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EDITORIAL

Symposia

So far the Society has held three symposia and a further one is planned for this year. As a lot of effort is necessarily put into such a venture by a few enthusiastic supporters, it can be worthwhile only if benefits are evident.

When the matter of further symposia comes up we must ask the following questions: is there sufficient interest, what is the subject matter to be, and to whom should the symposium be geared?

The latter is perhaps the crucial issue, since a wise choice of direction (hydrology has supporters in many professions) automatically leads to a subject and creates, at least in principle, the necessary interest.

The subject matter of the 1966 symposium seems to have been a reasonably good choice — 14 papers and an attendance of 96 may be regarded as being very satisfactory. Moreover, the interdisciplinary attendance stimulated major interchanges of thought.

This year's symposium is aimed at a wide field. "Catchment Characteristic and Stream Flow" implies much to many, and this has been evident by the submission of 18 papers.

The Society has now decided upon a subject for 1968. The committee felt sufficiently happy about the apparent need for another symposium and decided upon the subject "Floods and Droughts". It is hoped that this symposium will be multi-disciplinary; a symposium of this nature affects — apart from hydrologists — climatologists, engineers, soil conservators, and those working in the field of agricultural production including aspects of economics.

Your support of symposia is the first requirement; papers and attendance at symposia help stimulate an interchange of ideas. This in turn promotes hydrology and surely benefits all of us.