

Note to our Readers

With the publication of this issue *International Perspectives* marks its tenth anniversary. Conceived in the Department of External Affairs as a replacement for the old monthly bulletin, the journal was brought into being under the editorship of Murray Goldblatt. It quickly established a reputation as an open forum for the discussion of Canadian foreign policy and international affairs in general. When Mr. Goldblatt resigned to take up a teaching position in Carleton University's School of journalism, he was succeeded as Editor by Alex Inglis who assumed the additional role of Publisher at the end of 1979 when the Department of External Affairs ceased publication and the journal took its place in the private sector. The magazine's third editor will soon take over. Gordon Cullingham has joined the staff of *International Perspectives* after a distinguished career with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. He will assume the editorship with the May-June 1982 issue and lead the publication into its second decade.

To mark the anniversary we have dug into the archives and made a selection from the outstanding and important articles from the past. It would be inaccurate to entitle this issue "The Best of Perspectives". The articles reprinted here only *reflect* the best of the past ten years. They were chosen from among many that could lay claim to being "the best". As with all editorial decisions a certain arbitrariness, dictated by the limitations of space, entered in. While consideration had to be given to the topicality of the articles, no effort was made to revise the material chosen to bring them up to date. Thus in one article the Shah still reigns over Iran while in another Richard Nixon still lives in the White House. It was not the current details that influenced selection but the continuing importance of the ideas expressed.

The selection of articles begins with James Eayrs' reflections on Canada's relative position in the world and

continues with John Holmes' thoughts on morality in international affairs. Next are the provocative thoughts of George Ignatieff on NATO and nuclear weapons and Ronald Ritchie's early assessment of global oil politics. A more recent piece on Canadian-American relations from Allan Gotlieb (now Ambassador to the United States) and Jeremy Kinsman comes next and is followed by reflection on the end of the bipolar world from the late Alastair Buchan.

The issue closes with a reprint from the despatches of John Watkins on his visit to Tashkent. Although this last piece does not fit the normal criteria for articles in *International Perspectives* it was selected here for its present topicality. John Watkins has been the object of much recent discussion as a result of revelations of a security investigation at the time of his death in 1964. The material is selected here as it was originally because of the insight it provides into the quality of the diplomatic reporting that emanated from this distinguished former ambassador to the Soviet Union.

For some of our readers, those who have been reading the magazine since its inception, all of this material will be familiar. For those who have joined us more recently we hope this anniversary issue will provide an interesting reflection of where *International Perspectives* has come from. As we move into our second decade as Canada's journal on world affairs, plans are underway to make *International Perspectives* an even more immediate source of informed content and analysis on foreign policy and world affairs. These changes will become obvious to our readers in due course. In the meantime to all our readers and contributors we would like to say a special word of thanks for getting us through the first decade in the life of *International Perspectives*.