

Our Back Pages

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 17.4 (October 1983). The picture of Stan Rogers on the cover heralds a tribute issue, with articles written by Ian Robb, David Alan Eadie, Paul Mills, Mansel Davies, Grit Laskin, Tim Rogers, and Emily Friedman, a photo essay, a list of Stan's recordings and writings, and Stan's final column in *The Singers* series. Other articles were "Christmas at Fiddler's Green" by Caroline Balderstone Parry and "Records 'n Kids" by Sandy Byer. Dave Spalding's column on children's songs made an appearance, as did songs "The True Newfoundlander" (Lem Snow), "Bow Down" (an Ontario version of Child 10), and "The Pedestrian Prayer" (Jim Payne). Items reviewed were Roy W. Gibbons's book *As It Comes: Folk Fiddling in Prince George, British Columbia* and recordings from Jacques Labreque and Music from the Simon Fraser Collection from Paul Cranford.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 22.2-4 (December 1988). A response to earlier "hard times" was a triple issue—not, unfortunately, with triple content, but with a respectable batch of articles. There was soul-searching in Bill Sarjeant's "Folk Music Today: A Problem of Definition" and Murray Shoolbraid's "The Meaning of 'Traditional'"; GWL gave us "Folk Music in NFB Films," and David W. Watts contributed "Folk Music in Children's Music Education in the English-Speaking World"; "Two More Railroad Songs from Al-

berta" came from Tim Rogers. In addition to the railroad songs, Bill Gallaher's "The Newfoundland Sealers" and "Skookumchuck Camp Song" saw print. Donald Deschênes reviewed a number of LPs of Quebec instrumental music on Folkways; also reviewed were recordings André Alain: *Violoneux de St-Basile de Portneuf*, Anne Lederman's compilation *Old Native and Métis Fiddling in Manitoba* and Barry and Lyn Luft's *Flower in the Snow* and the book Bruce Cockburn: *All the Diamonds*.

Five Years Ago

Bulletin 27.4 (December 1993). This issue was mistakenly identified as 27.3 on its cover. It was sort of a theme issue, including "Jewish Languages, Jewish Songs" by Nomi Kaston, "Mir Zenen Do: Montreal Memories" by Rona Altrows, "Klezmer in Canada, East and West," by GWL, and "Two Shtetl Folksongs: 'Die Soch' and 'Der Mail Lied'" from Ghitta Sternberg. There was also an EthnoFolk Letter from Judith Cohen, an Ottawa (and Area) Folk Directory, and reviews of books "Ribbons, Bells and Squeaking Fiddles": *The Social History of Morris Dancing in the English South Midlands* (Keith Chandler) and *Whistling Jigs to the Moon: Tales of Irish and Scottish Pipers* (Joanne Asala) and recordings *Close to the Floor: Newfoundland Dance Music and Six Mile Bridge*. [JL]

Complete your collection! Lynn Whidden passed on a box of Bulletin back issues dating from her editorship, so you can now get originals of some issues which have heretofore been available only as photocopies. These include 24. 2 (Summer 1990), 24.3 (Fall 1990) and 2.2 (Summer 1991). The cost of each issue is \$3.00 for members, \$3.50 for non-members; shipping is \$1.50 for the first item, .50 per item thereafter. The address to get them from is: CSTM Back Issues, 224 20th Avenue NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2M 1C2.



In general, Canadian festivals are doing what they can do rather well. The fact that they can't do what we want them to do is our problem, not theirs. Mariposa tried to do something meaningful with Canadian music last year, and discovered that nobody wanted to listen.