

KENNETH F. MCKINLEY

EDITORIAL

Those of us who had the privilege of attending the thirtieth annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society last December came away with the distinct impression that the ETS was not only alive and well but also thriving. Most of the sessions were characterized by spiritual vitality, intellectual rigor, and an obvious willingness—yea, a delight—to grapple with serious issues. Nearly four hundred paid registrants were in evidence, and some of the plenary sessions were attended by more than five hundred people. If 1977 was the year of the evangelical, 1978 was surely a banner year for the Evangelical Theological Society.

And 1978 was a good year for our *Journal* as well. It was the first full year of our association with Bethany Fellowship, Inc., our new printer. Lowell Lindsay and Fred Renich, little more than names when we first contacted them, have become trusted friends and valued counselors in the eighteen months we have been working with them. As the two key men in Bethany's printing department, they have helped us in ways too numerous to mention and have demonstrated the kind of integrity, diligence and patience necessary for the prompt publication of a *Journal* like ours—even when last-minute changes are in order. Bethany also gave our readers an unexpected bonus last spring by installing new typesetting equipment, which improved their efficiency (thus speeding up the entire process) and utilizes a series of more delicate type faces (thus enabling us to print more material in the same space). We express our gratitude to Bethany Fellowship for continuing to surprise us in so many delightful ways.

Thanks are due also to Ward Gasque, for several years our very able book review editor. The pressure of new responsibilities induced him to submit his resignation, which our executive committee accepted with a mixture of deep regret and heartfelt appreciation. Ward cut a formidable figure during his tenure, and we will miss him greatly. Fortunately for our Society, D. A. Carson and Bill Luck have enthusiastically agreed to fill the vacant post. They are already hard at work, and we wish them well in their new assignments. If you would like to review a book or two for *JETS*, contact either one of them. We have it on good authority that they will be glad to hear from you.

Finally, a word of gratitude is also due to George and Harriet Van Groningen for their selfless labors on behalf of Sam Kistemaker during his sabbatical leave. Quietly and unassumingly they have handled our secretary-treasurer's flood of correspondence and other necessary paperwork, and they have done so without murmur or complaint.

The privilege of working with people like the above made it easy for me to answer in the affirmative when our executive committee asked me if I would be willing to serve as your editor for a second three-year term. The letters that you have sent to our offices—affirming, as almost all of them do, the choice, variety and contents of the articles that you have written and we have published—have made my first term as editor eminently worthwhile. We welcome your comments and suggestions, we solicit your articles and book reviews, and we covet your prayers.

Ronald Youngblood