

EDITORIAL

It is well over a year since the last issue of the *NEWSLETTER* appeared. It is eighteen months since the ambitious business meeting resolution at La Trobe (May 1985) which decided to appoint the Editorial Board named on the first page and a change of name to *HETSA BULLETIN* "as a step towards possible ultimate publication of a journal". I only really learnt of this in September 1986 and gained my information about what did occur at the Conference from some of the participants, including Sam Hollander when he visited Sydney mid-1985, after I had come back from Washington and Cambridge (England).

I have decided to retain the name *NEWSLETTER* for this issue since that is what it continues to be at this stage. It is currently filled with news about the forthcoming conference at Newcastle, the detailed 1985 Conference Report, book reviews and some notices of new publications, a new journal and information from the Japanese Society through Professor Tanaka. To become a *BULLETIN* it needs more (and recent) book reviews, detailed reports on relevant conferences attended by members; a list of relevant papers presented at Australian Economists Conferences, notes on research in progress or completed (including postgraduate theses) and above all, short notes and articles not submittable for various reasons to the regular journals. For some of these items, a regional Editorial Board of correspondents (analogous to former practice on a national level in the *Economic Journal*) would be useful. In addition, this would require Editorial Board representation from New England, Newcastle, Queensland (Bruce Littleboy has been suggested) and Hobart. The re-named publication should also have regular closing dates for submission of news and other material and regular publication dates, perhaps initially Spring and Autumn. This will require cooperation from Board and HETSA membership to secure an adequate flow of material, as well as a regular subscription.

If this eventuates, the Society can look forward to a regular bulletin as well as a successful and interesting conference every two years, thanks to the enthusiastic convenors and founders we have had. Thoughts should now go towards a realistic conference venue for 1989 (Canberra? Adelaide? Armidale again?) in the meantime, I convey John Wood's apologies to disgruntled subscribers who have not received their issues, adding my apologies on behalf of the (as yet only on paper) Editorial Board. After our first five years of struggling existence, the fight should not be given up. In fact we should take courage from what Bob Coats has told us about the origins and early developments of the Royal Economic Society: "Beginnings are inevitably slow and difficult and troublesome". Let us hope our teething problems are soon over.

Peter Groenewegen

November, 1986.