The THAI *Journal of* SURGERY

Official Publication of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand

Vol. 1 Jan.-Mar. 1980 No. 1

EDITORIAL

The Journal of the Medical Association of Thailand appeared in 1917, the first medical journal in Thailand. That journal enjoyed the uniqueness for 30 years, when a sister, the Siriraj Hospital Gazette was born. The Psychiatric Association of Thailand published its journal in 1955, followed by that of the International College of Surgeons of Thailand two years later. These are the two journals devoted to the specialty.

After World War II Medical Sciences took a gaint leap forward in the Western Hemisphere, especially in the United States of America. The fruit of this explosion of medical knowledge is seeded everywhere, in the eastern hemisphere where it has grown exuberantly in Thailand. The Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand is the aggregated result of this boom which branches in all the surgical specialties known in the developed world. It is not enough to have all the specialties represented, but there must be a media which shows the public the dynamics of our College. This requires a journal to record all the facts and findings pertaining to surgery in Thailand. In the four majors medical faculties : Siriraj, Chulalongkorn, Ramathibodi and Chieng Mai, not to mention the young Faculties of Khon Kaen and Songkla, there are enormous amount of surgical materials that need to be scrupulously assorted, composed and evaluated. Many simplest questions remain unanswered, for example the yearly number of brain tumors at each university hospital. If such a question is not adequately treated, how are we going to do still more complicated research work ? How reliable would be the result of such research ? Many authors are satisfied only with case reports.

The birth of the Journal of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand is to be congratulated, the Journal will open the door and invite the world of surgery to contemplate our interior, which from now on will contain only gems.

The Editor responsible for this time consuming task is no other than the well known surgeon Dr. Thongdee Shaipanich whose liking for publishing book dates back to his student-day. To publish a journal in Thailand is the most tedious enterprise that only the ablest can dare to venture. In the lady hands of Dr. Thongdee, as we have witness many of his books e.g. Workshop on Trauma 1977, we are confident that the Journal of the College will be its mirror and shadow as long as it lives.

Long live the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand.



Udom Poshakrishna