

Last-Post



This column will be a regular feature in the new *Bulletin*, and it will cover a whole host of subjects, from books recently published to snippets of news from outside Canada.

Let's start with books and magazines. First, two from Edith Fowke: *Sea Songs and Ballads from Nineteenth Century Nova Scotia: the William H. Smith and Fenwick Hatt Manuscripts* (1981, New York: Folklorica, Inc., c/o Elliot Klein Ltd., 19 W. 44th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10036: approx. 110 pp., intro., notes, bib., record list, ind., \$12 paper, \$18 cloth (pre-pub. prices)). Two collections are printed, one of 34 songs, mostly shanties, as sung aboard vessels in the period 1870-1900, the other of 21 songs, all but one ballads, written into a notebook between 1875 and 1883. This latter "appears to be," say the publishers, "the earliest collection of Anglo-Canadian folk songs to come to light." Edith has supplied notes and comparative references for each of the songs. I hope to arrange a review of this book as soon as possible.

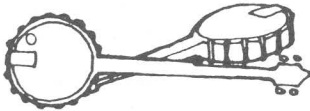
Edith's second piece of work is *An Audio-Visual History of Canadian Folk Music*. This is a slide-tape kit available in both languages from School Services of Canada (66 Portland St., Toronto, Ont. M5V 2M8 for \$95.00 (\$75.00 for the French kit). The kit consists of three cassettes, a three-strip slide package and a guide book.

Next, from Barbara Cass-Beggs, comes *Folk Carols for Children*, published by Ward Lock Educational of London, England, and available in Canada through "The Bookery", 463 Sussex Dr., Ottawa, Ont. K1N 6Z4.

The Department of Folklore at Memorial University of Newfoundland has just sent me a list of their publications: twelve items, all but one of which pay special attention to Newfoundland and its folk culture. Three of

these books were reviewed in the last issue of *Canada Folk Bulletin*, sent to all members of the CFMS, and I hope to review the balance over the coming year. Memorial University's address is St. John's, Nfld. A1C 5S7. Enclosed with their list was one from Breakwater Books (277 Duckworth St., St. John's, Nfld. A1C 1G9) with a further three books on life in Newfoundland, together with a reprint of CFMS Honorary President Helen Creighton's *Maritime Folk Songs*.

Two items from Quebec: the *International Festivals Directory* ("32 countries. 40 festivals. 400 famous folk groups. 15,000 artists. In English. French. Spanish. German. Russian") is available from the Conseil canadien des arts populaires, 1499 de Bleury, suite 200, Montreal, P.Q. H3A 2H5 for \$10. From the same publishers comes *The Troubadour*, the quarterly magazine of the Council, available for \$4/year. This 24pp. bilingual magazine is funded by the Secretary of State. Note, too, their Second Annual Folk Arts Production Seminar, to be held at the Winnipeg Technical Vocational School February 20-3, set up "to enable folk arts specialists to acquire new skills in the art of staging performances through a valuable measure of professional expertise, so that there may be a continual upgrading of talent across Canada." Registration is \$100 per person: bursaries are available.



Still on books, but on the other side of the border: U. of Illinois Press (54 East Gregory Drive, Box 5081, Station A, Champaign, IL U.S.A. 61820) announce a new journal: *American Music* will examine "all aspects of American music and music in America: genres and forms; geographical and historical patterns; composers, performers and audiences; sacred and secular traditions; cultural, social and ethnic diversity;..." etc., etc. What they don't say, anywhere in the two-page press release, is what they mean by "America". The United States? North America? North and South America? Editor, (Allan P. Britton, 229 Stearns Bldg., School of Music, U. of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI U.S.A. 48109) please clarify! A lovely howler, though: "the main criterion will be Americanness; beyond that, excellence."

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And two more: *Come All Ye*, a handy-sized 16-pager with very useful and brief notes on new books in the folklore field (their own and others), put out by Legacy Books (Box 494, Hatboro, PA U.S.A. 19040), edited by Richard K. Burns; and *Folklife Center News*, a quarterly publication of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress (Washington D.C. U.S.A. 20540), a beautifully printed 8-pager. The issue to hand, Vol III, No. 3, has a good piece on the work of US collector Sidney Robertson Cowell, whose collection of "237 original disc recordings, a catalogue of the recordings, 149 photographs, photostats of scale drawings for 25 folk instruments and fieldnotes" are lodged in the Library. Westerners note that the Department of Music at Berkeley has a duplicate archive.

Folk-Legacy Records (who recorded two albums of our own Ian Robb) have their new *Catalog* out. Write to them at Sharon, CN U.S.A. 06069.

The Third Edinburgh Folk Festival, held throughout the city, runs this year Friday 20 to Sunday 29 March 1981. Write to Dr. John Barrow, the Director, for a copy of the program at 170 High St., Edinburgh, EH1 1QS, Scotland.

Vol I, No. 1 of *Rendezvous Newsletter*, put out by "Hey, Rube!", a new service organization devoted "to the advancement of traditional performing artists", has just arrived. Full-time performers can sign up (for \$25) or get further information from P.O. Box 9693, Minneapolis MN U.S.A. 55440.

And back to Canada, and a word about our sister organization, the Folklore Studies Association of Canada. Its aims are close to ours but cover the whole field of folklore. Individual memberships may be obtained by sending \$15 to P.O. Box 11217, Station H, Nepean, Ont. K2H 7T9. The first volume of their journal, *Canadian Folklore Canadien*, has just been published.

Lastly, Mary Simpson writes and asks for us to publicize the Tenth Anniversary Celebrations, to take place in January 1981, of the Bytown Live Entertainment Association. She encloses a couple of recent issues of their magazine, *Bytown Folk Connection*, a bargain at 25¢: write to her at P.O. Box 4655, Stn. E, Ottawa, Ont. K1H 5S3.

- Jon Bartlett