Cardiovascular Research

"Clear writers, like fountains, do not seem as deep as they are; the turbid look the most profound"—W. S. Landor.

In the twenty-seven years of its existence the British Heart Journal has been the only journal in the United Kingdom devoted solely to cardiology. Generally, more than half of the journal has been contributed by workers in Britain, but papers submitted from the Commonwealth and from foreign countries have been welcomed and have very often brought distinction to our pages. Some of the earliest volumes were published during the war years and were necessarily small but from 1946 onward the size of the British Heart Journal has steadily increased. Since 1961 it has appeared every two months, and in the past eleven years the size of the annual volume has exactly doubled.

As the organ of the British Cardiac Society, the British Heart Journal has been the national mouthpiece of an increasing number of clinicians and researchers in cardiology. With the passage of years there has been an increasing output not only of clinical investigations but also of fundamental studies on various aspects of the circulation, many of them made possible through the support of the British Heart Foundation.

The need for improving the outlets for communication of basic research has been recognized by the British Cardiac Society by increasing the number and size of its meetings and devoting time at its scientific sessions to new experimental and animal work on the circulation. Hitherto many of these papers presented at the Society’s meetings have been published in the British Heart Journal alongside those on clinical subjects.

The Editor and the Editorial Board of the British Heart Journal with the Council of the British Cardiac Society considered the possibility of either enlarging the present British Heart Journal by including more papers of a basic nature or starting a new journal. Opinions were divided and all were aware of the basic undesirability of founding new journals; nevertheless it was finally decided to found a sister journal to the British Heart Journal and name it "Cardiovascular Research".

Plans have now been made in conjunction with the Journal Committee of the British Medical Association for the appearance of the journal under the aegis of the Association. Priority will be given to papers on the "growing points" of basic cardiovascular research, and it is hoped to publish these from workers at home and abroad and to launch the project early in 1967.

"Cardiovascular Research" will be under the direction of Dr. John Shillingford as Editor-in-Chief. At first it will appear quarterly but, recognizing the special need for papers in this category to be published without delay, the Editorial Board will make every effort to minimize the interval between receipt of a paper and its acceptance and publication. The panel of editors and the Editorial Board will be drawn from among distinguished research workers actively engaged in, or promoting, new scientific work on the circulation. The journal will represent the following disciplines: physiology, including pulmonary and peripheral circulation, pharmacology, biophysics, pathology, biochemistry, and histochemistry. It is hoped that workers in the Commonwealth and foreign countries may accord to "Cardiovascular Research" the same attention that their clinical colleagues have accorded to the British Heart Journal, to its increasing credit and renown.