

Our Back Pages

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 19.4 (December 1985). Feature articles in this issue included Shelly Posen's "Tracking Down the Chapeau Boys" (pinning down facts concerning the well-known Ottawa Valley song), Billy Hill's "George Cook: Canadian Extraordinaire" (Mr. Cook's claim to fame is being the most prolific songwriter in history), "About Song Writing" by Denise Larson, and my own "Back to the Source." Charlotte Cormier contributed two songs on the 1959 disaster of Baie-Ste-Anne, New Brunswick, in which 35 fishermen died. Monique Jutras's song "La complainte de Julie" was also included. David Spalding's column "Singing Our Dreams" in the "You and I and Nobody Knows" series, the minutes of the 1985 AGM, a photo montage by Bill Sarjeant from that meeting, and reviews of LPs *Ma Mie Tant Blanche* (Charlotte Cormier), *Garnet Rogers*, *The Great Lobster Boil* (Lem Snow) and *Woodnight Moon* (Gordon Quinton) appeared.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 24.4 (Winter 1990). Articles by Vladimir Simosko on "World Music Appreciation: 1990" and by Bill Sarjeant on "The Archives of the Canadian Society for Musical Traditions and the Folk Music Collections of the University of Calgary Library" were featured in this issue; Howard Kaplan's song "The Farm-

er's Carol" and Ian Robb's "Song for the New Year" struck a seasonal note. Another song, Farrell Boyce's "Penman's Combinations," was included, as was a review of Edward Ives' book *Folksongs of New Brunswick*. More somberly, the issue held obituaries of Barbara Cass-Beggs and Helen Creighton.

Five Years Ago

Bulletin 29.4 (December 1995). Pete Seeger's essay "Pop, Rock and Coca-Colonization," first published in 1972, led off the issue; Bob Bossin's songs "Sulphur Passage" and "Look What's Become of Me" accompanied an extensive interview with Bob on his musical heritage, current thoughts and former Stringband days. Other songs were Ian Robb's "They're Taking It Away" and a number of political parodies from Alberta's Common Front. Numerous items were reviewed, notably Tall are the Tales: Newfoundland Stories and Recitations, and recordings by Paul Haslem, Tzimmes, Kyp Harness, Tanglefoot, Richard Wood, James Keelaghan, Len Wallace, Stewart McIsaac, Bill Gallaher & Jake Galbraith, Jiggery Pokery, The Immigrants, and The Friends of Fiddler's Green.

These issues are available from CSTM Back Issues, 224 20th Ave. NW, Calgary, Alta. T2M 1C2. See the Mail Order Service catalogue or the website (address on p.1) for pricing. [JL]

News, Views, & Stuff

This issue is just a-bornin' as the first week of Lister Sinclair's series *Hands Across Time* has finished on Ideas. I got most of the week on tape and will be dubbing the rest. I gather that Sinclair has retired as the show's host and *éminence grise*, and while Paul Kennedy is certainly doing a fine job, I will miss Sinclair, especially the sort of music/verse/history fantasia of which *Hands* is but the latest; I don't even remember the titles of all of the series: *Humours and Temperaments*, *Boxing the Compass* (we quoted that one in our *nueva cancion* issue), *A is for Aardvark* really gave him free rein, and what was the series about the gods and goddesses? Oh, right, *Nectar and Ambrosia*. I do hope that *Hands Across Time* will not be the last of 'em. We wish Lister Sinclair as long and profitable a retirement as he's had a working life. He's done a lot to make Canada a livable place for grownups.

Am I going to get into trouble for admitting that I've sometimes dubbed these shows? If so, here's your chance to get in dutch along with me: I failed to get either the program on Demeter from the *Nectar and Ambrosia* series (my daughter's name happens to be Demeter), or the 2-parter that was done (not by Sinclair) on the Percival/Grail myth. Neither appear likely to be reissued now; neither are available for purchase through the series. Are there any fellow pirates out there who'll share with this poor, forgetful buccaneer? It'd be much appreciated. [GWL]



Don't forget the conference of the North American Folk Music and Dance Alliance—it's being held in Vancouver this time, February 15 to 18, 2001. See the British Columbia section of the Festival Directory for details.



En 2001, l'assemblée générale annuelle de l'Association canadienne d'ethnologie et de folklore, qui se tiendra à Québec, à l'Université Laval, du 26 au 28 mai, prendra la forme d'un atelier visant tant à faire le point sur l'ethnologie au Canada, qu'à identifier des orientations pour l'avenir et à mobiliser des efforts pour renforcer la présence et la visibilité de la discipline. Plus spécifiquement, cette rencontre permettra de discuter de la publication d'un manuel canadien de culture traditionnelle et populaire (un collectif présentant l'ethnologie/le folklore et son étude à un public de niveau secondaire et postsecondaire) et du développement d'une proposition pour au moins un grand travail de recherche concertée (GTRC).

Comme convenu lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle de 2000, les communications doivent traiter de ce thème. Elles peuvent prendre la forme d'une animation de discussion, de ta-