

The  
Scottish Country  
Dance Society  
Bulletin.

No. 26.

OCTOBER 1948.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY



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MRS STEWART  
OF FASNACLOCH  
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Miss JEAN MILLIGAN  
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# The Scottish Country Dance Society Bulletin

No. 26.

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## *The Scottish Country Dance Society 1923-48*

**I**N 1923 when Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich first thought of inaugurating a Society for the collecting and teaching of Scottish Country Dances, she had little idea of the extent to which the Society would develop by its twenty-fifth Birthday in 1948.

Mrs Stewart, after the 1914 war, mindful of the happy Country Dances of pre-war years, was sad to see how widely these National Dances of Scotland were forgotten. Knowing that financial help and the interest of a Publishing firm were necessary for such a venture as the starting of such a Society, she went in the autumn of 1923 to see Mr Diack of Paterson's Publications. Knowing, too, that a knowledge of the technique, and the help of experienced teaching was also necessary she got in touch with Miss Jean Milligan, who had been one of the founder members and chief teacher of the Beltane Society—a like Society formed in Glasgow in 1913 but killed by the war. These three met in a room in Paterson's Music Shop in Buchanan Street and—Mr Diack having generously promised financial support—they decided to call a meeting in the Athenaeum, Glasgow. To this meeting were invited all those—private individuals and societies—known to have an interest in Scottish tradition. To the great satisfaction of its organisers the meeting was well attended. It was enthusiastically decided to form a society to be called THE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY. Lord James Stewart Murray—with his deep interest in Scottish music and dancing—was elected President, Mrs Stewart, Secretary and Treasurer, and Miss Milligan, Technical Expert and Teacher. Mrs Stewart and Miss Milligan were empowered to bring out a book of dances, and a class was formed. Book I. was a success at once, and the large class run for its study was also most successful. It is interesting to know that many of those who attended that first class are still amongst the most enthusiastic members and teachers of the Society to-day.

Meanwhile other Branches of the Society were springing up all over Scotland, and Mrs Stewart and Miss Milligan were kept busy addressing meetings, and giving advice and tuition in centres desiring to form these Branches—first Edinburgh, then Perth, then Aberdeen, then Dundee and so on, till the Society in 1948 has its tentacles spread far and wide, in Britain, in the Dominions and indeed wherever there are Scots.

All this interest and activity called for more and more teachers, and, very soon after the inception of the Society, its Committee which then consisted of Lord James Stewart Murray, Mrs Stewart, Miss Milligan, Mr Bissett and Mr Diack both of Paterson's Publications decided that it must now offer a Teaching Certificate, and hold examinations for those who desired to be recognized as teachers of the S.C.D.S. Tests were set and Lord James, Mrs Stewart and Miss Milligan as the examining board went about the country inspecting candidates at the various centres. Mistakes were made of course, but the examination did serve at once a most useful purpose. It impressed on teachers the need for careful attention to technique, and to the maintenance of the traditional form and spirit of the dance. With the forming of Branches came, of course, the enlarging of the Committee, the forming of an executive body, and of sub-committees of management and publications.

Meanwhile the collection and publication of new dances was going on apace. At first the dances collected were those which were still known and danced in various parts of Scotland. When such a dance was chosen its origin was carefully sought, and the date of its earlier appearance in print was given. This date was not the real proof of its age, as unfortunately that is unknown, but was a guarantee of its authenticity.

The Society is indebted to the late Lady Dorothea Ruggles Brise (sister of Lord James Stewart Murray) for placing at the disposal of the S.C.D.S. her valuable collection of old Scottish Country Dances, and historical notes regarding their origin. The Society also owes much to its members—notably Mr Ion Jamieson for his work in collecting, and so preserving many beautiful dances, also to those who gave it access to such manuscripts as the Menzies MSS. and the Blantyre MSS. There are still living dances to be found, as well as many in such well known collections as Rutherford, Bremner, etc., and the Society hopes to give its members many good new books in the future.

At the same time as the dances are published, the Society collects and adds to these publications a splendid variety of fine old Scottish tunes, and a knowledge of Scottish traditional music is thus gained by a public, who were quite ignorant of this form of Scottish lore.

The Society was fortunate in that it had a living dance to collect, and that there were still many old people, carefully taught to dance in their youth, who could help in the standardising not only of formation but also of technique. Wherever possible the standard has been set according to the oldest and best form to be found e.g., the two hand hold in the pousette (vouched for by an eighteenth century letter attached to the Blantyre MSS.) has saved the dances from the jazz form of turning which was being done when the Society was formed. After all the waltz hold came in with the waltz in the nineteenth century, and before that in the Ballroom, such a hold would have been looked at askance.

Turning with two hands instead of the elbow link has served the same object. The link had become very rough and on a polished floor very dangerous, and although it is still done by many people it is done in a much more controlled way as befits the performance of a ballroom dance.

Many people think that possibly reel and jig time dances were originally done with pas de basque step only. This is quite possible, but it was from a very old lady, who in her youth had been a beautiful dancer, that the Society got the information that skip change of step was the correct step of progression.

And so the Society has carried on keeping before it as its goal these two duties—to collect this treasure of dancing in its finest form for Scotland, and to make her once more a nation of gay and elegant dancers. In these twenty-five years little change of method or technique has occurred—the careful research done from the very start made this unnecessary. At first perhaps more spring in the steps was allowed, but as the study of technique and tradition went on, all became fined down, and the standard set to-day will, the Society hopes, still be the standard not only of the present members, but of generations of members yet to come.

*Long live the Scottish Country Dance Society.*

## Annual Report

THE Twenty-fifth Annual Report, which the Executive Council has much pleasure in presenting for the year 1947-48, marks the semi-jubilee year as being one of very steady progress.

There is no doubt that Scottish Country Dancing has made a place for itself in Scottish life—schools, colleges, youth clubs, Branch classes, etc., have all reported an increase of interest and enthusiasm.

At Highland Balls, Dances and on other social occasions, the names of many of our favourite dances have been seen on the programmes, and one of the aims of the Society, that of reintroducing the dances to the ballroom, has been more fully realised.

There have been some outstanding events during the last twelve months. The Society was honoured by receiving an invitation to the Show of Princess Elizabeth's wedding presents at St. James' Palace. Miss Milligan and Miss Hadden represented the Society on this occasion and later Miss Milligan was present at an afternoon party given by H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace.

A gracious letter of thanks was received from The Princess Elizabeth expressing appreciation of the bound volume of fourteen S.C.D. books sent from the Society.

Their Majesties have again shown their interest in Scottish Country Dancing when not only did they watch 300 schoolgirls dancing in the forecourt of Holyroodhouse but next evening saw members of the Edinburgh Branch dance for the third year in succession.

One of our members, Mr John Robertson, having written a dance tune to celebrate Princess Elizabeth's wedding, invited Miss Allie Anderson and Mrs Lesslie to compose a suitable Dance. Permission was graciously given by H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth to call the dance "The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh." It was first broadcast in April and has proved very popular.

The 1947 Autumn School was held in Edinburgh and was well attended not only by the Edinburgh members but by representatives from all over Scotland and from many parts of England.

After the Annual General Meeting a programme of dances to the music of Tim Wright's Orchestra was greatly enjoyed.

The revival of many Musical Festivals which had to be discontinued during the war, has been very encouraging. Space does not permit of a full list, but Adjudicators have reported that the standard of dancing has been high in all classes, and that the increased entries from mixed teams have been very satisfactory. At the request of many civic authorities, demonstrations have been arranged during the year and these have been of great interest to visitors from overseas.

The Folk Music and Dance Festival held under the auspices of the Anthropological and Folklore Society took place in Edinburgh in July. The Festival began with a Civic Reception and Ball in the Assembly Rooms to which all the members and dancers were

invited. During the week, dancers from England, Ireland, Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales demonstrated their own Country's folk dances and on four evenings teams from Edinburgh and Glasgow gave demonstrations of Scottish Country Dancing, while on the closing night teams from Aberdeen and Perth joined the others and all twenty-four couples danced before a large and enthusiastic audience. Highland dancing was demonstrated by men of the Royal Scots and Cameron Highlanders. Lectures were given on two mornings by Miss Milligan and Lord James Stewart Murray and these were followed by interesting discussions relating to the dancing. H.R.H. The Princess Margaret honoured the Festival by being present at one of the afternoon performances in Princes Street Gardens.

Examinations for Teacher's Certificates were held in the following places during the year :—

Aberdeen Branch, Emergency P.T. Centre, Aberdeen, Anstey P.T., College, Dunfermline P.R. College, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hamilton (Carluké class), Jordanhill Training Centre, Lockerbie, London, Perth, St. Andrews and Stirling. 299 Candidates passed in Certificate One, while 181 gained the Full Certificates. There were 79 failures in Certificate One and 29 in Full Certificate.

Two new Branches have been formed during the year—Bath and Stockport. There are now thirty-five Branches of the Society and forty-two affiliated groups.

The financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory—an increase in membership subscriptions is reported. The sale of books has decreased owing to the shortage of paper for reprints.

The Summer School was held in University Hall, St. Andrews from 2nd to 23rd August when about 300 including staff were in residence during the three courses of one week, while large numbers attended as non-residents. The Executive Council express their thanks to Miss Milligan and her staff for their work during the Summer School.

### Minutes of Annual General Meeting, 15th November 1947.

**T**HE Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Country Dance Society was held on Saturday, 15th November 1947, in Moray House Training College, Edinburgh at 3 p.m.

**P**RESENT—Miss Jean Milligan, Chairman, presided and there were approximately 320 members present.

**A**POLOGIES were intimated from Lord Inverclyde, Lord James Stewart Murray and Mrs Stewart. In sending his apology to the meeting, Lord James commented on the value of Country Dances as a means of improving our physical culture, but at the same time not losing sight of their traditional and aesthetic value. He congratulated the Society on the increased membership and thought the Society was of great value in these days as it knew no class distinction and recognized no political faction.

**C**HAIRMAN'S ADDRESS—Miss Milligan in her address said she felt it was a great honour to take the Chair in Edinburgh, our capital city, which had done so much to spread the interest and knowledge of our dances, not least during this very important year by demon-

strations before their Majesties and at the International Music Festival. The year had been outstanding in the history of the Society; H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth having become its Patroness.

Members would be interested to hear the letter read by the Secretary on receipt of the wedding present sent by the Society—a beautifully bound volume of Books I. - XIV. An invitation had also been sent for two representatives of the Society to view the Royal wedding presents at St. James' Palace and the Chairman and Secretary hoped to attend.

Miss Milligan spoke of the very large increase in membership during the year and told the meeting of five new Branches having been formed since the publication of the Annual Report, nine altogether since last year. The Chairman also told the meeting that the Society had been asked to arrange demonstrations at the Folk Music Conference to be held in Edinburgh, in June 1948, also that she and Lord James were to give papers at morning sessions.

The Society had been represented at the International Folk Music Council's Conference in London by Mrs Lesslie and Miss Hadden—representatives from twenty-eight countries were present. Miss Milligan asked Mrs Lesslie to give a report to the meeting on this Conference and then told the members that the Executive Council had decided to send a donation of £100 to the International Folk Music Council towards their first year's expenses. The report and this announcement were enthusiastically received. Miss Milligan in mentioning friends and members of the Society in various parts of the world spoke of one member in Australia—Mrs Stansford London, who had kindly sent a parcel to the Society for the last two years to help with the tea at the Annual General Meeting. This help was greatly appreciated and Miss Milligan said she would convey the thanks of the members to Mrs Stansford London.

ANNUAL AND BRANCH REPORTS—Mrs Hamilton-Meikle congratulated the Society on the Annual and Branch Reports and proposed their adoption. Mrs Robertson seconded the adoption which was carried.

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR 1947-48—The exact number of nominations for members to the Executive Council having been received there was no voting. The following were on the Council for 1947-48:

*Chairman*, Miss Jean Milligan; *Vice-Chairman*, Mrs Hamilton-Meikle; Miss Barrow, Mr Drummond, Miss Kirk, Mrs Lesslie, Dr Forbes-Sempill, Miss Slater.

ALTERATION TO CONSTITUTION AND RULES—Mr Drummond proposed that the following alteration to the Constitution and Rules, paragraph 3, should be adopted, viz.: "Members shall be persons interested in the objects of the Society and Firms, Companies, Societies, Clubs or other bodies may join as affiliated groups. Miss Kenyon seconded the proposal which was adopted.

FINANCIAL REPORT—Miss McLellan gave a short financial report outlining some of the main features in the year's accounts. She mentioned that the amount of subscriptions received, £845, 6s. 5d., was a record in the history of the Society, but also that the Society was faced with large printing accounts wherever more paper was available for reprints of books. The Financial Report was adopted having been proposed by Miss Anderson and seconded by Miss Kirk.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1948—It was announced that as the semi-jubilee of the Society took place in 1948 it was fitting that the Annual General Meeting should be held in Glasgow, from whence the Society had started.

Dr Forbes-Sempill proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Milligan for acting as Chairman.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

## The Summer School, 1948

The Seventeenth Summer School has come and gone. As usual it can be claimed as a great success. Never have we had so much beautiful dancing, more pleasant companionship or more comfort, and never have we had such large and appreciative audiences. The numbers of day students were not, perhaps, quite so large as in former years, but this was all to the good, as by dividing our course into three separate weeks, we had a larger number of residents. The evening sessions were on the whole not quite so unpleasantly crowded, and the standard of dancing was therefore definitely higher. One of the most encouraging features of the School was the noticeable increase in the number of men attending—a number which would have been still greater if it had not been for the Olympic Games. The standard of dancing amongst the men was also much higher, and each week most delightful demonstrations were given.

Our Canadian visitor Mrs MacNab of Vancouver, added greatly to the enjoyment of the School, by teaching us several delightful set dances, collected by her from an old Highland lady in Vancouver. These dances were demonstrated to each week by a mixed team, and now everyone is looking forward to receiving a copy of them, as soon as they can be printed.

There were however some things that were not all pleasing. First of all there was the weather. Never has a St. Andrews School had such poor weather, but in spite, or perhaps even because of this, the social life of the Course was specially successful. Never were there more jolly parties in Cafés, Stone Court or in each others rooms.

The real drawback to the full value and pleasure of the Course was the brief span of each week. This laid on the organisers and staff a very heavy burden. In three weeks over a hundred candidates were prepared for and examined for the S.C.D. Teachers Certificate. In spite of the note on the application form which said that only those with a good knowledge of Scottish dancing and some knowledge of the set dances should apply for examination, there were too many who required much teaching and coaching, and when it is realised that these candidates came on a Monday, and the examination began on Friday, it is evident, that a week's course is too short. For everyone in fact, a week is too short to get the full value of the detailed coaching given in both method of performance and detail of technique, and the Staff saw with regret their pupils depart just when they began to respond really well to the tuition. Next year we hope to have fortnightly courses as much as possible though consideration must be given to experienced members who have only the week to spare.

With regard to examination candidates, in future only those who are quite out of reach of examination centres at the various branches, will be considered. This will give more accommodation for those who are teaching S.C. Dancing and require refresher Courses to keep them up to date with all that the S.C.D.S. is doing. To finish, let it be stressed once more that the object of the Summer School is to bring together all those who are in posts of responsibility in the teaching of Country Dancing so that all over Scotland a real standard can be maintained. Too much is still heard of competitions where the judges—all members of the Society and holders of the Society's Teacher's Certificate—give judgment not in line with the rules of the Society, and create dissatisfaction and a sense of insecurity. This occurs chiefly in country places, and the Judges are people who after having taken their Certificate are content with the knowledge gained and do nothing further to keep up the standard of their knowledge or of their own performance. All holders of the S.C.D.S. certificate, who really use that certificate as a qualification, should make it a duty to come to St. Andrews if not every year, at least as frequently as possible to refresh their knowledge, to raise the standard of performance, and to be imbued once again with the spirit and beauty of the dances and music of Scotland.



## Branch Reports

There are now thirty-five Branches of the Society and forty-two Affiliated Groups.

**ABERDEEN.**—During the past season, the Aberdeen Branch of the S.C.D.S. had 245 ordinary and 43 Life Members, which, since Peterhead has now formed a separate branch, is a good increase on the previous year.

At the Certificate examination in March, we had Miss Milligan as examiner, and all entrants gained certificates—six first and three full certificates.

Six classes were held weekly during the year. The week started off with a class for Young People under eighteen years and the same evening we had a general class. On Tuesday, a Beginners' Class (an innovation this season) was held, also a general class. On Thursdays we continued our Social dancing for experienced dancers, while Saturday morning saw the certificate people hard at work.

All of these classes were well attended, and our teachers are to be congratulated on the success of their session's work.

We are indebted, too, to many Branch members who taught classes in S.C.D. in town and county. Town classes were held in the Girls' High, Frederick Street and Hilton Schools' continuation classes, in St. Katherine's Club, at Middlefield Community Centre, in the Cowdray Club and at Forresterhill Hospital, while a class for Youth Hostels' members was held fortnightly in the Girls' High School. In the surrounding districts, classes were held at Cults, Inverurie (two classes), Torphins, Aboyne (two classes), Dinnet, Tarland, Turriff, Alford, New Deer, Dufftown, Aberlour, Stonehaven and Laurencekirk.

Several demonstrations have been given throughout the season by the Branch Mixed Team and by the Dancers of Don. On many occasions we sent dancers to the B.B.C. Studio to dance to broadcasts of country dance music. The Mixed Team accepted an invitation to travel to Edinburgh to dance on the final evening of the Folk Music and Folk Dance Festival, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

This year, we held two dances in the Music Hall, but for lack of space had to limit the dancers to 350—a small number considering the tickets we could have sold. 250 spectators attended one of the dances.

The S.C.D.S. Trophy for Senior Youth Clubs was won by Powis Club. As seven mixed teams competed out of twenty-four entrants, it was decided to offer for competition another Trophy for mixed teams only.

**ANGUS.**—This Angus Branch has, once again, had a most successful session. The membership has reached the total of 579 and there are two Life Members. Two new Centres were started this year—one at Friockheim and one at Kirriemuir. Arbroath Centre had a membership of 133, Montrose Centre 109, Forfar Centre 106, Friockheim Centre 72, Carnoustie Centre 68, Kirriemuir Centre 49 and Brechin Centre 42.

All Centres ran successful classes under fully qualified teachers and all held successful Social functions.

Demonstrations of Scottish Country Dancing were given throughout the County to Social Clubs of various kinds and the Branch supplied teachers to classes run by Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, Youth Welfare Clubs and Women's Social Clubs.

Scottish Country Dancing proved a very popular attraction in the Programme of the Arbroath Musical Festival and the entries showed a definite increase on last year, as did the standard of dancing.

In August, Arbroath celebrated for the second year in succession the Signing of the Declaration of Scottish Independence which took place at Arbroath Abbey in 1320.

This celebration took the form of a Pageant enacted in the grounds of the Ancient Abbey. Among the subsidiary events, held during "Pageant Week," was a display of Scottish Country Dancing by members of the Arbroath Centre. This proved a most popular event and attracted a large number of spectators including many visitors not only from many parts of Scotland but from the Colonies and America.

The Display was followed by "dancing for all" in which many of the spectators participated.

*AYR.*—There was quite a large increase in membership in this Branch during the year bringing the total to seventy-two.

The winter activities started with a most successful dance, mainly due to the services of an excellent orchestra.

A Branch Class was held weekly during the winter, and several classes were held in the town by various organizations.

After Christmas a team from the Ayr Branch gave a demonstration of several dances at a social evening in Alloway. The audience was most enthusiastic, and there was an immediate demand for instruction. A most successful class was started there by Miss Potter. Several dances were held in the County during the winter. Our members attended dances at Kilmarnock, Troon and Prestwick. The Y.M.C.A. held their usual dance in a garden during the summer.

*NORTH AYRSHIRE.*—This Branch had a very successful season last year and we begin on Monday, 11th October. It is proposed to have a big Dance in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock, on Friday, 3rd December. We are also starting another Class on Thursday evenings, which will be taken by Mrs Irvine.

*BATH.*—This Branch of the S.C.D.S. was formed in April 1948.

The total number of members stands at eighteen and the average attendance, including visitors, at the classes held last session was twenty.

Classes have been held weekly until 15th June and will be continued from the middle of September, when it is expected that many more people will join the Society.

A very successful end of season dance was held in June, for which approximately sixty tickets were sold.

The Society was also asked to give a demonstration of Scottish Country Dancing at a Garden Fete in Bath, and this was very well received.

*BELFAST.*—The outstanding event of the year was Miss Milligan's first visit to the Branch, at the weekend school, September 1947. This made the occasion an overwhelming success, and encouraged interest in the Society as well as giving great impetus to the dancing.

The winter sessions showed an increase of average attendance at the classes to fifty, the total class membership being sixty-five and membership of the Society increased from twenty-two to forty-two. It is expected that in the coming year, nearly all class members will join the Society.

A feature of the year was the large number of invitations from various organizations to join them in social evenings and teach them some of the Scottish Dances. These gatherings were much enjoyed and helped to stimulate the already growing interest in Belfast and district.

The Branch is to take part in a Folk Dance Festival to be held in Bangor, County Down, on 30th August, together with Tunisian French Dancers, English Folk Dancers, and Irish Folk Dancers—weather permitting.

The Summer Session opened with a week end school at "Corrymeela," Ballycastle, which was well attended and very popular, as was also a Saturday ramble in the country, taken to lend variety to the usual classes.

Altogether a year to be looked back to with satisfaction and pleasure.

*BLAIR ATHOLL.*—The Blair Atholl Branch enjoyed a very successful season during 1947-48. The meetings were held every Thursday evening, and an average of fifty members attended. Mr Youngson, Aberfeldy, was our teacher, and under his tuition considerable progress was made. Several social evenings were organised, and members of neighbouring clubs in the County attended as our guests—these functions were voted a great success. The high-light of our Season was the Annual Ball which was held early this year in Blair Castle, Blair Atholl. The excellent music provided by Jimmy Shand inspired the three hundred guests who attended to a high standard of dancing. We confidently look forward to restarting our classes in October. We shall all miss Mrs Laird Smith, our Secretary, for the past two years, who has removed to Inverness recently. She was a most willing and conscientious worker in all matters related to the success of the Branch. We all wish Mr and Mrs Laird Smith good luck in their new sphere, and hope that they look back on the days they spent in Blair Atholl with pleasure.

*BIRMINGHAM.*—Scottish Country Dance classes during the year have been well attended, but the difficulty of finding a central hall for Society parties has limited our activities. We were very fortunate in being invited by our President to Anstey College to meet Miss Milligan and everyone enjoyed the evening.

*DUMFRIES.*—During the season 1947-48 the Dumfries Branch of the Scottish Country Dance Society had a most successful class.

There was a membership of between seventy and eighty and such enthusiasm was evinced that it was deemed expedient to carry on the class till the end of March. The attendance was well maintained and was indicative of the interest of the class members.

During the period two dances were held, one in December and one in March. Members of neighbouring Branches of the Society were invited to these and there was an excellent attendance on both occasions. The influence of the teaching received was reflected in the higher standard of dancing which was to be observed at the second dance. The thanks of all members are due to the accompanists and to the two teachers, Miss Harrison and Mrs McLaren.

*DUNFERMLINE.*—During the war years, unfortunately, the Dunfermline Branch of the Society did not function owing to the impossibility of getting suitable accommodation for Classes. All halls were requisitioned by the Government. After hostilities ceased, meetings were held to discuss arrangements for reviving the Society. Eventually in 1947, through the good offices of Miss Drummond, President, the Society were granted the use of the College of Hygiene Gymnasium in Pilmuir Street, and a very successful session ensued.

Classes were held before and after Christmas. At the end of each term a Country Dance Party was arranged and much enjoyed.

The number of Members attending the Class prior to Christmas was sixty and non-Members thirteen, and after Christmas there were forty-nine Members and fifteen non-Members. We anticipate an increase in membership next session. Classes have been provisionally arranged to commence on 11th October.

*DUNDEE.*—Membership—355, twenty-three of these being life members. The Branch has completed another very successful year. Weekly classes for beginners and advanced dancers were held, and the numbers attending these were so great we were faced with the problem of overcrowding, and had to resort to a waiting list. As a try-out, and to meet an ever increasing demand, a junior section was formed for boys and girls between the ages of ten and fifteen years. This class was a great success and produced some delightful dancing. The annual dance was a popular function, at which we entertained the Lord and Lady Provost of Dundee, and many prominent citizens.

Many of our certificated teachers have conducted classes throughout the town and country districts and every endeavour has been made to keep the standard of dancing high.

An examination was held in April at which three candidates gained certificate I., and three certificate II.

*EDINBURGH.*—We are glad to report another successful year, with more and more people attending an increased number of classes.

Two bigger-than-usual dances were organised; one in the huge Eldorado Ballroom, where 450 guests had plenty of room to dance and we welcomed visitors from other Branches; and the second in the Assembly Rooms, on which occasion we were able, for the first time in the history of the Branch to sell double tickets. On both occasions we enjoyed the excellent music of Tim Wright's broadcasting orchestra.

This has been an exceptionally busy year, with the Musical Festival in which we entered five mixed teams; the Anthropological Society's Week of Folk Lore and Folk Music; and the International Festival of Music and Drama, during which we were again invited to give six demonstrations at the Festival Club.

Demonstration teams are in constant demand, and we have many enjoyable experiences. One of our most interesting visits was to the United States cruiser "Spokane." The show had to be given in Rosyth, there being no suitable place on board, but we visited the ship afterwards and enjoyed the most delicious coffee and wonderful sandwiches of snow-white bread with boiled ham, scrambled egg, and chicken salad!

Twice this summer, we have had four mixed teams dancing in Princes Street Gardens and the organisers tell us that S.C.D. draws a bigger audience than any other show. One programme was shared with regimental dancers from Redford Barracks, and the other with the Newhaven Fishwives Choir. We broke new ground too by dancing at two Usher Hall Concerts; and helping at the B.B.C. studio during S.C.D. broadcasts has been another interesting experiment, and a most enjoyable one.

Several hundred schoolgirls gave a programme of S.C.D. in the grounds at Holyrood-house during the Royal visit in July. Their Majesties were greatly interested and spoke afterwards to the children and to the teachers in charge, one of whom was Miss Allie Anderson. On the following evening a team danced in the forecourt at Holyrood, when "The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh" was among the dances shown.

The Wednesday Club has a greatly increased membership, its success being due to the hard word and enthusiasm of Miss Tod and her Committee.

Membership of the Branch has risen to about 670 and there are also thirty-eight Life Members. There is every indication of more to come!

*FORT WILLIAM.*—This Branch has now ninety-two members including three Life Members. Lack of petrol prevented a full attendance at Classes but the average was high during the session. Several enjoyable nights with neighbouring clubs were held and a successful dinner dance in the Grand Hotel was enjoyed although owing to the Government ban then in force, members were limited to one hundred.

In April a grand rally of all interested in Scottish Country Dancing was held in Inverloch School, when 178 attended; music being supplied by twenty-two musicians playing in relays. The profits from the rally were given to local Youth Clubs and Childrens Benefit Fund. A panel of instructresses was formed to take turns in teaching the classes.

*GLASGOW.*—The year just completed must surely be considered as one of outstanding success. Annual Members number 541; Life Members 54; making for the year a total of 595.

As usual two courses of instruction were held, the one commencing in October 1947, the other in January 1948.

Eleven classes were held each week, two being Certificate Classes and one, an entirely new venture, a class restricted to men and women in equal numbers and limited to sixteen couples. The members who attended this "mixed class" were highly appreciative of it.

In addition, and in co-operation with Glasgow Corporation Further Education, a Scottish Country Dance Social Circle, open to men and women of reasonable proficiency in Scottish Country Dancing, was held in Langside College. This was much enjoyed and it is hoped to widen its scope in the autumn.

All classes were exceptionally well attended some being almost too large for the accommodation available. As a result the Committee has decided to try to establish further classes.

In response to many appeals made by "Circles" and Clubs, Branch Teachers have been supplied.

Teachers' Certificates have been gained by a large number of men and women, including many students from Jordanhill College.

The Branch's Demonstration Team have had a busy winter and have on many occasions helped to entertain the guests at Glasgow Civic Receptions including that at which Princess Margaret was present.

Two very successful dances were held—one in February in Hutchesons' Boys' Grammar School, and one in April in Jordanhill College. From the proceeds of the dances donations were given to Hutchesons' Boys' Fund and to The Directors' Fund, Jordanhill College. The surplus will be carried forward to the "Birthday Fund" from which some of the extraordinary expenses for our 25th Anniversary will be met.

A donation of five guineas was sent by the Branch towards Princess Elizabeth's wedding present.

Miss Adams, our representative on the Glasgow Keep Fit Council, has reported that two classes were held weekly on Wednesday evenings, in the Y.M.C.A., Bath Street. The first class was for beginners; the second for more advanced students. From the latter class thirteen candidates gained Teachers' Certificates. A most enjoyable dance, attended by about 180, was held in Langside Burgh Halls in April.

Scottish Country Dancing has grown in popularity in the Youth Clubs in the city and is now an essential in the Clubs sponsored by the Corporation. Many interesting demonstrations and competitions have taken place in this connection.

Glasgow Branch had pleasure in accepting Edinburgh Branch's invitation to send a Demonstration team to the Folk Music and Folk Dance Festival in Edinburgh on Thursday, 1st July, and again on Saturday, 3rd July 1948.

In October we shall resume our classes with full vigour and shall look forward to welcoming many friends during the "Autumn Weekend" of 29th and 30th October.

*HAMILTON.* During the year 1947-48, the Hamilton Branch has extended its activities still further with five new classes started in out-lying villages. Covering such a wide area as the Branch now does the Committee decided that the name should be changed to the "Hamilton and Clydesdale Branch," thus taking in the whole district which the Branch now serves.

The new classes were started at Bothwell Haugh, Chapelton, Dalserf, Kilcadzow, and Stonehouse.

A monthly dance was held throughout the session which members from all the classes attended and which proved to be very popular.

Balance Sheet as at

## LIABILITIES.

SUNDRY CREDITORS . . . . .	£27 18 4
CAPITAL ACCOUNT . . . . .	2913 8 7
Balance as at 1st October 1947 . . . . .	£2416 11 7
Add Surplus for year to date . . . . .	496 17 0
	<hr/>
	£2913 8 7

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£2941 6 11

AYR. 8th October, 1948. I have examined the foregoing Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account. The Office Furniture and Equipment and Stock of Music Books and leaflets are in the Society's copyright in the arrangement of dance music published pending ascertainment of the author's identity.

Income and Expenditure Account

To EXPENDITURE, viz. :	
PRINTING OF BULLETIN . . . . .	£76 11 3
COST OF BOOKS 1-5 . . . . .	257 9 5
PRINTING AND STATIONERY . . . . .	509 4 8
POSTAGES AND TELEPHONES . . . . .	62 15 10
INSURANCES . . . . .	6 16 8
AUDIT AND ACCOUNTANCY CHARGES . . . . .	7 7 0
EXAMINATION EXPENSES . . . . .	137 18 5
SECRETARY'S SALARY AND OFFICE EXPENSES . . . . .	310 7 3
TREASURER'S SALARY . . . . .	121 2 4
ORGANISING EXPENSES . . . . .	164 18 8
GRANTS :—	
International Folk Music Council . . . . .	£100 0 0
Galashiels Festival Association . . . . .	10 0 0
	<hr/>
WEDDING GIFT TO H.R.H. PRINCESS ELIZABETH . . . . .	110 0 0
BALANCE TO BALANCE SHEET . . . . .	32 3 6
	<hr/>
	496 17 0
	<hr/>
	£2293 12 0

30th September, 1948.

ASSETS.

OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT . . . . .	£60	0	0
MUSIC BOOKS AND LEAFLETS . . . . .	400	0	0
INVESTMENTS			
2½ per cent. Defence Bonds at cost . . . . .	500	0	0
CASH			1981 6 11
In British Linen Bank on Savings Account . . . . .	£1025	0	0
Do. do. Deposit Receipt . . . . .	700	0	0
Do. do. Current Account . . . . .	250	11	0
On hand . . . . .	5	15	11
	<hr/>		
	£1981	6	11
	<hr/>		
	£2941	6	11
	<hr/>		

Expenditure Account and find same to be correctly stated and sufficiently vouched. In accordance with a valuation placed thereon by the Treasurer. No sum has been shown for amount of its value.

(Signed) NORMAN MacKINNON, C.A., Auditor.

for year ended 30th September 1948

By INCOME, viz. :

„ SUBSCRIPTIONS :			
Received from Branches . . . . .	£1100	11	6
Paid direct to Headquarters . . . . .	132	5	0
	<hr/>		£1232 16 6
„ SALE OF DANCE BOOKS AND LEAFLETS . . . . .			528 5 1
„ ROYALTIES ON BOOKS 1-5 . . . . .			125 6 2
„ DONATIONS FROM BRANCHES :			
General Fund . . . . .	£37	7	0
Wedding Gift to H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth . . . . .	43	13	3
	<hr/>		81 0 3
„ EXAMINATION FEES . . . . .			131 0 0
„ SURPLUS :			
Week-end Course . . . . .	£6	4	3
Summer School . . . . .	157	10	10
	<hr/>		163 15 1
„ INTEREST :—			
2½ per cent. Defence Bonds . . . . .	£12	10	0
Savings Account . . . . .	17	11	10
Deposit Receipt . . . . .	1	7	1
	<hr/>		31 8 11
	<hr/>		
	£2293	12	0
	<hr/>		

The Autumn and Spring Balls were also attended with enthusiasm by both dancers and spectators alike and they have now become a highlight in the social life of the community; the proceeds from the spectators tickets being donated to some charitable cause.

Miss Burns of Carluke has been conducting a class at Law Hospital, for the nurses and staff and while duties sometimes interfere with the regular attendance at the class, the enthusiasm is in no way lessened but rather increased when the routine of hospital life can be forgotten in the pleasure of the music and dancing.

Mrs Baird presented six members of the Carluke class for the First Certificate examination and all but one passed successfully.

There are six life members and one hundred and twenty five ordinary members, being an increase of forty-six on the previous year.

*KIRKCALDY.*—This Branch has had another successful year, and membership has increased. There are now sixty-three members, ten of whom are life members.

Our weekly class was well attended. The Branch dance, to which enthusiasts came from many parts of Fife, was held in February. The music by Jimmy Shand and his band was much enjoyed. Members attended similar dances held in Cupar, Leslie and Leven.

There are now two affiliated classes in Leslie, the Leslie S.C.D. Club and Rothes Old Time Dance Club, each taught by members of this Branch. Enthusiasm for Scottish dances in this small town, still runs high, and many married couples attend classes regularly.

In December we were invited to demonstrate during a social evening, organised by the New Educational Fellowship for the exchange teachers in Fife. In May, we demonstrated during Fife's "Health Week." In July, several dances were performed at a Unionist Fete in Raith Estate, Kirkcaldy, and as a result, Lady Ruth Balfour asked if we would give a similar demonstration at a Fete at Balbirnie, Markinch, in aid of the Fife Appeal for the Association of Girls' Clubs.

A number of members attended the autumn school, and a few the Folk Music and Dance Festival held in Edinburgh.

From the proceeds of the Branch dance a donation was sent to the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society.

*LEVEN.*—The Branch formed in Leven last October has now 108 members, four of these being Life Members. Among the Ordinary Members are an Australian girl and a Swedish girl. Two younger Swedish girls also attended as regularly as their duties permitted. Throughout the season, the weekly class which was held in the Caledonian Hotel was very well attended.

Teams from the class gave demonstrations in Leven and Methil during Fife Health Week.

Both at the Edinburgh Festival and St Andrews S.C.D. Competition, Leven teams were given very favourable criticisms. Mrs Donaldson was the teacher in charge.

At the end of each session a Social Evening was held for members. These evenings were so successful and enjoyable that a Reunion Dance was held in June; a dance at which 220 enthusiasts were present and for which Mrs E. Bird Matthew and her Band supplied the music was held in March. Lady Gilmour, President of the Branch, welcomed visitors from six neighbouring Branches or Clubs.

Arrangements for next season are already in hand.

*LOCKERBIE.*—Membership of the Session 1947-48 was sixty-six. During the year members met weekly in the gymnasium of Lockerbie Academy, the use of which was granted by the Education Authority.

The Season commenced in October 1947, with a dance in the Town Hall and this was attended by members from the newly formed Branch at Dumfries, as well as by dancers



from the classes conducted at Bankshill and Kettleholm and other enthusiasts in the neighbourhood.

Demonstrations by teams were given at the following W. R. I.s—Brydekirk, Ecclefechan, Eaglesfield, Hightae, Johnstone Bridge and Cowie. Arising from these visits the Further Education Officer has been inundated with requests for classes from these Institutes.

Teams from Lockerbie and Kettleholm—one of them a mixed team—were again entered for Dumfries Musical Festival and all received a good mark.

In April, five candidates were put forward for the S.C.D.S. Certificate. Miss Milligan was examiner. Three members gained the First Certificate and one the Second.

To conclude the Session on 9th June, the Bankshill members of the Branch organised a big dance in the Town Hall. Music was supplied by Jimmy Shand and his band and there was an attendance of 280 dancers.

*LONDON.*—Having secured the use of larger halls, we have been able to run three well attended and successful classes during the last season and are hoping to start a fourth class next winter in order to cope with the many requests from beginners.

The eight monthly dances have been very popular and we have provided demonstrations for many organizations in and around London, including a St. Andrews celebration at the University of London. As a result of which we have had many new and enthusiastic members. Requests for demonstrations have already been received for next season.

The Branch was called upon by the B.B.C. to provide instruction in the Foursome Reel to the caste of their Television production of "Marigold." This was admirably carried out by Miss MacLennan.

Seventeen candidates were successful in obtaining their First Certificate at an examination held in London and special appreciation is due to Miss MacLennan for her excellent tuition. Seven others gained their Full Certificate at the St. Andrews Summer School.

We feel that this is quite a creditable season's work and our membership of 200 is increasing rapidly.

We extend our hearty welcome to any member from other Branches who may be visiting London.

*MANCHESTER.*—During the season fifty-six members have paid subscriptions. In addition there are three life members and one honorary member on the roll.

The session started in September 1947 with an open evening when members and friends attended the Annual General Meeting and enjoyed some dancing.

Classes were held from October to May. Attendances continued to be erratic but there is a good nucleus of enthusiastic dancers.

A party in October and a second one in February gave opportunity for dancing to many who cannot attend regular classes. These parties took place in the delightful hall of Manchester College of Domestic Economy and for this privilege we owe thanks to the Principal, Miss Margaret Weddell, O.B.E.

The event of the season was the One-day School held in the University of Manchester on Saturday, 1st May, when Miss Muriel Webster took classes. There were classes in the morning with attendances of forty-eight and fifty-six; an afternoon class which included a session for foursome reel had eighty-four; and a very successful party in the evening when numbers reached one hundred.

Some of those taking part throughout the day came from outside Manchester—from Rotherham, Crewe, Crosby, Rochdale and Oldham, as well as outlying districts of the city.

All agreed that the setting for the school was ideal and the Committee take this opportunity of thanking the President of the Branch, Professor R. A. C. Oliver, for all his help, not only in this connection but in so many ways throughout the session.

The financial position is satisfactory, both the parties and the school making some profit. To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Society the Branch sent a donation of five guineas to Headquarters.

The Group hitherto known as Heaton Moor Affiliated Group has decided to form a Branch, and negotiations are proceeding. It is hoped to keep in touch and to co-operate as far as possible.

Those who have been members for several years will be sorry to learn of the death of Mrs Darlington who played for classes and parties before the war.

*MOTHERWELL.*—This Branch sprang to life again during 1947, when great enthusiasm was shown by the members in their regular attendance. At the end of the session a dance was held which was enjoyed by all.

*NETHER LOCHABER.*—The Nether Lochaber Scottish Country Dance Branch ended a successful season in April. Miss Peat, Fort William, gave valued assistance with instruction and classes were held weekly. It is hoped that membership will increase when the class re-opens in October.

*NEWTON STEWART.*—This Branch reports another successful class—two teams were entered for the Newton Stewart Festival and both won first place. Later the teams competed at Dumfries and were given a very good mark. Arrangements are being made to start classes again this session.

*PERTH.*—1947-48 has been a most successful session. Many new members and several Life Members have been enrolled. Beginners, intermediate, advanced and certificate classes were run, and all were well attended. More classes could have been organised had suitable accommodation been available. The certificate class was a new venture and proved very successful and several First Certificates were gained.

The club organised under the auspices of the Society, continues to grow in popularity on both Tuesday and Thursday nights and there is now a waiting list for members.

*PETERHEAD.*—After having been a sub-Branch of Aberdeen for a number of years, a Branch was formed in Peterhead last September, and its first year has been a most successful one.

The Adult Class, with an enrolment of 108, had seventy-three Ordinary Members and ten Life Members of the Society. Several parties were held during the session. At one party we had as our guests, dancers from the Haddo House district and at another we were delighted to welcome Miss Milligan, and members of the Aberdeen Branch.

The three Children's Classes had a total enrolment of 171. The usual displays were held in March, and from these the sum of £69, 4s. 6d., was handed to charities.

A mixed team from the Advanced Children's Class has given exhibitions at concerts, and at the Strichen and New Deer Galas. This team carried off the Haddo House Cup in April, and in August at the Palais-de-Danse, Aberdeen, won the Aberdeen Challenge Trophy.

One of our Branch members ran a successful Children's Class at Strichen during the winter.

*RENFREWSHIRE.*—There has been a steady increase in membership during the year.

The Class held each week was very well attended, all being enthusiastic.

Several times a demonstration was given at a Women's Guild. The usual dance held in The Lorne at the end of March, was most successful.

In October we hope to start an extra Class for mixed couples.

Our Annual General Meeting held in June, was followed by a social evening.

*ROCHDALE.*—This year has been a quiet one as we decided not to hold an examination, and therefore our Classes have been on more social lines. Membership has been maintained, and there are indications that the next year may see an increase in members.

We are pleased to have had more contact with the Manchester Branch, and spent a delightful evening at their Easter Social. Added to which we were glad to have an opportunity to brush-up our technique at a one day school held in Manchester, and taken by Miss Webster.

In July we sent two teams to Oldham to take part in an Olympic Sports Review, inaugurated by the Service of Youth. We were the only women performing, but with the help of Pipe Major Angus MacLeod of the MacLeod Pipe Band, Liverpool, we managed to hold our own, and some members were even beseeged by autograph hunters along with Olympic Representatives!

A week at St. Andrews is the ambition of many members, and there is much anxiety until the replies come through. Many more than apply, would like to go, but only a few can spare the time. Those who do go, return to the Branch with renewed vigour and a firm determination to spread the doctrine of Scottish Country Dancing.

*ST. ANDREWS.*—This Branch reports another good season. Twenty classes were held under the able tuition of Miss F. G. Latto of Dundee and the season wound up with a successful dance at which 162 dancers were present.

The Annual Competition (in aid of the Thistle Foundation) was held in May at which Mrs Lesslie acted as Adjudicator. The Senior Trophy was won by the Dundee Highland Society; the cup in the Youth Section going to Madras College "A" Team.

*STIRLINGSHIRE.*—The winter season 1947-48 was happy and successful. Weekly Classes were held in Druny, Gargunnoch, St. Ninians, two evenings and one afternoon in Stirling—taken by Miss Morrison, Miss Kemp Smith, Miss Stewart and Miss Jarvis. At the end of the spring session Miss Jarvis held a Certificate Class. Four members received First Certificate, two Second Certificate, and three Full Certificate. Miss Milligan kindly took the examination. All classes were very well attended—in fact one was so big they had to move in to a larger hall. A successful social dance was held, before Christmas, in the Plaza.

Each Stirling Class held its own end of season social dance as no available hall was large enough to hold all classes together. The afternoon class had a Thé Dansant. The Stirlingshire Strathspey and Reel Orchestra played at all the dances, which assured their success. The membership is now 163, an increase of sixty-six on last year. We hope to hold a Ball in December in the Albert Hall, Stirling, to celebrate our "21st Birthday"—the proceeds in aid of the Y.M.C.A. Huts.

*EAST STIRLINGSHIRE.*—In Falkirk and district the popularity of Country Dancing has greatly increased. Two classes of over sixty members were run by the Society and next year we hope to have three classes.

A successful dance was held in Falkirk Town Hall, in December and other social evenings were held in March.

Last October, Mrs Forbes of Callendar House, kindly consented to become Patroness of the East Stirlingshire Branch. She has shown great interest in the activities of the Society.

*SOUTHPORT.*—This Branch has made excellent progress during its second year. The membership has risen from twenty-seven to forty-three, and a high level of attendance has been kept at the dancing meetings.

The Branch continues to owe gratitude to the Southport Education Committee for its interest and help; to Mrs Gudger for her inspiring monthly visits; and to Miss Elizabeth

Peel, our pianist, who knew little of Scottish Dance Music at our beginning, but who is now invaluable to us.

There is in membership, an ex-Cameron Highlander who acts as piper to the Branch, and who is an exponent of solo highland dancing of a high standard.

Three social evenings have been arranged by the committee with marked success. On these occasions there have been numerous outside visitors, and the Branch has entertained as guests the Chief Education Officer, the Principal of the Technical College, where we meet, and twenty-three members of the Rochdale Branch of the Society. Three outside demonstrations have been given by a picked team, and there are already two requests for next winter.

Three members of the Branch are to be in residence at the Summer School. The opening of the third season is looked forward to with confidence and high hopes.

*WEST LOTHIAN.*—The Branch has had a very successful season. Classes were held in Bo'ness, Bathgate and Broxburn, and were well attended throughout the winter. Bo'ness Adult Class are greatly indebted to Mr Drummond who spent an evening with them "brushing up their technique."

In October a dance was held in Bo'ness Town Hall, in aid of Nurse's Pension Appeal. This dance was a great success socially and financially. Branch members in Broxburn held a dance in January for local Nursing Association—and a dance in Bathgate Academy, organised by two members of the staff, realized £35, £25 of which was given to Thistle Foundation and £10 for school funds.

Branch membership is still increasing. We now have six Life Members and sixty-six Ordinary Members.

*WOLVERHAMPTON.*—Though starting rather late in October, the Branch enjoyed a very lively winter session under Mrs Locke's tuition, culminating in a party on 26th April. As this was the Royal Silver Wedding Day it seemed an appropriate occasion to introduce the dance, "The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh" to members of the Branch and their many English friends.

We have invited John Baird, M.P., for E. Wolverhampton to be our first President and hope to see him and Mrs Baird at our functions whenever his Parliamentary duties permit.

Enthusiastic members clamoured for a summer session, so we continued dancing once a week until the end of June. This experiment had the unlooked-for result of providing us with a pianist after our own hearts. But as we spent most of our surplus funds on an electric recorder last winter, we're now in a dilemma—shall we keep our pianist, or shall we buy a lot of those exciting new records that have just been produced?

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### Affiliated Groups.

*AIRDRIE.*—Previous to the war, Airdrie had a very live Scottish Country Dance Club, but during the war years it closed down. At the request of some of the original members it was resuscitated two years ago. It started with a membership of about sixty and last session the membership had increased to about eighty. The Club is still gaining in popularity, so much so that there is a waiting list for membership. The mem-

bers are all very keen and the atmosphere of the Club is very friendly. The Club was represented at the two Balls held by Hamilton Club during last session, also at the Ball held by Motherwell and District Club. A return visit was made to Airdrie by these two Clubs at the dance held by Airdrie Club at the close of last session.

The committee do not favour a larger membership than eighty, hence the reason for the waiting list.

*BRIDGE OF ALLAN.*—This Club had a most successful session. Much credit for this goes to Miss Fraser and Miss McNee. Weekly meetings were held in the school, and several social evenings and outings were particularly enjoyed. Members from neighbouring Branches attended our closing dance in the Museum Hall, at which over 300 were present. Music was supplied by Stirling Strathspey and Reel Orchestra.

*CAMPBELTOWN S.W.R.I.*—The membership of the Scottish Country Dancing Class now numbers forty and the attendances at the weekly meeting have been exceptionally good during this year. It had been hoped to have an Exhibition and Display of our year's work last April, but due to a number of unforeseen circumstances, this had to be cancelled. However we hope to have it early in our new session, the opening of which our members are eagerly looking forward to.

*CARLISLE HIGHLAND ASSOCIATION.*—The Scottish Country Dance Section of this Association reports continued progress. Classes for children, an intermediate and an advanced class being held weekly.

During the last two Sessions teams have been competing in the Dumfries Festival and last year S.C. Dancing was included in the Carlisle Musical Festival, for the first time and drew one of the largest audiences of the week.

The Highland Ball held annually is so popular that a hall large enough to accommodate all the people cannot be found.

*COMUNN DANNSAIDH AN OBAIN.*—The numbers attending the weekly meetings of this Association have fallen off somewhat during the last session. This is attributable mainly to the fact that other social and recreational activities which were held in abeyance during the war years, are again in full swing.

There was a fairly regular attendance, however, by those members who could come, and we had many enjoyable evenings dancing.

*CROSBY CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.*—The Scottish Country Dance Group of the Crosby Caledonian Society was formed in April 1947 and the enthusiasm of its members is reflected in the fact that the meetings continue throughout the summers and winters without a break.

The dances are gradually being introduced into the programmes of the parent Society and are well received.

Great credit is due to Miss May and Miss Doris Armstrong who give unstintingly of their time and energy to fostering the interest in Scottish Country Dancing.

*DALMELLINGTON S.C.D. CLUB.*—This Club has now completed its seventh session as an Adult Continuation Class. The number enrolling is about fifty and the average weekly attendance is from thirty-six to forty. There are a few very enthusiastic males on the roll but there is room for more. The younger set are becoming more interested and like the older class members enjoy most the more difficult dances. Our favourites are "General Stuarts Reel" and "The New Rigged Ship."

*DOLLAR S.C.D. CLUB.*—Last session we had seventy-five members with Miss Kemp Smith as teacher for first term and Miss Lee from Alloa for the second. Our Classes are held every Thursday evening in the school gymnasium and Mr Harry Bell, Rector of

Dollar Academy is an enthusiastic member. Our Class went to a number of dances in the surrounding district, such as Stirling, Bridge of Allan, Tillicoultry, etc.

Next session we are again having Miss Lee as teacher with the possibility of a beginners' Class starting and one of our last year's members who have got their Certificate taking the Class.

*DUNDEE HIGHLAND SOCIETY.*—In 1947-48 the Dundee Highland Society continued their two very successful and happy Classes, with about 150 members under Misses Williamson and Davidson, Mrs Matthew and Mrs Moffat being the pianists. Many new dances were included in the syllabus. A cup was won by a team from the first class in a competition in St. Andrews.

A Ball was held at the end of each term, with Mrs Matthew's band, which incidently may now be heard on the wireless. The prospects for the future are good as members are very interested and there is a growing waiting list.

*EASSIE AND NEVAY S.C.D. CLASS.*—This Class had a very successful session. Visits were paid to neighbouring Classes including an Exhibition at Coupar Angus. A S.C. Dance Competition is being held in October in Forfar, where before the war keen interest was shown. Unfortunately, Miss Kirkpatrick is unable to continue as teacher.

*LESLIE S.C.D. CLUB.*—The Leslie Scottish Country Dancing Club which has a membership of sixty-four, meets every Tuesday evening in the Y.M.C.A. Hall during the six winter months. Music is supplied by a piano and violin and the dancing is under the supervision of Mrs W. B. Shoolbraid.

As each of the four main Country Dance Clubs in Central Fife hold at least one dance during the winter to which all surrounding clubs are invited, the weekly meeting usually takes the form of a practice for a specific purpose, which gives added zest to the dancing.

An annual summer outing for members and friends has now become an established and much enjoyed feature of the club's activities.

*LEUCHARS W.R.I. CLASS.*—This Class has had a very successful first season and is hopeful of even more interest being taken in Scottish Country Dancing in the future.

*OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, REEL AND STRATHSPEY CLUB.*—In November 1946, Margaret Lamont who had been active in Folk Dancing for several years, gathered together a group of Folk Dancers, most of them club leaders in the San Francisco area, and proposed an organization which would devote itself to Highland and Scottish Country dances. Although only three of those present—Mr and Mrs Alan Rough and Margaret, were Scottish, the idea was enthusiastically received.

Mr and Mrs Rough acted as the first teachers, to be followed by Phil Aldrich, who had been interested in Scottish Dancing for many years. In a relatively short time "Petronella" and the "Highland Reel" were exhibited at the Folk Dance Festivals, which are held monthly in California, and proved to be very popular.

Leaving the Club hard at work on the "Glasgow Highlanders" and "Highland Fling," Margaret and her husband visited Scotland recently where, with the friendly help of Miss Hadden, Secretary of the Scottish Country Dance Society, and Mrs Florence Lesslie, Secretary, Edinburgh Branch, she obtained a wealth of new material and instruction on the proper method of doing Country Dance steps and patterns. Highland dance instruction was obtained from Miss Jean Reynolds, the Scottish Woman's Champion.

With this authentic information, and the continued help of the Scottish Country Dance Society, Margaret left Scotland feeling that the Reel and Strathspey Club would do even better in the future than it had in the past and expressed the hope that Scottish Country Dancing would soon become a common sight in California.

*RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY* which was founded in 1937, is now regarded as one of the progressive Associations in the London Area. It was able to maintain contact with its members during the war years and since 1945 has welcomed many new members, whose support augurs well for the future. The Society has a wide field of interests not least of which is its Scottish Country Dance Class at which weekly attendances in the session just closed have fluctuated between fifty and seventy persons. Like so many other organizations difficulty has been experienced in obtaining accommodation but the Society has been fortunate in having the use of a hall, in a central position in the Burgh, where many Scottish Country Dances have been taught to an ever-increasing company of Scots and their English Associates. These classes will be continued during the season 1948-49 which opens early in October.

Mr R. P. Wilson, Honorary Secretary, 23 Clifden Road, Twickenham, will be pleased to furnish further information, on application to him, to any interested friends.

*OXFORD UNIVERSITY SCOTTISH SOCIETY*.—Membership is about forty—this is limited not by the number of actual or potential country dancers in the University, but simply by space restrictions. The Society meets every Monday during term, and as often as possible during the vacations, for Scottish dancing, usually for about two and a half hours. During the summer, when the weather allows, the meetings take place in College gardens. A river picnic was held at the end of the summer term on the Cherwell, the procession of boats being piped from the "prow" of the first punt by a member of the Society.

Twice the Society has given exhibitions of Scottish dancing at Garden Parties. A close liaison exists between the Scottish Society and the English Country Dancing Society.

*PRESTWICK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB*.—The Club has now a membership of thirty ladies, and there are twelve children in the Junior Class.

This year, the Annual Dance in Prestwick Town Hall had a record sale of tickets, both for dancers and spectators, and the children demonstrated "Triumph."

The proceeds of our dances always go to local charities.

Dances have been held by the Club every month throughout the summer. A happy winter session is being looked forward to.

*ROTHES OLD TIME DANCE CLUB*.—The season opened early in October, when fifty-six senior and fourteen junior members were enrolled. From beginning to end the enthusiasm was well sustained by old and young alike and the Christmas and Closing Parties were greatly enjoyed (especially the dumpling).

The standard of dancing continues to improve and the repertoire to extend, thanks to the patience, example and enthusiasm of Miss Arnott, Kirkcaldy, our very able teacher.

We record with deep regret the death on 7th December, 1947, of Mr David Shoolbraid, the founder of our club. In early life he quickly came to the forefront as an outstanding exponent of the graceful art, won many honours and was well known far beyond the boundaries of the "Kingdom." His love of dancing remained with him to the end and his passing leaves a blank in Leslie's social functions.

In March the Annual Joint Dance was held with our neighbour Leslie Club and the attendance was only limited by the capacity of Leslie's largest hall. Jimmy Shand's band was in attendance while many friends from surrounding clubs joined with us. The date, hall and band have already been booked for the 1949 annual dance.

*SOUTHAMPTON SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION*.—This Association has had a most successful and encouraging season. Meetings were held every alternate Tuesday in the Grosvenor Ballroom and the interest in Scottish dancing became so popular that other dances had to be cut from the programme. The average attendance throughout the season

was about 150. The Association has become affiliated to the Scottish Country Dance Society, and with the valuable information, etc., received some very pleasant practice evenings were spent.

**TAYSIDE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB.**—The Tayside Scottish Country Dance Club, Newport, Fife, was in abeyance during the war years but it was resuscitated in January 1947, when we had a total of seventy-one members. We had our first full session in 1947-48 when we had a total of fifty-nine members. As is usual in Scottish Country Dance Clubs the majority of our members are ladies, but we have a small but enthusiastic number of gentlemen. In February 1948 we held a very successful dance in the Blyth Halls, Newport, at which 150 were present. Clubs from Dundee and St. Andrews were represented.

**TILlicouLTRY S.C.D.S. CLASS.**—Since resuming in 1946 after being in abeyance during the war years, this Class has been a very successful one. There have been so many applications for membership that it will be necessary to have a Beginners' and an Advanced Class this winter.

#### TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP TO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.

Annual Subscription - - - - - 5/-

Life Membership Subscription - - - - - £3, 3/- or

£2, 10/- to those who have paid their annual subscription for four years.

Those who have paid their annual subscription for ten years may become

Life Members on payment of £1, 10/-.

*Secretary*—Miss HADDEN, Thornhill, Cairnmuir Road, Edinburgh, 12.

*Treasurer*—Miss J. W. McLELLAN, Parkend, Galston, Ayrshire.



## Historical Notes on Dances

Sent in by Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich and Miss M. Macpherson, Fort William.

*Book 10, No. II.*—THE INFARE OR WILL YE GO AND MARRY KETTY.

Extract from *Perth Courier*, March 16th 1820 :

SHORT COURTSHIP.—A few days ago, a soldier, who has served his King and country for nearly ten years, after paying his addresses to a servant girl in this city, and receiving her consent to become his bride, fixed Sunday for the marriage day. Previous to the ceremony being performed, the party were all to meet in the bridegroom's house. Unluckily, however, the bride's mistress got intelligence of what was going on and kept her at home that evening. The table was loaded with the marriage supper—the whole party was present—only one was found wanting. Stung with disappointment, the gallant bridegroom suddenly turned to the bridesmaid, and offering her his hand, said, "Zounds, Katty, will you marry me?" Katty, thinking she might do worse, gladly agreed to the proposal, and the party instantly set off to the parson, who soon joined them in the bands of wedlock. Thus in less space of time than one hour, Katty was courted, married, and set down mistress of her own house, at the head of her own table.

*Book 14, No. IV.*—Extract from a book of Old Highland Music published about 1816 :

THE CROOKIT HORNED EWIE :

"This set of the Ewe with the Crooked Horn appears to be a standard, formed a century ago, by three neighbouring gentlemen in Nairnshire, eminent performers—Mr Rose of Kilravock, Mr Campbell of Budyet, and Mr Sutherland of Kinsteary. It may not be generally known that the Ewe, thus celebrated is no other than the whisky still, with its crooked horn, which gave more milk than all the sheep in the country."

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## Correction in Book II.

KNIT THE POCKY.

In this dance turning with both hands is incorrect. It should read :—

Bars, 1-4—First woman and second man advance and retire.

Bars, 5-8—They turn with right hand and return to places.

## Gramophone Records.

The following gramophone records made by Decca will be on sale in the shops in October—price 3s. 3d., plus purchase tax 1s. 1d. The music has been arranged by Tim Wright and his band.

<i>Cat. No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>	<i>Cat. No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
Beltona		Beltona	
BL.6182	River Cree. The Duchess of Atholl's Slipper.	BL.6186	The Earl of Home. Miss Nancy Frowns.
BL.6183	The Machine without Horses. Mrs Grant's Fancy.	BL.6187	The Black Dance. Dalkeith's Strathspey.
BL.6184	The Reel of the 51st Division. There's nae Luck.	BL.6188	Strathglass House. Grant's Rant.
BL.6185	The De'il among the Tailors. The Braes of Tullimet.	BL.6189	Maggie Lauder. Monymusk.

H.M.V. still have a number of records of the following dances arranged by J. Michael Diack—these may be ordered from music shops.

<i>Cat. No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>	<i>Cat. No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
B.2215	Circassian Circle. Flowers of Edinburgh.	B.3555	Petronella. Strip the Willow.

Re-pressings have been made of dances in Books I.-XII., recorded by Decca. If orders of twelve or more are sent, Mr Walker has kindly agreed to supply the records to members. Address—T. P. WALKER, Esq., 3 Grosvenor Terrace, Dundee.

The cost is 3s. 3d. plus 1s. 5d. purchase tax, plus postage.

<i>Cat. No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>	<i>Cat. No.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
Beltona		Beltona	
2037	Reel of Tulloch—Dance. The Dashing White Sergeant.	6161	The yellow Haired Laddie. Gin I was a Bonnie Lad.
2038	Strip the Willow. Come o'er the stream Charlie.	6163	The Earl of Home. Machine Without Horses.
6135	The New Rigged Ship. The Jimp Waist.	6166	Scottish Reform. The Dashing White Sergeant.
6140	Miss Mary Douglas. The Shepherd's Crook.	6167	Scottish Country Dance. Foula Reel.
6158	Grants Rant. Green Grow the Rashes.	6169	The Bottom of the Punch Bowl. Mrs McLeod.
6159	Jenny Dang the Weaver. The Border Reel.	6170	Highland Schottische. Duke of Perth.
6160	Kiss Quick, my Mither's Coming. Fiddle Faddle.	6174	The Red House. Rothesay Country Dance.

