EDITORIAL

MOST unfortunately, in the production of the 1970 issues, *Medical & Biological Engineering* and its contributors have had to endure not only the long lasting effects of the indisposition of the previous editor, but also the stagnation of the mail strike in the United Kingdom. These have both produced exceptionally long delays in the publication of some papers, delays which have been outside the control of both the present editors and the publishers. Throughout these difficulties it has been most encouraging to observe not only the high standard of the material submitted but also the variety of topics presented and the many countries of origin. In practice very few papers have been rejected and every assistance has been offered to authors whose native tongue is not English. An increas-

ing use is being made of an international panel of referees. The mail strike is currently preventing the use of referees abroad and for the first time has rendered it impossible to receive back author corrected proofs. In order to keep to the publication schedule, it is necessary as a temporary expedient to rely on the editor's corrections only. The co-operation of our readers in this difficult phase is earnestly requested, and when normal mail service is resumed it is hoped that material will once again flow in as it has so consistently in the past. No effort is being spared to reduce the publication time to a minimum, and it is hoped to be able to expand the section dealing with the activities of the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering.

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