

JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOLK MUSIC COUNCIL

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EDITORIAL

We had hoped to announce in this issue of the *Journal* that it would in future be published twice instead of once a year, but unhappily our funds have not allowed us to realise this intention. One reason for wishing to extend the *Journal* was to enable us to include special articles on subjects not necessarily covered by the Conference. As a compromise a few such articles are included in the present issue of the *Journal*, but in order to make room for them we have been obliged to summarise some of the papers that were read at the Conference instead of giving the full version. Another cherished plan was to publish translations of important articles from periodicals appearing in the less well-known languages. Again, we have had to compromise and as an earnest of our intention we are including a short summary of two articles by Rumanian authors (see p. 67).

We are making a further departure from our usual custom by omitting from the *Journal* the bulk of material that would normally be included in the Notes and News section. We propose to publish this in the form of News-Letters, or additional Bulletins, to be issued twice a year. Members are urgently asked to contribute to the Bulletins short reports on matters of general interest (see p. 75).

Reference to the Report of the Executive Board in Bulletin No. 10 (pp. 9-12) will show that the Council is actively pursuing its objectives in promoting both the study and the practice of folk music. Among the projects on which we have been engaged we would call attention to the publication of *Folk Songs of Europe*, the issue of a *Memorandum on Cataloguing and Classification of Sound Recordings of Folk Music* (both referred to on page 75 of this *Journal*), the revision, in progress, of the *International Catalogue of Recorded Folk Music*, the preparation of an international broadcast programme, the investigation of problems of copyright in folk music and the compilation of a directory of folk music organisations. In addition, we are still pursuing our campaign to persuade governments and other bodies to implement the Oslo resolution concerning the preservation of folk music.

It is on the occasion of the Annual Conferences that the Council is able to take stock of its activities, to gain new incentives and to widen its circle of supporters. The 1956 Conference, as will be gathered from Dr. O'Sullivan's account in the following pages, was a particularly happy one, due in no small measure to its excellent organisation by Mr. and Mrs. Egon Kraus.

It has long been felt that in addition to the general conferences there was need for meetings of a smaller body of scholars who could concentrate their attention on particular aspects of study. With this end in view a small commission was appointed to consider problems relating to the scientific, and particularly the comparative, study of folk music. A meeting of this commission was held immediately before the Annual Conference at Freiburg i. Br. at the Deutsches Volksliedarchiv, under the direction of Professor Dr. Walter Wiora. It is hoped that a report of the meeting, in which the papers will be printed in full in the language in which they were delivered, i.e. English, French or German, will be published shortly. In the meantime we give a summary in English of Professor Wiora's introductory paper (see page 55). We take this opportunity of expressing our thanks once again to Professor Wiora and to Professor Dr. Erich Seemann, Head of the Volksliedarchiv.