

## EDITORIAL

Scottish links with Iceland go back to pre-Norse times, if the evidence of the sagas is to be believed. Contacts between the two have been sporadic since the Norse occupation of the Hebrides, and it is only in the past century that they have become more fully developed, with the establishment of steamship routes and, in recent years, regular airline services. Ingi Sugurðsson's article on Scottish-Icelandic contacts is therefore warmly welcomed, since 'to see ourselves as others see us' is a useful and stimulating exercise. It would be pleasant indeed to have similar views from the other Scandinavian countries.

Continuing the Icelandic theme, E. Paul Durrenberger's article on *Gautrek's Saga* is a welcome look at an Icelandic saga which is perhaps less well known than the more popular ones. Finally, Alan Bruford reviews a book which breaks new ground and injects a good deal of controversy into the derivation of Orkney surnames. Scotland has been poorly served as regards personal-name studies, and it is to be hoped that further work in this field at a scholarly level will appear in the future.