

WOOD AND FIBER

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Three years of editorial leadership by Ben Jayne have led to the establishment of *Wood and Fiber* as a journal standing in the forefront of technical communications in wood science and technology (WS & T). The journal is now self-supporting and has proved that it is viable. The development of *Wood and Fiber*, beginning with the first ideas, leading through the preparation of the first issues, to its present stance has been a long and tedious undertaking that has been of benefit to not only the membership of SWST but to the entire field of WS & T throughout the world.

Ben Jayne has operated *Wood and Fiber* with the idea that it exists as an instrument serving not itself, but instead the needs of its authors and readers. Because of this, the reputation of *Wood and Fiber* has flourished. This makes the task of editorship that much easier to assume as the editor's duties are transferred from Ben to me. It will be my goal to maintain the high standards of *Wood and Fiber* and ensure that it continues to exist as a medium for transmission of information from researcher to user in the shortest possible time consistent with maintenance of the quality journal that it is. To do this, one must recognize the needs of the audiences *Wood and Fiber* serves: the members of SWST who look to it for news of the profession and the advancement of technical knowledge in that profession, its readers who look to it for new findings and ideas in the general disciplines constituting WS & T, and the authors, who prepare the

manuscripts containing these new findings and ideas and without which the Journal could not exist.

Where it is possible to improve the flow of information from author to reader or to make professional news more readily available, changes in procedure or format must be considered. Ideas of this nature often occur to the readers of any journal. Your ideas are solicited to make *Wood and Fiber* best serve your needs because *Wood and Fiber* exists to serve you as reader and author. Your papers belong here, not only because they are printed within as short a time as possible, but because they are read and utilized by your colleagues around the world. Furthermore, with the submission of more papers, both number of pages per issue and publication schedule can be optimized to the benefit of both readers and authors.

As a challenge to the readers of *Wood and Fiber*, I encourage active discussion of articles and topics of current interest to wood technologists and SWST members in the Notes and Correspondence section of the Journal. Topics of current interest could include professional status of wood technologists, educational requirements of wood technologists so that they can best serve the needs of industry, statements from members regarding the need for or the effect of legislative actions affecting wood use, and other propositions that any individual member feels should be brought to the attention of his fellows.

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