and including copies to members are likely to exceed 2500 for the last year. As publication costs increases members of EDTA obtain a particularly good bargain because their subscriptions have remained unchanged for many years.

We are fortunate in obtaining the services of Dr A M Davison who has come to my help as Associate Editor this year and will be taking over the full editor-
ship with the Congress in Madrid in 1982. I have every confidence that he will enhance the reputation of our Proceedings and I wish him luck.

In writing my last preface I must pay special tribute to my Associate throughout the years, Dr J B Hawkins, who has shown great enthusiasm and dedication to the task and contributed at least as much as myself to previous volumes. I would like to thank once more Miss Irene Darlaston who has been my valued assistant and organiser for six years, keeping the editors and the contributors to their task and working long into the following Winter with all the subsequent organisation and negotiations required for each Congress and Proceedings.

Pitman Books Ltd play a special role as our publishers. The rapidity with which the Proceedings appear is the envy of other publishing houses and this is largely due to the enthusiasm and personal involvement of Mrs Betty Dickens and Mrs Vivienne Smith and their colleagues. It was a pleasure to have had Betty with us at the Paris meeting and to have had the benefit of her help and advice.

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