

Editorial

Field naturalists are familiar with the concept of evolution in relation to plants and animals. However, humans too evolve, and so do their societies, their communications media and their scientific journals. Our transition from a journal with a small-page format and no colour to a magazine-type format with coloured covers caused some criticism about "going glossy", with the implied judgement that somehow "glossiness" went hand in hand with lower scientific standards. But when the editors had the opportunity of including colour, "and gloss", they embraced it because of the educational value of colour photographs. It is for our readers to decide if there has been any change for the worse in content or standards.

Now however, it is possible to see clearly that the transition was a product of the "oil boom" where money was no problem. Times have changed, now money is a problem, both here and also elsewhere. For example, the American magazine Science Digest has become extinct. Others struggle to stay alive. We, too, are affected and we must adapt to avoid the ultimate catastrophe. Hence, our reduction in the use of colour and the change in the appearance of the covers. By the logic of our critics this should signify an improvement in scientific quality.

Improvement is always sought but, we fear, not so easily obtained. Few members of the club could imagine the workload that devolves on the principal editor in the production of each issue. There is no paid staff for editing typescripts or correcting proofs. Errors creep in despite every effort to detect and eliminate them. For this we apologise but there is little none that can be done about it in the circumstances. Authors can help by submitting typescripts, double-spaced, with adequate margins and as few hand-written corrections as possible. We acknowledge the march of technology but please give us computer print-outs on plain white paper and please give us adequate margins. In the long run though it is the scientific content that counts most. Keep the contributions coming, even short notes on isolated observations, but keep them to the point and as reliable and as accurate as you can make them.

Errata

In The Skipper Butterflies (Hesperiidae) of Trinidad, Part 4 by M.J.W. Cock (Living World 1985-1986) the numbering of the veins and spaces in the wings of *Urbanus prouti* was omitted. The figure is therefore reproduced in Part 5 in this issue.

Also in the same article (i.e. Part 4) the legends to plates 2 and 3 should be interchanged so that Plate 2 reads *E. socus chota* ♀ UPS. and Plate 3 reads *E. socus chota* ♂ UNS.

The Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club

The Trinidad Field Naturalists' Club was founded on the 10th July, 1891. Its name was changed to the present one in 1974. The objects of the club are to bring together persons interested in the study of natural history, the diffusion of the knowledge thereof and the conservation of nature.

Monthly lecture meetings are held at St. Mary's College on the second Thursday of the month while field excursions are held on the last Sunday of each month, except December, when no official club activities are organised.

Membership is open to all residents of Trinidad and Tobago, of at least fifteen years of age, who subscribe to the objects of the club.

Management Committee:

President - Dr. V. C. Quesnel, Vice-President - Mr. Glenn Wilkes, Hon. Secretary - Miss Luisa Zuniaga, Hon. Asst. Sec. - Mrs. Lana Campbell, Hon. Treasurer - Mr. John Hilton, Mr. t. f. Farrell, Mr. John Seyjagat, Miss Caroline Chaboo.

Editorial Committee : Victor Quesnel, Hans Boos, Yasmin Comeau.

All enquiries concerning the club or its journal should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, 1 Errol Park Road, St. Ann's, Trinidad W.I.