

Note from the Editor

Readers will obviously notice that the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* has a new look. While the previous design was adequate, and many readers may have been partial to it, the new editors felt that if they were going to put their stamp on the journal, they should do so right away. One purpose of the design change was to create a set of templates that would allow the editor to produce virtually camera-ready copy from his office and to handle illustrations and tables easily and cheaply. David Shaw, Gidget Green, and Randy Caldwell at our printer, Western Publishing in Indianapolis, which handles an impressive array of academic journals, law reviews, and other publications, counseled the incoming editor starting in summer 2003 on practical and design matters that in their experience enabled the smooth production of attractive journals. Armed with ideas and advice, the editor then consulted the University Marketing and Communications office at Illinois State University, where designer Mike Mahle patiently worked on numerous versions of cover and page mock-ups and logos, along with cards, envelopes, and stationery to match. The result, after consultation with the Executive and Editorial Boards, is what readers see. Comments are welcome: <ahlesso@ilstu.edu>. The editor was fortunate to find a graduate intern, JoAnne Geigner, with considerable copyediting and electronic publishing experience. JoAnne developed the actual templates from which this issue was produced, and she set the articles and book reviews themselves in type. The journal should now be able to handle without difficulty photo essays or essays dependent on complex illustration schemes, so authors should not hesitate to submit such works.

As the issue went to press, the editor received word that the new book review editor, Susan Traverso, had been appointed Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Redlands in California. Susan has long-standing interests in curricular issues related to the liberal arts, so this was quite an opportunity for her. The journal is fortunate that Susan wishes to continue as book review editor, despite her new responsibilities. New contact information for book reviews will be circulated via this journal and via H-SHGAPE and the SHGAPE Newsletter as soon as it is available.

Alan Lessoff