

## Foreword

Only man's long love affair with the number ten provides a reason for singling out the decades and an occasion for this special issue. But we all need some milestones to remind us of the larger course of our enterprise and of the need to assess our bearings.

*The Review of Politics* was born of the felt need to analyze and understand the significance of the gathering storm in those last years of the 1930's: the totalitarian ideologies which challenged both the liberalism stemming from the Enlightenment and the Christian tradition of the transpolitical import of the individual person, the uncertainty of the democracies in the face of that challenge, and the deep-seated historical roots of such a division in Western civilization. In the lead article of the first issue of the journal, Jacques Maritain reviewed the "crisis of modern times" against the backdrop of the history of European thought.

Two of the articles in this issue look back to that time of troubles: an essay by the founding editor, Waldemar Gurian, on totalitarianism (originally published in 1939 in an out-of-the-way volume of proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association) and a section of the memoirs of Stephen Kertesz, a former Hungarian diplomat who survived the successive occupations of Budapest by Nazi and Russian troops. Father Leo R. Ward, C.S.C., also one of the founding fathers, contributes an examination of Maritain's philosophy of education for freedom, and longtime editor M. R. Fitzsimons examines the historiography of Voltaire and the change which the Enlightenment brought about in the attitude toward history. The introductory article by the penultimate editor, Thomas Stritch, sketches the history of the *Review* in terms of the people who have been associated with it and of its relation to the University of Notre Dame. Finally, a review article by an informal advisory editor and recurrent contributor, Philip Gleason, assays the work of a contemporary Catholic social scientist.

These authors are all active members (whether *emeriti* or in harness) of the faculty of the University of Notre Dame, with the exception of Waldemar Gurian who died in 1954. They represent and embody the close relationship which has existed between the *Review* and its patron University. Moreover, the range of topics reflects the past and present dedication of this journal to addressing

the problems of political life in its concrete forms and its cultural contexts, under historical, philosophical and theological perspectives. Those perspectives require the objectivity of scholarship, but we have never understood objectivity to entail indifference or scholarship to demand neutrality. We continue to work in the traditions of political democracy and of Catholic Christianity.