

SOCIETY for
INTERNATIONAL
FOLK
DANCING

JULY 57



PANAMANIAN TAMBORITO DANCE

SOCIETY FOR
INTERNATIONAL

WORLD
FEDERATION



SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING
NEWS SHEET

JULY,
1951.

CARLYLE GIRLS SCHOOL, HORTENSIA RD: CHELSEA, - 7.30.p.m. - 9.30.p.m.
 WEDNESDAY. 4th. SWEDISH CLASS by Dr. CYRIAX music Mdm. BARBARA.
 " 11th. ESTONIAN " G. NOBLE " "
 " 18th. POLISH " TOLEK " "
 " 25th. GENERAL " IRENE & IVOR " "
 FRIDAY 6th. POLISH " TOLEK " "
 " 13th. SWEDISH " Dr. CYRIAX " "
 " 20th. KOLO " P. THORNTON " "
 " 27th. ADVANCED " RECORDS.
 Mdm. BARBARA.

INNS OF COURT MISSION, DRURY LANE, - 6.30.p.m. - 9.30.p.m.
 SUNDAY 1st. M.C. Bert Price. Music. Jim Titheradge & band.
 " 8th. " Horace Maitland. " "
 " 15th. " David Rasbash " "
 " 22nd. " Ivor Sober " "
 " 29th. " Horace Maitland " Henry Schuster & band.

RECTORS LAWN, PRINCE CONSORT RD. - 7.30.p.m. - 10.0.p.m.
 TUESDAY 3rd. M.C. Jack Richardson Music Mourie Pfeffer.
 " 10th, " Dr. Heath " "

Subsequent Tuesday dances will be arranged if possible and details announced at Carlyle School. If it is wet dancing will be in the hall opposite the lawn.

HARROW GREEN, TRUMPINGTON RD. SCHOOL, LEYTON. 7.30.p.m. - 10.0.p.m.
 WEDNESDAY 4th. GENERAL MEETING.
 " 11th. EUROPEAN EVENING.
 " 18th. GENERAL DANCE.
 " 25th. GENERAL DAN CE.

FROM THE SECRETARY.

It is much better to be able to say from the Sec; than to the Sec; thank you for your kind wishes and telephone calls. I am glad to say I am on my feet again and hope it will not be too long before I shall be dancing again.

I visited Chelsea at the last Friday class, and was very pleased to meet Eugene again. The only regret we have, his visits are so short and far apart. For those who have not met Eugene Jablonski, I would like to tell you, he is a very enthusiastic Member from New York, who always manages to spare us a little of his time when over here on business.

I would like to see as many folk as possible at the Folk Dancing afternoon at the Leyton Orient Football Ground on Saturday July 28th, time 3.0.p.m. until 6.0.p.m. There will be other attractions on the programme, but dancing is the main item. I shall have tickets for sale and hope I will have many applications.

DEMONSTRATIONS.

We have had a very busy month and I wish to thank all the Members who have taken part, but I would like to make two small complaints. Firstly, I do not get very prompt replies to my demonstration cards. This make things difficult for me, especially when Members cannot attend - the longer notice I can give other people the better. Secondly, I would appreciate punctuality at demonstrations; this is after all a matter of good manners and reflects discredit on the Society if the team is late and is also a source of annoyance to other Members who are kept hanging about.

On June 5th we visited the Worlds Friendship League, Denbigh Rd, Bayswater. This was a repeat performance in answer to a special request, as our first had been so liked. June 9th we spent the afternoon teaching and demonstrating to a Teachers Re-union at West Kensington Grammar School. This was a huge success, the large audience joined in happily. We then proceeded to Conway Hall, Bloomsbury for a demonstration to the International Friendship League, this was also a special request as we have already danced several times at their club.

Wednesday June 13th we went to the Kensington Branch of the International Friendship League. The audience here were very appreciative and several members asked if they could come to our classes. Two did come on the Wednesday when Hopak was taught, I hope they have recovered and will come again:::

Finally on Saturday June 23rd we danced at St. James Parish Garden Fete, Enfield Jim Titheradge took charge as I was unable to go. He tells me that 80 school children joined in the dancing and very much enjoyed it all. Thank you Jim for running this so well

I should like to say thank you to Mourie, who has played at all these demonstra
 Marjery Latham.

WE ARE DRESSING.

It is a common belief that a lot of money must be spent in order to make a Folk Dance Costume. This is not necessarily the case, and for the benefit of those girls who would like to make themselves a costume, I have put together the following suggestions;-

- (1) Decide first which nationality you are going to adopt.
- (2) Study the predominant colour. Does that colour suit you? You won't like your costume if it does not.
- (3) Is the style of costume one which you can wear? If you are uncomfortably skinny you had better decide upon a costume with a dirndl skirt, but if you are one far from skinny a pleated skirt should be your choice. If you are neither which nor t'other, then either style will do.

With a few exceptions, the blouses of these costumes for girls are plain in style and colour with not over-full sleeves. A white blouse is always useful, so you won't be wasting money on that.

The style of bodice will tie you to a particular country more than anything else, so special attention must be given when making this. They may be laced in the front, fastened at the front, open at the front, fastened at the side, fastened at the back or fastened all round and into it you wriggle.

Now for material. Go for a walk in the Soft Furnishing instead of the Dress Fabric department. These materials are often much better for a folk skirt, whether silk, wool or cotton. You'll get the material for your bodice there too and because furnishing fabrics are woven wider than dress fabrics, you'll find that you need less yards.

White or coloured stockings - or long socks for greater comfort whilst dancing - are a "must". And please; leave those gym slippers to the Keep Fit girls and dance in shoes. Shoes with a small heel, Scottish dancing pumps should be "out" too, unless your costume is that of Ukrainian mountaineer or some dress which calls for the moccasin type of shoe.

Skirt, Blouse, bodice, proper footwear, and of course an apron (an important feature of most costumes) give you a good basic costume. Now start to add the characteristic bits and pieces. A head-dress is necessary, easy to make and usually becoming. Study this question well for it is important. Lace and ribbons are expensive, so why not visit local Jumble Sale? The pieces of old lace sold there are almost always handmade. You will get ribbons and pieces of material studded with sequins and beads for next thing to nothing, for nobody but a crazy folk dancer wants them nowadays. You might even get some frilly petticoats. Ah, lots of frilly petticoats, but don't let them show inches below your skirt. It should be an achievement for your partner to catch a glimpse of these, make him crouch lower in doing his prysiadkas or toss you to even greater heights in the Open Waltz. You see, already a costume is making you both dance better.

Irene Weller.

Some little while ago, Ivor Sober paid a visit to America, he would like to tell you about the dancing there.

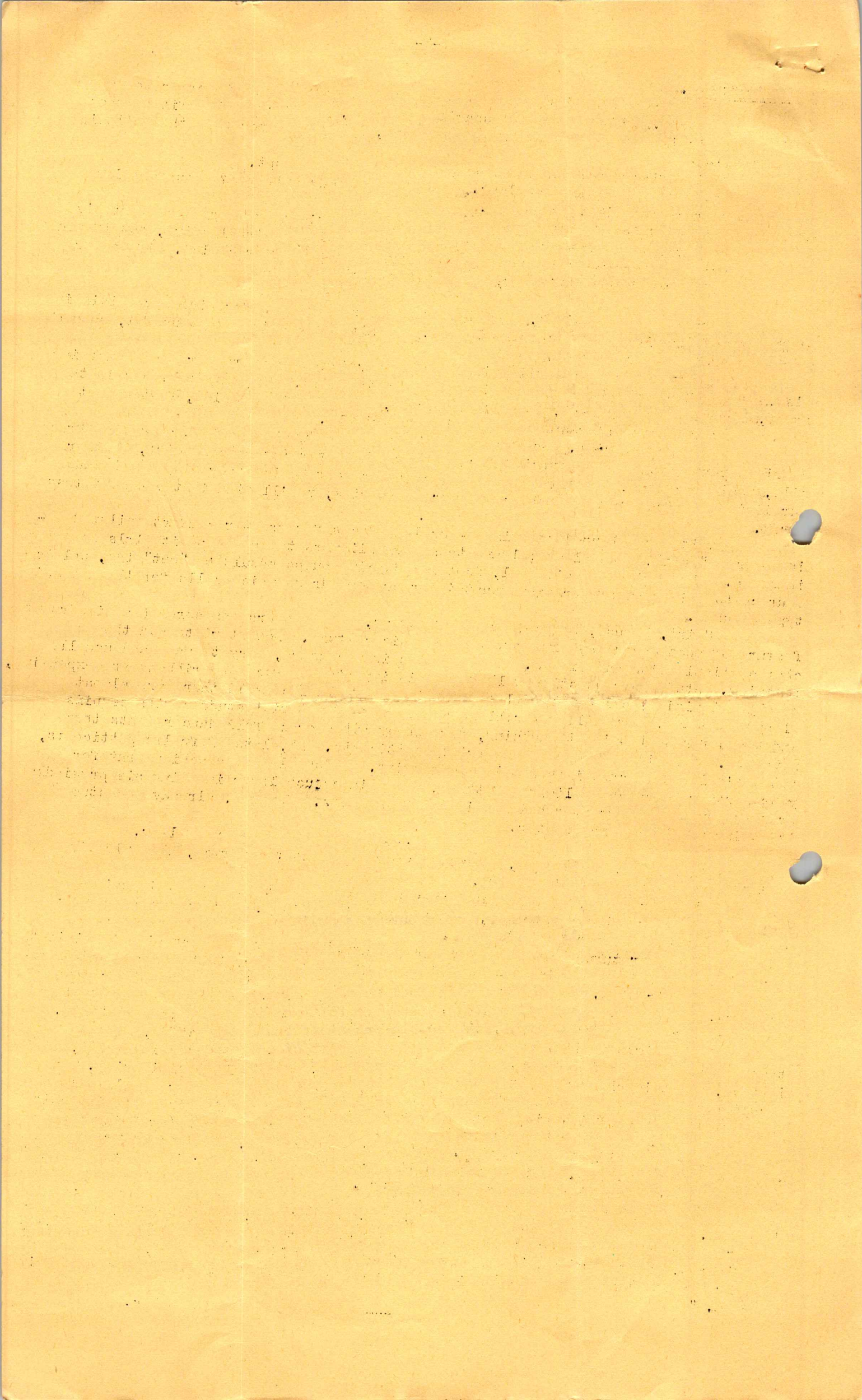
" To travel 3,000 miles in order to do the same thing as one is doing at home would seem at first a strange, a very busman's holiday. Yet just that has proved in the event to be a thrill of its own.

I have returned from New York and naturally took the opportunity to visit the Michael Herman Folk Dance Group - one of our most valuable original sources of information and inspiration. And it was a fine feeling to be dancing the same dances there are here. It was fun to compare notes, to observe their achievements and obstacles and to compare them with our own, different in organisation though our Society is.

The first feeling as I have said is of a sort of satisfaction, a contentment that we have so much in common. Some of the dances differed slightly in detail, it is true, but this shows up only because of the background of close similarity. But peculiarly enough the feeling of kinship is most felt because we share so largely the same problems and difficulties. There as here accuracy of dancing is most difficult of achievement. There as here it is the people who know the dances (or think they do) who are least amenable to correction. But there as here too, constant effort does in the end produce results. I indeed was quite proud that our own achievements measured up on the whole so well as compared with theirs.

Fortunately placed as we are with so many National Groups on our doorstep so to speak, we have some advantages over our American friends. Let us take full advantage of our opportunities and try to capture the spirit of the dances as well as the order of the figures, the typical national characteristics as well as the steps, so that our visitors may feel as at home doing their dances with us as I felt doing our dances in America. "

Ivor Sober.



Tom Amasanti would like to know if any Members would be interested in the following:-

A Folk Dance week-end is being arranged at Coppice Camp, School Lane, Kelvedon Hatch, Essex, from dinner time on Saturday until tea time on Sunday.

Providing the support is adequate the cost inclusive of all meals should not exceed 7s.6d. per head.

Those who enjoy camping can pitch their tents in the camping field. For those who prefer sleeping indoors there is accommodation similar to that found at Your Hostels. A hut which accommodates 30 people comfortably.

The hut during the daytime and evening is used for recreational purposes. Darts, table-tenning, billiards and a piano is provided.

Catering will be ~~communal~~ The Coppice Camp Committee will order sufficient food for our needs. Preparing and cooking the food will be the responsibility of the members taking part. A rota will be drawn up and all will take a turn.

All you will need to bring other than your personal requisites is a sleeping bag or sheet. Those camping out would have to provide their own blankets or warm sleeping bags.

Green Line bus 721 from Aldgate to Brentwood then 339 bus going in the direction of Ongar, to Kelvedon Hatch Post Office.

City bus from Wood Green to Brentwood and then as above.

Central Line Underground to Ongar and then 339 bus going in Brentwood direction, to Kelvedon Hatch Post Office.

Those who would like to, ~~go~~ ^{can go} on Friday night but would have to provide their own supper and breakfast.

Irrespective of the weather an enjoyable week-end can be promised.

If any Members wish to go on this week-end, will they please contact Tom.

[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper]

Mr. J

14, Woodstock Lane

N. 21

