



A

The **COMER**
VANCOUVER
FOLK **ALL**
SONG **IES**
SOCIETY
JOURNAL **THE**
VOL I
No 1

COME ALL YE: THE VANCOUVER FOLK SONG SOCIETY JOURNAL

EDITORIAL

This is the first issue of what we hope to make a regular magazine dealing with the folkscene in Vancouver and with folksong and folklore in general. The direction the magazine takes, and whether it survives at all, is up to you, gentle readers. No magazine can thrive without contributions and so we ask for articles on music, instrument care, record/tape/book reviews, as well as information on what's on or coming up for the folk diary, and adverts, such as queries about folk matters, requests for songs, etc.

An editor's job, however, is to edit; and we reserve the right to amend all contributions for brevity, "good taste" (whatever that is), and sheer accuracy. Since publication day is the first FSC meeting of the month, the last day for submission of material is the second meeting of the previous month, although, if it may be possible to squeeze things in after that date, it cannot be guaranteed.

We hope you enjoy the magazine- and contribute!

MURRAY SHOOLBRAID

* VOL. I. N° 1, JULY 1972.

*

* The Vancouver Folk Song Society (VFSS for short) exists to promote interest and participation in folk music in the lower Mainland. As a club we meet on the 1st. and 3rd. Wednesdays of every month at the Alma YMCA, 10th & Highbury, at 8 p.m. We call ourselves "The Folk Song Circle" because we have no stage to separate audience from singers. The FSC is a forum for all kinds of music; all that is necessary is a desire to sing and/or listen. It is this factor which has probably accounted for the long run of the Circle (13 years this summer). Membership in the VFSS (\$5 p.a.) entitles you to free entry to the circle meetings, invitations to get-togethers and "5th Wednesdays", which are held at a member's house and are generally "subject oriented".

*

* President Murray Shoolbraid
* Vice-President P. Barkham
* Secretary Adrian Duncan

*

* Editor Murray Shoolbraid
* 733-2627

* Assistants K. Shoolbraid
* J. Bartlett

*

*

LOOKING BACK

In the years previous to 1959, there was a small group of us who met at each other's homes as much as possible to enjoy both singing and listening to folk songs. Our numbers increased very rapidly. We then decided that if so many people were interested in folk music, we could perhaps have a meeting place where many more could participate.

We approached the Alma YMCA and asked permission to use their downstairs hall on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in return for our silver collection. This arrangement was agreed to, and we held our first Folk Circle meeting on the first Wednesday of July, 1959. The five people who were responsible for founding the FSC were Albert Cox, Jeannie (Cox) Moss, Phil and Hilda Thomas, and Rolf Ingelsrud. Rolf returned to Norway, where he tragically died in an air-crash in 1963.

Our first meeting featured our resident group, the "Highriggers". Later, other volunteer singers were added to the evening's programmes, including Vera Johnson, Barry Hall, and Ray Lowther, who are still with us at the present time.

The "Circle" or "Y" as it has become known, has been run by volunteers throughout the years. Later, an executive was formed and \$5 memberships issued to ensure that we would have money for the "Y" rent.

Our programmes have been very varied. Little advertising has been done but we have never been short of singers or listeners. Over 500 singers have sung at the FSC; special programmes have included the Cup of Milk Fund, Xmas, Channel 10 T.V., and CBC radio.

Guests have included Guy Carawan, Bonny Dobson, Sonny Terry, Jean Redpath, Josh White, Peggy Seeger, and Ed McCurdy. Others have come from countries all over the world and have taken news of the FSC back home.

JEANNIE (COX) MOSS

