

# EDITORIAL

Now that *Canada Folk Bulletin* has been operating for over a year, a fairly extensive network of correspondents has been established, resulting in a regular flow of news into our office. In the last few months we have also acquired quite a backlog of excellent articles which we are anxious to publish. While the number of pages in the magazine has increased substantially since the first issue, it is obvious that even more space is required to accommodate the volume of material we are receiving. Therefore we are considering a change of format—perhaps a 50 to 100 per cent increase in the size of the pages—for next year.

The past increase in the number of pages per issue has resulted in a sharp rise in printing costs. Until recently this was paid for by a steady growth in subscriptions and a fairly large increase in advertising. However, in the last few issues printing costs have been getting beyond what we can afford, and we have been forced to fix the length of the magazine at an average of forty-four pages per issue for the rest of this year to keep printing costs at an acceptable level.

This limit does create some problems. Firstly, it means that we may not be able to substantially reduce the backlog of articles before next year. Secondly, we have always tried to create well-balanced issues, containing news, songs and tunes, reviews, both academic and popular articles, and so on. It is becoming more difficult to fit all of this varied material into a forty-four page issue.

Since it is impossible at present to increase the number of pages, we have decided to alleviate the lack of sufficient space within an issue by reducing the number of pages devoted to news. In the past, this section has taken up approximately twelve pages of the magazine. From now on, a detailed description of a place will be provided only the first time it is mentioned. In subsequent issues, only brief contact information will be provided. Also, lists of performers and dates of performance at clubs will not longer be provided. Originally this was done to give an indication of the range of folk performers in Canada. We feel that this information can be easily obtained by contacting the clubs themselves, and it is sufficient for us to provide the contact details.

We would like to hear your comments and ideas about these matters. Particularly, how do you feel about the news section, and any of the other sections of the magazine? How could these sections be changed to better carry out their functions? Let us hear what you think.

