NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

AUSTRALIA

From Mrs. A. M. Moyle (Department of Music, University of Sydney) we have received an account of a Seminar in Ethnomusicology, the first of its kind, held in Sydney in April, 1962, and organized by the University's Department of Music. It consisted of a series of illustrated talks on non-western and primitive music. The interest shown in the seminar has prompted the opening of a Music Archive Fund, which will be used to further research in non-western music and its collection and preservation. Special emphasis will be given to the aboriginal music of Australia and islands of the Pacific. Mrs. Moyle is the Fund's Secretary.

Mrs. Moyle has visited eight remote settlements on a field trip sponsored by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, Canberra. The recordings were made at aboriginal camps and consisted largely of extracts from a variety of totemic ceremonies or song and dance sagas.

* * * *

Mr. Clement Hosking reports on a pioneer Folk Music School, held in July, 1962 under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association of New South Wales. The school, which was well attended, discussed the subject from the social, historical and musical points of view. The need was stressed for a central folklore archive and a co-ordinating body to undertake research in the field.

AUSTRIA

The work of indexing the tunes in the Archive of the Österreichisches Volksliedwerk, Arbeitsausschuss für Wien und Niederösterreich continues and the number of accessions shows a considerable increase both in notations and in copies of printed material.

CHILE

Dr. M. R. Dannemann reports that a Folk Music Week organized by the Institute of Music Research of the University of Chile was held in December, 1962 under the auspices of Unesco. Study sessions were devoted to “Singers of Antaño,” “The Investigation of Melody,” “The Folk Dance of Chile” and “The Ritual Music of the Tirana.” Interest was focused on education from the point of view of dissemination as well as research. An important resolution to found a Chair of Folk Music at the University was adopted.

CUBA

The first festival of Cuban folk music was held in August and September, 1962. It was organized by the National Cultural Council and consisted of six concerts, featuring Spanish and Cuban folk music, Afro-Cuban cabildos, Cuban chansons and Créole folk music.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A National Committee of the IFMC has been formed in Czechoslovakia. Its officers are: President—Dr. Karel Vetterl; Secretaries—Mr. Oskár Elschek and Mr. Jaroslav Markl.

From Dr. Vetterl we hear of many activities that have recently been undertaken. Czech and Slovak folklorists have been working on an encyclopaedia of the history and nature of folk song, dance and music in Czechoslovakia; also several studies have appeared on bagpipe music, harvest songs, etc. Theoretical problems with which folklorists have been concerned are the indexing of folk tunes and text variants. They have also co-operated with Rumanian and Polish folklorists in the study of Carpathian folk culture. A documentation centre in Prague has been set up for the study of worker's songs.

FRANCE

L’Institut d’Ethnologie, Université de Paris and the École Pratique des Hautes Études, Sorbonne, announce weekly courses of instruction in Ethnomusicology to be held at the Musée de l’Homme in the school year 1962–1963. The professor is Dr. Cl. Marcel-Dubois and her subjects are “Modalités d’exécution et formes de la musique ethnique” and “Méthodes de recherche, problèmes de terrain et de laboratoire.”

GERMANY

A catalogue of recordings held by the Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin has been compiled by Kurt Reinhard and has recently been published under the title Türkische Musik.

GHANA

Professor J. H. Nketia has sent us details of a new two-year course in music leading to a Diploma in African Music. It is intended for those who wish to deepen and extend their knowledge of African cultures through music or to equip themselves for the teaching of African music, for research or for creative work in music. Teaching will be provided in the cultural and historical background of African music; its form and structure; ethnography and musical styles of selected areas; African music and related arts; and comparative musicology, with particular reference to Africa, the Middle East and Indonesia. Particulars from The Secretary, Music and Arts Division, Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana.

HUNGARY

The Hungarian National Committee of the IFMC has had a year of active work. We select the following items of information from a report received from Professor Jenő Adam, secretary of the Committee.