EDITORIAL

This issue brings us to the end of volume two, and we now feel that we are beginning to become established as a periodical. The first few issues of a journal are tricky. One finds it difficult to secure suitable contributions, and one must endeavour to cater for many types of interest. Fortunately we have evidently given satisfaction to our members and to subscribers, who are quick to claim issues going astray in the post. Many large public libraries, universities, technical colleges, research organizations and specialist libraries throughout the world are now welcomed among subscribers to our journal, which is regularly despatched to Australia, Japan, the U.S.S.R., Hungary, Poland, South Africa, and several other countries, in addition to numerous copies distributed in the United States and Great Britain. Many new subscribers request issues from the commencement of volume one, and we can still supply all back issues.

The contents of this issue are devoted mainly to papers read at our meetings, and we are grateful to speakers for providing their scripts, thus sharing the wealth of their knowledge with a larger audience. One of the most interesting meetings was that addressed by Mr. Gordon V. Carey, M.A., veteran of many indexing campaigns, and one whose views must always be carefully considered. We heartily endorse those set forth in his article, and are further indebted to him for his scrupulous perusal of the proofs of each issue of this journal.

Our Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. L. Collison, F.L.A., gave a fascinating talk at our Annual General Meeting, warning us of possible future developments in indexing that we must be prepared to anticipate, and has permitted us to publish his remarks. The Music Librarian of the B.B.C., Mr. J. H. Davies, F.L.A., provides a welcome introduction to the subject of music indexing, based on extensive experience in a large collection of this material. Mr. J. Farradane, B.Sc., A.R.C.S., A.R.I.C., Scientific Information Officer, Tate and Lyle Research Laboratories, introduces us to the subject of “Relational indexing” in a paper worthy of careful study, and one which will be particularly appreciated by those interested in modern trends in indexing. Finally, (because he happens to be last in our alphabetical preview), Mr. L. E. J. Helyar, A.L.A., outlines the historical development of indexing the technical periodical Engineering, with which he was connected before leaving to work in the University of Kansas Library.

This medley of authoritative articles should provide something to interest all our readers, who will also learn much by straying beyond their usual realms, and reading the views of those connected with other techniques and materials.

Finally, a word of gratitude is due to our printers, who have taken great pains with our journal, have often accomplished the seemingly impossible, and have been instrumental in ensuring that The Indexer appears on time.