



Published monthly by the Folk Dance Federation of California.....Sub. Yearly, \$1.75

VOLUME 3

NOVEMBER, 1946

NO. 11

## California Folk Dance Festivities in Review

### Folk Dance Conference

President Clarence Crooks welcomed members and guests to the Berkeley Folk Dance Conference on Sunday morning, September 22. The day's activities, under the able chairmanship of David Boyce, started with community singing under the direction of Lawton Harris of Stockton. Lawton's program consisted of folk songs and dances for which words are available. These included the Weggis Song, Troika and Tancuj.

Leaders of various Northern California folk dance groups conducted discussions on topics of current interest, many of controversial nature. Tecla Barry led the discussion on costumes and costume making. The appointment of Tecla as chairman was a happy choice since she not only possesses many costumes of her own making, but is extremely clever in designing them. She was very generous in giving hints to her audience as to the manner of translating the fine details of costuming into apparel practical for folk dancing activities.

Ed Kremers, in his session on square calling, gave his audience some good pointers in getting new groups started, in mixing groups so that one couple will not always dance together, in breaking down essential square patterns. After his explanation, he gave his audience the opportunity to practice some of the techniques he had pointed out to them.

At noon, a brief period of folk dancing followed a picnic lunch

on the Civic Center lawn. This provided an opportunity for the members of the various clubs to become acquainted.

Mildred Buhler started the afternoon session with a talk on the much discussed subject of authenticity in folk dancing. A program was suggested for helping those who are interested in capturing the national flavor and spirit of many of our dances and it is hoped that this influence will encourage the general public to appreciate more fully the temperament of a people as expressed in the dance.

Because of the interest of many groups in developing more teachers, Ruth Ruling's session on teaching technique proved extremely helpful and informative. In the general discussion which followed, various teachers pooled experiences for the benefit of all concerned.

Ted Adams was quite successful in presenting some practical guides for competent floor chairmanship.

There was a very good attendance at Madelynn Green's talk on dance technique. She brought out the importance of the position of the body in expressing the style of various nationality dances and she told something of the background of these dances.

Typically jovial Dan McDonald showed the possibilities of transcriptions of records and for those technically minded, Dan had the answers.

After this, thirty minutes were  
(Continued on Page Four)

## Travels and Research Of Lee Owens

Lee Owens is well known to many of the old timers in the Federation as one of the organizers of the Palomaniacs of Palo Alto. For many years Lee has made a specialized study of the American folk dance as well as the Early California, Mexican, and South American dances.

After doing his stint in the Navy, and picking up a wound on Guadalcanal, Lee has decided to make a career in American Folk Dance research. He is embarking on a special VA training program that will give him study on the spot under all the leaders in the field. To date the most important phase of this training has been three eventful months spent with Dr. Lloyd "Pappy" Shaw of Colorado Springs and Denver. During this time, Lee studied in Pappy's classes, and worked behind the scenes with him in his shows. It is of interest that Shaw has been working on a dance sequence in the film "Duel in the Sun," starring Jennifer Jones. Dr. Shaw is, without a doubt, one of the outstanding leaders in the development of contemporary American folk dancing.

Lee also spent considerable time recently with Arthur Campa of the University of New Mexico who is a leading authority on the dances of Mexico and New Mexico, and the folk lore attendant.

The exhibition number danced by the Palomaniacs at the Redwood City Festival, "The New Mexican Varsouvienne," is Lee's  
(Continued on Page Ten)

# YOUR CLUB AND MINE

## WESTWOOD COOPERATIVE FOLK DANCERS

The Westwood Cooperative Folk Dancers celebrated their first birthday on September 17 with a party to which the Los Angeles Recreational Cooperative and the East Los Angeles Cooperative were invited.

The evening passed quickly with all our favorite dances. At intermission, refreshments were served and in the dark, our cakes with little candles on them made a pretty picture as we sang "Happy Birthday." Community singing was led by the president of the Westwood Coop, Esther Liptz, recently returned from Mexico.

The latter portion of the program was devoted to learning the Kolomeyka, as taught by

Uryan Davidsohn of Michael Herman's group in New York. One of the highlights of the evening was an Indian festival song by Sham Lal Katyal from Punjab, who is now a student at U.C.L.A. We are looking forward to seeing him and his three countrymen dance for us in native costume.

VIRGINIA ANDERSON

## FESTIVAL WORKSHOP

Madelynne Greene, director of the Festival Workshop, was honored Monday night, October 14, by a "Farewell Party" given by members of the group. Madelynne told of her plans for a two months' trip to New York. She will spend time there obtaining new material and first hand information on what is doing in folk dancing back east.

Colored movies and slides were shown of recent folk dance activities by Avis Landis and Ronald Ramsey.

Madelynne favored the group by performing some of her better known character dances such as the "Gossip Dance" and the hilarious "Hambo Interpretations."

Workshop members left the most enjoyable party wondering what they would do to keep busy on Monday nights for the next two months.

WALTER GROTHE

## SAN FRANCISCO FOLK ARTS

"A clue to the original significance of Hallowe'en is afforded by its Gaelic name of 'Summer-end,' an important time on the Celtic agricultural calendar. At the time of the solar change, it was also believed that fairies and demons were temporarily without restraint and that the souls of the dead came back to visit."

The "demons and ghosts" (The Folk Artists) took part in celebrating the Hallowe'en customs from many parts of the world in their All Souls Day Celebration on the evening of Saturday, October 19, 1946.

## CHANG'S INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS

On the evening of September 28, Chang's International Folk Dancers gave an exhibition at the U.S.O. Club on O'Farrell Street. The very appreciative audience included several con-

suls and consular attaches, in addition to the service men. The high spot of the evening was, as usual, the perfectly done Russian Peasant Dance. The Triple Schottische and Danish Masquerade drew big applause, too.

Other dances presented were the Fado, Mietzi Putz Di, and La Raspa, the latter being done with the group's compliments to the Consul General of Mexico, who was in the audience.

After the exhibition, the dancers were the guests of the U.S.O. Club. It was quite a successful evening and a very good time was had by audience and dancers alike.

LIESL BARNETT

## SANTA MARIA'S RECREATION CENTER

Last spring the idea of folk dancing was discussed and it was decided to allot one evening a week at Santa Maria's Recreation Center to this activity.

Through the enthusiastic efforts of Stephen Fairchild, Mrs. H. Hansen and Mrs. D. Nelson, City librarian, a small gathering of about eight people got together the first night.

Needless to say, the town's people soon discovered how much fun everyone was having and decided to join in and give it a whirl.

Before we realized, the Wednesday evening crowd exceeded our expectations, so we split the group, Wednesday evening for adults and Friday evening for children.

Once again, we are confronted with lack of space which all goes to show that folk dancing is crowdin' right in—and how they love it!

## IDEA TO TRY

Forty-six shopping days until Christmas. You need not let this concern you, however, for a subscription to LET'S DANCE makes a fine gift. Your friends will enjoy the present for an entire year. Send \$1.75 along with the name and address to whom the paper shall be sent, to:

Wm. S. Ballou, 857 Third Ave., San Bruno, California.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The smiling faces of Roy and Janey Zellick which appeared as a cut in the October issue of LET'S DANCE was prepared from a photo by Jeanne and Robert Taylor of San Mateo.



## Folk Dance Records

AT BREUNERS  
A COMPLETE LINE OF  
IMPERIAL RECORDS

We Ship Free Within the State  
of California

Phone or Write if You Cannot  
Come in.

**BREUNER'S**

Oakland, Calif.—2129 Broadway  
Higate 4343  
Berkeley, Calif.—2128 Center St.  
THornwall 4343

## AMERICAN SQUARES

A Magazine Dedicated to American  
Folk Dancing

1—Learn to Dance and Call  
Square Dances .....\$1.00  
1 Year's Subscription .....\$1.00

Both For \$1.00

Box 100, 38 So. Girard Street  
WOODBURY, N. J.

## Activities Slated

### Harvest Festival

The Southern Section has planned a Harvest Festival for November 2, at the Echo Park Clubhouse from 8 until 12 midnight in order to raise funds for the operation of the Federation. Unique in the method of planning, this will be the first festival of the Southern Section which combines the efforts of all the member groups of the Federation. Instead of having one host group, the Chairman of the Festival Committee, Katherine Pelton, has appointed a member from each of the cooperating groups to the general planning committee.

A new idea in program arrangement is being planned. A king and queen will be selected by judges from the parade of participants. Prizes will be awarded for costumes and to the winners of contests. Folk Dancers will enjoy the varied dance program planned for this evening. Ethnic harvest dances will be the spectacular entertainment. Refreshments will be sold between 9 and 11 in order not to interfere with the rest of the long program. We all hope to see you there.

### Thanksgiving Banquet

Those of us who enjoyed the delightful Santa Barbara Fiesta in August will be pleased to learn that Mrs. Leontine Verhelle has been planning with other enthusiasts from that city to invite all Folk Dancers to a gala Thanksgiving Banquet on Thanksgiving Eve, November 28, at 7:00 p. m. at the El Paseo Inn in Santa Barbara. An evening of Folk Dancing has been arranged after the banquet at the Garfield School, Bath and Padre streets. Reservations will be required, and are limited, so get yours in early.

### Thanksgiving Festival

Sunday, November 17—San Jose

The program will start with the usual Council meeting from 12:30 to 1:30 in Room B of the Civic Auditorium, followed by festival dancing from 1:30 to 5:30 and a dancing party from 8 p. m. to 12 p. m. This should keep the more ambitious dancers happy.

The dinner recess from 5:30 to 8 p. m. will give all a chance to eat at his favorite local spot. (Sample menus will be avail-

able at the Festival Information Booth.)

In the afternoon, the main floor of the Civic Auditorium will be used for dancing, while the gym at San Jose State College will be open for the evening party.

**FLASH:** Your hosts, the San Jose Polkateers, Spartan Spinners and dance classes of the Adult Center, hope to provide baby sitters for the afternoon.

The Auditorium is located at Market and San Carlos Streets. From the Greyhound Bus depot, walk three blocks south on Market to the Auditorium. From the Southern Pacific depot, take any bus going to town, get off at Market (Hart's Department Store) and walk three blocks south to the Auditorium.

For those driving on El Camino, turn south on Market for three blocks. The Auditorium is in the center of town. Use the main entrance to get to the festival. The refreshment concession will be open all afternoon.

DOROTHY FROST

If some authorities on comparative religion are to be believed, the most widely done "dance" in the world is the eleven-movement prayer of orthodox Mohammedans. Over 500,000,000 adherents of this faith go thru the motions of this ages old religious observance five times daily.

## FOLK DANCE RECORDS

### Our Specialty

Come in and hear the  
Records made expressly for  
The Federation

- 1—Elde Ratas (Spinning Wheel)  
Wooden Shoes
- 2—Dashing White Sergeant  
Road to The Isles
- 3—Meitschi Putz Di  
Weggis Dance
- 4—Black Hawk Waltz  
Laces and Graces

Write for free catalogue of  
our many available Folk  
Dance Records

**PACIFIC RECORD  
and Appliance Co.**

Open 10 a. m. to 9 p. m.  
Daily Except Sunday  
118 Eddy St. San Francisco (2)  
TUexedo 1718  
**PHONOGRAPHS      RADIOS**

## Folk Dance Favorites NOW IN STOCK

**VICTOR 20450—**  
Shoemakers Dance, Klappdansen

**VICTOR 20988—**  
Gustav's Skoal, Lott 1st Tod

**VICTOR 20992—**  
Cshebogaic, Tantoli

**KISMET 106—**  
Korobuchka, Hopak

**THE NEWEST SQUARE DANCE  
ALBUM—\$3.15**

**Disc Album 630, Vol. 1, Without  
Calls**

By Paul Hunt and His Rock  
Candy Mountaineers

**LATEST RELEASES ON  
"IMPERIAL"**

**Square Dances, without calls  
79c each**

By Harley Luse and His Blue  
Ridge Mountain Boys

**IMPERIAL 1009—**  
Red Wing, Rainbow

**IMPERIAL 1010—**  
Hiawatha, Silver Bell

**IMPERIAL 1111—**  
Spanish Cavalier, Darling  
Nellie Gray

**IMPERIAL 1112—**  
At a Georgia Camp Meeting,  
She'll Be Comin' Round the  
Mountain

### SPANISH SERIES

**IMPERIAL 1001—**  
Manual S. Acuna and Orches.  
Fido Blan Quita, Madre del  
Cordero Jota

**IMPERIAL 1002—**  
La Zandunga—Tehuana  
Jarabe Tapatio—Jarabe

**IMPERIAL 1003—**  
Alegrias—Paso Doble  
Espana Cani—Paso Doble

**IMPERIAL 1004—**  
Las Espuelas—Baile  
Chilpanecas—Baile

*The Most Complete  
Foreign Record Stock on  
The West Coast.*

**FREE FOLK DANCE LIST  
ON REQUEST  
MAIL ORDERS FILLED**

**AMERICAN  
Music Company**

Established 1903

426 South Broadway

LOS ANGELES 13, CALIF.

# California Folk Dance Festivities in Review

(Continued From Page One)  
allowed for comparing notes and visiting friends.

Ginni Merrill then presented a fashion show on the Civic Center lawn. The primary purpose of this parade of costumes was to demonstrate that costumes need not necessarily be expensive nor meticulously tailored. There were shown all types of nationality costumes, including those made from leftover materials, those completely new and those made by costumers.

At the panel session which closed the afternoon, a review of the entire day's activities was conducted by Clarence Crooks.

Charlotte Leschke and her committee deserve much credit for an excellent supper. Conference singing opened the evening program, followed by a talk on "Folk Dancing and Recreation" by Charles Davis, Superintendent of Recreation of the City of Berkeley.

The very full and active day was completed by a fun session in the evening under the chairmanship of Gilman Merrill. Berkeley Folk Dancers were happy to see members from so many other groups attending this conference, and are sure that this exchange of ideas and experiences will be profitable to all who attended.

## San Mateo County Floral Fiesta

In front of the grandstand at Bay Meadows Sunday, September 29, was a huge, gayly decorated, Mexican hat with a wide brim. Using the brim as a stage the Folk Dance Federation presented a program of dances to an appreciative audience that filled the grandstand from top to bottom. In keeping with the decorative idea for a stage, the regular program was preceded by a special presentation of Mexican Dances by dancers in colorful costumes. Walter Grothe made many interesting comments in his introductory speech, after which the narrator, Elgin Juri, presented the dances.

The program consisted of twenty-three dances; twelve of them were exhibitions by special groups from member clubs of the Federation. Though the 12 dances were executed by especially trained dancers, the remain-

ing 11 dances were performed with the same high standard of excellence. The entire Federation can be justly proud of the high quality of entertainment that was presented at the San Mateo County Festival by the member groups.

After the program the dancers had dinner at places of their own choosing and then assembled in the gymnasium of the San Mateo Junior College for an evening of dancing and entertainment that started at 6:30 p. m. and finally wound up about 10:00 o'clock with everybody tired, happy and proud to have been a participant in so successful an event.

FRANK DURANT

## Fairfax Waltz Night

Folk dancers re-lived the gay, lilted days of old Vienna on October 3rd, when the Fairfax Community Folk Dancers presented a party night featuring one of the most beautiful and graceful of all world dances, the waltz.

The evening's program started with Viennese waltzes in vibrant vivacious tempo in which several of the later leading contestants of the waltz competition gave advance demonstration of this ability and grace.

Next, a general program of folk dancing was conducted by Charles Reindollar.

The Gate Swingers' exhibition team demonstrated the Black Hawk Waltz and also the Hopak. The latter proved of great delight to the responsive audience which, with unstinted applause, greeted the prykladka steps of this dance.

An almost deadening applause was the response to the winning of the waltz contest by Millie von Kinsky of Castlemont Folk Dancers.

The evening's program continued and closed with general folk dancing in which many of the audience participated.

TED COMSTOCK

## Grape Festival

Outstanding attraction of the Kentfield Grape Festival held Saturday, October 5th, was the excellent folk dancing arranged by the Fairfax Folk Dancers.

On the lovely greensward fronting of the Kent home, some 100 colorfully costumed dancers (Continued on Page Five)

## HOY'S RADIO AND MUSIC

— Records —  
Columbia, Victor, Decca, Capital  
Blank Records  
Home Recording Supplies  
Telephones:  
San Anselmo 2961 San Rafael 5736  
312 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
San Anselmo, California

## Russian-American Social Club

404 Clement St.  
San Francisco

RENDEZVOUS FOR  
FOLK DANCERS

Every Saturday Night

Dance, Eat, and Drink With Us  
Open From Sept. 7th.

## DOWNTOWN

For FOLK DANCE and  
POPULAR RECORDS

Try Our New Store—  
NOBRO MUSIC

369 Ellis St., S. F. 2; TU 4976  
Open Week-days from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m.

## PARKSIDE

PARKSIDE RADIO &  
APPLIANCE

941 Taraval, S. F. 16; LO 6-7676

RADIOS REPAIRED  
FEATURING SCANDINAVIAN AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL RECORDS

## NORTH BEACH

JOSE D. PINAN

SPANISH and SOUTH AMERICAN  
RECORDS, SHEET MUSIC, BOOKS  
(La Raspa, Las Altenitas, Etc.)

748 Broadway, S. F. 11

## MISSION

Radios and Repairing Musical Instruments  
Folk Dance Records Featured

*Christophe's*

2388 Mission Street

Telephone MIssion 2098

SAN FRANCISCO

Open 9 a. m. to 5:45 p. m.  
Saturday Evenings to 8:45



The Redwood City Docey-Doe Club, pictured above, under the direction of Mildred Buhler was host to the Folk Dance Federation of California at the October Festival in Redwood City. Photo through courtesy of the San Francisco Call-Bulletin.

## California Folk Dance Festivities in Review

(Continued From Page Four)  
presented a very brief demonstration.

The program, starting at 2:00 o'clock, first featured the San Rafael Square Steppers in several typical American squares. Following this, the Fairfax exhibition group in Swedish costuming made a splendid showing with the Fryksdal Polska and the Swedish Dal Dance.

In keeping with the Scandinavian theme, the Scandinavian Folk Dancers, directed and accompanied on the accordion by Vera Lindstrom, and in authentic costuming of the Northlands, gave several thrilling and graceful exhibitions.

The folk dancing presentation concluded with a potpourri of Russian, Mexican and other nationality dances.

TED REINDOLLAR

### REDWOOD CITY ENTERTAINS THE FEDERATION

The 54th Festival, presented on October 13th by the Redwood City Docey-Doe Club on the campus-like grounds of the Sequoia Union High School to some thousands of spectators and the usual crowd of Federation member dancers, was really entertainment from the time the first person registered in the afternoon until the last bit of "stunting" was applauded and the last dancer persuaded to go home from the evening party.

The day started out with a flair for the "different" when the council meeting was held outdoors under the spreading oak tree in the inner garden. Walter Grothe slashed through the business with his usual dispatch (it's a pleasure to watch him conduct the business meetings—you should try it some time) and we were off to the afternoon's festivities, spurred

on by the attractive cowboy and pumpkin decorated programs. The good selection of favorites arranged was made better by the addition of some dances which aren't usually seen on festival schedules; and certainly a Redwood City festival would not have been complete without some squares called by Mildred Buhler. "Uncle" Dan did his stint of calling too, and the exhibitions by the Palomanians, the Docey-Doe Club, and Chang's students of the "Mrs. Michael Herman" dances, were all up to a very high standard.

Three high spots of the afternoon were the Revue of Authentic Costumes; the foot-tingling music played for the squares by Mr. Eilerman's sombrero wearing boy scouts from Woodside; and the numerous and charming Buhlers.

A warm afternoon and fast dancing prepared everyone for the pre-dinner interlude of a swim in the high school pool. By this time the air was getting crisp, and the hardy souls in the pool wasted no time in getting out of the cold water when the

(Continued on Page Six)

# California Folk Dance Festivities in Review

(Continued From Page Five)

aroma of good coffee started wafting down the corridors.

The satisfyingly hot dinner was served at nicely arranged long tables set in the cafeteria where 125 guests soon cleared up the food situation and were then treated to a selection of rare and choice acts, the like of which we never hope to see again.

After a few opening remarks by Dr. E. D. Mervy, pres. of R.C.D.D.C., a couple of singing Scots (the Misses Lamont and Lurvick) started things, needing only Lauder there to make the trio of "Ls" complete and the Scottish accent so thick you could smell the heather; the gruesome 7-foot "Tex" Taylor's droopy moustache hung down to the guitar he twanged on; two refugees from Siberia by the name of "Alexandrovich" McDonald and "Petrushka" Smith did a Russian version of an apache dance to a Ukranian record; the Palm-Beach-suited Mahatma presented his four scantily clad (one veil) dancing girls; and to cap it all, the irrepressible house-guest "Mr. and Mrs. Markova from Novosibirsk" showed us how they do the Hopak back home—or would have, except that Mrs. M., twirling once too often and too violently, lost her unmentionables and had to retire precipitately from the floor.

After a full dinner, and this hilarity, you would think we had had enough—but being folk dancers we stayed on and danced the rest of the evening away too.

A very nice gesture on the part of the Docey-Doe Club was the presentation, after dinner, of a lovely begonia (donated by Schath's Begonia Gardens) to each lady present.

The fact that this was a well planned, well organized and well run festival was due to the hard work of the large and numerous committees listed on the program, and we congratulate Redwood City for doing a splendid and much appreciated job.

EDNA SPAULDING

## Fontana Square and Folk Dance Party

On October 12, eleven members of the Pasadena Recreational Co-Op. drove to Fontana

to help run the first Square and Folk Dance Party given there. The leading spirit of the entire affair was Miss Betty Gow, who conceived and practically single-handedly organized the whole event.

Betty is a former member of the Pioneer Promenaders in Denver, who became an ardent member of the Pasadena group. About a year ago she moved to Fontana, a distance too great from Pasadena to make regular attendance practical. So she decided to organize her own group in Fontana.

The first party, held in the Women's Club, was an outstanding success. An attendance of 150 eager Fontana residents who had never before done either square or folk dancing thoroughly enjoyed the dances taught by members of the Pasadena Folk Dance Group to the accompaniment of a two-piece orchestra and occasional records.

The Fontana group voted to continue these dances every other week. Thanks to the enthusiasm of Betty Gow, the Folk Dance Federation of California extends a hearty good-luck to Fontana and looks forward to the time when it will become an active member group of the Federation.

In the same spirit of co-operation, the Pasadena Recreational Co-Op. is helping the American Youth Hostel sponsor a folk dance party at Pomona on Saturday, October 26.

KATHERINE PELTON

## Festivities at Durant Park

The deer in the pens raise their heads, ears alert; the birds fly to their perches; the monkeys in their cages cease scratching their bodies to scratch their heads. Who are these strange gayly-dressed bipeds unlike any they have ever seen before? Here are no old men with pockets full of tidbits for their dumb friends, here no thoughtless youngsters with their teasing ways. These are something new to the zoo.

But wait! Here is a lovely lady called Millie von Kinsky stepping to the microphone. As president of the Castlemont Promenaders, she welcomes this new breed of people, calling them folk dancers, as well as

the ordinary garden variety who have come to the Oakland zoo to watch them dance.

This was the scene on Sunday, October 6, a perfect day for the affair sponsored by the Alameda County Zoological Society.

Earlier in the day there had been shooting matches, games, races and other contests.

Throughout the day, pinwheels, bingo games, and such diversions along with pop and hot dog stands contributed to the success and gaiety of the occasion. As announced later a very nice return was realized; it will be used to improve the recreation hall.

The afternoon program of folk dancing on the lawn, packed with everyone's favorites and given variety by several special exhibitions by outstanding clubs, was under the able direction of Clyde Evans. At the microphone emceeing in his own incomparable manner, was Buzz Glass.

As the afternoon drew to a close, the dancers took their picnic baskets to a reserved area for their dinner. (And blessed if they didn't dance some more in the narrow isle between the tables!)

To top off the day the hall was opened, and with a cheery blaze crackling on the hearth and Dan McDonald's merry voice crackling over the P. A., more dancing was in order. In addition to the numbers every folk dancer knows and loves, Dan gave the crowd several of the novelties for which he is famous. As the party broke up following refreshments and a few last dances, everyone agreed this had been a day to remember.

EARL BODENSCHATZ

## International Day

For two days, October 12 and 13, the International Institute of Los Angeles welcomed hordes of admirers who appreciated the many folk cultures exhibited and demonstrated there. Around the patio as one entered were folk-art displays from China, Czechoslovakia, France, Norway, Denmark, Persia, and India, Philippine Islands, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, and in the corner a Chinese snack bar selling punch and fortune cookies. As one continued toward the garden in which were Mexican and South American arts and foods, one was attracted by the mouth-watering odors of the international buffet, where, before one left, meat pie from Armenia, fried shrimp,

(Continued on Page Seven)

# California Folk Dance Festivities in Review

(Continued From Page Six)

Chinese style, French cream puffs, Italian ravioli, Polish pastry, tea in a glass poured from a huge samovar with a generous portion of lemon, from Russia, and delicious spice cake from Switzerland made an international (if somewhat unbalanced in nutritional values) meal.

The Institute provided a wonderful opportunity for research on authenticity. Each evening concluded with general participation of folk dancing. Mr. and Mrs. Bubenicek's Czechoslovakian costumes from the Sveras province contained the typical use of the sunflower in the profuse embroidery on the over-full sleeves of both his and her white blouses. Their spirit was so friendly and their attitude so warm that who ever spoke with them was filled with a sense of well-being. Another Czechoslovakian costume drew oohs and ahs from those who envied the gaily flowered wool stockings and high laced, high heeled shoes. Mary Jane Bukenu and her little sister might have stepped out of a canvas by Vermeer . . . full of his Dutch charm. Both wore high starched white lace caps. Mary Jane's costume was made of heavy black wool over-blouse and apron over a white blouse from which could be seen a lovely bit

of embroidery through the low square neckline of the over-blouse. The sleeves of the heavy black over-blouse were rolled up above the elbow. Under the black apron, which had a five-inch inset from waist to hip, was visible a gaily colored, vertically striped woolen skirt in which reds and white predominated.

One Norwegian costume, an heirloom several centuries old, features the striped-in-horizontal lines woolen apron as a single woven piece with the rest of the skirt. Elaborate Breton bonnets, Alsatian hats wearing the tricolore and much head drapery added charm to the French group as they sang several folk songs.

With a candle lighted in a glass in her right hand, Lupe Palaomo performed the intricate wine dance, or Abaruray. The Senoritas de las Americas performed several Mexican dances in colorful costumes.

Outstanding among them were La Bomba, which would challenge any folk dancer's agility, and the spectacular fire dance.

On Saturday the most delightful demonstration of folk dances was done by Ingve Espe's Swedish Dance Group of Los Angeles, with Ostgota Polska and Star dance greatly applauded. Accompanied by an antique traditional zither, Bella Grobecker

and Alberta Krader yodeled several Swiss folk tunes.

Many other wonderful things occurred on the program . . . the parade of priceless Chinese gowns, both ancient and mod-

(Continued on Page Eight)

## MUSIC

## BOOKS

### ED KREMERS' FOLK SHOP

262 O'Farrell St., No. 301  
(United Nations Treatre Bldg.)  
San Francisco 2, Calif.  
Sutter 7294

## COSTUMING

## NOVELTIES

### FOLK DANCERS

DROP IN FOR A SNACK  
Always

A Friendly Welcome at

### MILLY CUPBOARD

2809 Telegraph Avenue  
Berkeley, California

## CAPEZIO

EST. 1887

DANCE — THEATRICAL  
FOOTWEAR

SPECIAL SHOES FOR  
FOLK DANCERS

988 Market St., San Francisco  
411 W. 7th St., Los Angeles

ETHEL TURNER, Mgr.

## IMPERIAL RECORDS

137 North Western Avenue

Los Angeles, California

MADE FOR THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA

1005—"Road to the Isles"—  
Scottish.  
"Dashing White Sergeant"—Scottish.

1006—"Black Hawk Waltz"—  
American.  
"Laces and Graces"—  
American.

1007—"Wooden Shoes"—Lithuanian.  
"Eide Ratas"—Esthonian.

1008—"Meitschi Putz Di"—  
Swiss.  
"Weggis Dance"—Swiss.

COMING—OUTSTANDING CHILDREN'S RECORDS AND ALBUMS

Look over our list of Spanish Records

For Sale at All Record Stores Advertising in "Let's Dance"

WRITE FOR CATALOG

# California Folk Dance Festivities in Review

(Continued From Page Seven)

ern, songs and dances of Norway, Vienna, the Spanish Gypsies, Russians, etc. . . . and the exquisite performance of Mexican dances by two tiny children, Estrelita Aranda and Juan Estrada . . . in delightful changes of costumes and charm of manner.

During the intermission and afterwards in the dancing, many members of Federation Folk dance groups danced with vigor and enjoyment. Methinks the walls of the Institute bulged to

accommodate all the people who wanted to join in. We all look forward to the twenty-fourth anniversary next year.

## Early California Festival

On Sunday, October 13, about 250 persons joined with the Hollywood Peasants at Plummer Park's large parking area for an afternoon of folk dances which featured those of early California in the tradition which surrounds one of the oldest houses left standing in Los Angeles and kept in Plummer Park as a historical landmark. Also in the spirit of early California was an old wood-burning iron stove on which were prepared succulent tamales, enchiladas, and tacos to add a spicy taste to the festivities.

Here is the opinion of Joyce Ginsburg, a "new" folk dancer: "The costumes were very colorful, especially when the sunlight caught the sequins on the bright Mexican skirts worn by a number of the gay dancers. I enjoyed the exhibition of Los Ayuneros, doing the Chiapanecas, Jarabe Tapatio, and Guadalupe . . . with costumes ornately decorated with braid and silver, bright serapes, and gorgeously embroidered dresses. Most of the dances were called over the loud speaker while everyone joined in the festivities. To make it more interesting, photographers took pictures of everyone and everything all afternoon. To a newcomer it was exciting, colorful, and altogether wonderful."

Four members of the Hollywood Peasants acted as callers for the afternoon, Carolyn Mitchell, Ray Shaw, Jack Rinehart, and Carl Myles.

The programs served both as name tags and as a list of the dances to be done. Several dances not usually done here at festivals were Bolero, Merry Widow Waltz, Black Hawk Waltz, Three-Step, Cielito Lindo, and Laces and Graces.

David Young's Mexican costume was outstandingly attractive from the tip of his high sombrero to the bottom of his boots.

Carolyn Mitchell acted as chairman of the affair. Ray Shaw acted as coordinator. We are all looking forward to the next festival on November 2.

## ABSTRACT OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Northern Section (special meeting):** A special council meeting was called by President Walter Grothe on October 5, at Marin Junior College, to discuss at greater length than time allows at regular meetings, several important matters pertaining to present and future Federation activities.

**State-wide Festival, 1947:** Two invitations have been received, one from Santa Maria for May, 1947; the other from Fresno, for June. After considerable discussion, the council voted in favor of Fresno. A tentative date was set for Saturday, June 22, which will be submitted to the Southern Section and then to the Fresno Chamber of Commerce.

**International Festival:** Song Chang, founder of Chang's International Folk Dancers, presented a proposal in the form of a petition to the Mayor and City Council of San Francisco, to initiate an International Festival in San Francisco which would include participation of all nationality groups in the city, in arts, culture, handicrafts, foods and dances. Copies of the petition will be sent to all ethnic as well as Federation groups. Ed Kremers is gathering data concerning specific names and addresses of persons and organizations. He would appreciate any help.

**Teachers' Institute:** At the Berkeley Conference on September 22, Mildred Buhler suggested a periodic meeting of teachers to discuss and standardize folk dances insofar as what dances should be taught and how they should be done, because variations in style make festivals difficult. A Teachers' Institute was proposed, limited to teachers only, to meet every other month. Madelynne Greene offered the use of her studio as a meeting place for the Institute, and notices will be sent out to the various clubs previous to the first meeting.

**Editor's note:** Tentative plans now are for Saturday afternoon, November 23.)

**Sacramento State Fair:** Walter Grothe and Dan McDonald reported on their meeting with State Fair officials in Sacramento regarding participation of the Federation in the 1947 State Fair festivities. The invitation of the State Fair Authority to put on folk dancing on the last Sunday of the Fair, was accepted by the council.

(Continued on Page Nine)

## IN STOCK NOW

*Imperial Folk Dance*

**RECORDS**

**NEW VICTOR RELEASES**

Jollity (Irish Washer Woman)  
Highland Schottische

Money Musk  
Virginia Reels

Don Juan Minuetto

Zwei Herzen im 3-4 Takt: Marek Weber

Elne Nacht in St. Moritz - Am Bundnerball in Zurich: Landlerkapelle Bruesch.

Haushammer Schuhplattler  
Nach Hause Geh'n Wir Nicht: Bavarian Orchestra

Blonda Charlie - Dina Bla Ogon: Scandinavian Orchestra

Upp I Luften - Tokiga Kalles: Scandinavian Orchestra

Ochl Chornya - Dve Gitary (Black Eyes and Two Guitars)  
The original

Hopak - Kamarinskaya: Russian Brass Band

## THE NEW STAFF RECORDS

Fado Blanquita  
Chamerita  
(Al Toft's Music)

We specialize in Americana (Burl Ives, Josh White, Richard Dyer-Bennett); imported English records (bag-pipe, folk-dance, band) and enjoy searching for queer requests.

Our Motto: "If We Ain't Got It, We Cain't Git It". Most varied stock of records in this part of the world.

**ART MUSIC CO.**  
TELEGRAPH & CHANNING

BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA  
Open Evenings THORNTON 1231

## ABSTRACT OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

(Continued From Page Eight)

**"Folk Dances From Near and Far":** Lucille Czarnowski reported on the progress of Volumes I and II, which were in the process of assembly on the date of the meeting. 200 copies of Volume I and 500 of Volume II are included in the present printing. Due to increased paper costs and new bindings, the price was set at a flat rate of \$2.00 per copy with no reduction to subscribers of "Let's Dance" as offered for the previous printing.

**Federation Funds:** Earl Bodenschatz, treasurer, reported on the status of the treasury. It was noted that although the cash on hand is somewhat over \$1,400, the only expendable portion is the money in the membership account, which is about \$365, the remainder being a necessary working reserve for publications.

**Future of "Let's Dance":** In view of the expansion of Federation publications, a suggestion was made to consider running them on a commercial basis, financed by a portion of sales and subscriptions. It was the consensus of opinion that the work is getting too great to run on a voluntary basis, but that the suggestion be submitted to Federation clubs for approval before definite action is taken. Ed Kremers announced his willingness to take over the clerical work as part of his new business, "The Folk Shop."

CHARLES HALAMKA

### Southern Section:

1. Meeting was held October 7, 1946.
2. Katherine Jett formally resigned as Recording Secretary.
3. Announcement was made that Elinor Atkinson from Scotland, is teaching Scottish dances at Hollywood High School on Friday nights, from 7 to 9 p.m.
4. Marjorie Stout suggested that some group be formed to teach leaders.

5. Historian Terry McDonald presented Southern Section Scrap Book. Request was made for pictures and publicity of current activities.

6. December 15 at Occidental College was proposed for a Federation Christmas Festival.

7. Virginia Anderson announced that she met Miss Thompson of the Art Department of the Public Library and suggested that a display might be arranged for one of the

forthcoming festivals.

8. A membership tally indicates approximately 600 members.

RUTH LOHR

—o—

### Northern Section:

1. Meeting was held at Sequoia High School, Redwood City, October 13, 1946.

2. The "Ballroom Folk Dance Club" of Sacramento was admitted into the Federation.

3. The Research Committee reported that more figures to the Chamarita have been compiled and will appear with **Let's Dance** in the near future.

4. Pending confirmation, the state-wide festival has been tentatively set for June 21, Roeding Park, Fresno.

5. Record Committee reported that a recording of the Fado and the Chamarita is now available.

6. A precedent was set by the Council wherein each Club seeking admission into the Federation shall apply at a council meeting. No formal action shall be taken on the application until the following meeting.

7. Inquiry was made of Federation groups as to whether an interest might be stimulated for another Folk Dance Institute to be held this coming spring.

ROSEMARY FARRELL

—o—

## Calendar of Events

### Saturday, November 2—

Harvest Festival, Echo Park Clubhouse, Los Angeles, 8 to 12 p. m.

### Sunday, November 17—

Thanksgiving Festival, Civic Auditorium, San Jose, 1:30 to 5:30 p. m.

Evening party, gym of San Jose State College, 8 to 12 p. m.

### Thursday, November 28—

Thanksgiving Banquet, at El Paseo Inn, Santa Barbara, 7:00 p. m.

### Sunday, December 8—

Christmas Festival, Oakland, Turn-O-Bees, hosts.

—o—

Probably the most tragic folk dance in the world was that done in early days by Hawaiian maids spurned by their lovers. Alone, they would walk to the volcanic crater of mighty Halemaumau, and on its perilous edge, do a sacrificial Hula. At its conclusion they would fall submissively into its seething, fiery mass. That is why it is said in the Paradise of the Pacific that Halemaumau claimed more brides than any man.

## Swedish Costumes

**MAN:** Kneepants of dark blue or buff colored material fastened at the knee with a red band which has tassels or silver balls dangling at its ends. The white hand-knit stockings, made either of wool or cotton, are also knee-length; the shoes are black and often have a large silver buckle. A full-sleeved white shirt is worn with a red or blue ribbon for a necktie. The vest is red, sometimes has red or buff back and striped front. It may be single or double breasted and has gold buttons. Red or blue scull cap with small tassel or pompom. A long-tailed, dark blue coat with large antique coins for buttons completes the masculine wardrobe.

**WOMAN:** Rather long skirt of dark blue or black material, preferably wool or heavy linen. Over it, a narrow long apron of horizontally striped linen or linen weave material is worn. Red bodice (made of velvet or wool) is laced in front with gold rope or ribbon. The white blouse has long full sleeves and a small "Peter Pan" collar. Pointed red or black felt cap is sometimes embroidered or adorned with lace. Stockings are red or white, shoes black, and, like the man's often have large silver or jet buckles. The main feature is the embroidered bag, which generally matches the cap and hangs from the left hip by a band, which is either hand-woven or embroidered with cross-stitch in a snow flake design.

LIESL BARNETT

—o—

Contributions for LET'S DANCE are welcomed. Let's have yours.

## BERKELEY MUSIC HOUSE

2306 Telegraph Avenue  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA  
Telephone Berkeley 6060

## CAMERAS AND SUPPLIES

Run by Amateur Photographers whose hobby is PHOTOGRAPHY

## LOEBERS

DICK RUNDLE STAN LOEBER  
2124 Fillmore Street

## STAFF

Henry Koopmann, Editor.....	1249-A Ninth Ave., S. F. 22, Calif.
Assistants .....	Cheryl Kleinhammer, Trudy Somerville
Lillie Fialkoff, Associate Editor.....	3622 City Terrace Dr., L.A. 33
W. S. Ballou, Business Manager.....	857 Third Ave., San Bruno, Calif.
Paul O'Bryne, Advertising Manager.....	3263 Sacramento St., S. F. 15, Calif.

## Travels and Research Of Lee Owens

(Continued From Page One)

own dance. He is a capable choreographer, and several of his dances are being danced by the Federation groups.

Lee is now in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and I have his latest letter before me. He tells me he is to be guest of honor this week at the Silver Dollar Square Dance Group which meets at the Hilton Hotel in Albuquerque. He is also taking a field trip with Mr. Dick Gonzales, Director, Berelas Community Center. This trip will take in all the villages around Taos and Santa Fe.

To quote directly from Lee's letter: "... talked to a New Mexican today, and he told me to go mingle with the natives. I mingled, and how! Next time I'll take a black jack, for I hit some of the most gawdawful dives and barrel houses I've ever seen. Learned how to do their peculiar schottische (not El Chota), I can stamp out a polka with the best of them, a few tricks in La Varsouvianna, La Palomita, La Cucaracha, La Marcha, the Corridio, and Mexican One-Step with variations. The music is guitar, button accordion, and drums. Sometimes a banjo instead of a guitar. Really makes you dance. The idea is to let yourself go, and stay with the compound rhythm they beat out.

They stamp in the Polka instead of hopping, but it is a sharp rap not a heavy stamp. They walk in the Schottische instead of step-hop, but they take two walking steps first, then two schottische steps, then two walking steps, ending with a stamp. There are plenty of dishrags and whirled thrown in with the walking steps. Then they turn the routine upside down."

All of you folk dancers who like American Squares and Round Dances will be interested in this quote from Lee's letter: "I have had so many requests from friends for information on

## New Los Angeles Folk Dance Directory

Paul Erfer has compiled a list of 58 groups in the Los Angeles area who folk dance. He has listed these according to the type of dance specialized in by each group, such as Square and American Dances, Folk and European Dancing, and Ethnic Dancing. This list is a useful guide for the dance-hungry visitors to Southern California. Additional copies may be had for ten cents by writing to Paul Erfer, 923 North Ridgewood Place, Los Angeles. Paul is the leader of many folk dance groups here, among them the Hollywood Folk Dance Circle, The International Folk Dance Circle, Centinela Folk Dancers, and the East Los Angeles Co-op.

## International Dance Circle Makes Debut

Paul Erfer has started a new Leader's Group in Los Angeles which meets on Mondays. Due to the tremendous popularity of this group, and as its chief purpose is to prepare leaders to teach new material to others, it has been necessary to limit attendance to sixteen couples.

The International Dance Circle made its first showing by performing the German Windmiller at the September 15th Neapolitan Holiday Festival. They are currently concerned with learning the Hopak as done in New York, which, to avoid confusion, has been designated as the Ukrainian Hopak. Fred Hobler has been chosen Secretary-Treasurer. We shall be looking forward to fine things from the IDC.

VIRGINIA ANDERSON

what is being done in various parts of the country, that I am going to get out a newsletter once or twice a month to take care of all of them at once. If any of you who are genuinely interested in American Folk dancing would like to receive this newsletter (for free) drop a line to: Lee Owens, P. O. Box 29, Palo Alto, California.

JOE C. BEST

## Southern Standardization Committee Meets

Representing eleven groups active in the Folk Dance Federation of California, the Standardization and Research Committee has met for the purpose of tracing the traditional forms of the dances performed by its members. The ultimate aim of this committee is to arrive at an understanding of the dances done by everyone, North and South.

Where there are two forms of the same dance, the committee hopes to make a slight change in the name so that everyone hearing it will be prepared to enjoy the same figures, rather than to form separate groups doing different versions.

Carolyn Mitchell, of the Hollywood Peasants, has been named chairman. The other members include Virginia Anderson, Alice Scott of Pasadena, Jimmy Klein of the Mountaineers, Selma Saltzer of Westwood, and Lillie Fialkoff.

The committee's first real contribution is a description of the Buffalo Glide, for Let's Dance, requested by the Northern Section. Research is being done on Gamal Rheinlander, Krakowiak, Kohanochka, Fountain Varsouviennne, and the Hopak. Suggestions and information will be welcome. Write to Miss Carolyn Mitchell, 3846 South Harvard Blvd., Los Angeles 37, Calif.

LILLIE FIALKOFF

## FOLK DANCES FROM NEAR AND FAR

### Volumes I and II

A new addition, Volume II, of the book "Folk Dances from Near and far," published by the Folk Dance Federation is now available. Copies of the second printing of Volume I are also ready for distribution. Both volumes are obtainable from Ethel Turner, 3263 Sacramento street, San Francisco 15, Calif.

Price established by the Federation Council is two dollars for each volume.