

Editorial Foreword

CITIES. M. A. Qadeer looks at the problem of mass poverty in the cities of India, Pakistan and Bangla Desh. Some of his questions were raised by Rhoads Murphey through comparison between Indian and Chinese attitudes and policies in *CSSH* 14:3 (June 1972) and others will be handled in a forthcoming number through comparative analysis of Latin American experience.

PATRONAGE THEORY. Robert Kaufman reviews the growing literature on the question whether patron–client relations can offer a universally valid bridge between the study of power at local levels and in macro-level analysis. Several of our writers have been optimistic on this score: Alex Weingrod in 10:4 (July 1968) and Edward Hansen with Peter and Jane Schneider in 14:3 from Mediterranean research, and Eric Wolf and Hansen in 9:2 (January 1967) from Latin American work.

RACISM. Kenneth P. Vickery's comparison of the histories of the American South and of South Africa enables him to view both cases with refreshing objectivity. We hope that more American historians will follow his lead, freshening other problems.

ACCULTURATION. Stephen Sharot surveys a wide range of Jewish experience in retaining or losing religious identity, in pre-industrial societies. Some of his problems were raised in Thomas F. Glick and Oriol Pi-Sunyer's 'Acculturation as an Explanatory Concept in Spanish History' in 11:2 (April 1969) but still await treatment in southern France and Italy.

STONE AGE ECONOMICS. Scott Cook reviews Marshall Sahlins' controversial book on early economic life, a field in which structuralism now jostles Marxist and Polanyite theory.