

After the second World War the defeated Japanese lost their racial confidence and seemed to abandon music, but soon in an attempt to build up a cultured and peaceful state and to realise democratic freedom and give up feudalism they sought out their own arts and recreation, hoping thereby to achieve cultural progress.

The Japanese interested themselves not only in their own folk music but in the folk music of all countries of the world. Every day folk music of the world is found in the programmes of the radio and musical meetings, and is also included in school education. But folk music is still treated as though it were merely an appendage to modern culture and there is no systematic plan to harmonize it with national life. That belongs to the future.

NOTES AND NEWS

1953 FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE

The International Folk Music Council will hold its Second International Festival of Folk Dance and Song together with its Sixth Annual Conference in the Basque country at Biarritz (France) and Pamplona (Spain) from July 9th to 15th, 1953, at the invitation of the Syndicat d'Initiatives and the town of Biarritz, and of the municipality of Pamplona.

Countries from all parts of the world are being invited to send representative groups of dancers and singers. Only authentic folk music will be performed and as far as possible it will be executed by traditional dancers and singers.

There will be three Conference sessions and short communications on the following subjects are invited:

1. Ritual and ceremonial dances and songs (with illustrations), preference being given to those that will be performed at the Festival.
2. Folk music (dance and song) in education. Intending speakers are asked to amplify or comment on the report adopted by the Fifth Conference and published in the *Journal of the International Folk Music Council*, Volume V.
3. The distinction between "folk" and "popular."

For further particulars apply to the Honorary Secretary, International Folk Music Council, 12, Clorane Gardens, London, N.W.3.

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LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD

The Sixth International Music Eisteddfod will be held at Llangollen from July 5th to 12th, 1953. The folk song and dance competitions will take place on Wednesday, July 8th. Particulars can be obtained from Mr. W. S. Gwynn Williams, Llangollen, Wales.