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Editorial

Just 10 years from now we will enter the third century of our Christian era. Although we don't know the details of God's timetable, two things are certain: Change will accelerate as we approach the end of this century, and each one of us will be able to play a decisive role in the events leading to the second coming of Christ. In this context we have included an informative article outlining seven major trends visible in our church and drawing a tentative profile of our worldwide movement by the year 2000. There is plenty in those charts and graphs to rejoice at, feel challenged by, and pray fervently for—especially now that we are about to launch Global Strategy for a Global Mission.

In this issue we continue our series on effective ways of approaching members of various social and religious groups with the gospel. This time we focus on our Jewish acquaintances, whom we frequently meet in our academic and professional life.

Readers interested in the continuing debate between creationists and evolutionists will appreciate our first article, which offers a biologist's thoughtful overview of areas of agreement and disagreement between those two perspectives.

A growing number of books by and about Adventists are being published in various languages and countries. At the suggestion of several readers, we have inaugurated a section in which we will critically review those books that are sufficiently significant to deserve attention. Please recommend to us recent publications that you think should be featured in future issues of DIALOGUE.

We are also providing, for your information, a summary of the main arguments that have been advanced for and against the ordination of women to the Adventist ministry. This topic is being discussed in various circles of our church and deserves careful consideration.

DIALOGUE wants to continue offering reading material that will help you to know, live, and share your faith better as you pursue advanced studies or practice your profession. We also intend to maintain our international perspective, seeking to engage the best Adventist minds around the world. For that reason we will appreciate receiving your suggestions on subjects that should be addressed and on authors who can knowledgeably cover them.

As you know, you may now obtain a personal subscription to DIALOGUE or sponsor a subscription for those who will benefit from its content. In addition, like several of our readers, you can make a contribution that will allow the AMICUS Committee to expand the circulation of our journal and its ministry. See the instructions on page 35.

We trust that you will not only enjoy this, our fourth issue, but will also thoughtfully evaluate the ideas presented and participate in our ongoing global DIALOGUE.

These are exciting times to be a Seventh-day Adventist!

The Editors