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Whilst still on the subject of collections the BCG has, for some time, been concerned to organise a conference that would bring together the curator, researcher and administrator/policy maker to discuss the question of collections. Getting the right mix of speakers and obtaining the financial backing are both difficult issues for a small group such as the BCG but through the kindness of the Director of the National Museums of Wales, Dr. D.A. Bassett, these difficulties have been overcome. Again, the details of this conference, "A National Plan for Systematics Collections?", to be held in Cardiff on 6-9 July 1982 are included with this issue of the Newsletter. This conference should be a landmark so far as the function and scientific use of collections is concerned. However, we must remember that a full appreciation of collections will only be realised when a much wider use can be realised.

These topics have more than kept the Committee busy but many other issues have been discussed. The Wildlife and Countryside legislation and the Manual of Curatorship are two such subjects. However, perhaps I should finish on a survey that has not been discussed a great deal. In 1980, in collaboration with Paul Harding of the Biological Records Centre, members responded to a questionnaire on local record centres. Preliminary information was published early in the year and a further analysis was promised. This proved a very time consuming exercise but I hope the results will be published in this Newsletter.

Editor's Report 1981-2

Having been Assistant Editor since 1978 and responsible for getting the issue together in its entirety since Vol. 2 (6), the time has come for a change. I know this because I no longer look forward to rooting about for and pasting up all the little things which get pushed into the few pages at the back! However, getting them printed and posted is not a mind-boggling task so are there any volunteers for Editor? He or she would be responsible for producing the "camera-ready" copy and I could continue to do the rest for another year.

As a committee member I have attended several meetings on behalf of the Biology Curators' Group. The Geological Curators' Group meetings are the most enjoyable, the Museums Association Professional Consultative Committee was most instructive and the FENSCORE Type Registry working party potentially the most exciting.

E. G. Hancock,
January 1982.