

EDITORIAL

Since its inception, there have been only three previous editorials in *The Lichenologist*. The present contribution is not intended to re-introduce this style of communication between the editors and readers, but to acknowledge a particular event.

At the end of 1990 Professor David L. Hawksworth retired as an editor of *The Lichenologist*. This is, therefore, an appropriate occasion to put on record, on behalf of both editors and readers, grateful thanks to Prof. Hawksworth for his unstinting involvement with the journal over 21 years. David Hawksworth became Assistant Editor of *The Lichenologist* in 1970, graduated to Senior Editor in 1978 and remained in this position until 1989, subsequently retaining editorial responsibility for book reviews. David Hawksworth can be credited with guiding and directing *The Lichenologist* to its present size, eminence and international reputation on behalf of The British Lichen Society.

During the years that David Hawksworth has been associated with *The Lichenologist*, his own reputation as an astute mycologist has grown in parallel with his multifarious administrative roles. While a full biography is inappropriate, amongst his many activities must be noted the directorship of the CAB International Mycological Institute, Kew, being Visiting Professor of the University of Reading, Vice-President of the Linnean Society, and President of the British Lichen Society, the British Mycological Society and the International Mycological Association (following his term as their Secretary-General). In addition he has been editorially involved with the Systematics Association, the new journal *Cryptogamic Botany*, and a number of books amongst his more than 300 publications. His wish to retire from editorial involvement with *The Lichenologist* was, not surprisingly, claimed to be due to increasing pressure of work! Lichenologists are indeed fortunate that he earlier found so much time to develop *The Lichenologist* to its present status.

D. H. Brown

