

MUSICAL EDUCATION THRU CHORAL SINGING

Choral singing is the most readily accessible form of musical initiation and should be much more widely used among young people. This was the conclusion of three distinguished composers — Zoltan Kodaly (Hungary), Luigi Dallapiccola (Italy) and Andre Jolivet (France) — speaking at a Forum on the Musical Education of Youth held at Unesco House last month. The Forum, which received financial assistance from Unesco, was organized by the International Federation of Jeunesses Musicales as the crowning event of its 20th Anniversary Congress.

Kodaly, recalling the creation of early musical education programs in Budapest after the 1st World War, pointed out that several hundred Hungarian schools now offer daily instruction in choral singing. Choral singing, he said is the most wide-

spread method — and one of the most rewarding ways — of attracting young people away from “worthless and possibly even harmful pastimes.”

“Records,” said Mr. Dallapiccola, “are an invaluable source of information” for the young music-lover. But they may also be “dangerous by pandering to laziness,” for the tendency today is to “confuse culture with mere information.” Citing the case of Hamburg, where, with a population of 1,700,000, there are some 400 permanent choral groups, he urged his young listeners to “participate actively in music,” in particular through choral singing.

Pointing to the need for training and employing increasing numbers of music teachers, Andre Jolivet said that many young people hesitate to embark on careers in this field because there

are not enough good posts available. Yet, he said, technological society is creating a "formidable vacuum of unoccupied time and energy" which must be filled by worthwhile distractions and not just by "pin-tables and fruit-machines." Like Kodaly and Dallapiccola he stressed the "exaltation" of choral singing, though he warned that it must be done well if

it is to be done at all.

The International Federation of Jeunesses Musicales has member organizations in 26 countries including Poland and the United States of America whose national musical youth groups joined at the 20th Congress. The Federation was one of the founding member organizations, with Unesco, of the International Music Council.

POWER

Justice without power is inefficient; power without justice is tyranny. Justice without power is opposed, because there are always wicked men. Power without justice is soon questioned. Justice and power must therefore be brought together, so that whatever is just may be powerful, and whatever is powerful may be just. — *Pascal*.