

Our Back Pages

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 16.3 (July 1982). This issue featured "Focus on Festivals", with some geographic reports, articles on specific events and thoughts on festivals in general, from a plethora of authors. Articles unrelated to festivals were "Multiculturalism in Music" by Phil Thomas, "Songs at the Stanley Cup Playoffs" by Tim Rogers, and a piece on "The Feller from Fortune" by Rogers and Edith Fowke. Columnists Alistair Brown, Lois Choksy and David Spalding held forth, and the song "Le Chômage à la Baie des Chaleurs" and reviews of three books (Georges Arsenault's *La Chanson du pays*, Narcien Ferland's *Chansons à répondre du Manitoba* and Fowke and Carpenter's *A Bibliography of Canadian Folklore in English*) rounded out the issue.

Bulletin 16.4 (October 1982). A couple of features this time: "Noël au Canada/Christmas in Canada" (by Donald Deschênes and Tim Rogers), and "Canadian Railroad Songs: Part 2." The latter featured a number of songs sent in in response to Part 1, six months earlier, as well as, once again, writings from several authors. Also, The New Balladeers included three songs on the "Ocean Ranger" tragedy (remember it?). Stan Rogers's column joined Lois Choksy's, and the issue included reviews of a number of Newfoundland recordings, Quebec recordings *Noëls d'antan* and *Noëls anciens de la Nouvelle-France*, and events Summerfolk and Mariposa in the Woods.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 21.3 (September 1987) included Part 1 of "The Big Squeeze: Button Accordions in Canada," by Ian Bell, and Lisa Ornstein's description of the Centre de valorisation du patrimoine vivant's travelling exhibition on the accordion in Quebec. Jacynthe Legros described the Compagnie de danse Les Sortilèges' recasting of itself as the Centre de documentation Marius Barbeau. A couple of accordion tunes ("Clog de William Durette" and "Clog de Champagne") and a couple of songs ("Sick and Tired" and "The Saskatchewan Alphabet"), reviews of the Regina Folk Festival, the Islands Folk Festival and recordings *Underground Freedom* (Oliver Schroer) and *Just a Minuet* (Christy and Fred Cook), and Murray Shoolbraid's column "Folk Notes and Queries" completed the issue.

Bulletin 21.4 (December 1987). Lisa Ornstein's paper (originally presented at the 1987 AGM), "Toward a Unified Voice and a Clear Song/Pour une voix unie et une chanson claire," pointed out new directions for CFMS, reopening the debate on the meaning of "folk music," which eventually led to a name change for the Society. A photo-essay by Bill Sarjeant evoked memories of that Quebec City meeting. Part 2 of "The Big Squeeze" comprised a regional survey of Canada's button accordion music and recordings available at that time. For the rest, there were two more accordion tunes ("Larry O'Gaff" and "La Guenille," transcribed by instrumental music editor Anne Lederman), songs "Pissin' in the Snow" and "Where the Ghost River Flows", Murray Shoolbraid's column, and reviews of recording Prince Edward Isle Adieu (Teresa Doyle) and Horst Pohle's Folk Record Source Book.

Five Years Ago

Bulletin 26.3 (Autumn 1992). Accordion music again! Len Wallace wrote about "The Accordion: The People's Instrument." The other feature article was from Vladimir Simosko, "Ethnomusicology and Education in the 1990s." Judith Cohen's Ethnofolk Letters column made its first appearance, as did the then-unnamed magazine column. The still-unnamed radio column showed up for the second time. Then there were reviews of Sid Holt and George Lyon's book *A Toast to Baldy Red* and recordings *Pint Pot and Plough* (Mike Ballantyne) and *Clawhammer Your Way to the Top* (Daniel Koulack). Joe Adams's song "Harvest Time" filled the back page of this "newsletter-style" issue.

Bulletin 26.4 (Winter 1992). The radio column had a name (Over the Waves), but the magazine column was still seeking one, and the magazine was still photocopied and corner-stapled. Bill Gallaher's song "Three Dollar Dreams" and reviews of Len Wallace's recording *Winds of Change* and Ed Whitcomb's book *Canadian Fiddle Music* accompanied the feature article, George Lyon's profile of fiddler Roy Logan.

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