

## FROM THE EDITOR

In assuming the responsibilities of the editorship, I should like first to thank, personally and on behalf of the membership of the AAASS, my predecessor, Donald W. Treadgold, and his associates for their direction of the *Slavic Review*. The full extent of their efforts and achievement has dawned on me only as I have begun to pick up the various editorial threads. Indeed, this issue should properly be described as jointly prepared, since Mr. Treadgold organized and edited the "Discussion" section and arranged for the reviews appearing in the book section.

This moment of torch-passing is hardly a time for editorial proclamations; my chief task is to master the job at hand. I should like, however, to make a few preliminary observations, based not only on my limited editorial experience but also on my more extended involvement in Soviet and East European studies. I have no doubt that active editorship is desirable and important, whether in planning special features, as Mr. Treadgold has done so admirably in the "Discussion" series, or more generally in scouting out and soliciting pieces for the *Review*. At the same time the journal should reflect the wide variety of interests, views, and talents possessed by the AAASS membership. If I am to be checked in any inclinations I may have to ride my own hobbyhorses, it can only be by a rich inflow of good, unsolicited pieces—from all the disciplines represented in the organization. Beyond that, I should warmly welcome the members' suggestions and recommendations regarding the content and scope of the *Review*—themes to be explored, questions to be raised.

This indispensable support from the profession applies equally to book reviewing. Without the members' cooperation it will be simply impossible to advance the *Review's* critical function, which strikes me as one of the most creative roles it can play at the present time.

Finally, I should like to stress that our editorial staff is small and that there is much to be done in getting even a quarterly ready for publication. Hence I make a fervent appeal that materials submitted, whether articles or reviews, be prepared with the utmost attention to accuracy, style, footnoting, and the like. While I feel that the editorial function very definitely includes advice and assistance in these matters, it is obvious that the less time we must spend on unnecessary tidying, revamping, and correction, the more we shall be able to devote to the substance of the *Review*.

H. L. R.