

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ARGENTINA

At the Instituto Félix Fernando Bernasconi, Buenos Aires, classes are held to enable teachers of primary adult education to specialize in Folklore. These courses were started in 1960, and an annual subsidy is granted by the Fondo Nacional de las Artes.

The programme of studies includes, *inter alia*, (i) the principal traditional Argentine dances: the bailecito, the condición, the cuando, the chacarera, the escondido, the firmeza, the gato, the media caña, the pericón, etc. History, choreography, etc., and (ii) Musical instruments. Idiophonic instruments, maraca and sonajera de uñas; membranophones: caja, drum, bombo and kultrum; stringed instruments: charango, guitar and harp; aerophones: pifulka, sereré, naseré, flautilla, tarka and Tucuman flute; erchencho and trutruka.

At the National School of the Dance there is a section devoted to Folklore Dances. The course lasts three years, and is complemented by the teaching of choral songs on the basis of folklore, zapateo, folklore instrumentology, etc.

AUSTRALIA

Anthropological Forum (July, 1963) 142 pp., 12s., is a new international journal published by the University of Western Australia Press for the University's Department of Anthropology. It will be issued, initially, once a year. The idea is to orient each issue about a specific theme of a social/cultural anthropological-comparative sociological nature, in ethnographic, methodological and theoretical terms, with a span of interest covering Aboriginal and European Australia, the Pacific (particularly New Guinea) and South East Asia.

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An Australian Language Research Centre has recently been formed to study various aspects of the English language in Australia. The Centre recognizes the value of Australian folk songs in revealing vocabulary items and wishes to build up a comprehensive collection of all material so far collected in Australia. In the field of traditional ballads the initial deposits consist of material from the library of Wattle Recordings. Collectors are invited either to deposit their original recordings or to allow the Centre to make a duplicate copy. Due protection is afforded to the collector. As the Centre is particularly interested in the spoken word, it requests that the informal conversation that precedes and follows song collecting be also recorded. To assist in building up this collection, the Centre may be able to make tape available to approved collectors. Those with collections or who are interested in collecting are asked to forward their names and addresses to the Centre, c/o the English Department, University of Sydney, N.S.W. The Centre is planning

to publish information about its activities and findings. Copies will be available, free of charge, on request.

AUSTRIA

Herr FRANZ SCHUNKO reports on the increasing activities of the Arbeitsausschuss für Wien und Niederösterreich of the ÖSTERREICHISCHES VOLKSLIEDWERK. These have been facilitated by a move to more spacious headquarters (Fuhrmannsgasse 18a, Wien, VIII), both of the Zentralacaiv and the Archiv für Wien-Niederösterreich. With the assistance of the Österreichischer Museum für Volkskunde a questionnaire with regard to folk music and folk instruments has been sent to over fifty museums in Niederösterreich. Collecting has been continued throughout the year and the holdings of the Archive have been considerably enlarged.

BULGARIA

The ninth National Committee of the IFMC was formed in 1963 in Bulgaria. The President is Mr. PHILIPPE KOUTEV, the general secretary of the Bulgarian Union of Composers and leader of the Bulgarian Folk Song and Dance Company, who recently celebrated his sixtieth birthday and had the Georgi Dimitrov Order conferred on him by the President of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The Liaison Officer is Professor RAINA KATZAROVA. Also on the Committee's Executive Board is Professor Dr. STOYEN DJOUDJEV.

The National Committee has informally extended an invitation to IFMC to hold an early Conference in Bulgaria.

CANADA

The NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CANADA for the past two years has been conducting a new ethnic folkmusic research programme. Although English, French and Indian research is well established, research into Canada's smaller cultural minorities has been long overdue. So far thirty-five ethnic groups have been contacted, music has been recorded from eighteen of them and more intensive research has been done on five (Doukhobor, Mennonite, Hungarian, Ukrainian and Czech). This year Mr. KENNETH PEACOCK intends to concentrate still further and undertake a large illustrated monograph on the Doukhobors and their music, which, as far as he knows, has never been musically codified before.

CHILE

The Institute of Musical Research of the Universidad de Chile provides a course annually, under Dr. MANUEL R. DANNEMANN, entitled: "Folklore in the service of the nation."