

## EDITORIAL

As announced in the last editorial, *Utilitas* now appears three times a year. This important development will enable us to print articles and reviews more quickly and to allow for greater continuity in discussion and debate. Perhaps, most importantly, it will encourage special issues, such as the present one on 'J. S. Mill and Nineteenth-Century Utilitarianism' without diminishing the usual mix of articles in other numbers.

We have attempted in this issue to explore material which has not received much attention in the critical literature. The articles by Williams and Demetriou examine both J. S. Mill's use of ancient Greek thought in his utilitarianism and, in addition, the importance of James Mill and George Grote to the development of classical scholarship in the nineteenth century. The articles by Riley and Kurfirst consider important connections between Mill's economic and political ideas, with Riley providing an account of the development of Mill's thought regarding capitalism and socialism, and Kurfirst, the connection between Mill's economic thought and his conception of oriental despotism. Raffaelli explores the ethical theory which accompanied Alfred Marshall's economics, and Qiang Li assesses the role of utilitarian ideas in the writings of Yen Fu who first translated writers like Montesquieu, Smith, Bentham, and Mill into Chinese.

Further special issues are now in active preparation including one on punishment and another on Brian Barry's recent book, *Justice as Impartiality*. In addition, important new studies in contemporary moral and political philosophy will appear in the next number including articles on organ transplantation, abortion, the concept of desert, and environmental ethics.

I close this editorial on a sad note by recalling the very great service to this journal performed by John M. Robson. As the Mill edition advanced towards completion, Jack Robson and I agreed to combine the Mill and Bentham newsletters to form *Utilitas*. The original plan was for Robson to edit one number in Toronto and for me to do the other in London. Illness prevented him from taking on this burden, but he was a great source of advice and encouragement on every aspect of the early development of the journal. He also read many of the articles on Mill submitted to the journal and provided extensive comments on them. It is partly due to his efforts that the Mill articles in *Utilitas* have been of uniformly high quality. In the first article in this number James Burns pays tribute to Robson's achievements as a Mill scholar and recalls his warmth and humour as a friend over many years. I can only echo his words and reflect what many readers of this journal must be thinking, that we have lost a great scholar and a dear friend. FR