Alfred L. Copley, the founder and first Editor-in-Chief of our journal started Clinical Hemorheology in 1980 as a companion journal of Biorheology, the official journal of the International Society of Biorheology which since its first issue in 1962 was published by Pergamon Press. The first issue started with an overview by Alfred L. Copley “On the endothelial fibrin lining, fibrinogen clotting extra vivum and in vivo, surface hemorheology and pathological conditions”. The founder of Pergamon Press, Robert Maxwell, was important for the developments of our journal, as described by A.L. Copley in “A Tribute on the occasion of his sixty-fifth birthday and the fortieth Anniversary of Pergamon Press in 1988 (Clin. Hemorheol. 8 (1988), 7–12). The practice of having a picture on the front cover as identification for a journal was pioneered by Robert Maxwell.

With number 6 of Volume 11, Alfred L. Copley completed his activities as Executive Editor of Clinical Hemorheology. The Executive Editorial Office moved to Karlsruhe, Germany with Siegfried Witte and Jean-François Stoltz as Editors-in-Chief.

In the same issue A.L. Copley announced that Robert Maxwell sold Pergamon Press to Elsevier Science Publishers. With the new Managing Director of Pergamon Press as one of its publishing firms, Mr. Michael Boswood, a most encouraging contact could be established.

A Memorial to our journal’s founder was published in Vol. 12, No. 6. Starting with Vol. 13, No. 1 a new subtitle was chosen: “An International Journal of Blood Flow, Vessel Wall, Interstitium: Transport and Interaction”. With this, the comprehensive importance of the science and the applications of clinical hemorheology should be emphasized including interstitial tissues with which the blood and its components come into contact.

On the 22nd of July 1996, Prof. J.-F. Stoltz and myself, received, fully unexpectedly, a letter from our publisher, Elsevier Science Ltd., informing us about their decision that from the end of 1996, the journal Clinical Hemorheology would no longer be published by them because the journal would not be an economically viable publication. Elsevier reassured us to make every effort to locate a new publisher. Three weeks later, we received a letter from Elsevier, informing us that a new publisher, IOS Press of Amsterdam, will be continuing the publication of our journal.

Dr. Einar H. Fredriksson, Director of IOS Press, Amsterdam, Netherlands, could partake on the Editorial Board Meeting of our journal on the 27th of August 1996 during the World Congress for Microcirculation in Munich and could get to know the present editors. With our new publisher we could meanwhile take some important steps to strengthen our journal. This included the decision to change the title to read: “Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation”. We follow the trend of the clinical research on our field, the terminal blood vessels as the anatomical and functional most important areas of hemorheology.

Best wishes to our readers, authors, editors and referees for a scientifically profitable and prosperous New Year.

Siegfried Witte

Jean-François Stoltz