

EDITORIAL

THIS month sees the centenary of the birth of Béla Bartók. Since his death in 1945 Bartók's reputation has steadily increased, and he has long been recognized as one of the key creative figures in 20th-century music. Nevertheless, next month's 'Bartók Triple Bill' at the London Coliseum, when the English National Opera presents the London première, and the first-ever homegrown production, of the triple bill *Bluebeard's Castle*, *The Wooden Prince*, and *The Miraculous Mandarin*, indicates that the repertoire has still fully to assimilate some of his outstanding achievements—as, indeed, musicology is still doing in regard to his structural principles, and ethnomusicology in the field of his folk-song researches.

The present issue of *TEMPO* features tributes to his memory from three leading representatives of the many composers who have been profoundly affected by the impact of Bartók's music, and the personal impressions of one who knew him well—the conductor and composer Antál Doráti. During the remainder of this Bartók centenary year we shall be publishing further articles on various aspects of Bartók's output (including, of course, much that is germane to our 'Between the Wards' series begun in *TEMPO* 133/4). The review section of the present issue directs attention to two of Bartók's successors among Hungarian composers of today, and in later issues this year we shall also be featuring the work of modern Hungarians—among them György Kurtág and Antál Doráti himself.

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THE editors and publishers of *TEMPO* regret that the present issue also sees an increase in the cover price to 80p, forced on us by the continuing pressure of rising costs and, especially, the recent rise in postal charges. The annual U.K. subscription accordingly goes up to £4.07 and the overseas subscription to £4.08—both sums including postage and VAT where relevant. The U.S. price becomes \$3.00 per issue, and \$12.00 for a year's subscription. To subscribers and casual purchasers alike, we offer apologies, and an assurance that rising prices will not be the counterpoint to falling standards.