

Editorial

Lymphology may be defined as the science of the lymphatic system comprising lymph, lymph vessels and lymph nodes.

Remarkable progress has evolved concerning many facets of the lymphatic system. A great body of knowledge has been gathered in this respect by anatomists since the middle age, by physiologists in the past hundred years and by hematologists, pathologists, radiologists, surgeons, urologists and immunologists in the past few decades.

Outstanding men successfully engaged in experimental or clinical research in lymphology have published their results and achievements. Unfortunately, however, the science of the lymphatic system has suffered because of the chaotic dispersion of its literature throughout innumerable dissimilar scientific journals.

It was a feeling of responsibility to provide assistance to all those interested in lymphology that motivated the creation of the International Society of Lymphology in Zurich July 19, 1966.

The integration of lymphological data was made a specific objective of the International Society of Lymphology. It is hoped that this will be achieved by periodically reviewing medical journals and by abstracting the widely dispersed lymphological literature. This should also provide a well-identified means for the publication of basic and Clinical research on the lymphatic system. For this reason *Lymphology* has come to birth. It will be the official journal of the Society with an International multidisciplinary editorial board.

Recent evidence of the growing interest and drive for communication is apparent from the numerous presentations being given in all aspects of anatomy, biochemistry, pathophysiology and therapy, at conferences in many different countries. It appears that there is now a need for continuous communication between the various disciplines involved in the accelerated investigation of all organ systems.

We hope that the formation of the International Society of Lymphology and the development of the journal *Lymphology* will provide a valuable channel for such communication during this era of the interdisciplinary interest in lymphatics.

THE EDITORS