

INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY OF AFRICAN MUSIC

The International Library of African Music, the practical realisation of one of the principal aims of the African Music Society, has made great progress during the year.

Thanks to the Nuffield Foundation, the Library has now become an established organisation, and during the year capital contributions from the Northern Rhodesian Copper Mines, the Union Minière of the Belgian Congo, the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, the De Beers Consolidated Mines and others, have made it possible to start upon the work of providing recordings for the Library's members throughout the continent and elsewhere.

An appeal for financial support and for Corporate and Ordinary Membership of the Library Service was circulated during the year, and the Director visited French Equatorial Africa, the Belgian Congo, the Federation and parts of the Union for this purpose.

Corporate Members include a large proportion of the Gold, Copper, Diamond and Coal Mines throughout southern and central Africa, several of the larger industries and municipalities, all of whom are responsible for the recreation of considerable numbers of African employees.

In addition there are several Ordinary Members, including institutions, University Colleges and private individuals who have joined the Library in this capacity.

The staff of the Library has been increased by the engagement of a Library Manager, Col. H. W. Boardman, and two other members for typing, translating and bookkeeping work.

A modern, professional type magnetic tape recording apparatus for field recording has been purchased and is on its way out from Europe, and a high fidelity cutting lathe and other necessary master-cutting equipment has been installed in the recording rooms at the Library.

Stocks of suitable recordings for distribution to Members of the Library Service are now being accumulated and descriptive information printed.

The Library has set up a joint Research Committee with the University of the Witwatersrand in order to co-ordinate and direct research work in African music and other recreational subjects.

One research officer, Mr. John Blacking, is already working in the Venda country of the Northern Transvaal, studying the music of that tribe, work which has been made possible through the support the Library has received from the National Council for Social Research of the South African Government.

A detailed programme for future research work in African music, dancing and other recreations, as well as for co-operation in anthropological studies such as linguistics which would benefit from phonographic recordings in the field, will shortly be determined, and plans drawn up for their accomplishment and for financial support.

The personnel of the Joint Research Committee is as follows:—

Professor D. T. Cole, (Linguistics) Department of Bantu Studies, University of the Witwatersrand.

Professor R. A. Dart (Anthropology) Medical School, University of the Witwatersrand.

Professor F. H. Hartmann, Department of Music, University of the Witwatersrand.

Dr. S. P. Jackson, Hon. Secretary, South African Liaison Committee, Nuffield Foundation, University of the Witwatersrand.

Emeritus Professor P. R. Kirby, (Musicology) University of the Witwatersrand.

I. Glyn Thomas Esq., Vice-Principal, University of the Witwatersrand.

Dr. P. M. Robbertze, Director, National Council for Social Research, Department of Education, Arts & Science.

A member of the International Library of African Music Committee of Control.

Hugh Tracey Esq., Director, International Library of African Music.

Members of the Committee of Control of the I.L.A.M. are as follows:—

F. Rodseth Esq., Native Affairs Adviser, Anglo-American Corporation.

Dr. S. P. Jackson, Hon. Secretary, South African Liaison Committee, Nuffield Foundation, University of the Witwatersrand.

Monsieur A. Nijs, Consul-General for Belgium.

Miss J. Pim, Chairman, African Music Society.

T.V. Scrivener Esq., Office of the High Commissioner for Basutoland, Swaziland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

(Alternate—G.F. Crawley Esq., Director, U.K. Information Office.)

Monsieur Guy Radenac, Consul for France.

G. W. F. Rely Esq., Anglo-American Corporation.

Hugh Tracey Esq.