

We have come round an eventful year for the Indian Institute of Welding as well as the Indian Welding Journal. While we reminisce in this issue on a few events in the Institute's calendar of the past year, we would like to focus on the year's success story which relates to the Indian Welding Journal with its new look (since July '98) as represented by the colourful covers and centre pages of the journal. It was in early 1997 that this new look idea was mooted in the Meetings, Publication and Library sub-committee, then discussed in the General Purpose Committee and finally approved by the National Council of the IIW. It transpired that years of financial losses incurred in running the IWJ could be a thing of the past by introducing four-colour pages and making them available for advertisement and sponsorship thus bringing in a much higher revenue. However it took almost another year before the shining new journal with its sponsored front cover, back cover and their insides along with three pages in the middle including an impressive centrespread containing advertisements could materialise with the July '98 issue. A quick glance at the earnings and expenditure for the October '98 issue compared with the situation in the past would be enlightening:

	With Colour + B&W Ads.	With only B&W Ads.
Income from Advertisements	Rs. 96,590.00	Rs. 23,000.00 (avg.)
Expenditure on Printing, Proofing & Postage	Rs. 91,710.00	Rs. 77,000.00 (avg.)
<b>Net Income/Loss Rs.</b>	<b>Rs. 4,880.00</b>	<b>Rs. - 54,000.00</b>

**International Welding Conference (IWC'99)** : The advent of 1999 finds IIW buzzing with activities (began in 1997), in association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), for organising the International Welding Conference IWC'99 (15-17th February, New Delhi). Concurrent events include CII's Indian Engineering Trade Fair (IETF '99) along with the first Weld India International Exhibition. Your guess is right – this issue of the journal contains all the necessary information about the IWC'99, even if you already have received them. A galaxy of authors from home and abroad (the details in pages 55 & 56) are presenting technical papers, which would surely make the occasion specially important for participation to many. We wish all the participants at the IWC'99 and the Exhibitions, a gala time. While at it, may we offer our heartfelt thanks to the members of the organising committees, specially the CII, for their great efforts. We wish the events a grand success.

**The Institute's Library** : Situated at the Head Office in Calcutta, it has initiated reading and photocopying (of the library reading materials) services. New additions made to the existing book stock would be a further facility to the AM-IIW examinees. Relevant details about the Library are given elsewhere in this issue.

A new section namely **WELD QUIZ** begins with this issue. The idea behind it, in general, is of course to know more about the subject. But our aim is also to encourage our readers to send in Weld Quizzes prepared by themselves so that an interesting communication may develop among our readers for mutual benefit. Quizzes apart, we also invite our readers' suggestions in regard to other sections of the journal – technical papers, development news, branch news and information.

So far we have received information of three of our Branches namely Jamshedpur, Mumbai and Baroda, having brought out their respective "Branch News Letter", which is very encouraging. We wish them all success. And we hope that the other Branches of the Institute would also bring out their own "News Letter". In this regard do call on us for any suggestion.

Before we end this page, we in IWJ wish all our readers, home and abroad, a very happy, prosperous and eventful 1999.

Sd/-

**P. Majumdar** — Editor