

Editorial

The conference on the pollution of the Mediterranean, held in Palma, Mallorca in September 1979, was organised by the Spanish National Committee of the *International Association on Water Pollution Research*, with the cooperation of its French National Committee. It is the third occasion upon which the International Association has played an important role in disseminating scientific and technical information on progress in the control of pollution in the Mediterranean, by publishing the conference proceedings in its journal *Progress in Water Technology* or in supplements to the journal. The proceedings of a conference in San Remo in 1973 on the problems of Mediterranean pollution appeared in 1975 as a supplement to *Progress in Water Technology*, and those of a second conference, in Sorrento in 1975, were published as Volume 4 of this journal.

The 1979 Palma Conference showed a new and more precise awareness of the problems awaiting solution and of the consequences of pollution if remedial steps are not taken to combat the combined effects of polluting river discharges and the growth of population in coastal districts. This appreciation of the problem has grown out of a United Nations sponsored meeting of representatives of states bordering the Mediterranean, and the emergence in 1975 of a plan to promote the integration of activities aimed at protecting the Sea and its ecosystem. Legal measures are being introduced to implement the decisions taken in 1975. Above all, a massive exercise in research work and monitoring pollution in all parts of the Mediterranean is under way as a result of an integrated effort involving many laboratories and research workers, as part of a scheme coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme. Some of the papers presented at Palma represent individual contributions towards this plan, but it will be several years before the full results of current studies become available.

The Palma Conference Proceedings contain 58 papers. In the interest of rapid publication it has been found necessary to publish the discussions together at the end of the volume. All papers appear in the language in which they were submitted and discussed, usually with an English summary.

This is a suitable opportunity for the Editor to remind subscribers that *Progress in Water Technology* is published in journal form for the purpose of recording the proceedings of IAWPR biennial, specialised and regional conferences and workshops.

Such proceedings consist of selected and refereed papers reproduced directly from authors' typescripts. The advantages of publication in this form are that subscribers receive, at minimum cost, a complete set of the proceedings of the various conferences without having to order individual proceedings, and publication is more rapid.

The policy which IAWPR is endeavouring to follow by publishing conference proceedings rapidly is shown by the following publication programme for 1979:

CONFERENCE

PUBLISHED IN PROGRESS IN WATER TECHNOLOGY

ENGINEERING, SCIENCE AND MEDICINE
IN THE PREVENTION OF TROPICAL
WATER-RELATED DISEASES
London, U.K., December 1978

April 1979, Volume 11 Part 1
September 1979, Volume 11 Part 2

AERATION IN AQUATIC SYSTEMS
Amsterdam, Holland, September 1978

October 1979, Volume 11 Part 3

DEVELOPMENT IN LAND METHODS OF
WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND
UTILISATION
Melbourne, Australia, October 1978

November 1979, Volume 11 Part 4
November 1979, Volume 11 Part 5

THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY AND
ITS EFFECTS ON WATER QUALITY
Hamilton, New Zealand, May 1979

December 1979, Volume 11 Part 6

ALSO PUBLISHED IN 1979 AS SUPPLEMENTS TO PROGRESS IN WATER TECHNOLOGY:

MARINE, MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL
WASTEWATER DISPOSAL
Sorrento, June 1975

May 1979, (Delayed due to extensive
updating by authors)

KINETICS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT
Copenhagen, June 1978

June 1979

Information concerning any of these publications may be obtained from the publishers.

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WATER POLLUTION RESEARCH.*