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Comment

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beautiful one, well schooled, and the intelligence and taste behind it make this record well worth having.

Folk Songs of Israel. Sung by Theodore Bikel. [Elektra EKL-32. Thirteen songs. Notes; full texts in Hebrew, with English transliterations and translations, pronunciation key, etc.] Fine performances by Mr. Bikel, the well known actor, which, though thoroughly professional, are always manly and sensitive and never slick or souped-up. He obviously has a simple, profound respect for his material. In several songs, through the use of multiple recording techniques, Mr. Bikel sings duets with himself. Most of the songs presented here are new songs originating in Israel and illustrate folk music in the making.

HENRY SHULTZ

COMMENT

The Thirty-Second Session of the Institute of World Affairs

WE LIVE IN AN ERA of meetings, conferences and conventions, and undoubtedly we exaggerate this practice. Nevertheless, if we decide to do away with some of them, there is one I should like to keep: The Institute of World Affairs at Riverside. For thirty-two years the University of Southern California, with the collaboration of other institutions of the Pacific area, has been sponsoring this reunion which is, in some aspects, unique.

The participants are not crowded in a hotel of a metropolitan area, meeting in separate rooms with little chance to mingle. Nor do they meet on a university campus, which would give some of us the feeling of continuation of the academic routine. The conference takes place at the Mission Inn, at Riverside, California, with all the advantages of a small community and the facilities of a delightful resort. The Institute does not approve resolutions, nor make motions or recommendations. It is limited to the presentation of papers and discussion of topics in a rather informal and scholarly manner. Each annual session has a general theme that is analyzed and discussed for three days, in a series of plenary sessions and panel meetings.

Last December the Institute held its thirty-second annual session. Its general theme was "America Learns to Lead." The opening session, held on Sunday night, December 11, was devoted to two main addresses on the topic "America's Religious Heritage and World Leadership." The next day the resources of the United States were considered in connection with its role in world politics. This was done in two plenary sessions and six panel discussions. On Tuesday the attention of the delegates was focused on the record of the foreign policy of the United States during the last decade. Several papers placed the emphasis on the world's response and reaction to our leadership. The last session elaborated on the theme of "Leadership for What?", and gave a realistic appraisal and comprehensive treatment to the problem.

The Institute is organized under the administration of a Chancellor, a Director, and an Executive Committee formed by professors and civic leaders of the area. It is also sponsored by a committee of citizens of Riverside.

Of special significance were the approaches used in the European and Latin American panels the second day of the session. Instead of considering the policies and aims of the United States, delegates and audience examined the point of view of the other countries. Reports and discussions were centered on the emergence of the United States as a world power, and the problems created for other nations as a result of this change in the balance of power. In the European panel the discussions covered such topics as: "What should be the U. S. policy with regard to European unity, coexistence, and East-West *rapprochement*?" In the Latin American panel attention was given to the problems of our close neighbors, forced by geography to live under the influence of a super-power.

The general tone of the speakers and mood of the audience was different from the 1954 meeting. A year ago emphasis was on the military aspect of world affairs and the dangers of subversive activities. This year the delegates and public, free from the tension of a possibility of total war, seemed to be more interested in the diplomatic and political aspect of our leadership. It seems that among internationalists belief in the imminence of a world war has been gradually disappearing. It is possible that the cold war is over and that we have entered the era of a cold peace.

MIGUEL JORRÍN