TWO SESSION TUNES

These two tunes of Canadian origin have, perhaps unexpectedly, become entrenched in other traditions; they come to us from Derek Lofthouse, who authored the notes.

Reel de Montréal

My father got this tune out of a contra dance book, the Ralph Page Book of Contras (EFDSS, 1969). The only other person I have heard play it (aside from people we have taught it to) was an accordion/mandolin player in Calgary who used to play for a lot of contras "down east" (whether in Canada or the U.S. I can't remember). The book has no notes about the tune other than a general statement that "they have come to use French-Canadian tunes more and more".

Besides the name, the tune definitely has a French-Canadian feel to it; however, doing an on-line search for recordings, I found only

The Canadian Folk Music BULLETIN de musique folklorique canadienne