

Editorial Notes

Recent events — some of them violent, both around the world and within our own country, have brought a new sense of urgency to efforts in understanding the phenomenon of nationalism. The theme of the eight essays selected for this year's *ARC*, "Religion and Nationalism," is therefore particularly timely. The first three articles explore various theoretical questions. After distinguishing between patriotism and nationalism, Alan T. Davies argues that nationalism has a religious dimension that endows a nation with supreme value and meaning in the eyes of its citizens. Using categories borrowed from E. Troeltsch, H.R. Niebuhr and A. Dulles, Don Thompson establishes a framework from which to begin exploring the various relationships between national and religious allegiances. David Seljak's article enters the debate regarding the definition of religion by challenging Ninian Smart's functionalist conclusion that nationalism is essentially a religion.

The next five articles all explore the theme from a specific context within human history. J. Howard W. Rhys provides a historical sketch that analyzes the connections between national identity, culture and religion at a number of key points in the history of both Judaism and Christianity. This is followed by a unique contribution from David E. Woodsworth who uses a four-generation biographical sketch to highlight the changing relationships between religion and nationalism over the course of more than 150 years of Canadian history. Gregory Baum and Norman F. Cornett both offer articles with a special focus on Quebec. Baum analyzes the responses offered by the Catholic bishops during the past thirty years to a variety of important public issues in Quebec. Cornett probes the paradoxical thought of Lionel Groulx in pursuit of an explanation for how Groulx could remain both a militant French Canadian nationalist and a theologically orthodox Roman Catholic. The final article, by Ihor G. Kutash,

examines the role played by a growing Ukrainian national consciousness in the revival of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

On December 12, 1990, United Theological College hosted a dinner to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Emeritus Professor, Dr. George Johnston's ordination to the Christian ministry. This issue concludes with the Jubilee Challenge entitled "Towards a Secularized Ministry," delivered by Dr. George Johnston that evening. We include this address both as a tribute to Dr. Johnston, and for the sake of the many readers of *ARC* who have been taught and influenced by him.

B.L.G.

April 1991