

John Sollien's house, June 9, 1975
Arnold Munkel Collection, lcgs2355
Transcript

AUDIOTAPE, SIDE 1

00:00 [group plays "Silver bell"] Arnold Munkel: This is June ninth. We are over here at Mabel at the home of our friend John Sollien. At the present time he's uptown for a little errand that he has to do before he comes back to the house. And at the present time we've got about, oh, four fiddles going here, and a banjo, and a piano, and an accordion. The accordion player is a gentleman from Luther College. He's a professor down there- I don't know just exactly what he teaches but I'll find out. And then Selmer Ryan is on the banjo. We got Bill Sherburne on violin, and Oscar Sanden, and Mr. Forde, and then from west of Spring Grove, Orvin Johnsrud. And they're all playing together at the present time, but maybe after a while they'll play by individual.

01:16 "Svensk Anna's waltz" aka "Peek-a-boo waltz" aka "Nordfjordvalsen"
03:29 "Rushford waltz"
05:54 "Life in the Finnish woods" aka "Mockingbird Hill"
07:55 "Valts N7"
09:03 unidentified tune
10:23 Kväsar valsen" (?)
11:59 "Johnan på Snippen"
13:42 "Johnan på Snippen"
15:19 "Life in the Finnish woods" aka "Mockingbird Hill" (with false start)
17:19 "Pål sine honer"
18:02 unidentified waltz
19:44 "Newhouse waltz" aka "Old violin waltz"
21:22 unidentified polka
23:23 unidentified waltz
25:51 unidentified polka
27:48 "Lokkeren vals" aka "Caller's waltz" ; "Genette Burgess waltz"
30:22 unidentified schottische
32:35 "Shannon waltz"
35:05 unidentified waltz
37:42 "Koster waltz" (with false start)
41:00 unidentified waltz
43:17 "Red Wing"
45:41 "Mabel's polka"

48:09 "Bonde bryllup" aka "Old corn husking-bee" aka "Norsk bondevals"
 50:16 "Finska valsen" aka "Finnish waltz"
 50:32 "Finska valsen" aka "Finnish waltz"
 52:21 "Mabel philharmonic waltz"

END AUDIOTAPE, SIDE 1
 BEGIN AUDIOTAPE, SIDE 2

00:00 "Gary's polka" aka "Banjo, old time polka"
 02:15 Polka after Bill Sherburne
 04:10 "Little gem polka"
 06:38 unidentified polka
 08:29 unidentified waltz
 10:47 "Genette Burgess waltz"
 12:40 "Bill's waltz"
 15:05 "Kristiania valsen"
 17:59 "Dill pickles rag"
 20:29 unidentified waltz
 22:43 unidentified one-step
 25:18 "Santa Claus and the rats schottische"
 27:49 "Lokkeren vals" aka "Caller's waltz"
 30:14 unidentified schottische
 32:29 unidentified tune
 34:35 "Silver threads among the gold"
 36:51 unidentified waltz
 39:21 "Whispering"
 41:38 "L-O-V-E" aka "L is for the way you look at me"
 43:27 medley of unidentified waltzes
 48:27 unidentified tune
 51:16 "Five foot two"
 53:10 "And the band played on"
 55:14 "Ping pong polka"
 56:51 Polka after Bill Sherburne
 58:42 "Life in the Finnish woods" aka "Livet i Finnskogen"
 60:55 "Fiddler's bee waltz"
 63:02 Waltz after Gust Ellingson
 65:20 unidentified waltz
 66:42 "St. Paul waltz"
 68:51 "St. Paul waltz" (cont.?)
 70:02 unidentified waltz

72:03 Waltz after Bill Sherburne
 73:39 "Ranger's waltz"
 75:17 Jammin' at John's polka
 76:09 unidentified cottilion
 78:07 "Doodley doo" (?)
 80:14 "Golden slippers"
 81:59 unidentified song
 83:15 unidentified song
 83:59 unidentified waltz
 86:52 unidentified waltz

88:25 Arnold Munkel: Say, did you boys ever hear the story about the two truck drivers that were traveling across country. They hauled from one coast to the other. They had a detour in this certain state, and it was quite a long detour. And by golly it got towards evening and they run into a bad stretch of roads, so they had to pull into this one place, and park their big rig and they went to the house and asked if they could stay overnight there, and by golly here it was only a widow living on this place. So they- she told these guys that- "Well," she said, "Being that I'm a widow," she says, "I don't want to have you staying in the house- you'll have to stay in the barn," she said. "You guys could- that's alright, you can stay in the barn if you've got bedding or something along with you." So, they were game to do that. Along in the middle of the night, this one guy he was kind of restless, he couldn't sleep very good. So, he thought, By golly, I'm going to go over and visit with this widow. Maybe she'll be nice to visit with. So, he goes over there to the house and he's gone awhile. When he comes back, why, his buddy happened to be awake, and he said, "Hey, where the heck were you?" "Oh," he says, "I couldn't sleep so I went over to the house and rapped on the door, and this widow took me in and we had a nice visit. "Ya," the other guy says. This was some time after they had been on this trip. They were talking, and this guy said, "Ya," he said, "You went over there and visited with the widow," he said, "But you're a pretty sharp cookie" he says, "You're the guy who- didn't you tell me that you had a wife and kid at home?" "Yea, that's right," he said. "Well," he says, "I'm sure glad that you gave her my name because you sure did me a favor," he said. He says, "I got a letter here just a few days ago that the widow died about nine months ago and, by golly, in her will she left me sixty-five thousand dollars

91:03 Then there was this old boy who got to be quite a boozier. And as the years rolled by, he kept getting a little worse and worse and his wife was getting pretty disgusted with him. The worst part of it was, when he'd come home on a drunk, he be- he was such a gasser, she got so she couldn't stand it to sleep in the same room with him, so she

moved out. She moved into a different room. And by golly, here one day she seen he took for uptown and she figured, I'll betcha he's- well he was due for one of them binges again. So sure enough, he didn't come home till in the middle of the night and he was pretty well soused up. He went to bed. Anyway, during the day she had dressed a chicken, and thought, By golly, I'm gonna scare the daylights out of him. Maybe I can break him from this bad habit he's been having. So when she cleaned the chicken she took the entrails- the insides- and she stuck them right in the middle of his bed, So, when he come home, why, he went to bed. The next morning, why, she was down in the kitchen, and about eight o'clock he come down. She said to him, "Well Lars, how do you feel today, then?" "Oh, mama," he said, "In the night," he said, "I wear [unintelligible]." He said, "Oh, mama," he said, "I [unintelligible]. I didn't know- I didn't think I was gonna make it." "Boy oh boy, was I sick," he said. "About three o'clock," he said, "I was rolling around," he says, "And I had such pains," he said. "Oh my goodness, I was sick." "But then," he said, "You know, it happened. He said, "It happened just like you said, that if I kept on, why everything would come out, and sure enough," he said. "But golly, mama I was sick," he said. "But you know," he said, "with God willing and two strong fingers, I got them all back in again."