

AUGUST 1952 - JUNE 1953

1) Membership

The total membership of the Council at December 31st, 1952 was 477. This number includes 192 Correspondents, of whom 120 are subscribers. The total number of subscribers at December 31st, 1952 was 405, an increase of 43 since August 31st 1952. The present number of subscribers is 472.

The deaths of Professor Dr. John Meier (Germany), Dr. George Pullen Jackson (U.S.A.) and Hr. H. Gruner-Nielsen (Denmark) are announced with regret.

2) Annual Conference

At the invitation of the English Folk Dance and Song Society the Council held its Fifth Annual Conference at Cecil Sharp House, London, from July 14th to 19th, 1952, under the Chairmanship of Sir Steuart Wilson. It was attended by 170 delegates, members and observers from thirty-one countries. Twenty-one broadcasting organizations were represented and a number of other cultural and social institutions sent delegates.

The main theme of the Conference was the significance of folk music (song, dance and instrumental music) in the cultural life of the present day, with particular reference to its role in education and recreation.

The Board records its thanks and gratitude to the English Folk Dance and Song Society and to its Director, Mr. Douglas Kennedy.

3) Meetings of the Executive Board

Meetings of the Executive Board were held in London on July 13th and 20th 1952. They were attended by:

Dr. A. Marinus, Professor Dr. A.E. Cherbuliez, Dr. R. Almeida, Mr. Natko Devčić, Mr. Douglas Kennedy, Professor Jaap Kunst, Mademoiselle C. Marcel-Dubois, Dr. S. Michaelides, Dr. O.M. Sandvik, Mr. W.S. Gwynn Williams, Miss Maud Karpeles (Secretary).

4) Liaison Officer

Dr. Egon Kraus has accepted the invitation of the Executive Board to act as Liaison Officer in Germany.

5) International Music Council (UNESCO)

Miss Karpeles represented the Council at the 1952 and 1953 meetings of the General Assembly of the International Music Council. The report of the Council's Conference on The Role of Folk Music in Education, drawn up by Sir Steuart Wilson and Miss Karpeles, was read by Sir Steuart Wilson at a plenary session of the International Music Council's Conference on Music Education which was held in Brussels June-July, 1953. Papers were also read at sectional meetings by Mr. Douglas Kennedy and Miss Karpeles.

The Board acknowledges with gratitude the help of the International Music Council towards the publication of the Journal and the International Folk Song Book.

6) Report of the Radio Committee

The Radio Committee, particulars of which are given on p.7 of Bulletin No.6, held its first meeting in Paris at UNESCO House on November 12th and 13th, 1952. The following members attended:

M. Paul Collaer (Belgisch Nationaal Instituut voor Radio-Omroep)
 Miss M. Karpeles (Secretary, I.F.M.C.)
 Mlle C. Marcel-Dubois (Musée National des Arts et Traditions Populaires,
 Paris) - Chairman
 Maestro G. Nataletti (Radio Italiana)
 Mr. S. Zlatić (Radio Zagreb, Yugoslavia)
 Miss M. Slocombe (B.B.C., London) - Secretary.

Mr. Jack Bornoff (Executive Secretary of the International Music Council) and Mr. Féodorov (International Association of Music Libraries) were also in attendance.

The Committee recommended the Council to bring to the notice of radio organizations the importance of reserving in their programmes the use of the term "folk music" to authentic folk music, as provisionally defined by the International Folk Music Council at its 1952 Conference.

In order to facilitate such programmes, the Committee recommended that the Council should encourage co-operation between broadcasting organizations and folk music experts.

The European Broadcasting Union has agreed to make these wishes known to its members and to include in its Information Bulletin particulars of folk music programmes available for international relay.

Other matters which are under consideration are:

- (a) The issue, under the auspices of the Council, of an edited recording of the World Festival of Folk Dance and Folk Song which the International Folk Music Council is organizing in the Basque Country next July.
- (b) The possibility of seeking the co-operation of broadcasting organizations in arranging an international series of "live" or recorded performances presenting the authentic folk music of each participating country.

7) Journal

Volume V of the Journal of the International Folk Music Council (96 pages), under the editorship of Miss Karpeles, was published in January 1953 with the assistance of UNESCO. It contains the proceedings of the London Conference together with reviews, etc.

8) International Catalogue of Folk Music Recordings

Dr. Kunst was unfortunately unable to continue the editorship of the International Catalogue of Folk Music Recordings which the Council is compiling and publishing on behalf of UNESCO. He has been succeeded as editor by Mr. Norman Frazer and it is expected that the work will be published by the end of 1953.

9) International Folk Song Book

The preparation of the International Folk Song Book has been proceeding under the editorship of Miss Karpeles. It is anticipated that the book will contain nearly 200 songs from 26 different countries.

10) Finance

On August 31, 1952, the Council was faced with a debit balance of £2. 8. 3. By December 31st, 1952, this was changed to a credit balance of £87. 18. 6, and on June, 1, 1953, the balance stood at £172. This happy change in the Council's financial position is due very largely to the Generosity of the broadcasting organizations which have contributed a total of £437. The immediate financial crisis has been overcome, but there is no ground for complacency. As the Council grows in prestige and importance, it is bound to take on new commitments, all of which mean added expenditure. The need for additional subscriptions is therefore still very urgent.