THE EDITORIAL PAGE

Beginning with this issue, JAM is initiating a new policy of indicating, on the contents page, articles and notes that we believe may be of particular interest to operational meteorologists. While this is not in any sense a large departure from past policy, it warrants some explanation. We emphasize that this is not a change in our editorial policy. We have and will continue to read manuscripts and assess their appropriateness to publication in JAM on the basis of their originality and contribution to applied meteorology. The nature and the mix of the manuscripts which we publish has always depended, and will continue to depend, on the kinds of quality manuscripts that we receive.

Our intent in identifying articles of particular operational interest is twofold. First, we wish to call the attention of the many practicing meteorologists to the fact that we do publish papers that are very pertinent to their work and may be of immediate interest to them. We hope they will get more benefit from JAM as a result of this very simple device of our indicating the papers we judge most likely to be of interest to them. Second, we wish to bring into the open literature what we suspect is a large body of excellent studies that have been receiving only limited distribution as technical memoranda and similar reports. There has been an unfortunate and unfounded reluctance to offer some of these studies for publication. The reasons for this are

not clear, but we hope we can counter this tendency by emphasizing our policy of publishing such studies, on the sole condition that they be of suitably high quality.

Our excuse for publishing this JOURNAL is to help disseminate knowledge and new findings related to applied meteorology. Clearly, much of what we publish will continue to involve formalisms or a type of sophistication that makes it somewhat removed from the more practical aspects of applied meteorology. We would be seriously failing in our efforts if we allowed the need to publish this kind of material to discourage or dissuade the widest possible dissemination of findings that have direct bearing and immediate applicability to the everyday kinds of activities in which meteorologists participate.

This issue begins JAM's second decade. There were 9400 pages of articles, notes and correspondence published during the first ten years, and the pace at which new material is being submitted is such that this eleventh volume will be published in eight issues instead of six as in the past. We have no desire to increase the volume of material we are publishing just for the sake of publishing. But when the Society inaugurated JAM ten years ago its object was to support and encourage Applied Meteorology. At this time we want to reiterate our support for APPLIED Meteorology. . . .
Edward S. Epstein