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Editorial

Since 1984 this *Journal* has been edited by Andrew Cooper. The issues for which he was responsible have established the *Journal* as a significant forum for the discussion of Lawrence's life and work. With the publication of successive volumes in the Cambridge edition, Lawrence studies have been transformed in recent years and Andrew was quick to respond to the change, producing issues of the *Journal* with articles that deal with both textual and contextual matters. The special centenary issue of 1985 was a substantial volume which found a readership well beyond the *Journal's* usual circulation. An incoming Editor must be grateful to Andrew for his fine example and must work hard to attain the standards he has set.

Three substantial articles form the centrepiece of this issue. The Eastwood Congregational Literary Society is an experience of Lawrence's youth often mentioned by biographers as an influence on his intellectual development, but very little has been written about the Society's programme or the character of its meetings. David Newmarch's interesting piece describes the nature of the Society and helps us to understand better the milieu in which Lawrence grew up. By contrast, Stephen Rowley's essay is firmly based on a single work by Lawrence, developing, through its exploration of the use of one metaphor, a significant reading of *Women in Love*. Finally, Paul Simpson-Housley and Lawrence Jones bring to bear the differing perceptions of the geographer and the literary critic to show how Lawrence transforms experience into art in *St. Mawr*. The shorter articles are a reminiscence of Helen Corke, supplementing the selection from Miss Corke's letters to Taiji Okada, published in the 1981 *Journal*; and pieces by two young teachers of English, one French, one Italian. The issue is completed by Rosemary Howard's review of the Cambridge edition of *The Rainbow*. This timely piece should be read side by side with Charles Rossman's review-essay in the *D.H. Lawrence Review*, Summer 1989 and in the context of the developing debate about the editorial principles on which the Cambridge edition is based.

A number of problems have resulted in the late publication of this issue. I apologise for this, and am grateful to the Society as a whole and to the members of the Council in particular for their support and forbearance. A second issue will appear in 1990, probably in December. This issue will, I hope, contain some of the papers to be delivered at the forthcoming international conference in Montpellier, but other contributions will also be considered and should reach me no later than 1 September 1990.

Peter Preston.