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Scottish Country
Dance Society
Bulletin.

No. 35.

OCTOBER 1957.



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THE LATE DUKE OF ATHOLL
President of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

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The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Bulletin

No. 35.

October 1957.

THE deaths of our President, the late Duke of Atholl, and of one of our Honorary Vice-Presidents, Vice-Admiral, the Mackintosh of Mackintosh, have been grievous blows to the Society. The Duke of Atholl, better known to our members as Lord James Stewart Murray, gave valuable service in a great variety of ways. His knowledge of Scottish customs, traditions and music will be greatly missed. Personal tributes are paid to him in this issue of the "Bulletin" by the two founders, Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich and Miss Jean C. Milligan.

Annual Report

IN 1957 a Society concerned with the preservation, revival and practice of its National dances must be aware that the word "dance" to-day has a myriad of meanings and interpretations. Television now gives us opportunities of watching dance in all its various forms and there is often much to learn and admire. It is encouraging however, that although there are many new fashions in dance, Scottish Country dancing still retains its popularity. This is shown in the numbers attending classes, the continuance of Scottish Country dancing in Festival programmes, innumerable requests for demonstration teams, both at home and abroad, and in the increased applications for the annual Summer School at St. Andrews.

The work of the Society has continued to benefit through publicity in the press, by radio and television. As a result of the latter excellent reports have been received and many comments have been made. What seems to make the appeal to ear and eye is the music that quickens the pulse, the vital spirit of the dance so evident in a beautiful flow of movement and the general ease and happiness of expression emanating from the dancers. True, we have our critics which in itself is a healthy sign showing that there is a very widespread interest in the subject.

A weekly national paper has had a number of letters published criticising the work of the Society from people who think the teaching of Scottish Country dancing has become "emasculated, lacking in vigour and precious." These criticisms have been suitably answered by many correspondents who obviously can prove that the Society has done a wonderful job in rescuing from oblivion the beautiful dances of Scotland, and has not in any way sought to make them a stylised form of dancing. One letter from Natal speaks of the memory of a visit to Scotland in 1952 where the hallmarks of the Scottish Country dancing were "beauty, poise, vigorous dancing, gaiety and abandon." What must be realised is that there are unfortunately quite a number of teachers who do over-stress precision of footwork and formation and who, therefore, deserve the stigma of the word stylisation. It is sad that a Society formed to encourage the happy democratic dancing of Scotland should be thus incorrectly interpreted to many people.

The following items of general interest to members will amplify the Branch reports.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND AUTUMN SCHOOL. The Annual General Meeting was held on 27th October 1956 in Dundee. The Dundee Branch gave generous hospitality to representatives of the Executive Council by providing an excellent

Luncheon and many of the members were entertained to tea after the meeting. On Friday evening a Ball was held, at which demonstrations were given by the International Team, and on Saturday evening large numbers attended the dance. Classes were held on Saturday morning and these were taught by Dundee Branch teachers. After the Annual General Meeting Miss Milligan taught a large class of visiting members. All the functions and classes were much appreciated and the Executive Council takes this opportunity of thanking Dundee Branch for all they did to make the week-end so successful.

PASSAU FOLK DANCE GROUP. By the time this report is in print many members will have seen demonstrations given by a group of Bavarian folk dancers who have been invited by the Society to come to Scotland in September. Arrangements have been made for visits to seven Branches. Arriving in London and staying overnight, the group will then visit Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Inverness, Dundee, Dumfries and Glasgow. In this way they will be able to meet and dance with our members and to see a large part of Scotland.

"SCOTLAND DANCES." This is the title of a film in colour made by the Films of Scotland Committee in co-operation with the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. The film was shot in different parts of Scotland, several Branches taking part. It is hoped that members attending the Autumn School will see the film which will be shown in a cinema in Largs. After its first showing to a Film Conference in The Hague, when it was received with acclamation by representatives of seven nations, a Belgian, turning to the Director, said, "I go to Scotland!" The film's premiere was given during the Edinburgh International Festival in August and it is hoped will be released to cinema circuits in the United Kingdom and overseas.

NEW PUBLICATION. Twelve traditional dances have been selected for publication in the autumn. The dances were submitted to the Publications Committee by Miss Milligan, who is also responsible for choosing suitable music from traditional sources. Dr Herbert Wiseman has arranged the music.

MEMBERSHIP. The membership of the Society has maintained its level of last year and there are approximately 16,225 members. Branch membership is now 79, one new Branch having been added and the number of Affiliated Groups is now 140.

EXAMINATIONS. During the year examinations have been held in the following centres:—Ayr, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Portrush, Whitehead. Examinations were also held in Craiglockhart R.C. Training College, Edinburgh; Dunfermline College of Physical Education, Aberdeen; Jordanhill Training College, Glasgow; Notre Dame R.C. Training College, Glasgow; and the Scottish School of Physical Education, Glasgow. In the Preliminary Test there were 197 Passes and 38 Failures; in the Teachers' Certificate examination there were 71 Passes and 7 Failures.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD. It is interesting to record that along with many other organisations the Society was asked to draw up a scheme under the "Pursuits" Section of the Syllabus for boys aged 15 to 17. This was submitted and approved and it is hoped that in due course candidates will be examined by the Society's examiners. Plans are in progress for a similar scheme for girls.

SUMMER SCHOOL. The twenty-sixth Summer School was held in University Hall, St. Andrews, from 22nd July to 19th August, and again four of the University Residences were filled to capacity. The Executive Council takes this opportunity of thanking Miss Milligan and her staff of teachers and pianists for making the School so valuable and so enjoyable for so many.

Appreciations of the late Lord James

LORD JAMES STEWART MURRAY was President of the Society for over thirty years, and its very good friend. He was seldom absent from the Annual General Meeting, no matter how far from home he had to travel to attend it, and was interested in all the activities, joining keenly in the dancing.

His was a retiring nature, and, while sincerely proud of his ancient lineage and the noble family that he represented he rarely used his title, preferring to be "Hamish Murray" to his friends.

One thinks of the first years of the Society when he used to meet the Founders at some gymnasium in the Cowcaddens to form the panel of examiners for the first teachers used by the Society: at other times firmly upholding the methods agreed upon by the Society in face of those who thought their way was better—those dances, mostly in Book 1, which were still extant, often being performed differently in various parts of Scotland.

Suffering in the Great War left him susceptible to very severe headaches, which made it difficult at times for him to concentrate on the business in hand. Nevertheless he always did his best to fulfil his duties in the Chair.

He was friendly with everyone and thoroughly enjoyed a joke, seeing the humorous side of things very quickly.

To Lord James and to his sister, Lady Dorothea Ruggles-Brise, who put her wonderful collection of Scottish Dance music, as well as her knowledge, at the disposal of the Society, we owe a great debt of gratitude and of thankful remembrance.

YSOBEL STEWART OF FASNACLOICH.

TO the great number of members of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, their President the Duke of Atholl was merely an ageing man, rather deaf and gradually losing his sight, who appeared at the Annual General Meeting. But to those of us who had known him in the early days "Lord James" was the outstanding figure of the Society.

Our first President was Brigadier-General Cheape, but by 1924 the Lord James Stewart Murray had taken his place. He presided at the first Annual General Meeting and from the very first showed his deep interest in the work of the Society. Nothing was too unimportant for his enthusiasm. I well remember his going with me to schools where it was rumoured good dancing was being done and his visits to see the Physical Education men at Jordanhill in whom he was deeply interested. In them he saw a potential strength for the Scottish Country Dance Society in their teaching the subject to boys all over the country.

He was always encouraging and friendly but did not hesitate to criticise firmly and well.

He came with Mrs Stewart and me to the inauguration of Branch after Branch. He helped to examine certificate candidates and on one never-to-be-forgotten occasion came with us to inspect a teacher who had been reported to us as unworthy of her Certificate. I remember how decided he was that her qualification should be withdrawn—as it was.

It was in these moments of difficulty which so often arise in a young Society that Lord James was such a support to us.

He attended practically every meeting, small or large, held by the Society. He spoke of our work publicly and he showed his interest by attending Scottish Country Dances and Balls, Musical Festivals and demonstrations.

I remember how proud he was, after the Society had been running for a year or two, to tell us that at the Perth Hunt Balls instead of about eight brave people getting up to dance the Country Dances as they did before the Society was formed. Now a whole room was filled with enthusiastic Country dancers.

In all these ways he helped to foster the work of the Society and much of its present wonderful success is owing to the Duke of Atholl, our late President, and may I say, to Lord James our friend.

May I finish with a little personal note of affection and regret. Lord James was always so very kind to me—teasing me about being a bit of a Mussolini, about being a Glaswegian—pitying me on account of the weather, the Clydeside troublemakers and especially about being a CAMPBELL.

JEAN C. MILLIGAN.

Branch Reports

ABERDEEN. Secretary, Miss A. O. Cumming, 19 Mile End Avenue, Aberdeen.—Six adult classes and five children's classes met weekly while a class of Preliminary Certificate trained by Miss B. Anderson also met—seven passed the test. In September a Refresher class for Certificated Members was taken by Miss B. Anderson at which they studied the No. 4 Mrs Macnab selection and the new book published by Collins.

Two enjoyable Balls were held in Beach Ballroom in December and March.

At 1957 Scottish Country Dance Festival there was a record entry of 147 teams. At this the Branch was represented by eight Adult and four Children's teams—all did well. In Women's Open Class two of the teams won Honours Diplomas and the Lady Sempill Trophy while Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Dancers won the Kerr Cup and an Honours Diploma.

The Aberdeen Scottish Country Dance Club completed its sixth session when many happy evenings were spent in social dancing.

On 19th September a team of Bavarian dancers will visit Aberdeen on the Branch's invitation. They are to receive a Civic Lunch and then be shown round the town by a special bus. In the evening they will perform at a Scottish Concert in Assembly Hall of Aberdeen High School along with Scottish instrumentalists, vocalists, and the holders of the Kerr Trophy.

Nan Main, one of our pianists and a Life Member of the Branch, has had a book of twenty-three tunes published for the twenty-three hitherto unpublished dances in the Collins Book of 101 Dances.

ADELAIDE. Secretary, Mr E. N. S. Jackson, 46 Tusmore Avenue, Tusmore, South Australia.—Although membership of the Branch has fallen slightly to 56, a most successful season is being held under the instruction of Mrs M. Goldie.

Some of our members now resident in the satellite town of Elizabeth, which is too far distant for them to attend our classes regularly, have now started conducting regular dances at the new town with encouraging results.

At the Annual Meeting Mrs S. Rattray tendered her resignation as Hon. Secretary of the Branch. This was accepted with regret and a vote of thanks was recorded for her generous service from the very foundation of this Branch five years ago.

AIRDRIE, COATBRIDGE and DISTRICT. Secretary, Miss E. Provan, 166 Aitchison Street, Airdrie.—The past year has shown a small reduction in membership—154 against 164 from last year, but nevertheless we have had a most enjoyable year. Branch classes

were well attended and the membership in the juvenile class was 185. Our thanks are due to all teachers and pianists for all their hard work and encouragement given during the session.

On 4th April the juvenile class once again gave a display of dancing to their parents, which was very successful and on 10th April the Branch held their Annual Dance, which was most enjoyable.

ANNAN. Secretary, Miss B. M. Calver, 90 High Street, Annan.—Although there has been a further decrease in the membership of the Branch, the classes and social evenings have been well attended. Two weekly classes were formed at the beginning of the session and after Christmas a third class for advanced dancing and demonstration work was formed. This latter class, taught by Miss Stafford, gave a very successful display of dancing at the end of the session. It was with great regret that, because of petrol rationing, we had to cancel our Ball this year. But members of the Branch enthusiastically attended Balls held by neighbouring Branches—Lockerbie, Dumfries, Carlisle and Kirkcudbright. The Branch is indebted to its teachers and pianists whose excellent work contributed so largely to the successful running of the classes.

ARBROATH. Secretary, Miss D. W. T. Soutar, 14 Addison Place, Arbroath.—The Branch suffered a grievous loss by the death of Mrs A. E. Robertson, who had been Secretary since the inception of the Angus Branch, now reconstituted the Arbroath Branch. A founder member of the movement, she gave most willing and efficient service in all parts of the county.

The membership of the Branch totals 249 Ordinary and 9 Life Members. Well attended classes were held in all Centres with the various annual functions being outstanding highlights of a successful season.

AUCHTERARDER. Secretary, Mrs H. C. Hunter, 36 Queen's Terrace, Auchterarder.—Although there was a further decline in membership during the past year, the weekly class, under the instruction of Miss C. R. Duff, proved very enjoyable. Unfortunately, Miss Duff has had to resign as Teacher and we regret this very much. She has been untiring in her efforts to make the evenings enjoyable and her enthusiasm was infectious.

During the season we held two dances and these were well supported by neighbouring Clubs. On both occasions the music was provided by R. Simpson's Band.

AYR. Secretary, Miss J. Galloway, Pearl Cottage, Monkton, nr. Prestwick.—Season 1956-57 was both enjoyable and successful for the Ayr Branch—our membership reaching the record total of 24 Life and 516 Annual Members.

The Branch was delighted when Miss Helen McKinnon was invited to go to Bavaria with the International Team. The next event of interest was our Week-end School when many members greatly appreciated the help and instruction of the visiting Staff—Mrs West, Miss Doris Robertson, Mr Macleod and Mr Little. Branch classes were well attended, the "technique" class proving so popular that it ran continuously till the end of June. A successful Certificate Class was held, several candidates obtaining either the Preliminary or Full Certificate of the Society. At the Ayrshire Music Festival Miss Milligan was welcomed back as Adjudicator—judging by the attendance at her sessions Miss Milligan has made a lot of friends in Ayr and district. All Branch teams did well—the mixed team again gaining first place in their class. During the season, both the mixed team and the ladies' team gave many demonstrations and a fitting reward for all their hard work and that of their coach, Miss MacArthur, came in May when both teams competed in the Edinburgh Competitive Music Festival, the ladies' team being adjudged first in their section and the mixed team also gaining high commendation. The Social activities of the Branch culminated in our Annual Ball at the Heads of Ayr

Hotel where a large company of Branch members, friends and neighbours danced to the music of Mrs Assur (our popular Branch pianist) and her band.

During the season Ayr Branch members attended several week-end Schools in other districts and we all feel we have made many friends outwith our own Branch area.

AYRSHIRE, North-West. Secretary, Miss A. Stevenson, 192 High Road, Saltcoats.—Membership has shown a small decrease this year, the total is now is 388, which includes 3 Life Members.

The past year has been an international one for our teams. Demonstrations were given before visiting Russian and Chinese Delegations. At the former our members taught the visitors "The Gay Gordons."

Our Ladies' Team were successful at the Ayr Music Festival, gaining first place in their class, and so gaining the Ayr Branch Trophy.

The usual programme of Monthly Dances throughout the area continued, as well as the Christmas, Easter and Summer Dances, and many happy evenings were enjoyed.

The Children's Class had a big increase in membership, and ended a successful session with a very fine display before a crowded audience.

BANFFSHIRE. Secretary, Mrs E. Smith, 18 Yuill Avenue, Buckie.—The year 1956-57 has been in every way a highly successful one for our Branch. The membership has increased considerably and our aim which is to have every town, village and rural area of the county represented in the Branch is getting near fulfilment.

A number of new members have been enrolled in Macduff and Portessie and for this we are grateful to Miss E. Forbes, Macduff, and to our President, Mrs N. K. W. Duncan, who have encouraged these new groups.

Classes were held at many places throughout the county and good attendances have been recorded.

A most successful County Rally was held in the Fishermen's Hall, Buckie, early in March when the gathering included not only Banffshire members but also a large number from Morayshire.

BATH. Secretary, Mr A. Smith, "Hawkeswell Villa," Keynsham, nr. Bristol.—Membership is now 80 with one Life Member. The classes were increased to three per week and very well attended.

In addition to the Annual Ball (which was again voted a great success) the Branch arranged a "Family Dance" at New Year, when the young folks foregathered with their parents. This was so successful that it has been decided to repeat it.

Miss Betty Brown, Branch Representative, attended the Executive Council Meeting at St. Andrews.

BELFAST. Secretary, Mr P. I. M. Ferguson, 434 Lisburn Road, Belfast.—The Branch has had another year of quiet if unspectacular progress. The nine Branch classes have all been well supported and the membership of the Branch shows a slight increase in numbers, having now reached 309 Annual and 4 Life Members.

During the year the Branch was glad to welcome back again Mrs Gudger as the Teacher at the Spring Week-end School, and to welcome for the first time Mrs Lesslie, who came to the Autumn Week-end School. Both these Schools were well attended and the Branch benefited from the excellent work of the two visiting teachers.

During the summer months the Bangor Class of the Branch was responsible for open-air dancing on the Promenade at Bangor and on these occasions the Branch members were glad to meet representatives from Scottish and English Branches who were spending their holidays in Northern Ireland.

During the year the Branch held the usual number of Class Parties and Dances which proved both successful and most enjoyable.

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED. Secretary, Miss D. D. Martin, 17 Castle Terrace, Berwick-upon-Tweed.—We have had a very satisfactory increase in membership this year—the total now stands at 85 Adult and 30 Juvenile Members.

We have again had classes under Miss Lough and Mrs Edney each week, both of which have been well attended.

The Juvenile membership has increased this year and with Mrs Small in charge several small social events have been organised and have received enthusiastic support.

Our Annual Ball was a great success and is proving one of the most popular events in the Borders, whilst our "Social" held in March was an enjoyable and profitable evening.

BIRMINGHAM. Secretary, Mrs E. E. Abbott, 158 Franklin Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, 30.—The membership of the Branch is now 138, which includes 22 Life Members—this is the same as last year.

We have had a very busy and enjoyable year, the classes, although not under the auspices of the Branch, were very well attended. Socials were held approximately once a month and these were very well supported by our own members and by members of other organisations and clubs in the Midlands. A very successful dance was held in the Autumn—the music on this occasion was supplied by Donald McBain and his Scottish Country Dance Band.

The Demonstration Group has had a busy year. Demonstrations to all kinds of Societies and Clubs have been given, including an I.T.V. appearance.

In November a Week-end School was again held at Lilleshall Hall, in conjunction with the Wolverhampton Branch, and although the number of places available was limited, the course was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

BLAIR ATHOLL. Secretary, Mr J. A. Morrison, 6 Blackwood Place, Bridge of Tilt, Blair Atholl.—There was a wonderful response to our invitation for the Annual Ball, which was again held in Blair Castle.

There was a slight decrease in membership again this season, leaving us with 20 members.

A few members of the Club assisted in the Film, "Scotland Dances," by dancing an Eightsome Reel in the Castle Ballroom.

The Club again held a dance while the International Boy Scout Jamborette was being held. This proved a great attraction for both foreign and Scottish Scouts who joined wholeheartedly into the fun of the evening.

BOSTON. Secretary, Miss F. Mattison, 18 Palmer Street, Cambridge 38, Mass., U.S.A.—Scottish Country dancing continues to gain enthusiasts in the United States. Membership in the Branch has increased to 180 in 1957.

Demonstrations given by the group included sending three sets to New York for the 200th anniversary celebration of the St. Andrew's Society of New York. Exhibitions at the Highland Games of Clan Sutherland, The New England Folk Festival and the Boston Arts Festival were viewed by thousands, many of whom have since joined us in our classes.

The second Highland Ball, held at the Sheraton Hotel, recreated all the gaiety and elegance of the traditional Tartan Ball. Lovely Pinewoods Camp, near Plymouth, Mass., saw 130 dancers from Canada and the United States gather for the third annual week-end of Scottish dance instruction and fun under the capable leadership of our Director, Miss Jeannie R. B. Carmichael.

CAPE TOWN. Secretary, Mr K. Nuttall, P.O. Box 40, Cape Town, South Africa.—The past year was again a very active one and several successful social functions were held including an end-of-term dance in the Training College Hall, a dinner and dance

at the Suikerbossie and the traditional Christmas party at the home of Mr and Mrs J. Hunter to whom we are again indebted for their hospitality.

A dance was held in Pinelands for the entertainment of old folks and it was apparent that they derived great pleasure from just watching us.

In spite of the dearth of male members, five successful demonstrations were given at the request of various organisations and charities. Our thanks go to our teacher, Miss M. H. Gibson, for her patient coaching for those occasions and, in particular, for her expert guidance throughout the year. The average attendance at the weekly classes is about thirty-five, most of whom are very regular attenders, and the standard of our dancing is showing a steady improvement.

CARLISLE and BORDER. Secretary, Miss K. Rooney, 9 Red Bank Terrace, Currock, Carlisle.—The Carlisle and Border Branch are very pleased to report a record year. All our functions have been well supported and the General, Advanced and Children's Classes have shown increased attendances over any other year. Our Branch membership is 139, and we hope to further increase this number in the coming season.

Our Week-end School was again a great attraction, and our very grateful thanks go to Miss Jean Milligan for her inspiring tuition.

The Highland Ball in April was the highlight of the year. Miss Dorothy L. Murray, Founder-President of the Branch was the guest of honour, and Lady Graham of Netherby, our present President, attended. We regretted owing to the tremendous demand for tickets that these had to be limited, and many of our friends from neighbouring Branches were disappointed.

Our Social Evenings, Demonstrations and Musical Festival activities have also been successful and most enjoyable.

CARNOUSTIE. Secretary, Mrs K. Roberts, 38 Thomas Street, Carnoustie.—The membership of the Branch during the past season has been 42 and 1 Life Member, showing a slight decrease in numbers from the previous season.

Throughout the session one Adult General Class and two Juvenile Classes have met weekly and have been most enjoyable.

A very successful Ball was held in December. The Adult Class ended the session with a party on 3rd April and on 11th April the Juvenile Classes gave a display of dancing to parents and friends.

CASTLE DOUGLAS. Secretary, Miss E. H. Craik, 23 Academy Street, Castle Douglas.—Membership of the Branch is 72 members, including 6 Life Members. Weekly classes were held for both Adult and Junior Link Groups, and they were all well attended.

Owing to the petrol restrictions no Highland Ball was held this session, but a Spring Dance was held on 5th April.

Demonstrations by mixed teams were given throughout the district and the Branch has again been invited to take part in the local Civic Week Celebrations. Teams were entered from both Adult and Junior Link Groups and gained high marks in all classes at the Dumfries Musical Festival.

The Branch held a Film Show on 14th March. A Film of the International Teams visit to South Africa was shown by a member of the tour, Mr Jack Montgomery; and Miss D. McCartney showed another one of the Bavarian tour. Miss McCartney is a Member of the International Team. The Branch is very happy and proud to have these two members who can give them first-hand information of their tours.

Thanks are due to all teachers and pianists and to the Education Authority for granting us the use of the School Gymnasium for all our classes.

CLACKMANNANSHIRE. Secretary, Miss R. Gillies, Albert Cottage, 8 Queen Street, Alloa.—This Branch had a fairly successful season. The Annual Dance held in Devonvale Hall, Tillicoultry, was well attended and a happy evening spent by all present. Other dances held throughout the county in aid of various funds were well supported by members.

We were pleased to learn that a hand-made rug had been purchased with the contribution sent to Headquarters. This was quite appropriate coming from the county where woollen mills are much in evidence.

Alloa class report a drop in numbers this year, but were able to carry on and finish each term with an enjoyable party.

Tillicoultry class showed a slight increase. They also held social evenings which were attended by members and friends.

Dollar class had a membership of 35. Starting off with a dance in September, they carried on till the end of March when they finished with a party. Social evenings were held at mid-term and a Carnival Dance at Christmas.

DERBY. Secretary, R. A. Lees, 6 High Street, Chellaston, Derby.—The Branch has had a very successful year and all classes have been well attended.

A very enjoyable first birthday party was held on 23rd February but the outstanding event of the season was a dance on 6th November when we were fortunate enough to obtain the services of Jimmy Shand and his Band. Visitors came from as far as Leicester, Manchester, Rotherham and Sheffield.

DUMFRIES. Secretary, Mrs J. H. Henderson, Braeside, Moffat Road, Dumfries.—Although membership of this Branch has decreased this session, all classes were well attended and much enjoyed. The week-end School which was taught by Mrs Lesslie again proved very popular.

All social evenings were most successful as were the two dinner dances.

The teams entered for the Carlisle Musical Festival and for the Dumfriesshire Musical Festival again won trophies on each occasion.

DUNDEE. Secretary, Miss Helen F. Crighton, 317 Blackness Road, Dundee.—The Branch has had another successful year although there has been a drop in membership. This now stands at 523 and includes 123 Life Members. Attendance at Adult classes was smaller but we had a very encouraging enrolment in the Junior section. Demonstrations have been in demand at various functions during the year and in all twelve displays have been given.

The Club, run in conjunction with the Branch, had another good season. Social dances in connection with the classes and Club were greatly enjoyed.

We were happy to be the host Branch to the Annual General Meeting in November, and it was a great pleasure to welcome old and new friends from all areas.

The Branch suffered a very severe blow in February 1957 by the untimely death of Mrs Alice Hutchison. Mrs Hutchison, a former Chairman of the Branch, served on the Executive Council for several years. Her personality and ready wit made her a popular teacher and adjudicator, and her passing is mourned by all who knew her.

DUNFERMLINE. Secretary, Mrs J. A. Couper, 87A Brucefield Avenue, Dunfermline.—Membership now standing at 137 and 4 Life Members shows a considerable increase on last session. Beginners' and Advanced Classes were held and were very well attended.

The Demonstration Group, which met at the close of the Advanced Class, was again called upon to give numerous displays during the winter and supplied the dancers for the Neil Gow scene in "A Masque of Dunfermline" which was staged in Carnegie

Hall each evening of Dunfermline Week. Also, on the invitation of the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, three concerts were given in Pittencreiff Park during the month of August.

At Perthshire Musical Festival our Senior Mixed Team retained possession of the Silver Quaich in the Premier Class and our Women's Team took first place in the Open Class for Senior Women. At Edinburgh the Mixed Team gained two first places, with one Honours Certificate. The teams were trained by Mr A. Leslie Cumming, who is untiring in his work for the Branch.

Last November Miss Milligan honoured the Branch by coming to Dunfermline to take a class and a most memorable evening was enjoyed by members of both of our classes.

After the winter session a Certificate Class was started to which instruction was given by Mr Cumming and at the examination held in June eight members of the Branch were successful in gaining the Preliminary Certificate.

Two dances and one Guest Night were held during the session and all were well attended by Branch members and friends from neighbouring classes.

Six of our members attended the Summer School at St. Andrews.

DUNS and DISTRICT. Secretary, Miss M. A. Rae, Penrhyll, St. Abbs, Eyemouth.—Though there have been comings and goings in our ranks the total membership remains at approximately the same figure.

As the Branch approaches its fifth birthday it is evident that enthusiasm for Scottish Country Dancing continues and spreads unabated in this district. Classes are more numerous, attendance at them is eminently satisfactory but the provision of a more than barely adequate supply of teachers is still an outstanding problem. Financially the Branch is in a fairly sound position. The well attended Annual General Meeting decided to pay special attention to the recruitment of a greater number of young members in the coming session.

On the social side successful monthly functions have been promoted over a wide area as in previous years. In spite of petrol rationing the Annual Ball was sold out well in advance and proved to be our best ever. Again we were glad to welcome a Demonstration Team from the Edinburgh Branch.

Our third Residential May week-end at Coldingham, though not attracting quite so many residents as last year, was again blessed with glorious spring weather. We were well served by our visiting teachers Mrs Lesslie, Mrs Gudger, Miss Richardson and by our guest pianists, Miss Susan Inglis and Miss Kitty MacLauchlan, who caught the spirit of the occasion at the outset and contributed in large measure to the week-end's enjoyment. It was particularly gratifying to greet so many friends who had attended before. The Sunday afternoon "Keyboard Talk" on Scottish Country Dance Music and the playing of it by Miss Susan Inglis was first rate.

Though rain interfered somewhat with our usual June open-air dance at Longformacus a cheerful company made the best of it and danced out the programme in the village hall.

We take pleasure in the cordial relations that we enjoy with neighbouring groups and in the interchange of visits to our various functions throughout the year.

EAST LOTHIAN. Secretary, Miss J. J. Storie, 14 Hawthornbank Road, Haddington.—The Branch has a membership of 127 Annual and 3 Life Members.

The year has shown a small reduction in numbers again, but was a most enjoyable season. Dances were held monthly. Owing to petrol rationing, however, it was not possible to have the functions in different parts of the county to such an extent as usual.

As formerly, a class was taken by Mrs Lesslie at one of our functions and this again proved very successful.

EAST SURREY, WEST KENT. Secretary, Miss B. J. Ockelford, Coppice Lea, Birchwood Lane, Chaldon, Caterham, Surrey.—Although the Branch membership has fallen this year classes have been well attended and keenly enjoyed. Other activities have included monthly class socials, two dances and a One-Day School of Dancing.

Teams were entered at the Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival for the first time this year, all teams did very well including the children's team who were asked to dance at the Prize-winners' Concert.

ECCLEFECHAN. Secretary, Miss M. G. McBride, Sunnyside, Dryfe Road, Lockerbie.—The Branch has had another successful year with a slight increase in membership. The classes held weekly were well attended. Our activities followed much the same pattern as previous years. Party at Christmas and a social evening closed the season.

It was a great disappointment to many when it was decided to postpone until the autumn our Highland Ball arranged for early January, owing to the uncertainty of the petrol rationing prevailing at the time.

We look forward to the 1957-58 season preparations for which are now well in hand.

EDINBURGH. Secretary, Mr T. J. King, Commercial Bank of Scotland Ltd., 13 Drumsheugh Place, Edinburgh, 3.—Membership has declined a little but we still ran over twenty classes—all well patronised. The class for Certificated Teachers, run on alternate Saturday evenings during the winter, continues to draw members from outside Branches—they are always welcome. The class this year will be under the tutelage of Mrs Lesslie, as after thirty-three years in the service of the Branch, Miss Allie Anderson, has expressed a wish to be relieved of teaching duties next session.

At least one hundred demonstrations were given during the past year, among the most important of these being providing teams for the entire series of the T.V. show "The Kilt is my Delight," several of the sequences for the film, "Scotland Dances," and our own Festival show, "An Edinburgh Fancy," which has now become an annual event. By the time you read this we hope some of you may have seen the 1957 version and also the Concert in the Usher Hall on 18th September, jointly with the visiting Bavarian Team. A team from the Branch won the Challenge Cup at the Edinburgh (Competition) Musical Festival.

ELGIN. Secretary, Mr G. E. Collier, 6 Forteach Avenue, Elgin.—The 1956-57 season has, on the whole, been singularly successful despite a slight falling off in attendance at classes. On the other hand considerably greater numbers attended the monthly social dancing nights and one wonders whether the increasing popularity of this evening should not be catered for more frequently.

Classes were specially arranged during the season for the teaching of demonstration dancing and in this connection two teams were entered in the Moray Music Festival and both were awarded First Class Certificates by the Adjudicator Mrs Lesslie.

FORFAR. Secretary, Miss W. Millikin, 9 Lilybank Crescent, Forfar.—This year our Branch has a membership of 148 and 16 Life Members. Our three classes were again taught by Miss Nairn, Mrs Sutton and Mrs McKenzie. Once again the session of four monthly dances during June, July, August and September were enjoyed by members and friends. We were also fortunate to have one fine evening of open-air dancing last June.

At our Annual Dance in November, a large company danced to Angus Cameron's Band. Our Chairman welcomed eighty visitors from Arbroath, Brechin, Kirriemuir, Letham and Montrose Centres, Carnoustie and Dundee Branches, Kirriemuir Scottish Country Dance Club and Hillside Class. During the evening, a draw was organised by several members and a total sum of £10, 10s. was handed over to the Hungarian Relief Fund.

Throughout the season, members of our Branch attended dances at Arbroath, Brechin, Carnoustie, Kirriemuir and Letham.

Christmas and finishing parties were held at all three classes.

FORRES. Secretary, Miss B. MacDonald, 147 High Street, Forres.—The Forres Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society had a very successful and happy session. The membership remained roughly the same as the previous year, and the bank balance also remains satisfactory.

There was a delightful Christmas Dance held on 3rd January which was attended by most members, but owing to lack of space no invitations could be issued to non-members. On 8th March a dance was held in the Town Hall. It was attended by members from nearby Branches, and indeed proved so popular that great difficulty was experienced in attempting to limit the numbers of tickets to the size of the hall.

The Annual General Meeting was held during the "winding up" dance and as the retiring Chairman, and also the Secretary-Treasurer did not wish to seek re-election, nominations were called for, votes taken and a new Chairman, Secretary and a Treasurer were appointed.

FORT WILLIAM. Secretary, Mrs E. Kearney, 11 Glendessary Street, Caol, Fort William—The past year has shown a slight decrease in membership but the happy sociable spirit of the Branch remains very strong.

Weekly classes were held under the supervision of our very able instructors to whom we are greatly indebted.

Members have attended social evenings at all the Clubs in this area and we have had the pleasure of welcoming friends back to our four very successful dances. Several demonstrations were given by Branch teams.

A feature of this year's working was the inauguration of a children's class which proved most successful.

The retiring Committee enjoyed a night out which took the form of a Dinner and Ceilidh.

FRIOCKHEIM and DISTRICT. Secretary, Mr Wm. Macpherson, Castle Street, Friockheim, by Arbroath.—It is with deep regret the Branch records the death of Dr Malcolm McLellan. He was Hon. Secretary of the Branch since it was formed, and for many years was a member of the Executive Council of the Society. As a mark of esteem the Branch cancelled all arrangements and commitments for a long period. On resumption there was a warm response by the members. The Intermediate team of Junior Scottish Country dancers affiliated to the local Branch were highly honoured when they accepted our invitation to dance at the Sixth World International Youth Festival in Moscow in July. This team is very popular throughout the North-east of Scotland, where by displays they have raised large sums of money for charity. They have also entertained patients in hospitals, and old people in their clubs. Organisations and friends from various parts of Scotland have donated £400 towards the expenses of the trip. This team also considered it a great honour to accept an invitation to give a display in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, in June, when they received a very warm welcome from a large audience.

GATEHOUSE-OF-FLEET. Secretary, Miss M. E. Murray, 10 Digby Street, Gatehouse-of-Fleet.—The number of members remained about the same this season, though after Christmas fewer attended the classes, due very largely to petrol rationing. It was disappointing that the Festival in Newton Stewart had to be cancelled this year, as there are so many classes there to encourage the less experienced dancers, and the smaller branches and groups. The team competed in the Dumfries Festival,

Members were again asked to give demonstrations at various social functions during the year and several members attended dances given by the neighbouring branches.

We have just completed the year with a most enjoyable week-end, when Miss Milligan took two classes and also attended a dance in Gatehouse where she found great enthusiasm and a very friendly spirit.

GLASGOW. Secretary, Mr D. Macleod, 19 Merrick Gardens, Glasgow, S.W.I.—A most successful and enjoyable year has now been completed. Branch membership was about the same as that in 1955-56.

Attendances at classes was generally very good, sixteen classes being held throughout the year, two of these being Certificate Classes and one Children's Class.

Our third week-end Course was held on 30th November to 1st December, and under the capable teaching of Miss Milligan, Mrs B. Anderson, Mrs Gudger, Mrs West and Mr Jackie Johnston proved very successful. The average attendance per session was 188, with a total of 14 Branches represented during the Course.

The Demonstration Teams were extremely busy throughout the year giving a total of 75 demonstrations. Miss Mary Evans, now Mrs McCuaig, represented the Branch in the International Team which visited Bavaria.

Six informal dances and our Annual Ball were very sociable functions and enjoyed by all who attended. At the latter, Mr Percy Thomson, on behalf of Branch members, made a presentation to Miss Kenyon for her long and faithful service as Hon. Secretary of the Branch.

HAMILTON and CLYDESDALE. Secretary, Miss M. A. Lyon, 4 South Park Road, Hamilton.—The membership of the Branch stands at 490, including 30 Life Members. This shows an increase over the previous year, and is reflected in added enthusiasm throughout the Branch.

The attendance at all the classes was well maintained, and, in response to demand, a Children's Class was formed. A Class for Teachers within the Branch was also held. Several demonstrations were given during the year.

Parties were held regularly during the winter and were all very successful. The Annual Ball took place in the Town Hall, Hamilton, on St. Andrew's Night, and was most enjoyable. The Grand March was led off by the President and Vice-President, accompanied by two gentlemen home on a visit from Australia. To our great delight we had an unexpected call from Mr Jackie Johnstone of Dumfries. He very kindly consented to dance for us, and this was a great thrill for everybody.

HAMILTON, ONTARIO. Secretary, Mr G. L. Wilson, 1249 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.—During the winter season the Branch ran three regular classes at the Hamilton Conservatory of Music, a Beginners' Class and an Intermediate Class on Thursday evenings, and an Advanced Class on alternate Monday evenings.

About seventy Members and Associate Members participated in a charter flight to Scotland in July 1956, organised by our President, Mrs Shore. It is hoped to organise a similar trip in the summer of 1958.

A successful and enjoyable week-end of dancing and instruction was held last Fall at Erin, Ontario, in the Caledon Hills, attended by about forty dancers from Hamilton and Toronto. Other special events included a Christmas Party and an End-of-Season Dance attended by guests from Toronto, and a summer picnic at the village of Doone on the Grand River.

The highlight of the season was the Annual Ball held at the Royal Connaught Hotel, attended by over 230 people, including many from Toronto and some from Montreal and from London, Ontario. The ballroom was specially decorated with

tartan drapes and Scottish trophies, and music was provided by Alex Martin and his Scottish Country Dance Orchestra.

One very important function of the Branch is to welcome new arrivals from the old country, and we particularly invite anyone who is coming to this part of Canada to get in touch with us. Many of these new members have not done any Scottish Country Dancing before, and some remain active members for only one season. However, we feel that we can make an important contribution to the success of their new life by helping them to make friends and settle down; and their feet will start tapping again whenever they hear Scottish Country Dance music played on a local radio station's Sunday evening programme, "Heather Mixture," by our disc-jockey friend Bob Smith, one of our founder-members.

INVERNESS and DISTRICT. Secretary, Mr H. G. Draper, The Cottage, Lochardil, Inverness.—The past season has been most successful and enjoyable. The Branch membership has increased and now stands at 169 including 6 Life Members. A notable feature of the year has been the sustained interest shown by members throughout the season—a fact which is reflected in the high numbers attending the three classes organised by the Branch.

Social functions held during the year were successful and were well supported both by local members and by friends from neighbouring Branches.

KILMARNOCK and DISTRICT. Secretary, Miss A. Allan, 41 Irvine Road, Kilmarnock.—Classes were carried on during the winter, the numbers tending to increase a little from the previous year. Two very successful dances were held during the season. Demonstrations were given at previous functions during the winter.

We look forward to our new session which begins in October and soon thereafter the Branch will celebrate its 21st birthday with a dinner and dance, when we hope to entertain a number of friends.

KIRKCALDY. Secretary, Miss N. J. Arnott, Lakeside, 50 Boglily Road, Kirkcaldy.—Membership stands at 263, including 23 Life Members. This shows a reduction in members once again.

Five classes and a Technique class were well attended during the first session, as were also the combined nights, but attendance dropped during the second session.

A team from the Branch took part in the "Ball" scene of the film which is being made of Scottish Country Dancing.

Requests for demonstrations were met by Branch teams, and already there are two requests for the future.

A large company attended our Annual Dance held in the Adam Smith Hall, in February, and we had the pleasure of welcoming members from Dunfermline and Leven Branches.

The Branch is indebted to the teachers and pianists for their work during the season.

We look forward to the new session and hope to welcome old and new members.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT. Secretary, Mrs J. F. Ferrier, Kenmore, Tongland, Kirkcudbright.—The membership of the Branch remains at 58 including 5 Life Members. A most successful session was held under the instruction of Mr Jack Montgomery. The Christmas Party was most enjoyable and a large and enthusiastic company made the Annual Dance held during February a great success. During the summer a number of social evenings were enjoyed by the members and their friends.

LANARK. Secretary, Mrs Cairns, Tweedvale, 8 Hyndford Road, Lanark.—The Branch has had another most successful session and the membership has increased still further.

The attendance and enthusiasm at the Branch Class has been exceptionally good,

and the Children's Class, which has now been taken over by our new Chairman, Mr Humphries, has proved most popular.

The Branch was extremely sorry to accept Mrs Munro's resignation as Chairman, as she has been largely responsible for the activity and success of the Branch since its inauguration, but very pleased that she was able to retain her interest by becoming an Honorary Vice-President.

The social evenings have continued to flourish and retain their popularity.

The Annual Ball was held in February, and again proved to be the highlight of our session.

LEVEN. Secretary, Miss S. Clark, 2 Omar Crescent, Buckhaven, Fife.—This has been another enjoyable and successful session. Although membership shows a slight decrease, class has been very well attended throughout the whole session. Many friends in the district attended both of our dances, which were greatly enjoyed.

LIVERPOOL. Secretary, Miss A. Beeston, 45 Kirkstone Road South, Liverpool, 21.—The Branch has had an extremely successful year, with 183 members, a considerable increase on last year's total. Two Branch dances have been held and much enjoyed. In January, we were privileged in having Mrs Gudger and Miss Gardiner-Jones as teachers at a one-day Course. This was the first Course the Branch has held; it was organised in conjunction with the C.C.P.R., and it is hoped to hold another course this year. Miss Graham has been our able pianist again this year. 1956-57 has seen an extension of our activities, in that we have started a sister class in Birkenhead. This is a small, but extremely keen and lively class, and we in Liverpool welcome our new members. We suffered one blow to our Branch, with the resignation of our President and right-hand man, Mr Stenhouse, now left Liverpool. Our warm regards and thanks go with him and his wife.

LOCKERBIE. Secretary, Miss A. M. H. Richardson, 56 Park Place, Lockerbie.—This has been another successful season with a total membership of 54—36 of whom are local members with 5 Junior Members, 2 Associate Members and 11 Members from the Balmoral Club, Carlisle.

As in previous years the first Social of the season was held at Holt School on the kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Witherow. This was most enjoyable to all present. A further two social evenings were held throughout the season in December and March.

Again the Branch was fortunate in being represented by Mr Henry Rogerson as a member of the Scottish team touring Bavaria during September of last year. A film of this tour was shown by Mr Rogerson in Lockerbie Academy and was much enjoyed by a good audience of members and friends.

The Annual Highland Ball was held on 23rd November, the music on this occasion being supplied by the Harifell Scottish Dance Band, Moffat. Members from many Branches in the South of Scotland and Carlisle attended.

A team was supplied by the Branch to dance at the Barbecue held in Lockerbie in connection with Gala week festivities in June.

LONDON. Secretary, Mr R. S. Ferguson, 6 Claire Court, Shoot Up Hill, London, N.W.2.—We now have an established routine of classes (about thirteen a week) nine monthly members' dances and four bigger dances not limited to members. At two of these we normally try to bring a Scottish band to London; this year Jimmy Shand and Adam Rennie have played for us. Our Annual Ball is well established and week-end schools at the C.C.P.R. premises at Bisham Abbey, on the banks of the Thames, are becoming regular too. A joint Anglo-Scottish dance was held in July at the E.F.D.S.S. Headquarters, Cecil Sharp House.

Branch teams have been kept busy, notably visiting Sardinia and Holland to take part in international festivals.

On one of Miss Milligan's two visits to take Certificate examinations, which showed a good percentage of passes, a one-day School was also held, together with a special class for teachers.

We look forward to another season with our membership around the 1000 mark.

LORN (ARGYLL). Secretary, Miss C. McCulloch, 17 Argyll Square, Oban.—The Branch now has a membership of 168 Annual and 3 Life Members—an increase of 79 over last year which is very satisfactory.

We were pleased to welcome Miss Jean C. Milligan back for our First Annual General Meeting in October, after which she conducted a very successful class.

During the winter, the Branch held three classes in conjunction with the Further Education Centre—a Beginners' Class and two Intermediate Classes—and a class was also held for children between 9 and 12 years of age. All classes were very well attended and much enjoyed.

A Dance was held in the Great Western Hotel in October, and although not a financial success, all present had a most enjoyable evening. Four social evenings have also been held during the winter sessions and these have proved very popular.

Throughout the year, demonstration teams have given displays at several functions in the district. During the months of July and August, displays were given in the Corran Parks for the entertainment of visitors. The Branch was proud to be invited to provide two teams to take part in the programme at the Argyllshire Gathering Field on the occasion of the visit of H.M. The Queen to Oban in August, but due to the inclement weather the programme was cancelled.

One of the Branch members was honoured by being asked to teach at the Summer School at St. Andrews while two other members attended the Summer School which was extremely enjoyable.

MANCHESTER. Secretary, Mrs H. Lee, 35 Lindum Avenue, Old Trafford, Manchester, 16.—The season 1956-57 was a most successful one, six of our eight classes being very well attended, and having a total membership of 278. The Advanced and Demonstration Classes were so well attended that a second class was started and both these were very popular. A Certificate Class was again held, the examination taking place on 11th March 1957. Three out of five candidates gained their second-year Certificates and a pass obtained by the only candidate for the Preliminary Certificate.

Forty-five demonstrations were accepted by the teams during the season, and many letters of appreciation were received from those who enjoyed the dancing.

In July last year we had the pleasure of entertaining a team of dancers from Corunna, Spain, whom we had met in San Sebastian in 1954, and met again at the Eisteddfod at Llangollen. As a result of this happy meeting, an invitation from them was received in January to attend another Festival in Corunna in August. The invitation was accepted, a team was chosen and rehearsals commenced.

A team will also take part in the 1957 Eisteddfod at Llangollen on 10th July.

MOFFAT. Secretary, Miss Shaw, Glen Annan, Moffat.—The past year has been one of quiet, steady progress, with weekly classes well attended from October until April. Dancing parties were held to mark the end of the Christmas term and also at Easter. In view of the restrictions following upon petrol rationing, it was decided to waive the Annual Ball this year, and instead a dinner dance was held in Moffat House Hotel.

Two demonstrations were given during the year; one at the local Choral Society's "At Home" evening, and the other at the installation of the Shepherd and Shepherd's Lass in July.

Plans are already well in hand for next season's activities.

NETHER LOCHABER. Secretary, Mrs J. A. Clark, Loch Leven Hotel, North Ballachulish, Onich, by Fort William.—Nether Lochaber, which this year celebrated its tenth anniversary, has had a very satisfactory winter with increases in membership and attendances well sustained. Country Dancing proved itself the happiest winter recreation for young and not so young in our small community, and Benny MacGeachy lifted our hearts each week with his playing. Members attended Kinlochleven, Fort William and Glencoe late nights, and it is hoped to have a team dancing at the Fort William Agricultural Show and in our own hall during the summer as a "tourist attraction" at ceilidhs.

A Children's Class was also run throughout the winter.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE and DISTRICT. Secretary, Mrs M. F. Cooper, 16 Westfield Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 3.—During 1956-57 there was a slight increase in total membership over the previous season, although the number of ordinary members has decreased and the number of junior members increased.

Eleven Adult Classes, a Youth Club, and two Children's Classes have met weekly and we are grateful to all teachers and pianists for their good work. Six candidates were successful in obtaining their Teaching Certificates.

Several demonstrations have been given in and out of town. One of the most notable was in the Arena at the Royal Show.

Informal Dances and Balls have been very successful and well attended, and we were unable to meet the demand for tickets for the Children's Dance—we are looking for a larger hall for next year.

After the lapse of a year, a Week-end Course was held at Otterburn Hall and was greatly enjoyed by all who were able to attend. Its success was due in large measure to the excellent teaching by Mrs Lesslie.

The Dance Club enjoyed a happy season with many evenings spent in social dancing.

NEWTON STEWART. Secretary, Miss S. S. McClelland, 11 Ghyll Crescent, Newton Stewart.—The weekly class continues to be a source of much enjoyment, and we owe a great deal of gratitude to our teacher and pianist. Many visitors attended the class and spent a pleasant evening dancing with class members.

The Annual Ball was held in January and was well attended by members and friends from neighbouring Branches in spite of the petrol rationing. The music was provided by Jimmy Wilson and his Band who in no small way helped to make the function a great success.

We were delighted when one of our members, Miss Sadie McGarva, was chosen for the International Team to visit Bavaria.

In April we had a delightful evening when we entertained twenty students from different parts of the world. Demonstrations were given during the evening by a mixed team.

NORWICH. Secretary, Mr R. J. Macmichael, 72 Colney Lane, Cringleford, Norwich.—Membership during the past year has increased from 106 to 148 and the classes continue to be satisfactory both as regards numbers and the steady improvement in the skill of the members. The Children's Classes have an attendance of over forty and are very popular.

Several informal dances, in addition to the Annual Dance with McBain's Band from London, have all been most successful.

In March we had the pleasure of a visit from Miss Milligan, who attended an informal dance arranged in her honour and also a Senior and Children's Class. Her visit was all too brief and we hope she enjoyed the visit as much as we did.

While we do our best to support good causes we find it impossible to accept all the many invitations to provide demonstrations but we are working hard for our principal demonstration of the year at the Royal Show, where we perform with two mixed teams and a ladies' team on 2nd and 4th July.

PEEBLES. Secretary, Mr G. M. Barr, 7 Thorburn Gardens, Kingsmeadows Road, Peebles.—A very successful session. All the dances in Book 18 were tried out. The favourites were:—Lady Auckland's Reel, Lady Baird's Reel, Leith Country Dance, Off she goes in the North, Maxwell's Rant, Axum Reel.

The dances in "The 16 Popular Dances," together with Books XVI and XVII, were all danced regularly and despite the petrol shortage our very popular instructor, Mrs Dempster, Tweedsmuir, managed to travel weekly to Peebles until the end of the session.

On our last night we had a "Full House" and a very enjoyable night's dancing.

PERTH and PERTHSHIRE. Secretary, Miss C. McFeat, M.B.E., Comely Bank House, Perth.—We have to report another fall in membership. 362 Ordinary and 55 Life Members. Classes were as well attended as last year. Again our Children's Classes, meeting on Saturday morning, proved very successful and four were required to cope with the number of boys and girls attending. One Adult Class was fairly well attended throughout. The Branch has classes only in Perth city, the county being scattered, each district runs its own.

One demonstration was given at Gleneagles, the Gowrie Group acting on our behalf.

We sent eight members to Edinburgh to take part in "Scotland Dances" and we look forward to the release of the film.

At our local Musical Festival, the Society trophy gifted by the Perth Branch, was again won by the St. Johnstoun Team. This year Miss Robertson acted as adjudicator with Miss McLauchlan as pianist. The entries were almost the same as last year thus showing that Country Dancing is still as popular in this district.

PETERHEAD. Secretary, Mrs J. S. Carnegie, 44 Cairntrodrie, Peterhead.—The Branch has a membership of 72 Annual and 34 Life Members.

This year, we had one class, which was most enjoyable and successful. To our teachers and pianists we owe a deep debt of gratitude.

Adult and Children's Classes have been conducted by Branch members in the surrounding district.

Once again we have been asked to supply an instructor to train an A.T.C. Team to dance at an International Rally at Maidenhead in August.

PORTRUSH. Interim Secretary, Mr J. Duncan, 73 Coleraine Road, Portstewart.—Portrush Branch is pleased to report that 1956-57 was a season of progress showing our greatest number of members so far. New members were joining as recently as March making a total of 54. Class attendances too have been higher than previously.

Our greatest achievement has been a deeper interest taken by all members in the working of the Royal Society, especially in that all are now affiliated members. This has been gratifying at a time when we were honoured by a visit from Miss Milligan, which was the highlight of the year.

Miss Milligan conducted the first examination to be held in this Branch, when four members gained their Teachers' Preliminary Certificate. She also took the weekly class—a most enjoyable experience for all members who were much impressed by her enthusiasm.

During the winter public demonstrations were given in Portrush and nearby towns. Members, generally, have enjoyed meeting and dancing with the other Northern Ireland Branches.

RENFREWSHIRE WEST. Secretary, Mr J. Taylor, 27 Fort Matilda Place, Greenock.—Membership of the Branch was greater than for the previous year, being 452 Ordinary and 14 Life Members. Six Adult and two Children's Classes were held—one more than last year, the extra one being a new mixed class formed in Gourrock which proved most successful. Dances were held by several of the classes during the season, and in March a Ball, organised by the Branch, was held in Greenock Town Hall. Bobby MacLeod and his Band provided the music, and the Provosts of Greenock and Gourrock were guests of the Branch at this function.

RICHMOND. Secretary, Mr A. M. Stephen, 11 Westfields, Richmond, Yorkshire.—Membership has been well maintained to total 145, including 6 Life Members. Classes have been run as in the past during the winter months for both adults and children with a slight decrease in the number of beginners, but by popular vote adult extension classes have continued into the summer.

Visits to the Branch by Miss Milligan and Mrs Gudger were much appreciated by the classes concerned and gave an opportunity for our progress over the years to be fairly assessed.

Monthly social dances have been well attended by a wonderful variety of dancers from many parts and the Branch has also been well represented at dances and courses throughout the season.

ROCHDALE. Secretary, Miss I. T. Waddell, 8 Hopwood Avenue, Heywood, Lancs.—Scottish Country Dancing continues to be popular here.

Three successful classes have been held during the winter session and a combined one in the summer term has been our largest up to date. Although there are no outstanding events to report we have had a very enjoyable year, and look forward to our Grand Ball in Rochdale Town Hall on 12th October. The Branch is as usual being represented at the Summer School in St. Andrews.

SHEFFIELD. Secretary, Mr J. H. Cook, 38 Hallam Grange Road, Sheffield, 10.—Our membership now stands at 94, which is a satisfactory increase over last year.

The General Class has continued to make good progress under the able tuition of Mrs Bagguley. A class for the more advanced dancers was started without affecting the attendance at the General Class, as a continuous influx of beginners kept up the numbers. Next year, we intend to form a class to cater specially for the beginners, which will utilise the services of our third teacher.

Four socials were held during the season and our first dance, to which we were pleased to welcome friends from neighbouring Branches and Societies, took place in November. It is hoped to make these events a regular feature of the winter programme.

Several demonstrations have been given to local organisations and these were appreciated.

Next year, we hope to see a membership of well over 100 and expect an even more enjoyable year than the previous two have been.

ST. ANDREWS. Secretary, Mrs T. C. Lamb, Theaves Rigg, Lade Braes, St. Andrews.—Many new members enrolled for the 1956-57 season. Our classes were held in MacArthur's Cafe in two parts—under the happy instruction of Miss Kaye, Mr Ferrier providing the music.

A St. Andrew's Night Dance was again held, which was attended by an unusually large number of Branch members. From profits we were able to make a donation to the Provost's Fund for the Hungarian Refugees.

The requests for Demonstration Teams are becoming more numerous, to entertain conference groups visiting the town, and choir concerts, etc.

Mrs Caithness is our elected delegate to the H.Q. Executive Council—Mrs Thorpe-Davie has now resigned her post as Secretary, which place has been filled by Mrs T. C. Lamb. Miss I. Redford is President and Mr A. Roberts, Treasurer.

SOUTHPORT. Secretary, Miss N. M. Sutcliffe, 96 Sefton Street, Southport.—The Branch has enjoyed a successful year with membership at 109, including 5 Life Members. Advanced, Intermediate and Elementary Classes have been held in conjunction with the local Education Authority. The usual social activities have been well supported by neighbouring groups. During the year several members have been to courses at Lilleshall, Durham and Doncaster.

A team again took part in the Festival of Scottish Dancing held at Leeds.

STIRLINGSHIRE. Secretary, Mrs M. W. MacLaren, Coneybrae, Bridge of Allan.—The Branch membership is at present 276 being 255 Ordinary and 21 Life Members. Seven classes were conducted by the Branch, five in Stirling and two in Bridge of Allan. All were well attended.

Lt.-Col. Cosmo Edwards, C.I.E., who has been our Chairman for the past five years has retired from this position and we are very grateful to him for all he has done for the Branch. We welcome our new Chairman, Mr Ian C. Adam, who is well known to most of us as a member of the Demonstration Team.

STIRLINGSHIRE EAST. Secretary, Miss F. Martin, 20 Gartcows Road, Falkirk.—This has been a successful year. Ten Adult Classes were held each term. An encouraging feature was the increase in the number of young folk. Seven Children's Classes were held with a membership of over 260.

Four class dances were held at the end of each term. In February the Members' Dance proved an enjoyable function.

Four Adult and five Children's Teams were entered for the Central Counties Musical Festival held in Falkirk in May. A Ladies' Team won the Trophy with a total of 93 marks. Two teams in the 12-15 year group tied for 1st place in their class, while two teams in the 9-12 group were 2nd Equal. The remaining teams acquitted themselves well, all gaining a place.

Demonstrations were given by teams at various functions. Open-air dancing was enjoyed in Dollar Park, Falkirk, in June to the music of Andrew Rankine's Band.

Two Technique Classes, held during the summer term, attracted over a hundred members.

At the beginning of the session Mrs Morgan tendered her resignation as Branch teacher. At a function, Mr Grant, President, paid tribute to her twenty years of service and handed over a gift on behalf of the members.

STOCKPORT. Secretary Mr A. Hayward, 97 Milford Drive, Levenshulme, Manchester, 19.—It is pleasing to be able to report a successful season. Attendance at classes has been very well maintained, and we are grateful to our tutors and pianists for their valuable services. Our Treasurer, Mrs H. Grange, submitted a highly satisfactory balance sheet, and was complimented on the execution of her duties during her first term of office.

The Junior Section has had a record period, thirty-two classes having been held instead of the usual twenty, in order to cope with the increased membership. The children gave creditable demonstrations on 18th May at St. Andrew's Schoolroom, and at Peover, Cheshire, on 27th June. We sincerely appreciate Mrs Lees' indefatigable efforts in the training of the younger generation.

On 27th November a ladies' team delighted the old folk from York House with a good display of dancing.

Successful combined-class social dances were held on 17th December and 25th April, and our three parties received adequate support and were much enjoyed.

STONEHAVEN. Secretary, Miss Lilian E. Cameron, 21 High Street, Stonehaven.—There was a 100 per cent attendance during the season's classes, which was most gratifying to teacher and committee. In spite of the unfortunate fuel rationing we were able to carry out our full winter's programme in social entertainment.

Our Annual Party was well attended by the members of the surrounding Branches.

SYDNEY, N.S.W. Secretary, Miss M. V. Willis, 209 Wingello House, Angel Place, Sydney.—A dual policy of giving prospective members three "probationary" class attendances before joining (to "test their vocation" as it were), and the emphasis given to the basic teaching of steps and technique is paying healthy dividends, the membership as a result is more stable, and the ratio of members renewing subscriptions rises higher each year; on the whole, the only "grouse" is that classes are held fortnightly and not weekly, due to local circumstances.

To our due satisfaction, we find that our standard of dancing does not appear to be "below standard" if we can take our assessments from the general run of people who come to us from Scottish and other Branches, and whom we find on the whole to be unfamiliar with many dances, and not strong on technique, and this too is confirmed by returning Australians with adequate knowledge to make such appraisal.

From music composed by Professor Charles Lambie, and presented to the Sydney Branch, has evolved a dance, originally to be called "Scottish Rondo," in keeping with the music, but now named "Betty Lambie's Delight," which had its premiere in Sydney in October 1956, in the presence of Professor and Mrs Lambie. It is a simple Strathspey, the formation of the St. Andrew Cross being its "motif," and its very simplicity expresses the charm and grace of the composer and his wife, who have meant much to the Scottish community, and to Scottish Country Dancing in particular.

TEES-SIDE. Secretary, Mr L. Kemp, 24 Waltham Avenue, Stockton-on-Tees.—Membership of the Branch in this second year has again shown an encouraging increase over the season and with the total now at 202 as compared with 121 last year we are very satisfied with progress. The classes at all levels have been well attended, particularly the Elementary. The highlight of the season was a visit by Miss J. C. Milligan on 16th November when she took two capacity classes. A great evening with a great lady.

Once again we danced the New Year in with a Social Dance on Hogmanay which had an excellent attendance, notwithstanding a full-scale Ball on 3rd January, which was a sell-out. There were no Scottish Country Dance festivals in the area this season but teams of dancers have been out on a number of occasions and valuable work has been done.

The Branch was honoured in having their teachers asked to instruct at C.C.P.R. Week-end Courses at Harrogate and Durham.

WEST LOTHIAN. Secretary, Miss G. H. Miller, Carriden Lodge, Bo'ness.—The Branch has had another very successful year. Membership has increased slightly. We now have 154 Ordinary and 22 Life Members. Classes were held throughout the year at the following centres—Bo'ness, Linlithgow, Bathgate, Blackburn, Armadale, Uphall, Winchburgh and South Queensferry.

A very successful dance was held in Welfare Hall, Armadale, in November, and end of term parties were held in most classes. Bathgate class enjoyed a visit from Mrs Lesslie who taught a few of the more intricate dances—and gave a short talk on technique.

Classes for children have been started in various schools—and these have proved very successful and well attended. Teams from Winchburgh J. S. School and Grange School, Bo'ness, were entered for Central Counties Festival, where they acquitted themselves very creditably.

WHITEHEAD. Secretary, Miss M. Chambers, 4 Adelaide Avenue, Whitehead.—During the season the Branch held a Preliminary Certificate Class, which was well attended. We were very pleased to welcome Miss Milligan, who found time to come along for the examination, and also to take our Branch Class the following evening. There were three successful candidates. Open-air dancing was enjoyed once again during the summer months. The Branch attended two large functions, one to the Carpet Factory, Finaghy, where Jimmy Shand's Band supplied the music, and the other to the Annual Dance in the Town Hall, Ballymena. We were also pleased to welcome Mr Ingram, and very sorry that Miss Kane had to give up teaching the Branch.

WINCHESTER. Secretary, Mrs Killey, Walcote Flat, High Street, Winchester.—After a fall in numbers last year, membership has risen to 67 and the Branch enjoyed a profitable season of dancing. While we are fortunate in having support from a wide area round Winchester, petrol rationing proved a handicap to country members, many of whom were unable to come as regularly as usual. The highlight of the season was a greatly appreciated visit in March from Miss Milligan, which was the first time newer members had had the pleasure of meeting her. We were very grateful to Miss Milligan for coming so far to visit us.

Dances were held at Christmas and at the end of the season in March; and a garden dance in July drew very widespread support.

WOLVERHAMPTON. Secretary, Miss D. Barnham, 183 Stafford Street, Wolverhampton.—The highlight of this year was undoubtedly the visit from Austria of the Seefelder Schuhplattler Song and Dance Group to Wolverhampton on 15th January 1957, when the Branch were invited to participate and put on a combined show. The tickets were sold out prior to the Display, and it was an enormous success, well worth all the hard work and effort entailed.

The Lilleshall week-end was held in November when all places were booked. This autumn the School will be held from 18th to 20th October, and the Branch also anticipate holding a one-day School on 23rd November to be held at the College of Technology, Wolverhampton.

The weather was most unkind to us when we held an "Open Night" last November, the fog delayed our guests from the Stourbridge Scottish and the Wolverhampton Caledonian Societies but nevertheless we had a successful evening, and we hope for a repeat next session.

A very successful Crafts and Hobbies Exhibition was held last June, and the Branch were able to have a stand, which was made very attractive—thanks to members and outside help. The dancing displays attracted a large number of people.

Although due to the inclement weather no outside dancing was held, so far this summer we have had two successful evenings of dancing in the gardens of two of our members, a further one has also been arranged, so we are hoping for continued good weather.

This has been a very busy year and also a very successful one, thanks are due to the loyalty of our members, to Miss Jones, and to Birmingham Branch for their help during the year.

The membership of the Branch stands at 23 and attendances have averaged 21.

Affiliated Groups—Great Britain and Ireland

Altrincham Scottish Country Dance Group.—Miss J. D. CRAIG, Sunny Bank, Sandiway Road, Altrincham, Cheshire.

Amersham and District Scottish Association.—Miss L. J. ROBERTSON, Na Kama, 16 Chesham Road, Amersham, Bucks.

Bedford Scots Society of St. Andrew.—Mr J. H. GOODWIN, 14 Cornwall Road, Bedford.

Birmingham and Midland Scottish Society.—Miss M. WALKER, 376 Warwick Road, Solihull, Warwickshire.

Bradford St. Andrew's Society.—Mr I. R. LAMBIE, 6 Chatsworth Road, Thornbury, Bradford.

Brighton, Hove and District Scottish Association.—Mrs S. HALLIDAY, 18 St. Georges Road, Brighton.

Bristol Caledonian Society.—Mr J. PARKER, F.C.A., 2 Berkeley Square, Bristol, 8.

Bournemouth Caledonian Society.—Mr T. P. SAUNDERSON, 2 Grand Avenue Chambers, Southbourne, Bournemouth.

Caernarvonshire and Anglesey Caledonian Society.—Mrs P. MORROW, 23 Tre Hwfa, Coed Mawr, Bangor.

Cambridge University Strathspey and Reel Club.—Mr N. BOASE, Trinity College, Cambridge.

Cardiff Technical College Students' Union Council, S.C.D. Club.—THE PRINCIPAL, City of Cardiff Education Committee, Technical College, Cathays Park, Cardiff.

Carlisle Highland Association.—Mr J. DALGLEISH, 73 Knowe Park Avenue, Stanwix, Carlisle.

Cheadle Scottish Country Dance Group.—Miss J. MCLACHLAN, 3 Brookfield Crescent, Cheadle, Cheshire.

Chester St. Andrew Society.—Mrs F. MACIVER, 2 Queens Avenue, Whitby, Ellesmere Port, Chester.

Crosby Caledonian Society.—Mr W. E. Phillips, 23 Elmwood Avenue, Great Crosby, Liverpool, 23.

Darlington Paton & Baldwin's Reel Club.—Miss M. GOLDSBROUGH, Paton & Baldwins Ltd., Personnel Department, Darlington.

Dorset Caledonian Society.—Mr R. WALLS, 9 Woodside Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

Eastbourne Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mrs M. C. MILNE, Park View Hotel, Wilmington Gardens, Eastbourne.

Epsom and District Caledonian Association.—Mr E. F. MILNE, 39 West Drive, Cheam, Surrey.

Harwell A.E.R.E. Caledonian Society.—Miss B. Salman, Icknield Way House, A.E.R.E., Berkshire.

Hertfordshire Highland Games Society.—Mr A. MACRAE, 47 Selvage Lane, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

Hayling Island Scottish Country Dance Circle.—Mrs B. J. SPARKES, Landfall, Sandy Point, Hayling Island.

Hereford Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr H. D. JAMES, 22 Moor Farm Lane, Hereford.

Huddersfield St. Andrew's Society.—Mrs E. STEAD, 146 Blackhouse Road, Fartown, Huddersfield.

Larkhill Garrison Officers' Club.—THE SECRETARY, L.G. Officers' Club, c/o School of Artillery, Larkhill, Wilts.

Leeds Moor Allerton Memorial Hall Scottish Country Dance Group.—Mr W. S. CROCKET (Chairman), 12 Moorland Crescent, Leeds, 17.

Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr H. JACK, 36 Parkland Crescent, Leeds, 6.

Leeds University Union Scottish Country Dance Society.—THE HON. SECRETARY, University Union, University Road, Leeds, 2.

Lincoln Caledonian Society.—Mrs J. O. CHIDGEY, 13 Western Avenue, Lincoln.

Lymm Country Dance Club.—Mr D. W. KIRKPATRICK, 3 Crouchly Lane, Lymm, Cheshire.

Maidenhead Scottish Country Dance Class.—Miss G. NIXON, Camley Cottage, 1 Camley Gardens, Maidenhead.

Malvern Scots Club.—Mrs M. GENT, 194 West Malvern Road, West Malvern, Worcs.

Manchester Folk Dance Centre.—Lt.-Col. H. R. BALDREY, 505 Wilbraham Road, Manchester, 21.

Manchester Scottish Dance Party.—Mrs M. ROBERTS, 24 Holmfield Avenue, Manchester, 9.

Mansfield Highland and Scottish Country Dancing Club.—Mr J. Stevenson, 10 Stacey Road, Mansfield.

Manx Folk Dance Society.—Miss C. M. GRIFFITHS, 7 Belgravia Road, Onchan, Isle of Man.

Newtown Stewart Scottish Country Dancing Society.—Miss F. LYONS, Riversdale, Newtown Stewart, Co. Tyrone.

North Devon Caledonian Society.—Mr J. A. SIMPSON, 20 Cross Street, Barnstaple.

Norwich Scots Society of St. Andrew.—Mr A. M. SWAN, 41 Catton Grove Road, Norwich.

Nottingham Scottish Country Dance Club.—Miss M. DICKSON, 2 Marlborough Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham.

Nuneaton and District Scottish Society.—Mr R. J. GOSDEN, Tuttle Hill, Nuneaton.

Portsmouth and Southsea Scottish Country Dance Society.—Miss J. MALLOCH, 30 Southsea Terrace, Southsea.

Portsmouth St. Andrew's Scottish Country Dance Class.—Mr A. MUNRO, Canmohr, Grant Road, Parlington, Portsmouth.

Reading St. Andrew's Scottish Dancing Society.—Mr J. BROWN, 163 King's Road, Reading.

Richmond Caledonian Society.—Mr J. T. SMALL, 232 Beechcroft Road, S.W.1.

Romford Scottish Association.—Mr J. T. STRACHAN, 20 Carlisle Road, Romford, Essex.

Rugby Scottish Society.—Mrs R. W. T. COLEMAN, 18 Vicarage Road, Rugby.

Scarborough Caledonian Society.—Mr S. MCINTOSH, 24 West Street, Scarborough.

Shropshire Caledonian Society.—Dr P. BEATON, Stoneleigh, Dawley, Shropshire.

South East Essex Scottish Society Reel Club.—Mrs D. ROLPH, 110 Priory Crescent, Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea.

Southampton University Scottish Country Dancing Association.—THE SECRETARY, Students' Union, The University, Southampton.

Southampton Scottish Association.—Mrs A. YEOMAN, 237A Vale Drive, Midanbury, Southampton.

Southend-on-Sea Allan Dancers.—Mrs K. JUDKINS, 62 Avenue Road, Southend-on-Sea.

Stafford and District Caledonian Society.—Mr J. COLLIE, 26 Sawpit Lane, Brocton, Stafford.

Stockton-on-Tees Caledonian Society.—Mr D. L. NICHOLSON, 44 Albany Road, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees.

Stourbridge and District Scottish Society.—Mrs G. TOOBY ARLEY, 29 Meriden Avenue, Wollaston, Stourbridge.

Stratford-on-Avon Caledonian Society.—Mrs E. M. Somerville, 97 Albany Road, Stratford-on-Avon.

Swansea St. Andrew's Scottish Country Dance Society.—Mr T. B. LEWELLYN, 23 King's Road, Mumbles, Swansea.

Teddington and District Caledonian Society.—Mrs J. Fuller, 12 Greystiles, Queen's Road, Teddington.

Torquay and District Scottish Society.—Mrs E. PORRITT, Riversdale, Kent's Road, Torquay.

Wallington, Carshalton and District Scottish Association.—Miss M. E. Phipps, 61 Sandy Lane, South Wallington, Surrey.

Wellington and District Caledonian Society.—Mr W. F. GRAY, 125 Wrekin Drive, Donnington, Wellington, Salop.

Westbury-on-Trym Scottish Club.—Mr E. LUCAS, 36 Cote Lea Park, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

West Kirby Officers' Mess Scottish Country Dance Circle.—P.M.C. Officers' Mess, R.A.F., West Kirby, Cheshire.

Workington St. Andrew's Scottish Country Dancing Society.—Mr A. SHEARLAW, 74 Harrington Road, Workington.

York Scottish Country Dance Club.—Miss A. GAIRNS, Old Rectory House, Chapter House Street, York.

Yorkshire The Craven Country Dance Club.—Mrs F. BINNS, Swindon Hall, Hellifield, nr. Skipton.

Affiliated Groups—Abroad

AFRICA

Entebbe Scottish Country Dance Group.—Mrs B. D. KIRWAN, Nsamisi Training Centre, P.O. Box 92, Entebbe, Uganda.

CENTRAL AFRICA

Pietermaritzburg Caledonian Society.—Mrs M. NEASHAM, 2 Jesmond Road, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa.

Lusaka Country Dance Club.—THE SECRETARY, Lusaka Country Dance Club, c/o Road Traffic Commissioner's Office, P.O. Box 208, Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia.

Nkana-Kitwe Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mrs A. WHITEFORD, P.O. Box 439, Kitwe, Northern Rhodesia.

Salisbury Scottish Country Dance Club.—Miss M. J. CANT, 9 Fourteenth Avenue, Mabelreign, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

Highland Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr G. KEAY, P.O. Box 889, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

NORTH AFRICA

Khartoum Scottish Country Dancing Club Caledonian Society.—Mr T. LEACH, P.O. Box 293, Khartoum, Sudan.

SOUTH AFRICA

East London Scottish Country Dance Caledonian Society.—Mrs M. BRYANT, 5 King Edward Road, East London, C.P., South Africa.

Johannesburg Scottish Country Dance Group.—Mr J. DRIVER, 40 Fifth Avenue, Parktown North, Johannesburg.

WEST AFRICA

Caledonian Society.—Miss E. M. MACDOUGALL, P.O. Box 205, Accra, Ghana.

Caledonian Society.—THE HON. SECRETARY, c/o P.O. Box 36, Bathurst, Gambia.

ASIA

Scottish Country Dance Association.—Mr J. HUME, P.O. Box 214, Colombo, Ceylon.

Basrah Caledonians.—Mr D. MENZIES, P.O. Box 5, Basrah, Iraq.

Madras Caledonian Society.—Mr D. NICHOLSON, c/o P.O. Box 351, Madras, 2.

AUSTRALIA

Brisbane Scottish Reel and Strathspey Foundation Group.—Mr G. A. ROBERTSON, 20 Teneriffe Drive, Teneriffe, N.1, Brisbane, Queensland.

Canberra Scottish Country Dance Club.—R. CLARK, 16 Lindsay Street, Narrabundah, A.C.T., Australia.

Melbourne Yarrabrae Scottish Country Dance Class.—Miss C. COULL, 9 Balwyn Road, Canterbury, E.7, Melbourne.

CANADA

Calgary Scottish Country Dance Society.—Mrs M. ELLIOT, 5023 Centre Street North, Calgary, Alberta.

Hamilton Parkdale Scottish Country Dance Class.—Miss B. McCORMACK, 9 Homewood Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario.

Montreal Scottish Country Dance Group.—Mr M. WOLSTENCROFT, 5210 Walkley Avenue, 2, Montreal.

London First St. Andrew's Scottish Cultural Group.—Mrs H. MIDDLETON, 175 Albert Street, London, Ontario.

London Highland Society.—Mr D. MACLACHLAN, 126 Wortley Road, London, Ontario.

Toronto Scottish Country Dance Society.—Mr L. KILNER, 35 Errington Avenue, Toronto, 7.

Vancouver Scottish Country Dance Society of British Columbia.—Mrs C. L. FALKNER, 233 West Sixth Street, North Vancouver, B.C.

Vancouver Prince Charles Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr W. KERR, 4258 Ontario Street, Vancouver, B.C.

EUROPE

Paris Caledonian Society of France.—Mr D. L. BURNS, 47 Avenue de L'Opera, Paris, 2.

MALAYA

Singapore St. Andrew's Society.—Mr J. L. PATTISON, c/o The Singapore Traction Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 841 Mackenzie Road, Singapore.

NEW ZEALAND

Cambridge Scottish Country Dance Society.—Mrs F. M. THOMSON, Campbell Street, Leamington, Cambridge, N.Z.

Dunedin Burns Club.—Mr A. F. LINDSAY, 48 School Street, Roslyn, Dunedin, N.Z.

Dunedin Scottish Country Dance Society.—Miss L. M. NEILSON, 8 Helen's House, 9 Regent Road, Dunedin, N.Z.

Featherston Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr D. ROBERTSON R.D.1, Featherston, N.Z.

Hamilton Scottish Country Dance Society.—Mr C. D. MCLEAN, 1130 Heaphy Terrace, Hamilton, N.Z.

Hastings and District Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr J. SETON, 309 South Willowpark Road, Hastings, N.Z.

Hutt Valley Scottish Society.—Mr A. E. MILNE, Dundarg, 98 Cambridge Terrace, Lower Hutt, N.Z.

Otago St. Andrew's Society.—Miss E. WILSON, 828 Cumberland Street, Dunedin, N.Z.

Napier Scottish Country Dance Club.—Miss M. PATON, 18 Gladstone Road, Napier, N.Z.

Nelson Scottish Country Dance Club.—Miss K. L. SHAW, 44A Shelbourne Street, Nelson, N.Z.

New Zealand Scottish Country Dance Society.—Mrs M. M. CLANCEY, 2 Eckington Terrace, Nelson, N.Z.

Wallaceville Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr B. C. HEAD, 8 Moa Street, Lower Hutt, N.Z.

Wanganui Atholl Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mrs J. H. MACGEE, 19 Kapa Street, Wanganui East, N.Z.

Wellington Hawkes Bay and District Association of Scottish Country Dance Clubs.—Mr M. SMITH, 68 Victoria Street, Lower Hutt, N.Z.

Wellington Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mrs A. SWINTON, 52 Rex Street, Miramar, Wellington, E.4, N.Z.

Whangarei Scottish Country Dance Club.—Mr E. ARCUS, P.O. Box 273, Whangarei, N.Z.

NORTH BORNEO

Sandakan Country Dance Club.—Mr T. PRENTICE, c/o Harrison & Crosfield (D) Ltd., Sandakan, North Borneo.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Los Angeles Caledonian Scottish Country Dance Group.—Miss J. ROSE, 8506 South Hoover, Los Angeles.

Philadelphia Scottish Country Dance Group.—Miss E. CRICHTON, 23 Andrews Avenue, Glenolden, Pa., U.S.A.

San Francisco Reel and Strathspey Club.—Mrs W. S. LLOYD, 2417 Green Street, San Francisco, Cal., U.S.A.

Minutes of Annual General Meeting, 27th October 1956

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Saturday, 27th October 1956, at 2.30 p.m. in the Training College, Dundee.

PRESENT. The President, The Duke of Atholl; Mrs R. A. Lesslie, Chairman of the Executive Council; and an approximate attendance of 500 members of whom 92 were delegates.

Before the meeting commenced, the President read a message from Her Majesty The Queen.

The meeting agreed to send a message of sympathy to Mrs McLellan on the death of her husband—Dr McLellan of Frioekheim Branch, a member of the Executive Council and Finance Committee.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS. The President began his speech by saying how much pleasure it gave the Society to be back in Dundee for its Annual General Meeting. The County of Angus had a certain significance for him as he had received his first instruction in Highland dancing from an old Angus gentleman, the late Mr Neill of Forfar, who had also been dancing master to H.M. Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.

Lord James spoke of the pictures in the *Bulletin* of the team dancing in South Africa, and of the spectacular advance made by the Society. One would always expect a good reception in Australia, Canada and New Zealand but one was not quite so certain of South Africa where there were so many races. But the venture seemed to have been a triumphant success. When Mr Frizell had reported to the Executive Council on the 5,000 mile journey Lord James said he remembered when he took the same journey fifty-five years ago but on a different mission—not actually dancing but executing some very complicated movements to avoid the attention of one of the most chivalrous and gentlemanly opponents the British Army had ever faced since the Jacobite "Rising" of 1745. There was something similar in these two campaigns for in each a tragic collapse was transformed into a glorious historical episode by the outstanding gallantry of the losing side. Perhaps this similarity in our history was partly responsible for the success of the South African tour.

The goodwill, common sense and sincerity of the ordinary people of a nation had often helped to rectify the mistakes of its politicians. We had had a good example in the presence of the Bolshoi Ballet in this country. The words of Madame Ulanova, in her remarks to the Press, had impressed him; she had said, "We try to find humanity and the reality of life in our ballets and our aim is to widen the cultural relationships between all countries." Lord James felt that we could indeed find humanity and reality in our national dances and that we had already progressed in this direction. He had been delighted by the performance of "An Edinburgh Fancy" in the recent Edinburgh Festival, and by the joyful eagerness with which these young people tackled their job in the "Hebridean Weaving Lilt" and how well the team had interpreted "The Yellow Haired Laddie"—the difficult old-fashioned manners had not been overdone.

In ending, the President said that the Society could indeed help to "broaden the cultural relationships between all countries" and he hoped that all future expeditions abroad would not only be pleasant tours but also useful missions.

MINUTES. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th November 1955, having been circulated in the *Bulletin*, were approved and signed.

ADOPTION OF ANNUAL REPORT. Mr Forde Spence (Lorn), proposed the adoption of the Annual Report after expressing appreciation of the work involved in compiling the Annual Bulletin. Miss Redford (St. Andrews), seconded the adoption. The meeting approved.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS. The audited accounts, also circulated with the *Bulletin*, were presented by Mr Hardie, Convener of the Finance Committee.

Referring to the Revenue Account, Mr Hardie pointed out that subscription income had risen by £265 but was still below the "peak" figure of 1953-54: but that royalties and sales of the Society's publications were at record figures.

Under "Expenditure" the running costs of the Headquarters was a new feature. This was abnormally high because of difficulty with the hot water system which had been renewed at a cost of £250 in the summer of 1956. The International Team's visit to Pretoria had been met by donations of £404 from forty-one Branches and £403 from industrial firms and others, leaving a balance of £120 to be met from the Society's funds.

After meeting normal current expenses, and making the usual provision for re-printing the Society's publications and making films, £350 had been set aside for a Staff Pension Fund, and £750 for General Reserve Fund, leaving £744 to be added to the Capital Fund.

Turning to the Balance Sheet, Mr Hardie reminded the meeting that £7,000 had been earmarked for the new Headquarters. The actual expenditure had been £6,255 made up as follows: Cost of buying 12 Coates Crescent, £4,130; alterations and decorations, £1,372; furniture and equipment, £503; total—£6,005, to which must be added the £250 for the new hot water system paid since the date of the Balance Sheet. He expressed the Committee's appreciation of the many gifts of furniture received from the Branches and members of the Society.

Finally he explained that the large cash balance arose from the Summer School fees which had been received at the end of June, and stated that in future a separate bank account would be opened for the purpose.

Mr Aitkenhead (N.W. Ayrshire) proposed the adoption of the accounts, seconded by Miss Ross (Glasgow). The meeting approved.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR. The confirmation of the re-appointment of the Auditor, Mr Norman MacKinnon, C.A., of Norman MacKinnon & Co., Ayr, was proposed by Mr Sharpe (Dundee), and seconded by Mr Murray (Inverness). The meeting approved.

At this point, Lord James handed over the business of the meeting to Mrs Lesslie, Chairman of Executive Council.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS. Miss Milligan proposed the appointment of the Duke of Atholl as President, and the Countess of Elgin, the Countess of Galloway, Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich, the Duke of Hamilton and Vice-Admiral The Mackintosh of Mackintosh as Honorary Vice-Presidents. Mrs Lesslie seconded the proposals which were approved by the meeting.

CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN. One nomination was received for the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman: Mrs Lesslie was therefore elected as Chairman and Miss Milligan as Vice-Chairman.

SIX ELECTED MEMBERS. The following were elected by vote: Miss F. Adams (Glasgow), Miss L. Browne (Aberdeen), Mrs G. Caithness (St. Andrews), Miss H. McLagan (Perth), Mr W. Murray (Inverness), Mr G. Sharpe (Dundee).

RESOLUTIONS:

- (a) The meeting was informed that the first Resolution from Aberdeen Branch had been withdrawn.
- (b) EDINBURGH BRANCH: (i) "This Branch moves that the Publications Committee should investigate the desirability and feasibility of publishing as an official book or books a collection of the best of the dances recently devised."
(ii) "This Branch moves that the Constitution be amended suitably to give effect to this if agreed to by the Meeting."

Mr Cruickshank (Edinburgh) moved the Resolution which was seconded by Mr Lindsay Stewart (Edinburgh). It was stated that no change to the present Society Constitution would be necessary if the Resolution was adopted.

After discussion Miss Ross (Glasgow) moved an amendment—"That fifteen to twenty years should elapse before new dances were considered for publishing in a book, and that the Publications Committee should consider their suitability." Mrs Sandison (East Surrey, West Kent) seconded the amendment.

On a vote by show of hands, the Resolution was carried unanimously.

- (c) GLASGOW BRANCH: "Prior to the issue of dances printed by the Society, careful consideration should be given to the actual detail contained therein, in order to avoid the necessity of alterations having to be made."

Mr Macleod (Glasgow) before speaking to the Resolution asked permission to alter the wording of the Resolution, but this was ruled out of order by the Chairman. After explanation of the Resolution by Mr Macleod, it was ruled out of order due to the publications mentioned being non-Society leaflets. The Chairman suggested that the matter could be raised at an Executive Council meeting.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. It was announced that the Executive Council had accepted an invitation from N.W. Ayrshire Branch to hold the Annual General Meeting in Largs in November 1957.

The President asked that a message of goodwill and greeting should be sent to Mrs Stewart who was at present in South Africa. The meeting unanimously approved.

VOTE OF THANKS. Miss Clavering (Moffat) proposed a vote of thanks to the President and Chairman, and to Dundee Branch for their excellent arrangements for the Autumn School.

Twice Blue and White — Bavaria, September 1956

FROM 15th until 30th September 1956, the International Team of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society visited yet another country—Bavaria: a land of fairy-tale and romance, of fabulous icing-sugar castles, fantastic Baroque churches and enchanted rolling landscapes. Each country casts a different spell—this one had a special charm—quite unique.

At first one did not expect to find any definite affinity between the Bavarians and the Scots—but there were many, both general and particular. The Bavarians are a race

within a nation just as the Scots are (their last King died tragically within living memory). They are warm-hearted, generous and friendly and again, like us, they have a national dress which is worn daily and their national colours are blue and white.

One particular and surprising affiliation was the discovery of the Church of St. James in Regensburg (Regensburg is the ancient Roman "Ratisbona"). Although it is no presbyterian church it is known as the "Scots Church"—it has a northern door that would not be out-of-place in a Celtic Tir-nan-og and the mediaeval foundation was by Benedictines from Scotland. It has still close ties with Blair College, Aberdeen and Fort Augustus.

During the tour, the team visited Munich, Garmisch, Augsburg, Dinkelsbühl, Bamberg, Nuremberg, Regensburg, Landshut and Cologne. Thus a great part of this lovely country was seen, from the snow-clad Bavarian Alps to the warm romantic rolling Danube, with pleasure—at leisure, in perfect weather—continuous sunshine, in perfect conditions—a sympathetic company and in perfect luxury—in a splendid elegant Mercedes miniature bus. This exquisite automobile purred contentedly at great speeds over many miles under the magnificent control of a delightful and most co-operative driver—Willy Klinke (in whose honour a contemporary Scots song was composed, called "Wee Willy Klinke). The team also had at its disposal a hard-working interpreter—Elmar Gözl, an ardent folklorist.

The journey to Bavaria is long—but varied. The sight of Holland *en route* brought back many memories to the older members of the team—the familiar dykes, the flat fens and the recreated glory that is now the Rotterdam which they saw in promising embryo several years ago. The valley of the Rhine is noble and picturesque, guarded by incredible castles of fabulous design perched on inaccessible peaks. The Rhine itself is a wide majestic flood uniting in the most satisfactory and commendable way possible the two extremes of commerce and beauty.

Munich was the Alpha and Omega of the tour—with Cologne as an epilogue—and the British Consulate-General was an *alma mater* which granted us two very-guardian angels—whose help was quite indispensable—Miss Helen Leitch and Mr Leslie Sayers. It gave the team little surprise to find that Miss Leitch had once been a student of Miss Milligan at Jordanhill. No matter where in the globe that gentle tyrant goes, someone always turns up to "belong" to her—to the great benefit of her "Family."

The writer of this has heard it said in his presence that these International Tours consist of a sort of free holiday—parties here, receptions there, etc. He would like to take this opportunity of bringing to the notice of his friendly readers that first of all continuous parties here and receptions there can be very tiring and extremely wearing—in ordinary life. On a dancing tour these have to be fitted in at curious hours, between travelling and rehearsals and performances, for standard of performance is *never* allowed to suffer. Also those who know the "high calling" of the membership of an International team realise that for the time being they are SCOTLAND—and as they behave, as they converse—so is our nation judged. Thus a continuous high standard of social poise as well of dance-perfection is required. It is no wonder that several members return to their native land pleasantly satiated with foreign experiences—and near prostrate with exhaustion.

This tour had a great send-off with a party in the British Consulate-General in Munich in the presence of a galaxy of V.I.P.s and finished in Munich ten days later in the rollicking merriment of the fantastic "Oktoberfest"—where roast chickens are eaten sizzling from spits and the fine golden Munich beer is drunk from monumental decorative tankards.

Wherever the team went its performance was rapturously received—the piping, the group dances, the solo dances and the singing and harping of Iain Robertson. The

pipes and the clarsach commanded great admiration. Each turn brought another band of enthusiasts who fell under the spell of this "different" dancing and of the personality of Miss Milligan who could win over the shyest audience in three minutes with her most charming and delightfully inaccurate German.

Perhaps the most enjoyable performances were:—

In Munich—in a vast beautiful hall (with too low a platform) panelled and chandeliered and lofty..

In Augsburg (the town that sired Mozart)—where a nun standing at the back of the hall was almost joining in with us.

In Nuremberg—in a splendidly restored hall of the ancient castle. Here the Bavarians put on their best show and among other things, performed a dance that alternated cleverly but confusingly from 3-4 to 2-4 time.

In Landshut—in a mediaeval hall—oak-panelled, tapestried and muralled—lit by coronals of electric candles. Here a splendid choir sang Bavarian folksongs and English madrigals—and a youth group danced Bavarian dances and English folk dances also.

Because of the convenience of our method of transport we were able *en route* to see many privileged sights: remote villages harbouring gems of the Romanesque or the Baroque in an amicable mixture of Lutheran and Catholic Faiths; the beauties of Oberammergau, the lush Etal, the elaborate Wies and that magnificent white elephant aloft on the banks of the Danube—Valhalla, a serenely splendid but useless copy of the Parthenon which houses busts and names of famous people of Germanic descent—including Saxon Alfred (famous for burning cakes). If only this had been designed internally as a concert hall or theatre its situation could not have been more lyrical—commanding miles of the Danube hinterland.

The ceremonial dish of Bavaria is a curious tasteless white sausage made of veal—it is boiled and eaten dipped in mustard—the taste is "very acquired." The lesser reverent refer to the coming into the North of Germany as "coming out of the White Sausage Equator."

It was thus, out of the White Sausage Equator—in Cologne (Köln) that the final performance took place. Köln has been completely rebuilt and one of the important centres is the British "Die Brücke"—"The Bridge" of cultural relations between the two nations. These centres are having a great effect on and in the new Germany. In this building there is a magnificent concert hall—and here we gave our farewell performance to an assembly of the British Colony and V.I.P.s. The Ambassador could not be present as he was entertaining Earl Mountbatten who had arrived unexpectedly from Britain, but he sent a charming message by his Cultural Attaché. It was most pleasant to see a kent face in the audience—John Keighan (of the Birmingham Branch) then stationed in the North of Germany who travelled down to see the performance. We were regally entertained and looked after by Mr Carter, the Director of Die Brücke. From Köln we travelled home—in the first rain seen during the entire tour.

Being abroad brings many new angles and approaches to the dancer on the subject of dancing. One thing, however, that is obvious is the fact that we in Scotland are very fortunate and privileged in having something that we are all apt to take almost too much for granted—a Society that guides and guards our approach and attitude to dancing and maintains its excellence. In no other country does one find such an overall high standard and a universal understanding of a continuously-living and authentic performance of the cult and culture of dancing as is found in our own country.

Summer School, 1957

WE wonder how many thousands of miles were covered by the students who came to St. Andrews this year. Those from Japan, U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada, Switzerland, Holland and Germany, made us Britons feel part of a truly cosmopolitan gathering and made the mere hundreds of miles travelled by us seem a short distance indeed.

Coming for the first time, we little realised what a welcome we were to receive. There was a wonderful family feeling which, we learnt, was characteristic of the Summer School, and, within a couple of days we had a wide circle of friends. The difficulty arose in trying to remember so many names—it was sometimes easier to remember where they came from, but we had an added help at meal times when the telephone rang—“So that’s Miss X.!” There were many moments in the day for getting to know people—over a coffee in the morning in the fresh air, coffee at Joe’s after social dancing in a hot thick fog of smoke, then there were those who preferred to paddle into the sunset and cool the weary feet after the effort of trying to improve one’s footwork—“sail and terravel!”

Each day, rising early in the morning, we endeavoured to reach our class in time having detoured for our morning paper first to see whether the weather was to be suitable for bathing and if the busmen had finished their holiday strike. We were let in fairly gently the first day but it still didn’t prevent us from waking next morning to find mobility decreased by some weird and agonising pain between the ankle and knee! All we were told was that if we weren’t stiff we hadn’t done our exercises correctly. We, as Elementary students were gradually introduced to all formations up to Books 13 and 14 and as they cropped up in the evenings’ social dancing, we felt a little more confident when the gallant gentlemen from all the other classes came to ask us for a dance. We even danced the “Axum Reel” and “Bonnie Anne” by the end of the fortnight which we considered a “Triumph.” After a moment’s elation, through comparative success in dancing yet another new dance, we were again humbled but thrilled by the demonstrations of the dances from Book 19. They looked so easy, so beautifully phrased and so free from tension and anxiety, that it gave us just that inspiration to try to introduce those qualities into our own dancing both here and back home, south of the border. The Highland dancing by Jackie Johnstone and Bobbie Watson just “sent” us!—such perfect precision, poise and grace.

As we mentioned at the beginning we had some members from Japan with us. They are leading Folk dance collectors in their own country who entertained us with selections of their National dances—the coal miners’ dance became the universal favourite, in which the coal was first loosened with blows from a hammer, then with great satisfaction, they clapped their hands to get rid of the dust, stepped back to shield themselves from the next fall of coal, clapped hands again with satisfaction at not having to work for that lot, and so on! At the house parties they entertained us with Scottish songs—“Comin’ thro’ the Rye” and “Auld Lang Syne” set to Japanese words, and on the last Sunday we had a lovely coloured film of more Japanese dances trained by Mr (Mac) Shimada—they were “tihen joroshi” (Japanese for “jolly good”). The lone Swiss gave us several delightful demonstrations of Swiss and other European dances—“Zehr Gut.”

Talking of photographs, Group Captain Huxley gave us a most enjoyable exhibition of the coloured slides he took at last year’s Summer School—mainly of the rehearsing and making of the film, “Scotland Dances,” shortly to be released. He took more photographs this year so that next year we too shall be able to join in the chorus from the “Just last nighters” of “Oh look, there’s Jane Brown!” “That’s another nice one of

Miss Hadden!" and "Was that 'The Gentle Shepherd' at the Perth cattle show?"

We have left the most difficult part until last. How can we thank everyone enough for all that they have done to make this fortnight such a happy memory? We know that we say this on behalf of all 400 students who have been so privileged in being able to attend this Summer School. Miss Milligan and her staff haven't spared themselves for one moment in their efforts to make everything go smoothly for us. While we have been here, we have learnt to realise what the Society has done for us and what it means to Miss Milligan and we shall now do our best to uphold the high standards and further its purpose. Thank you very sincerely, Miss Milligan, and we hope to see you again next year.

ST. ANDREWS

The old grey town close by the sea,
Keeps casting memories' nets to me.
The magic of its silent ways
Will linger with me all my days.

I came from climate hot and bright
To find the grey stones' cool delight.
The lovely trees the roadways lined,
Such rustling music for the mind.

The love of dancing called me there,
I found my joy beyond compare.
'Mid Scottish welcome kind and true,
The hours I spent there were too few.

My task completed with success,
Words cannot then my pride express.
I homeward turned, soon left that shore,
Oh! will I see it nevermore?

Then dreams take wings and carry me
Back to St. Andrews by the sea,
Back to the dancing days high glee,
In the oldest University.

GWEN CAINE, Cape Town Branch.

News from Overseas

NOTES taken from some of the correspondence received at Headquarters during the year will be of interest to members.

From **Ladysmith** comes a report of the first Summer School to be held in South Africa in October 1956 when many South African Scottish country dance enthusiasts spent a most enjoyable week. The venture was organised and carried through mainly by Mr David Couper who gained his Teacher's Certificate at St. Andrews in 1952.

With a soaring temperature classes continue in **Karachi** where there are three Scottish Country Dance Clubs; one is run by the Social Club of a large company, one by the Caledonian Society and the third by the Karachi Gymkhana, which has a considerable Pakistani membership. The interest in Scottish country dancing by the Pakistani is also mentioned in correspondence from G.H.Q., **Rawalpindi**. It is interesting to note that the wives of the Pakistani members are allowed to dance reels in preference to ballroom dances, the former being considered to be more impersonal. An enthusiast who had danced with a group in Calcutta now finds himself in **Nova Scotia** where he has started Scottish country dancing by inviting friends to his house and has formed a group which is very keen and anxious to achieve a high standard.

In **Hamilton, New Zealand**, one hears of a picnic held at the Matamata Hot Springs where Scottish country dancing took place in the "soundshell."

A warm invitation to all visiting Scottish country dancers is given by the **Bloemfontein** Caledonian Society. Nearer home, in **Fontainebleau** the officers of the Gordon Highlanders have a flourishing Scottish Country Dancing Club, which was formed seven years ago and where the twice weekly dances are attended by seventy to eighty people of the following nationalities—British, American, French, Belgian, Canadian, German, Dutch and Luxembourgen. It is estimated that more good is done to the inter-allied cause by these dances than by any other functions. From the recently formed and affiliated Scottish Country Dance Club in **Canberra** comes news which will be of special interest to groups in Australia. The three films made by the Society have been acquired by the Commonwealth National Library (Film Division) and are available free of charge to all Clubs in Australia. The address is Acton, Canberra.

Two years ago mention was made of Scottish country dancing started in **Tokyo** and the enthusiasm created by Sergeant Barrie who was stationed there. The news of Sergeant Barrie's death through an accident in April has been received with much regret especially by his many Japanese friends. Two Japanese gentlemen have attended the Summer School and have spoken very highly of Sergeant Barrie and his work for the Society in Japan.

Space does not permit to give excerpts from many other interesting letters.

TWEEDSIDE

What beauties does Flora disclose!
 How sweet are her smiles upon Tweed!
 Yet Mary's, still sweeter than those,
 Both nature and fancy exceed.
 No daisy, nor sweet blushing rose,
 Not all the gay flowers of the field,
 Not Tweed, gliding gently through those,
 Such beauty and pleasure does yield.

The warblers are heard in the grove,
 The linnet, the lark and the thrush;
 The blackbird and sweet cooing dove
 With music enchant every bush.
 Come, let us go forth to the mead;
 Let us see how the primroses spring!
 We'll lodge in some village on Tweed,
 And love, while the feathered folk sing.

ROBERT CRAWFORD (1695-1732).

Words set to the music of a dance in Book 19.

HIRE OF FILMS

Branches may hire films made for the Society (Rakes of Glasgow; River Cree; Mrs McLeod of Raasay) free of charge, for showing to members, but application must be made through the Secretary, 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh, 3. Particulars of films and loop films may be obtained from the Scottish Film Council, 16-17 Woodside Terrace, Glasgow, C.3.

CERTIFICATED TEACHERS

Will members holding a Society certificate and who are going overseas, please send name and address to the Secretary, so that she can put them into touch with Branches or Clubs where teaching help is required.

SUMMER SCHOOL, 1958

All members must apply to the Secretary, 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh, 3, by 31st January 1958, for Summer School application forms, which will be sent out in March. The approximate dates of the School are 23rd July to 20th August. Non-Residents must apply as well as Residents.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

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