
THE JOURNAL OF HYGIENE

INTRODUCTION

THE *Journal of Hygiene* has been founded in order to meet a need which has long been felt for a journal devoted to the publication in the English language of original work in Hygiene. The results of such work in Great Britain, the Colonies, and the United States, have hitherto for the most part appeared in journals devoted to General Medicine, Pathology, Physiology, and Chemistry, or in official Reports and other publications which are not readily accessible for reference. The papers in question have, in consequence, frequently required to be unduly curtailed in the description and discussion of essential data, and have often escaped the notice of workers in the same subject, both in English-speaking and foreign countries. The numerous encouraging assurances of support received from those gentlemen who have kindly consented to collaborate with us have confirmed us in the opinion that the *Journal of Hygiene* will fulfil a definite purpose by serving as a focus to English-speaking investigators for work in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology, Pathology, Bacteriology, Parasitology, and Epidemiology, in relation to Hygiene and Preventive Medicine.

Introduction

With a view to increasing the general usefulness of the *Journal of Hygiene* we propose not to limit the contributions entirely to reports of original observations and experiments, but to accept and encourage discussions of administrative and practical questions, the importance of which is apt to be overlooked in scientific journals. We also contemplate the occasional publication of collective and critical reviews upon subjects of general interest in the domain of Hygiene, these papers to be accompanied by adequate bibliographical references. Although the list of collaborators is limited to those whose native tongue is English we trust that foreign investigators will understand that their contributions will be welcome.

We conclude this brief introduction with a letter expressing his approval and good wishes from a veteran leader in the Science of Hygiene, Sir John Simon.

GEORGE H. F. NUTTALL

JOHN HALDANE

ARTHUR NEWSHOLME.

40 KENSINGTON SQUARE, W.

Monday, 22nd October, 1900

GENTLEMEN,

My eminent friend Sir John Burdon Sanderson has given me the very interesting information that you purpose to inaugurate the beginning of the new century by founding a scientific *Journal of Hygiene*; and in giving me this information he conveys to me your very flattering request that I should be a contributor to its first number. In the partiality of his old friendship for me, and perhaps with some touch of that poetical imagination which is said to be half-sister of science, my valued friend has forgotten that I am now 84 years of age; and to this I have to add the equally serious disqualification that during the last few months increasing blindness has rendered me (as you see) incapable of guiding my pen for more than the signature of my name. Apart therefore from other insufficiencies of which I am conscious, I feel obliged by age and physical incapacity to decline undertaking what, had I the requisite ability, I should esteem it a signal honour to attempt.

May I venture a word of congratulation on the work you are about to commence, and on the moment you have chosen for commencing it? The past two centuries, and especially the last fifty years, have been beyond measure progressive in the departments of knowledge to which your undertaking relates; mares-nests in science are tending to be a constantly diminishing quantity; and the time seems now to have come when a new Journal edited by representative men of Oxford, Cambridge, and London, may surely expect to escape pitfalls, and to represent in the main what shall prove to be advances in true knowledge.

I beg to remain

Gentlemen

Most faithfully yours

JOHN SIMON.

To Dr G. H. F. NUTTALL
Dr JOHN HALDANE, F.R.S. and
Dr ARTHUR NEWSHOLME.