

## I. FOREWORD

The increased size of the 1971 Maize Genetics Cooperation News Letter has added to the labors of Miss Ellen Dempsey who, once again as in the past, has been solely responsible for the editing and supervisory work entailed in publishing the volume. I am confident that I speak for all who profit from these informal research reports when I express our gratitude and appreciation for her dedicated and efficient services. Hers is a demanding task and her critical reading of manuscripts has saved more than one contributor from embarrassing errors.

The cost of publishing the 1971 News Letter has been met from a grant by the National Science Foundation to the Maize Genetics Stock Center at the University of Illinois. There could be no News Letter without this financial support, so our thanks are heartfelt.

One of the virtues of the Maize News Letter is that no contribution has been subjected to editorial review before publishing. We have accepted all reports which have been submitted, relying upon the judgment of the contributors as to their worth. Admittedly, some reports have been more verbose than seemed necessary and occasionally one is of marginal genetic interest, but on the whole the policy has worked well. It may well be that our increasing publishing costs will force us to limit the size of the News Letter and that some editorial evaluation may occasionally be necessary before accepting a contribution. I hope this never happens, for if it does it will be a policy foreign to the past tradition of the News Letter and at variance with the uninhibited exchange of information between students of maize.

M. M. Rhoades