

ALKAN SOCIETY

On Tuesday, January 18th, four enthusiasts met Ronald Smith to discuss ideas concerning the proposed Society. They were:- Robert Collet (Guildhall School of Music), Martin Ball (Dulwich College), John Snelling (Blackheath) and John White.

Suggestions were:-

1. There should be three classes of members:-

- (i) Those in the London area who can attend Meetings:
- (ii) Those well out of London who could but rarely attend Meetings but are in sympathy with, and wish to support, the project:
- (iii) Full-time students (in any faculty).

Subscriptions might be £2, £1 and 50p respectively.

2. There should be three Meetings per year in London - say October, January and April - at each of which a talented Alkan enthusiast would give an illustrated talk on some aspect of Alkan's life and work.

3. The arrangements should run for one year and then, in the Spring of 1978, an official Business Meeting would proceed to elect Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and members of a small Committee. By that time, people would know one another better and the membership should have increased.

These, and other matters, will be presented at the Inaugural Meeting of the Society, when further suggestions will be invited. This Meeting may be held in London late in the month of May\* - a little while before Ronald Smith's Alkan Recital at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Thursday, May 26th. It might well be combined with a talk by Ronald Smith on the Alkan music he will play on the 26th.

\* Probably in the week beginning May 16th.

J.H.White

(Acting Temporary Hon. Secretary)

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NOTES:- Ronald Smith has just recorded, for E.M.I., the whole of the Studies in minor keys Op.39. Discs should be available in September.

(3/2/77)

He has also recorded, for the B.B.C., four talks on Alkan to be broadcast at some future date on the Third Programme. They will deal with the Op.39 and the "Grande Sonate" Op.33.