

JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOLK MUSIC COUNCIL

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EDITORIAL NOTES

TWELFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Twelfth Annual Conference held at Sinaia and Bucharest from August 11th to 21st by invitation of the Folklore Institute of Bucharest and the Rumanian National Commission for Unesco, was attended by over one hundred members, representing 26 countries: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Mongolia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Rumania, Sweden, Switzerland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vietnam and Yugoslavia.

A conference that is held in a country with a rich living folklore may be expected to offer special interest and stimulus to its members, and when the live manifestations are accompanied by scholarly study, as in Rumania, the setting becomes an ideal one. The proceedings of the Conference which appear in the pages of this *Journal* clearly show that fresh ground has been broken and that the work of the Council has been advanced.

It will be seen that the discussion of musical instruments proved a fruitful theme, but only those who were present at the Conference and could hear for themselves the variety and beauty of the musical sounds that were produced can have any real impression of the rich experience that was afforded by the Conference.

The discussion of contemporary folk music was by no means a new feature of IFMC Conferences, but the subject gained in interest by being considered in relation to what is actually taking place in Rumania and neighbouring countries. Needless to say, the subject is not exhausted.

It is a commonplace that not the least valuable part of an international conference lies in the chance, or planned, meetings between members outside the official working sessions. In the friendly atmosphere of Sinaia, with its beautiful and peaceful surroundings and the spacious comfort of its living quarters, full opportunity was given for these informal encounters which do so much to illumine the path of the individual scholar.

For a highly interesting and enjoyable Conference we would once again record our gratitude to our hosts: to the Ministry of Culture and Education; to the Rumanian National Committee for the XII IFMC Conference and in particular to its President, Mr. Jordan (Vice-President of the Rumanian People's Republic Academy and Vice-President of the Rumanian National Commission for UNESCO) and to Mr. Virgil Ioanid, its General Secretary; and to the Folklore Institute and its Director, Mr. Sabin Dragoi and its Deputy-Director, Professor Mihai Pop.

We would also record our thanks to the many others who helped in the organization of the Conference and in particular to Mr. A. L. Lloyd who was responsible for reporting the discussions.

The Editor also gratefully acknowledges her thanks to Mr. Anthony Baines and Mr. A. L. Lloyd for their help and advice in the preparation of this *Journal*.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON URGENT ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND ETHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH

The attention of members is called to the existence of this Committee (see the note on its first Bulletin, *infra*, p. 116). The editors of the Bulletin invite contributions concerning cases in which research on tribes and cultures is particularly urgent in order to prevent data from being irretrievably lost. Suggestions for research on folk music and dances threatened with disappearance in the near future will be welcome. The editors also ask for the names and addresses of scholars, government officers, missionaries, etc., who might be expected to collaborate and to whom the Bulletin should be sent. Correspondence should be addressed to Robert Heine-Geldern, Reitschulgasse 2, Vienna 1.
