

EDITORIAL

The relations between six hundred people interested in dragonflies and scattered over more than fifty countries throughout the Globe, are like a wide mazed network of thin blood vessels. That some of these have grown to become powerful veins through which flows a rich stream of scientific information, has inspired a small group of workers to try to create a structure of wider scope – to the benefit of all involved.

On October 22-23, 1971, the First European Symposium on Odonatology, held in Ghent, Belgium, has given birth to the SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS ODONATOLOGICA, with the aim of perpetuating contacts among workers all over the World and promoting research by rapid diffusion of information.

“Every learned society is bound to die if it is not able to keep close contacts with its members by means of an own journal”, Dr. Belyshev wrote to the participants of the Ghent Symposium. Whereas odonatologists already enjoyed the Japanese magazine “Tombo”, led so skilfully by Dr. Asahina, we felt that it might be possible, by joining efforts, to produce a useful complement to it. It was decided, thus, that the new society should have its own journal – ODONATOLOGICA.

Apart from technical papers, that will appear at the shortest possible notice, the heart of the journal will be the section of Odonatological Abstracts, in which we hope to present regularly a survey of current odonatological World literature, at shorter delay and perhaps more completely than is technically possible for less specialized abstracting services.

We are well aware that editing a journal with such a program involves difficulties and risks, but we trust that with the help of all colleagues, research workers, collectors and dragonfly admirors alike, this venture will be crowned with success.

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