

Editorial

In guiding the development of the journal, an important rôle is played by the Editorial Board. This Board has met once in each year of the journal's existence and has been constructive and influential in its guidance of the journal's policies. The presence of representatives from the different national European ceramic societies together with co-opted members has ensured that a genuinely European viewpoint can be reached. One issue which has been considered by the Board is that of the translation of abstracts. More than a year ago the Board noted that the translated abstracts were seldom used by readers and that their function had therefore become that of being symbolic of the European nature of the publication. This symbolic rôle was seen as important and the Board believed that translation should be continued.

At a subsequent meeting, the Board noted that the removal of the translations would have the highly desirable effect of accelerating the total production process for submitted articles. Since authors correctly place weight on the rapid appearance of their work, this advantage was seen as highly attractive. It would also be true that more space would become available in the journal's pages. There was therefore convergence around the view that translations should no longer be provided.

The consequence is that the journal now wishes to propose that translations will no longer be published with effect from 1 January 1995. The over-riding consideration, however, must be the wish of readers in this matter, and I therefore would encourage all of you who feel strongly that an unfortunate decision has been made, to write to me with an indication of their viewpoint. It may be that readers are willing to accept this decision in the light of the advantages that do emerge. Sensitivities in this matter must, however, be respected, and the journal, you may be assured, will follow the guidance of its readership.

R. Brook
Editor