

MUSIC NOTES

By IMOGEN HOLST

THE traveller to a foreign country is faced with an ever-increasing problem—the problem of how to pack the largest number of necessities into the smallest possible space. Books and music are particularly difficult to deal with: a couple of dictionaries and Bach's forty-eight preludes and fugues can make a suitcase as heavy as lead.

But luckily folk tunes, which must be numbered among the necessities of life, do not take up any space at all. Held firmly in the memory, they are as light as air, and can pass any barrier without challenge. And the exiled traveller will find that there are enough of them to last for months on end.

It is perhaps just as well that we should accept the beauty of our English folk tunes as a matter of course, and that there should no longer be any need for propaganda on their behalf. They have survived a good deal during the years since Cecil Sharp and the other collectors gave them back to us. They have survived the first wild ecstasy of enthusiasm as well as the endless repetition of a long familiarity. They have survived being murdered (quite often) by singers and players, and mutilated (occasionally) by composers and arrangers. They have survived rallies and syllabuses and gramophone records and highbrow theories in lectures and parodies in West End revues and legal disputes and any number of upheavals, both political and domestic.

They are just there. And wherever we go, there can be no question of leaving them behind.

[We are fortunate in having secured Everal de Jersey as writer of "Music Notes" in the next volume.—ED.]

DANCES OF THE RENAISSANCE and the Court of Louis XIV. Margaret Donington and John Guthrie are holding classes at Cecil Sharp House on Mondays at 8.30 p.m. Beginners welcomed. They also give demonstrations.

RECORDERS. Margaret Donington is also holding a Recorder class on alternate Mondays, from 7-8 p.m.

For further information please apply to Margaret Donington, Barn Close, Haslemere, Surrey, or at Cecil Sharp House.

(PERSONAL ADVERT)

PRESENTATION OF
GOLD BADGE

ON June 10th the gold badge of the English Folk Dance and Song Society was presented to Miss Agnes Gilchrist by the Society's President, the Dowager Lady Ampthill, on the occasion of the Festival of the North Lancashire Branch at Quernmore Park.

The gold badge of the Society is its highest honour and this is only the ninth occasion on which the badge has been presented. The names of those to whom the badge has previously been presented are: Lady Mary Trefusis, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Kimber, Miss Karpeles, Mrs. Storrow, Mrs. Shuldham Shaw, Mr. Bonham Carter and Miss Lawrence.

Miss Gilchrist has been for many years a member of the Society and earlier still was a member of the Folk Song Society which was founded in 1898 and amalgamated in 1932 with the present English Folk Dance and Song Society.

Over a period of forty years Miss Gilchrist has rendered signal service both to the Society and to the Folk Art movement in general by her contributions to the Journals of the Folk Song Society and the English Folk Dance Society. Miss Gilchrist has probably a greater knowledge of traditional English folk song than anyone now living.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. Wanted in September, 1939. Branch Teacher and Organiser. Salary: £180 p.a. Travelling allowance £12 per term, possession of car practically essential. Applications as soon as possible to MISS WARREN, 46 SUTTON PASSEYS CRESCENT, WOLLATON PARK, NOTTINGHAM.

FOR SALE. Wheatstone Treble CONCERTINA, in case. As new; any reasonable offer considered. Hunt, Hermione, Chiswick Mall, W. 4.

CORNWALL, TINTAGEL (near). TO LET: Furnished Bungalow; sleep 5; electric light, garage, garden; magnificent sea views; near bathing, golf, tennis. August, 5 guineas weekly; July, September, 4. Welch, 27 Three Beaches, Paignton, Devon.

(PERSONAL ADVERTS)

DANCERS

on to sugar. Add
ours. Add tartaric
ours. Bottle with
or at least a month.
3 grape-fruit and
h less sugar. When
or be very careful

ical and refreshing

M.V.