The journal was launched in March 1909, with two managing committees: an Editorial Committee and a Committee of Patronage. This latter was a brilliant device. The committee was composed in 1909 of Vladimir Bekhterev, Otto Binswanger, John Hughlings Jackson, Luigi Luciani, Fulgence Raymond and Heinrich Obersteiner – all major figures in neurology – and its existence no doubt added weight and lustre to the fledgling periodical. Their involvement was mainly honorific, and only Binswanger and Raymond contributed any papers to the journal. Indeed, only Bekhterev and Binswanger were listed as ILAE members in the first membership list in 1911. Joseph Dejerine replaced Raymond on his death in 1910 and Sir William Gowers replaced Jackson on his death in 1911.

The editorial committee comprised generally younger men who already had major reputations in the field of epilepsy or neurology: Aldren Turner, William Spratling, Louis Muskens, Ludwig Bruns and Henri Claude – with the latter two replaced by Ernst Veit and James Munson beginning with the second volume. Each contributed papers and reports to *Epilepsia*.