

16th July, 1947

Eisteddfod. 2374

● The first International Musical Eisteddfod, at Llangollen, was a success, reflecting credit upon the local organisation undertaken by the town and in particular upon the fine spirit with which the townspeople and the surrounding villagers received the overseas choirs.

As the Festival's founder I accepted the suggestion that Llangollen should be the venue of the first International Eisteddfod because of my confidence that the townspeople could provide a splendid local structure in which the overseas choirs could meet in friendly competition.

It has been suggested to me, among other things, that it should follow the tradition of the National Eisteddfod of Wales and be held in a different town each year. It has even been suggested that it should be held in a different country each year.

The question of its venue in subsequent years and other details of its overseas links require an exchange of views in the light of experience, which I am now arranging between interested people at home and abroad who contributed all the international features at the first International Eisteddfod.

If readers have suggestions which they would wish to be considered by those who made this year's international events possible, I should be grateful if they would write to me.—Harold Tudor, High-street, Coedpoeth, Wrexham.

THE GUARDIAN

MANCHESTER, SATURDAY,

June 28, 1947

AN EISTEDDFOD

To the Editor of the Manchester Guardian

Sir,—It will be generally agreed that the first International Musical Eisteddfod held at Llangollen was a success, reflecting great credit upon the local organisation undertaken by the town and in particular upon the fine spirit with which the townspeople and the surrounding villagers received the overseas choirs.

I have received several inquiries concerning the future of the International Eisteddfod. It has been suggested to me, among other things, that it should follow the tradition of the National Eisteddfod of Wales and be held in a different town each year. It has even been suggested that it should be held in a different country each year, and, in fact, Hungary is considering having a similar festival there next year.

The International Eisteddfod, because it adapts to international service an honourable tradition of Welsh life, is obviously an event for which I particularly feel Wales as a whole has some responsibility, and the question of its venue in subsequent years and other details of its overseas links require an exchange of views. If any of your readers have suggestions which they would wish to be considered by those who made this year's international event possible, I should be grateful if they would write to me.

—Yours, &c.,

HAROLD TUDOR.

86, High Street, Coedpoeth,
Wrexham, North Wales,
June 23.

Daily Post

LIVERPOOL, MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1947

**The International
Eisteddfod**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY POST.

Sir,—It will be generally agreed that the first International Musical Eisteddfod at Llangollen was a success, reflecting great credit upon the local organisation and in particular upon the fine spirit in which the townspeople and the surrounding villagers received the overseas choirs.

As the Festival's founder I accepted the suggestion that Llangollen should be the venue of the first International Eisteddfod because of my confidence that the townspeople could provide a splendid local structure in which the overseas choirs, approached by the British Council, Mr. W. S. Gwynn Williams and myself, could meet in friendly competition. Our confidence was well justified.

It has been suggested to me, among other things, that the International Eisteddfod should follow the tradition of the National Eisteddfod of Wales and be held in a different town each year, or in a different country. The International Eisteddfod is obviously an event for which I particularly feel Wales has some responsibility, and the question of its venue and other details require an exchange of views which I am now arranging between people at home and abroad. If any readers have suggestions I should be grateful if they would write to me at 86 High Street, Coedpoeth, Wrexham.

Yours, &c., HAROLD TUDOR. *

Daily Post

LIVERPOOL, THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1947

INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD

Permanent festival

Steps were taken at a meeting of the General Council at Llangollen last night to make the International Eisteddfod a permanent institution in the town, and also to organise another Eisteddfod next year in view of the success of the recent one.

In order to safeguard the aims and permanence of the Eisteddfod, the meeting approved a recommendation that a board should be appointed comprising a representative of the Llangollen Council, Mr. W. S. Gwynn Williams (musical director), Mr. Harold Tudor (British Council) and Mr. G. S. Northing.

The Board will have power to co-opt three members of international standing, and they will control the venue of future festivals.

The main point of the resolution is that the International Eisteddfod will be an annual fixture in the town so long as it is wanted.

Presenting the financial statement, Major E. Denby-Jones, chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that there was a profit of £2,175 16s 10d. Total receipts were £5,825 18s 8d, and expenses £3,649 18s 10d.

Mr. Northing, chairman, paid tribute to the officials.

Mr. H. Tudor said that at least three new foreign choirs would compete next year.

THE FIRST CRISIS

June 13, 1947: Friday of first Eisteddfod
Clayton Russon expresses organisers' intent to hold future festivals in Llangollen

June 14, 1947: Saturday of first Eisteddfod.
Harold Tudor offers resignation, not accepted pending full board meeting.

Minutes of extraordinary board meeting

.June 20, 1947: Tudor writes to 10 newspapers canvassing suggestions about alternative venues: published over the next three weeks.

Papers from Clayton Russon and Tudor archives

July 16, 1947: Eisteddfod General Council agrees to hold an Eisteddfod in 1948, and to make the event permanent in Llangollen "SO LONG AS IT IS WANTED".

Reported in Daily Post, July 17, 1947