



The Journal of the  
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Quantity Surveyors

# The Quantity Surveyor

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## Future editions

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Expense  
Quantity Surveying Down Under  
Problems in Econometric Cost  
Modelling

*Front cover:*

The Thames Barrier, Courtesy of  
Coles Cranes Limited.

## Comment

The more perceptive of our readers will have noticed a change in style. It is with regret that we have to announce the resignation of Past President, M. A. Wilkins, as the Editor of 'The Quantity Surveyor'. It was Mike who took us from those comfortable days of Jack Lester through these turbulent days following the break down of the last amalgamation talks with the RICS when we had to gather ourselves together. It was a period when we stagnated, contemplated our collective navels and finally decided we did have a role after the no vote. It was Mike who, following his presidency, took on the daunting job of making 'The Quantity Surveyor' a paper well worth the reading.

The Editorship of a monthly technical paper is no easy task. Whilst he may think it his task to select, wield the blue pencil and genuinely make the best of the material submitted, the membership expects him to make it highly attractive, colourful, racy, readable, informative, learned, all things to all men and not least to be economically viable. And all this in his spare time with no pay, no honorarium and very often not even his travelling expenses. To the realist an unacceptable bayan, to Mike a job that needed doing. It will be hard to find someone dedicated enough to succeed him.

As a policy, the Institute ought to look at a full time Editor, one who has the interests of the Institute at heart, and at the same time the necessary literary background to make a technical journal compulsive reading. If you set that against the current talks about unification it is readily acceptable that finding someone will be difficult. As an interim measure, the President has asked Mr Eddie Hall to take on the job alongside those he currently holds of Vice-President and Chairman of the Publications Board. This he is prepared to do for the interim period. If the members vote for amalgamation, he will serve until then; should the vote be against, then he will participate in the search for a successor and would prefer to see a full time professional Editor with a member of the Institute as an Honorary Editor appointed to make sure that the overall direction of the content is aimed at our members, their needs, their interests and their aspirations. He has a flying start with the new look which Mike Wilkins gave to the magazine as his bequest: with the help of the readership perhaps he can make it a magazine we can all be proud of during his short stewardship.

## Important dates

23rd-26th March 1982—Institute Examinations