

Ex Duobus Unum . . .

ONE of the very first steps to put into effect the unification of the Institute of the Aerospace Sciences with the American Rocket Society was the merging of the *Journal of the Aerospace Sciences* with *ARS Journal*. The present issue of the new *AIAA Journal* is the result. Admittedly, it was a rather hasty job of production, since the authority to proceed with the consolidation was not clear until the end of the legal voting period and the counting of the votes on December 7, 1962, and very little working time was available after that date. Because of the shortage of time, it was necessary to make use of the approved papers in the type styles in which they had already been set. The differences between the various papers in this issue are rather obvious. However, the February issue will be homogeneous in style.

It was important to bring the new *AIAA Journal* into being at the start of the calendar year, even though the two Societies were not merged legally until February 1, in order to preserve the integrity of the customary annual volumes for archive purposes. As a vital record of progress in research and development, *AIAA Journal* is intended as much for future use and for the benefit of posterity as for current reading, and so an orderly system of numbering and volume construction acceptable to librarians was essential. We did not wish to create "orphan" January issues of the expiring two Journals.

In order to accomplish the transition as smoothly as possible, and in order to blend in a logical manner the philosophies of the two antecedent Journals as to scope, standards of acceptance, and editorial practice, Professor W. R. Sears and I have agreed to serve during the transition period as "Co-Editors-in-Chief." However, we expect to turn over the leadership to a new Editor-in-Chief in the near future. We have both served a long time as editors of our respective Journals, and it is time for a change.

The Associate Editors of *ARS Journal*, most of whom also have reviewed papers in the past for the *Journal of the Aerospace Sciences*, have agreed to serve on the staff of *AIAA Journal* during and perhaps beyond the transition period. To take care of papers in subject areas heretofore strongly represented in the *Journal of the Aerospace Sciences*, four new Associate Editors have joined the group. This combined body is broad enough in talent to be able to give expert supervision to the reviewing of most of the papers within the scope of the new Journal, but occasionally it is found desirable to draw on the expert advice of our Technical Committee Chairmen. The names of all of the Editors and the Committee Chairmen are listed in each issue on the masthead page.

All through the merger negotiations the point was stressed that the capacity of the merged Society to publish research and development papers must not be less than the sum of the two previous capacities. Accordingly, *AIAA Journal* will be about twice as thick as either of the two Journals it replaces. Continuing the practice of the ARS, the society will allocate a part of each member's dues to the Journal, and each member will receive it as part of his membership privileges. This policy was approved by the votes of the members on the

merger ballot. (Since the AIAA does not come into being legally until February 1, IAS members who had not been subscribers of the *Journal of the Aerospace Sciences* will not receive the January issue. Those who desire this issue to fill out their personal collections may order it as a back number.)

We take this occasion to call to the attention of prospective authors that the AIAA Board has approved a voluntary page charge of \$40 per page, replacing the former rate of \$30. Acceptance of a particular paper is not predicated on the willingness of the author's institution to pay the charge, but it is important to note that the Federal Council on Science and Technology, acting for all government sponsoring agencies, has authorized such page charges as a direct cost item in all contracts. This income covers a significant fraction of the cost of publication.

A brief description of several other publications of the AIAA may be of interest at this point. The magazine of the society, to be issued to all members, will be titled *Astronautics and Aerospace Engineering* and will continue mainly as a theme magazine devoted to timely developments. However, a substantial part of its space will be allocated to the publication of submitted manuscripts on interesting engineering topics as selected by a Technical Editor, continuing the general tradition established by *Aerospace Engineering*. The society has renewed the ARS contract with Academic Press Inc. and will continue through this means to publish the series of books, *Progress in Astronautics and Aeronautics*, as an archive-type publication. Four volumes are currently in production, comprising the qualified papers selected from recent specialist meetings on electric propulsion, lunar missions, space power systems, and ionization phenomena. This will bring the total in the series to twelve volumes. Consideration is being given to the possible inauguration of two new periodicals to be titled tentatively *AIAA Letters* and *AIAA Reviews*, but it is too early to provide specific details. The AIAA will continue, of course, to sell individual preprints and preprint collections at all future meetings, not as archive-type publications but as aids to effective discussion on the spot.

All of this activity in the publication field highlights an important point of AIAA philosophy. The primary mission of a technical society like AIAA, in fact the primary mission of all learned societies, is to provide for the exchange of new ideas. Meetings are one means for accomplishing such exchange. Serious archive-type publications are a second. Meetings and publications are our main business; all other activities must be considered of secondary importance. This declaration may seem unnecessary, but it is not a trivial point. The AIAA Officers and Directors are confronted constantly with the need to make decisions on the allocation of the society's financial resources. We have taken bold steps already to provide for an adequate publishing capacity, but our task is never finished. AIAA is part of an expanding exciting field, and our resources and capacity for publishing will have to keep pace with it.

Martin Summerfield
Vice President—Publications