

EDITORIAL

This volume contains a larger than usual quota of articles by authors of various nationalities. Readers should enjoy their encounter with the diverse interests and styles displayed. The volume opens with articles by two people who read papers at a very successful 'Northern Studies' two day seminar held in St. Andrews in May 1987, although Brian Smith has chosen to submit an article on a subject other than the one on which he spoke at St. Andrews. He imagines, quite rightly, that this new topic will prove thought-provoking, if not downright controversial. The remaining articles in the volume were submitted to the editor on grounds of 'possible interest' to readers of the journal, and Society members should find them absorbing, covering as they do such a wide range of topics and situations.

Readers will observe that the second instalment of 'Shetlanders and Fishing: Historical and geographical aspects of an evolving relationship' by James J.A. Irvine and Ian A. Morrison does not appear in this volume as promised but, do not despair, it will certainly appear in Volume 26. In addition, several reviews are in preparation and will be included in Volume 26.

This is my last issue as editor of the journal. My successor is to be Irene Scobbie, whose name will be familiar to most members of the Society as a regular contributor of papers on Scandinavian literary topics and, in addition, as a former committee member. Irene Scobbie is also widely known as the former Head of the Department of Scandinavian Studies at Aberdeen University and as the person who is now in charge of the Scandinavian Studies Department in Edinburgh. Aberdeen's loss is definitely Edinburgh's gain, in that there has been a noticeable increase of interest in and emphasis upon things Scandinavian since the arrival of Irene Scobbie in the city. Contributions to 'Northern Studies', whether in the form of scholarly articles or reviews of current literature relating to Scandinavia and Scotland, should be sent to:-

The Honorary Editor 'Northern Studies',
Scandinavian Studies Department,
18 Buccleuch Place,
Edinburgh EH8 9LN.

Finally, I should like to thank all those who have contributed to 'Northern Studies' during my editorship and to wish them well in the continuing pursuit of their scholarly interests in the Scandinavian/Scottish field.

Doreen Waugh