

nm/ LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

On January 1, 1970 we begin the eleventh year of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*. At the Board of Trustees meeting last June in New Orleans, Doctor Joseph Workman introduced the following motion: "Mr. President, I wish to express a vote of thanks to Doctor George E. Thoma for his work in establishing the *Journal* and for his continuing efforts during the past ten years as our first scientific editor." Mr. Harris asked, "Is there a second to the motion?" There were multiple seconds and the motion was passed by applause. Doctor Thoma truly deserves this vote of appreciation for his long service, and his term has now come to completion.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I wish to announce the election of Doctor Belton A. Burrows to this most important position in the Society. For those not fully aware of Doctor Burrows' background, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale in 1939 and his M.D. from Columbia in 1943, both with highest honors. His residency training was interrupted by service as a medical officer in the army from April 1944 to June 1946 when he returned to Yale as Assistant in Medicine. Following a three-year stint as Assistant in Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine, he rose from Instructor to Assistant Professor in 1950, to Associate Professor in 1957 and to Research Professor in July 1965.

Doctor Burrows has had a long interest in nuclear medicine beginning when he was Senior Physician in the Radioisotope Unit, Cushing V.A. Hospital from 1950 to 1953. He then moved to the Boston V.A. Hospital Radioisotope Unit in October of 1953 and became its Chief one month later, a position which he has held to the present time. Since 1967 he has been the Acting Director, Nuclear Medicine Service, Veterans Administration Central Office, Washington, D.C.

Doctor Burrows has published 110 original papers in the medical literature between 1945 and 1968, 80 of which were concerned with the use of radionuclides in medicine. From this brief listing of Doctor Burrows' accomplishments and interests in nuclear medicine I am sure you will all join me in pledging our full support to him and his staff and in wishing them success in the pursuit of their new duties.

**GEORGE V. TAPLIN, M.D.
UCLA School of Medicine**