

IN THIS ISSUE

This year marks the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the L.D.S. Institute of Religion. *Dialogue* is pleased to join in honoring the Institutes for their long history of significant help to college students and others faced with the difficult process of making their faith relevant to the university world and the pursuit of rational learning: The lead essay in Notes and Comments this issue is Leonard Arrington's history of the founding and development of the Institute, and his essay is followed by a letter concerning an important new program of financial aid to prospective Institute teachers studying for advanced degrees. Complementing Arrington's history is Ralph Hansen's review of current doctoral studies of the Institute program in *Among the Mormons*.

One of the central purposes of the Editors of *Dialogue* is to provide an open forum for discussion of national and world concerns in the light of Mormon thought and to express Mormon insights and actions to the larger community. Our purpose is not to interpret doctrine but to examine ways doctrine influences moral decisions in a difficult world. In the concluding Note in this issue, Neff Smart challenges Mormons with the possibility that they are guilty of the "blasphemy of indifference" to the important issues of our time — neither engaging in careful personal examination of where they should stand nor providing vigorous moral leadership to others. A partial answer to his challenge is the Roundtable in this issue, which focuses on the perplexing problem of defining and controlling dangerous literature and drama under a Constitution we believe inspired in its guarantees of individual freedom. The participants draw on their particularly Mormon ethical vision to suggest some original and positive approaches to this problem.

But Neff Smart's challenge is directed mostly to Mormon silence and inaction concerning the problems of race relations and modern warfare. Mormons speak to the former in the Letters and Notes sections of this issue and will speak to the latter in a new feature, Editors' Forum, in the next issue.

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our Board of Editors: Richard Cummings, Professor and Assistant Chairman in the Department of Languages at the University of Utah; and Kenneth Handley, Jr., who practices law in Salt Lake City.