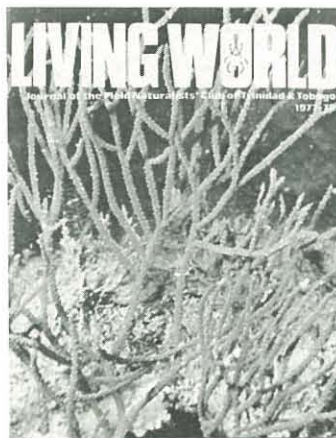

Editorial

BY Trinidad standards, the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists' Club has been in existence a long time. It has had its ups and downs, its periods of activity, and its periods of dormancy. From 1892 to 1896, the club published a bimonthly journal which is now extremely rare and valuable. The journal was revived in 1956 and two further issues appeared in 1957 and 1961. From 1965 the journal has appeared every two years.

In 1977, we made a radical change giving it a name *Living World*, altering the format to magazine size, printing the covers in full colour and including a lot more illustrations. We hoped that these changes would make the journal more attractive to club members, who, for the most part, are nature lovers, not scientists, and also to help stimulate a greater interest in living things among school teachers and students of biology. In the present issue, we have maintained all of the changes.

Over the years the contents of the Journal have probably varied as widely as the appearance. More variety is on the way. Conservation, a word which was probably unknown to the founders of the club at least in its most usual present-day sense, is now a vital issue in the country and the editors feel that the journal should be open to at least the occasional article on conservation. We hope, too, in subsequent issues to cater more specifically for the needs of biology teachers and students by publishing studies of the types used in the O and A level syllabuses.

Of course, we will have our critics both within and outside the club. From those that are genuinely interested in improving the journal, all suggestions will be carefully considered in the light of the resources of the club. But the others? The others we can afford to ignore. (V.Q.)



The covers of the 1977 – 78 journal

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.

At present the club has an enrolment of over four hundred members comprised of nature-lovers and professional and amateur naturalists.

Monthly lecture meetings are held at the 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 organized.

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. The club also maintains an overseas mailing-list.

The club's management committee is: David Rooks, President; Hans Boos, Vice-president; Ian Lambie, Honorary Secretary; Julia Gomes, Honorary Assistant Secretary; John Hilton, Treasurer; Mary Alkins, Philip Bellamy, Frankie Farrell. Its editorial committee is: Peter Bacon, Richard French and Victor Quesnel.

All enquiries concerning the club or its journal should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, 64 Roberts St., Port of Spain, Trinidad W.I.