

## IN THIS ISSUE

Each week millions of Latter-day Saints go to church with their King James Bibles tucked under their arms. The story behind the Church's official acceptance of this version is the subject of our lead article by Philip Barlow, who has drawn this essay from his larger study of Latter-day Saint uses of the Bible, to be published later this year.

In our second article, Jeffrey Jacob expands one of the most successful metaphors among Mormon intellectuals, Richard Poll's "Liahona and Iron Rod" categorizations of Mormons, and explores some fascinating implications for a sociological study of the contemporary varieties of Mormon belief.

Of interest to students of Mormon history is an article by Newell Bringhurst taken from a projected biography of Fawn M. Brodie. This essay analyzes Brodie's early life and her continual efforts to achieve independence from her heritage — an attempt that can be seen as only partially successful.

Three essays follow that discuss life in the Church after conversion. Irene Bates, John Sillito, and Karen Maloney — converts from England, Utah, and California — remind us of the differences between expectations and reality and the importance, as brothers and sisters, of accepting individual differences and rejecting even subtle forms of discrimination. The essays were originally presented in a *DIALOGUE*-sponsored session of the 1987 Sunstone Symposium.

Claudia Bushman's essay traces the history of San Francisco's Sunset Ward, reminding us of the importance of the ward, both as a unique building and close-knit group of people, in Mormon tradition. For fiction, we have chosen "Grandma's Dying" by Margaret Blair Young, a story about the complex arrangements and emotions accompanying an obligation to an elderly relative. The story was awarded first place in the 1987 Brigham Young University Art Festival competition.

We have received numerous letters in the past few months responding vigorously and openly to our recent issues. Our letters section, as well as our reviews and book notices, offer samples of popular reactions to and opinions of current Mormon issues. We are encouraged by the letters and continue to welcome participation in this ongoing dialogue.