

EDITORIAL

In keeping with the decision of the committee to expand 'Northern Studies' in an attempt to give the best possible value for your annual subscription, this issue is the largest yet published.

The Annual Conference, held in Dundee in the spring is the subject of a lively review by Gillian Fellows Jensen, whose scholarly and perceptive views are always welcome. Chris Morris again provides a chapter on the continuing excavations on the Brough of Birsay, and Keith Gregson's account of links between Shetland and Tyneside is a subject where we break entirely new ground. This article was read to the Society during its one-day meeting in Newcastle in October 1979.

Alexander Fenton's paper on 'Northern Links' was read to the Society on a stormy day in February 1980, and it was thought suitable that this fascinating paper should be included in the current issue. To continue with the northern theme, Ian Whyte's article on black houses in Lewis raises a number of important questions. Norwegian *seters* are examined in the paper by Anne-Berit Borchgrevink, the undoubted authority on the subject. We have found it necessary to hold over the second part of Mrs. Borchgrevink's article. This, we hope will appear in 'Northern Studies' 17. We are grateful to Maja Jackson for her review, and look forward to further similar contributions from her critical pen.

The Editorial Board would like to thank all those who have contributed to this issue. We think that they reflect fairly accurately the interests of the Society, but if you, the members, feel that other subjects should be covered, we would be glad to hear from you.