An Editorial Afterword

ARIEL has over the past two years noted a changing pattern in submissions received by the journal and has encouraged that change. What contributors seem to be saying is that with the world-wide development (and in some cases we can say establishment) of literatures in English there is increasingly a case not only for their study but also for their examination in their relations to each other. We would therefore like to speak not only of our encouragement of submissions dealing with all modern literatures in English, but also of those of a comparative nature. We emphatically include for consideration the literatures of the "old" Commonwealth, those of Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and certainly include those in the traditional English and American canon, though here the comparative emphasis is also encouraged. We take the term comparative in a wide sense to include not only intertextual studies within or among literatures in English, but also those relating them to literatures in other languages (normally in translation), and studies with a theoretic or cultural emphasis.

The current editor will be on leave of absence for the issues of ARIEL from January to October 1983. While he will remain as formal editor of the journal, its real work will be done by our poetry editor, Christopher Wiseman, who will assume the acting editorship, and our associate editor, Peter Sabor. To them (and, as always, our secretary, Mavis Page) he leaves, with confidence and gratitude, the task of guiding ARIEL through the year ahead.