

## EDITORIAL

WHEN THP *Research Chronicle* was founded in 1961 by Thurston Dart, its primary purpose was to make available lists and catalogues, such as those that tend to appear in the appendixes of dissertations, in an inexpensive and convenient form. Such lists are, of course, still as useful in research as they ever were; but their availability to researchers is not quite the same today as it was in 1961. With the existence in Britain and elsewhere of a reasonably efficient inter library loan service, through which dissertations and other material can be made available, and with the ubiquity of cheap, convenient copies from the xerox machine, it may be suspected that more researchers today than in 1961 may prefer to bypass the *Chronicle* and refer directly to the originals, which are after all more likely to be accurate than lists retyped for print. In consequence we believe it to be our duty today to be more selective than ever in reproducing lists which are deposited in a library with the usual facilities; and it is hoped that potential contributors may increasingly think of submitting narrative articles on scholarly musicological topics, whether or not these are supported by lists, inventories, etc. (As the present issue will indicate, however, the *Chronicle* will remain open to catalogues which might in years past have been accepted by commercial publishers.)

The commitment of the *Chronicle* to a format as inexpensive as possible will, however, continue. It seems grotesque that scholars should, in buying scholarly literature, be forced into a choice between paying a high price — most of which is eaten up by the cost of reproducing the material — or, again, increasing the profits of the companies in the xerox business; neither of these alternatives would seem to do much to finance musicology. Strenuous efforts will, therefore, continue to be made to keep prices down, and, within an inexpensive format, to realize the highest possible standards of editing.

I should like to pay tribute to the work of my predecessors who have edited this journal, and my intention to emulate their standards so far as I can; and also to express my particular thanks to the numerous individuals who have most generously given me the benefit of their opinions on articles submitted to this journal since I have assumed the editorship. I refrain from mentioning the names of the latter only so that their anonymity may be safeguarded.

Finally, I hope very much that the readership of the *Chronicle* will send me their views, suggestions, brickbats, etc. It is impossible for a journal to respond to, let alone meet, the needs of its readers without some knowledge of their reactions.