

# JÖKULL

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JÖKLARANNSÓKNAFÉLAG ÍSLANDS

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## EDITORIAL NOTE

The task of editing and publishing Jökull depends mostly on the voluntary efforts of a few people. Secreterial and other functions which in larger journals are performed by skilled office staff, are here squeezed in between other urgent daily tasks. Little time is generally left for the editors to organize or systematically encourage contributions, with the result that subscribers are now used to receiving the journal a year overdue. The slowness of the editing and publishing process, combined with the small readership of the journal abroad, has in turn deterred authors from submitting major or urgent scientific results to Jökull. This can lead to stagnation.

One opportunity to set Jökull on a straight publication schedule and to increase its circulation presented itself when Dr. Sigurður Þórarinnsson and others persuaded the local „powers that be“ to substantially increase the Government's financial support of the journal. Or, in Sigurður's words, they agreed it would make sense to take some money from the receiving side of scientific research in Iceland, and give it to Jökull to help make sure that the results of this research eventually were delivered. This support has made it possible to increase the journal in size without a corresponding price increase.

Another opportunity came with Sigurður Þórarinnsson's 70th birthday in January 1982, when, as it was aptly put in one birthday speech, „. . . we have all been looking for ways to make the most out of this anniversary, for ourselves“. The present writers were optimistic enough to assume that among the more than hundred Icelandic geoscient-



ists, many of whom are collaborators or former students of Sigurður, the scores of eminent researchers of Icelandic nature abroad, and the many gifted members of the Icelandic Glaciological Society, there was bound to be sufficient collective writing talent to assemble a substantial anniversary issue of Jökull.