The bang and clangor of our recent noisy years have not prevented their slipping furtively away, without due and solemn notice. It is no small jolt to be informed that Marion Sulzberger is entering the ancient order of sexagenarians. He is far too young a man for the honor.

The privilege of knowing and working with Dr. Sulzberger goes back, in my case, to 1937. It was during that year that the agreement for publication of the Journal of Investigative Dermatology was negotiated and, if memory isn't up to its usual antics, he and I were the chief negotiators. It is sad to recall one's lack of prescience. Quite evidently, what has become an extremely important vehicle of scientific information was not highly thought of, back in 1937—not marketwise, at least. For the agreement provides, if the subscription receipts are less than $2500.00 in any year, that the Society pays the difference. The Society never did have to make the guaranty good, however.

On one occasion, Dr. Sulzberger and I conferred in his home in New York City. The end of our conference and lunch-time coincided. Dr. and Mrs. Sulzberger invited me to lunch. Of what was eaten, I have no recollection whatever. But I have never forgotten the atmosphere of the occasion. Business was pushed aside. I had the joy of good conversation, easy interchange of comment, and deft hospitality dispensed with a smoothness that left in the guest an afterglow of self-importance.

Another incident in the association with Dr. Sulzberger stands out in memory. During 1943 and 1944, the pressures of the war years caused suspension of the Journal. I was under the impression that the Society itself was temporarily in eclipse. At the time, it chanced that a sum was due to the publisher from the Society, for member-subscriptions. It was no great amount and it seemed reasonable to forget it, under the circumstances. I wrote to Dr. Sulzberger to say that he could consider the obligation cancelled. Dr. Sulzberger replied that he and his colleagues were quite capable of fulfilling all their obligations and that the sum would be paid. The tale speaks for itself.

One of the prime compensations of the business of science publication is the privilege of working with men like Marion Sulzberger. In all the long years, he has never shown anything but perfect courtesy, easy understanding, and whole-hearted co-operation. I speak for my associates as well as for myself to say that he has given us much to be grateful for.

We have found Dr. Sulzberger to be a man of many parts, not the least of which is his agreeable ability to work with others, his ready adaptiveness, his clean and straightforward personality. In a television show called “Twenty Questions” panel members frequently ask a question like this: “This object we’re looking for—does it have any sharp corners or rough edges?” If, some evening, the “object” is Marion Sulzberger, the answer to that one will have to be “No!”

Chairman of the Board
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