Further Section

Appl Neurophysiol 1988;51:6

**Confinia Neurologica/Applied
Neurophysiology**

Confinia Neurologica/Applied Neurophysiology 50 Years

Thomas Karger, Publisher

Applied Neurophysiology began publication in 1938 under the expert guidance of Prof. E.A. Spiegel. Originally titled *Confinia Neurologica* (or *Borderland of Neurology*), the journal was launched as a means of giving researchers a more integrated view of developments in the many different fields that framed the 'borders' of organic neurology. As Spiegel noted in his introduction to the inaugural issue, the capacity to follow research in the neurological sciences required a blending of knowledge from such mutually dependent fields as neurology and surgery, oto-ophthalmology, syphilology, endocrinology and radiology as well as 'due consideration to the theoretical foundations'.

From the outset, the journal was both interdisciplinary in scope and international in its composition of authors and editors. Though it is now difficult to find a journal that is not international or interdisciplinary in at least some sense, such an orientation was hardly common-place in the scientific and political climate of 1938. In fact, when one looks at the first issue of *Confinia Neurologica*, it is impressive to note that interest in the 'borderland of neurology' was strong enough to unite not only many diverse fields but also work from scientists in America, Germany, France and other European countries.

Given the strong interdependency between advances in neurophysiology and developments in surgical expertise, it is not surprising that dramatic improvements in surgical technique would eventually give the journal a more precisely defined focus. As questions and problems posed by articles in the first issue were gradually resolved, the journal was eventually freed, as signalled by its title change in 1975, to show a greater concern with the practical applications of knowledge in neurophysiology. Under the editorship of Philip L. Gildenberg since 1975, the journal has continued to keep pace with advances in neurophysiology whose practical applications are increasingly apparent. We look forward to the journal's continued development as it enters its 6th decade.