

**The Royal
Scottish Country
Dance Society
Bulletin.**

No. 30.

OCTOBER 1952.



TULLOCHGORUM

*For blyth and cheary we's be a'
And mak a happy quorum*

*And dance till we be like to fa'
The reel of Tullochgorum.*

Etching taken from Thomson's Select Melodies 1825.

Annual Report

AN honour deeply appreciated, and one that will always be cherished, was conferred on the Society in 1951. His late Majesty King George VI gave his gracious permission that the word "Royal" should be used in the title, so that in this, its thirtieth report, the Society is described for the first time as "The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society."

Another important milestone marking progress has been the adoption of a revised Constitution which embodies Rules for the guidance of members. With expansion of Branches, membership and work this was found to be necessary, and it will be of great advantage when application is made for a Royal Charter.

The Society has continued to flourish in spite of the most inclement financial weather. It has provided a public service in maintaining and collecting the traditional dances of Scotland without cost to the Government. In these days of subsidies and grants the Society is proud that it has been able to retain financial independence, and is grateful to its large and—always a hopeful sign—its ever growing membership. All those who are not already members but who enjoy and appreciate the dances are invited to give the work their full support by becoming members.

The Branch reports give a vivid picture of what has happened during the year in the British Isles and overseas. The following notes give examples of work of general interest:—

EXAMINATIONS.—During the year examinations for Teachers' Certificates were held in the following places:—Aberdeen; Dunfermline College of Physical Education, Aberdeen; Angus; Ayr; N.W. Ayrshire; Anstey College of Physical Education, Birmingham; Carlisle; Castle-Douglas; Dundee; Dunfermline; Edinburgh; Glasgow; Jordanhill Training College, Glasgow; Glasgow Keep Fit Movement; Notre Dame Training College, Glasgow; Hamilton and Clydesdale; Lockerbie; London; Manchester; Perth; Stirling; Southport.

In the Preliminary Examination there were 256 passes and 158 failures; 175 gained the Full Certificate while 55 were unsuccessful.

NEW BRANCHES AND AFFILIATED GROUPS.—Branches have been formed in West Dunbartonshire, Portrush, Richmond (Yorks), Sydney and Winchester. Affiliated groups now number 68, compared with 118 last year, the reduction being due to the fact that on the adoption of the new Constitution provision was made only for groups outside Scotland. Affiliated groups are only accepted if there is no adjacent Branch and with the consent of the nearest Branch and the Executive Council of the Society.

DEMONSTRATION TEAM.—At a meeting in Edinburgh on 5th April 1952, a team of ten dancers with ten reserves was selected. Eighty-seven candidates were sent from seventeen Branches for selection and the following were chosen to represent the Society in Britain and abroad:—

Team—

Mr H. Glen (Edinburgh).
Mr T. McClure (Glasgow).
Mr W. Murray (Inverness).
Mr I. Robertson (Edinburgh).
Mr I. Russell (Perth).

Miss E. Goodall (Perth).
Miss I. Grant (Edinburgh).
Mrs D. McLeod (Glasgow).
Miss M. Moir (West Lothian).
Miss D. Robertson (Glasgow).

Reserves—

Mr J. Brown (Edinburgh),
 Mr W. Clement (Perth).
 Mr K. Connolly (Edinburgh).
 Mr W. Hamilton (Edinburgh).
 Mr D. McLeod (Glasgow).
 Mr A. Patterson (Aberdeen).

Miss Farquhar (Perth).
 Miss Martin (Aberdeen).
 Mrs Romanis (Edinburgh).
 Miss Stephens (Perth).
 Miss Storrar (Edinburgh).

It was the opinion of the Committee which chose the dancers that the standard was considerably higher than that of two years ago.

An invitation has been accepted from "Les Quatre Jours du Mans" to attend a Festival in Le Mans, France, in September.

B.B.C. SCOTTISH HOME SERVICE.—Letters and reports have shown that the programmes of Scottish Dance Music and the weekly teaching lesson, "The Way to Dance," still have a large and appreciative listening public. Not only have these programmes been enjoyed by those who dance now, but also by older people whose active dancing days are over, but who love the music. It may interest members to know that no dancers are present in the studio during the lesson. This last year, however, the B.B.C. very kindly arranged that broadcasts were held during Festivals of Sport in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness, when on each occasion there were large and enthusiastic audiences who showed their appreciation of the dancers sent from the Branches of the Society in each town.

The B.B.C. have intimated to the Society that they would welcome any helpful criticism which members might send of the music broadcasts.

NEW PUBLICATION.—A book containing sixteen popular dances taken from Books 6 to 16 has been prepared by the Publications Committee, and will be given to members in the autumn on payment of the current year's subscription.

AUTUMN SCHOOL.—Very large numbers attended the Annual General Meeting during the Autumn School held in Perth on 2nd and 3rd November 1951, by the kind invitation of Perth and Perthshire Branch.

The Representatives on the Executive Council were entertained to lunch, and after the Annual General Meeting there was a Thé Dansant, followed later by a Ball in the City Hall. All members expressed their appreciation of the hospitality of the Perth Branch during the week-end.

SUMMER SCHOOL.—The Summer School took place at University Hall, St Andrews, from 21st July to 18th August. The very large number of applications for the Summer School show that its popularity is as great as ever. It is regretted that all who apply for residence cannot be accepted, but so far there has been no limit to the number of non-residents accepted for classes. The Executive Council again wish to thank Miss Milligan and the Staff of Teachers and Pianists for their work during the Summer School.

CORRESPONDENCE.—The Secretary has had correspondence again this year with people in many different parts of the world, and has sent them information and details of the Society. The following are some of the places where Scottish Country Dancing is playing a part in the social activities of the people:—Assam, Johannesburg, Kenya, Kuala Lumpur, California, Colorado, Madras, North Borneo, S. Rhodesia, Sweden, Texas, The Hague, Philadelphia, Wairarapa, N.Z.

Branch Reports

ABERDEEN.—During the season our numbers have continued to increase, and now we have 68 Life Members and 740 Ordinary Members.

Six adult classes, one Certificate class and three children's classes were held, and the Committee would like to thank all teachers and pianists for their work in connection with these classes.

Four candidates were successful in gaining Full Certificates this year.

Demonstrations were given in town and country by three Branch teams, and many classes outwith the Society were taught by our members.

Two very popular Balls were held during the year, and the large number of spectators in the Music Hall proved that Scottish Country Dancing continues to interest the non-dancing members of the public.

Miss L. Martin and Mr A. Patterson were chosen as reserves for the team selected to represent the Society in demonstrations overseas.

The Country Dance Club was very successful, both socially and financially. The membership stood at 70, and friends were present at most meetings.

AIRDRIE and COATBRIDGE.—The Branch held an opening dance in November 1951, when a mixed company of 162 danced to the music of Mrs Gowan's Reel and Strathspey Orchestra. This was a very successful and enjoyable function.

A new Branch class was formed with a membership of 46. For the ensuing session we plan to have an additional class for beginners. At the beginning of the year the Branch held a children's class on Saturday mornings, which proved highly successful, with an average attendance of 60 each week.

The Branch membership for the past session was 169.

ANGUS.—This Branch has again had a most successful year. The membership stands at 1,207 and there are 7 Life Members. The membership is made up as follows:—Forfar, 517; Arbroath, 234; Montrose, 209; Brechin, 137; Kirriemuir, 119; Carnoustie, 103; and Friockheim, 88.

As there is now a large number of certificated teachers in the Branch, all the Society classes and many of the other classes in the county were taught by fully certificated teachers, and the standard of dancing was very high.

There was a big demand for demonstration teams once more, and all requests for these teams were met.

Special charity efforts were made by the different centres, and varying sums were donated to the Trefoil School for Handicapped Children, Aberlour Orphanage and local charities.

There was a good entry from local teams in the Arbroath Musical Festival. Mrs Brown was the adjudicator.

In the Summer Term a certificate class was run in Arbroath which was attended by members from the whole Branch. At the examination in June 2 Full Certificates and 6 Preliminary were gained.

Children's classes have been run by most of the centres, and classes for Youth Organisations were taught voluntarily by Society teachers.

ANNAN.—The Annual General Meeting of this Branch, held in July, brought to a close a very satisfactory year. Under the enthusiastic leadership of Mrs Murray, the President, the Branch's many activities were successfully carried through.

Three classes were run during the winter—a beginners' class, an intermediate class and an advanced class. By kind permission of the Education Authority two of these classes were held in the Academy Hall free of charge. Monthly social meetings were held, which were well attended,

Miss Milligan visited the Branch in October and conducted an evening class. As always, Miss Milligan infected everyone with her boundless enthusiasm and taught in her own inimitable manner dances from Book 16.

An enjoyable Dinner Dance was held in November, and the annual Highland Ball was held in March. Members came from Kirkcudbright, Castle-Douglas, Dumfries, Moffat, Lockerbie and Carlisle to dance to the music of Jimmy Shand. The Branch sponsored a dance in May to raise money for the Riding of the Marches fund.

It was not possible to hold a certificate class this year, but a short course of five lessons was arranged, and it is hoped to follow this by a full course next season.

AYR.—This Branch has had a very successful year, with a membership of nearly 300.

Four classes were run for adults, and three for children of various age groups. The Branch held a dance for the district at Butlin's in February, and a couples dance in November.

The Royal Burgh of Ayr celebrated the 750th anniversary of the granting of the Charter this year, and demonstrations were given by Branch teams at the various celebrations.

AYRSHIRE, North-West.—During the past year we have enrolled 105 new members, making our membership 531.

Monthly dances have been held in various districts of the Branch, and two Balls were held in Ardrossan.

For the second year, a certificate class was held, at which seven members gained Full Certificates. A children's Branch class was also started.

An outstanding event was the visit from Miss Milligan in January. As so many members wished to take advantage of Miss Milligan's teaching, it was necessary to hold two sessions during the evening, one for the Ardrossan, Saltcoats and Stevenston members, and the other for those from outlying districts. An interval was allowed between the classes for the exhibition of the three Scottish Country Dance films.

In June we were invited by Ayr Branch to take part in the Ayr Pageant, and each evening during the week of the Pageant two teams from our Branch joined the Ayr dancers in "The Merry Lads of Ayr" and "Barley Bree," an experience which was thoroughly enjoyed.

BATH.—Owing to the increased numbers and an improved standard of dancing, the weekly class was run this year in two sections, one for beginners and one for more advanced students. This has proved very successful, and has allowed time in the advanced class for intensive training of a team for demonstration purposes.

The weekly class was held until 2nd July 1952. Miss Betty Brown has continued to give instruction to both classes, and has also kindly placed her studios at our disposal for extra rehearsals.

A Hallowe'en Party was run on 31st October. The Annual Dance, held once again in the historic eighteenth century Guildhall, took place on 4th April, with a number of the Bristol Caledonian Society present. An informal dance on 2nd July marked the end of the session.

Members of the Branch have given demonstrations at the Annual Dance and at several Charity Garden Fêtes and private dancing displays.

BELFAST.—The enthusiasm in Northern Ireland for Scottish Country Dancing is increasing, and the Belfast Branch was delighted at the formation of a second Irish Branch of the Society in Portrush.

There are three classes in Belfast, including one of very enthusiastic beginners, with a total number of 140. The children's class still flourishes, and has over 40 members. In February the Branch started a new class in Bangor, where there is a very keen group of 40.

At the end of February Mr Forde Spence, C.C.P.R. Representative in Northern Ireland, organised a very successful Scottish Country Dance in Ballymena. Over 200 attended from Belfast, Portrush, Whitehead and Ballymena, and one enthusiast came specially from the Perth Branch.

Teams from the Branch gave demonstrations at the Ballymena Dance and on several other occasions during the year.

Two week-end Schools were held at Cushendun on the north-east coast of Antrim. The first of these Schools was held in October, when we were very pleased to have two visitors from Ayr Branch. The Spring School was held at the end of May, when the Branch was delighted to have another visit from Miss Milligan. It was a highly successful and most instructive week-end, and the fifty members who attended benefited greatly from Miss Milligan's inspiring teaching.

BIRMINGHAM.—This Branch suffered a great loss last September with the death of Miss E. M. Campbell. It is hoped that when the Memorial Fund is closed we shall be able to have a permanent and worthy tribute to her in Birmingham, and possibly also in Edinburgh.

We have been very fortunate in having Miss Gardiner Jones to take over the beginners and advanced classes at Bristol Street Schools. We are indeed grateful to her, and express our appreciation of her untiring work.

Membership has increased during the year, although numbers are not as high as the Committee would like.

Since January last socials have been held monthly and it is hoped to continue these. The demonstration group has fulfilled further engagements and has been enthusiastically received. With the eagle eye of Miss Teddy Edwards watching for every fault, the standard of dancing has been maintained at a high level.

This year has necessarily been one of consolidation for the Branch, and next year should see greater activity. The Branch Committee wish to thank all members for their support, and hope that this support will continue to be merited.

BOSTON.—The Branch has had another successful year, with membership increasing steadily. Classes met weekly from September to June, and were well attended. We averaged about 30 active dancers.

Several very popular parties have been held for members and guests, and we have had invitations to send teams to various organisations and festivals to give demonstrations and acquaint people with Scottish Country Dancing. These displays were well received. Included in the eight demonstrations given were displays at the annual New England Folk Festival, the Scottish Charitable Society Social, Clan Sutherland Social, and a trip to Washington, D.C., to dance before an International Group and teach them some of the Scottish dances.

We look forward to an interesting programme next season, with an increase in Society and class membership.

CAPETOWN.—The membership of the Branch is now 55. The classes which had been held at the Capetown Training College, and prior to April in Rondebosch Congregational Church Hall, had proved most successful. For the present term ending on 30th June, 22 persons attended regularly at the advanced classes, 31 persons attended regularly at the beginners' class, and over 30 persons attended occasionally.

In July the Capetown Branch became affiliated to the Division of Adult Education, and so obtained permission to hold classes in the Capetown Training College.

The main activities of the year centred round the Van Riebeeck Festival, at which Scotland was represented by eleven sets performing the following Scottish Country Dances:—Scottish Reform, The Reel of the 51st Division, A Camp of Pleasure and a combination of Eightsomes and Sixteensomes, as well as Highland Dances performed by

members of the Capetown Caledonian Society and all accompanied by the Pipe Band of the Caledonian Society.

Demonstrations by teams from the Branch were fewer, but those undertaken were appreciated by all and enjoyed by the teams.

In December a dance was held and the donations helped to meet the cost of the Deccalian gramophone which is now used at all classes.

CARLISLE and BORDER.—The membership of the Branch at present is 65, which shows a decided drop compared with 95 last year. It is hoped that this year a real effort will be made to draw more members and reach the 100 mark.

During the second half of the season we unfortunately lost our Chairman, Mr D. D. Lee, who left the Carlisle district to take up a new post in London. Mr Lee was one of the founders of the Carlisle and Border Branch. We wish him every success for the future.

Classes commenced in September in St. Margaret Mary's Hall, Upperby, but considering the number of our membership these were very poorly attended. The certificate class was taken in the early stages by Mr J. Johnstone, and later by Miss M. Brander. Six candidates completed the course, and four out of the six were successful in gaining their certificates.

The first display of the season was given in the Pageant Arena, Bitts Park, during the evening entertainment of Carlisle's contribution to the Festival of Britain. Many of our members also took part in the actual historical pageant. Several displays took place after September, when our mixed and ladies' teams visited Wetheral, Longtown and Lorton. Many local demonstrations were also arranged, and wherever the teams went their performance was met with great enthusiasm and appreciation. The season ended with a display by the mixed team of "Lord McDonald of Sleat" during the Spotlight on Sport Show run by the Central Council of Physical Recreation in Carlisle in May. Mr J. Johnstone also contributed to the display and gave a delightful performance of the Seann Triubhas.

Four teams were entered for the Carlisle Musical Festival this year, and all gave very creditable performances. A ladies' team was sent to represent the Branch at the Dumfries Musical Festival. This team was successful in gaining two second places and one third.

The Branch held five dances this past season, which were all highly successful, both socially and financially. Our Annual Ball was again held in the County Hotel Ballroom, and music was provided by Adam Rennie's Scottish Broadcasting Quartette. Approximately 180 members and friends attended, some from as far as Newcastle, Moffat, Ecclefechan, Kirkcudbright, Dumfries, Annan, Gretna and Longtown. Our guests were Mr H. Arthur, President of the Newcastle Branch, and Mrs Arthur.

CASTLE-DOUGLAS.—The 1951-52 session has been again most successful and membership remained at the previous year's high level. A very enjoyable Ball was held in the Town Hall in November, to music supplied by A. Austin's Augmented Scottish Country Dance Band, and members of the Society from Annan, Dumfries, Lockerbie, Gatehouse, Newton-Stewart, Shawhead and Kirkcudbright attended. The guest of the evening was Mr J. Johnstone from Dumfries, whose solo dancing was fully appreciated by the entire company.

An examination for the Full Certificate was held in March, and six candidates obtained certificates.

Five teams were entered for the Newton-Stewart Festival, and all gained very good marks, while at Dumfries four teams were entered and each was placed first in its class. The mixed team gained the Jean McIntosh Memorial Trophy.

During Castle-Douglas Civic Week demonstrations were given at the concert, the Scottish Country Dance and Lochside Park at the Searchlight Tattoo, and the Branch is grateful to all the dancers who helped to make the various functions so successful.

Throughout the season the monthly socials were held in Castle-Douglas Primary Hall, and all were well attended. The Branch is indebted to the very capable pianists for their delightful music at these functions.

With yet another busy year behind us we eagerly look forward to the new season.

GLACKMANNANSHIRE.—The Branch is happy to report a further substantial increase in membership, which now stands at 172 ordinary and 5 Life Members.

Classes in Alloa, Alva, Dollar and Tillicoultry meet once per week, are well attended, and each reports a very successful season.

The Annual County Ball was held in Alloa Town Hall in December last. It is regretted that it is now impossible to accommodate all members desiring to attend this function.

Many smaller events were enjoyed by individual classes, and excursions were made by some members to the New Cavendish Ballroom, Edinburgh.

Enthusiasm is still on the increase, and we are looking forward with confidence to next session.

DUNBARTONSHIRE, WEST.—This Branch was re-formed in the spring, and has a membership at present of 93. Branch activities have been few during the year because most of our members were already members of private classes, and by the time the Branch got under way the country dance programme was almost overloaded in Helensburgh. We did, however, have a very successful dance on 25th May in the Queen's Hotel, at which there was almost a complete turn-out of Branch members.

DUNDEE.—Membership now stands at 727, 77 of which are Life Members. The Branch has carried out its usual heavy programme of classes and demonstrations during the year. The former have been well attended, and our loyal teaching staff have maintained a high standard of dancing. The demand for demonstrations this year has been much greater in the summer months than in winter. Teams have given many displays at garden fêtes in the district. At the East of Scotland Industrial and Modern Homes Exhibition held in Dundee for two weeks in May the Branch gave three demonstrations each day to the music of Jimmy Shand and his band. In all 52 different dances were shown, and at all sessions large and enthusiastic audiences were present. Our mass demonstration at the Scottish Pipe Band Championship was repeated at Dens Park on 21st June. 300 dancers took part. Unfortunately the weather upset the arrangements, and part of the programme had to be cancelled.

Certificate classes were held during the summer term, to which Mrs Hutchison gave instruction. At the examination held in June, 6 candidates passed in the preliminary grade, and 8 gained the Full Certificate.

The club, run in conjunction with the Branch, had another successful year, and the waiting list for membership shows ever-increasing numbers. Social dances in connection with the classes and club were greatly enjoyed. Music for these functions was provided by Mrs Bird Matthew's Orchestra and the Tayside Band.

DUNFERMLINE.—The enthusiasm for The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society classes continues. This Branch now has 210 ordinary members and 5 Life Members.

During the session two very successful dances were held, and once each month the classes combined in a social evening. After the regular classes finished for the season a certificate class was formed, and five members gained the Preliminary Teachers' Certificate.

The Branch received several requests for teams to dance at charity concerts during the winter.

July has been a particularly busy month, two displays being given at the Ice Rink in connection with Dunfermline's Festival of Sport, and two in Pittencrieff Park at the invitation of the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust.

We eagerly look forward to the new season,

DUMFRIES.—The year just ended has seen the Branch with still an increase in its membership. This increase in membership has brought with it its own difficulties. Further hall accommodation had to be found, and also more teachers and pianists. Once the initial adjustments had been made the Branch settled down to a successful and enjoyable season.

The usual Christmas and end-of-season parties were held, and two big dances, when Tim Wright's Band provided the music. These proved most successful.

The Branch would like to extend its thanks to all the teachers and pianists who worked so hard during the year.

EDINBURGH.—On looking back, the past twelve months seem to have been a time of almost ceaseless activity for the Branch, activity of which the culmination came on 28th June, when a Branch team took part in the "Command Performance" concert in the forecourt of Holyrood Palace in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen, to whom Miss Allie Anderson, who trained the team, had the honour of presenting the twelve dancers.

Branch membership at 1,744 was the highest ever, as was the figure of Branch classes at 27. Yet more classes are planned for next year, and two new clubs, one in Portobello and one in Morningside, will operate under Branch auspices to cater for the many experienced dancers who wish an evening's dancing rather than further tuition. The original Branch Club is still in operation.

Certificates gained by Branch members during 1951-52 totalled 16 Preliminary and 14 Full Certificates. The annual Week-end School at Black Barony, which has become a most popular and useful refresher course for teachers, was again fully booked.

The usual demonstrations for civic occasions, and in connection with the Festival, were given, as well as many for charitable purposes and for hospitals. It was a great satisfaction to win back from the invaders from the North the cup at the Edinburgh (Competitive) Musical Festival in May, and we look forward to seeing our friends from Dundee and Perth, who failed so narrowly this year, in the "arena" in 1953!

A great honour came the way of the Branch in the spring, as we were asked to provide a team for the first television programme to be broadcast from the Kirk o' Shotts transmitter.

With two Branch members selected for the National Team to go abroad this summer, and five in the reserves, we feel that we have done well in the representative field.

An innovation this year will be the Autumn Ball, primarily intended for beginners, which has been arranged for 3rd November.

ECCLEFECHAN.—This Branch has had a most successful season. The classes were well attended and popular. In October the Branch was honoured by a visit from Miss Milligan.

During the session we held a Highland Ball, which was a great success. The Branch was well represented at dances given by Annan, Carlisle, Dumfries, Lockerbie and Moffat Branches.

In the Scottish Country Dance section of the Dumfries Musical Festival we were represented by a ladies' team and a mixed team, both of which gave creditable performances.

The Branch is deeply indebted to Miss McBride for her instruction during the year.

FORRES.—At the close of its second year the membership of Forres Branch has risen to 76.

We were very fortunate in having Miss J. Banks as our instructress again, and much of the Branch's prosperity and success is attributed to her ability, tact and patience—yes, even during "The Golden Pheasant"!

Our membership is made up fairly evenly of men and women. From the atmosphere of friendliness and obvious enjoyment which prevails on class nights there can be no doubt of the highly salutary effects of Scottish Country Dancing.

Our plans for a Grand Dance had to be cancelled this year. Instead the second term ended, as it had begun, with a "late night." This idea is very popular, and denotes an evening of dancing with most of the attractions of a formal dance, but none of its pretensions.

We record with deep regret the death in December of our Treasurer, Mr W. Niven.

GLASGOW.—Branch membership has reached 1,262, including 88 Life Members. 19 weekly classes were held during the session, as well as one Summer Term class. All were highly successful.

Many candidates gained the Preliminary and Full Teacher's Certificates. These included students from Jordanhill Training College, Notre Dame Training College, and the Glasgow Keep Fit Movement.

Dances held in four different districts were all very popular, while the demand for tickets for the Annual Ball in St. Andrew's Halls Ballroom Suite was a record. The final dance of the year in Jordanhill College, which Mr Wood again kindly put at our disposal was, as usual, a great success.

Under the direction of Miss Findlay the Branch's mixed teams have given numerous demonstrations. Among them were those given in the Palace of Art, Bellahouston Park, and in the various public parks in July. At the invitation of the Central Council of Physical Recreation a display was given in Tynemouth at Easter, and at the Highland Gathering in Ibrox Stadium in May. From 12th to 19th April a team, chiefly of Glasgow members, toured Northern Ireland at the invitation of the C.C.P.R. there, and they had a most enjoyable visit. In connection with the Sports Exhibition held in the Palace of Art in February a team of boys and girls from Wishaw danced on the Saturday afternoon, and on the occasion of Mrs Brown's broadcast, "The Way to Dance," students from Jordanhill Training College took part. On both days the public later joined in the dancing.

300 members attended the Branch Extraordinary General Meeting in January to consider the new Constitution. Miss Milligan took the chair. After the meeting Mr Elliot of the Scottish Film Council showed the Scottish Country Dance films, which were much appreciated.

At the beginning of April, at the invitation of the B.B.C., representatives from the committee went to Broadcasting House, where they interviewed Mr Calder in connection with Mr Kemlo Stephen's Scottish Country Dance Music broadcasts. In order to ensure that the music was played correctly it was arranged that a team should rehearse with Mr Stephen's Orchestra, and later to dance during the actual broadcast.

Donations have been given through the Branch to the Thistle Foundation.

The Glasgow Branch is again honoured to have some of its members included in the team to represent the Society at home and overseas.

HAMILTON and CLYDESDALE.—The Branch goes steadily from strength to strength and has increased its membership to 550.

A request was received from Wishaw that we should start a class there in connection with this Branch, and after due consideration it was decided to do so. A most successful class has functioned there throughout the year. Uddingston also asked for a class to be started, and it too has been most successful. A children's class was formed in Hamilton, and though the children were younger than had been intended, they were none the less enthusiastic, and the parents all expressed their appreciation of the progress they had made and their enjoyment of the class.

A team danced at the Ice Rink at Crossmyloof for the entertainment of the American curlers, and their performance was voted the outstanding event of the evening. Mrs Rankin was presented with the American Curlers' Badge as a memento of the occasion.

Miss Sorbie was asked to run a Country Dance in aid of the Glasgow Corporation Nurses Club, and was granted the use of the City Chambers for the function. In the absence of the Lord Provost the Grand March was led off by the Senior Bailie, Dr Mrs Dewar, followed by several other members of the Council.

The highlight of this year was undoubtedly the competition for the Allan Trophy, a very beautiful silver cup presented to the Branch by our President, Mrs Allan, to be competed for annually by teams within this Branch. Fifteen teams entered for the competition which took place in the Hamilton Town Hall on 9th April, before an audience of well over 500. The money collected from the sale of programmes amounted to £9, and this was donated to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

INVERNESS AND DISTRICT.—The past year has been a most successful one, and the membership has now reached 246. Two dances and a Ball were run during the winter, and they were all well attended. Films of the three dances which have been produced for the Society were shown to members in the Arts Centre in January, and teams from the Branch took part in the Sports Week which was held in Inverness in late March. Teams have also given demonstrations at various places in the district during the year in order to encourage more people to take up the art.

A Festival of Country Dancing was organised by the Branch on 14th June, which attracted entries from 26 teams, and we were fortunate in being able to secure the services of Miss Milligan as adjudicator. The interest shown by the public who attended as spectators in the Empire Theatre far exceeded our expectations, and augurs well for the future. A dance was held on the same evening which gave those who had taken part in the Festival earlier in the day an opportunity of greeting Miss Milligan again in rather less formal circumstances.

KILMARNOCK and DISTRICT.—During the session 1951-52 over 300 members joined the Society in this Branch. The classes were very crowded, and there is difficulty in getting suitable halls.

Jimmy Shand's Band played for a dance held in December, and there was a heavy demand for tickets. The spectators numbered about 500. Several dances were held during the winter and were all fully attended. A class for men only which was run for several weeks proved quite successful. Demonstrations of Scottish Country Dancing have been given in the town during the winter.

We hope to begin another class for beginners next season. A dance has been planned for December, and we also hope to show the Scottish Country Dance films during the session.

KIRKCALDY.—This Branch has had another very successful session. Membership is 291, with 15 Life Members.

Four weekly classes were held during the year, a beginners' class, two intermediate and an advanced. Owing to the increase in numbers, two "combined nights" were held instead of the usual one per month.

The Branch owes a debt of gratitude to its teachers and pianist, all of whom have done so much to enthuse and stimulate the classes. Certificated members of the Branch have conducted classes in the surrounding district.

The mixed team which took part in the massed demonstration at the Clan Gathering in Edinburgh was shown on Fox's Movietone newsreel the following week. They performed "Monymusk."

The Festival of Britain dance held in October was a great success. Demonstrations were given which were much appreciated.

The Branch regrets that it was unable to invite neighbouring Branches to the annual dance in February, but it is hoped to be able to remedy this for next year.

Members of the Branch gave a demonstration at a fête in July.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Branch members agreed, as last year, that £15 should be sent to the Publicity Fund of the Society.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT.—The Branch has had a successful year, despite a fall in membership to 73. Rising costs made it impossible to hold the two classes on separate evenings,

so for the first sixteen weeks the beginners came early and were followed by the experienced dancers. For the last four weeks the classes were taken together.

Demonstrations were given to neighbouring W.R.I. groups and will again be given during the Riding of the Marches ceremony in Kirkcudbright.

No teams were entered for the festivals, and no certificate class was held.

Successful parties were held at Christmas and monthly during the summer. The annual dance was, as usual, the big night of our year.

LANARK.—At the first Annual General Meeting held in September 1951, a Committee was appointed to run the Lanark Branch. Weekly classes were held, and a monthly social evening was started to augment the funds. These social evenings proved highly successful, and were fully enjoyed by all.

Several dances were held in aid of local charities, and considerable sums were handed over to the various causes. Members of the Branch travelled as far as the outskirts of Glasgow to attend dances run by neighbouring classes.

In February a Ball was held in the Memorial Hall, Lanark; this was the event of the season in the area, as over 200 dancers from a radius of thirty miles attended and danced in a really Scottish atmosphere, the hall being decorated in tartan and plaid.

LEVEN.—The Branch has completed another session of happy dancing, with a membership of 176. Classes were well attended throughout the winter. Our two dances were again most successful.

Many requests for demonstrations have been met by Branch teams.

Already we look forward to next session, preparations for which are well in hand.

LIVERPOOL.—We have now completed our first full year as an active branch of the Society, with an increase in membership of 35 per cent. over last year. Our present membership now stands at 125, including one Life Member, but of these, three have emigrated to Canada, one to New Zealand, and we heard with regret that one of our members died during the year.

Difficulty has been experienced in obtaining centrally situated halls, but the classes have gone from strength to strength—the average enrolment for the classes over the year has been 65.

During the winter the usual classes were run, one for beginners and one for advanced, and, acceding to popular demands, we ran a combined summer class of a less formal type than the two winter sessions. This was even more popular than we had anticipated, and the mixing of the two classes has had a stimulating effect.

A visit was made to the Southport Branch party, at which fourteen of our members attended, and we held two socials of our own, one prior to Christmas and the other at the close of the summer session. These proved to be very popular, especially the second one, which was held in the Walter Harding Gymnasium, by kind permission of the authorities of the Liverpool University, when a number of the Southport Branch and University Scottish Society members were present.

The highlight of the year was Miss Milligan's visit on 7th May at the above gymnasium. Miss Milligan, known up till then only to four members of our Branch, was regarded by the others as rather a legendary figure conjured up by the "old hands." After seeing and hearing her taking a large class in her own inimitable way, the others fully agreed with the "old hands" that her personality and good humour made the evening seem all too short, and we all look forward with pleasure to her next visit to our Branch.

Our first Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday, 2nd July, when 38 members were present. A bigger and more representative committee has now been elected of four men and six women, under the chairmanship of Mrs S. Jones (formerly Miss Stevenson).

LOCKERBIE.—The membership for the year was 98. Classes were held weekly throughout the winter in the Academy Hall. In August members of the Branch gave a display of country dancing at the Lockerbie Agricultural Society's Annual Show. This

was much enjoyed by the spectators. Two members were successful in obtaining their Full Certificate. The Highland Ball was held in December and repeated the success of former years. The Grand March was led by Sir John W. Buchanan Jardine, Bart., of Castle Milk, Lockerbie, Honorary President of the Branch, and Mrs William Murray, President. Also present was Provost Miss M. M. Reid of Lockerbie, Patroness of the Branch. Parties from Carlisle, Dumfries, Annan, Longtown, Ecclefechan and Moffat attended the Ball, the music for which was supplied by Sandy Anderson's Broadcasting Band from Hawick. A Closing Dance was held in May and was also voted most enjoyable. On this occasion the musicians were the Hartfell Scottish Country Dance Band from Moffat. A Ladies' Team and a Mixed Team were entered for Carlisle and Dumfries Musical Festivals, and both were well placed.

LONDON.—This year has been one of continued expansion. Membership has risen to over 800, and numbers for many classes and dances have had to be limited. It is becoming a serious problem to accommodate these activities, and we are indebted to the London County Council for providing school halls for the thirteen weekly classes. One of these classes has been devoted to training demonstration teams; another to coaching candidates for the Certificates, in which Miss Milligan has conducted two examinations. The first of these was only one item in a strenuous week which she spent in London, visiting as many of the classes as possible.

At most of the informal dances admission has been restricted to Society members, and even then some were disappointed. At two larger dances (one at the end of June) and at the Annual Ball non-members were admitted, attendances totalling around 250 in each case.

Many demonstrations have been given, the year starting with a whole fortnight in an International Dance Festival in the Royal Festival Hall, and finishing with open-air shows in the Battersea Pleasure Gardens, which are open again this year.

A new venture, "The Reel," has proved very popular with members in London and other Branches, as well as with many non-members. This started as a Members' bulletin to replace the sundry leaflets previously sent out to give notice of dances, classes and meetings. It was estimated that it would cost no more in printing and postage than before, and although now increased in size over the intended single sheet, advertisements have offset the extra cost. There were seven issues in the year.

Activities not run by the Branch include the formation of several classes with keen followings in districts outside Central London, under Society teachers. This year Bethnal Green Borough Council included in their annual Music Festival several competitions in Scottish Country Dancing, and invited Miss Milligan to adjudicate. This is believed to be the first of its kind in London, and was supported by many entries. Finally, for the second year Harpenden Highland Games have included Country Dancing in the programme, the Branch being asked to assist with the judging.

LOSSIEMOUTH.—The Branch goes from strength to strength. The membership stands at 140, and the past winter was most enjoyable.

Four teams were entered for the Nairn Festival. One team took second place with 90 marks, which is remarkable after only six months' tuition. The other three teams were placed third and fourth.

MANCHESTER.—During the year membership of the Branch continued to grow, and has now reached a total of 276 compared with 200 at the end of last year.

At the beginning of the year the Branch was very pleased to learn that the team which had visited Mallorca to take part in the International Folk Dance Festival held there had been awarded a Certificate of the Highest Merit (Second Grade), and had been placed third in the competition and first equal of the non-Spanish teams participating.

A large number of requests was received during the year to provide demonstrations at various functions in the Manchester area. Judging from comments received after

these events, and from the continuing demand for similar demonstrations, these visits have done much to ensure the popularity of Scottish Country Dancing, which continues to grow.

Examination classes have again been held for members wishing to take the teachers' certificates, and it is gratifying to note that during the year a total of 6 Preliminary and 3 Full Certificates were obtained by Branch members.

MOFFAT.—This Branch records a second successful year, membership showing a marked increase. An extra class continued to meet during the summer months.

In December, a demonstration team visited the local branch of the W.R.I., and an open-air display was given at the installation of the Shepherd of the Hills and his Lass in July of this year.

Throughout the season, members travelled to attend the various dances organised by the neighbouring branches of Annan, Carlisle, Dumfries and Lockerbie.

A party was held at Christmas, and a members' dance to mark the end of the season took place in July, while the highlight of the year was the annual Ball held in March in the Town Hall, when the Provost of the town led off the Grand March.

NAIRN.—Interest and enthusiasm for Scottish Country Dancing continues to grow in our Branch. Our classes every Tuesday are always well attended. Members attended dances in the surrounding districts and the Branch had a very successful dance on 30th November. We hope to run a similar one this session.

In connection with the Holiday Home Week displays were given of Scottish Country Dancing, and the interest shown in them was very encouraging.

NETHER LOCHABER.—This Branch can again report a very successful year. A late night at the end of each month was held throughout the session, and proved most popular. This winter a children's class was formed which made good progress.

On one or two occasions during the year the teams have given demonstrations at local functions. A dance was held in June which was much enjoyed by members and visitors alike.

A non-competitive Festival was held at Fort William and a competitive Festival at Inverness, to which a ladies' team and a mixed team were sent.

The Branch is much indebted to Mr and Mrs Clark for their instruction and encouragement.

NEWCASTLE and DISTRICT.—This two-year-old Branch now has over 150 members. 86 people arrived to join one class last September, where there was only room for 40. Seven classes were eventually organised, four under the auspices of the Newcastle Education Authority and three privately for members only.

Our demonstration team gave thirteen displays between October and April, helped by members of the Men's Highland class.

Three informal dances were held during the winter and one very successful Highland Ball. For this event, Tim Wright's Band was brought over the border, and all who attended had a most enjoyable evening.

Members of Newcastle Branch attended the Annual Ball of Carlisle Branch in April, and we hope that this happy meeting was only the first of many.

Also in April, we were asked to supply an adjudicator for the Scottish Country Dancing at the Musical Festival of the Lancashire and Cheshire Federation of Scottish Societies. Miss Audrey Frame undertook this task, and her work brought a very appreciative letter from the organising secretary.

In September 1951 Her Grace, The Duchess of Northumberland, honoured the Branch by accepting our invitation to become Patroness.

We were delighted to have Miss Milligan at our Annual General Meeting, and her very helpful remarks and anecdotes endeared her to those members who had not met her before.

NEWTON STEWART.—We have had another very successful year, and our membership is steadily increasing, with, we are pleased to note, a bigger percentage of male members !

Since the class has finished we have been holding monthly meetings which have been well attended. This year we entered two mixed, two ladies' teams and a foursome reel at the Dancing Festival, and they were successful in gaining three first places, one second and one third in their respective classes.

We are holding a Country Dance Ball in September, which we hope will be a good send-off to our new session.

PEEBLES.—The Branch had a very successful year of dancing with a large increase of members.

PERTH and PERTHSHIRE.—The Branch has now a membership of 787 ordinary and 47 Life Members, which shows an increase of 60 over last year. Classes were held, some well attended, others poorly. Social dancing is much more popular, and the Perth Scottish Country Dance Club, whose members are all Society members, had the same kindly interest in our well-being, both financially and otherwise. Four very successful dinner dances were held under the auspices of the Club.

Our demonstration team is now functioning, and has given displays at various places in the Branch and at the Clan Robertson Rally and Conference at Pitlochry.

At the Selection Committee meeting in Edinburgh eight of our party of twelve were placed on the short leet, and Mr W. I. Russell and Miss E. Goodall were chosen for the first team. Mr W. Clement again has the honour of being piper to the first team.

Our local Musical Festival again had large entries and very large audiences. Contests were very keen and the dancing was of a high standard. The Society Trophy was won by the Greenfield Dancers, Dundee, and the Club Trophy, a silver quaich competed for this year for the first time, was won by the Perth Gowrie Group.

We had the privilege of housing the Annual General Meeting in November. The Thé Dansant and Ball were very well attended, the Ball particularly so. Both functions were voted very successful. The Book 16 classes by Miss Milligin were full to overflowing, and the Saturday classes taught by Mr Russell and Miss Maclagan were crowded. The première presentation of the films, "The River Cree" and "Mrs MacLeod of Raasay" on the Friday evening was another highlight of the week-end.

PETERHEAD.—This year the Branch had a membership of 148 Ordinary Members and 20 Life Members.

Three adult classes were held weekly, a beginners' class and two classes for more experienced dancers, and Branch members conducted several classes in the surrounding area.

The Branch owes a deep debt of gratitude to its teachers and pianists, all of whom have done so much to enthuse and stimulate their classes.

At the S.C.D. section of the Aberdeen and North Eastern Musical Festival, the mixed team gained an Honours Diploma with 91 per cent., and the ladies' team were marked first equal in their section with 89 per cent. In November the mixed team retained the Palais de Danse Trophy, and this team has demonstrated at several galas and concerts during the year.

Our Ball held in the New Drill Hall in April was again most successful. Among the 210 dancers we were pleased to welcome friends from Aberdeen, Fraserburgh, Inverurie, Strichen, Boyndie, and New Pitsligo. Our thanks are again due to Miss Annie Shand Scott and her Orchestra for their excellent music. Two enjoyable parties were held during the year, and a number of our members have enjoyed dances at the Palais de Danse, Aberdeen, Haddo House and Inverurie.

Last October we were delighted to have a visit from Miss Milligan, who taught several dances from Book 16, and enthused the members with the true spirit of our dancing.

During November on Saturday afternoons Miss Collie ran a course for teachers and

youth leaders from the surrounding district. Valuable assistance in demonstrating was given by members of the Branch teams.

PORTRUSH.—This Branch had a very successful first season. The classes held weekly were well attended and most enjoyable. Members of the Branch travelled to Ballymena in February to join with other Scottish dancers in Northern Ireland at a social dance, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. The session ended with a successful dinner and dance in April. We were honoured in May to have a visit from Miss Milligan. Already we are looking forward to October and next season's activities.

RENFREWSHIRE WEST.—The membership of this Branch has increased considerably, and we are glad to report a very successful year. Four classes were held each week, two being for couples only.

A full attendance was maintained at all classes throughout the season. A number of the Social Clubs in the district are now setting aside one evening a week for Scottish Country Dancing.

The ladies' classes held a dance at the end of the season. Over 100 members took part.

Tim Wright and his band were a great attraction both for dancers and spectators at our Annual Ball. During the evening demonstrations were given.

RICHMOND (YORKS).—The Richmond Branch was formed in March 1952, and now has 56 members, including 2 Life Members.

Monthly socials are being held until the commencement of weekly classes in September.

We have had several requests for demonstrations in this area, and our team has been doing excellent work in this direction.

A number of our members attended the week-end course held at North Shields under Miss Milligan and Miss Price.

ROCHDALE.—The year has been full, interesting and successful, and we can report an increase in membership. We have had at least 50 members present on Mrs Gudger's nights, and a steady attendance throughout the year, even on the warm summer evenings.

Outside activities were numerous, and generally to adult mixed groups; the demonstration teams often being accompanied by other interested members, who helped with social dancing, which was much appreciated and enjoyed by all.

We also joined in a one-day school with the English Folk Dance Society at Halifax, visited Caledonian Societies in Yorkshire, and sent a team to Alsager Training College.

Our Christmas Party, and other dances in the district, showed the increasing popularity of Scottish Country Dancing. We had a coach load of dancers from Leeds University to our dance, and we made up coach parties and danced at Sale, Longford Park, Cheadle and also Southport during Miss Milligan's visit there.

SOUTHPORT.—This Branch is completing its sixth year and now has 70 members on the roll.

During the winter months we have continued to run a beginners and an advanced class, combining the two for the summer. Our class work is in conjunction with the evening classes at the Technical College, to the Principal of which we are indebted for his active co-operation and interest in our work. Mrs Gudger's monthly coaching classes for our more advanced group continue an inspiration to us.

Miss Milligan paid us a welcome visit in May; she conducted three special coaching classes and an examination for Part I. of the Teaching Certificate. Candidates came from Liverpool and Rochdale Branches for the examination. We attained three passes for the Southport Branch, and so have our available teaching reserves strengthened.

Our daughter classes under the Lancashire County Education Committee at Crosby and Ormskirk have continued and a third is now operating under Preston borough, which applied to us for a qualified teacher early in the season.

We have had to say good-bye to Mrs McDavid, a founder member and teacher, who has returned to her home town, Newton Stewart. We shall miss her presence and services.

The Branch has responded to a number of requests for displays and already has requests for next season. We have held three term-end parties, and a larger one when Miss Milligan visited us. These have all been well attended and enjoyed. In the course of them we have had social contact with the Rochdale, Liverpool and Manchester Branches, and with groups in Preston, Crosby and Ormskirk. In the course of the season we have had visits from members of the Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee Branches.

ST ANDREWS.—Our Branch continues to flourish, with an ever-increasing membership which has now reached 198.

In the summer the Branch co-operated with other Societies in running open-air dances as part of the St Andrews Festival of Britain programme, and these were very successful. On 30th November 1951 a very enjoyable and successful St Andrew's Day Dance was held, the proceeds of which were given to the Y.W.C.A. Appeal. Our end-of-session dance was also a great success, and much enjoyed by members and friends.

We were again very fortunate in obtaining the services of Miss Irene Grant as our Instructor, and it was with very great pleasure that we learned that Miss Grant had been appointed Physical Training Instructor at St Andrews University. We again congratulate Miss Grant on being chosen as one of the members of the team to represent the Society in demonstrations in this country and abroad.

STIRLINGSHIRE.—Stirlingshire Branch has again had a most successful year. The membership is now 497, an increase of 144 since last year.

Our certificated teachers took 14 classes in Stirling and country districts, and many helped Girl Guide Companies and Social Clubs.

The demonstration teams were greatly in demand for local and other charities.

In December an enjoyable Members' Ball was held in the Albert Hall, Stirling, and all the classes held social dances to finish the season.

A certificate class was held in Stirling in June. Eight members gained the Preliminary part of the certificate.

It was with much regret we heard the announcement of the retiral of our Chairman, Major Bowser of Argaty, for health reasons. He has been a wonderful chairman, so interested in the work of the Branch, and getting its Constitution properly reconstructed, as well as being a keen dancer and taking a great interest in the teams.

Our Hon. Secretary, Miss Scott Ferguson, is also retiring. She has been a member of Committee since the Branch was formed in 1927, and Secretary for twenty years.

We are fortunate, as Colonel Cosmo Edwards, C.I.E. (retd.) has kindly consented to be our new Chairman. He is a keen dancer and greatly interested in Scottish Country Dancing.

Also Miss Murdison, Garfield, Stirling, a very active member of the Branch and a trained secretary, is most kindly taking on the office of Hon. Secretary.

STIRLINGSHIRE, East.—Membership this year is 201, more than double that of last year. In all, 15 classes have been held, including four children's classes, which were a new venture, and proved a most successful one. It is encouraging to report that men are taking up country dancing in even greater numbers.

In addition to the end-of-term functions a Members' Dance was held in April, with Tim Wright supplying the music. This was an innovation which proved highly popular, and we hope to make it an annual event.

Six teams were entered for the Central Counties Musical Festival, Country Dance Section, held in Falkirk in May, and all acquitted themselves creditably, three teams gaining a first place.

STONEHAVEN.—A General Class was well attended during the winter. The Annual Ball was its usual success, and dancers came from other Branches and classes to it.

The Branch also ran a class for young people and two children's classes.

Fully certificated members taught classes at Rickarton and Inverbervie under the continuation class code.

Demonstrations were given by members in conjunction with the C.C.P.R., and at some social functions during the year.

SYDNEY, N.S.W.—The membership of this Branch is small, being only 28, but we have a very keen and enthusiastic group under the tuition of Mrs London, Miss Purdie and Mr Wells. We are not anxious to increase our membership at the expense of "quality"; we feel that the spirit of Scottish Country Dancing must grow in Australia, and cannot be foisted on people.

Since becoming a Branch of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society we have been in contact with various Church Youth Groups, Social Service Centres, Guides and the Burns Club, from all of whom we receive eager invitations to present Scottish Country Dances. The Branch demonstrated at the Highland Gathering on New Year's Day, 1952, at the open-air show ground in Sydney. As every Scot in Sydney and perhaps within a couple of hundred miles thereof congregates at the show ground for this occasion, our appearance has an excellent publicity value.

WEST LOTHIAN.—The Branch reports another very successful year. Membership remains much as last year.

Classes were held in Bathgate, Broxburn, Bo'ness, Linlithgow (two classes) and Winchburgh.

The class organised by the staff of Bangour Hospital increases in popularity. This is not a Branch class, but is taught by one of our Branch teachers, and several of its members have now joined the Society. They held two very enjoyable dances at the end of each term. Music was supplied by members of Tim Wright's Orchestra.

A very successful dance was held in the Town Hall, Bo'ness, in October, which was attended by members from the various county classes. This annual dance is becoming so popular that it has been found necessary to restrict the sale of tickets.

Miss Margaret Moir, Bo'ness, has again been chosen as a member of the overseas team.

WINCHESTER.—This Branch was officially formed early in March, having been in existence as an unofficial group since the end of January. We have a membership of 32, including 2 Life Members, and we hope more people will join us in the autumn. We have held classes every Tuesday, with a break over the Easter period, and ended up the season with an evening of dancing on the lawn at the Secretary's house, continuing after dark by floodlight. This was a great success, and much enjoyed by everybody. We look forward to starting again in October.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Though our numbers remain small, our enthusiasm remains unbounded. A very successful session finished in April, but during the summer a small invitation class has been held for advanced dancers, which proved very enjoyable both to instructor and instructed. We have also been happy to provide the teaching for a small private circle, which has proved a most promising venture.

Affiliated Groups

Amersham and District Scottish Association.—Mr G. A. TODD, "Cornercroft," Devonshire Avenue, Amersham, Bucks.

Altrincham Scottish Country Dancing Group.—Miss J. D. CRAIG, Sunny Bank, Sandiway Road, Altrincham, Cheshire.

Allan Dancers, Southend-on-Sea.—Miss L. A. NEWTON, 2 Elm Close, Shoeburyness, Essex.

Accra Garrison Country Dance Club.—Captain T. JAGGER, A. & S. H. Record Office, Gold Coast Regiment, Accra, Gold Coast Colony.

Bristol Caledonian Society.—Miss W. MEADY, Albion Chambers, Bristol.

Burma Caledonian Society.—Mr W. P. G. MACLACHLAN, c/o B.O.C.(B.T.) Ltd., 604 Merchant Street, Rangoon, Burma.

Bolton Caledonian Society.—Mr R. McCANDLISH, 3 Spring Bank, Broadell Lane, Bolton, Lancs.

Bridlington and District Caledonian Society.—Mr A. B. MITCHELL, 17 Savage Road, Bridlington, Yorks.

Caledonian Society of North Devon.—Mr J. A. SIMPSON, 20 Cross Street, Barnstaple, Devon.

Crosby Caledonian Society.—Mr T. B. HALLEY, 30 South Parade, Great Crosby, Liverpool, 23.

Cheadle Scottish Dance Group.—Miss J. McLACHLAN, 3 Brookfield Crescent, Cheadle, Cheshire.

Caledonian Society of Lincoln.—Mr T. G. WISHART, 8 Outer Circle Drive, St Giles, Lincoln.

Caledonian Society of Hamburg (S.C.D. Section).—Miss MACBETH, The Church of Scotland Centre, Hamburg, B.A.O.R. 3.

Caledonians, The.—Mr J. MCBAIN, 26 Bellevue Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, Canada.

Caledonian Society of Switzerland Reel Club.—Mrs A. P. WILSON, 3 Rue Henri Spiess, Malagnou, Geneva.

Caledonian Society, Madras.—Mr J. H. HENDRIE, c/o Parry & Co. Ltd., "Dare House," P.B. No. 12, Madras.

Epsom and District Caledonian Association.—Mr R. A. COLLET, Quarry House, Lynwood Road, Epsom.

Eastbourne Scottish Country Dance Club.—Miss M. D. ROBERTSON, 234 Victoria Drive, Eastbourne, Sussex.

Farelf Scottish Country Dancers.—Major A. BOYLE, A. & S. H., "A" Branch, G.H.Q., Farelf, Singapore.

Gaelic Society Dance Class.—Mrs J. MCGREGOR, 150 Homewood Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Highlands S.C.D. Club (Southern Rhodesia).—Miss M. WHITSON, P.O. Box 1888, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

Hereford Scottish Country Dance Club.—Miss D. M. HELMS, Physiotherapy Dept., County Hospital, Hereford.

Leamington and Warwick Caledonian Society.—Mr W. J. INGLIS, 2 Avondale Road, Leamington Spa.

Leicester Caledonian Society.—Mr A. FORREST, 3 Kilworth Drive, Leicester.

Leeds University Union Scottish Dance Society.—Mr L. BOUMPHREY, The Students' Union, University Road, Leeds, 2.

Larkhill Garrison Officers' Club.—Lieut.-Col. E. H. COX, M.C., R.A., School of Artillery, Larkhill, Wiltshire.

Melbourne Reel Club.—Mr O. C. S. SMITH, 48 Moonee Street, Ascot Vale, Victoria, Australia.

Malvern Scots Club.—Mr A. S. YOUNG, 2 Combermere, 25 Avenue Road, Malvern, Worcs.

Moor Allerton Memorial Hall (S.C.D. Group).—Mr W. S. CROCKET, Stonegate Road, Moortown, Leeds.

Manx Folk Dance Society.—Miss C. M. GRIFFITHS, 7 Belgravia Road, Onchan, Isle of Man.

Nottingham S.C.D. Club.—Miss E. WYCHE, 30 Colville Street, Nottingham.

Newport (Mon.) and District Caledonian Society.—Mrs C. E. MORRISON, 12 Alway Crescent, Newport, Mon.

P. and B. Reel Club.—Miss M. GOLDSBROUGH, Paton & Baldwins Ltd., Personnel Department, Darlington, Co. Durham.

Philadelphia Scottish Country Dance Group.—Mrs B. BROWN, 131 Albert Avenue, Aldan, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Prince Charles Scottish Country Dance Club of Vancouver.—Mr W. KERR, 4258 Ontario Street, Vancouver B.C., Canada.

R.A.F. Officers' Scottish Country Dance Society, Changi, Singapore.—Mr D. BEAUMONT, Secretarial III, R.A.F. Station, Changi, Singapore.

Rugby Scottish Society.—Mrs R. W. T. COLEMAN, 18 Vicarage Road, Rugby.

Richmond Caledonian Society.—Mr J. T. SMALL, 232 Beechcroft Road, London, S.W.17.

Royal Naval College, Dartmouth (Highland Dancing Society).—THE SECRETARY, Royal Naval College, Dartmouth.

R.A.F. Officers' S.C.D. Society of Seleter, Singapore.—Ft./Lt. A. V. J. HICKS, Officers' Mess, R.A.F. Base, Seleter, Singapore, 28.

Romford Scottish Association.—Mr J. T. STRACHAN, 20 Carlisle Road, Romford, Essex.
Reel and Strathspey Club of San Francisco.—Mr J. W. BIGGAR, 400 Page Street, Apt. 106, San Francisco 2, California.

Southampton Scottish Association.—Mrs A. YEOMAN, 237A Vale Drive, Midanbury, Southampton.

St Andrew's Society of Otago.—Miss E. WILSON, 828 Cumberland Street, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Scots Society of St Andrew, Slough.—Miss G. M. MACLEAN, 105 Welling Street, Slough.

Shanghai Reel Club.—Mr M. P. KEYES, c/o Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ltd., 27 The Bund, Shanghai.

Scots Society of St Andrew, Bedford.—Mr W. G. MENNIE, 14 Fosterhill Road, Bedford.

St Andrew's Scottish Dancing Society, Reading.—Mr G. BROWN, 163 King's Road, Reading.

Stratford-on-Avon Caledonian Society.—Mrs E. M. SOMERVILLE, 97 Albany Road, Stratford-on-Avon.

Scottish Country Dance Association, Bombay.—Mr J. C. WILLIAMSON, Messrs W. Jacks & Co. Ltd., Hamilton House, Ballard Estate, P.O. Box 335, Bombay, 1.

Scottish Country Dance Club of Sandakan.—Mrs A. F. HOLMES, c/o Harrisons & Crosfield Ltd. (B), Sandakan Colony, North Borneo.

Scottish Country Dance Group of Philadelphia.—Miss ADAMS, 6736 Jackson Street, Philadelphia 35, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

South-East Essex Scottish Society Reel Club.—Mr J. MATHIESON, 115 Western Road, Leigh-on-Sea.

Scottish Country Dance Association of East Africa.—Mr N. NELSON, P.O. Box 6083, Nairobi, Kenya.

St Andrew's Society of Masterton.—THE SECRETARY, St Andrew's Society of Masterton, New Zealand.

Scottish Reel and Country Dancing (Selangor) Society.—Mrs A. ALLIN, P.O. Box 702, Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.

South of Manchester Folk Dance Centre.—Mr H. R. BALDREY, 505 Wilbraham Road, Manchester, 21.

St Andrew's Scottish Country Dance Society, Calcutta.—Mr D. FORDWOOD, 4 Clive Row, Calcutta.

Scottish Country Dance Society of British Columbia.—Mrs J. FORBES, 3527 Wellington Street, Vancouver, 16, B.C., Canada.

Singapore St Andrew's Society.—Mr J. L. PATTISON, c/o The Singapore Traction Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 841, Mackenzie Road, Singapore.

St Andrew Scottish Country Dance Class, Portsmouth.—Mr A. MUNRO, "Canmohr," Grant Road, Farlington, Portsmouth.

- Scottish Dance Party.**—Mrs M. ROBERTS, 24 Holmfield Avenue, Manchester, 9.
Torquay and District Scottish Society.—Mrs E. PORRITT, Riversdale, Kent's Road, Torquay, Devon.
Victoria Police Highland Pipe Band (S.C.D. Classes).—Mr C. H. ANDERSON, Police Headquarters, Russell Street, Melbourne, C.I, Victoria, Australia.
Wellington Association of Scots Societies.—Mr H. SMITH, P.O. Box 1936, Wellington, C.I, New Zealand.
Wallington Scottish Country Dance Class.—Mrs N. W. SUMMERS, 11 Hamilton Way, Wallington, Surrey.
Wairoa Scottish Society.—Mr C. A. BOWMAN, Rehutai R.D.7, Dargaville, Northland, New Zealand.

Minutes of Annual General Meeting, 3rd November 1951

THE Twenty-second Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Country Dance Society was held on Saturday, 3rd November 1951, at 2.30 p.m., in the Salutation Hotel, Perth.

PRESENT.—Lord James Stewart Murray presided, and there was an approximate attendance of 630 members.

APOLOGIES.—Apologies were intimated from Dr Anderson, Mrs Bruce, Mr Drummond, Mr Fergusson, Lord Inverclyde, Miss Moir, Mr Oliver, Miss Price and Mr Robertson.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.—Lord James Stewart Murray in his opening remarks stated that Perth, being the geographical centre of Scotland, was a particularly suitable meeting place for the annual gathering of the Scottish Country Dance Society. The traditions of the various races were very evident in Perthshire, and the influences of the Highlands on the Lowlands with regard to our Scottish dances could be traced in the county. Lord James gave as an example the more intricate steps which had been introduced to some of the long-ways dances which had been originally danced in the Lowlands. One of the most popular of our older dances was "The Duke of Perth," which was probably a Perthshire dance; and the most popular of our more modern dances, "The Eightsome Reel," was first danced in Blair Atholl.

The President, in a review of the beginnings and early years of the Society, paid special tribute to the inspiration of Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich in starting what was now such a flourishing movement, and to the energy and organising ability of her collaborator, Miss Jean Milligan. These early efforts had resulted now in a Society with a membership of over 11,000, and an influence that had spread to many parts of the world. Lord James said he had been particularly impressed with the notes on overseas correspondence in the Annual Report, and pointed out that there had even been an exchange of letters with Abadan.

The President ended his remarks by speaking of the scope and importance of the Society's work, and put forward a plea that those who sometimes worried unnecessarily over different theories of technique, examinations and other details, should not forget the larger outlook and the principles and aims on which the Society was founded. He also paid tribute to the Branch Secretaries for their enthusiasm and hard work.

MINUTES.—Those of the last meeting, held on 11th November 1950 (circulated in the *Bulletin*) were confirmed and signed.

BUSINESS ARISING.—(a) *The Royal Charter.*—The President called upon Mr J. B. Frizell to give a report on the action that had been taken. Mr Frizell reminded the members that it had been decided at the Annual General Meeting of 1950 to appoint a Committee to prepare the application for a Royal Charter. The members would appreciate that this had been a long and difficult process, as Royal Charters were not conferred lightly. Everything had to be carefully scrutinised in order to establish the worthiness of the cause. The matter had been linked with the drafting of the new Constitution, as

it had to be shown on examination that the body was one of probity with a structure of administration that would ensure internal order and discipline. A draft petition had been drawn up, discussed and examined in detail with officials of the Scottish Home Department. Mr Frizell explained that, during the prolonged discussions, a suggestion was made that the Society could attain its main objective more simply by applying for the personal permission of H.M. The King to use the word "Royal" in its title, leaving the matter of a Charter for a later stage. With the Executive Council's agreement, and after conferring with the President, a letter was despatched through the Secretary of State to H.M. The King. Despite His Majesty's serious illness, the President had received an acknowledgment, and Mr Frizell stated that there was every hope of an early and favourable result of the approach to use the designation "The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society."

(b) *The New Constitution.*—The President asked Mr A. Lindsay Stewart to give a report on the steps that had been taken regarding the new Constitution. He stated that at the last Annual General Meeting a Sub-Committee was appointed to draft a new Constitution for the Society. The Committee was instructed to prepare the draft with a view to submitting it to an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held before the Annual General Meeting of 1951. The entire Constitution had been re-drafted and divided into two sections—the Constitution dealing with the actual composition of the Society, and the Rules governing the activities of the Society and the Branches. Knowing that it would be largely by the content of the Constitution that the Society's fitness to receive a Royal Charter would be judged, the draft Constitution had been gone into most carefully. In view of the application for a Royal Charter, it was thought proper to submit the draft for the unofficial observation of certain officials. At this stage there had been considerable but unavoidable delay and it had been found that if an Extraordinary Meeting was to be called it would have converged too closely on the Annual Meeting. It was, therefore, thought inadvisable to hold it at this juncture. Mr Lindsay Stewart assured the meeting that the draft Constitution which had now been submitted to the members was the result of the most earnest cogitation and examination by the Sub-Committee appointed to undertake the task a year ago.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1951-52.—

The Committee unanimously confirmed the appointment of Lord James Stewart Murray as President, and that of Mrs Stewart of Fasnacloich as Vice-President.

There were two nominations for the office of Chairman—Miss A. Anderson and Miss J. C. Milligan. On a vote being taken, Miss Milligan was elected as Chairman. The only nomination for the office of Vice-Chairman was Mrs M. K. Brown, who was, therefore, elected.

There were thirteen nominations for the six places vacant on the Executive Council. On a vote being taken the following members were elected:—Mr J. B. Frizell (Edinburgh), Mrs Hutchison (Dundee), Mrs Lesslie (Edinburgh), Dr M. McLellan (Angus), Miss A. MacLennan (Aberdeen) and Mr W. Murray (Inverness).

DRAFT CONSTITUTION AND RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY COMMITTEE APPOINTED AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.—The Chairman asked Mrs Hamilton-Meikle to deal with this question, as she was Chairman of the Sub-Committee appointed to draft the Constitution. Mrs Hamilton-Meikle reported that at a meeting of the Management Committee held that morning, a resolution had been passed to the effect that the matter of the adoption of the draft Constitution should be adjourned until the end of February. This decision had been taken owing to the fact that it was felt that Branches had not had sufficient time to hold a meeting to discuss the matter. Mrs Hamilton-Meikle put the proposal to the meeting, and it was seconded by Mr Penny (Perth). Mr McKell (Kirkcudbright) moved an amendment to the effect that the draft Constitution should be discussed at the present meeting. Mr Robertson (Angus) seconded Mr McKell's amendment. The matter was put to the vote, and Mrs Hamilton-Meikle's proposal was carried.

ADOPTION OF ANNUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS.—The adoption of the Annual Report, which was published in the *Bulletin*, was proposed by Mr Adam (Stirling) and seconded by Miss Crichton (Dundee). The report was adopted.

The Treasurer, Miss McLellan, speaking on the Financial Report, stated that the year had been a satisfactory one. Part of the surplus of £2,190 was, however, due to exceptionally high sales of dance books, which were unlikely to recur. In the new year the Society was faced with a substantial increase in expenditure in office furnishing and accommodation, the salary of a full-time clerical assistant, printing, stationery and postages. Miss McLellan reported that the Finance Committee had advised that £2,875 of the Society's capital should be invested, and this had been done. It was hoped to build up a fund for future developments and in time suitable headquarters.

Mr Duncan proposed the adoption of the Financial Report, which was seconded by Mr Wilson (Elgin). The report was adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR.—The meeting approved the re-appointment of Mr Norman MacKinnon, C.A., of Messrs Hyslop, Lyle & MacKinnon, Ayr, as Auditor of The Scottish Country Dance Society.

At this point Lord James Stewart Murray vacated the chair, owing to another engagement, and asked Mrs Hamilton-Meikle to conduct the rest of the business.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR YEAR 1951-52.—On behalf of the Executive Council, Dr McLellan put the proposal to the meeting that the annual subscription be raised from 5s. to 7s. 6d., and this proposal was seconded by Miss Kenyon (Glasgow). Mr Wilson (Elgin) moved an amendment that the subscription remain at 5s. Mr McKell (Kirkcudbright) seconded Mr Wilson's amendment. After some discussion a vote was taken and the amendment was carried.

RESOLUTIONS FROM BRANCHES.

(1) *From Edinburgh Branch.*—Mr Brown (Edinburgh) proposed that subscriptions for juveniles between the ages of 15 and 17, inclusive, should be 2s. 6d., of which subscription a Branch should retain 1s. 6d. Dr Thompson seconded the proposal. Miss Allan (Kilmarnock) moved an amendment to the motion to the effect that the Society should not make provision for juvenile membership at a reduced subscription. Mr Stenhouse (Liverpool) seconded the amendment. A vote was taken and the amendment was carried.

(2) *From Carlisle Branch.*—Miss Murray (Carlisle) proposed that a suitable brooch or badge be struck by the Society for members to purchase, and the proposal was seconded by Mr Moffat (Lockerbie). Mr Lindsay Stewart moved an amendment that no action be taken in the matter, which was seconded by Miss Kenyon. A vote was taken and the amendment was carried.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1952.—Miss Milligan announced that the Glasgow Branch had pleasure in inviting the Society to hold the Annual General Meeting in Glasgow in 1952. The invitation was unanimously accepted.

VOTE OF THANKS.—Miss Clavering (Moffat) proposed a vote of thanks to Lord James Stewart Murray for presiding at the meeting, to the Perth and Perthshire Branch for a successful Autumn School, and to Mrs Hamilton-Meikle on completion of her term of office as Chairman.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Extraordinary General Meeting, 22nd March 1952

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING was held in the Lyric Theatre, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, on Saturday, 22nd March 1952, at 11.30 a.m. There were approximately 200 members present at the meeting.

The chair was taken by the President, Lord James Stewart Murray. In the course of his opening remarks Lord James reminded the members of the necessity for a revised Constitution and Rules now that the Society had grown to the extent which it had, and

he asked the meeting to give careful consideration to the recommendations and suggested amendments. He then vacated the chair in favour of Miss Milligan, Chairman of the Executive Council, who was supported on the platform by members of the Sub-Committee appointed at the Annual General Meeting held in Edinburgh, 1950, to draw up the new Constitution and Rules.

Mr Lindsay Stewart and Mr Frizell, on behalf of the Sub-Committee, presented the draft revised Constitution and Rules in detail to the meeting, and discussed the amendments submitted by Branches with the comments and recommendations of the Sub-Committee thereon, all as detailed in the Agenda. There was considerable discussion by members present of the amendments submitted by Branches.

After the whole Constitution and Rules had been considered and certain amendments and additions thereto had been approved, Miss Milligan submitted the following resolution:

"The Constitution and Rules contained in the print docketed by the Chairman of this meeting as relative to this Resolution are hereby approved and adopted as the Constitution and Rules of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society to the exclusion of all existing Constitutions or Rules."

The resolution was carried unanimously by the meeting.

A vote of thanks to the Sub-Committee for their work was moved by Mr Robertson, Angus Branch.

This ended the business of the meeting.

The Society's Films

Aids to the Teaching of Scottish Country Dancing

JUST over three years ago the Scottish Country Dance Society, as the Society was then called, accepted an invitation from the Joint Production Committee of the Scottish Film Council and the Scottish Educational Film Association to co-operate in the production of a series of short films intended to help teachers of Scottish country dancing to demonstrate to their classes the best techniques, and, at the same time, to stimulate interest and enthusiasm among learners.

The Society gave wholehearted support—both financial and practical—to the proposal, and it is therefore appropriate that an interim report should now be given on the reception accorded to the films and on the extent to which they are being used. The report must necessarily be interim in nature because it is only over a period of years—ten to twelve—that the full value and usefulness of educational films can be properly assessed.

Members of Society have asked—as they are perfectly entitled to do—what the films cost to make, how much did the Society contribute, what degree of control had the Society in their production, to whom are the films being shown, will the Society get its money back, and why are the films not being shown in the commercial cinemas.

I shall answer each of these questions, but propose first to summarise the position to date.

Three films have been made by the Joint Production Committee with the co-operation of the Society. They are:—

1. "The Rakes of Glasgow" . . . a strathspey;
2. "Mrs Macleod" . . . a reel; and
3. "The River Cree" . . . a jig.

In addition, 30 loop films—short sections of silent 16 mm. film which may be repeated *ad lib*—were made of the various basic steps and movements in Scottish country dancing.

And now for the answers to the questions.

In the first place—Cost.

The three films and the 30 loops were made at a total cost of slightly more than £1900.

Secondly—How much did the Society contribute?

The Society has made two grants to the Joint Production Committee, totalling £860. The first was of £500 and the second of £360.

The Joint Production Committee has not, however, used all of the Society's contributions. As a reserve for further experiments, £150 of the Society's money has been retained. The Society's actual contribution to the first three films and 30 loops was therefore £710. The Joint Production Committee provided the balance of £1200.

Thirdly—As regards control.

The Society chose the dances, selected the demonstration teams, and was entirely responsible for the dancing—preparation, rehearsals, and control during "shooting."

Miss Jean C. Milligan was, in fact, the dance supervisor, and at various stages she had the assistance of other leading members of the Society.

Fourthly—What use is being made of the films?

The films were made as aids to teaching and they are therefore being shown to learners in classes organised by the Society or by other organisations, and to others who may be persuaded to take up Scottish country dancing.

To date, twelve 16 mm. copies have been made of each film. Six copies of each film are held by the Scottish Central Film Library for distribution to borrowers, and of the copies ordered for sale fourteen have been sold so far. Purchasers include the Folk Dance Federation of California.

Bookings from the Scottish Central Film Library in the year ended 30th June 1952 were:—

"The Rakes of Glasgow"	. . .	84
"Mrs Macleod"	. . .	141
"The River Cree"	. . .	117

The number of loops sold so far—either in sets, or individually—is 199.

Fifthly—What about the financial return?

It will be several years before there is any substantial financial return from the films. Few educational films yield surpluses, and then only after a long period of use.

It is important to stress, therefore, that these films were never regarded by either The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society or by the Joint Production Committee as a financial investment. They were produced purely as teaching films, and it was hoped that they would also have a considerable prestige value. In my opinion, the films have fulfilled both these hopes and intentions. The 16 mm. prints are certainly being used as teaching aids—their value to the overseas Branches which have purchased copies is incalculable—and it is the Joint Production Committee's belief that the 35 mm. and 16 mm. demonstrations arranged both in this country and overseas have added something to world knowledge of what The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society stands for.

Following the initial showing of the 35 mm. copies to members of the Society attending the Annual General Meeting at Perth, these versions have been shown in cinemas in Glasgow, Edinburgh and London to both invited and general audiences. In Glasgow, "Mrs Macleod" was shown to members of the Film Society of Glasgow at one of their special performances, and "The River Cree" was included for a week in the normal commercial programme at the Cosmo Cinema. In Edinburgh, the show at the Cameo was to members of the Edinburgh Branch. The London showing—at the British Council's Cinema—was to educationists, teachers of dancing, and representatives of overseas organisations. Two of the films have also been shown to general audiences attending programmes included in the Edinburgh International Film Festival—no small honour, considering the standard set for selection.

All the overseas demonstrations have been with 16 mm. copies. There have been presentations at New York, Washington, Montreal (where the films were highly praised though in competition with films for teachers of ballet), Paris (where the films were featured for a month during the exhibition organised by the Franco-Scottish Society), Copenhagen,

Oslo and Barcelona. In addition, "The River Cree" was shown in an international programme at Locarno.

All the overseas prestige showings have been arranged by the Joint Production Committee or the Scottish Central Film Library, which is the distributing agent for the J.P.C. The Society is not involved in meeting the costs of these shows, and it is the Library Committee which meets all printing costs, paying to the Joint Production Committee a royalty of £1 for each copy taken. The royalty has been limited because the sale price of copies has been kept low in the hope of encouraging orders. Normally a single-reel sound film costs £14 or £15. The Scottish country dance films are sold at £10 each, with a discount of 10 per cent to Branches purchasing copies. The low sale price is one reason why the financial return will be very slow.

Finally—Why are the films not being shown commercially?

The answer is two-fold. The films were made for educational—not entertainment—purposes, and we are not blind to the fact that in their present form they are not suitable for inclusion in a cinema programme. But, even if they were, there would be difficulty in obtaining bookings because they would not rank for "British quota," because they were made too economically to meet the quota requirements of the Board of Trade. Few short films without the quota qualification gain showings in the British cinemas. That may be unfortunate, but it is a fact. Only a new Act of Parliament on the quota regulations would affect that situation.

That, then, is the interim report on the Society's venture into film production. On behalf of the Joint Production Committee I would like to take this opportunity, however, to express warm thanks to the Society for their interest and support, without which the films could not have been made. Miss Milligan and her helpers were tireless in their efforts to obtain the best results—we owe them a great debt of gratitude—and the teams quickly adapted themselves to the new technique of film-making in difficult and sometimes exhausting conditions. I am sure Miss Milligan would wish to join with me in expressing thanks also to the director of the films, Mr Stanley L. Russell, of Thames & Clyde Film Co., who put in a power of work to ensure that the films should be as attractive and authentic as possible.

Finally, may I add my personal thanks to Mr J. B. Frizell, who, as Chairman of the Joint Production Committee and an enthusiastic country dancer, first placed the proposal before the Committee of the Society and took the closest personal interest in the development of the project. D. M. ELLIOT, *Director, Scottish Film Council.*

The Summer School Comes of Age, 1952

MANY and varied must be the thoughts of those who arrive at St Andrews for the Summer School. The anxious, inquisitive thoughts of newcomers; the "Wonder if I'll make it" thoughts of budding teachers; the carefree, eager thoughts of the old hands anticipating the renewal of friendships and the delights of a fortnight in University Hall and a beautiful city.

As always, this year's School was a great meeting of friends old and new and of kindred spirits. The atmosphere of helpful friendliness which pervades the gathering is really remarkable. Willing ladies delight in serving tea and buns, willing teachers are always ready to answer questions or to give extra instruction, the domestic staff goes out of its way to render service and keep everyone comfortable and well fed, and over and above it all is the ever-watchful but kindly eye of the "great controller" and the efficient office staff. Like all sound organisations based on Christian principles, the Summer School needs and has no restrictive rules and regulations. Everyone quickly realises what is expected of him or her, and few indeed are those who would question this ideal control.

There was the usual enthusiasm to absorb all the technique instruction possible, to talk about dancing and to dance and dance to the inspiring music of the hard-working

team of brilliant pianists. As no new book of dances is being published this year, the most advanced pupils were given instruction in four traditional and most delightful dances recently collected by Mrs Mary Macnab of Vancouver. These dances are "Bonnie Anne," "Over the Dee and over the Don," "Brig o' Doon," and "McLaine of Lochbuie," and are eminently suitable for demonstration. The demonstration teams at this year's School who danced to enthralled audiences in both University and Younger Halls were encored again and again. The curriculum also included instruction in selected dances from the published books, many interesting lectures on a variety of subjects, voluntary (but always fully attended) classes in Irish, Old Time and English Country Dancing, and the usual classes for the Preliminary and Full Teaching Certificates. Each of the latter classes covered, for the first time, both reels and strathspeys, and so the more logical method of training teachers was introduced. The instruction which these classes received could not have been better, and the results of the examinations showed that a high standard of qualification is being maintained—some 65 per cent. of the candidates being successful. The policy of insisting on this degree of efficiency is sound and admirable, and disappointed candidates are probably the first to acknowledge this and be spurred on to greater efforts and eventual success.

All the men at the School were delighted (if apprehensive) at the inclusion in the Course of some Highland Dancing instruction under a teacher of renown and such remarkable ability that within the first hour they found themselves executing—with varying degrees of skill—all the steps of a Highland Fling. Within five days so many shirts had been used and kilt straps tightened by so many notches that the class was able to demonstrate (to the loud applause of their lady friends) not only the Fling and Foursome, but also the Argyll Broadwords. Claymores were in short supply for the latter event, and the contestants were therefore, most appropriately, armed with golf clubs, and entered the arena of the dance hall led by their irrepressible teacher and his bagpipes. Their performance, whilst perhaps not up to the standard expected at Highland Games, was at least good enough to satisfy the ladies of the School! It is to be hoped that the Highland Dancing class for men has now become a permanent feature of the School, as the vigour of this dancing undoubtedly attracts men, and thus helps to increase the male content of the School.

Although no one quite realised at first why this year's School seemed to excel itself, it soon became apparent that it was a Summer School with a difference, and the reason was revealed when, towards the end of the course, Miss Milligan sprang a most pleasant surprise on everyone. The Summer School had a 21st Birthday to celebrate! If the preparations for the birthday party had been carried out behind the Iron Curtain they could hardly have been a better kept secret. On entering the Dining Hall for dinner that evening, all eyes opened wide at the sight of a great birthday cake and the tables adorned with festive ribbons, beautiful flowers, new snow-white cloths and glistening cutlery. This was obviously to be a big event. The impressive decorations, carried out in the Society's colours of blue and white, were matched by an equally impressive meal and most amusing speeches and reminiscences by Miss Milligan and the two or three stalwarts who had graced the first Summer School. Spontaneously, everyone wished Miss Milligan and the School "many happy returns," and after three hearty cheers departed to enjoy one of the liveliest of the evening social dances. Thus was the secret of the success of this year's School made plain. From what must have been a rather uncertain experiment in 1927, the School has steadily grown up over the years under the careful nursing of Miss Milligan and her team of enthusiastic workers, until in 1952 it is so firmly founded that it almost runs itself and has become, in the words of one speaker, "one of the traditions of St Andrews."

As last year, a most enjoyable dance was held each week in the Younger Hall. Although these dances were open to the public, the vast majority of the latter seemed quite content to crowd the spectators' seats and spend the evening in admiring the dancing

generally, and more particularly that of the demonstration team, the beautiful singing of Scottish songs and the superb steps of a certain nimble-footed Highland dancer.

Two other events during the Course. deserve mention. One fine summer afternoon a large number of ardent souls performed several dances on the lawn of University Hall, whilst a colour film was made for the enlightenment, and, we hope, benefit of other enthusiasts in foreign parts. And one Sunday evening we in turn were entertained by a display of some of the instructional films of dances, dance movements and steps which are available for hire.

There may have been many stiff muscles for the first few days of the Course, but a fortnight of the invigorating treatment of Scottish dancing and good salt North Sea air brings to everyone a glorious feeling of physical fitness and a wonderment that two weeks can pass so quickly. Many and very protracted were the "good-byes" at the front door of University Hall on that last day, and whatever one's thoughts may have been on arrival, the one thought in everyone's mind on departure was to obey our mentor's admonition—"Haste ye back!"

Miscellaneous Items

FILMS

Three films have been made on Scottish Country Dances. They are:—

"The Rakes of Glasgow"—Strathspey.

"The River Cree"—Jig.

"Mrs Macleod"—Reel.

LOOP FILMS

A loop film is a short film, in the form of a continuous band, which enables a movement to be repeated *ad lib.* These films are silent, and can be shown on any silent or sound 16mm. film projector.

The loops available are:—

No.	Description	No.	Description
1.	Skip change of step.	21.	Cast off four places and cast up four places (Reel).
2.	Pas de Basque (front and back).	22.	Set and cast off two places: 2nd and 3rd couples move up, set and cast up two (Reel).
3.	—	23.	Cast off four places and cast up four places (Strathspey).
4.	Slipping step.	24.	Set and cast off two places, set and cast up two (Strathspey).
5.	Strathspey setting forward and back.	25.	Reel of three (Strathspey).
6.	—	26.	Reel of three (Reel).
7.	Strathspey travelling step.	27.	—
8.	Six and four hands round and back (Strathspey).	28.	Double triangles (Reel).
9.	Four hands across and back (Reel).	29.	Poussette and double triangles.
10.	—	30.	Promenade for three couples (Reel).
11.	Four and six hands round and back (Reel).	31.	Promenade for three couples (Strathspey).
12.	Right and left (Reel).	32.	Poussette in Strathspey.
13.	Right and left (Strathspey).	33.	Grand chain (Reel).
14.	Poussette.	34.	Grand chain (Strathspey).
15.	Allemande (Reel).	35.	Set and four hands across half round, and four hands across back to place (Reel).
16.	Allemande (Strathspey).	36.	Set and four hands across half round, and four hands across back to place (Strathspey).
17.	—		
18.	Lead down and up to corners, set and turn corners, and reel of three (Reel).		
19.	Lead down and up to corners, set to and turn corners with skip change of step, reel of three (Reel).		
20.	—		

FOR PURCHASE OR HIRE**The Films**

Copies of the films may be purchased for £10 each. Branches of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society are entitled to receive a discount of 10 per cent. on the purchase price of films.

Films may be hired at the following rates:—

First day	-	-	-	-	-	-	6/-	a reel
Second and subsequent days	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/6	a reel
One week	-	-	-	-	-	-	15/-	a reel

The Loops

The loops may be purchased at 5/- each, or £6 for a set of 30 loops. They may be hired at the following rates:—

	<i>First</i>	<i>Subsequent</i>	
	<i>Day</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Week</i>
Single loops	-	-	3/-
Two loops	-	-	5/-
Three loops	-	-	7/6
Four or more loops	-	-	8/- for four.
			10/- for five.
			12/- for six, etc.

All enquiries should be sent to—

SCOTTISH CENTRAL FILM LIBRARY
SCOTTISH FILM OFFICE
16-17 WOODSIDE TERRACE, CHARING CROSS, GLASGOW, C.3
Telephone—DOUGLAS 6991/3

Summer School, 1953

All members must apply to the Secretary by 31st January 1953 for Summer School application forms, which will be sent in March.

Duke of Perth—Book I.

Please note that the music should be played in half-time.

Constitution and Rules

Copies of the Constitution and Rules booklet can be obtained from the Secretary, price 6d. each.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE ROYAL 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.

Will members please note that the end of the Financial year has been changed and is now 30th June.

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