

## NOTES AND NEWS

### THE 1952 CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOLK MUSIC COUNCIL

By invitation of the English Folk Dance and Song Society the Council will hold its Annual Conference at Cecil Sharp House in London from July 14th to July 19th, 1952.

#### *Work of the Conference.*

The main theme of the Conference will be the role of folk music (song, dance and instrumental music) in education and recreation, and the subject will be studied with a view to the preparation of a report to be presented to the Conference on Musical Education to be held at Brussels in 1953 under the aegis of the International Music Council of Unesco.

It is proposed that the following aspects of folk music shall be studied:—

- (1) The significance of folk music in the cultural life of the present day;
- (2) The function of folk music and methods of promoting its practice in the following fields:—

Schools, Youth Clubs, Music Schools, Adult Education, and the general social life of the community.

In each section cognisance will be taken of the following circumstances:—

- (i) To what extent folk music is still a living tradition;
- (ii) Whether the environment is urban or rural.
- (3) Specific means through which a knowledge of folk music can be imparted, i.e. broadcasting, gramophone recordings, films, publication of songs and dance collections, and festivals.

In all aspects of the subject attention will be given to principles to be applied in the selection of material, and, where applicable, to pedagogic methods.

Further particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, 12, Clorane Gardens, London, N.W.3.

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### LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD

The Fifth International Music Eisteddfod will be held at Llangollen from July 8th to 12th. The folk song and folk dance competitions will take place on Wednesday, July 9th. Particulars can be obtained from Mr. W. S. Gwynn Williams, Llangollen, Wales.

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### INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND ETHNOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The Fourth Congress will be held in Vienna from September 1st to 8th, 1952. Further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Wilhelm Koppers, Institut für Völkerkunde, Neue Hofburg, Corp de Logis, Vienna 1, Austria.

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## AFRICAN MUSIC TRANSCRIPTION LIBRARY

The attention of members is called to the important work that is being done by "African Music Research" under its Director, Hugh Tracey, in the collecting and recording of African music. The organisation has recently issued a catalogue of 357 records that are now available to the public and will be supplied with a complete library card index system. Sixteen language groups are represented. New recordings will be added every six months and will be immediately available for purchase.

The catalogue, published by Gallo (Africa), is in itself a valuable document on account of its notes on the songs, dances and instrumental pieces. Each section is prefaced with a short description of the tribe and there are some interesting photographs.

Particulars can be obtained from the African Music Research Library Transcription Service, P.O. Box 6216, Johannesburg, Union of South Africa.

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## OBITUARY

## SVEN KJELLSTRÖM

Professor Sven Kjellström (1875–1950) played a prominent part in popularising Swedish folk music, although his background and inclinations were mainly in the field of classical music. He began his studies at the Musikkonservatoriet in Stockholm in 1889 and in 1890–92 he was engaged as violinist to the orchestra royal. At the same time he started his people's musical education programme with so-called workmen's concerts. During the years 1897–1900 he studied with Remy in Paris, belonged to several restaurant orchestras and was first violinist to the Colonne orchestra. After his return to Sweden in 1909 he co-operated with various musical organisations as an active musician, first violinist and organiser. In 1921 he became director of the Musikkonservatoriet in Stockholm.

In 1905 the artist Anders Zorn organised a special gathering for folk musicians, thus arousing interest in Swedish folk music. Soon similar gatherings were arranged in various parts of the country, either in the form of contests or of festivals. For many years Professor Sven Kjellström acted as adjudicator at these meetings. He was gifted with a fine ear for music, great skill as a violinist, and was thoroughly acquainted with folk music. He claimed that the folk musicians have a good technique and interpret the folk music of their district correctly. Professor Kjellström had no scientific interest in folk music but his contribution consisted in keeping the music of folk fiddlers on as high a level as possible. He repeatedly lectured on the radio in order to arouse the interest of a larger public in folk music.

MATS REHNBERG.

## OTTO LEHMANN

The death of Professor Dr. Otto Lehmann in Hamburg on June 27th, 1951, at the age of 86 is announced with deep regret.

Professor Lehmann was a distinguished scholar. He studied natural science under Ernst Haeckel at Jena and took his doctor's degree at Halle University where he studied under Professor Kirchhoff. He held for many years the directorship of the Altona Museum. His publications include *Deutsches Volkstum* in *Volkskunst u. Volkstracht* (Berlin, 1938). His special interest was the farm-house buildings of