

# editor's page

## It's Time for a Relief Pitcher

Two years ago, I assumed the duties of editor of the *Journal* with enthusiasm and much apprehension. At the time, I wrote on the Editor's Page that I'd wanted to be a major league ball player, but had never dreamt of being an editor. My part on the *Journal* team ends with this issue—a relief pitcher (new editor) is taking over.

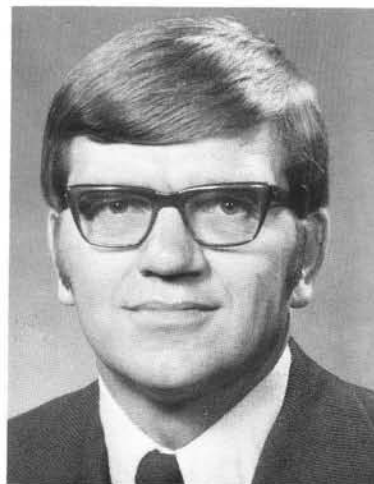
Before we describe the new player, I'd like to comment on the past two years. First of all, I'm leaving because of a resolution adopted a number of years ago by the *Journal* Board of Directors stating that editors should serve a maximum of two years. It was assumed that the *Journal* would benefit if different people assume the editorship on a regular basis. I agree wholeheartedly with this resolution.

During the past two years, the *Journal* has done a number of things. Most important of the accomplishments has been a change in format and hopefully a change in quantity and quality of readership. Jim Bergeaux's readership study said that most county and area Extension staff are looking for articles that are easier to read, shorter, and more concise. We've tried to work toward that end. And, we're hearing that the *Journal* has started to become more useful and used by the Extension professional.

If this is true, the past two years has been well worth the effort expended by the many people who have worked so diligently to make it a success. A glance at all the names of the Board of Directors, the Editorial Committee, the Research in Brief editors, the Liaison Chairman in each state or province, and especially Colleen Schuh, the assistant editor, and Paul Sims, business manager, will give you an indication of the size of the *Journal* team. I've found it a pleasure to work with them all.

Now about the relief pitcher. Beginning next issue, Jerry Parsons, of North Carolina State, will assume the editorship. Jerry has been Book Review editor since January 1, 1975, and is currently state training leader for the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service and associate professor in the Department of Adult and Community College Education. Jerry has formerly served as 4-H staff member in Iowa and has been teaching courses at North Carolina State in adult learning, human development, and youth programs.

Good luck, Jerry, during the next two years. I'm sure you'll enjoy the same support I have from the many individuals who produce the *Journal*, as well as from the people who read it. It will be two years you'll always remember. Play ball!



PJB