This special issue of *Clinical Science and Molecular Medicine* is devoted to the proceedings of the Third Meeting of the International Society of Hypertension, held in Milan, 26–28 September 1974. It is a pleasure to express my gratitude to Professor R. D. Cohen and Professor J. A. Owen, successive chairmen of the Editorial Board of the journal, for their considerable help in producing this Symposium.

I am grateful also to Mrs Margaret Warnock of Glasgow and Miss Marina Enrico of Milan, who jointly coped with the frailties of the British and Italian postal and telephonic systems. Expert secretarial aid was also provided by Mrs Evelyn Cruikshank, Mrs Eleanor Millard, Mrs Kate Sadler, Miss Ann Matheson and Miss Marion Shaw.

Despite the varied native tongues of the authors contributing to this Symposium, their mastery of English has generally been so good as to make my editorial duties unexpectedly light. Where modifications of style have been required, I hope the intended meaning has not been unduly distorted. The editing of taped discussions likewise requires some ruthlessness; again I trust relative clarity has been achieved without loss of content or flavour.

After three symposia in European centres, the Society, as befits its international nature, will in future travel more widely, meeting next in February 1976, in the Opera House, Sydney, one of the most modern and exciting architectural achievements in a young, growing nation. At the same time we shall all treasure our memories of the cloistered charm of the Sforzas' Ospedale Maggiore, and of the gracious Milanese hospitality of Professor and Signora Cesare Bartorelli.

J. I. S. Robertson

Owing to the special nature of this Supplement to *Clinical Science and Molecular Medicine* the use of S.I. units has not been adhered to throughout its contents.