

The Scottish Country Dance Society Bulletin

No. 25.

October 1947

Annual Report

THE Executive Council has much pleasure in presenting its Twenty-fourth Annual Report for 1946-47.

The year has been one of steady progress—new Branches have been formed at Belfast, Southport, Wolverhampton and Nether Lochaber, while several Societies and Clubs have become affiliated Members.

Reports from the Branches show that the number of members in most places is being maintained and several Branches show a considerable increase in membership.

H.R.H. The Princess Elizabeth has honoured the Society by becoming its Patroness. A letter was received from Lady Margaret Egerton acknowledging one sent from the Society on the announcement of the Royal engagement.

As will be seen in the report from the Edinburgh Branch, a team again had the honour of dancing before their Majesties at Holyrood House with an audience of 20,000. There is no doubt of the genuine interest taken by the Royal Family in Scottish Country Dancing—one could quite clearly see H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth making remarks about the dancing and evidently discussing with Princess Margaret the dance "51st Division Reel," which they had danced the previous night at a ball.

Members will be glad to hear that a bound volume containing fourteen books will be sent to Princess Elizabeth as a wedding gift from the Society. The book will be similar to the one presented to the Queen.

Examination for Teachers' Certificates have been held during the past year at the following centres:—Aberdeen, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Hamilton, Rochdale, St Andrews and Stirling. 196 Candidates passed in Certificate 1; 82 gained the Full Certificate; and there were 20 failures. To a certain extent the large percentage of passes is due to the careful pre-examination of candidates where possible.

Probably never before in the history of the Society have demonstrations been given to such large audiences as during this year in May, when at the World's Sports and Football Pageant, held in the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, four performances were given to audiences of 4000; and then at Hampden Football Ground, prior to the Britain *v.* Europe match, when an audience of 138,000 was the estimated figure. It was a thrilling sight to see the dancers march on to the excellent music provided by the band of the Highland Light Infantry, the girls in their white dresses and tartan sashes and the men wearing the kilt.

The famous "Hampden roar" was well in evidence both for the Threesome Reel and the Dashing White Sergeant. The same items were repeated at another demonstration at Hampden, when Edinburgh and Glasgow competed against each other in an Inter-City Games and Sports Gymkhana. In the North too, there have been big demonstrations—hundreds of dancers took part in one of the most popular items at Pittodrie Park, Aberdeen, when Aberdeen and Dundee challenged each other before an audience of over 15,000.

Guides and Scouts from Scotland took part in the International Folk Dance Festival held in London and their dancing of Glasgow Highlanders and Mrs McLeod of Raasay

was much appreciated. After the London Festival, performances were given in several towns, including Glasgow and Edinburgh, before large audiences.

It is gratifying to hear of the keen interest shown by both the Army and the Navy in Scottish Country Dancing. At the Headquarters of the Highland Infantry Training Centre at Redford Barracks, Edinburgh, a flourishing Reel Club has been started and the Society has been glad to help by supplying books of instruction.

A class has been held weekly during the session at the Officers' Recreation Club, Rosyth, where members of the Society on the staff of Dunfermline College of Physical Training and Hygiene and their students have taught Scottish Country Dancing. Much interest was shown by American Naval Officers during the visit of the American fleet. A visit was paid to one of our warships recently by invitation of the Admiral Superintendent, where teaching help was eagerly sought by those who hoped to attend the Highland Brigade Ball.

All these demonstrations and classes have proved excellent propaganda and many inquiries have been received as the result of so much publicity. It is encouraging to note for the sake of the future that Scottish Country Dancing has formed a very important part of the programme of so many youth organizations—Girls' Clubs, Guides, Scouts, Guildry and many others. Not only, however, has it entranced the youth of the country, but it has given pleasure to many older groups. At a garden party given by the Countess of Elgin to five hundred members of the Scottish Council of Social Service, old favourites such as Waltz Country Dance and Petronella provided the "high light" of the afternoon.

Correspondence to Headquarters during the year has been very interesting and varied—letters have been received from Societies and individuals in Australia, British Columbia, Egypt, India, Sweden, New Zealand and South Africa. Many inquiries were for help in starting classes in Scottish Country Dancing and all wanted the books published by the Society.

The financial position of the Society is very satisfactory. The subscriptions show a large increase over last year's figures. There is a fairly large decrease, however, in the sale of books, due to the short supply of books available.

The Summer School was held in University Hall and St. Regulus Hall, St Andrews, from 28th July to 18th August—two Courses of a fortnight and a week. 140 members, including staff, were resident for each Course, while there was a large number of day students.

The Executive Council express their thanks to Miss Milligan and her staff for their work during the Summer School.

It is hoped to present members with a copy of Book 14 on payment of their subscription, which is due on 1st October. The new book contains a very good collection of dances—the music has been arranged for the Society by Mr Herbert Wiseman.

MRS. SHAND'S ALTERNATIVE "SCOTTISH TUNES" is again available and may be obtained from Mr I. C. D. Jameson, Blakehope, Clovenfords, or from Kerr's Music Publishers, 79 Berkeley St., Glasgow C. 3.. Price 2/3 post free.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.

THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY will be held on *Saturday, 15th November 1947*, in the MORAY HOUSE TRAINING COLLEGE, HOLYROOD ROAD, EDINBURGH, at 3 p.m.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes.
2. Annual and Branch Reports.
3. Election of Office-Bearers and Executive Council for the year 1947-48.

The Retiring *Office-Bearers* are—

Chairman—Miss Jean Milligan.

Vice-Chairman—Mrs Hamilton-Meikle.

The Retiring *Members of Council* are—

Miss Barrow.

Miss Kirk.

Dr E. Forbes-Sempill.

Mrs Slater.

Mrs Lesslie.

Mr J. Drummond.

The above are eligible for re-election.

The following have already been elected to the *Executive Council* as representatives of their Branches :—Miss Browne (Aberdeen), Mrs Robertson (Angus), Miss Macmillan (Ayr), Miss Allan (North Ayrshire), Miss Shaw (Belfast), Miss Campbell (Birmingham), Miss Crighton (Dundee), Miss Anderson (Edinburgh), Miss McPherson (Fort-William), Miss Kenyon (Glasgow), Mrs Rankine (Hamilton), Miss Gray (Kirkcaldy), Miss Mowat (Leven), Miss Haynes (Lockerbie), Mr Bazelgette (London), Mrs Liddell (Manchester), Miss Mackintosh (Nether Lochaber), Miss Taylor (Newton Stewart), Miss Collie, (Peterhead), Mrs Harris Hunter (Perthshire), Miss Kidd (Renfrewshire), Miss Ramsbottom (Rochdale), Mrs Wilson (St Andrews), Mrs Jones (Stirlingshire), Mrs Hutchison (East Stirlingshire), Dr. Robertson Wilson (Southport), Miss Miller (West Lothian), Mrs Locke (Wolverhampton).

Nominations for Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Six Members for Council should reach the Secretary not later than *8th November, 1947*. Election will be made at the Annual Meeting from the list of those nominated.

4. Alteration to Constitution and Rules, Paragraph 3.
"Members shall be persons interested in the objects of the Society, and Firms, Companies, Societies, Clubs or other bodies equally interested may join as Affiliated Groups."
5. Financial Report.
6. Place of Annual General Meeting, 1948.

M. F. HADDEN, *Secretary, S.C.D.S.*,
Thornhill, Cairnmuir Road, Edinburgh, 12.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.
AUTUMN SCHOOL.

AN AUTUMN SCHOOL will be held in EDINBURGH on Friday, 14th, and Saturday, 15th November 1947.

Classes will be held in the MORAY HOUSE TRAINING COLLEGE, Holyrood Road, as follows :—

FRIDAY, 14TH NOVEMBER 6 to 7.30 p.m. Certificate Class (Certificates 1 and 2).
Miss A. Anderson.

8 to 10 p.m. General Class. Miss Milligan.

SATURDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER. 10 to 11.30 a.m. General Class. Miss A. Anderson.

The Examination for Teacher's Certificate will take place in Moray House Training College on Saturday, at 10 a.m.

Members wishing to enter for the Teacher's Certificate are asked to send their names to the Secretary, Miss HADDEN, Thornhill, Cairnmuir Road, Edinburgh, 12, by 8th November.

FEES—Friday, 8 to 10 p.m. 3/-. Other Classes 2/-. Examination Fee 5/-.

HOTELS—Cockburn Hotel, Cockburn Street.
Cranston's Waverley Hotel, Princes Street.
Royal British Hotel, Princes Street.
George Hotel, George Street.

After the Annual General Meeting there will be tea and a Social Dance from 4 till 8 p.m. Ticket 3/-. Please apply for your ticket to Miss E. GILLESPIE, 11 Cumlodden Avenue, Edinburgh, before 8th November.

Tear off slip here.

Fill in slip and hand to Secretary on arrival with correct fee.

Name

Home Address.....

Branch.....

Attending whole time.....

or Classes on.....

ERRATA

VICTORY BOOK

BARLEY BREE

BARS

- 17—20 First couple turn one and half times with right hand.
- 21—22 Then first man turns second woman and first woman turns second man with left hand.
- 23—24 First couple turn in middle with the right hand.
- 25—28 Repeat Bars 21—24 with third couple.
- 29—30 First couple turn fourth couple, as above, with left hand.
- 31—32 First couple half a turn and finish holding both hands, to form an arch.

The Summer School, St Andrews, 1947

The horrors of travelling in the year 1947 were necessarily unknown to R. L. S., but with his opinion that the best part of travelling is to arrive, every user of the British railways to-day will agree. We who arrived at St Andrews on 28th July for the Summer School of the Scottish Country Dance Society were hearty in our endorsement as we got down from the little brown bus at University Hall and thought to ourselves, "We're here again!"

Tea, delightful and refreshing, was waiting for us in the Dining Hall. The inner man fortified, we repaired to the office. Queues once more, but with this difference—at the end, real joy—greetings from Miss Milligan and Miss Hadden. In their usual places, in the seat of custom, they welcomed us warmly and took possession of ration books, parting with which, on this occasion at least, caused us not one pang. With what delight we found ourselves in a familiar room to unpack and prepare for dinner. The Dining Hall in all its dignity tolerates our noisy exchanges, and greetings one with another, as we take our places. Social dancing in the Hall brings the day to a conclusion in an atmosphere which augurs well for the Summer School.

Morning brings us to the hard work of the School. We find larger numbers than ever enrolled, for Certificate classes, and Miss Milligan's class list crammed to more than capacity. Students to this class were delighted to find twelve more dances unknown to them to be absorbed into the system. "The Ewie wi' the Crooked Horn," "What a Beau my grannie was," "Keep the Country, Bonnie Lassie," "Lamb Skinet," to mention but a few.

At this point we would like to pay tribute to our pianists. Their skill and artistry in playing old, old tunes, known and unknown, throughout the course gave us untold delight. They were this year—as ever—grand beyond words.

After the first sixty minutes with Miss Milligan, we wondered if we should ever stay the course, as she left us in no doubt as to her opinion of our standards of Scottish Country Dancing. Five minutes in Mrs West's technique class confirmed our worst fears. However progress, though painful, was noticeable and steady. At the end of a week with Mrs West, we felt capable of tackling Miss MacLennan's reel class, but were somewhat cast down by our own attempts to reproduce her airy movements.

The afternoon classes were useful and more than enjoyable; the infinite variety of dances taught offered something for everyone's taste. Add to all this the excitement and anxiety of students working for certificates, and you have an impression of Summer School's routine work.

But what a picture we could paint of our light moments—those innumerable coffees and ice-creams consumed between classes—lazy afternoons on the beach—visits to the Byre theatre—nightly bedroom parties—and, highlight of all, the social dancing each evening. Whoever has seen Miss Milligan piloting humble student or Distinguished Visitor through the intricacies of some of our lesser known dances cannot but be impressed by the enthusiasm and compelling force of that ever-young personality.

But there are countless things to impress in our Summer School—how does Miss Hadden cope with all the arrangements for the ever-increasing numbers? Where else is to be found such a grand teaching staff? And in these days of restrictions, who but the resident staff could feed us so magnificently and attend us so cheerfully? May this coming winter of our discontent "speed past to bring another summer when we may meet again at St Andrews with thoughts of the Society's Semi-Jubilee year in mind.

M. L.

Aims and Objects of the Summer School.

Now that the number of applications for the Summer School so greatly outnumber the places, it might be useful if the objects of the School and the reason for acceptance or refusal of those who apply were explained.

The first Summer School was held because Mrs Stewart and I felt that the Society was growing so fast that it was impossible for the small S.C.D. Committee to keep any watch on the methods or standards of those who were teaching the dances or running the Branches. At the Summer School teachers and organizers from all over Scotland could meet and discuss technique and formations and a real standard could thus be maintained. This is still the main object of the School, therefore the first to be accepted are such members.

Next the Summer School is the only opportunity for teachers who have no Branch near them to see what is being done and to bring their own performance of dancing and of teaching up to standard.

After all these people are accepted the places left over are divided as fairly as possible amongst applicants showing that they are really teaching Scottish Country Dancing in some form.

The Summer School is not run just as a pleasant holiday, but as a real stimulus to the teaching of Scottish Country Dancing and as a method of presenting the dances in their best and most traditional form.

J. C. MILLIGAN.

Examination Journeys—St Andrews, August 1947

On going aboard "*The New Rigged Ship*" we sailed in "*Triumph*" up the "*River Cree*" until "*Dumbarton's Drums*" were heard. There we landed and met "*Mrs McLeod of Raasay*," "*General Stuart*" and the "*Duke of Perth*." Walking through the "*Corn Rigs*" we came to the "*Red House*," where we danced "*Circassian Circle*" with "*Petronella*," after which we all had a "*Fight about the Fireside*."

When on a "*Scottish Ramble*" through the "*Haughs of Cromdale*" one afternoon we came upon the "*Glasgow Highlanders*" led by the "*Earl of Home*" dancing "*Dalkeith's Strathspey*" to music played by "*Greig's Pipes*."

Leaving the dancers we went to look for the house of "*Monymusk*," which we found beneath the shadow of "*Tulloch Gorm*," and knowing that "*There's nae luck about the Hoose*" we presented the owner with "*Jenny's Bawbee*," after which we joined the "*Marquis of Huntly's Highlanders*" in their search for the "*Duchess of Atholl's Slipper*."

Branch Reports

ABERDEEN.—During the season 1946-47, the Aberdeen Branch had 233 Ordinary and 37 Life Members, a considerable increase on the previous year.

At the Teachers' Certificate Examination held in March, 5 candidates gained the Full Certificate and 9 the First Certificate.

During the year, 5 classes were held. At the Monday class for those under 18, Miss MacLennan had about 20 enthusiastic young people, who, judging by their present interest, should, in the future, be a real acquisition to adult classes.

The Tuesday class grew and grew until there were over 200 on the roll, and Miss Anderson's patience with, and ability to tackle, such numbers had to be seen to be believed!

Mrs Catto's Wednesday class, though having fewer numbers, lacked nothing in enthusiasm, and it says much for the teacher and their own keenness that members were willing to turn out on what from the weather point of view was the worst night of the week.

On Thursday we had an innovation. No teacher was in charge, but members of Committee and their friends took turns in presiding over Social Dancing. As the numbers increased towards the end of the season, I think we may take it that the idea was popular.

Many of our members taught classes in town and country. Classes were run in Kintore, Cults, Torphins and Dufftown, while in town classes were taken for the Youth Hostels Association, for nurses and patients in the Royal Mental Hospital (where, according to the teacher, the patients proved better pupils than the nurses!) in St Katherine's Club, and for the Education Committee.

Demonstrations were given during the year by the S.C.D.S. Mixed Team and by the Dancers of Don. At Craigievar, the Dancers of Don made a colour film to be used for propaganda purposes in Mexico.

This season, for the first time since 1939, we held our Annual Ball, which was attended by over 400 dancers. Perhaps the most encouraging feature was the large number of spectators—over 200—which proves that Scottish Country Dances and Music have a public appeal and an interest confined not only to those dancing.

The S.C.D. Trophy for Senior Youth Clubs was won this year by the High School Club, whose teacher, Mrs Mitchell, is one of our enthusiastic members. A cup was given by Major Gordon of Haddo for competition among local teams and was this season won by a team from New Deer.

ANGUS.—Once again this Branch has had a most successful year. The total membership stands at 414. All five Centres have been functioning this year, and classes of all kinds have been held in every Centre. Forfar Centre had a membership of 128; Arbroath Centre, 117; Montrose Centre, 87; Carnoustie Centre, 36; and Brechin Centre, 28. Social functions were held throughout the winter, which were attended by members from every part of the county and local charities benefited from these dances. Demonstrations of Scottish Country Dancing were given to Social Clubs of various kinds and teachers from the Branch conducted classes for Girl Guides, Youth Welfare Clubs and Women's Social Clubs.

The Arbroath Musical Festival was revived this year, and Scottish Country Dancing was a most popular attraction in the programme. The entries were small, but it is hoped

that, by another year, both the number of competitors and the standard of dancing will be raised considerably.

AYR.—This Branch started classes again after a lapse of a few years. Several new members attended, and it is hoped the membership will soon be up to pre-war standards.

Several classes and dances were held in the town by other organizations, the classes being taken by members of the Branch.

An open-air dance was held on the lawn at Rozelle in June, kindly lent by Colonel and Mrs Hamilton. The dance was held under the auspices of the Y.W.C.A. and is a most successful annual event.

A most successful and enjoyable dance was also held in Prestwick.

NORTH AYRSHIRE.—We hope to begin classes again in October. Our numbers were very good last year and we expect even more this year. Classes are again to be held in the Langland Street Hall and will be held between 7 and 8.30 p.m., and from 8 to 9.30 p.m. on Monday evenings.

BELFAST.—The winter classes from September 1946 to April 1947 were fully maintained and were held fortnightly. The average attendance remained at about 40, and a number of fresh dances were introduced. On several occasions "PARTY" nights welcomed friends of members, and these were particularly enjoyed, and resulted in a number of new members.

From May to August the usual summer monthly meetings were well attended and served to keep members in touch with each other.

To complete the Summer Programme and open the next session, a week-end school is to be held from 5th to 7th September, at Carnlough, Co. Antrim, to which about 40 members are expected. This is a new idea, and, if successful, may become an annual event.

The effective branch membership is 55-60.

BIRMINGHAM.—30 members. A weekly class is held, and extra social evenings whenever we can book a hall. We were very pleased to have our President, Miss Douglas-Brown, and Miss Webster at our last meeting, and to know that they were not disappointed with the standard of dancing.

EDINBURGH.—The Edinburgh Branch has completed another very successful year, membership now being over four hundred. Six weekly classes were held throughout the season, all well attended, and four mixed teams from one class competed in the Musical Festival. Dances were as popular as ever, but it is hoped that bigger halls may be available this year, so that more dancers may be accommodated.

Several demonstrations have been given throughout the year, including one in Princes Street Gardens in conjunction with the American Navy Band. Four mixed teams danced that evening before an immense crowd, and the Americans were tremendously interested, and took dozens of photographs and also filmed the entire sequence of one or two dances.

Again this year a team danced before the Royal Family in the forecourt of Holyroodhouse, and received a command to show a second group of dances, thus coming unexpectedly into the broadcast!

During the International Festival of Music and Drama, several demonstrations were given at the Festival Club to visitors from many different countries. Another one was

given in Princes Street Gardens during that period, and in the late evening spotlights were turned on the dancers. The floodlit Caste in the background, the white dresses and tartan sashes, and the kilts of the men—thirty-two dancers altogether—made a beautiful picture, which particularly impressed visitors from abroad, to whom Scottish Country Dancing was something quite new.

During the winter, fortnightly classes were held in International House and pupils from many different nations danced with enthusiasm. The constantly changing personnel made progress very slow, but everyone had a grand time and all departed with at least some knowledge of an Eightsome Reel, always greatly in demand.

In recent demonstrations we have greatly missed the presence of Mr Matthew Sutherland, one of our keenest members. Friends will be pleased to know that he and Mrs Sutherland have arrived safely in Toronto.

The Wednesday Club continued to flourish under the enthusiastic and able guidance of Miss Tod and her Committee.

The Edinburgh Branch hopes to welcome many members from other Branches to the Annual General Meeting in November, although it looks as though the problem of food may by then be even more difficult. We trust it will not be necessary to ask visitors to bring their own "pokes"!

DUNDEE.—Membership, 285, 21 of these being life members. The Branch has had a most successful year. The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in Dundee in November. Our members welcomed the opportunity of entertaining the visitors, and the many letters of appreciation received seemed to indicate that the Autumn School was greatly enjoyed by all. The Branch activities consisted of weekly classes for beginners and advanced dancers, both of which were well attended. The usual Social evenings at the end of each term were very popular functions. Again we are indebted to Miss Allie Anderson, who came to Dundee to give us an afternoon of Border Book Dances. We also greatly appreciated the tuition by Miss Doris Robertson and Miss Loader of the Central Council of Physical Recreation in American Square and Dances of Other Lands, and English Folk Dancing by Miss Henderson of Edinburgh. These classes were most interesting and gave us some experience of dances other than our own. An examination was held in March, at which six candidates gained Certificate I. Scottish Country Dancing is at its peak in Dundee at the moment and all classes are working at full capacity.

FORT-WILLIAM.—The Branch enjoyed its most successful season during 1946-47 membership reaching the record total of 2 life members and 84 ordinary members. Classes were held once a week, when an average of 60 members attended. Two of our most enthusiastic members made a round trip of 70 miles each week to attend classes. Most enjoyable inter-club nights were held, when Fort-William were the guests of Corpach and Onich clubs, and again when these clubs were themselves entertained by Fort-William. The success of the season was greatly due to the hard work put in by Miss McPherson, our instructress.

We supplied instructors to the Onich Club to get them started properly and their services were greatly appreciated.

GLASGOW.—During the year 1946-47 Glasgow Branch has extended its membership and its activities. Branch membership is as follows:—Life members, 47; annual members, 482—giving a total of 529.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand at 30th September 1946	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£1580	11	9	
SUBSCRIPTIONS—													
Received from Branches	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£737	9	5	
Paid direct to Headquarters	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107	17	0	
											845	6	5
Sale of Dance Books and Leaflets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	283	16	2	
Royalties and Broadcasting Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71	15	0	
Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	8	0	
Rebate on Income Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	6	9	
Examination Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64	15	0	
SURPLUS—													
Week-end Course	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£	4	6	4
Summer School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	101	5	5	
											105	11	9
INTEREST—													
County Council of Lanark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£1	7	3	
Savings Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	8	2	
2½% Defence Bonds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	8	
											13	18	1
											£3012	8	11

The following articles are the property of the Society:—3 Typewriters, 2 Portable Gramophones, 1 Writing Desk, Music Cabinet, Filing Cabinet, 2 Chests of Drawers, and Sundry Books of Music.

for year ended 30th September 1947

PAYMENTS.

Printing of Bulletin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£31	10	0
Cost of S.C.D. Books, 1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	186	1	9
Printing and Stationery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	247	19	0
Postages and Telephones	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	9	4
Insurances	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	7
Auditor's Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	0
Examination Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	11	4
Organising Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	19	0
Secretary's Salary, and Office Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	292	17	4
Treasurer's Salary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	106	12	0
Arranging Music for Book 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	0	0

BALANCE—

2½% Defence Bonds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£	500	0	0
British Linen Bank—Savings Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1007	8	2	
Do. do. Deposit Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	204	10	3	
Do. do. Current Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	230	12	11	
Cash in hands of Secretary and Treasurer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	0	3	
										<u>1956</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>
										<u>£3012</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>

23 BARNES STREET, AYR, 8th October 1947—I have examined the foregoing Statement with Books, Accounts and Vouchers and certify them to be correct.

NORMAN MACKINNON, C.A., Auditor.

Requests for teachers for various organizations and clubs in the city have been so numerous that we have not always been able to meet the demand. It is proposed to make a panel of teachers willing to help in this work.

In October, seven weekly classes were started, and all proved very successful. In the spring session the Certificate Class was so large that First and Second Certificate students were separated and an extra class was held. A very large number of Teachers' Certificates was gained by men and women, including students in training in Jordanhill College.

The G.T.C. approached the Branch, through our President, to supply a teacher for an organized class for G.T.C. Leaders. This was done, and a Teachers' Certificate Examination was held, as a result of which several Leaders gained the certificate.

In addition, classes taught by Certificated Teachers, supplied by the Branch, were held in various G.T.C. centres throughout the city. At the end of the season a competition was held.

Many demonstrations have been given by Glasgow teams. The Branch's mixed team have on several occasions been invited to entertain guests at Civic Receptions. So much has their dancing been enjoyed and appreciated that the Lord Provost has, on two occasions, sent a donation of £5 to the Scottish Country Dance Society.

Other demonstrations of note were given at Kelvin Hall for the Kemsley Sports Exhibition; at "Britain Plays the World"; at Hampden Park; at a Lanarkshire Youth Rally, in Hamilton Barracks, etc.

The Scottish Information Bureau wrote this year asking to be kept informed of our activities.

The B.B.C. has asked the Branch, through our President, Miss Milligan, to supply a team of dancers when Scottish Country Dance music is to be broadcast.

During the year members of the Branch donated a sum of eighteen guineas to the Thistle Foundation.

In March a very successful dance, held in Jordanhill College in aid of the Directors Fund, Jordanhill Training Centre, enabled us to hand over the substantial sum of £50

Our Annual General Meeting held on 11th June in Jordanhill College was followed by a very happy social dance.

We confidently look forward to restarting our classes during the week of 13th October.

HAMILTON.—The year has been one of steady progress in Hamilton. The membership of the Society has been increased from 67 to 82.

A very successful dance was held in the lesser Town Hall on Saturday, 20th April, when 250 dancers took the floor to the strains of Mr James Reid's orchestra from Coupar Angus.

Among the dancers were visitors from Edinburgh, Perth, Linlithgow and Lanark, and some of the Hamilton members paid these places a return visit to their dances and had a most enjoyable time meeting old and new friends.

The district classes at Auldhouse, Carluke, Crossford, Larkhall, Law, and Lesmahagow are also flourishing, and the enthusiasm is well maintained throughout.

A letter was received by the Branch from a member of the B.A.O.R. stationed at Munster in Germany, saying that a Scottish Society was being formed there and asking

for information about books, music and instructions for Scottish Country Dancing. A complete set of books and the Festival Booklet was sent out with the compliments of the Branch and the suggestion that when their Society was formed it should become affiliated to the Scottish Country Dance Society. Five candidates were presented for the first certificate examination, at Hamilton, and all passed successfully.

KIRKCALDY.—This Branch has had a very successful session. Membership stands at 38 ordinary members and 7 life members.

The weekly Branch class was regularly attended, and in February a dance was held in Kirkcaldy, which was attended by enthusiasts, men and women, from many organizations throughout Fife. Everyone enjoyed the dance so much, and the enthusiasm ran so high, that the Leslie visitors there and then decided to organize a return dance, in March. This dance was also such a success that the Cupar visitors announced their intention to run another, in May. On all three occasions, Jimmy Shand and his Broadcasting Band contributed largely to the enjoyment of the evenings.

Besides the Branch class, Miss Arnott was asked to help with an old-time dancing class in Leslie. Before the end of the session, the members, among whom are many married couples, became Scottish Country Dance enthusiasts, and now contemplate joining the Society.

A team from the Branch demonstrated Scottish Dances at a W.R.I. meeting in June.

Miss Gray, our Secretary, who has been unable to be with us this session, tells us she received a letter from a French lady whom she met at an Educational Conference two years ago, in which she asks for the correct attire to be worn when dancing Scottish dances. This lady, *Dirèctrice* of a *Cours Complimentaire*, in France, has been teaching our dances from a book which Miss Gray had given to her, and her girls were to be giving a performance on the 6th of July.

From the proceeds of the Branch dance, a donation is being sent to the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society.

LOCKERBIE.—The class was held every Friday evening from 7.30 to 9 p.m. There were 47 full members and 26 non-members, the latter mainly consisting of juniors, who seemed very keen. Even the snowy weather did not prevent the enthusiastic members from attending their classes regularly. Each night various dances were demonstrated by Miss Mackintosh and Miss Andrews, who both showed great interest in the progress of their pupils. To finish the season we held a Social, which was a great success. We had the pleasure of showing our year's work to outsiders and friends, who were delighted with our country dances.

In June we entered two teams for the Dumfries Festival, the Glasgow Highlanders, and Eightsome Reel—for which we received a fair criticism.

Next year we are looking forward to another successful season, with an increase in membership.

LONDON.—Weekly classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced dancers on Tuesday and Friday evenings have been well attended, but owing to the difficulty of obtaining halls in London many would-be dancers have had to be refused admission on account of the limited space. Next session we will be able to cope with everyone desiring to join classes, as we have acquired a much larger and better hall.

Eight monthly dances were held during the season, and were very successful, despite very bad weather conditions for travelling.

Mrs Sandison's L.C.C. class was as successful as ever, and she and Miss MacLennan have been taking large classes in Chelmsford and Colchester and one-day teachers' courses in Romford and Grays. On the 24th April Miss MacLennan was asked to adjudicate at the Bedford centre end of season dance to find the best dancers, man and women, from amongst those who were beginners last autumn.

Demonstrations have been given by the Branch team at the English Folk Dance Society, Norwood Conservative Club, the Four Feathers Club, Kensington, and at Dulwich. Arising from these we have requests for further demonstrations during the coming winter.

Mr Garvie, who has given such a lot of his valuable time to the Branch, and has kept it going during the difficult war years, has resigned his position as Secretary, and is succeeded by Miss Thelma Ockenden. Mrs Thomson, our valued Treasurer, has also intimated her wish to resign, and Mr Short has been asked to replace her.

MANCHESTER.—During the season there have been no outside activities. Classes, graded elementary and intermediate, were held during Christmas and Spring Terms on Tuesday evenings, and a general class from Easter to Whitsun. Attendances were very erratic all through.

The opening social, a Christmas party and a final party, all in the hall of the Manchester Municipal College of Domestic Economy, attracted members who are unable to attend classes with any degree of regularity. At the Christmas party we were visited by college students who sang carols for our entertainment.

An effort to hold a short residential course at Easter had to be abandoned, as arrangements for accommodation could not be completed in time.

The membership totals 55, including 3 life members.

During the year the Branch lost one of its founders and Vice-Presidents by the death of Mr T. K. Liddell, to whose devoted service the Branch owes so much.

NETHER LOCHABER.—The Nether Lochaber Branch of the Scottish Country Dance Society ended a very successful session in April, and hope to recommence in October of this year. Meetings were held weekly and instructions given by an instructor who came from Fort William. Occasionally a "late night" was organised by the Committee to allow members to bring friends, who were asked to pay a small amount. These "late nights" proved very successful, and any money collected was added to the fund for a new hall. On one occasion the Nether Lochaber Branch invited the Fort William Branch to take part in an evening's dancing, tea being provided for the guests. Later in the season a return visit was paid to the Fort William Branch by the Nether Lochaber Branch. It is hoped that when we open again in October we will increase the membership and continue to prove a successful class.

NEWTON STEWART.—We had a very successful class this year—almost 35 members, in comparison with about 12 members last year. They were all very enthusiastic, so we are looking forward to even larger numbers this next session. We had among them a young Danish girl who was very keen, and picked up the steps remarkably quickly; she had hoped to attend one of the sessions at St Andrews, but had to return to Copenhagen earlier than she had at first intended.

We also entertained a party of students from Durham University at Easter time. They enjoyed their evening immensely, and before many dances were through, they were up on the floor trying their best to accomplish the steps. Some of them had never seen Scottish Country Dancing before and were greatly interested.

PERTH.—1946-47 has been a very successful season for this Branch. The increased interest throughout the country and city is shown by the large increase in the membership of the Society. During the past session the membership was 353, an increase of 225 over that of the previous year.

Beginners and Intermediate classes were held in the city and county, and the enthusiasm was so great that several classes had to be duplicated.

Under the auspices of the Society a Scottish Country Dance Club was started in the Salutation Hotel, Perth. The number of members enrolled was so large that the meetings of the club had to be held twice weekly. Our new session starts in September.

PETERHEAD.—In Peterhead the roll of 49 jumped to 86, and the attendance in the worst of the weather conditions was most satisfactory. We have now 3 life members and 42 ordinary members of the Society.

Beginners took the advantage of the special half-hour at the beginning of the session and this greatly helped to raise the standard of the dancing.

This session, an extra children's class was formed, so that we now have three classes of 5 children of ages 8-15 and still we have a waiting list.

We have held several very successful parties, with excellent catering done by the Committee, and the usual children's displays were held at the end of the season, and from these we handed over £54, 16s. to local charities.

In May we were specially honoured when Miss Milligan paid us a visit. She conducted the whole programme, and enthused the class with the true spirit of our dancing.

RENFREWSHIRE.—Branch has had a very successful year. Two classes were held during the winter. The advanced class being of interest to those wishing to help with Guides or Clubs.

A fortnightly class was also held at Inverkip and Port-Glasgow in connection with the W.R.I. There has been a large increase in membership, and we hope to have many more next season. A special dance was held at the end of March to celebrate the twenty-first year of this Branch. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

The members are looking forward to the start of the new season, which starts in October.

ROCHDALE.—There is not much that is new. Our membership remains fairly steady, some members leaving, to be replaced by new ones.

Miss Milligan again spared some of her much-needed holidays to visit us, and test candidates for the First and Second Certificates. We now have 14 members with full certificates and 5 with part one. Much of the credit for our success belongs to Mrs Gudger.

One evening we were delighted to welcome Miss Collie, from Peterhead, and two students from St Andrews University, and we shall be equally pleased to welcome any other members who might be visiting our way.

The Branch was well represented at the Summer School, no fewer than twelve being there. Some of us hope to be able to attend the Autumn Meeting in Edinburgh.

ST ANDREWS.—After being in abeyance during the war years, the Branch made an excellent re-start with 70 members. Well attended classes were held, and these terminated with a dance, at which 140 were present. On 24th May an Open Competition was held, and the Senior Cup was won by the St Andrews Branch team, after a very close finish with the Dundee Highland Society team. Much credit for this success goes to Miss Latto, Dundee, who acted as our instructress.

SOUTHPORT.—This Branch held its inaugural meeting in September 1946, and its first dancing evening in November. It closed a highly successful first season on 17th July.

We owe much to the co-operation of the Southport Education Committee, and particularly to the Principal of the Technical College, where the Branch forms part of the evening school programme. Our committee has had every assistance to make the meetings of the Branch happy and profitable.

We are also most fortunate in having a monthly visit from Mrs Gudger, whose inspiring teaching and enthusiasm have set us a standard for all our other meetings.

At our first party in March we had the honour of Miss Milligan's presence, and she addressed the gathering totalling just over seventy. The same evening we were joined by twenty-three members of the Rochdale Branch, who travelled by motor coach. Their demonstration team gave much appreciated renderings of the Threesome Reel, and "Mrs Stewart's Strathspey."

Four members of the Branch have been in residence at the Summer School and one first and one full certificate have been gained.

We go forward into our second season with high hopes for the future.

STIRLINGSHIRE.—The winter season 1946-47 was a successful one. Weekly classes were held in St Ninian's, Gargunnoch, and two in Stirling, taken by Miss Wells, Miss Kemp Smith and Miss Jarvis. At the end of the spring session Miss Jarvis held a Certificate Class. Miss Kenyon kindly took the examination. One member gained First Certificate and five members Second Certificate.

Two social dances were held in the Golden Lion Hotel during the winter, both so popular that tickets had to be limited! Members of the Stirlingshire Strathspey and Reel Orchestra supplied the music, which was splendid.

We deeply regret the death of our Vice-President and Chairman, Colonel Archibald Stirling of Garden. He was a keen country dancer, and took a great interest in the Branch. His help and wise counsel will be greatly missed in our committee. We now have 97 members, an increase of 15 on last year, and hope we shall have well over a hundred this year!

WEST LOTHIAN still continues to make good progress. 25 new members were enrolled last session, and several others intend joining this coming year.

Classes were held in Bo'ness (three classes), Bathgate and Broxburn. These classes were well attended, in spite of travelling conditions. Each class had a social evening at end of each term.

A dance was held in Linlithgow Burgh Halls in October, in aid of Thistle Foundation. This dance was a great success. Visitors from neighbouring Branches were present, as well as members from all parts of the county.

Mrs James Hamilton, Vice-President, organised a dance in Kirkliston in aid of local nurse's car fund. This dance was highly successful, over £35 being realised.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—The first year has been difficult. The very severe weather conditions from New Year onwards—our best working times—curtailed our weekly meetings to a great extent. Members, however, are keen, and we hope this winter to see the numbers increased. We made a start with Scottish Country Dancing in one of the girls' schools, and find the pupils most enthusiastic.

The Y.W.C.A. Club Room, where we held our meetings, is required for Club work this winter, so we are faced with the problem of finding other accommodation. However, we are hopeful of overcoming these difficulties, and look forward to our next session with much joy and enthusiasm.

Folk Music and Dance Festival, Edinburgh, 1948

The Scottish Anthropological and Folklore Society is making plans for the holding in Edinburgh, from 28th June to 3rd July 1948, of a Folk Music and Dance Festival.

Promises of co-operation have been received from the English Folk Dance and Song Society, the Scottish Country Dance Society, the Irish Folklore Institute, the Belfast Folk Dance Society, the Folk-Lore Society, and the Royal Anthropological Institute.

The programme for the Festival, now in course of preparation, includes morning sessions for the reading of papers, evening sessions for folk-dance displays and concerts, and open-air performances. An exhibition of material relating to folk-dancing and folk-music will also be arranged.

The scope of the Festival is limited to the British Isles. It is hoped that England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales and the Isle of Man will all be represented by folk-singers and dancers.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP TO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.

Annual Subscription	- - - - -	5/-
Life Membership Subscription	- - - - -	£3, 3/- or
£2, 10/- to those who have paid their annual subscription for four years.		
Those who have paid their annual subscription for ten years may become		
Life Members on payment of £1, 10/-.		

Secretary—Miss HADDEN, Thornhill, Cairnmuir Road, Edinburgh, 12.

Treasurer—Miss J. W. McLELLAN, Parkend, Galston, Ayrshire.