Further Section

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Editorial

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At the New Delhi Meeting of the World Federation of Neurology in October, 1989, the Editorial Board of *Neuroepidemiology* implemented a number of changes. Among these was my appointment as Editor-in-Chief. I had previously served as Deputy Editor under the capable leadership of F. Clifford Rose, MD, who has become Senior Editor. It will be my policy to expand the regional representation of our journal in recognition of the growing number of regional neuroepidemiology societies which have formed in recent years. For example, 26 associate editors and candidate editors attended the last editors' meeting, each representing a different country or region. The Editorial Board will be appointed for limited terms to permit infusion of new ideas from other colleagues dedicated to neuroepidemiologic research. Hopefully, a dynamic and active Editorial Board will thus be assured.

I am exploring ways to provide the forum offered by this journal to more readers including those in underdeveloped countries. Epidemiologic studies, especially those in underdeveloped regions, have been particularly successful in broadening our understanding of neurologic disease processes. Mention need only be made of tropical spastic paraparesis, kuru and the foci of motor

system disease in the Western Pacific to illustrate the point.

A. A section for Letters to the Editor will be added to permit readers to offer comments and criticisms of articles which appear in these pages. Items of unusual scientific interest will be published as Short Communications and will receive facilitated review. I shall study ways to shorten further the time from receipt of manuscripts to publication

now about 4.5 months. Newsworthy items and announcements pertaining to neuroepidemiologic meetings and events will also be published. With the growing number of regional neuroepidemiologic scientific meetings and the entry of more young neurologists into programs offering formal training in epidemiologic methods

the number and quality of neuroepidemiologic reports will surely increase. This presents both an exciting opportunity and a challenge to me and to our Editorial Board. We have the opportunity of disseminating the new data to neurologists and the wider medical community. Our challenge is to assure that only the highest standards are applied in selecting reports for publication in *Neuroepidemiology*.

Milton Alter

MD

PhD Editor-in-Chief