

EDITORIAL

This issue of the *Journal of Applied Meteorology* is devoted to a series of papers addressing various research findings from the Metropolitan Meteorological Experiment (METROMEX). METROMEX was the first major research program to address the issue of urban effects on weather. Most of the findings have a variety of applications in meteorology and climatology and are therefore particularly suitable for this JOURNAL.

Most METROMEX studies focused on the issue of urban influences on precipitation, and there were four objectives:

- 1) To define any local anomalies
- 2) To explain the anomalies discerned
- 3) To seek ways of transferring the findings to other urban areas
- 4) To delineate impacts of the altered precipitation on man and the biosphere.

The METROMEX field data collection effort was centered on St. Louis and occurred during the 1971-76 period. The completion of this project has resulted in a large number of papers from the various individuals who participated in METROMEX. Thus, it seems appropriate to gather the several METROMEX papers submitted to the *Journal of Applied Meteorology* during 1977 into one issue devoted to research involving the St. Louis data and the subject of urban meteorology.

Stanley A. Changnon, Jr.