[Note: This is a cassette that Mr. Bruni made for the project following Jim Leary's meeting with him the previous week. The sound quality is pretty rough with plenty of machine noise, but the information conveyed is very interesting.]

Numbers 1-5 are performances from ca. 1964 by the Hartford City Band's Polka Band. They were tape recorded by Milton Bruni.

1. Unspecified tune.
2. " " [M. interjects the Walter ?, another Swiss, is playing baritone horn.]
3. Unspecified tune.
4. " "
5. A pair of big band numbers in quick succession.
6. Milton reckons he'll try to get some Swiss recordings on when his record player is fixed.
7. A Swiss number.
8. Swiss vocal chorus with yodeling in a classical mode.
10. More in the vein of # 8.
11. Accordion and yodelers [M. interjects that his parents knew many of these songs by heart.]
12. A peppy accordion polka.
14. A choral number similar in style to #'s 8&10.

[sid A ends]

15. M. mentions a German Dance Orchestra Collection published by Vitak-Elsnic in
Chicago [probably the same publication from the mid-1930s that Kenneth Platz used] that was used by the Art Sohre Orchestra. First number is a German march [hereafter M. names many tunes in the V-E publication and included on a list of "sets" that the band used for their public performances; unfortunately I am not sufficiently adept at German to set down some of the German titles M. provides, but I will try to indicate where they occur.] The march is "Schelswig-Holstein," but you could play it "as a wild polka." The Sohre Band usually did it as an encore after "Good Night Ladies."


18. Mentions the modern "Tiger Rag," along with "Vienna Life," "Tales From the Vienna Woods," "Hofbrau Medley Waltz" [Du, Du; Lauterbach; Herr Schmidt; Ach Du Lieber Augustine], "Blue Danube," "Star Dust," "Dardanella" (a fox trot), "Nobody's Sweetheart Now."

19. Mentions playing "God Bless America," "National Anthem," and some soldier song during WWII.

21. Later in war years did a "very good ... Romy Gosz number ... 'Dakota Waltz'." Mentions also "Saturday Night Waltz," "A Night in May."

22. Mentions presence of many Serbians in the Mayville area where there were iron mines. Reckons there are graves there with Yugoslav printing.


26. M. interjects that his brother did vocals for the Sohre Orchestra and as an excellent singer.

28. M. signs off.

29. M. returns again.

30. About a Swiss cheesemaker near Iron Ridge who was an attendant at M.'s parents' wedding—Emil Jennie. Two Germans, second and third generation, got into a law suit about a dog. Jennie testified in his broken English. Judge asked how long he'd been in the country. "Three mo" Farmers, however, needed an interpreter. Judge got so mad at them he threw the case out of court.

31. M. talks about German-American Bund in Milwaukee during WWII and its activities. Reckons German government in WWI positive that German-Americans wouldn't shoot at German soldiers. "They found out different."

32. The Hartford City Band continues. M. interjects references to Polish, Swiss, and German musicians within the band.

[Tape Ends]