

**** Magazine Column Requiring a Clever Title ****

Numerous magazines trade issues with the **Canadian Folk Music Bulletin**. The editors subscribe to some other magazines as individuals as well. There are lots of magazines out here dedicated to various aspects of folk music, each occupying its own niche in the folk music community. This column will endeavour to describe a few of these publications in each of our upcoming issues.

This might be a good time to remind fellow publishers to update their mailing lists, and now send trade copies to: CSMT, Box 4232, Station C, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 5N1. Let's give Lynn Whidden a little room in her mailbox!

A magazine which I've subscribed to for a few issues, and find chock-full of information, is **Dirty Linen**. It started life as a fan magazine for Fairport Convention, but somewhere along the line broadened out to devote itself to "Folk, Electric Folk, Traditional and World Music" -- quite a vast mandate! It is just about the most glossy folk music magazine I've come across, and has a large circulation and a seemingly endless supply of writers and workers. Every issue has numerous columns, several feature articles and interviews, and many, many reviews of recordings, books, live performances and videos. Most of the reviews are more of the "capsule" sort than the **Bulletin's**, but

there are so many of them that space is obviously a consideration. In addition, each issue includes touring schedules of a large number of performers, plus a directory of festivals and other events, plus lots of advertising of folk-related companies, plus contests (one of which my daughter won!), plus ... seemingly I could fill a lot of space and not cover all the services which the magazine provides. About the only thing they *don't* include is songs.

Dirty Linen tries to cover the entire North American and British folk music world and more, and seems to be succeeding handsomely. A drawback could be that people with interests in a narrow field would find themselves searching through lots of extraneous material to find their own special niche. But people with broad tastes will quickly come to find the magazine invaluable. Also, the tone of the writing can be lighthearted and modern, which some old fogies like me might have trouble coming to terms with. (*Not!*)

The magazine is published six times per year. The subscription rates are: for one year, US\$20.00 for U.S. and Canada, US\$24 for overseas surface and US\$30 for overseas airmail; for two years, the corresponding rates are \$38, \$46, and \$59. The address is: **Dirty Linen**, P.O. Box 66600, Baltimore, MD 21239-6600, USA.

As a final note, we get a couple of German magazines which neither of us can read! Perhaps a German-speaking reader could volunteer to be the recipient of some issues and give us an assessment for this column.

--J.L.