

## EDITORIAL REPORT

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Concerned by the ever increasing cost of producing our Proceedings your Committee examined other method of production. I hope the results are to your satisfaction but I doubt if many of you will have noticed the difference.

There are two major modifications: the printing has been done off-set from typescript and the final Proceedings have been pre-printed. By having the papers retyped on a justifying typewriter and printed off-set we should save 25% on the previous method. However, once the off-set plates are made they cannot be altered so late conclusions will not be possible. We have, therefore, pre-printed the Proceedings giving a further saving of 10% but preventing the publication of chairmen's summaries and authors' changes of mind.

Apart from postal problems, 7 days from Wellington to Hamilton! the new system appears, at the time of writing this, to have worked reasonably well, though hampered by those authors who still consider deadlines of no relevance to them. However, the rather lower number of papers being presented at this conference results, in part, from some authors finding out that printing does take time so submission dates do matter.

Generally though, authors had made an effort to meet our submission date, with 64% of the papers received being received during the week of May 31 or before. The drop out rate was very high this year with 22% withdrawn and 16% failing to make any appearance. Though this loss was off-set to some extent by receipt of a few unscheduled papers it made programme planning very difficult and accounts for the drastic rescheduling that has occurred.

The standard of presentation showed a general improvement but it would appear only two or three authors have really read and followed the instructions to authors in all detail. The editorial work could be greatly reduced if authors would take a little trouble over presentation instead of expecting someone else to do their work.