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PREFACE

I took over as editor of *Notes and Records* from Dr King-Hele on February the first, conscious of how much the Society owes him for his time as Editor. The title of the journal is at first sight not very inspiring but it does indicate reasonably well its scope as a journal of the history of science. The original scholarly articles that we publish must have some connection with the Society, past and present. We present the record of the Society, of its Fellows, and of those associated with it. That is however no restrictive nor parochial condition, for the interests of the Society have always spread wide and its contributions to the evolution of the sciences and of the philosophical and metaphysical ideas associated with them have been extensive and fundamental. The Society’s record demands the attention of all interested in science and its history. At the same time we do have a more parochial purpose, to take note of certain of the current activities of the Society, in particular, the address of the President at the Anniversary Meeting and such fraternal greetings to other Academies as that that opens this issue. Our readers may find our title changes some time in the future, but our purposes will not. I hope that, with the support of the Editorial Board and the staff of the Society, we shall be able to fulfil and develop those purposes.

Sir Alan Cook, F.R.S.