

Editorial

Response to the first issue of this journal has been encouraging and helpfully accompanied by a variety of criticisms and suggestions. We continue to value any such input from our readers as well as offers to write or review for us.

We are anxious to develop our international circulation and are able to offer free subscriptions to a limited number of people in countries where foreign exchange difficulties and other problems make it almost impossible to pay for it. Readers are invited to nominate suitable people for this service as many of the issues raised by this journal are of worldwide significance and we want to provide help wherever it is needed. This includes university and theological college libraries where such a journal is likely to be well used.

There are two major questions that have already featured in these first two numbers. One is the frequently debated question of where we look for God's activities in the natural world. Dr. Polkinghorne returns to this question in a concise response to Dr. Houghton's article in the previous issue. Undoubtedly there is much more to be said about this as it affects our whole apologetic approach.

Indeed the question as posed above is perhaps misleadingly worded as: 'Where do we look?' Dr. Polkinghorne's answer is to view the universe as 'open enough to accommodate' God's 'interaction' (as well as human experience of choice). Dr. Peacocke's book which is discussed in this issue also raises some of these issues.

The second question, which is represented by the first article in this issue, relates to a theology of nature, pursuing its application to the topic of the environment. This is one aspect of a cluster of related questions about the use of animals, animal rights, green politics and ultimately to the Christian motivation for doing science and technology. All go back to the same theological debates about man's role in the world and God's purposes for it.

We look forward to ongoing discussion.

The Editors