Eugene S. Simpson

EDITOR'S PREFACE

With this first issue of *APPLIED HYDROGEOLOGY*, the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) joins many other international societies in publishing its own journal. We expect its publication will help advance the aims of IAH as specified by J.B.W. Day in his "Brief Account of the IAH" (this issue). But there already exist several widely-distributed English-language journals, such as the *JOURNAL OF HYDROLOGY*, *WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH*, and *GROUND WATER*. We may ask, is there room for yet another? The first-named is expensive and few hydrogeologists can afford to subscribe.

Besides, it is not primarily concerned with hydrogeology. The second-named is moderately expensive, is not primarily concerned with hydrogeology, and it tends to concentrate on theory more than on practice. The third-named also is moderately expensive, and although it is primarily concerned with hydrogeology, it publishes few papers by authors from developing countries. *APPLIED HYDROGEOLOGY* is inexpensive and its editorial policy encourages contributions by hydrogeologists from as wide a range as is possible of countries of origin. Finally, a need for a new journal results from the rapidly increasing numbers and activities of hydrogeologists. *APPLIED HYDROGEOLOGY*, will provide an additional outlet for publication.

As indicated by Day, hydrogeologists mainly of France, Belgium, and Italy guided the organization and carried the burden of administration in the formative years of IAH. Their active support continues. However, for better or worse, English is read and understood by greater numbers of hydrogeologists than any other language. English, therefore, was chosen to serve the needs of an international journal. (Future issues, by the way, will include translations in French of each abstract.)

Our début is modest and inevitably so. With time and as word gets around, the stream of unsolicited contributions will increase. *Instructions to Authors* are given elsewhere in this issue for those who might wish to submit papers for publication. All papers except short technical notes will be peer-reviewed. A service is available to "re-English", but not translate, papers by authors whose mother tongue is not English. We solicit your support, comments, and contributions.