

# Kidds Travel the World in Search of New Tunes

Elizabeth Ayres Kidd's love of music has taken her and her husband into some out of the way places in their travels about the world.

Mrs. Kidd has collected more than 300 folk instruments which she keeps in display cases in her Glenview home. Even to an untutored eye the graceful forms of wind and string instruments from foreign countries are comprehensive enough, but there are others of all shapes, sizes, and intricacies which testify to the ingenuity of man the world over.

## Plays Each One

Mrs. Kidd can play each of these instruments, which she uses to illustrate lectures. Her demonstrations also include tape recordings of a native playing a folk song on the same kind of instrument.

Altho music has been her lifetime study, both academically and at the keyboard, Mrs. Kidd herself isn't sure how she is able to play so many different instruments. "Something in me just gets busy and plays," she said, with a smile.

## Six Month Tour

The Kidds recently returned from an extensive six month trip around the world, including Japan, Taiwan, Manila, India, Turkey, Spain, and Puerto Rico, among other countries.

"My husband mans the tape recorder," Mrs. Kidd said. "We go to each country with our procedure for obtaining the instruments and on-the-spot recordings unplanned."

## Japanese Lullaby

When in Okinawa, Mrs. Kidd wanted to record an old Japanese lullaby. An American army officer, an accidental acquaintance, was able to take them to a home employing a Japanese maid who took care of the family's little boy. The Kidds recorded her singing her small charge to sleep.

To get a tape of a native playing a Cretan bag pipe made from sheep hide, the Kidds brought the peasant from whom they had bought it down to their electricity-supplied hotel. "He was very poor, and had seven children," Mrs. Kidd said,

## Greek Specialty

Mrs. Kidd's specialty is Greece. Her college majors were Latin and Greek, and the thesis for her master's degree was on ancient Greek music.

The Kidds' three children all learned to play musical instruments but none of them has taken it up as a career. Mr. Kidd, a real-estate broker,



[TRIBUNE Staff Photos]

Mrs. Eugene Kidd, 1553 Hawthorn lane, Glenview, is able to play more than 300 instruments she has collected from all over the world. Mrs. Kidd will use this moon guitar in her next lecture Thursday at the Chicago Public library.

shares the interest but is not a musician.

Mrs. Kidd finds herself in increasing demand at elementary and high schools and colleges. "I think there is a growing interest in the music of other countries on the part of Americans. There is much more interest shown today in the actual instruments themselves and the native music than when I began lecturing 15 years ago.

## Does the Hula

"This is part of America's increasing awareness of foreign cultures," Mrs. Kidd said. "Once I was lecturing on Ha-

waiian music in a grade school in Delaware, and a little girl got up and began to hula. Soon everyone was clapping and singing."

The music expert's current engagement is with the Chicago Public library's free noon hour programs. She will lecture on music around the world on Thursday.