

From the Editors

Readers who study 'Geologie en Mijnbouw' from cover to cover will have observed changes in the masthead recently. In the third issue of this volume one name was added, the current issue saw the removal of another.

A. J. van Loon edited this Journal since the November number of the 1976 volume. In the five years of his stewardship there has been a remarkable improvement in the size, the contents, and the appearance of 'Geologie en Mijnbouw'. In addition there have been eight special issues dedicated to specific topics or conference themes. The acquisition of the manuscripts for those issues was largely due to van Loon's efforts. After offering our Journal for five years all his spare time and a good deal of sleep, van Loon has requested that he be replaced so that he could pursue other tasks. The Editorial Board extends its sincere thanks to van Loon for his unrelenting initiative, energy, drive and dedication.

The Editorial Board is much pleased that W. J. M. van der Linden was willing to join its ranks and take up the duties of technical editor. Van der Linden is a marine geologist and works in the Geophysics Division, Institute of Earth Sciences, State University of Utrecht. The Board expects his presence to lead to an even wider scope of papers in the Journal, in particular as the Utrecht University has the largest Earth Sciences Department in The Netherlands.

This expectation will also be reflected in the expansion of the editorial board, starting with volume 61. The expertise of the board is then better divided over the disciplines which should help ensure a balanced Journal and smoothen the reviewing process.

'Geologie en Mijnbouw' will continue to be a forum for all Dutch earth scientists and for all other earth scientists who work in The Netherlands, in areas with historic links with The Netherlands, or on topics and areas that have scientific ties with that country. In this connection the earth sciences should be interpreted in the widest sense, both in the research mode and in the practical or economic mode.

The growing interest to better understand our planet, the search for ever scarcer resources, and the protection of our environment have pushed the earth sciences to the forefront of scientific endeavour. It will be our goal to convey through this Journal a bit of the excitement that touched our science in the last few decades. We challenge our readers to help us achieve that goal by sending us their contributions. We do this with confidence and expect that the response will justify the effort it takes to produce this Journal.

Looking ahead, we see already two special issues, one on the Bering Shelf off Alaska, the other comprising the Proceedings of the Southeastern North Sea Conference that will be held in November 1982 in The Hague, The Netherlands.