

The
Scottish Country
Dance Society
Bulletin.

No. 10.

OCTOBER, 1936.

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THE TWASOME REEL.

From a lithograph by J. B. Campion, 1836, formerly in the possession of Sir William Baillie Hamilton, K.C.M.G., now belonging to Mrs George Baillie Hamilton.

The Scottish Country Dance Society Bulletin.

No. 10.

OCTOBER, 1936.

Annual Report, 1935-36.

The Council has pleasure in presenting its Thirteenth Annual Report. Membership of the Society has again increased, and in addition to the numerous dance clubs in Scotland which are affiliated with the S.C.D.S. there are now seven affiliated societies in England (including one in the Channel Islands), and one in South Africa, one in Australia, in New Zealand, in China, in Vancouver, in Portugal and in France. This increase in the number of affiliated associations shows that the Society's influence is being felt everywhere. A new Branch has been formed in Manchester, and it is hoped that more Branches will be started in England in the near future.

Book XI. is now published and will be presented to members on payment of their 1936-37 subscriptions.

Two more dances, Jenny's Bawbee and The White Cockade, have been republished and are issued with this number of the Bulletin. The music for these dances and for the dances in Book XI. has been arranged by Mr Wiseman.

The Summer School was held at St. Andrews from 3rd to 17th August, and proved more popular than ever. The Society is much indebted to the teachers for their work at the Summer School classes. The annual dance, held in the Younger Hall on 7th August, was crowded, and a very happy evening was spent in dancing to the accompaniment of Mr Reid's Highland Orchestra. All were agreed that the music was delightful.

Examinations for Teachers Certificate were held during the past year at the following centres:—Aberdeen, Ayr, St. Andrews, Birmingham, Dundee, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hamilton, Liverpool, Perth and Stirling. 147 of the candidates passed in Book I., 81 passed in Book II., and there were 71 failures. Of the successful candidates 31 were men.

After considering the matter for some time the Executive Council decided that the Projector should be sold, as it was so seldom used. Accordingly it was sold and realised the sum of £20 14/-. It is hoped, however, that many more films of Scottish Country Dancing will be made and shown all over the country.

Members will be glad to know that Mrs Shand has made six new gramophone records from dances in Books 9 and 10. Catalogues may be had on application to the Secretary. These records will be on sale at the Autumn School with other S.C.D.S. Records.

During the past year grants from Branches have been repaid as follows:—Dunfermline and West of Fife Centre £2, Edinburgh £10, Fife £4 and Hamilton £3. A donation of £4 was received from a Glasgow Circle.

Lady Dorothea Ruggles-Brise has been asked to become an Honorary Vice-President of the Society, as a slight recognition of her valuable help in research work amongst the old tunes and dances.

At the Executive Council meeting held at St. Andrews in August, Mrs Gow Brown, of Thornhill, Corstorphine, Edinburgh, was appointed secretary of the Society in place of Miss Forgan who has resigned to take up another appointment. Miss Forgan wishes to express her sincere thanks for the beautiful gifts presented to her at St. Andrews.

Branch Reports.

ABERDEEN (formed 1925), 125 members. In Aberdeen two public classes and one teachers' class have been held throughout the winter. In addition, well-attended classes have been taken by Branch members at the following centres:— Peterhead, Stonehaven, Cults, Durris, Strachan, New Deer, Monquhitter, and Culter Cullen. Eleven members entered for the Book II. certificate, of whom nine passed. The Annual Ball was attended by 360 members and friends, and was more enjoyable than ever. The Aberdeen Musical Festival Country Dance Section was, as in former years, entirely in the charge of the Branch members. This year there was a larger entry and fuller audience. The Branch is losing one of its most popular teachers. Miss Wood, who has taught our largest public class for four years, is being married, but we are sure, as her home is to be in Aberdeen, she will still be an active member of the Society.

During the autumn the City of Aberdeen Girl Guides were honoured by a visit from Her Royal Highness the Duchess of York, who attended an entertainment in H.M. Theatre, given by the Guides of the City. One of the most popular items was the performance of two Scottish Country Dances. The first of these was "Red House," which was danced by a picked team of six couples, and the other "My love, she's but a lassie yet," danced in circular formation by 32 Guides. All these dancers were trained by members of the Branch.

ANGUS (formed 1930), 138 members. The Branch has had a most successful season. In all four Centres the increase, both in membership and in numbers attending the classes, was most noteworthy. The membership of the Branch stands as follows:—

Arbroath Centre,	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Brechin Centre,	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Forfar Centre, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Montrose Centre,	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Total, ...							138

As usual, many other classes were run by members of the Branch, and the Arbroath Musical Festival was well supported by entries from School Children, Guides, Scouts, Rovers, and Rangers. In addition to these, for the first time, a team from the Arbroath Centre of the Branch was entered in the open class, and gained second place. All the Centres held most successful dances during the season. These were most enthusiastically supported both by dancers and spectators, and it has been found that these dances do a very great deal in spreading interest in Scottish Country Dancing.

AYR (formed 1933), 70 members. Classes were held throughout the winter in Ayr, and several members were successful in gaining the teachers' certificate. A Guide Country Dance Festival was held in November, and the Musical Festival in March, and there was a large number of entries for both events. Several classes have been started in the country districts, and are attended with great enthusiasm. In June the local Y.W.C.A. organised a country dance evening, which was held in the grounds of one of the S.C.D.S. members. The dance was most successful, and excellent music was supplied by the Strathspey and Reel Society.

CLACKMANNANSHIRE (formed 1927), 12 members. Sixteen classes were held during the winter, with an average attendance of seventeen. Three new members joined the Society last session from the Clackmannanshire Branch, and two members gained the Book I. certificate for country dancing. Each session finished up with a late night, which in each case proved a most enjoyable evening. Friends of pupils were invited to be present. The class is small, but the enthusiasm leaves nothing to be desired.

DUNDEE (formed 1925), 120 members. Winter classes sponsored by the Branch were again well supported. In addition, other teaching groups have

formed, and it will be the endeavour of the Branch this next session to link up all such groups in the interests of the main Society. Demonstrations, visits, and teaching help were all again offered to the various youth organisations, whilst the dancing section of the Dundee Musical Festival was also keenly supported. The usual social dances of the Branch were held.

WESTERN DUMBARTONSHIRE (formed 1927). Membership of this Branch has increased during the past year from 34 to 42, which is very gratifying. Classes were held in Dumbarton and Vale of Leven throughout the winter for both adults and children. These classes were very successful, and were well attended. Two social dances were held in Dumbarton and one in Vale of Leven, and all were most enjoyable. The Juniors had a very happy party, which brought the class to a close in March. The financial position of the Branch is very satisfactory.

EDINBURGH (formed 1923). The Edinburgh Branch has now an active membership of over 200, including several organisations—*e.g.*, Girls' Guildry, Girl Guides, W.R.I., etc.—which means that the actual number of individuals interested in the work of the Branch extends to thousands.

During the past year there was an increase in the number of classes held under the auspices of the Edinburgh Education Committee at Continuation Classes. In connection with the former, six members obtained their certificates. Three dances were held at the Palais de Danse during the winter, at all of which there was an excellent attendance. The Branch's "team" had a very busy winter demonstrating at various exhibitions and entertainments. The demonstration given at the International Club in connection with Edinburgh University was probably the most interesting—representatives of 27 nationalities being present; and after the demonstration a large number took part in the dancing—"The Dashing White Sergeant" proving the most popular dance! At an entertainment given at the Church Army Hostel the programme was composed entirely of dances whose name connected them with different towns and districts in Scotland. At a number of the balls held in Edinburgh during the winter it was noticeable that an increased number of Scottish Country Dances appeared on the programme, and several of the public dance halls have had special "Scottish Nights."

FIFE (formed 1929), 180 members. Nothing of especial interest has occurred during the last session. Classes have been held as usual in the three centres—St. Andrews, Dunfermline, and Kirkealdy—and were well attended, especially during the early part of the session. Demonstrations were given at concerts and at W.R.I. meetings. Many W.R.I. Institutes are interested, and have classes in country dancing. Under the auspices of one W.R.I. a mixed class was formed. Ten young men have joined, and these are so enthusiastic that they hope to increase their number next session. Successful dances were held at each centre.

GLASGOW (formed 1923). The membership for the year 1935-36 was 365, in addition to 15 Life Members. This total membership of 380 shows an increase of 77 over 1934-35. Enthusiasm, keen as ever, marked the year's activities. Branch classes, eight in number, started as usual in October for a period of ten weeks. These restarted in January, and continued till March. They were attended by a record number of members and non-members. Many circles and private classes were again in full swing. A new class, privately run, was held in the School of Domestic Science, while another large class of children was held in the county. At a *The Dansant* held on the 19th October in the M'Lellan Galleries on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the Branch the dances of Book X. were demonstrated by a team of men and women students from Jordanhill Training Centre, under the direction of Miss Milligan, and by a team of boys and girls from Shields Road School, under the direction of Miss Kenyon. Many demonstrations have been given in the neighbourhood during the winter months. Two Townswomen's Guild Classes, started last year, were

continued, and so enthusiastically supported that a section for Scottish Country Dancing was included in the Rally held in Glasgow in March. Scottish Country Dancing was again to the fore in the local Festivals of Guides, Guildry, and Life Boys, while the large entries usual in the Glasgow Eastern Musical Festival were well maintained. Dances were held in November, December, and March, the last being so popular that tickets were sold out.

At their Annual General Meeting the Branch voted a further donation of £5 towards clearing off the deficit on the expenses incurred by the Scottish Country Dance team who took part in the International Folk Dance Festival. Already plans for the autumn are well advanced, and the Branch looks forward to entertaining many guests at the Annual General Meeting of the Society in November.

HAMILTON (formed 1935), 53 members. This Branch has made good progress during the past season. Over 100 people have attended the classes. Before Christmas two classes (weekly) were held, and after the New Year holiday these classes were continued, and a circle also formed. Funds for the Branch have been raised by holding parties at the finish of the classes and by private subscriptions. So successful have these parties proved financially that the Branch has refunded to Headquarters the original grant of £3. In January the first ball was held, and 168 people attended this. The function took place in the Lesser Town Hall, and Mr Reid's Highland Orchestra did much to ensure its success. A mixed team demonstrated Jessie's Hornpipe, The Jimp Waist, and Threesome Reel. A team demonstrated at the Academy Scout Dance, and again at the Rover Dance. The Branch also sent a team to demonstrate at the Carfin Unemployed Centre. This was a very successful evening, for no fewer than 30 turned up at the first class in the centre a week later. In May five pupils of the local classes were successful in gaining the first teachers' certificate, and one of these was a star certificate. The General Meeting was held in May, and was well attended. The plans for next season were made, and the ball fixed for November 20th. Tea was served, followed by an hour's dancing.

INVERNESS (formed 1929), 15 members.

LONDON (formed 1930), 70 members. Classes have been held regularly throughout the winter and spring for both elementary and advanced work. Besides these classes, Miss Milligan was able to give us three evenings in the New Year, when she taught dances from Books IX and X., and although her visit occurred during the holidays, there was a large and enthusiastic attendance of people, who thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the time. It has been possible to hold four very successful parties during the season, at one of which there were between 70 and 80 dancers, and as they have all been popular it is hoped to hold as many, or more, in the coming year. It is interesting to notice that an increasing number of people join in dances from the latest books, the *New Rigged Ship* in particular being a great favourite. The demonstration team has twice been asked to show Scottish Country Dancing—once at the Conference of the National Council of Girls' Clubs, and also at the Polytechnic Folk Dance Club, whose members were so interested that it is hoped to start a class there in the winter. Men dancers are badly needed, as it is felt that a mixed team is far more able to show the beauty and spirit of the dances, and from the onlookers' point of view is more interesting to watch. It is hoped that more men will join the classes, and thus become proficient enough to dance in the team.

MANCHESTER (formed 1935), 70 members. Negotiations to start a Manchester Branch of the S.C.D.S. were begun in January, 1935, by a small group of people who had been meeting regularly for the practice of the dances, but it was not until November, 1935, that the Branch was formally constituted. A loan of £5 was granted by Headquarters to help towards the expenses of launching the Branch. The members were fortunate in securing Mr John Maxwell, C.B.E., as President, and Dr Neil MacInnes as Vice-President, both of whom have taken a very active part in the running of the Branch. The

inaugural meeting was held on Wednesday, 15th January, 1936, with the President in the chair, and there was an audience of about 80. A short history of the S.C.D.S. was given by the Secretary, and a few dances were demonstrated. Classes were arranged, which were held at City Road School and George Leigh Street School, Manchester, and also at Christ Church Schoolroom, West Didsbury, where the original class started. The attendance at City Road was so poor that this class had to be discontinued after the second meeting, and members were transferred to the George Leigh Street class. This class, though worth while, was not financially successful. In response to requests a class was held between Easter and Whitsun at Christ Church Schoolroom, which proved successful. Members who attended classes took a very keen interest, and excellent progress was made. The standard of dancing attained is difficult to judge, because beginners and those who had previously practised the dances had to mix in the same classes. This matter should adjust itself as the Branch grows, and segregation is possible as a result of extra classes.

The Committee are very sorry that Miss Mary Mackie has had to resign the office of Hon. Treasurer owing to removal from Manchester. They wish to put on record their thanks to Miss Mackie and their appreciation of her services. Miss Edith Irvine has been appointed to succeed Miss Mackie.

A social gathering was held on 16th May at the Grand Hotel. The programme consisted entirely of Scottish Country Dances. Almost 100 people attended, and the function was a success in every way. At the time of inauguration the Branch had a membership of 11, and the season closed with the satisfactory total of 70 members.

NEWTON-STEWART (formed 1932), 34 members. The interest in Country Dancing is being well maintained in Newton-Stewart. The two weekly classes held from October to March were very well attended. Two open nights—one in December and the other at the end of the season—were very successful, and were attended by country dancers from Creetown, Kirkcowan, Wigtown, and Whithorn. Country Dancing was again an important part of the Galloway Musical Festival. Teams of dancers gave demonstrations at a small fete held by Miss Murray Dunlop in her rose garden at Cornvisel. Owing to bad weather the dancers were unable to perform at the Galloway Pageant in July. Classes will begin in October.

PERTH (formed 1925). Membership, 175 and 10 Life Members. There was a record attendance at the Society's Annual General Meeting, held in Perth, and this was the most outstanding event in the year's work. The Festival is really the peak of the winter's work, and many who had attended the local classes had entered teams. The trophy presented by the Branch was won by 9th Perth Rangers and 53rd Perthshire Rovers, and in all 93 teams entered, a large increase from the previous year. One of the outstanding things at the Festival was the excellent dancing of Rovers and Scouts. Interest was again well maintained in the County, and the usual classes held in town. A delightful display was given by members at a local fete, which was very favourably commented on by the organisers.

RENFREWSHIRE (formed 1925), 64 members. There has been a slight increase in the membership, and interest in the movement continues to expand locally. During the year assistance was given to the Skelmorlie W.R.I., and a class was formed at Kilmacolm. It is proposed to form a class for juveniles who are attending schools in which instruction in Scottish Country Dancing is not available. The enjoyable Annual Dance rounded off a season in which useful new ground was broken.

STIRLINGSHIRE (formed 1927). 137 members. The Branch again had a successful season from October, 1935, to March, 1936. Four classes were held weekly in Stirling, while certificated teachers from the Branch took classes in Alloa, Bridge-of-Allan, Denny, Blairlogie, St. Ninians, and West Plean. A Ball was held in December in the large Albert Hall, Stirling. This was a

new venture and proved a great success. Over 200 dancers took part, and the gallery was well filled with spectators. The Stirlingshire Strathspey and Reel Society orchestra kindly supplied the music, and demonstration dances from Book X. were given during the evening by teams from the classes. At the Central Counties Musical Festival, held in Stirling, there was an excellent entry of S.C.D.S. teams, several taking first place in the different classes. The County silver cup was won by B team from the Stirling S.C.D.S. class. At the close of the season a social dance was held which was well attended. In April a certificate class was held, and four members gained the Book II. certificate and fourteen, Book I. A team is dancing at Kippen Games on July 17th.

EAST STIRLINGSHIRE (formed 1932). 54 members. During the first term five classes were held in Falkirk, the attendance being 151, while 29 attended the newly-formed class at Carronshore. The second term classes in Falkirk were attended by 122, while 18 attended the Carronshore class. The closing dance was held on 30th March and was attended by a company of 170, as well as a large number of interested spectators. One team was entered for the Musical Festival, and at the last examination held in Falkirk four members gained their Teacher's Certificate. The financial aspect of the Branch is satisfactory and the Committee is looking forward to another busy season beginning in October.

WIGTOWN (formed 1934). 12 members. At the General Meeting of the Branch, held in the County Buildings, Wigtown, on 24th September, office-bearers were appointed, and the date for the commencement of classes was fixed. Classes were carried on throughout the winter and early spring and were very well attended by members of the Society and also by class members. Miss Erskine, Newton-Stewart, was again the instructress, and most of the success of the class is due to her unstinted efforts. Two very successful dances were held, one in December and one at the close of the session in February, and at both dances there was a very large attendance of members and friends from the surrounding district. Throughout the programme a team of eight members from the Wigtown class gave demonstration dances which were greatly appreciated. The interest shown in these two functions promises well for the forthcoming season and it is hoped that membership will be increased. The financial aspect of the Branch is also satisfactory.

Affiliated Societies.

DURBAN CALEDONIAN SOCIETY. Social Dances are held throughout the winter in Durban, and some Country Dances are generally included in the programme, the favourites being Petronella, Circassian Circle, and Flowers of Edinburgh.

FORT-WILLIAM SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. The Club met regularly once a week for about five months. There was a very gratifying and increased membership this season. The utmost enthusiasm on the part of the members was maintained throughout the whole session, and under the guidance of a keen and expert committee undoubted progress was made. Eight members of the Club gave exhibition Country Dances at a concert held by the Lochaber Strathspey and Reel Society. The season culminated in a most successful ball. The members are looking forward to next season's meeting of the Club, and it is expected that there will be a further increase in membership.

HARTLEPOOL BURNS CLUB. This Club, which was formed in 1926, has 27 members. A Scottish Dance Class was held fortnightly throughout the season, the average attendance being 38. Good progress was made, and several new dances taught and added to the Club's dance repertoire, which now contains 12 Scottish Dances. At the monthly gatherings, when the attendance is usually

over 100, four Scottish Dances were included in the programme, of which "The Dashing White Sergeant" proved easily the most popular.

ILFORD SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION, REEL AND SOCIAL CLUB.—Unfortunately membership of the Reel Club showed a slight drop during the 1935-36 season, with a consequent decrease in the attendance at the meetings, and no additional dances were introduced to the members. However, interest in the Scottish Country Dances is still alive, and it is hoped that next season more of the young Scottish element in Ilford will become interested in the old Scottish Dances.

JERSEY S.C.D. CLUB.—The Jersey College for Girls' S.C.D. Club was founded in September, 1934, but did not become affiliated with the S.C.D.S. until this year. The number of members is restricted to 30, excluding members of the teaching staff, who are always welcomed. Since its foundation the Club has given several performances of Scottish Country Dancing for charity and at other local functions, while the year's activities are rounded off by the Scottish Country Dance party, which is held in the open during July.

THE LEICESTER SCOTTISH DANCE SOCIETY. This Society has just concluded the most successful winter session, 1935-36, since its formation. This has been made possible by the great help afforded by the Leicester Caledonian Society which has provided a room where weekly meetings have been held lasting from 7.30 to 10.30 p.m. There has been an average weekly attendance of about thirty, and the class has been taken through the whole of Book I. Several exhibitions of Scottish Dances have been given in Leicester itself and in villages nearby. One evening of Folk Dancing and Singing was held with the local French Circle, the programme being shared by both clubs. Instruction has been given to a number of children of Scottish parentage, and these children have given very creditable performances of such dances as Strip the Willow, Triumph, and Eightsome Reel.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD CALEDONIAN ASSOCIATION. This Association has always endeavoured to keep up some of the old dances in its programme. Six dances are held each winter, and invariably the programme includes The Dashing White Sergeant, Petronella, Scottish Reform, Circassian Circle, Highland Schottische, and Eightsome Reel. Some of the members have joined the Manchester Branch of the S.C.D.S., and about 40 members attended the Society's dance in the Grand Hotel on the 16th May. It is hoped that future programmes will contain still more of the Scottish Country Dances.

SYDNEY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CIRCLE. No regular class has been held in Rose Bay during the past winter owing to financial difficulties, but lessons have been given amongst Guides, Scouts, and the English Folk Dance Club which have been very popular. The Annual Highland Ball is to be held in July, and it is hoped to include some Scottish Country Dances in the programme. Occasional classes are held amongst school teachers which are much enjoyed.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF OTAGO, NEW ZEALAND. At the monthly socials of the St. Andrew's Society the old time dances are very popular. These monthly practices are well attended and several more Country Dances have been learnt this year.

PARIS. "LES AMIS DE LA DANSE POPULAIRE." A folk dance group has been formed here by Miss Pledge where Scottish Country Dancing is taught.

VANCOUVER S.C.D.S.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF LISBON.

RUGBY SCOTTISH SOCIETY.

SHANGHAI REEL CLUB.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand at 30th September 1935,	£392 5 8½
SUBSCRIPTIONS—	
Received at Headquarters,	£52 6 0
Received at Branches,	420 2 1½
	472 8 1½
ROYALTIES—	
Dance Books,	£42 17 2
Gramophone Records	9 15 4
	52 12 6
Dance Books Sold	80 19 11
Gramophone Records Sold,	2 11 9
Sale of Cine Projector,	20 14 0
REPAYMENT OF GRANTS—	
Dunfermline and West Fife Centre,	£2 0 0
Edinburgh Branch,	10 0 0
Fife Branch (Residue of Grant),	4 0 0
Hamilton Branch,	3 0 0
	19 0 0
DONATIONS—	
Further donations from Branches towards London Festival deficit (deficit now reduced to £28 7s 9d),	£15 5 0
One of Miss Milligan's private circles,	4 0 0
	19 5 0
Half Examination Expenses borne by Glasgow Branch,	5 16 6
Summer School—Surplus,	52 11 0
Autumn School—Surplus,	15 18 0
Income Tax recovered (2 years),	2 17 2
Discount received,	7 18 3
INTEREST—	
County Council of Lanark Loan,	£4 16 4
Savings Account,	1 1 3
	5 17 7
	£1,150 15 6

Summer School, held at St. Andrews

Fees received,	£631 1 0
Registration fees,	40 0 0
Profit from Dance,	2 10 6

£673 11 6

Autumn School, held at

Fees received,	£27 18 0
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£27 18 0

The following articles are the property of the Society:—2 typewriters, 2 Portable Gramophones, 1 Writing Bureau, 1 Music Cabinet, 1 Filing Cabinet, and Sundry Books of Music.

for the year ending 30th September, 1936.

PAYMENTS.

Grant to Manchester Branch,	£5	0	0
Scottish Country Dance Books (1-5),	53	1	0
Cost of Book 10,	58	5	6
Arranging Music for Book 10 and Bulletins for 1935,	21	0	0
REPRINTS—			
Pocket Edition (Books 4, 5 and 6),	£28	3	6
Book 9,	36	19	6
Book 10,	36	19	6
			<hr/>
			102 2 6
Teacher's Fees and organising expenses,	70	7	10½
Travelling expenses,	31	1	0½
Presentations,	26	11	6
Gramophone Records—Beltona Coy.,	1	8	5
Secretary—Salary (6 months),	55	16	0
Do. Office expenses,	10	0	0
Treasurer—Honorarium (1934-35),	26	5	0
Do. Honorarium and Bonus (1935-36),	77	0	0
Auditor's fee,	5	5	0
Printing, Stationery and Advertising,	102	7	9
Postages, etc.,	33	8	1½
BALANCE—			
County Council of Lanark Loan,	£250	0	0
The British Linen Bank, Savings Account,	150	16	0
The British Linen Bank, Current Account,	59	15	4
Petty Cash (in hands of Secretary and Treasurer),	11	4	5½
			<hr/>
			471 15 9½

£1,150 15 6

from 3rd to 17th August, 1936.

Board and Residence at University Hall,	£606	3	0
Pianists' fees,	9	15	6
Hire of Piano,	2	2	0
Hire of Buses,	3	0	0
Surplus as above,	52	11	0
			<hr/>
			£673 11 6

Perth, November, 1935.

Examination fees,	£3	3	0
Teacher's and Pianist's fees,	3	3	0
Rent of Rooms,	3	0	0
Band, etc.,	2	14	0
Surplus as above,	15	18	0
			<hr/>
			£27 18 0

R. T. TERRAS, Treasurer, The British Linen Bank, Galston.

BARNS STREET, AYR, 8th October, 1936.—I have examined the foregoing Statements, with the Books, Accounts and Vouchers relating thereto, and certify them to be correct.

PETER LYLE, C.A., Auditor.

Scottish Country Dance Summer School, August, 1936.

The Summer School opened on the afternoon of August 3rd, when University Residence Hall (St. Andrews), resounded with greetings of old members and welcomes to the new.

New members had no chance to feel strange as immediately after tea all assembled in the dance hall for the opening class, where, true to the spirit of the Scottish Country Dance Society, all were soon happily dancing the old favourites.

From this afternoon of arrival up to the last hour of the closing day, the school went with a swing under the capable guidance of Miss Milligan. Throughout the Course which may be of one or two weeks duration, practically all the dances published by the Society were taught, students having ample opportunity of making sure of the dances, improving their footwork and technique generally.

Over all there was a happy feeling of combining work and pleasure but on many faces one could spot a somewhat anxious look—for those, serious work was uppermost, at the end of the course a stiff examination awaited them. The eventful day arrived, the disappointed bore up bravely and vowed to try again, while cables and wires proclaimed far and near the good news of the successful as did the sounds of revelry from the evening celebration parties.

A special class was arranged at this Course where the dances of Book XI. the latest publication of the Society, were taught by Miss Milligan to Certificate holders. This class proved most successful and it was really a delight to see the enthusiasm of the experienced dancers genuinely charmed with the fascinating new progressions and movements. By the end of the first week Book XI. was almost mastered and a performance test of high Festival standard was set by Miss Milligan but alas not altogether attained!

Dancing throughout the forenoon was a strenuous affair and made lunch a welcome meal. With the afternoon came recreation in the form of motor runs, picnic and bathing parties, golf, tennis, and sight-seeing. No matter how alluring the sun, sea, and sands, Mr Reid attracted his students back with his fiddle, ballroom reels and strathspeys. He and his sunburned dancers glowing with energy were tireless in their efforts to master the intricacies of Highland Laddie and Blue Bonnets.

These energetic dancers would arrive cool and calm, attuned to the dignity of the evening meal, a sumptuous repast, like all the others, appetising beyond description.

A special feature of the Summer School was the social dancing in the evening when friends came to look on from the small gallery. Demonstrations of the new dances were given and these were much appreciated. The

time passed all too quickly and ten o'clock came far too soon.

Friday evening of the first week saw all the members of the School assembled in the Younger Hall for the annual dance. Many friends joined us there, it was an enthusiastic company of men and women, but there was not sufficient room to show the beautiful designs and figures of the dance. The music was supplied by Mr Reid of Newtyle and his band, he himself guiding us through the mazes of the Grand March. The band added a touch of colour to the gathering with its gay tartan and spirited music. Mrs Shand delighted us by playing one of the dances; all Scottish Country Dance lovers welcomed her back again at the piano with her magic touch, full of life and vigour.

One of the social evenings of the second week had a note of sadness in it. Farewell gifts were presented to Miss Forgan our secretary. Miss Milligan in handing over the gifts from the Society and Summer School members expressed in heart-felt words our appreciation of her and our sorrow at losing her. We will long remember her fitting and charming words on receiving the gifts.

If such constant loyal enthusiasm as was evident at Summer School is an index of the interest in Scottish Dancing throughout Scotland, then one feels that all will soon be well with the social dance.

One is not surprised that people are attracted from far and near, year after year, to the S.C.D.S. Summer School. There is the attraction of St. Andrew's itself, ancient and historic, a seaside resort with natural and unmatched charm, there is the University Hall, imposing residence, where the highest demands of the Hygienist, the Dietician and Artist are met. There are stretches of green lawn to rest weary eyes, deck chairs to receive tired bodies, rose gardens and beds of lavender to waft one's thoughts far away from cares and toils—and above all there is the lure of the Scottish Dance. Long may we keep it alive!

M. M. DOW.

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The Branle

An Old Scottish Dance. By the Baron de Brix.

Many of Scotland's old-time dances were introduced from abroad, especially from France, and among these importations was the Branle. This dance was very popular in France in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, as much at Court as in the town and country. It was performed by several persons, who held hands and danced in a ring, but it was capable of many variations, and every district had its own Branle which was danced to its own local rules and music.

Among the many varieties of branle were the branles simple, double, gai; branles of Boulogne, of Champagne, of Poitou, of Berry, of Gascoyne, and of Malta. Sometimes they were imitative dances—branles mimes—such as the branle des lavandieres, in which the dancers clapped their hands at intervals to mimic the gesture of washerwomen. There were also the branle of horses, the branle of the torch, the branle of peas, and the branle of mustard. All these branles were merged in a single dance known as the branle à mener. The branles of Metz and of Paris were danced under the shade of the trees before every country inn, and these served as models for the branles performed in the ballroom. A ball usually began with a branle and ended with a “branle de sortie,” which was similar to the farandole. There was also the branle of the Nosegay, in which the ladies probably danced with flowers in their hands, to judge from a contemporary illustration which shows a company of ladies and gentlemen dancing the “branle du bouquet.”

Mary Queen of Scots was very fond of dancing, and when she came to Scotland she brought with her French musicians and dancing masters, who taught the Scots such dances as the minuet, the pavane, and the branle. So another form of the branle was developed, and in time found its way back to France as the “branle d’Ecosse.” Brantome, in his book, “Les vies des hommes illustres et grands capitaines francais,” describes a banquet given by Queen Elizabeth to Henry of Angouleme, “Grand Prieur de France,” and his companions on their return from a visit to Scotland. Brantome, who had accompanied Henry on his Scottish visit, tells us that Henry danced exceedingly well and introduced new dances, including the “branle d’Ecosse,” to the Court of France.

Tabouret, “Sieur des Accords, Procureur do Roi au Baillage et Dijon” (1547-1590), points out in one of his works that Scottish dances were imported into France during the middle of the sixteenth century and that branles were very popular. John Leyden in his “Complaynt of Scotland” mentions the branle among other dances; and he explains that the Branlis and Branglis were dances in which the motions and gesticulations were rapid and that similar to them was the Coronto.

The term “branle” is derived from the French word “branler,” meaning “to shake”; it became corrupted to braule, and the dance was known in England as the brawl. Sir David Lindsay (1490-1555) wrote:—

Now let ilk man his way advance,
Let sum ga drink and some ga dance;
Menstrell, blaw up ane brawl of France,
Let se quha hobbils best.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.

AUTUMN SCHOOL.

An AUTUMN SCHOOL will be held in the BERKELEY HALL, ST. ANDREW'S HALLS, GLASGOW, on *Friday 13th and Saturday 14th November, 1936.*

Classes will be held as follows :—

FRIDAY, 13th NOVEMBER.

- 4—5 p.m. Revision Books 1 to 10.
- 5—6 p.m. Certificate Class Books I. and II.
- 7—9 p.m. Book 11. (Miss Milligan).

SATURDAY, 14th NOVEMBER.

- 10—11 a.m. Certificate Class Books I. and II.
- 11—12 a.m. Revision Books 1 to 10.
- 5.30 p.m. Examination for Teacher's Certificate.

Members wishing to enter for the Teacher's Certificate are asked to send in their names to the Secretary, Mrs Gow Brown, Thornhill, Corstorphine, Edinburgh.

FEES.—10/- for the Course or 2/- per Class. Friday, 7—9 p.m., 3/-.

If possible please send a post card beforhand to Mrs Gow Brown, Thornhill, Corstorphine, Edinburgh, if you intend to be present at the Autumn School.

Fill in slip below and give up on arrival with correct fee.

NAME.

ADDRESS.

Attending classes whole time

Attending classes on

