



Poland, report 1994

The most important achievement of the Polish National Branch for the year 1994 was the completion of editorial work on the second edition of “Przewodnik po bibliotekach i zbiorach muzycznych w Polsce” or the “Directory of music libraries and collections in Poland.” The new enlarged edition comprises information about music collections in 70 institutions as: general research and public libraries which have separate music departments in their organizational structure, music academies libraries, music societies and libraries of other institutions, and music collections not organized as a department as in some museums or ecclesiastical libraries. The second edition is more comprehensive than the first. Thanks to musicological studies in the last ten years, many unknown sources have been discovered, while technical progress places new tasks before music libraries. So each chapter concerning particular libraries in the new directory has been enlarged by a brief description of the history and character of the collections, information about automation techniques used in everyday library work, and a bibliography of current literature. The typewritten copy comprising information from about 70 music collections has now gone to the press.

Another positive event is the adoption of a uniform computer system named OPUS by all the eight music academies libraries. The OPUS system has been prepared together by music librarians and computer specialists in the Music Academy Library in Gdansk which supplied the first initiative for its creation, and was the first to apply it. In November 1994 OPUS was delivered to other music academies libraries for use. Thus a goal of standardization of computer systems in one group of professional music libraries has been realized.

The only meeting of the board of the Music Libraries Section in the Polish Libraries Association/Polish National IAML Branch held in December 1994, was devoted to summarizing the annual activity and to considering future plans. As to the next national conference of the Polish music librarians which, according to the constitution of the Polish Librarians Association, should be organized every four years - that is in Warsaw in 1995 - it was decided to put it off until 1996, when the Music Department in the modern building of the National Library will be quite in order and may be shown to the participants of the conference. In 1995 meetings of particular groups of music libraries will be organized to discuss some general current problems such as: copyright law, computer systems in everyday library functions, current music bibliographies, and participation of Polish music libraries in cooperation with international repertories, bibliographies, and other publications.



Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)

International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)

Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)

Page 2 of 2

The board of the Music Libraries Section authorized our colleague Jolanta Byczkowska-Sztaba, who represented the Polish National Branch at the IAML Conference in Ottawa 1994, to inquire as to what time approximately a IAML Conference could be organized in Poland. The term after 2001 convenient for IAML Calendar must now be considered by the Polish music and cultural circles before an answer can be given.

To the field of outreach activities belongs the participation of a Polish delegate at the annual meeting of the German IAML Branch held in Düsseldorf 21-23 September 1994. On the basis of an official invitation the Polish Branch appointed our colleague Elżbieta Wojnowska, research librarian of the Music Department in the National Library, to describe Polish problems and to prepare necessary information. Earlier in July, Dr. Joachim Jaenecke, president of the German IAML Branch, visited Warsaw as a guest of two institutions, the Polish Librarians Association (mainly the Polish National IAML Branch) and the National Library which organized the program for his visit. Ms. Wojnowska participated in all the sessions and events at the conference in Düsseldorf; she also delivered a report entitled "Musikbibliographien und Quellensammlungen in Polen" which will be published in one of the professional German periodicals. Such circumstances allow us to expect successful cooperation between the national IAML branches of our two neighbouring countries.

Włodzimierz Pięła,

President