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EDITORIAL

John L. Nickalls, editor of the *Journal* from 1933 to 1959, died on 26 November 1986 aged 94 years. He was librarian at Friends House Library from 1927 to 1957 and president of the Friends' Historical Society in 1957. His presidential address was printed as *Some Quaker portraits, certain and uncertain* (1958) (Supplement to the *Journal*, no.29). It remains a valuable study showing how few reputed portraits of early Friends stand up to critical examination of provenance. He edited the standard *Journal of George Fox* (1952) and wrote several scholarly articles. He was a careful scholar and a thorough bibliographer who had the ability to persuade researchers to publish interesting and informative work.

The Friends' Historical Society has maintained its more active programme initiated last year. A one-day conference on "Early Friends and 'the World's people'" led by Nicholas J. Morgan and T. Adrian Davies is to be held at Reading meeting house on 11 July 1987 and Marjorie Sykes's presidential address will be delivered at Friends House on 17 October 1987.

Kenneth Carroll's article gives us the results of his further researches into Friends' links with North Africa and extends the work he did on Algeria (*J.F.H.S.* vol.54 no.7). Much more interest has recently been shown in the history of Friends in the nineteenth century. Between Elizabeth Fry and the 1890s it seemed as if Quaker history had not attracted many researchers: it is therefore gratifying that we are able to

publish in this issue two articles covering some aspects of Quaker history in this period.

The editor is most grateful for contributions to 'Reports on Archives' and 'Notes and Queries'. He will endeavour to print such material as quickly as possible after receipt although shortage of space may not always permit it to appear in the next number of the *Journal*.

Some slight changes were made in the format of volume 55 numbers 1 and 2 but in this issue we have made more substantial changes in design. We are indebted to Jeremy Greenwood for his expertise in design and for his many suggestions most of which we have adopted.