

7209A

7214A

7214B

7215A

7215B

7216A

Alutian Songs

Alaskan Comney. (good)

Prince Perry Song (good)

Alaskan Comney repeated (good)

Wrens

Girls of the King Mary (good)

Forward Bound. Youmault
captains (good)

Wrens March. H.M.C.S. Brumalis
(good)

Forward Bound. Youmault captains,
repeated (good)

Rushen Range (called Robin) Yama

Blowdown. Yarmouth captain

Blow Boy Blows. - - -

They say relay at end of chanty.
Use explained.

1916 shelled by German submarine.
(gets very scratchy) ends before
story ends.

B. Rowing (good) Yarmouth captain

Old Horse " "

Ballad chanty explained

115B. Aleutian Songs.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

Nov. 19, 1943.

At Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

Songs composed by the Canadian Naval Squadron while in the Aleutians.

1. Alaska Convoy.
2. Here Comes the Henry.
3. Alaska Convoy repeated.

Singers; Captain Edwards, two officers and fifteen ratings who served with him on the Prince Henry at that time.

Accompanist; Leading Bandsman Clifford Clark.

1. Oh we think Alaska is a land of beauty
We wanna go home.

2. Here Comes the Henry
Send her the worst barracks rats.

Girls of The King's Navy, HMCS Cornwallis (good)

114A. H.M.C.S. Cornwallis Band.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

Nov. 20, 1943.

At Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

1. Hearts of Oak.
2. My Hero.

Introduction by Lieut. McKyes.

114 B. Band.

~~114B. Band.~~
~~29A. See Quanties.~~

~~Recorded by Helen Craighton.~~
~~Recorded by Helen Craighton.~~

Nov. 20. 1943.

At Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

White Christmas.

Just before the intermission we decided to give the audience a surprise by playing this number back. There were hundreds of sailors in the drill shed attending the concert. The bandmaster left the stage to listen from the floor where he could hear better, and afterwards the bandmen crowded around the machine and asked all manner of questions. You will notice that near the first one of the bandmen played a wrong note, and when it came out on the recording there was a shriek of laughter. We re-recorded the number after the concert, and I think it was much better the second time.

Since this is a spoiled record, will you put another number on this side in place of the White Christmas. I would suggest 29A: Dennis Smith singing Peggy Gordon.

115A. Band.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

Nov. 20, 1943.

At Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

Band of H.M.C.S. Cornwallis; 60 pieces.

The first strip is a song which I began to record, but found that the singer was too far away from the microphone.

Caravan Overture, played at a concert for the naval personell at this training base.

115B. Band.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

Nov. 20, 1943.

At Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

Band of H.M.C.S. Cornwallis playing at a Sunday concert.

Song of the Bayou.

116A.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

At H.M.C.S. Cornwallis, Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

Nov. 21, 1943.

Band.

White Christmas.

Played by the Cornwallis naval band at a concert in the Drill Hall on Sunday afternoon. There are sixty pieces in the band.

116 B.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

At H.M.C.S. Cornwallis, Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

Nov. 20, 1943.

Original songs.

- 1. Lovely One.
- 2. Let Love Begin.

These songs are compositions by Leading Bandsman Clifford Clark, Toronto.

- 1. Sung by Stoker Eom Desson.
- 2. Sung by Ordinary Seaman Archie McDowell.

Accompanist; Leading Bandsman Clifford Clark.

The composer is a graduate of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, and is in charge of musical entertainment for the Base. He is highly thought of by Lt. McKyes and the others ~~xxxxxxx~~ in the Special Services Branch. In cases like this where popular music is recorded, is there any protection for the composer? And is there any chance of having it brought to the notice of a firm who might be interested? The suggestion is mine, not his. But as I worked with him I thought how I would love to open something up for him in the publishing world. In the event of anything being really good, it would stimulate creative work all through the services here.

- 118 A.1. The Girls of the King's Navy.
2. Homeward Bound. Practise, played back.

1. Recorded at H.M.C.S. Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, Nov. 23, 1943, by Helen Creighton.

O merry, O merry, O merry are we,
We are the gals of the King's Navy.

This is evidently the best known of the Wrens' songs, and I was interested in it because it is apparently a parody on the well known Alphabet Song. See Songs and Ballads From Nova Scotia and other collections of sea songs.

2. Do not make duplicate of Homeward Bound as I recorded it simply to play back to the captains. It had the desired effect, because until then they were afraid to sing out. Once they heard their own voices recorded they thought they were not so bad after all, and were ready to sing anything I wanted.

118B.

1. Recorded at H.M.C.S. Cornwallis, Nov. 22, on the Iron Duke Block.
- 2 & 3 recorded at the home of Captain Arthur Hilton, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

The first number was sung by five Wrens, the name given the women WRENs of the WRCNS which is their part of the Canadian Navy. The accompanist was Leading Bandsman Clifford Clark.

The Wren Song.

Hark do you hear, to the Wrens down the years
Comes the call of Drake's resounding drum?

2. Homeward Bound.
3. Robin Ranzo.

Singers; Captains Arthur Hilton, chanty man; E.E. Manning; R. A. Goudey; N.C. Larkin; E.B. Nickerson; A.L. McKinnon and Mr. Hugh Trefty whose father was a captain.

You will note that I have listed 3 as Robin Ranzo. I noticed this pronunciation when the men sang it, so I asked about it. They all said they had always known it as Robin although they had heard the more familiar Reuben over the radio.

It was probably a good thing that we had the chanty singing in the evening of the day I arrived in Yarmouth. These men are all quite shy and retiring, and if they had been given time to think about it, they would probably have thought they couldn't do it. My only regret was that Mr. Ben Annis (isn't that a unique name when you say it quickly?) was out of town as he had taken the part of chanty man in concerts put on by the captains I heard ten years ago. I doubt if they get together very often, and I am sure they enjoyed the evening as much as I did.

119A.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

Nov. 23, 1943.

At the home of Captain Arthur Hilton, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Sea chanties.

Singers; Captains Arthur Hilton, chanty man; E.E.Manning, R.A.Goudey, N.C.Larkin, E.B.Nickerson, A.L.McKinnon, and Mr. Hugh Trefry whose father was a captain.

- 1. Shenandoah.
- 2. Blow My Bully ~~Blow~~ Blow.
- 3. Explanation by Capt. Goudey.

When at sea and the work was finished and there was no further need of the chanty, the call would be given, "Avast Heaving", or "Belay", depending upon the type of chanty. This is explained briefly by Capt. Goudey who made the calls in these recordings.

These captains are all retired and are living in Yarmouth in very prosperous looking dwellings. It used to be said that a captain would build a house and the next one would build his a little better. Main Street has houses all along the north end of the town which were owned at one time by sea captains who have since died. The average age of these singers is about 73.

Mount Q re-recording Tape No. 16

119B.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

Nov. 23, 1943.

At the home of Capt. Arthur Hilton, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Story of shipwreck.

Informant; Captain E.E. Manning; retired sea captain; aged 80.

This is a story of torpedoing in the last war. The conclusion of the story was that Capt. Manning sailed her then to New York and Australia. In Buenas Ayres he met the man who had towed her in. The reason the vessel didn't sink was because it was loaded with lumber. It was an English ship, the William T Lewis owned by a firm in San Francisco. It cost \$82,000 to repair her. She is still afloat.

Besides the story interest, I felt that this and Capt. Larkin's tale are useful for students of linguistics.

120A.

Recorded by Helen Creighton.

Nov. 23, 1943.

At the home of Capt. Arthur Hilton, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Sea Chanties.

Informants; Captains Arthur Hilton, chanty man; E.E. Manning, R.A. Goudey, N.C. Larkin, E.B. Nickerson, A.L. McKinnon, and Mr. Hugh Trefry whose father was a captain.

With the exception of Mr. Trefry, these are all retired sea captains. Their average age is about 73.

1. A-Roving.
2. Poor Old Man.
3. Brief explanation by Capt. Hilton.

One thing Alan Lomax particularly asked me to do was to get chanties from men who had sailed before the mast. About ten years ago I went to Yarmouth and took down words and music from some excellent singers. Unfortunately these men have all died, and the town which was the returning place for sea captains, has very few left to-day. However I gathered together all I could find and we met at Capt. Hilton's house. They were as kind as they could possibly be, but conscious of the fact that none of them were singers. They understood that the records were for study purposes, and that we wanted the chanties as they used to be sung on Nova Scotia vessels. They all seemed to be in perfect accord about how they should be sung. I noticed occasional differences from the accepted versions. These men sang from memory and not from any printed text, although they are familiar with Miss Colcord's book which they highly respect. So I feel that these chanties are authentic records of the songs as sung on our vessels, and as such should have great value. Nova Scotian seamen were among the finest in the world. They sailed out own ships, and many made up the crews of vessels sailing from New England ports. I know of no other town in the province to-day where a group of this kind could be found.

Mount A rare recording No. 16