Our Back Pages

Fifteen Years Ago
Bulletin 18.2 (April 1984). It used to be that the spring issue would contain a "Focus on Festivals" feature, with a number of articles on that topic; this one went one better, including the prototype Canadian Folk Festival Directory. (Hard to realize it's 15 years old!) The festival-oriented articles dealt with Marius Barbeau's Veilles du bon vieux temps, the Regina Folk Festival, the Tobermory Family Festival, the Saskatchewan Organization of Folk Arts, the Miramichi Folk Festival, Shelburne’s Canadian Open Old Time Fiddlers' Contest, Morris Ales in Ontario, and the Northwind Folk Festival. Other articles in the issue were Cathy Fink's "Go South Young Person" (advising Canadian performers as to obtaining work permits for the US), the first of the series of articles on the song "Lukey's Boat" (this one by Tony Stephenson) and Billy Hill's piece on champion yodeller Stew Clayton. Ian Robb contributed "The Singers" column this time. In addition to "Lukey's Boat," songs included were "Paddy's Experiences in America" (a traditional song collected from my uncle, George Boice), Terry Pugh and Paddy Tutty's prairie version of "Hard, Hard Times," Lyn Luft's "Leave 'em Alone," and "Petit Chéticamp" from the Cape Breton village of that name. The reviews were of books Guitar Owner's Manual (Will Martin), Musique et danses (Les Sortilèges), Chansons d'Aca-die (Chiasson et Boudreau) and En r'montant la tradition (La-belle et Léger), and recordings For the Family (Stan Rogers), Pierre et le papillon (Germain et Bédard) and Fith and Pathos (Don Freed).

Ten Years Ago
Bulletin 23.2 (June 1989). This issue featured two articles, slightly allied: Edith Fowke's "Filksongs as Modern Folksongs" and James Prescott's "Music of the SCA." ("Filksongs" are songs from science fiction fandom, while the "SCA" is the medieval re-creating Society for Creative Anachonism.) A song written by James, "Lady Hartley’s Lament," accompanied the latter article (which I discovered posted on the internet the other day!), as did "The Brave and Bonny Host" by Roger Shell. A couple of traditional songs, "Depart pour les îles," from the singing of Allan and Léontine Kelly of New Brunswick, and "I'll be the Good Boy," collected in Newfoundland by Jim Payne, completed the issue.

Five Years Ago
Bulletin 28.2 (June 1994). This issue mostly consisted of the Festival Directory (in those days it was published only once a year), but there was still room for some other material, including "The Jealous Lover" (a traditional song from Edith Fowke's collection), Bill Sarjeant's photo montage of the 1993 Annual General Meeting, an EthnoFolk Letters column, written by GWL this time, and reviews of a Cal Cavendish concert in Calgary, the 1993 Winnipeg Folk Festival, Richard Chapman's book The Complete Guitarist (I still see it in the Barnes & Noble catalogue), and recordings Chansons judéo-espagnoles vols. I-III (Gerineldo), Worth All the Telling (Larry Kaplan), Bluesology (The Whiteley Brothers) and five "Celtic" recordings: The Mystic of Baja (Uisce Beatha), Draggin' the Days (The Mahones), A Month of Sundays (Jimmy George), A Welcome at Your Door (Linda Miller and Nathan Curry) and The Golden Dawn (Loretto Reid and Brian Taheny).

These issues are available from CSTM Back Issues, 224 20th Avenue NW, Calgary, Alta. T2M 1C2. [JL]

News, Views & Stuff

The 2000 AGM of the Canadian Society for Traditional Music will be held in Toronto Nov. 3-5 in conjunction with 14 other music societies. The CSTM has been invited to participate in joint panels with the Society for Ethnomusicology and the American Society for Musical Instruments. Proposals for these joint sessions should be submitted by February 1, 2000. Anyone interested in presenting for CSTM-only panels will have a later deadline. Also, anyone interested in submitting paper proposals for other joint panels should check the websites for the SEM or AMS. These joint panel proposals are due June 1999. In effect, there are 3 different deadlines—one for our specific joint panels with SEM and AMIS; one for our own panels; and one for other joint panels.

Call for Papers—Performing Ecstasies: Music, Dance, and Ritual in the Mediterranean (An International and Interdisci-plinary Symposium) Los Angeles, October 11-15, 2000. This symposium will explore the various forms of ritualized music and dance in historic and contemporary contexts, both as expressions of traditional cultures and as vehicles of revival movements.

Ecstatic dance, movement, and music, have long formed an integral part of religious and cultural experiences in the Mediterranean. What are their unique features, and which instead are shared among Mediterranean cultures in the Middle East, Northern Africa, Southern Europe? Which of these musical forms are being revived and why? Tarantismo, for instance, a form of dance therapy practiced especially by women suffering from the afflictions of the "spider's bite" (a phenomenon considered by some scholars to find its ultimate source in the Dionysian cults of Ancient Greece), formed an integral part of Salentine culture (southern Puglia, Italy) until the 1960s. Neo-tarantismo through its music is currently undergoing a large scale revival in the Salento, and many musicians and dancers find in the primal rhy-
The resurrection of the pizzica tarantara a profound expression of their cultural identity. The revival is attracting increasing numbers of non-Salentine musicians, dancers, and participants, as the public culture of tarantismo (in festival and concert stage) draws tourists to the area, provoking reactions which range from accommodating to nativist, and which are helping to shape discourse around issues of economic development through tourism.

To what degree can or do such contemporary phenomena accommodate trans-ethnic expressions? What degree of continuity or rupture exists between historic and contemporary forms? What are their various meanings, uses, and performative parameters, in contemporary contexts? How do such phenomena interact with the cultural ecology movement, with development strategies, and with political ideology? Questions such as these will be explored in a 3-4 day symposium on music, dance, and ritual, in the Performed Ecstasies of Mediterranean cultures. Folklorists, dance ethnologists, ethnomusicologists, anthropologists, archeologists, classicists, scholars of religion and of psychology, are encouraged to explore such questions, and bring these phenomena into focus.

The symposium will be accompanied by a concert series, film festival, as well as dance and music workshops, and is sponsored by the Instituto Italiano di Cultura of Los Angeles, Provincia di Lecce; Ethnomusicology Department, UCLA; Claremont Graduate School; Cultural Affairs Department, City of Los Angeles.

Send a title, one-page abstract, and brief bio-bibliography, to the conference organizer by October 1, 1999:

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The International Society for Ethnology and Folklore holds its seventh international congress in Budapest, Hungary between 23.04. and 29.04. 2001. It is the aim of this congress to provide a forum for ethnologists, anthropologists, and folklorists as well as for historians and sociologists who are working in ethnological perspectives. The Congress will be supported by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and will be organized by local Organizing Committee chaired by Prof. Dr. Attila Paladi-Kovacs, Director of Ethnographic Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The official languages of the congress will be English, French and German.

Europe has changed dramatically since 1989, as has the globe. The year 2001 represents both the end of a millennium in which unparalleled developments in human social organization have occurred, as well as the beginning of a new millennium which will witness changes that we cannot yet perceive. We are told that we have arrived at a moment that is not only a fin de siècle, but also "the end of history," "the end of modernity," and "the end of industrial society." But we are nevertheless surrounded by renewed nationalism, primordialism, wars, violence, ethnic tensions, poverty, unemployment, social polarization, new forms of migration, and new symbolic and political forms of exclusion and marginalization. The last millennium follows us into the next.

This ethnological congress, held at the beginning of the new millennium, will take its inaugural role seriously. It demands of us that we try to imagine what it will portend for human society, and it will seek to assess the historical moment of transition: where we have come from, where we are now, and where we are going in the new era we are entering. Such a task requires a critical and reflexive exploration of the theoretical and methodological possibilities of ethnology, including the new politics of ethnological knowledge making in a global world.

The congress consists of six major themes set up by the International Programme Committee, of special sessions, and of round table sessions or panels, which will complement the major themes. Major themes are:

- Time of ending: past, history, and memory
- The ethnography of states: nation, transnationalism and globalization
- Theories and politics of cultural identity: ethnicity, gender and milieu
- Urban transformation and urban ethnography
- Producing locality: strategies of culture and power
- Production of ethnological knowledge: fieldwork, text, public folklore and museums

For the first stage we are asking for proposals for special sessions. Please send your proposals and a one page description to the chair of the International Programme Committee to Prof. Dr. Konrad Kostlin, Department of European Ethnology, University of Vienna, Hanuschgasse 3. A-1010 Vienna, Austria before November 1, 1999. Final selection will be made by the International Programme Committee by end of December 1999.

After the selection of the sessions the International Programme Committee and the Organizing Committee will publish a second circular by end of January 2000 including the listed sessions and a call for papers with detailed informations about registration procedures and accommodation.

For further information see <http://www2.rz.hu-berlin.de/inside/sief>.

The address for the Canmore Folk Festival (included in the festival directory last issue) has changed; the current address is Canmore Folk Festival, PO Box 8098, Canmore, Alberta T1W 2T8. This edition's listing includes the correct address as well as their new website and email address.
Our readers who also receive Bluegrass Canada magazine may have been surprised to see that an article in the May/June issue of that magazine, "A Tribute to Graham Townsend" by Al Yetman, also appeared in the Bulletin last issue. We'd like to reassure folks that we didn't reprint the article without credit, nor did Bluegrass Canada do so from us; rather, it was a multiple submission by the author, of which we were unaware.

Well, yeah, it's too late for you to go now, but we couldn't go, anyway, and at least one of us is really gnashing his garments and rending his teeth over it: we received a cheap little brochure advertising Violin/Lauto Seminars In the Greek Cycladic Islands (Kythnos and Naxos, to be specific) in June of this year. I've never seen a lauto in the flesh, but in photos it looks like a cross between the oud and the bouzouki—the body of the former and the neck of the later; I wouldn't mind the chance to see (and play!) one in the flesh. Besides, dig the accommodations: "A very nice building with long marble balcony that overlooks the village." The fees for the events are reasonable, as well. We've no idea whether or not the seminars will be repeated next year (I don't expect I could get there then, anyway!), but you might write Susan Raphael, 29874 Navarro Ridge Road, Albion, California 95410; email:<ptemple@mcn.org>.

In a letter in 32.2, p. 21, George Linsey mentioned that he had donated 16 Andy Dejarlis LPs to the Andy Dejarlis Archives at the University of Victoria. However, both Mr. Linsey and Rev. Franceene Watson, for the Archives, wish it made known that the negotiations hit a snag, with the result that the donation has not been completed.

Newfoundland patriotic songs from the CD We Will Remain, reviewed last issue at p. 35, were featured in a live concert at the LSPU Hall in St. John's on March 3, 1999, which was broadcast on the internet. The concert can be viewed on SingSong Music's website, <www.singsong.nfld.com>, by those whose computers are suitably equipped. A pentium-level computer and a 30-k modem are needed; Real Player software can be downloaded for free if you don't have it already.

Gregg Lawless, whose CD was reviewed last issue (p. 37), informs us that in the interim he's acquired email and a website; he can be reached at <lawless@interlog.com>, and his site is accessed via <www.interlog.com/~lawless>.

The mention of Songlines magazine in our news column last issue failed to include an address for the publication; it's available from Gramaphone Publications Ltd., Sudbury Hill, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3YD, UK.

Lettres/Letters

I have retired from academia (brain science) to make a second career relating traditional songs to social history. I want to collect as many songs as possible related to drinking in the British Isles and America (1550-1900), then relate the main themes to nation, era, social class or ethnicity. I have nearly finished my first large comparison: some 500 drink-related songs from Ireland, Scotland and England from the 18th and 19th centuries. My next step is to cull Irish-American folk songs about drink—especially from men's work groups, including cowboys, lumber camps, railroads, sailors, &c. I imagine that the Irish preoccupation with fighting begins with the "faction fights" about 1800, but it's remarkable how long the theme persists in the US (and I assume Canada). Can you think of anyone who has written about Canadian-Irish songs? I have only one relevant journal reference: Colin Neiland, "Irish Influences on Newfoundland Song", in Canadian Folklore canadien. I also have a reference to Edith Fowke's lumbering songs. I often recite "Silver Jack," from the area of Michigan where I grew up. One of his famous brawls was with the French-Canadian Joe Fournier, who had two rows of teeth, and would bite off a piece from the bar to intimidate his opponents.

Of course, I am interested in any drink-related pieces, and will have to peruse whole collections, as I've done with the British Isles material. I might try to pay a library assistant to peruse Canadian collections not easily accessible nearby. I've found reliable undergraduates here who would work for $12/hr. to locate and copy songs. If anyone comes to mind, please do let me know how to reach them. My progressive multiple sclerosis limits my travel, so I use funds normally budgeted for travel. One trip I will have to make this fall is to the Library of Congress. Is there a comparable national archive of folksongs in Canada?

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[Perhaps readers will have some tips for David. He'll surely want to approach the National Archives in Ottawa, the Department of Folklore at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, and possibly our Society's archives at the]