

EDITORIAL

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the first issue of the West Indian Journal of Engineering. With the rapid increase in the number of technical journals, the issue of yet another journal may be greeted by practising engineers with expressions varying from shock to resignation.

However, there are several strong reasons why this journal is necessary. Since the formation of the Faculty of Engineering in 1961 close contact has been kept with industry in the region. This contact has been maintained in several ways - at the personal level, by means of applied research, consultation and advisory services, and by arranging several conferences, seminars and symposia. These various efforts have resulted in the issue of several random publications, with limited circulation.

Owing to increased activities of that nature, it is considered necessary to issue a formal publication. It is not our intention that this publication should compete with the existing journals of various West Indian professional societies. Rather, it is planned that this journal will complement such efforts by keeping engineers in the West Indies and elsewhere informed on research and developmental work being carried out in the Faculty. It is hoped, that in the course of time, practising engineers will also use this journal for reporting on specialist work being carried out in the region.

The first issue consists of a selection from the papers presented to a conference "Engineering in a Developing Economy" which was held at the Faculty of Engineering from 28th to 30th June 1965. The conference was sponsored jointly by the Faculty of Engineering and the Association of Professional Engineers of Trinidad and Tobago; and served to spotlight some of the engineering problems of the region.

It is hoped that the economic and technological information provided by these papers will serve as a useful background to further issues of this new journal.