

Editorial

THE subject of the Association's 23rd Annual Conference, held at Oxford on 15-17 April 1988, was 'Music in the Market-Place'. Eight of the papers in this issue of the *Journal* were read at the conference, and to these Cyril Ehrlich has supplied an introduction and William Weber a postscript.

The following papers were read in addition to the ones printed here: Elizabeth Gibson, 'Imagery and Public Perception of Italian Musicians in Eighteenth-Century England'; John Rosselli, 'From Princely Patronage to the Cash Nexus: The Coming of a Market for Singers of Italian Opera, 1600-1850'; Carole Taylor, 'Handel, his Genres and the Public'; Elizabeth Roche, 'Elizabethan Fever: The Early Music Boom of the 1920s'; Georgina Born, 'IRCAM: the Official Avant-Garde against the Market'; Tim Souster, 'The Professional Composer in Britain Today'; Andrew Potter, 'Music Publishing - Commercial Confusion?'. Some of these papers are to be published elsewhere: abstracts of them all will be found in issue 113/2 of the *Journal*. There was also a round-table discussion on 'Orchestras in London: The 1930s and the 1990s', chaired by Nicholas Kenyon with contributions by Anthony Halstead, Michael Kennedy and David Marcou.

I am grateful to Cyril Ehrlich, who organized the conference, for his help in preparing this special issue of the *Journal*.

There has been a warm welcome for our Conferences section in which we list the papers read at meetings in Britain. The fragmented nature of the British musicological conference scene, with its many independently organized events, has sometimes misled people into thinking that there is not much going on. Our list helps to correct this impression. We wish to make this section as comprehensive as possible, so we ask organizers to send details of their conferences to the Secretary (address inside front cover) in advance of the event, and speakers to return their abstract forms promptly. It goes without saying that we are also pleased to receive typescripts for consideration.