# *Cymdeithas Ddawns Werin Gymru*

# *Welsh Folk Dance Society*

**Llywyddes - President : Mrs. Lois Blake.**

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**Mr. W. S. Gwynn Williams,Glas Hafod, Llangollen.**

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# Adroddiad Blynyddol Cyntaf, Cymdeithas Ddawns Werin Cymru

Teimlwyd ers blynyddoedd fod angen Cymdeithas Ganolog yng Nghymru i ddwyn ynghyd weithgarwch y Ddawns Werin Cymreig a oedd eisioes yn bodoli, ac i wneud yn fwy hysbys y deunydd a oedd ar gael. I'r pwrpas hwn y sefydiwyd Cymdeithas Ddawns Werin Cymru ym mis Medi, 1949. Caf y fraint fel ysgrifennydd o roi adroddiad o waith y Gymdeithas er ei chychwyniad fiwyddyn yn o1.

Gwnaed llawer iawn mwy nag a feiddiem ddisgwyl er pan ddaeth i fodol- aeth. Cafwyd ymateb parod a chyffredinol, a cheisiadau.ani aelodaeth o bob rhan o Gymru.

Yr ydym yn ddyledus i'n Llywydd a'n Trefnydd, Mrs. Lois Blake, am ei gwaith arbennig o ennyn diddordeb yn y dawiisio Gwerin Cymreig yn y gwahanol glybiau a Sefydiiad y Merched, a hefyd am y gwaith ymchwil gwerthfawr a gyfiawnodd ers blynyddoedd ynglyn a gwreiddiau ein dawnsiau Cenedlaethol.

Trefnodd Mrs. Blake amryw o Ysgolion Undydd i Athrawon ac Arwein- wyr Ieuenctid yn y Rhyl, Llanfair Caereinion, Rhuthun, Dyserth, Bae Colwyn a'r Wyddgrug, a hefyd cymerodd gyrsiau preswyl o dan nawdd yr Urdd yn Aberystwyth.

Gwna Miss Doris Freeman waith cyffelyb yn y De, a chymerodd gyrsiau yng Nghaerfyrddin, Caerdydd, Brynmawr, Llanelly, Pontypool, a Birmingham. Bu galw mawr am wasanaeth Miss Freeman a'i thim o Gas Newydd i arddangos yr hen ddawnsiau Y tim hwn a ddewiswyd i gynrychioli Cymru yn y Lingiad yn Sweden yn 1949.

Gobeithiwn weld partion o Gymru yn cystadlu yn Eisteddfod Gyd- wladol Llangollen eleni, ac yn perfformio yr hen ddawnsiau gwreiddiol.

Cafwyd perfformiadau yn Seremoni'r Cyhoeddi yn Llanrwst eleni gan Ddawnswyr Corwen a cheir perfformiadau yn ystod yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yng Nghaerffili.

Y flwyddyn nesaf, am y tro cyntaf, yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yn Llanrwst, cynigir gwobr gan y Gymdeithas am Ddawns Werin, Gymreig wreiddiol.

Het ganmlwydd oed a ddaeth o sir Feirionnydd yw'r anrheg ddiddorol a dderbyniodd y Gymdeithas gan Miss Josephine Jones, Dinbych.

Carwn ddiolch i Mr. W. S. Gwynn Williams, ein Cadeirydd, Mr. Emrys Cleaver, ein Trysorydd, a'n Golygydd, Mr. Ifan O. Williams, ac i holl aelodau'r Pwyllgor Gwaith am eu help i wneud y flwyddyn gyntaf yn gymaint llwyddiant. A gaf i ddiolch hefyd i'r Henadur Margaret Williams, Llanelwy am fynegi teimlad cymaint o bobl drwy awgrymu y dylid galw Cyfarfod Cyffredinol a ffurfio Cymdeithas Ddawns Werin Cymru.

E. DANIELS JONES.

# First Annual Report of the Welsh Folk Dance Society

For years it has been felt that Wales has needed a Central Society to co-ordinate the Welsh Folk Dance activities already in existence, and to make known more generally the Welsh Folk Dance material already collected. It was for this purpose that the Welsh Folk Dance Society was formed in September, 1949. It is my privilege, as Secretary, to report on the work of the Society since its inception a year ago.

Far more than we had dared to hope for has been achieved since the Society came into existence.

There was an immediate and widespread response from all parts of Wales for enrolment as members.

We have our President and Organiser, Mrs. Lois Blike to thank for stimulating an interest in Welsh Folk Dancing amongst clubs and Women's institutes and for her valuable research work which she has carried on for years into the origins of our National Dances.

Mrs. Blake has organised a number of One Day Schools for Teachers and Youth Leaders at Rhyl, Llanfair Caereinion, Ruthin, Dyserth, Colwyn Bay and Mold, and has also taken resident courses for the Urdd at Aberystwyth. Miss Doris Freeman is doing similar work in South Wales and has taken courses at Carmarthen, Cardiff, Brynmawr, Llanelly, Pontypool and Birmingham. Miss Freeman's team from Newport (who were chosen to represent Wales at the Lingiad in Sweden in 1949) have been in great demand for demonstration purposes.

We hope to have Welsh teams competing at the International Eisteddfod at Llangollen this year and performing authentic Welsh Dances.

Demonstrations of Welsh Folk Dance were given at the Proclamation Ceremony at Llanrwst this year by the Corwen dancers and Miss Freeman's team will give demonstrations during the National Eisteddfod week at Caerphilly.

Next year, for the first time, the Society is offering a prize for an authentic Welsh Folk Dance at the National Eisteddfod at Llanrwst.

An interesting gift which the Society has received from Miss Josephine Jones, of Denhigh, is a hat of about 100 years old which came from Meirioneth.

I should like to pay tribute to Mr. W. S. Gwynn Williams, our Chairman, to Mr. Emrys Cleaver, our Treasurer, to our Editor, Mr. Ifan O. Williams, and to all members of the Executive Committee for their help in making our first year such a successful one. May I also thank Alderman Margaret Williams, St. Asaph, for expressing the need of so many people by her suggestion that a general meeting should be called and the W.F.D. Society be formed.

E. DANIELS JONES.