

AFRICAN MUSIC

JOURNAL OF THE AFRICAN MUSIC SOCIETY

VOLUME 4

1968

NUMBER 2

EDITORIAL

The objective towards which the Society has been aiming for the past 20 years has been brought a step nearer through the generosity of the Ford Foundation. A grant of \$145,000 has been made available to the International Library of African Music for the purpose of co-ordinating a new development in research into African music. Positive results may now be achieved within a reasonable time limit, firstly in the collection of data, and secondly with a clearly defined objective, — the production of textbooks for educational purposes at all levels.

Further procrastination in this work might not only prove to be the thief of time but of the very foundations of African musical originality. The Grant now made available for these specific purposes is an earnest of the continued international recognition of the Society and its ideals for African musical culture.

As we go to press, no less than 11 Universities in Africa have already indicated their intention of participating in the work.

One of the results of the research, we anticipate, will be an increase in the size of our Journal in the years to come, with articles from research students from each of the participating African territories. As the achievements in this "Cinderella of Africa studies" (as we described our subject in our first editorial of 1948) have been made largely by that small and devoted band of men and women, who have figured in these pages, it is only right that, at this moment, sincere acknowledgement be made to their valuable contribution towards the threshold of the next significant development in the comprehension of the creative art of African music.

THE EDITOR.