EDITORIAL

Retirement of Editor

Mutual indulgence in personal reminiscences of past successes is one of the pleasures in retirement. The simile of human life with the cycle of change in inanimates becomes more remarkable in a study of the comparison.

Twice in my lifetime similar episodes of one parent foundations in the field of verbal communication, have been launched and subsequently sustained. The first under well-heeled sponsorship, occurred in 1953 and was baptized under the name of the *Bulletin of Epizootic Diseases of Africa*. At the age of 15 years it was passed on to my successors and on reaching maturity at 21, changed its name (all too human) to the *Bulletin of Animal Health and Production in Africa*, to indicate the necessity and its ability to spread its wings to cover the broadening scope of duty in biological and medical research and its application in that continent.

Ill health and low productivity are not the prerogative of Africa alone—they are common to the terrestrial element between the tropics and the veterinarian in these areas and those aspiring to train him were of the mutual opinion that an additional journal in this field was needed. So a younger sister was born 16 years later in 1969 viz. *Tropical Animal Health and Production*—less well endowed financially in a world of shrinking affluence but infinitely more capable initially to communicate the pooled knowledge of more experience and its intelligent application to a more receptive developing world.

Tropical Animal Health and Production oozes the sophistication of its surroundings, its consultants and its contributors, drawing attention to and keeping constantly in view the economic factors in health and productivity now paramount in a narrowing ratio between the human population and world food output.

The ravages of a long life decrease the faculties and at 6 years, this publication which I had the honour of founding and of editing for 6 years, must now be handed over to foster parents to nurture to full status and impact.

It is impossible to avoid the conclusion that there are always better fish in the sea but continuing happiness can be derived from the sidelines by observing the new driving force and cherishing the hope that the change of control can be effected with the minimum of crashing of the gears.

Good luck and my best wishes for a long life to both journals, well worth your subscriptions.

W. G. BEATON,
March 1975.