

EDITORIAL

As a new editor for the Journal I have endeavoured to bring in a slightly different approach, whilst at the same time keeping within the tradition established by my predecessors. My aim has been to focus on a principal Subject - in this case the Somerset Coal Canal - but with a wide variety of analysis techniques and source material. Everything from the more usual Maps, Census Returns, Legal Documents and Commissions of Enquiry, to the somewhat rarer contemporary correspondence and Commons Committee hearings, to the intriguingly esoteric in Poetry and School Arithmetic Text Books. I hope the result is an interesting working document, giving aid to yet further research to better explain the 'why and wherefore' of industrial remains, and as example of what can be exploited from even unpromising sources by fresh enterprise .

The next edition of the Journal is planned to concentrate on Mines and Minerals of the Avon area, and items within this theme are now solicited from any reader who would like to submit a manuscript - in any form you like, just so long as it is legible. Please forward these before the end of August 1988 to:-

Robin Stiles
50 Devonshire Road
Westbury Park
Bristol BS6 7NL

One sacrifice has been Book Reviews - on the idiosyncratic personal opinion that such, in a much briefer form, are more appropriate for inclusion in the BIAS Bulletin - I am prepared however to bow judgement on this to a contrary popular demand