

S. I. F. D.

-NEWS-

JUN 66



ADY

1.
 Editor:- Ken Blackwood, 523 Commercial Way., E.1. Phone; Home ST5 6237 Work MUB 3644
 Ext 999
 Assistant Editors: Lily Southgate and Stephen Ward. Material should be with the Editor
 or Assistants by the 10th.

It is with deep regret that I have to announce the death of Hazel Starke, wife of Alan Starke, teacher of Spanish Dancing. They had been in Mexico for three years and were about to return for a holiday when the tragedy occurred. We were arranging for them to teach some of the Mexican dances which they have been collecting and were very much looking forward to their visit.

I know that all their friends in the Society will wish to join me in a message of sympathy to Alan.

MARGERY LATHAM.

CLASSES 1965/66

HUGH MYDDLETON SCHOOL Corporation Row, E.C.1. (Farringdon Station or bus to Finsbury Town Hall.)

Monday	Spanish	Beginners	19.00-20.00	Margaret Colato
		Intermediate	20.00-21.30	
Tuesday	Balkan	Beginners & Intermediate	18.30-20.30	Kenneth Ward
Wednesday	International	Intermediate & Demonstration	19.30-21.30	Margery Latham

CHRISTOPHER HATTON SCHOOL, Laystall Street, E.C.1. (northbound buses 19,38,38a, 171,172. alight at first stop in Roseberry Ave.,

+ Monday	International	Beginners	18.30-20.30	Margery Latham
	Polish	Beginners	20.00-22.00	Betty Harvey
Thursday	Spanish	Advanced	19.00-20.00	Margaret Colato
		Flamenco	20.00-21.30	

+ G.L.C. Class

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SECRETARY'S NOTES FOR JUNE

Following the rather cryptic notice regarding the Royal Albert Hall Show which appeared in last month's issue, we are now able to tell you that the Manager of the R.A.H. has informed us that there is a private Bill in the House at the present time asking for a change in the lettings for the Hall. The outcome of this will be that there will be two types of booking only available:- (a) All the seats excluding those privately owned, and (b) all the seats including those privately owned. The booking we had previously, which included a proportion of those privately owned, is no longer available. As the cost of the (b) booking would be prohibitive, we have decided to take the (a) booking, which means that seats privately owned will not be available to us. This is by no means ideal, but the alternative would be to cancel the Show altogether. Having made this decision, the Sub-Committee will now go ahead with planning the programme, and with publicity, which had been suspended for the time being while we were discussing the matter with the R.A.H. management. The question of a grant, to help us with the expense, has also been raised and an approach has been made to the appropriate Minister.

We are going ahead for our Dance at Porchester Hall on July the 2nd. The Dance will be from 7 to 11.30 p.m., tickets 5/- each, and demonstrations will be given by various teams. We hope all members will come along, and bring their friends, to help make this an even bigger social success than last year.

Our May Day Dance at the Dance Centre was very well attended and proved to be a very enjoyable evening. Several of our country members came up to London for the dance including a group from Brighton. A short demonstration of dances from the Berry and Vendee regions of France was given by three couples from Les Escargots, and some Swiss dances taught by our Swiss friend.

The Committee have decided to allow children to attend Sunday dances provided they are accompanied by a parent, or parents.

Finances as at 24.4.66:	Cash in Bank	£242.11. 5.	Current a/c
		£861. 2. 7.	Deposit a/c
	Cash in Hand	£47.11. 9.	

One of our friends, Margaret Ellis, (nee Naylor) has changed her address and now lives at 53 Linden Way, Boston, Lincs. We wish her all the best in her new home.

The net result of our appeal to our 250-odd members for a typist to help produce the news-sheet has been one offer from a male member in Holland, and an offer from a young lady who is not even connected with the Society but is a friend of one of our members. Are all the typists among our members too busy to spare a few hours each month? A little willing co-operation would be very helpful.

LILY SOUTHGATE
Hon. Secretary.

At 20 words a minute it only takes me three hours per news sheet, and anyway John Hughes is going grey correcting my mistakes every month!

Maureen Weight.

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3.

Dear Editor,

I am afraid the only answer to Wallflower's letter is - just don't go to dances (contrary though this advice may be to S.I.F.D. policy!-

Some of us are made this way and must simply accept the fact that we are not likely to change overnight. It is no use kind people saying it proves you are not a 'dance-Hall' type - neither are the girls who get asked to dance. And its no use reading the adverts, which say "I was a wall-flower until I used Dogsbody's shampoo/soap toothpaste" because thats not the answer either. Nor is Aunt Fanny in the magazines being very realistic when she says "Be gay, vital, and amusing". You cannot be this sitting alone in the middle of a row of chairs.

One of the most fragrant and nostalgic memories of my receding youth is of standing on a dance floor, after a completely danceless evening, alone, but surrounded by 31 men. - the only girl not asked to dance the last waltz - and realising that it means something that 31 men prefer not to dance than to dance with you. I concluded that in the eyes of men I am an aquired taste - like arsenic. Now nothing would induce me to go to dances. It is a most humiliating experience and one people of our type are better off (and happier) without. So the best advice is - find something else to do.

Yours faithfully,
EX-WALLFLOWER.

Of course the above isn't the only answer. One of our most eminent and popular long-standing (no pun intended) members says that in her early days with the S.I.F.D. she certainly didn't sit back and do nothing if the men weren't prompt in asking her to dance. She just got up and grabbed herself a partner - male or female. She soon learnt the men's steps as well as the girls' so that if there weren't any men around she could dance with another girl. This isn't the ideal solution but presumably the object of the evening is to get up and enjoy the dance, so, Wallflower, why not take the bull by the horns and ask the men to dance, and, if they are ungallant enough to refuse, take another girl.

AUNT FANNY

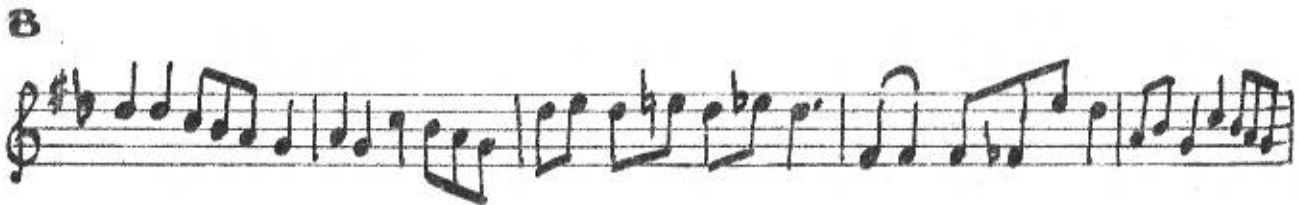
BENEVOLENT TYRANNY

Members may have noticed that we are publishing letters under noms-de-plume. In some cases the letters have been signed and the writer had intended the name to be published. We reserve the right, quite tyrannically, to refuse to print the author's name and to substitute instead an appropriate pen-name, the appropriateness to be judged entirely by our own taste. If this is felt to be undesirable, please inform us.

Editor and Staff.

СНУЧНИК
А

MACEDONIA



5.

THE DUTCH VERSION OF S.I.F.D.

The NEVO (meaning Nederlandse Volksvereniging, or, if you prefer, Netherlands Folk Dancing Society), is the equivalent of the S.I.F.D., mainly based on international dances. (We do have another Society in Holland, the N.V.S., which is equivalent to the E.F.D.S.S., doing English dances only). The NEVO has approximately 3,500 members all over the country and organized into more than 60 groups. My home town, the Hague, has 9 groups, Amsterdam has 3, and Rotterdam 3.

There is a new arrangement with the E.F.D.S.S. to enable their members to dance with a NEVO group free of charge while in Holland, and Dutch members to dance with an E.F.D.S.S. group whilst in Britain, but they all have to show their valid membership card. A similar arrangement could perhaps be made with the S.I.F.D.?

Usually each group dances a couple of hours one evening a week. Twice a year, at Easter and Christmas, there are special courses (in Youth Hostels) open to non-members. The dances are taught by people from abroad, in most cases solo dancers or leaders of famous dance groups. For instance, last Christmas, we had in Arnhem, Bulgarian Greek and English dances. English dances were taught by Hugh Rippon of the E.F.D.S.S. (who brought with him a few members of his group): Greek was taught by Eleni Tsaouli from Athens and Cyrilla Haralampiev took Bulgarian dances. This way you really got to know the dances. The cost of this course was £4 all-in. Then NEVO (or the groups themselves) occasionally organize a dance or a week-end somewhere in the country.

Every two years, NEVO also gives a special course for people wishing to become leaders of a group. This course is free of charge, but one has to be talented and able to give guidance. Furthermore, one has to have danced for many years and know a great number of dances by heart. There are two sections - English and Continental. Every two months NEVO issues a periodical similar to the "News" but better printed.

S.I.F.D. members interested in the Christmas course 1966 (probably 27th to 31st December) and/or the Easter course are requested to contact the writer of this article. As soon as possible, the correct dates, places, costs and "countries" will be given. If possible, please enclose an International Reply Coupon but do not send stamps as these are not valid in Holland!

Hoping to see you again at Christmas time!

RONALD SPEYER

95 Lubeckstraat (or P.O. Box 9311)
THE HAGUE, Holland.

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Wallflower should try the system that Johnston's biographer, Boswell, described when writing his account of Johnston's trip to the Hebrides. He described how when a Scottish Reel began to sound the women instantly got up and onto the floor. They cared nothing for the men but everything for the dance. I cannot recall the exact wording but the general gist was that there was a shortage of men so the girls who wanted to dance danced together, one taking the man's part. The shortage of men in Scottish dancing has continued to this day and so has the custom of girls dancing together. This has the effect that the women usually know the dances better than the men, as the men very rarely have to dance the women's part. Another consequence, of which I have personal experience is that when the man wishes to dance different dances with different girls who are seated between dances in different parts of the hall he has to be across the hall like lightning or the girls will get up with their neighbours and, as has happened to me, by the time one gets there, there is no one left to dance with. So my advice to Wallflower is to be independent, a la Ecosse.

LEFT AT THE POST

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE IN THE LONDON AREA A pianist with a wide practical experience of folk-dance music. Interested readers should contact the Editor.

The following records are available from Kenneth Spear, Folk Dance Center in Queens-Record Service, 56-40 187 St., Flushing, N.Y. 11365.

HED ARZI AN 18-28 - 10" L.P. "ISRAELI FOLK DANCES" List price \$4.00, Net \$2.50.

Has the following dances: Shualim Ketanim, Or Havatzot, Ki Tavou, Debka Dayagim, Ahavat Hadassah, El Harahat, Vehitifu, Kalu Ragalayim, Ashira Le'Adonai, Es Vakevess, Shir Toda, Kol Dodi. Complete with instruction booklet.

HED ARZI NIRKODA 1 12" L.P. List price \$ 5.00, Net \$ 3.00.

Excellent recording of 14 folk dances Hora Agadatti, Debka Dayagim, Et Dodim Kalla, Debka Dalona, Bat Yiptach, Debka Kurdit, Ana Pans Dodech, Havu Lamu Yayin, Kalu Raglayim, Bona Habanot, Debka Druze, Ahavat Hadassa, Ta'am Haman, Es Vakeves.

HED ARZI MN. 529 - 7" L.P. List Price \$ 2.50, Net \$ 1.50 with instructions. Macher, Hopa Hey, Derech Aruka, Shibolet Pas, Hashual, Hora Nirkoda.

COLLECTORS GUILD CG.638 "Israeli Folk Dance" List Price \$ 4.00, Net \$ 2.50.

This is the imported Hataklit record sold in this country under the label Collectors Guild. Features the Effy Netzer dance band, and has the following selections: Kuma Echa, Hineh Ma Tob, Nigun Atik, Hora Nirkoda, Bat Hacarmel, Alexandrovna, Double Cherkessia, Hora Neurim, Israeli Mazirka, Es Vakevess, Erev Ba, Debka Hallel, Korobushka, Misirlou-Never on Sunday, Krakowiak, Merkev. Dance booklet being prepared.

TERMS: Cash for orders under \$5. 30 days for orders over \$5.00.

Postage: 1 or 2 records, add 25¢ postage. Orders of 3 or more, postage paid.

COMING EVENTS

4th, 9th, 10th and 11th June. At Commonwealth Institute, Ritha Devi in 'Angharum', a panorama of the classical dance traditions of Hindu temples. Tickets 20/-, 15/-, 10/-, 5/-.

2nd July Grand Dance at Porchester Hall

5th to 10th July International Music Eisteddfod, Llangollen.

26th November "1001 Legs, See How They Dance", Royal Albert Hall.

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Harrow Green Folk Dancing Group meet on Wednesdays at Holland Hall, Oxford House, Maple Street, Bethnal Green,

June 1st.	Philip Thornton	Balkan	June 22nd.	Not Fixed
June 8th	Harry Goldstein	Israeli	July 6th. & 13th.	" "
June 15th.	Narendra Kotiyen	Basque,	July 20	Philip Thornton
	Argentinian & Catalan			Balkan

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E.F.D.S.S.' and other associated bodies' activities.

- FOLKLIFE OF BRITAIN - a residential summer course to be held at Keele University, North Staffordshire from 17th to 22nd July 1966. Enquiries to Cecil Sharp House.
- FOLK SOUND OF BRITAIN - Royal Festival Hall, 3rd June, at 8 p.m.. Tickets 5/- to 20/-
- CLOG DANCING - Cecil Sharp House, 6th June and subsequently.
- SQUARE DANCING - Cecil Sharp House, 6th June.
- ANOTHER LOOK AT PLAYFORD - Pat Shaw, Cecil Sharp House, 6th June.
- JUST FOR MUSICIANS - Cecil Sharp House, 13th June.
- SUMMER PLAYFORD DANCE,- Thora Watkins, Cecil Sharp House, 4th July.
- FOLKSONG - Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at Cecil Sharp House.
- CURFEW FOLK CLUB, CHERTSEY - 9th & 11th July. Enquiries to 80 Sandeewood Ave., Chertsey.

The Summer Programme for the E.F.D.S.S. is out and is available from Cecil Sharp House.

PROGRAMME FOR S.I.F.D. SUNDAY SOCIAL DANCE at The Dance Centre, 12 Floral St.

June 5th	Musicians	Cliff Beck	M.C. Cliff Beck
June 12th.	"	Harry De Caux	" Ken Blackwood
June 19th	"	Harry De Caux	" Lilly Southgate

June 26th Cecil Sharp House; Music by the Folk Dance Band. M.C. Margery Latham.