

Editorial to Volume 1, Number 1 (1968)

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The Institute of Development Studies (IDS) was set up in 1966 as the result of an initiative by the Minister of Overseas Development. From an initial establishment of two staff members and three offices it has grown to a present establishment of 49 packed into temporary premises at Stanmer House. Its academic staff includes sociologists, economists, agricultural economists and political scientists as well as students of public administration and international relations. The range of our present activities can be judged from what follows: the point of these activities is to enhance the study of international deprivation, to provide some light for those concerned with the reduction of poverty and disease.

So far our means have been individual research, research projects, courses, conferences and study seminars. With the publication of this *IDS Bulletin*, we hope to establish contact with others involved in the same problems. By 'contact' we mean both the communication of our own work and ideas and an invitation to dialogue with all engaged in the study and promotion of development.

The layout and content of the *IDS Bulletin* reflects this concern. Each quarter's issue will contain four sections. The first section will consist of an account of a major IDS research project: in the second issue the work of the research group on training in public administration will be described, while the subsequent issue will include a report of Professor

Joy's study of farming development in India. The second section will comprise a discussion of a major problem in development: in this issue, for example, David Wall discusses proposals for a general preference system as they stand after the second UNCTAD conference; in later issues we hope to deal with such topics as population planning and the integration of educational and manpower planning.

This section will be followed by a review article in which specialists examine recent work in their own fields. The first two contributors in this third section will be economists – Dr Thomas Balogh, a member of the Institute's Governing Body and Board of Studies, and David Feldman, Fellow in Agricultural Economics; in the third issue it will be the turn of a sociologist. The last section of the *IDS Bulletin* will consist of 'house news': reports of conferences and details of publications, appointments, research and visitors. In this section we shall also give details of our latest research papers (with an invitation to all who may be interested to write and ask for them to be sent).

That is how we see the *IDS Bulletin*. We are anxious that readers of it should tell us how they think it should be changed and we shall also be very glad to have comments on our articles as well as suggestions about topics we may have ignored or mishandled. In this way we hope the *IDS Bulletin* will develop itself and develop our knowledge of others and other people's acquaintance with us.

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