

## Editorial

With this issue ARIEL enters its second decade. It does not seem long ago that its founding editor, A. Norman Jeffares, was in Calgary discussing establishment of the journal with E. F. Guy and then Dean Brian Wilson who with Norman Jeffares were largely responsible for its location in Canada. Over the ten years since that time ARIEL has grown to reach a large group of subscribers and receive a steady flow of contributions. Its inaugural three years of Norman Jeffares' editorship were followed by four under George Wing and three under James Black. A new editor must look with gratitude — not to say trepidation — at the receipt of a trust managed with the energy and dedication these have shown. In particular I would like to pay tribute to my immediate predecessor, James Black, to whose careful judgement and scrupulous editorial standards both readers and contributors will testify.

ARIEL was founded on two editorial principles which have been sustained over the years: to seek out and encourage articles whose written quality rises above the average, and to take as its central concern "literature written in English throughout the world" (including translations). It has not made its commitment to any one national literature, nor to any one particular school of critical thought. Nor has it confined itself to what is sometimes termed "Commonwealth Literature", the province of such fine journals as *The Literary Half-Yearly*, *World Literature Written in English*, and the *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*. ARIEL has differed from these in conspicuously publishing material on South African, Irish, American and English literature as well as that from Canada or New Zealand or India. Another way of putting the matter would be to say that it has emphasized the continuities that a common language has created between emerging or newly established literatures and the older British and American traditions. It may have done this implicitly by discussing the new and the old,

Naipul and Shakespeare, between the covers of an issue, or it may have done it by tracing explicit links in a single article. At times, in special issues, it has brought an intense focus to bear on specific facets of literature in English, sometimes generic (as in our poetry issue), sometimes national or regional (as in issues on Australian and Caribbean literature). ARIEL will continue to be shaped by this broad policy, and periodically, through the editorial board, will review and refine it. At the present time an issue on African literature in English is under active consideration, and we particularly invite contributions for it.

James Black will continue to serve ARIEL as a member of the editorial board, and I am very pleased to be guided by his experience and support along with that of the continuing members. We accept with regret the resignation of Anthony G. Petti from the board. He has served it faithfully and well since its formation in 1973. To the board, from Calgary, we welcome Saad El-Gabalaway. We are happy to announce that Christopher Wiseman has agreed to continue as our poetry editor.

Ian Adam