

May 5, 1958

Dear Friends,

The accompanying tape recording is of the Palama Settlement Children's Chorus, a group of 40 girls from 8 to 12 years of age.

Palama Settlement is located in Honolulu in the Hawaiian Islands.

The songs on this tape were recorded at rehearsals and recitals since November 1957 and reflect the variety of cultural background of the people of Hawaii.

The project of making the tape to exchange with Settlement Houses on the mainland was one of several ideas designed to unite the members of the chorus and which we hope will have the nice result of making new friends outside our own community.

You will notice there is nothing fancy about the song arrangements, or their method of presentation. They are simply folk songs and we sing them pretty much as they sound to us when we hear others singing them.

Finding the songs is not a big problem since there are six major nationalities and many minorities among our people each with a colorful and rich heritage of folksong. The songs on this tape recording are those that will be included in Palama Settlement's forthcoming book FOLK SONGS OF HAWAII AND THE PACIFIC NATIONS.

The selection does not include songs from America since the latter are so well represented already in our school song books and school performances. We think that songs from the Western Pacific nations of Japan, Korea, China, the Philippines and Hawaii itself would be of more interest to you.

We have been singing together since September 1957 and rehearse from 9 to 10:30 on Saturday mornings.

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Next year we hope to rehearse twice a week and improve the quality of our singing. In the meantime if you have any singing or musical groups at your agency that would enjoy this tape we would be very happy. We would be especially pleased if you would send us an informal tape of some of your own musical activities - a tape recording - pals club between our Settlements.

The tape is to be played back at $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches per second on either half track or full track heads. It was recorded on a Magnecorder.

Hope you enjoy meeting us through our songs - and hoping to meet you through yours, we remain,

The Palama Settlement Children's Chorus
John M. Kelly Jr., Conductor

JMK:dm