

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

AUSTRIA

AUSTRIAN FOLK SONG INSTITUTE

The Section for Vienna and Lower Austria of the Austrian Folk Song Institute (Das Österreichische Volksliedwerk) reports for 1965 that the Folk Song Archive at last has found new accommodation at Fuhrmannsgasse 18a, Vienna VIII. The new quarters were opened in June, 1965.

Mr. Franz Schunko, Head of the Section, reports that with the National Centre for Photography and Education Film he was able to make the first sound film in Austria of a native dance. Shot in the southeastern section of Lower Austria, the film was shown for the first time in November, 1965.

The Archive added to its collections numerous song texts and melodies, instrumental melodies, folk dances with descriptions, pictures and sound recordings.

Mr. Schunko notes with gratitude the support of the National Ministry of Education, the Office of the Lower Austrian Government and the Town Council of the City of Vienna.

FIRST SEMINAR ON FOLK SONG RESEARCH

Under the auspices of the Akademie für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna, the First Seminar on Folk Song Research took place on October 4-15, 1965, directed by Walter Deutsch. The theme of the meetings was The Folk Song in Austria.

The tasks of the seminar were (1) to win over appropriate persons trained in music to the principle of folk song study; (2) to provide a deeper insight into the historical and musical bases of Austrian folk songs for all interested in music; (3) to provide fundamental knowledge on folk song in Austria to institutions for the cultivation of folk song, pedagogical institutions, and centres for adult education.

Among the distinguished speakers at the seminar were Prof. Dr. Hans Sittner, President of the Akademie für Musik, Univ. Prof. Dr. Leopold Nowak, and Univ. Prof. Dr. Leopold Schmidt.

Of particular interest were the address by Prof. Nowak on the folk song and scholarship, and a paper by Prof. Schmidt on the cultural historical bases of the folk song in Austria. Also Prof. Franz Eibner spoke on the musical bases of the folk song in Austria, and gave another paper on polyphony in the Austrian folk song. Prof. Georg Kotek contributed two papers, on the investigators of folk song in Austria, and on yodlers and their songs.

Mr. Deutsch himself read a paper on Austrian folk song, and led discussions on transcription, and on folk song archives.

Prof. Sittner and Mr. Deutsch deserve great credit for organizing this important and interesting series of meetings.

"ÖSTERREICHISCHE MUSIKZEITSCHRIFT"

The October, 1965, issue of the *Österreichische Musikzeitschrift* (Vol. 20, no. 10), is devoted to folk music and includes a paper by Prof. Leopold Schmidt, Director of the Austrian Museum of Folklore, which surveys the state of folk song research in Austria, and a paper by Walter Deutsch, "Type and Form Change," in which he discusses relations and distinctions between Lower Austrian and Czech folk songs. There are also papers by B. Rajeczky (Common Tasks of Austrian and Hungarian Folk Music Research) and by Karl M. Klier (On Yugoslav Folk Instruments).

BELGIUM

Prof. Roger Pinon, Liaison Officer for Belgium to the IFMC, reports that in 1964-65 two recording expeditions took place, in the districts of Famenne and Charleroi. These were supported by the Ministry of Education and Culture, and planned by Prof. Pinon for the Commission Royale Belge de Folklore.

A book by Maurice Vaisière and Roger Pinon, entitled *Chansons Populaires de la Flandre Wallonne*, is in press. A new edition of *Lyre Malmédienne* is in preparation, which will contain nine additional dances collected by Mrs. Fanny Thibout.

A gramophone record entitled "Musique Folklorique Wallonne" (no. 17100, 7 in., 33 r.p.m.) has been issued by the Discothèque Nationale de Belgique. The record consists of choral arrangements of seven folk songs from the region of Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse collected in 1960 by Prof. Maurice Vaisière. It was made with the support of the Ministry of Education and Culture, under the auspices of the Commission Royale Belge de Folklore.

On May 29-30, 1965, a meeting was held on the theme of folklore in the industrial era, at which there were two papers on folk music: Mrs. Fanny Thibout spoke on folk dance and folk dance groups and Professor Klusen spoke on popular music and singing in Germany today.

FOLK DANCE GROUPS

Under the patronage of the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Fédération Wallonne des Groupements de Danses Populaires organized a meeting of folk dance groups in Liège on November 27 and 28, 1965. On the programme was an evening of folk dance, a session of listening to recordings of folk music, performances of the different groups in competition, and the presentation of awards.

BRAZIL

By recent decree of the President of the Republic of Brazil, August 22 has been declared Folklore Day (Dia do Folclore). The date is that of the letter from William John Thoms (1846) suggesting the use of the word "Folklore."