THE BRITISH EDITORIAL BOARD

SUCCESSION OF CHAIRMANSHIP

PROFESSOR GEORGE PERKINS

Professor George Perkins has just retired from most of his duties in directing the orthopaedic service of one of the greatest of the London teaching hospitals while at the same time being the first orthopaedic surgeon in Britain to occupy a chair of general surgery. This professorship he has fulfilled with very great distinction. In withdrawing from the more active of these responsibilities he has sought also to retire from the chairmanship of the British Editorial Board of this Journal, handing the task to Professor Walter Mercer, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

George Perkins is in vigorous and flourishing health. His wit is as sharp as ever. His understanding is as great as ever—and it should be added that few of those who may sometimes have experienced the occasional lash of his wit have failed to know the warm and kind understanding behind it. None who was ready to be criticised, shall we say to be debunked, ever found a greater friend than him. Certainly this Journal never found a greater friend. Without him there would probably not have been a British Volume of the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery. It was he who inspired it despite early doubts and sometimes opposition. He was intimately concerned with all the first developments in the very early conversations of Robert Jones so long ago, in discussions with Norman Capener and Jackson Burrows, in negotiations at the Café Royal, in the home of Rowley Bristow, in the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and finally at House-in-the-Wood. Since then, almost from the beginning until now, he has been Chairman of this Editorial Board.

A few days ago the British Orthopaedic Association paid tribute by making him an Emeritus Fellow—that is to say not one who has retired but one who has deserved great recognition for his achievement. The British Editorial Board would also pay tribute and it has tried to do so by associating this issue of the Journal with his name and dedicating it to him in the trust that his alert wisdom and sound commonsense will long be available to us.

GEORGE PERKINS

Retiring Chairman of the British Editorial Board