It is an honor for me to assume the duties of editor for this most prestigious international periodical, succeeding such distinguished scholars as Maud Karpeles, Laurence Picken, Peter Crossley-Holland, Alexander Ringer, and Charles Haywood. It is normally expected of an editor to announce editorial policy; but I find myself unable to announce drastic changes. My predecessor and good friend, Charles Haywood, and those who came before him, exhibited a determination to publish widely, and to include in their volumes everything from the presentation of field data to generalizing analytical reports, and on to theoretical and even speculative writings; from the detailed study of the musical artifact to the consideration of social and cultural contexts. Their volumes reflected the broad range of interests of the membership of I.F.M.C. They were also determined to present scholarship of the highest quality, and to exhibit samples of what was emanating from research carried on in all parts of the world. They insisted that an important function of this Yearbook and its predecessor, the Journal, is communication among scholars who for political, cultural, and linguistic reasons are sometimes all too isolated from each other, through the publication of thoroughgoing review sections of books, periodicals, records, and even films.

I hope that we will continue along all of these paths. It has not always been easy for my predecessors, and it will no doubt at times continue to be difficult. There are practical and intellectual problems to be solved. Scholars from the many nations and cultures of the world do not always think, study, and write in the same style, and the editor of an international publication must tread the thin line between rigid standardization and chaotic diversity. We will have to continue grappling with the identity and integrity of such concepts as folk music and oral tradition, and with the ways of gaining insight into them.

We are proud of the contributions which we have the honor of presenting in this volume, of their substance and their variety. At the same time, we should like to broaden our coverage of research carried out in the four corners of the earth and hope, in the future, to present contributions from scholars in parts of the world not represented here. And we wish to bring types of studies not found in this volume. We invite the members of the I.F.M.C., as well as other scholars, to submit articles of both broad and specialized nature.

The reader will note, on the title page, the name of Judith McCulloh as Associate Editor of the *Yearbook*. Mrs. McCulloh holds a Ph.D. in folklore and ethnomusicology from Indiana University and has published in her special field of interest, Anglo-American musical traditions. A member of the editorial staff of the University of Illinois Press, she is uniquely qualified to share in our editorial work.

Let me also point out a strictly editorial matter which the reader will note, and which requires explanation. In most of our articles, we observe the footnoting practices of past volumes, adhering to a style widely used in humanistic periodicals and adjusting this to the needs of an essentially multilingual publication. In a few cases, however, for

contributions with substantial bibliographical import, we have permitted the use of a format with internal citations referring to a bibliography, titled "Publications Cited." We propose to continue this dual practice, for it seems that for certain articles one format is more useful than the other. This practice will deprive us to some extent of the consistency desired in publications, but it will go further towards filling the specific needs of individual authors and articles.

Finally, let me close with a caveat. This Yearbook is a bit shorter than those of the past, reflecting the difficult financial situation in which almost everyone in the world now finds himself, a condition which the I.F.M.C. inevitably shares. We hope to catch up with a slightly lagging schedule occasioned by the slowing of international mails, mail strikes, and other practical problems, and to restore the size of the Yearbook beginning with Volume 7.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the many individuals for their contributions to the editorial process. First and foremost, I should like to express my gratitude to Profesor Israel Katz and Professor Claudie Marcel-Dubois. Their expertise and devotion to the exacting tasks of soliciting and editing reviews continues to make the review sections of the *Yearbook* one of the most valuable services provided by the I.F.M.C. to its members. I am grateful to Patricia Madsen and Wanda Nettl, and wish to express my thanks to the University of Illinois for providing secretarial help and moral support, and to the University of Illinois Research Board for a grant underwriting the preparation of music copy for the article by Stephen Blum.

But most, I should like to express my gratitude to my predecessor and good friend, Charles Haywood, for advice and counsel and for helping to make a smooth transition.

— B. N. —