

TAPE INDEX

Jim Leary
February 8, 1985

Ed Peirick Home
Maple Crest Drive
Watertown, WI

1. Collector's announcement.
2. Dad, William, b. 1886; g'pa Henry came from Germany, settled in Dodge County, Lebanon township. Both farmers all their lives.
3. Mother, Mary Pitterly, b. in U.S. Her family came from a different part of Germany than Wm's family; dialects different, but E. couldn't be specific.
4. Dad and his bros. had a threesome in early 1900s: guitar, violin, and accordion. E's uncles were Henry, Joe, John, & Frank. Dad played accordion, violin, and guitar. Sisters played pump organ.
5. E. b. 1915, second of 12 kids.
6. Too many kids to have house parties. Plenty of dances in barns and sheds, especially for weddings. Dad played violin and neighbor played button accordion.
7. Remembers the "Rose Waltz" in particular and "Mariechen Waltz." Dad and brother played by ear.
8. E. began fooling around with one row button accordion. Wanted concertina, but they were high priced. Pooled money with brother to take lessons from Irving DeWitz for two years.
9. DeWitz in rest home in Hustisford, will be 90 next month.
10. E. always loved sound of concertina. Used to hear instrument at dances. Describes wedding dance in 1928, *with a concertina player who inspired Ed.*
11. Mrs. Peirick (Mary) brings recent photos of Fred and others playing at couple's 40th anniversary.
12. On playing with sheet music: mark of serious player. Sources of music: DeWitz, a violinist with whom E. played at dances in 1930s, several friends who

- played in bands, and New Ulm (Brown's Music and Christy Hengel).
13. Tries to get music from a Polish band in Milwaukee, but band played by ear.
 14. Got "Polish Lullaby" from a friend, Leo Bartel, who lives "around Marshfield." Mentions Pat Watters Music and Dance News as a source of music.
 15. Plays no tunes by heart on concertina [not really the case], but does a few on button accordion.
 16. No playing after communal labor. Farm work stiffens the fingers.
 17. On the need for "loose fingering" while playing concertina.
 18. Source of Ed's concertina: Jerry Minar's JBM Music, New Prague, Minnesota.
 19. 1934-1935, E. plays two piece jobs with a sax player. Earlier with violinist Henry Buchert (died about 1969). 1937 folks had silver anniversary. Got together five piece band (violin, saxophone, tuba, drum, banjo or piano sometimes), then got more jobs at halls.
 20. Not influenced too much by "these better bands." Babe Wagner and others, with soloing concertinists, didn't tour the area til 1946-1948. Prior to this local bands played all together.
 21. Years ago saxophones always popular, not trumpet too much. Most bands with banjo. Tuba players not that popular yet. Ed calls his bands "more German style," didn't go in for that western music.
 22. After 1937 filled in with the Stouty (sp?) orchestra from Rokme (near Jefferson). Family band with drums, piano, violin. Late 1970s played with a band near Milwaukee where he had to lead the band as a player. "Town and Country Dutchmen," from near Hartland. Band leader, Wesley Schlaefer, died at a concertina players' picnic a few years ago.
 23. Band played mostly private jobs: weddings, a few taverns. Would sometimes hire a guitarist who played rock.
 24. On repertoire at jobs: requests mostly, Bird dance (recently), circle two

step.

25. At old time barn dances: some square dances with a caller, a schottische, circle two step, march waltzes not too prevalent, some fox trots (but these didn't appeal to Ed because it was hard to get the right dragging sound with the concertina's buttons), and some dances like "Herr Schmidt."

26. About "Herr Schmidt," "Lott is Todt," and "The Rye Waltz" as special dances that most don't know how to do nowadays.

27. Since playing with Town and Country Dutchmen, E. Plays roughly 20⁺ jobs a year: weddings, senior citizens' gatherings, some birthdays, anniversaries, old folks homes.

28. E's family had a "little harp" at home, but didn't know who played it. Wasn't sure of any zither players. Mentions Chris Deutsch from Milw. who played Sunday afternoon zither program over WTMJ.

29. Reckons can't get much music out of a harmonica and can't recall any particular harmonica players.

30. Dosn't know of hammer dulcimer player, but speaks of a drummer who used bells. [Whoopee Norm Edelbeck does this.]

[TAPE ONE ENDS]

[NOTE; all spellings of tunes follow those in Ed's notebook]

31. Beer Waltz: Freit Euch Des Lebens, Im Wald und Auf Der Hwid, Bier Her Bier Her.

32. Trink, Bruderlein, Trink.

33. Das Kufstein Lied.

34. Der Abenstern.

35. Dorf Music.

36. Tante Anna.

37. Doctor Eisenbak and Du Bist Verick Mein Kindt.

38. Christmas Toy Polka (after Karl and the Country Dutchmen).

Comments on Six Fat Dutchmen. (Claims Babe Wagner was with the original 6 Fat →

all were "stocky, heavy set guys."

- 39. Katarina Polka.
- 40. Lindenau Polka.
- 41. My Little Girl.
- 42. O Sussana.
- 43. Herr Schmidt [tape runs out before tune ends].

[END OF TAPE TWO]

- 44. Medley: Herr Schmidt, Lott is Todt, Rye Waltz [Comin' Through the Rye].
- 45. Finger Tanz [resembles Annie in the Cabbage Patch].
- 46. Tirol Mein Heimalend.
- 47. Swiss Boy Waltz.
- 48. Medley, "German Home Sweet Home": Lauterback Waltz, Ich Lieg Im Bett und Schwitze, Mein Hutt Der Hutt Drei Ecken, Ach Du Lieber Augustine, Die Alten Deutschen Tranken Noch Eins, So Leb Dem Wohl.
- 49. Wursthau Laendler.
- 50. So Ein Laendler (Suchke).
- 51. Southside Galop.
- 52. Lappland Polka.

Good talk
here about
Society Dances!
how, where, by
whom they're
done.

[TAPE THREE ENDS]

[The final pair of tunes are played on the button accordion.]

- 53. Golden Daisies Waltz.
- 54. Sweet Bunch of Daisies.

[THE SESSION ENDS]