News

Just in case you haven’t heard, the CSMT Mail Order Service is -- alas! (at least, some of us say that -- G.W.L.) -- going out of vinyl. As the flier says, "We are clearing out our stock of LPs. There won’t be any more they are gone. Order any LP in our Catalogue and pay only 50% of the listed price. Stock up now while some are still available. They make great gifts for both serious and not-so-serious music collectors, and you can’t find most of them anywhere else!" The address, once again:
The CSMT Mail Order Service
510, 1701 Centre St. NW
Calgary, Alberta
CANADA T2E 8A4
Fax: (403) 277-6687.

When I was last in there, there were still some of the old Folkways field recordings from Ontario and points east (as well as the lovely Stanley G. Triggs Bunkhouse and Forecastle Songs of the Northwest). If you have any taste for these, I recommend you get ’em while you can. Folkways, which has been taken over by the Smithsonian Institution in the U.S., remains dedicated to keeping everything in stock, but you can bet most of this won’t ever make it onto the slimy little silver discs. Folkways will sell you cassettes of anything Moe Asch ever issued, and these come in snazzy little boxes (like what you rent videos in) with the liner notes, but in reduced form to fit in the snazzy little boxes (and you can imagine what that does to pictures or music!), and the price doesn’t go down to fit the smaller size, does it, Jackson?

Research Request

I’m looking for people who have published tapes, books, or pamphlets on ghosts, haunted houses, and hauntings. I publish a mail-order catalog devoted exclusively to books on ghosts and hauntings. If you would like us to include your publication in our next catalog, please send us one copy of each item, your discount schedule, and your address and phone number. Self-published books and tapes welcomed.

Invisible Ink: Books About Ghosts and

Haunted:

Kestrel Publications
1811 Stonewood Dr.
Beaverbrook, OH 45432-4002
(513) 426-5110

I’ll make sure you get a copy of the catalog when it is available. September 1993 is our projected date. (Christie Woodyard, Kestrel Publications.)

Included with this request we received a flier for Kestrel’s Haunted Ohio series, which currently numbers two volumes of scary stories, including one about the Vampire of the Ohio State Pen, which is about as dreadful as the joke we used to tell in high school about flatulence in a spacesuit, which was probably a metaphor for what it felt like to sit in class all day long -- there’s nothing like being a captive audience! The books run $9.95 U.S., plus shipping. They also have a t-shirt and autograph books for free. Looks like fun. -- G.W.L.

The Immature Aciperenser

The AFS is an international non-profit professional and scientific organization of more than 8,200 fisheries, biologists and aquatic scientists. The Canadian Aquatic Resources Section (CARS) was formed in 1991 to provide better representation for Canadian fisheries professionals within AFS, and to address fisheries concerns unique to Canada. We are always thinking of novel ways to generate much-needed financial resources. We hope a book of collected songs and poems about fish and fisheries will help us out.

We are liberally defining fish as anything that lives in an aquatic environment, particularly if exploited by humans (fish, lobsters, clams, whales, etc.). We are especially looking for songs that celebrate the pursuit, consumption or general appreciation of such aquatic organisms. We hope to have both traditional and newer material -- the stranger, more obscure and more comical, the better.

Contributors will be credited, including for
traditional material. Where applicable, authorship and copyright will be acknowledged. If you can send musical notation, a source, or historical contextual information, so much the better. Unfortunately, as we are a non-profit organization, we cannot pay royalties.

Please send material to:
Bruce Barton, 2736 Laurel Crescent SW, Calgary, Alberta T3E 6B3.

By the way, *the Immature Acipenser is a fish biologist’s technical translation of the Virgin Sturgeon, and is also the working title of the song book.*

Catherine West, music teacher at Palmerston Avenue School Junior in Toronto, told me she uses this original rhyme as a rhythm exercise for her students. It was composed by Kelly Dickenson, one of Catherine’s Grade 4 students at Annette School, in February 1992, as a response to the infamous Toronto *Star* headline about Roberta Bondar doing "housework" in space.

Bondar, Bondar in the air,
Doing housework everywhere,
Dusting here, dusting there,
Bondar, Bondar in the air.

*(Contributed by Judith Cohen)*

By the way, the next time I read the beginning of a review of anything by the current incarnation of The Great Western Orchestra that begins with a lame joke about "the smallest orchestra in the world," I'm going to say something naughty. It appears to me that some folks don’t know much about the culture history of the prairies. Out here (up here, maybe I should say), an "orchestra" is what traditionally plays for dances -- & lots of 'em were only two people (usually a fiddle and piano). A "band" was a brass band. And, Dave Wilkie, mandolinist extraordinaire and GWO founder, knows old time prairie music and had it in mind to carry on in much the same spirit as the old timers, though his is a different generation. Keep up the good work, Dave!

♫ ♪ ♪

We learned about a couple of British Columbia folk clubs recently, through the good offices of old friend Heino Best. One is in Penticton, the other (relatively new) in Princeton. They seem both to be patterned after the Vancouver Folk Song Society model, i.e., they rent premises on occasion and hold what amounts to an open stage format, with singers doing short sets. For further information, write:

Penticton Folk Club, c/o Ernie Sykes, 113 Townley St., Penticton, B.C. V2A 4B4; phone (604)-493-8740

Princeton Folk Club, c/o Rodger Stanley, P.O. Box 1271, Princeton, B.C. V0X 1W0; phone (604)-295-3438

Also take note of the Folk Society of Whitehorse, listed in the Yukon Directory on p. 9.