

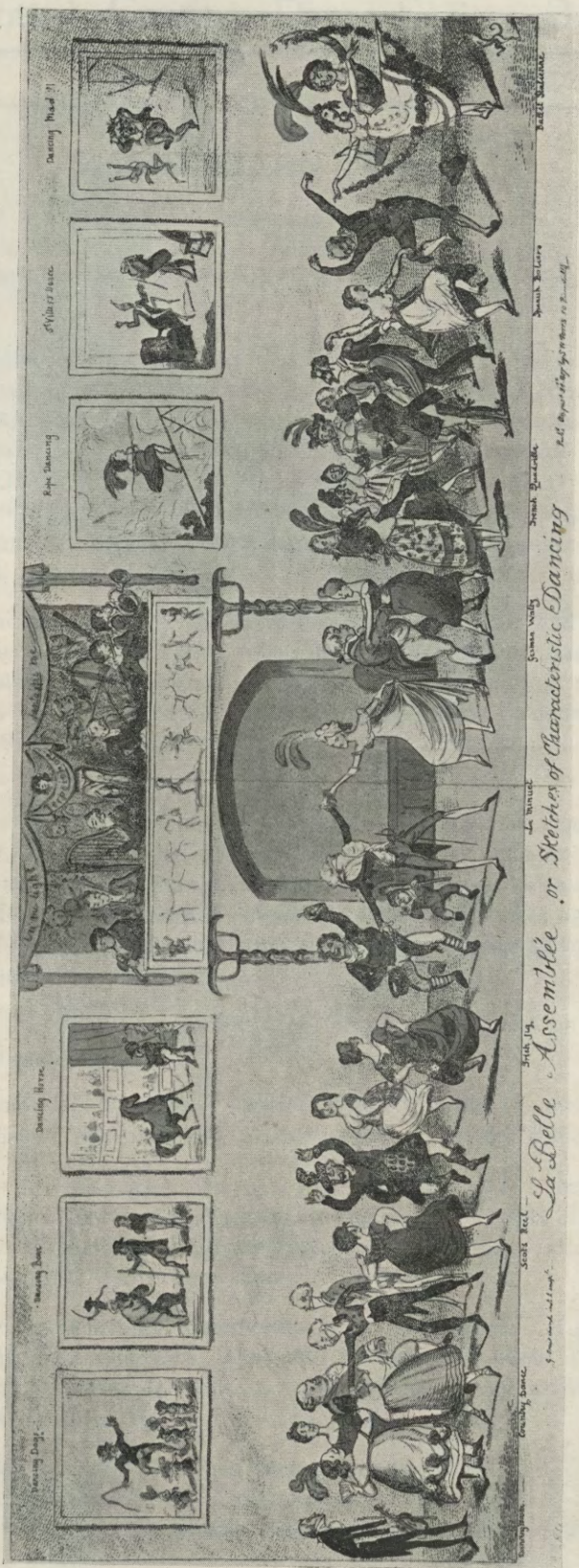
The
Scottish Country
Dance Society
Bulletin.

No. 8.

OCTOBER, 1935.

List of Contents.

Photograph,	1
Annual Report,	3
Branch Reports,	4
Answers to Correspondents,	11
Financial Report,	12
Account of International Folk Dance Festival,	14
Account of S.C.D.S. Stand at Highland and Agricultural Show,	17
List of Perth Hotels,	18
Autumn School Notice,	19



"La Belle Assemblée" by George Cruikshank.

(By courtesy of the Trustees of the British Museum).

The Scottish Country Dance Society Bulletin.

No 8.

OCTOBER, 1935.

Annual Report, 1934-35.

The Council has pleasure in presenting its Twelfth Annual Report. The membership of the Society continues to increase, and in addition to the ordinary members there are now 98 Life Members, and there are six affiliated societies overseas.

The outstanding event of the year was the appearance of the S.C.D.S. team at the International Folk Dance Festival, held in the Albert Hall in London from 15th to 20th July. The team was composed of 50 dancers drawn from all parts of Scotland, and they were loudly cheered at the Festival after dancing "The Duke of Perth," "Glasgow Highlanders," and the Sixteensome Reel. The President wishes to thank all members of the Society who responded to his appeal for subscriptions towards the sending of this team to London. An account of the Festival will be found on page 14.

A Stand was organised by the Society at the Highland and Agricultural Show, which was held at Aberdeen from 18th to 21st June. A great deal of interest was displayed in the Stand by visitors to the Show, and the members of the Aberdeen Branch are to be congratulated on the work done both before and during the Show Week. A short account of the Stand will be found on page 17.

The Summer School was held at St. Andrews again this year during the first fortnight of August. Over 150 people enrolled as resident members at University Hall, and there were many non-resident members. The annual dance in the Younger Hall was held on 2nd August, and the Society was again indebted to Mr Reid for his kindness in supplying the music, which was much enjoyed by dancers and spectators alike.

Book 10 is now published, and will be issued to members on payment of their 1935-36 subscriptions.

Two more dances—"The Merry Dancers" and "Waltz Country Dance"—have been republished, and are issued with this number of the *Bulletin*.

Cupar Centre has dissolved after repaying its £2 grant. Aberdeen, Banffshire, and Stirlingshire have repaid grants during the past year, and donations of £5 for the general funds of the Society were received from Kirkcaldy Centre and from Miss Baptie's St. Andrews class.

Examinations for Teachers' Certificates were held during the past year at the following centres:—Aberdeen, Ayr, St. Andrews, Dundee, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow and London. Ninety-four of the candidates passed in Book I., and 41 in Book II.

Lady Dorothea Ruggles Brise has very kindly presented the S.C.D.S. with a rare old copy of MacGlashan's "Collection of Scottish Music." The Society is very grateful for this book, which will be of great value to the Research Committee.

The Secretary, Miss W. Forgan, is going abroad in October for six months. During her absence Miss Jean Milligan is acting secretary, and from now till April all communications should be addressed to her at 19 Rosslyn Terrace, Glasgow, W.2.

:-:

ABERDEEN (formed 1927), 157 members. In Aberdeen two public classes and one teachers' class have been held throughout the winter, and all have been very well attended. An examination was held in March, at which fourteen Book I. and three Book II. Certificates were gained. At the Annual Ball in February there was an attendance of over 400 dancers, drawn from Aberdeen and the surrounding districts.

The Musical Festival Country Dance Section was well supported, and, as in former years, was entirely run by members of the Branch. The Society's Stand at the Highland and Agricultural Show was prepared and managed by the local committee and members of the Branch.

ANGUS (formed 1930), 98 members. Once again this Branch has had a most successful season. The most outstanding feature of this year's work was the starting of new Centres in Forfar, Brechin, and Montrose. These new Centres were most enthusiastically supported, and weekly classes were held in each one, the classes being taught by certificated teachers from the Arbroath Centre. The membership of the Branch was made up as follows:—

Arbroath Centre,	31
Forfar Centre,	15
Brechin Centre,	24
Montrose Centre,	28
Total,	98

In addition to these classes, many others were run by members of the Branch, notably classes for School Children, Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, W.R.I.'s, and other Women's Clubs. As usual, the Arbroath Musical Festival was well supported, mixed teams of Guides and Scouts, Rangers and Rovers, being prominent features of the Country Dance Section. Once again the Arbroath Centre held a big dance in January, when over 300 people, dancers and spectators, were present. Most of the dances were demonstrated briefly by a team from Arbroath Centre, and this proved a great help to the success of the evening. The Brechin, Forfar, and Montrose Centres also held most successful dances during the season.

AYRSHIRE (formed 1933), 66 members. Classes were held during the winter, with an average attendance of twenty. Several members were successful in obtaining their teacher's certificate. A Basket Whist was organised by members to procure funds for the Branch, which is now on a sound financial basis.

BANFFSHIRE (formed 1929), 98 members. The session 1934-35 has again been a very successful one. The recognised classes in Buckie have been held throughout the session, beginning 1st October and finishing the first week in

April. All the classes have been very well attended; also the social functions, which help greatly to keep the interest alive. The Children's Classes, which were instituted two years ago, have fully justified themselves, there being approximately 200 children attending these classes, and all doing remarkably good work. The Branch looks forward to deriving the benefit of these classes in later years, as the Children's Classes are exceptionally good recruiting grounds for the Adult Class.

Demonstrations have again been given during the winter throughout the County by the adult and juvenile demonstration teams, which have been very popular.

As a great many of the W.R.I.'s in Banffshire have taken up Dramatic Art for the Dramatic Festival, there was a big falling-off during the winter of our activities among the Institutes, but it is hoped that there will be a revival in this connection very soon again.

During the session an opportunity was taken of presenting the president, Rev. J. Faulds, with a replica of the book presented to Her Majesty the Queen by the Scottish Country Dance Society, in appreciation of his many services to the Branch.

The Branch also feel very highly honoured that it was able to send three couples to assist the team taking part in the International Folk Dance Festival in London.

CLACKMANNANSHIRE (formed 1927), 8 members. Nineteen classes were held during the session—nine before Christmas and ten after Christmas. These classes had an average attendance throughout the session of twenty, during which a high level of interest and enthusiasm was well maintained. Two "late nights" were also held, and on both occasions there was a gratifying turnout. The financial position of the Branch is satisfactory.

DUNDEE (formed 1925), 140 members. The Branch has again passed a very enthusiastic year of work and progress. Classes were held during the winter and spring terms for members, and whilst these were distinctly social in aspect, yet technique continued a feature of the dancing in this district. There has been a continued interest and fostering of the old dances through clubs, youth organisations, and W.R.I.'s, and many of the members give of their time to this work. Scottish Country Dances are now becoming regular dance items also in local and district dance gatherings. The Christmas and Easter dances under the branch auspices were the usual successes, whilst the afternoon dance held in aid of funds for the International Folk Dance Festival was well supported. The famous Reid Band from Newtyle gave their services free for this dance, and thus helped, along with a Branch donation, to augment the Dundee contribution. The Branch was represented by five men and five women dancers at London. There were fourteen teachers' certificates gained by Dundee Branch members this year. The issue of Book 10 is eagerly anticipated for commencing another successful year.

WESTERN DUMBARTONSHIRE (formed 1927). There are now 33 members, an increase of 4 from last year. This last season has shown a decided revival in Country Dancing, and a new class was started in the Vale of Leven. Both senior and junior classes were held in Dumbarton, and were well attended, friends coming from Alexandria, Cardross, Clydebank, and Helensburgh. Delightful social evenings brought the classes to a close in March.

EDINBURGH (formed 1923). There is now an active membership of some 240, and in addition a large number of non-members have been attending classes held under the auspices of the Branch. Five classes have been held regularly every week during the winter, and the fact that they have been divided into "Beginners," "General," and "For Certificate" has been the means of attracting increasing numbers. In addition a number of groups of people connected with various societies have been taught by members of the Society, and it is of interest to note that several of these entered "teams" in the S.C.D. Class at the Edinburgh Musical Festival. After the Annual General Meeting in November a *Thé Dansant* was held, at which the officials of the Society and visiting members were the guests of the Branch. In January the annual ball was held in the Palais de Danse, at which over 400 were present. The Branch "team" has demonstrated at a number of dances and fetes, and the Committee is very grateful to Miss Gillespie for organising the "team," and the members themselves, who give so generously of their time and energy. Eight members of the Branch joined the "team" which demonstrated at the International Folk Dance Festival in London in July, and a number of other members were present at the Festival.

FIFE (formed 1929), 215 members. Centres at St. Andrews, Dunfermline, and Kirkealdy. The same keen enthusiasm as seen in former years has been shown again in all centres. Although the actual membership has decreased, many new members have joined the Society, and much interest and zeal is shown by many non-members. Successful classes were held at each centre during the winter and spring. Demonstrations were given by teams at various Women's Rural Institutes, resulting in the formation of a class. Exhibitions were given at two concerts. Several W.R.I. teams from Fife competed at the Rally at Murthly Castle on 2nd June, one team taking second place. This same team took first place in two competitions at Dunfermline in the Fife and Kinross Musical Festival.

GLASGOW (formed 1923), 303 members, 8 of these being Life Members. The unabating enthusiasm of the Branch, under the leadership of Miss Milligan, has carried through a very successful year's programme. Eight classes, attended by members and non-members of the Society, were held weekly from October to December, and again from January to March. Several men and women candidates were successful in gaining a teacher's certificate. The well-established "Circles" and private classes were again associated with the Branch members in their activities. In the spring, in response to a request from the Townswomen's Guild a class was inaugurated in the King's Park district of Glasgow. About 40 members, under the direction of one of the Glasgow teachers, proved a most enthusiastic company. Various demonstrations were given in the City and surrounding districts during the winter months. At a *Thé Dansant* held in the M'Lellan Galleries on 27th October, 1934, the dances from Book 9 were demonstrated by two mixed teams—an adult team from Jordanhill Training Centre and a juvenile team from Shields Road School. A most enjoyable dance, the tickets for which were sold in equal numbers for men and women, took place in November in Burlington House. Two other very popular dances were held during the session—one in January, in the Grand Hotel, and one in March, in the M'Lellan Galleries. In the local festivals Scottish Country Dancing has again

had a prominent place, while the high standard of dancing has been maintained. In view of the expense of sending the Scottish team to the International Folk Dance Festival in London in July, the Glasgow Committee decided to hold a concert in the Lyric Theatre. This took the form of an "All-Scottish Night"—song, verse, and dance—and was held on 1st April. Scottish Country Dances were a feature of the programme, and were demonstrated by three teams—a mixed adult team, a men's team, and a team of boys and girls. A special item of interest in the concert was the introduction of mouth music by members of the Glasgow Gaelic Choir as an accompaniment to the dancing demonstration. Several of the men—gymnastic students from Jordanhill Training Centre—were later selected for the Scottish team. So successful did the concert prove that the Branch was able to send a donation of £50 towards the team's expenses. The Branch is looking forward to another busy session beginning in October.

HAMILTON (formed 1934), 27 members. The opening meeting of the Branch was addressed by Miss Milligan, and a team of local Girl Guides demonstrated Scottish Country Dances. Sir Henry Keith accompanied the President, Mr Smith, on the platform. Two weekly classes were held till Christmas, and one from January to Easter. Over 50 people attended these classes. The season finished with a social dance, which was attended by many who had not been at the classes, and the Branch was pleased to see several men at this function. This venture proved quite a financial success, and the committee look forward to having a much stronger Branch next year.

INVERNESS (formed 1929), 16 members.

LONDON (formed 1930), 60 members. While the number of actual members is thus shown, this gives an inadequate idea of the number of people interested in the Society, and those who have attended classes and dances from time to time. Classes were held regularly throughout the winter and spring. Some of these, however, were rather irregularly attended, and the financial situation is not as satisfactory as it should be. It is proposed to hold an advanced fortnightly class during the winter, in addition to the usual weekly class; this advanced class will be taught by certificated members of the branch in turn. It is hoped that the numbers at all classes will be increased and regular.

A team gave demonstrations of dances from all nine books to the Scottish group of the Forum Club in November, and to the Rubicon Club in February. Four members of the branch danced in the team of fifty representing Scotland at the International Folk Dance Festival at the Albert Hall on July 19th. Four dances were held during the past season, and were for the most part very well attended. It is hoped to have more during the coming winter and spring.

NEWTON-STEewart (formed 1932), 30 members. Two classes were held each week from October to February. These were attended by 100 dancers, nearly double last season's numbers. The members made great improvement, and are now able to attempt many of the more difficult dances. Three open night dances were held, and were much enjoyed and very well attended. The Galloway Musical Festival in May devoted a whole day to country dancing competitions. Sixty teams entered, and a good number were mixed teams. The hall was crowded all day with interested spectators. The local teams were very

successful. Two adult teams and two Guide teams also competed in Dumfries Musical Festival, and gained places. Several teams gave demonstrations of country dancing at the Galloway Pageant, held in Newton-Stewart in July, and demonstrations are in great demand at local fetes. Guides, Rangers, Women's Rural Institutes, and many of the schools have teams of enthusiastic country dances. A very successful class was held last season at Craighlaw, near Kirkcovan, and a team from that class gained a good place at the Festival. Classes will begin in October.

PERTH (formed 1925). Membership 164, 10 of these being Life Members. This is an increase in membership from last year, but there are many dancing in the town and county who are not members of the Society. Owing to expense and the difficulty of getting halls, there were only two classes run in the autumn, and again in the spring. There was a large and enthusiastic class in the autumn, when Miss Milligan kindly came to teach us Book 9. The Branch is again indebted to Teachers and Guides for their great interest in training teams for the local Festival. Thirty-one teams were entered from Perth, 44 from Perthshire, and 7 from other counties. The trophy presented by the Branch was won this year by Culross S.C.D. Class. A very enjoyable dance was held in the spring, to which we welcomed guests from, amongst other centres, Pitlochry, Crieff, and Dundee. Perth Club and Perth Circle also held large classes throughout the winter, and we welcome a new and very enthusiastic dancing centre from the General Accident Company. Interest is again well maintained in the classes at Pitlochry, Ballinluig, Coupar-Angus, and Crieff, and Birnam is for the first time including a Scottish Country Dance Competition at the Annual Games. There was a very interesting afternoon's dancing at Murthly, when the Central Area of W.R.I.'s held a Rally, at which 31 teams competed for three trophies. The dancing was of a very high standard.

RENFREW (formed 1925). Membership, 56 Ordinary and 7 Life. Interest continues to expand locally, and is shown by the continued increase in membership and attendance at classes. A pleasing feature is the renewed attendance at classes of the male members. The Branch again gave substantial assistance to the Renfrewshire Musical Festival Association in their Scottish Country Dance section. The Festival entries this year were so large that extra accommodation had to be provided. In addition to the dance at the close of the season, it has become an established practice to hold a dance at the date of the Annual Meeting in the early summer. These dances were much enjoyed and well attended by members and friends.

STIRLINGSHIRE (formed 1927), 130 members. The Stirlingshire Branch held another successful season from October, 1934, to March, 1935. Four classes were held weekly in Stirling, and three classes in the country districts. There was an increase in membership, and therefore in funds, which enabled the Branch to pay back the £10 lent by the S.C.D.S. Headquarters to start the movement in Stirlingshire. Two social dances were held during the winter. One in February, held in the Ballroom of the Golden Lion Hotel, had a splendid attendance, over 200 dancers taking part. The Stirlingshire Reel and Strathspey Society kindly supplied the music for the evening. At the Music Festival in March, held in Falkirk, quite a number of S.C.D.S. teams competed with successful results.

EAST STIRLINGSHIRE (formed 1932). A year of progress was reported at the Annual General Meeting of the Branch held on 1st April. The Secretary reported that the first year of working under the new constitution had been successfully completed, and membership had increased to 47. During the first term four classes were held in Falkirk, at which 126 members and associates were present, and 22 attended a class in Larbert. During the second term 88 members and associates attended the classes held in Falkirk. The Polmont Branch affiliated with the East Stirling Branch during the past year. A team was entered for the Musical Festival from the Falkirk classes, and two examinations were held in the town for the teacher's certificate. The Treasurer's report showed that the financial aspect of the Branch was very satisfactory. The meeting concluded with a most enjoyable dance, at which 80 people were present.

WIGTOWNSHIRE (formed 1934). A General Meeting was held in the County Buildings, Wigtown, in September, 1934, for the purpose of forming a Branch of the S.C.D.S. Office-bearers were appointed, and it was agreed to ask Miss Erskine, of Newton-Stewart, to teach the first class. Twenty-seven people joined the class, and the first twelve lessons were very well attended. So great was the enthusiasm for Scottish Country Dancing that it was agreed to extend the number of lessons to fifteen. The financial aspect of the Branch is satisfactory, and a donation of £1 was made towards the funds of the London Festival Team.

Affiliated Societies.

LEICESTER SCOTTISH DANCE SOCIETY. The Leicester Scottish Dance Society has had another very successful session, lasting from October to the beginning of April.

A slightly lower average attendance at the weekly classes is accountable, as in each month, October to April inclusive, a dance was held by the local Caledonian Society.

At each of these seven functions displays of Scottish Country Dances were given by members of the Society. It is generally agreed that much larger numbers have taken part in the Scottish dances, seven or eight sets taking the floor for the Eightsome Reel and the Dashing White Sergeant. It is being emphasised on every possible occasion that Scottish Country Dances should be performed on the ballroom floor.

A most important advance has been made for Scottish Dancing by the Leicester Caledonian Society offering to place a room at our disposal one night each week during the next session. This will enable the Leicester Scottish Dance Society to carry on the class without making a charge, and thus it hopes to attract the younger members of the Scottish community in the city.

S.C.D.S. OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. The Society began its fifth season in September, 1934, with a well-sustained membership, and brought the winter's activities to a close in May, 1935, with a most successful and enjoyable gathering, which was attended by over 100 members and their friends, amongst whom was

a party from the Swedish Folk Dance Club in national costume. Early in the season the Executive Committee carried out the arrangements for the Scottish entry at the Second International Folk Song and Dance Festival. Our programme, with which the Festival ended, included bagpipe music, ballads and the Lovers' Knot, Strathspey and Reel, Tibbie Fowler o' the Glen, the Sixteensome Reel, and the Waltz Country Dance. Led by our Honorary Piper, Pipe-Major Gillies, and two of his men in full Highland costume, our dancers were greeted with a storm of applause as they entered the hall to the stirring strains of "Cock o' the North." Later in the season the Society again provided a programme at the request of the Women's Educational Auxiliary, a Canadian association with a cultural outlook, when we had a most enthusiastic company of spectators.

The West Vancouver Branch has also had a successful season. Several of their members were included in our team at the International Folk Song and Dance Festival, as well as in the other events mentioned, and they always join the Vancouver Branch in the social gatherings of the Society. We were, indeed, pleased to know that Mrs Stewart, of this Branch, was invited to represent us at last Annual Meeting in Scotland, and to speak on our behalf.

Our two women's groups have been particularly active, and the husbands of several of the ladies suggest joining the Vancouver Branch, along with their wives, next winter. We have also been requested by the Vancouver School Board to recommend twelve Scottish Country Dances for inclusion in the curriculum. Some of our dances are being done at regular dance meetings which are held in towns on the coast further north and in the interior. Such indications point to the effectiveness of our efforts, and we are therefore encouraged to believe that the future holds great promise for the advancement of the movement in British Columbia.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF OTAGO. Scottish Country Dances are always included in the programmes of the monthly socials held by the St. Andrew's Society of Otago. Petronella, Flowers of Edinburgh, and Circassian Circle are very popular, and also the Eightsome Reel. A practice night is held every month, so that beginners may have an opportunity of learning the dances.

DURBAN CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.

ILFORD SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

PORTSMOUTH SCOTTISH CLANS DANCING SOCIETY.

ROSE BAY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CIRCLE.

SHANGHAI REEL CLUB.

Answers to Correspondents.

Question: In Book 9, dance number 4, "My Love she's but a Lassie yet," bars 5—8, the movement reads:—"They set across the dance to partners and pass on to face opposite man and woman."

Does this mean that the first man faces the third woman while the first woman faces the third man?

Answer: The first and second couples are moving round in a square and after bars 5—8 when partners set and move on, they meet the second couple, *i.e.*, the first man meets the second woman and the first woman the second man.

Question: In Book 4, dance number 9, "Highland Laddie," do the dancers set to the corner on their left first?

Answer: They set to their right and then left as usual, although it makes them dance in the opposite direction to the ordinary method.



Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand at 30th September, 1934,	£325 4 3	
SUBSCRIPTIONS—		
Received at Headquarters,	£41 14 0	
Received at Branches,	401 0 1	
		442 14 1
ROYALTIES—		
Dance Books,	£44 5 2	
Gramophone Records,	10 17 6	
		55 2 8
Broadcasting Fees,		3 13 1
Dance Books sold,		82 16 4
Bound Volume of Dances sold,		1 17 0
GRANTS REPAID TO HEADQUARTERS—		
Aberdeen,	£10 0 0	
Banffshire,	10 0 0	
Stirlingshire,	10 0 0	
Cupar Centre,	2 0 0	
		32 0 0
DONATIONS—		
Kirkcaldy Centre,	£5 0 0	
Miss M. Baptie's St. Andrew's Class,	5 0 0	
		10 0 0
Summer School—Surplus,		65 18 3
Autumn School— do.		3 16 10
Discount received,		3 1 6
INTEREST—		
County Council of Lanark Loan,	£4 16 10	
Savings Account,	0 14 9	
		5 11 7
		<u>£1031 15 7</u>

Summer School, held at University Hall,

Fees received,	£640 17 0
Registration Fees,	30 10 0
Profit from Dance,	1 0 6
	<u>£672 7 6</u>

S.C.D.S. Team at International Folk Dance

DONATIONS TOWARDS EXPENSES—	
From Branches,	£93 14 0
,, Members,	1 2 6
,, London Perthshire Association,	2 2 0
	£96 18 6
Deficit as above,	43 12 9
	<u>£140 11 3</u>

Society's Stand at Highland

Dance Books sold,	£4 2 9
Gramophone Records sold,	4 1 0
Mrs A. Shand's "Old Scottish Music,"	1 8 0
	£9 11 9
Deficit as above,	29 18 0
	<u>£39 9 9</u>

R. T. TERRAS, *Hon. Treasurer,*
The British Linen Bank, Galston.

for year ending 30th September, 1935.

PAYMENTS.

Grant to Hamilton Branch,	£3 0 0
Scottish Country Dance Books (1-5),	45 14 4
Cost of Book 9,	54 19 6
Arranging Music for Book 9,	21 0 0
Alterations to Book 8,	34 0 0
Alterations to Books 1, 2 and 3,	25 9 0
Highland and Agricultural Show—deficit,	29 18 0
S.C.D.S. Team at International Folk Dance Festival—deficit,	43 12 9
Teacher's Fees and Organising Expenses,	52 11 1½
Travelling Expenses,	36 13 6
Secretary—Salary,	109 4 0
Secretary—Office Expenses,	10 0 0
Treasurer's Honorarium,	26 5 0
Auditor's Fee,	5 5 0
Printing, Stationery and Advertising,	101 3 10
Postages, etc.,	40 13 10
	<hr/>
	£639 9 10½

BALANCE—

County Council of Lanark Loan,	£250 0 0
The British Linen Bank—Savings Account,	100 14 9
Do. —Current Account,	34 18 4
Petty Cash (in hands of Secretary and Treasurer),	6 12 7½
	<hr/>
	392 5 8½
	<hr/>
	£1031 15 7

St. Andrews from 29th July to 12th August, 1935.

Board and Residence at University Hall,	£541 16 0
Teachers' Fees,	47 5 0
Examination Fees,	3 13 6
Pianists' Fees,	9 10 9
Hire of Piano,	2 2 0
Extra Assistance,	2 2 0
Surplus as above,	65 18 3
	<hr/>
	£672 7 6

Festival, held in London, 19th July, 1935.

Part Rail Fares borne by Society,	£138 0 0
Band's Expenses, per Mr John Reid,	2 1 8
Other Expenses,	0 9 7
	<hr/>
	£140 11 3

and Agricultural Show, 1935.

Rent of Stand,	£9 0 0
Cost of Dance Books and Gramophone Records,	3 19 10
Cost of Mrs. Shand's "Old Scottish Music,"	0 14 0
Installation of Electric Light re Projector, etc.	6 10 0
Organising Expenses,	19 5 11
	<hr/>
	£39 9 9

BARNS STREET, AYR, 4th October, 1935.—I have examined the foregoing Statements, with the Books, Accounts and Vouchers relating thereto and certify them to be correct.

PETER LYLE, C.A., Auditor.

International Folk Dance Festival.

The Festival, so long anticipated and talked of is over, and those who witnessed any or all of its performances, or, more fortunate still, were privileged to take active part in them, realise that they shared in something which for beauty, interest, and happy significance exceeded any Folk dance festival of the past. It was the first of its kind, but the unqualified success and enthusiasm which attended it have made it abundantly clear that it cannot and must not be the last.

For a week London was invaded by over 500 folk dancers gathered from 18 European nations, wearing their own beautiful and distinctive costumes, dazzling among the sombre clothing of these islands in the richness and variety of their colour, and when Londoners encountered these gay folk singing and dancing their merry way along a mile of Hyde Park they must have understood that not only was something strange and exciting in their midst, but also something beautiful and compelling; anyhow they flocked to see it on every possible occasion, filling the Albert Hall on the three nights of the performances there and crowding the lovely gardens of Lambeth Palace on Saturday afternoon when dancing by all the countries took place simultaneously on four different lawns.

Out of 24 nations expected, 18 were represented; Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, France with three teams, from Ariège (Pyrenees), Auvergne, and Brittany; Germany, Great Britain, which included solo dirk dancers from the Isle of Man, the Scottish Country Dance Society, and dancers and pipers of the 2nd Batt. the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders who danced the Argyll broadswords, Hungary, Italy (who sent five teams), Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Rumania, Spain, Switzerland with two teams, one from French speaking Switzerland and the other from the Eastern or German speaking Swiss of Appenzell, and last, but by no means least, the U.S.S.R. were represented by young dancers from Moscow, peasants from the Ukraine, and a marvellous male sextet from the Caucasus.

Whatever else the Festival has taught us, two things cannot fail to have struck any intelligent observer. One is that folksong and dance are very much alive to-day all over Europe, and that they are utterly spontaneous, fresh and lighthearted. The dancing in its best manifestations showed, despite the natural ease and joyousness with which it was performed, beautiful footwork and grace of movement which in some cases, notably the attractive Lithuanians, the Swedes, and some of the Italians and Spaniards, were striking among other dances merely amusing or intricate.

The second point of interest concerns costume. It is both refreshing and reassuring to discover that in most countries the traditional national dress is worn and treasured. One learnt from the wearers themselves that the beautifully embroidered aprons, blouses and head dresses of the Hungarian women were their own handiwork, that the Tyrolean men's dress was handed down in many cases from father to son, as were the Swiss (which perhaps accounts for the decided flavour of antiquity about the decorated 'topper' which distinguished the French Swiss). And the magnificent Polish highland dress is, according to a Polish authority, worn every day of the year and not merely assumed for festive occasions. Among this riot of colour the simple white worn by the English and Scottish dancers seemed perhaps a little tame by comparison. But it was distinguished in its very simplicity, and the Scottish team, fifty strong, the men wearing the kilt, the women with tartan sashes across their white dresses, made a fine spectacle on Friday night at the Albert Hall. "The Duke of Perth" in ten different sets went with a good swing, but "Glasgow Highlanders" seemed to please the audience more, whilst the greatest enthusiasm was shown for the reel which consisted of one sixteensome and four eightsomes danced to the pipes.

It is difficult in a limited space to mention more than a few of the many dances seen, but it was interesting to Scottish dancers to watch what was practically our "La Tempête" danced by the Germans to the name "Tampet"; to note that the "Polka Piquée" common to the Ariège and Auvergne dancers was our own "Highland Schottische" very thinly disguised, a fact taken advantage of when we came to dance it at the Folk Dance Ball, and perhaps some people may have noticed a reel step used by the Italians from Forli on the Emilia-Tuscan border in their "Trescone."

The Ball on Saturday night at the Royal Horticultural Hall was a lively and fitting conclusion to what may be termed a "League of Nations" week. Nation danced with nation the simpler dances of England, Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Denmark and France with a happy abandonment which was infectious. The kilt partnered the gay petticoats of Lithuania or Poland; France and Germany went hand in hand, and the noise of over two thousand tongues mingling in a babel of language drowned at times the various orchestras.

"We do differ where we most agree," and thus, through the medium of folk-song and dance the peoples of a score of countries met on the common ground of a national tradition, an association which knew no frontiers or limitations, and rested and will remain secure, because it depends on natural impulse and strives towards an artistic unity.

A. L.

Comments on the S.C.D.S. Team.

From an onlooker's point of view the Scottish team was a delight to watch. Twenty-five couples came on, headed by a piper playing a stirring Scottish tune, the men's kilts swinging and the women demure but sprightly in white dresses and tartan sashes. One minute it seemed they were marching bravely on, and the next they were spread all over the arena in orderly formation.

Massed Scottish Country Dancing had never before struck me as spectacular—at any rate not so much so as English Country Dancing, which seems to require to be seen in a mass to get the full, easy, lightly swinging effect. But as we looked down from above nothing could have been more charming. The dancers moved easily and smoothly through the intricate figures as one large team, showing the national characteristics of the lilting Scottish tunes, played so inspiringly by Mr John Reid and his well known orchestra. After the Reels, which were danced to the strains of the pipes, the audience caught up the solid rhythm of the tune as the piper played the dancers off, by clapping vigorously in time to the music. Altogether a very pleasing performance beautifully arranged and carried out.

K. I.

Impressions by a Sassenach.

From South of the Border Scotland has long been regarded as the Home of Dance. When the English Society of Folk Song and Dance organised the first International Festival of Dance they expected great things from their nearest neighbours. What caused the thunderous applause which greeted the entry of the Scottish Country Dance team for their performance in the Albert Hall? Dignity of bearing at once proclaimed that their race had a real tradition. This was no artificial posture of a decade or so.

Now it is "Broun's Reel." Even to the uninitiated there is an absorbing fascination in the rhythmical swing of the kilt, the accuracy of detail in the steps and most of all in the unbelievably excellent team work. "Glasgow Highlanders," as a contrast in tempo, immediately caught the appreciation of the audience. Here the refinement of movement, polished but unstilted, combined with the design of the dance, was something to be remembered. The English audience, waiting now for the skirl of the bagpipes, enjoyed the climax of the Eightsome.

The spirit and character of a nation is illustrated by its expression in music and dance. Scotland is truly Scotland still!

Festival Team.

It may interest members to know that the S.C.D.S. team which danced at the London Festival was a very representative one, its members being drawn from all parts of Scotland as given below :—

<i>Men.</i>		<i>Women.</i>	
Ayrshire ...	3	Aberdeen ...	3
Buckie ...	3	Buckie ...	3
Buteshire ...	1	Dundee ...	5
Broughty Ferry	1	Edinburgh ...	5
Dundee ...	5	Glasgow ...	1
Edinburgh ...	3	Fife ...	2
Glasgow ...	5	London ...	4
Inverness ...	1	Newton Stewart	1
Lanarkshire ...	3	Perth ...	1
—	—	—	—
	25		25

—:—

There is a deficit of over £50 from the expenses of the S.C.D.S. team at the International Folk Dance Festival. An urgent appeal is made to all Branches to help to wipe out this deficit by sending donations to the Treasurer, Mr R. T. Terras, British Linen Bank, Galston, Ayrshire. A cheque for £7 7s. has been received from Aberdeen, and it is hoped that all Branches will contribute.

Highland and Agricultural Show.

The bad weather during May and the first part of June had somewhat damped the hopes of those connected with this year's Highland and Agricultural Show, but Aberdeen's weather clerk rose nobly to the occasion and each day of the great week was dry, with the exception of a few hours on Thursday morning.

The Local Committee of the S.C.D.S. Branch gave ungrudgingly of their time to the work of decorating the Stand, and, thanks largely to the help given by Mr Young, one of our most enthusiastic dancers, it was found possible to dispense with any sort of outside assistance. To those of us

who had not previously visited the Country Dance Stand at a Highland Show it was a pleasant surprise to see the attractive result of our labours when the muslin ceilings and blue and white hangings were all in place, and the "shop" was finished with a desk, wicker chairs and the carpet, cushions and hangings of Glamis fabric, which are supplied by the Society.

A beautiful blue hydrangea lent by our President, Gwendolen, the Lady Sempill, added a finishing touch, and drew much admiration from the passers-by.

An unemployed cinema operator was engaged to show the Country Dance films in the inner and "picture house" part of the Stand. The opportunity of enjoying a free show brought good audiences, who were attracted to the Stand by the strains of the Radiogramophone (kindly lent by Paterson's Sons and Marr Wood) playing Country Dance records.

We had several visitors from S.C.D. Branches in different parts of Scotland who were interested in hearing of the work of the Aberdeen Branch, and who gave us news of the progress of the Society in their own districts. Many people who had no previous knowledge of Country Dancing stopped to ask for information about the local classes, etc., and we hope the interest they showed may result in some of them joining our own or some other Branch of the Society next winter.

We were glad to hear at the end of the four days that the number of books and records sold at the Stand compared favourably with the results of the last two years.

K. B. TRAIL.

Autumn School.

The following hotels in Perth can be recommended :—

Salutation Hotel.

Station Hotel.

Royal George Hotel.

Atholl Private Hotel.

The Manager of the Salutation Hotel has kindly agreed to make a special price of 8/- for bed and breakfast for members attending the Autumn School. Members should mention the S.C.D.S. when applying for rooms at the Salutation Hotel.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.

AUTUMN SCHOOL.

An AUTUMN SCHOOL will be held in the SALUTATION HOTEL, PERTH,
on *Friday 8th and Saturday 9th November, 1935.*

Classes will be held as follows :—

FRIDAY, 8th NOVEMBER.

- 4—5 p.m. Revision Books 1—9.
- 5—6 p.m. Certificate Class Books I. and II.
- 7—9 p.m. Book 10. (Miss Milligan).

SATURDAY, 9th NOVEMBER.

- 10—11 a.m. Certificate Class Books I. and II.
- 11—12 a.m. Revision Books I—9.
- 5.30 p.m. Examination for Teacher's Certificate.

Members wishing to enter for the examination are asked to send their names to Mrs Pinkerton, 5 Strathearn Terrace, Perth.

FEES.—10/- for the Course. 2/- per hour.

If possible please send a post card beforehand to Mrs Pinkerton if you intend to be present at the Autumn School.

Fill in slip and give up on arrival with correct fee.

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Attending classes whole time.

Attending classes on

