

EDITORIAL

Members will at once note that this issue of **Northern Studies** appears to be rather weighted towards archaeology. I should like to point out that this is not a deliberate policy of the new Editor, though I do like to keep in touch with a discipline which provides so much information of value to all branches of northern studies.

The reason is simply that 1977 seems to have been an extremely fruitful season for the archaeologists, particularly in the Northern Isles, and we are grateful to Chris Morris, J.R. Hunter and Barbara Crawford for keeping us up to date with their recent work.

Ian Fraser needs no introduction, and we are pleased to include in this issue the paper which he presented to the Society at the A.G.M. in November.

Stephen Holland is no newcomer to **Northern Studies** either, and we are always glad to hear of accessions to the National Library's Scandinavian section.

Malcolm Baker and Naomi Tarrant are welcome new contributors, and I join in their hope that perhaps readers of their article may be encouraged to undertake further research into the interesting but little studied artefacts held by the Royal Scottish Museum.

We are indebted also to Ted Cowan and John Simpson for their astute reviews of **The Orkneyinga Saga** (tr. Palsson & Edwards) and **Scandinavian Kings in the British Isles 850–880** (by A.P. Smyth).

Finally, I should like to remind members that contributions to the Autumn issue of **Northern Studies** are welcome at any time and should be sent to the following address: 48 Moredun Park Gardens, Edinburgh EH17 7JR.