



Frances Densmore Papers

Copyright Notice:

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/copyright.

Titles of songs from British Columbia

Copied and sent to Twentieth Century-Fox Studios

These songs are the property of the Bureau of American Ethnology
which gave permission for their use

Songs recorded and transcribed by Frances Densmore

Book on these songs ready for editorial preparation

and publication -- book comprises about 100 ^{songs} /

-
1. "The whale will help me cure this sick man"
 2. "The thunderbird will help me cure this sick man"
 3. War dance song
 4. Song when carrying heads of enemy on poles (a)
 5. " " " " " " " (b)
 6. Song concerning a ransomed captive
 7. The rider on the kohaks
 8. Song of dance with wolf headdress (a)
 9. " " " " " " (b)
 10. " " "B " " " (c)
 11. Dance song of the Fraser River Indians (a)
 12. Song of a man alone at home " (b)
 13. Song when going to war " " (c)
 14. Song when returning from war
 15. Song of approach to a potlatch
 16. A desire for clear weather
 17. Potlatch song
 18. Dance song of the Fraser River Indians (b)
 19. " " " " " " " (c)

20. Dance song (a)
21. " " (b)
22. " " (c)
23. " " (d)
24. Klokali ~~sung~~ dance song
25. Thunderbird dance song
26. Song of Campbell dance
27. Dance song from Babiné
28. Dance song of the Thompson River Indians (a)
29. " " " " " " " (b)
30. Song after receiving a gift (a)
31. " " " " " (b)
32. Social song (a)
33. " " (b)
34. " " (c)
35. " " (d)
36. Slahal game song (a)
37. " " " (b)
38. " " " (c)
39. " " " (d)
40. " " " (e)
41. " " " (f)
42. " " " (g)
43. "I will scrape my bosy on the rocks"
44. The little boy and the whale
45. Song with story of frog woman
46. "Wrap a feather around me."
47. Canoe song (a)

48. Canoe song (b)
49. " " (c)
50. Song to a little girl
51. Lullaby
52. "I wish I were a cloud"
53. "All my sweethearts are gone except one"
54. "I am going to stay at home"
55. "She is glad to see him"
56. "Give me a bottle of rum"
57. Divorce song (a)
58. " " (b)
59. Song to a spirit in the fire
60. Song concerning the prophet Skilmaha
61. Song at termination of period of mourning
62. Song of a seal
63. Song of a shark hunter
65. Song of happiness
66. Dream about going to Ottawa
67. "I wish I was in Butte Inlet"
68. Song of a traveller
69. "Whisky song"
70. "Your pretty hair"
71. A woman's song
72. Indian cowboy song from Kamloops
73. Song of pleasure
74. Gambling song (a)
75. " " (b)

(When songs have words, they are indicated
in the title)

BRITISH COLUMBIAN INDIAN SONGS

Property of the Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution

Songs recorded by Frances Densmore, at Chilliwack, B.C. 1926
from Indians living in widely separated parts of
British Columbia, gathered there for the
annual picking of hops.

1. "The whale will help me
cure this sick man"

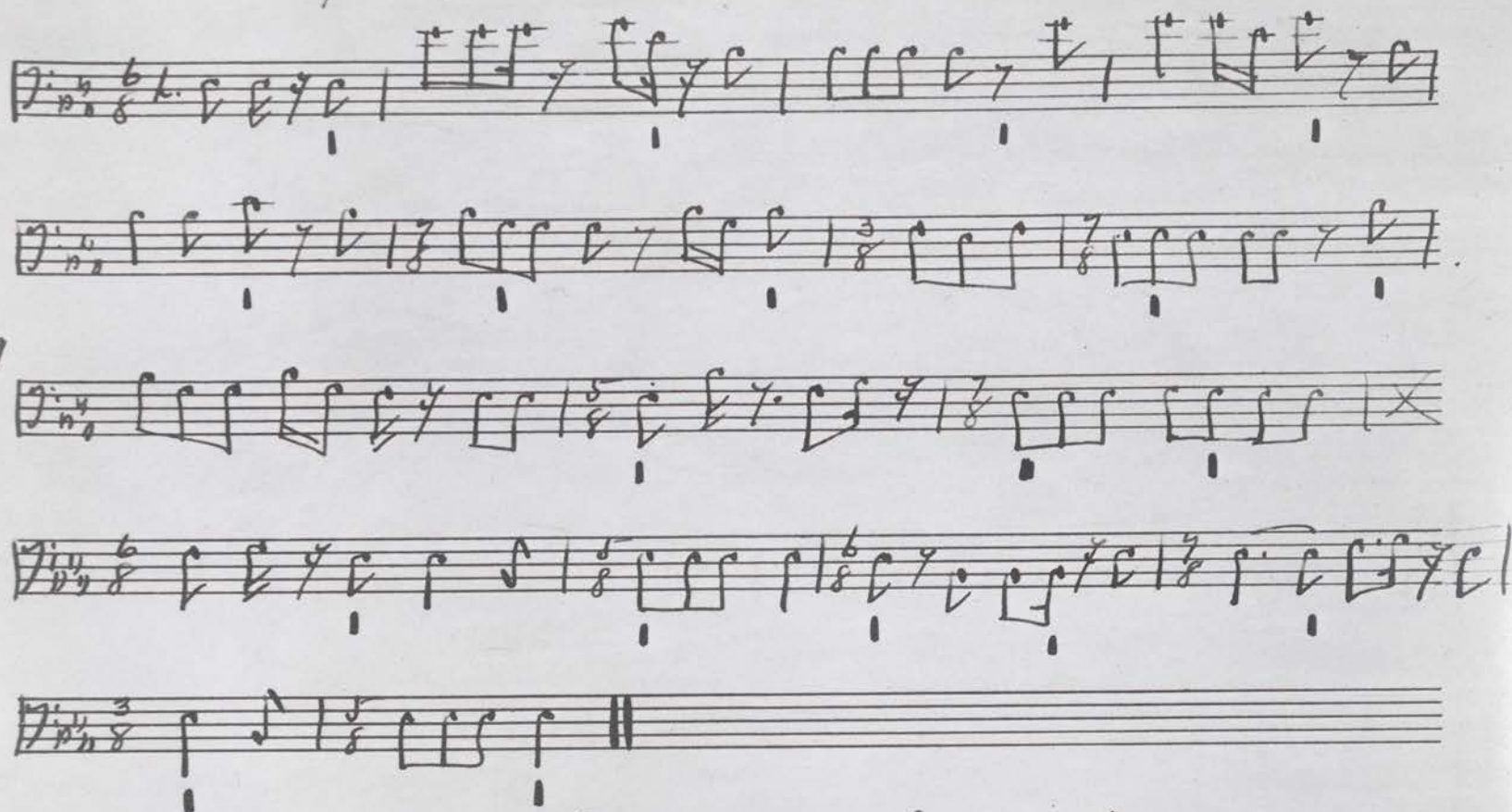
Voice $\text{♩} = 96$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 96$ (Drumbeat in 8th notes)

2. "The thunderbird will help me
cure this sick man"

Voice $\text{♩} = 100$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 100$ (Drumbeat in quarter notes)

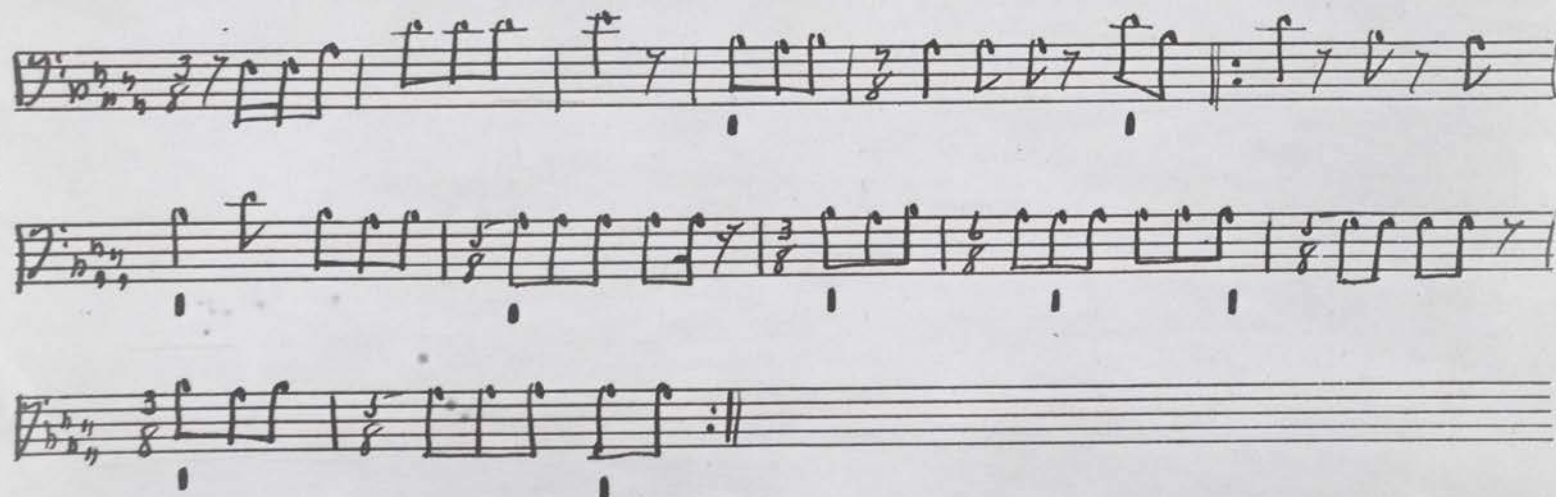
Nos. 1 and 2 are from Vancouver Island -
belonged to an old medicine man named Yak.

Voice $\text{♩} = 168$
 Drum indicated by heavy lines 3. War dance song (from Vancouver Island)



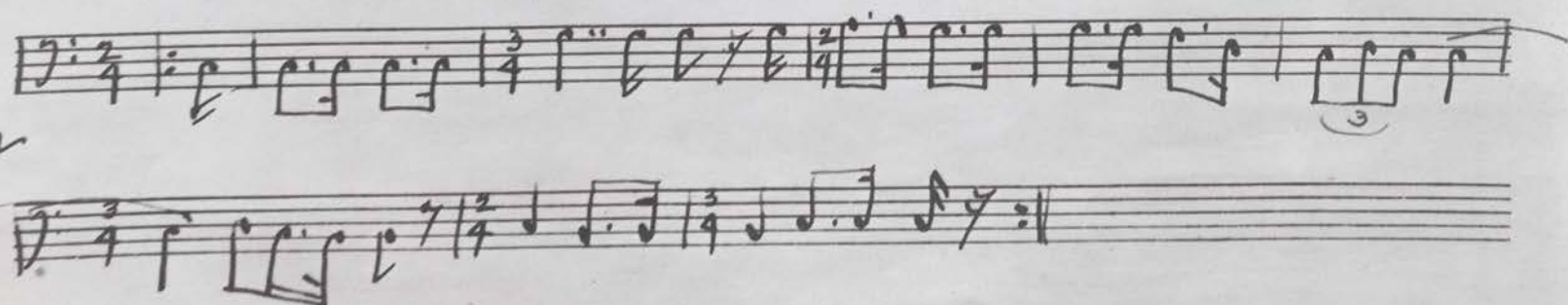
$\frac{60}{29}$

4. Song when carrying loads of the enemy
 Voice $\text{♩} = 184$
 Drum as indicated by heavy lines (Beat not even) (from Vancouver Is.)



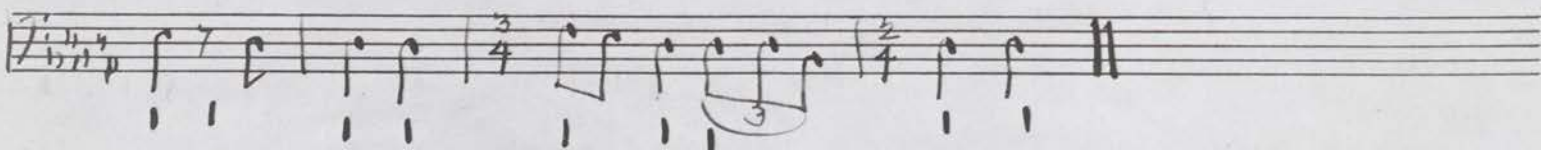
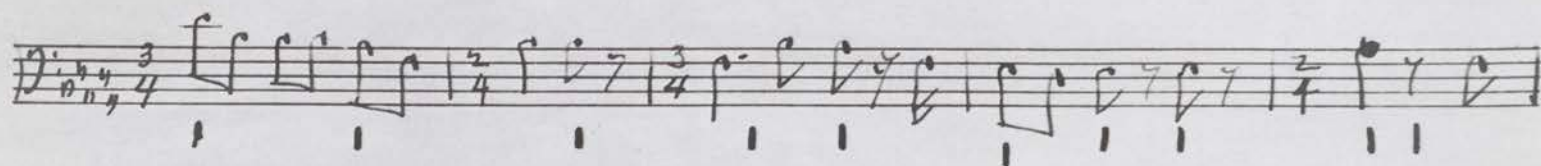
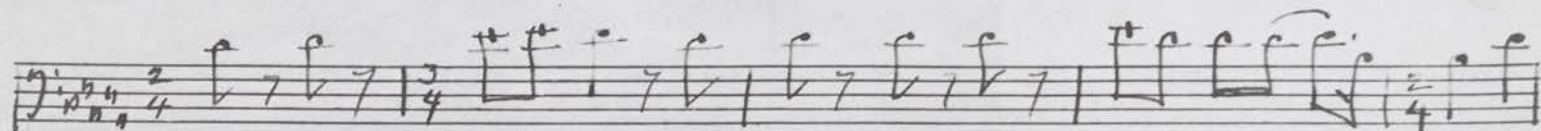
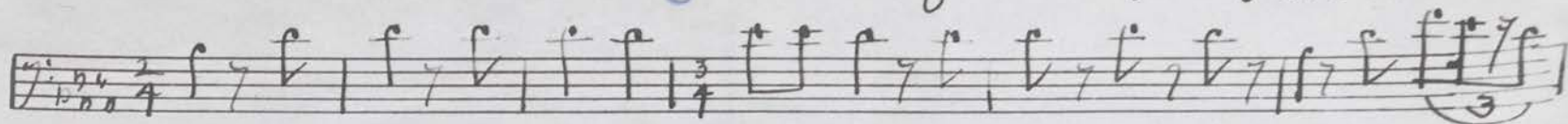
$\frac{78}{30}$

5. Song concerning a ransomed captive
 $\text{♩} = 63$ (from West Coast)

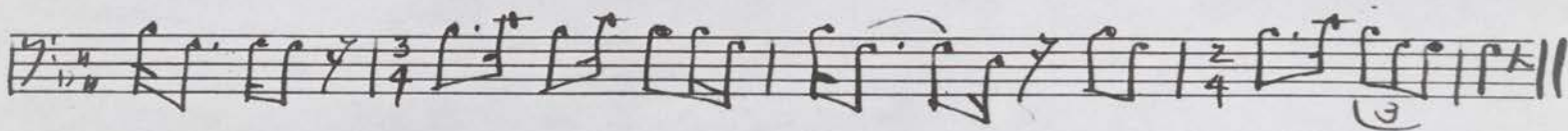
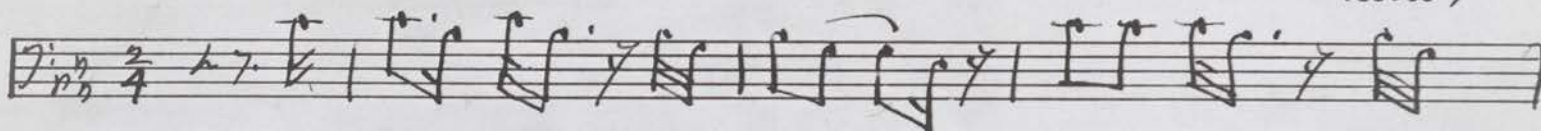


$\frac{89}{32}$

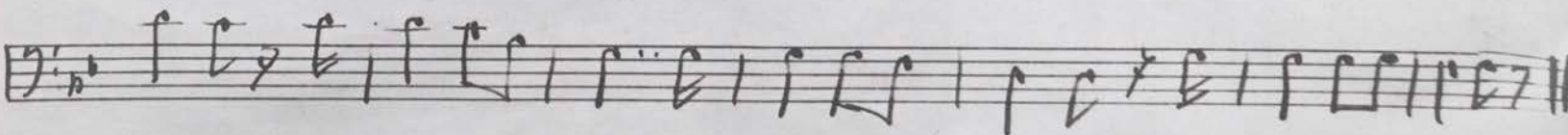
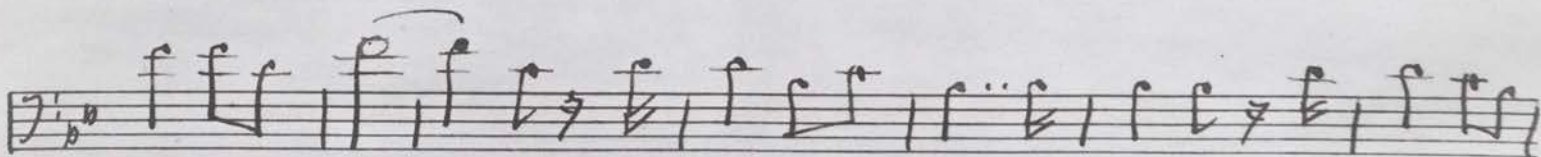
Voice $\downarrow = 112$
 Drum $\downarrow = 112$ (Quarters except where indicated) 5. Sing when carrying heads of the enemy in poles (b) (Vancouver Is.)



$\downarrow = 69$ 7. The rider on the Kohaks (mythical sea monster) (Hann Hasser River)

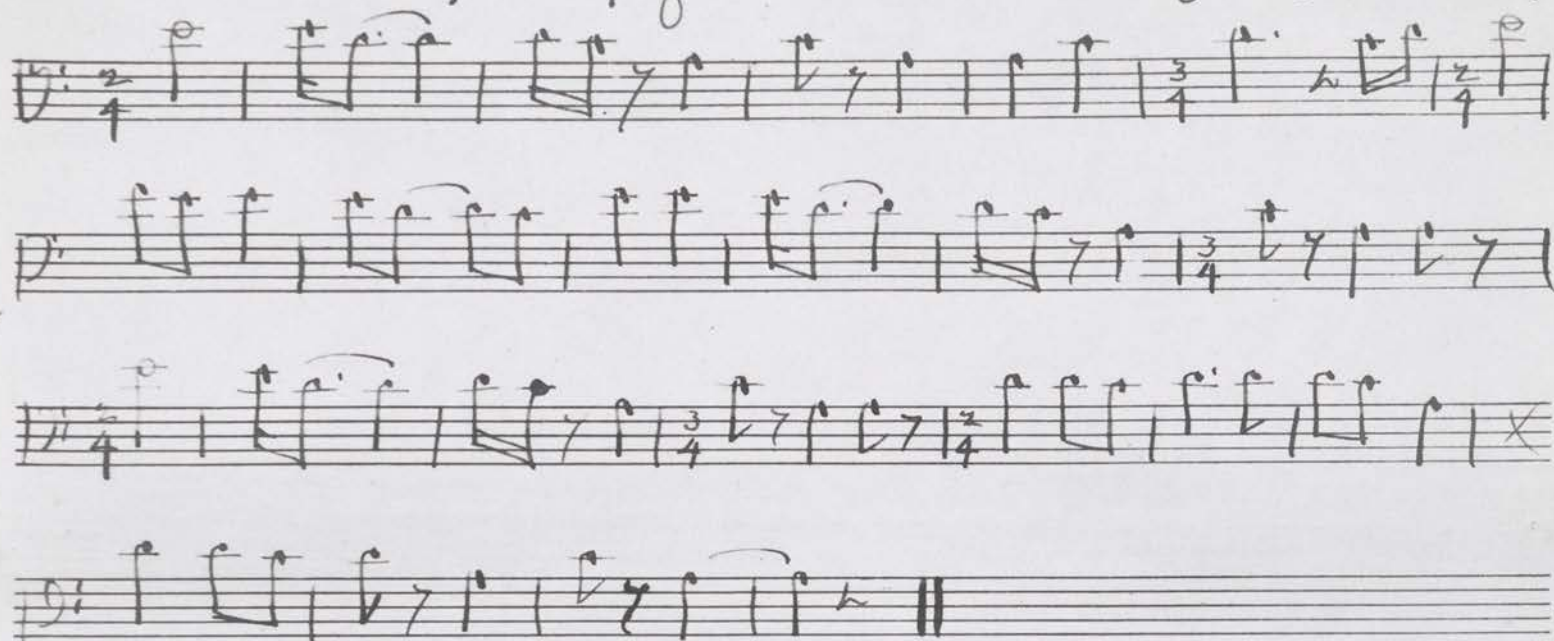


Voice $\downarrow = 100$
 Drum $\downarrow = 102$ (Quarters) 8. Sing of dance with waltz lead dress (a) (Vancouver Is.)



Voice $\text{♩} = 120$ (Eighths) *Sung by a little girl*
 Drum $\text{♩} = 120$ (Eighths) *9. Song of dance with wolf head-dress (b)*
 (Vancouver Is.)

28/67
64/51



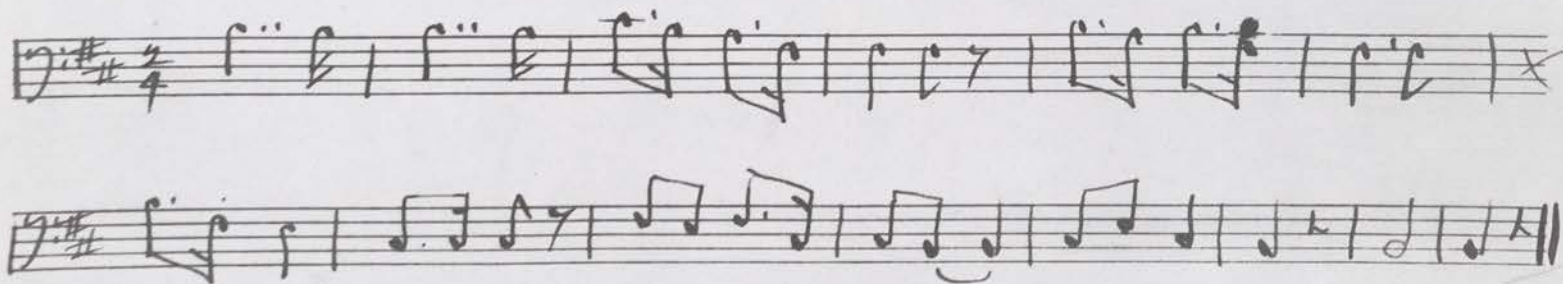
Voice $\text{♩} = 108$ (Quarters)
 Drum $\text{♩} = 132$ (Quarters) *10. Song of dance with wolf head-dress (c)*
 (Vancouver Is.)

43/52



Voice $\text{♩} = 76$ (Eighths)
 Drum $\text{♩} = 76$ (Eighths) *11. Dance Song of the Fraser River Indians (a)*

71/37



Voice $\text{♩} = 72$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 72$ (Drumbeat in Eighths)

12. Song of a man alone
 at home
 (wishes his wife would hurry back)
 west Coast

69
 97

(Belongs with
 Miscellaneous Song)

13. Song when going
 to war
 (Vancouver Island)

Voice $\text{♩} = 96$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 96$ (Drum first in quarters - then in eighths accented in groups of 2)
 Quality - irregular

59
 27

14. Song when returning from war
 (Vancouver Island)

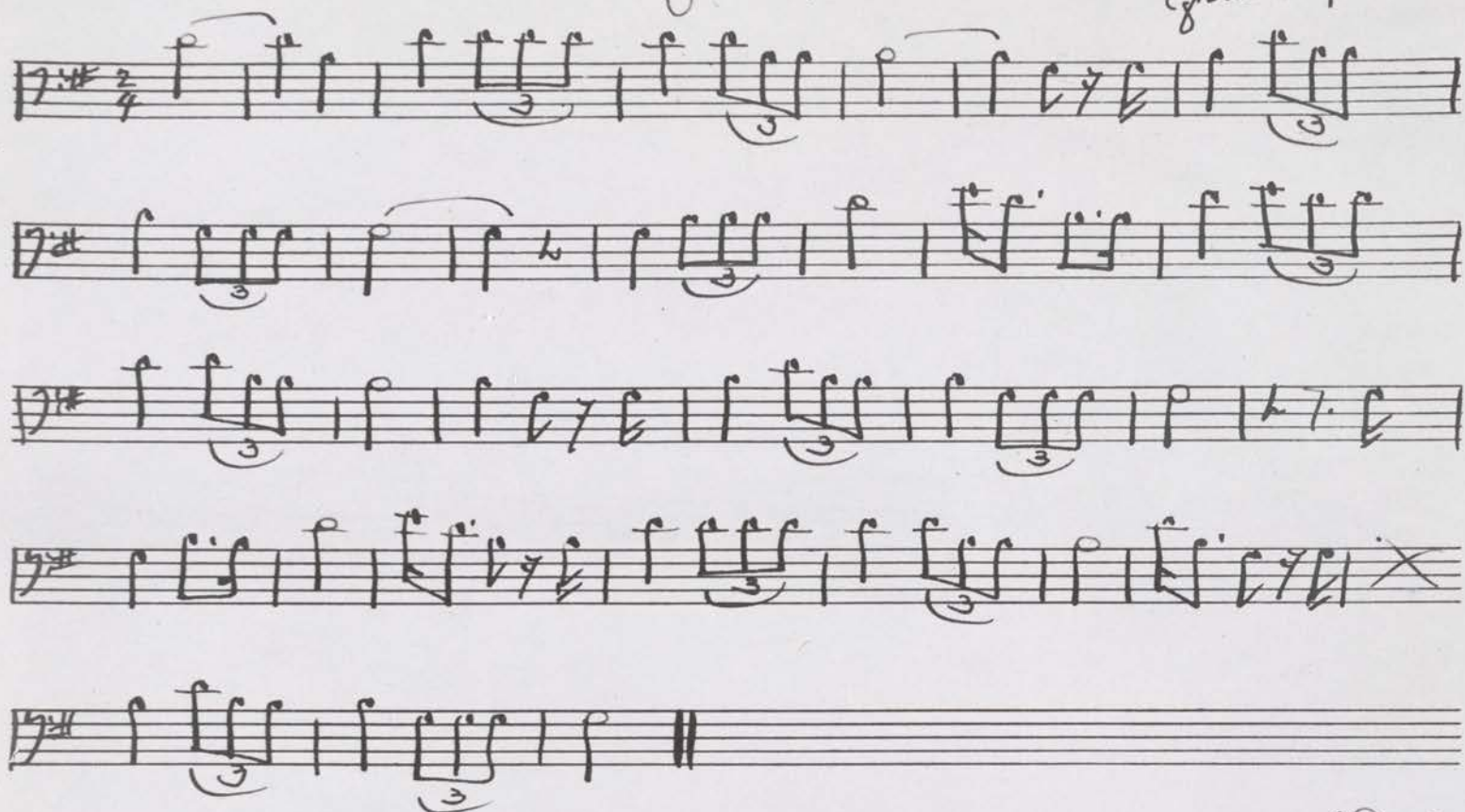
Voice $\text{♩} = 96$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 96$ (Drum first in quarters, then in triplets with 2nd beat omitted)

77
 28

Voice $\text{♩} = 72$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 76$ (8⁷)

15. Sing & approach to a Pottatche
 (from Hope. B.C.)

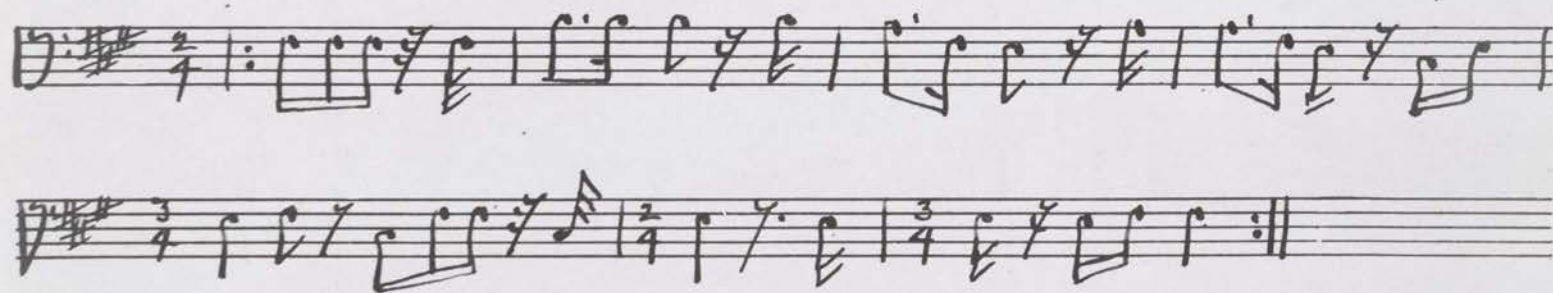
112
54



16. A desire for clear weather (Pottatche Sing)
 (from Fraser River)

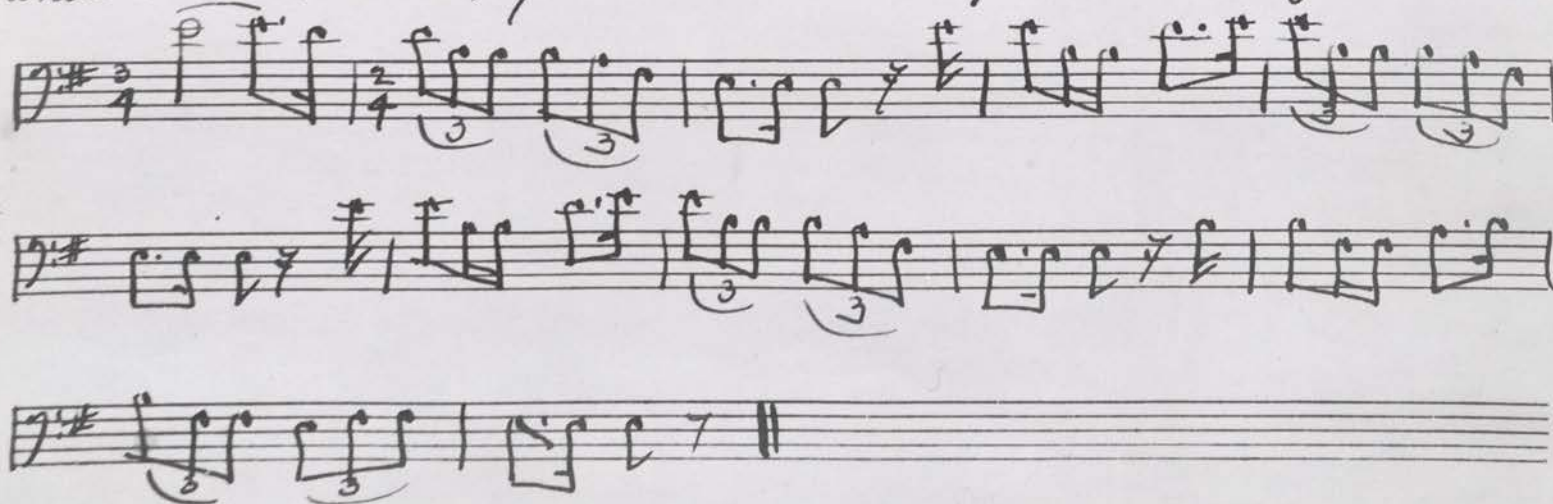
$\text{♩} = 50$

33
64
31

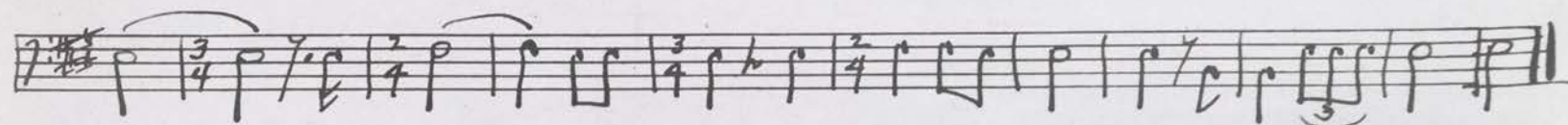
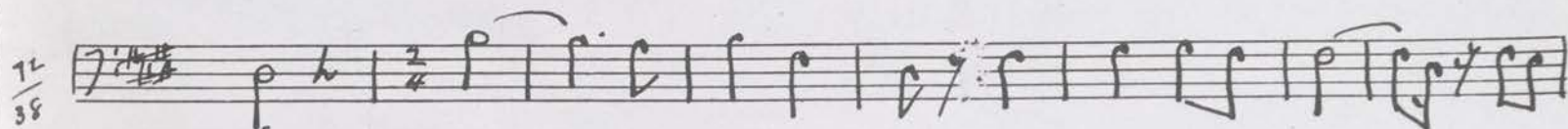
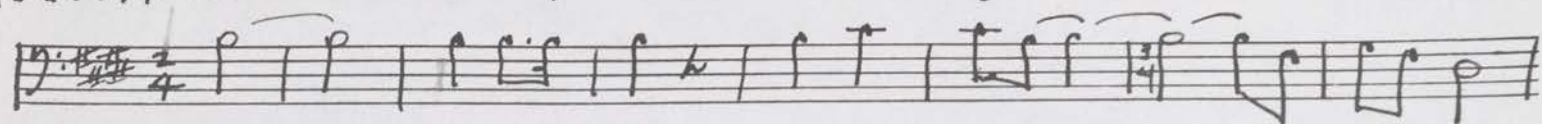


Voice $\text{♩} = 72$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 132$ (Quarters) 17 Pottatche Sing (from Vancouver Co.)

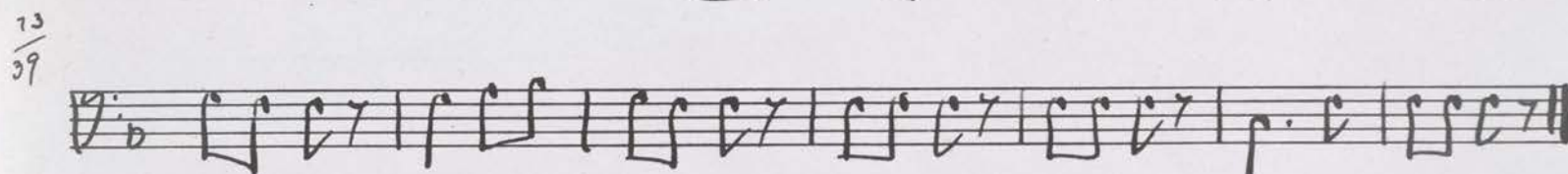
62
38



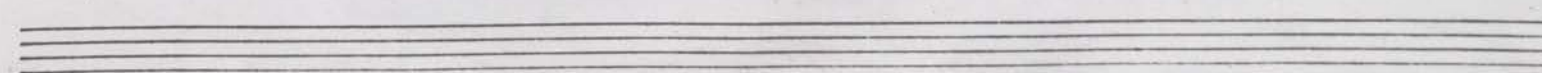
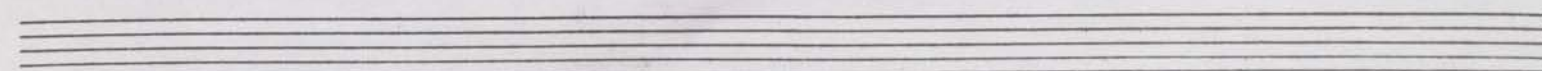
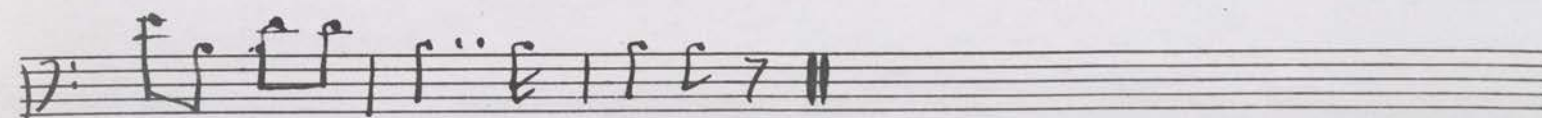
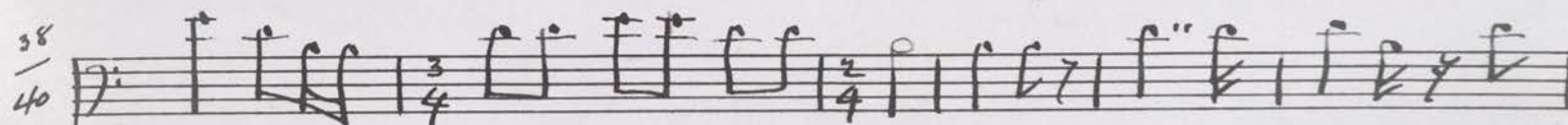
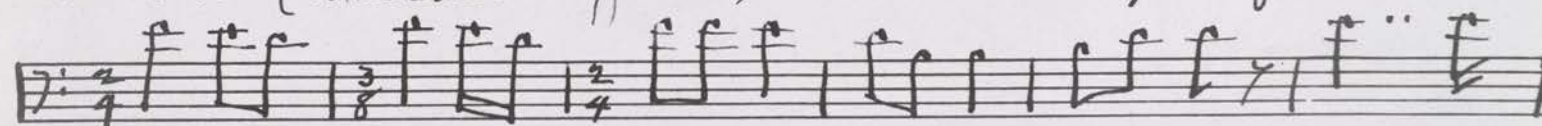
Voice $\text{♩} = 92$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 144$ (Drumbeat in $8\frac{5}{8}$) 18. Dance Song of the Grasse River Indians (b)



Voice $\text{♩} = 84$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 84$ ($8\frac{4}{5}$) 19. Dance Song of the Grasse River Indians (c)



Voice $\text{♩} = 108$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 108$ (Drumbeat in quarters) 20. Dance Song (a) (from Vancouver Is.)



Voice $\text{♩} = 96$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 132$ (Drumbeat in quarters) 21. Dance Song (b) (Vancouver Is.)

41
41

Handwritten musical notation for 'Dance Song (b)'. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The second staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The third staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic values and accidentals. A tempo marking $\text{♩} = 112$ is present above the second staff. The word 'Fine' is written at the end of the third staff.

Voice $\text{♩} = 66$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 66$ (Drumbeat in quarters) 22. Dance Song (c) (from Hope)

2
42

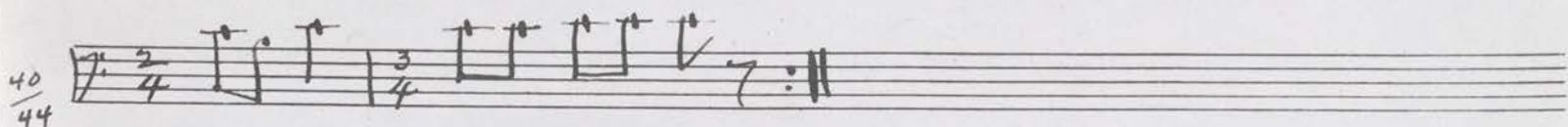
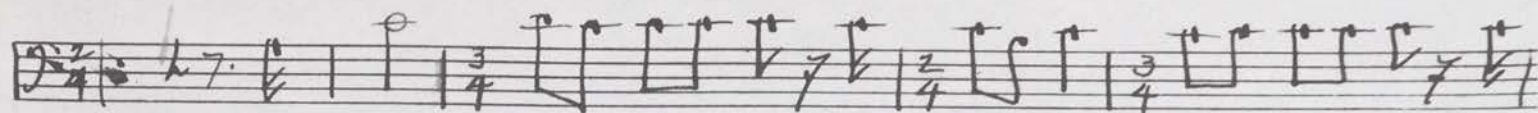
Handwritten musical notation for 'Dance Song (c)'. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The second staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic values and accidentals.

Voice $\text{♩} = 66$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 66$ (Drumbeat in 16th notes) 23. Dance Song (d) (Vancouver Is.)

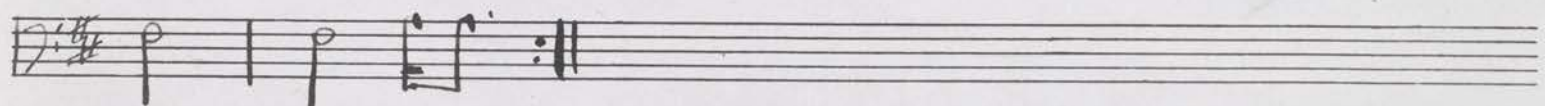
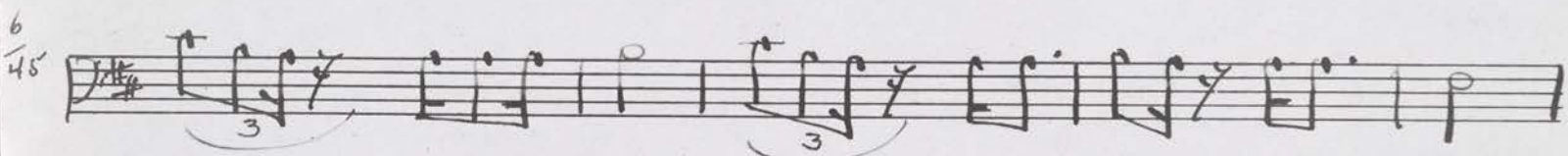
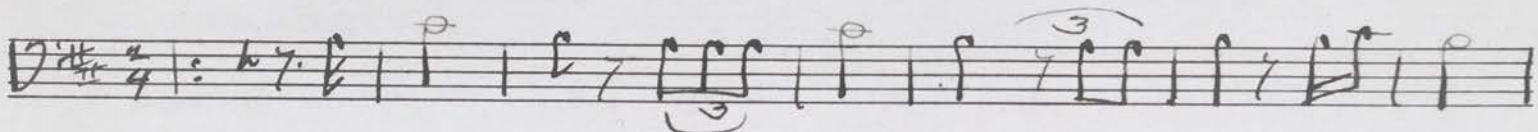
70
43

Handwritten musical notation for 'Dance Song (d)'. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The second staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The third staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic values and accidentals. The word 'Fine' is written at the end of the third staff.

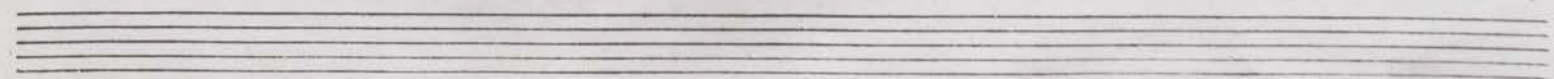
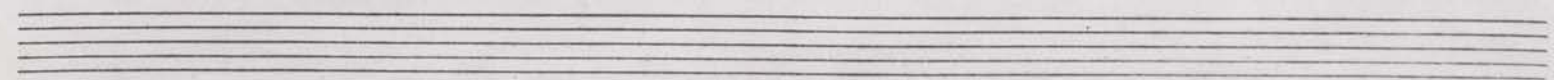
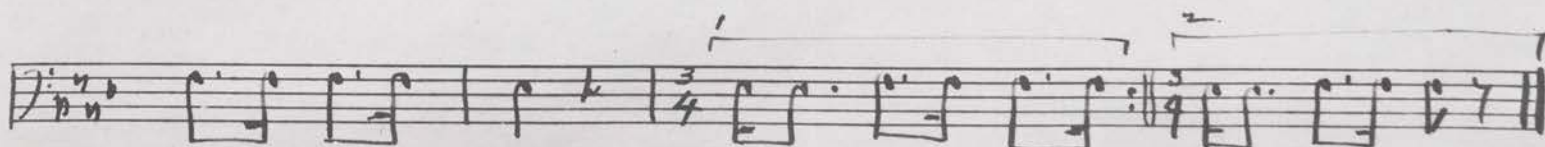
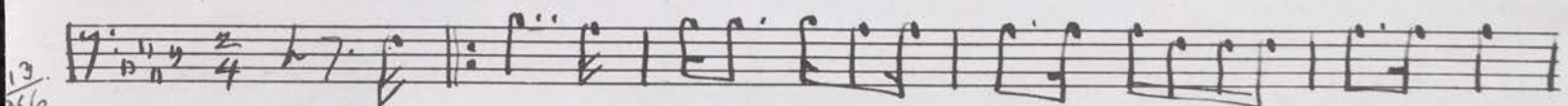
Voice $\text{♩} = 88$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 88$ (quarters) 24. Kokali Dance Song (Vancouver Is.)



Voice $\text{♩} = 80$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 144$ (Drumbeat in quarters) 25. Thunderbird Dance Song (Vancouver Is.)



Voice $\text{♩} = 88$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 88$ (Drumbeat in 16ths) 26. Song Campbell Dance (West Coast)



$J=104$

27. Dance Song from Babine

Handwritten musical notation for "Dance Song from Babine". The notation is written on three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 7/4. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff shows a change in rhythm with more frequent notes. A handwritten number "27" with a slash and "47" is written to the left of the second staff.

28. Dance song of the Thompson River Indians (a)

Voice $J=76$

Drum $J=76$ (Drumbeat in 8^{th})

Greatly irregular

Handwritten musical notation for "Dance song of the Thompson River Indians (a)". The notation is written on three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 2/4. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff shows a change in rhythm with more frequent notes. A handwritten number "28" with a slash and "48" is written to the left of the second staff.

29. Dance song of the Thompson River Indians (b)

Voice $J=69$ (Drumbeat in 8^{th})

Drum $J=96$ (Drumbeat in 8^{th})

Handwritten musical notation for "Dance song of the Thompson River Indians (b)". The notation is written on three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 2/4. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff shows a change in rhythm with more frequent notes. A handwritten number "29" with a slash and "49" is written to the left of the second staff.

Voice $\text{♩} = 92$ (Quarters) 30. Song after receiving a gift (a)
 Drum $\text{♩} = 144$ (Quarters) (Vancouver Is.)

Handwritten musical notation for item 30. It consists of four staves. The first three staves are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The fourth staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic values, rests, and a double bar line with repeat dots. A bracket with the number '2' is placed over the first two measures of the fourth staff.

Voice $\text{♩} = 100$ (Quarters) 31. Song after receiving a gift (b)
 Drum $\text{♩} = 152$ (Quarters) (Vancouver Is.)

Handwritten musical notation for item 31. It consists of three staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic values, rests, and a double bar line with repeat dots. A bracket with the number '2' is placed over the first two measures of the first staff. Below the third staff, the word 'Time' is written, followed by the text '(words occur only in this phrase)'.

$\text{♩} = 84$ 32. Social Song (a) (West Coast)

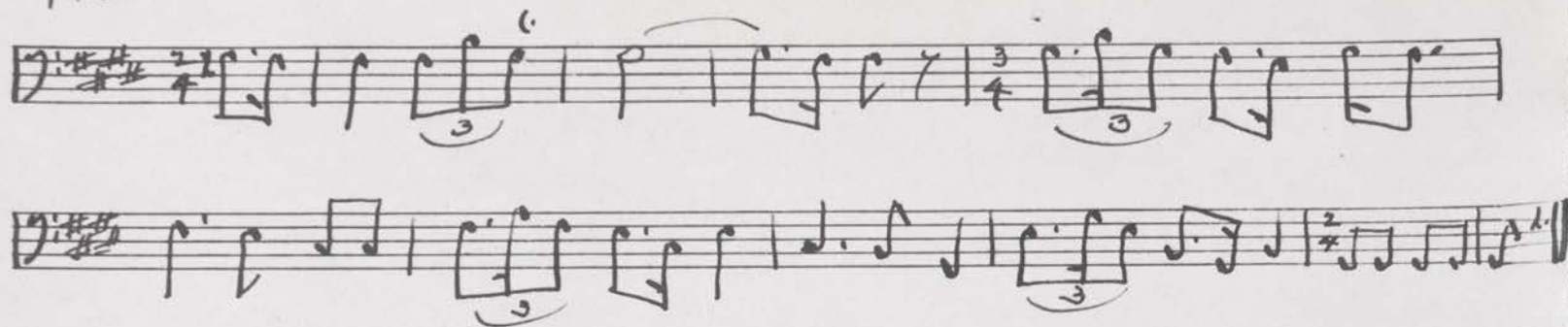
Handwritten musical notation for item 32. It consists of three staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic values, rests, and a double bar line with repeat dots. A bracket with the number '3' is placed over the first three measures of the first staff.

Tempo not recorded

33. Social Song (b)

West Coast

97/56

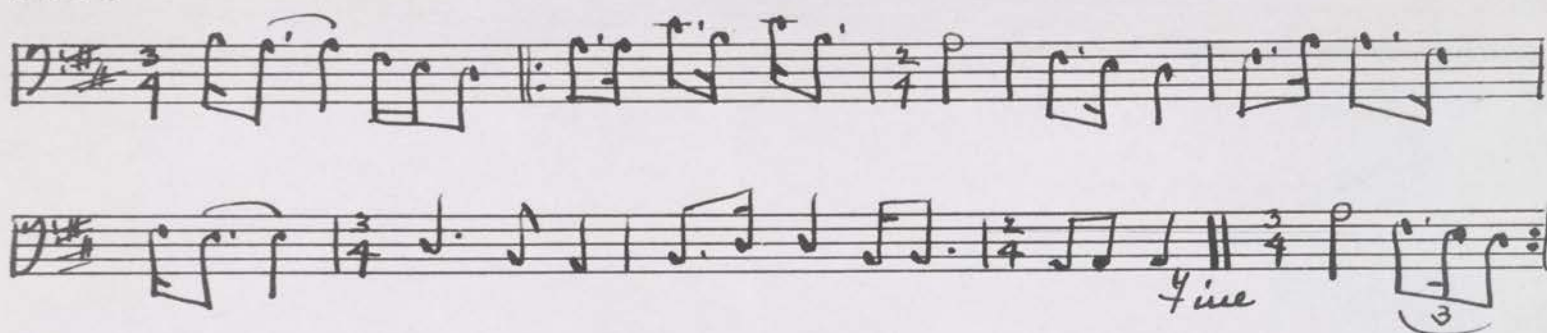


34. Social Song (c)

West Coast

$\text{♩} = 58$

114/57

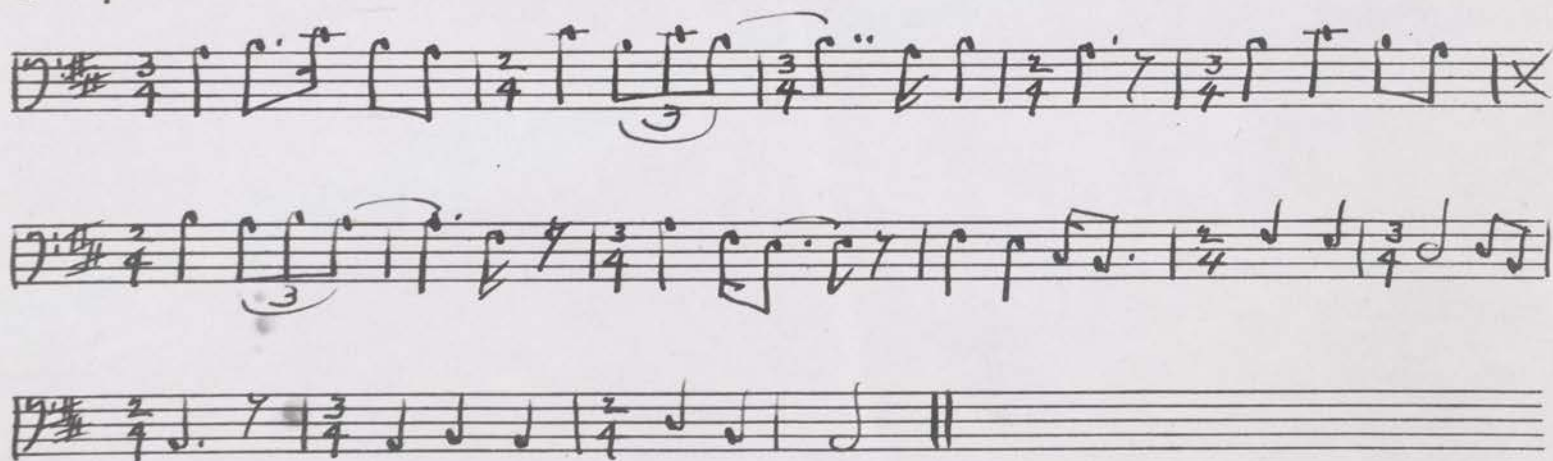


35. Social Song (d)

West Coast

$\text{♩} = 69$

115/58



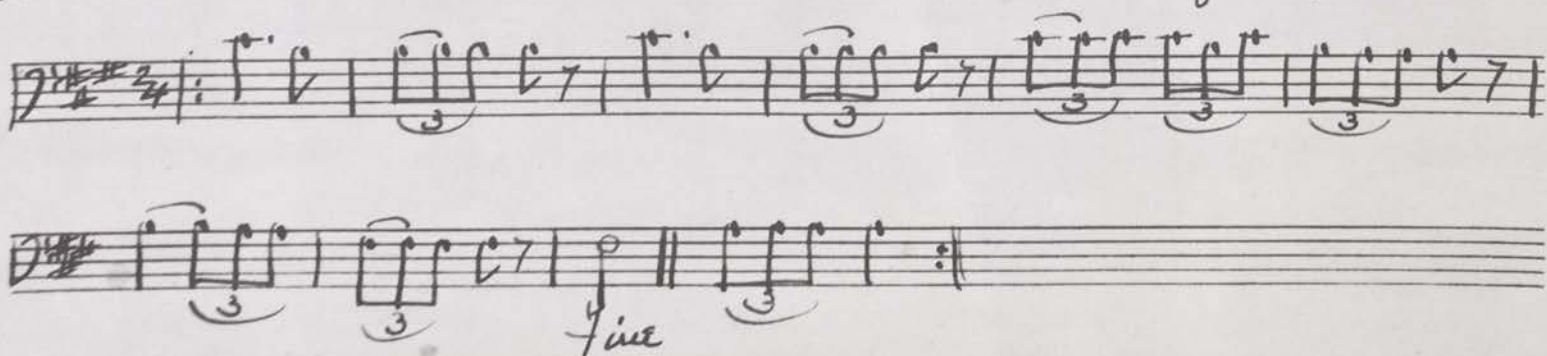
36.

Stahak game song (a)

from Squamish River

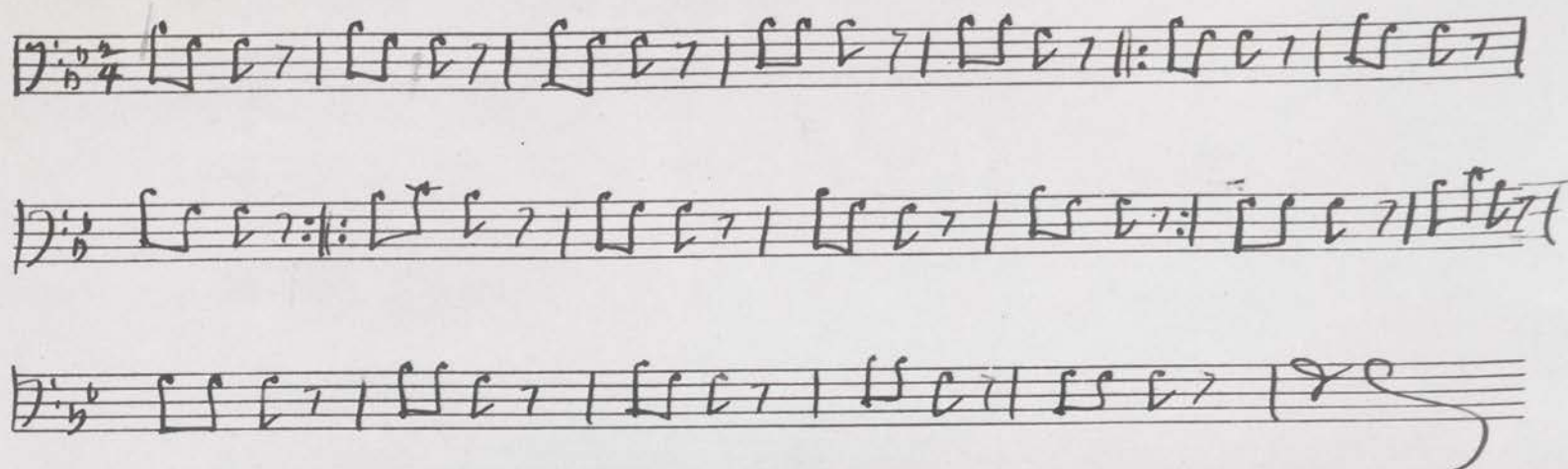
Voice $\text{♩} = 84$
Drum $\text{♩} = 84$

94/59

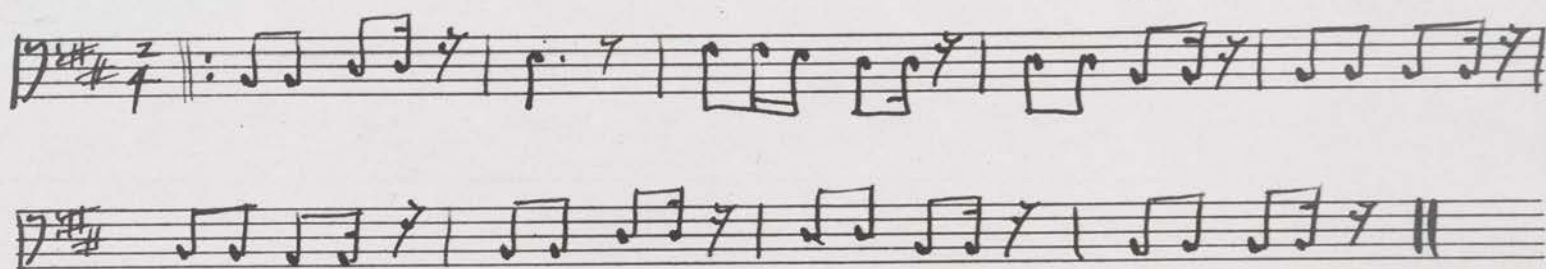


Voice $\text{♩} = 126$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 126$ (Eighties) 37. Stahak game song (8) (Squamish River)

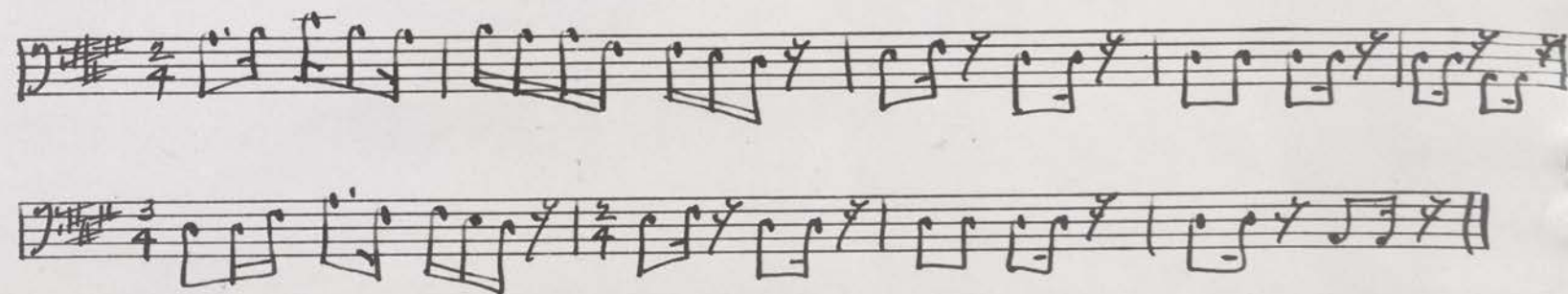
9.5
6p



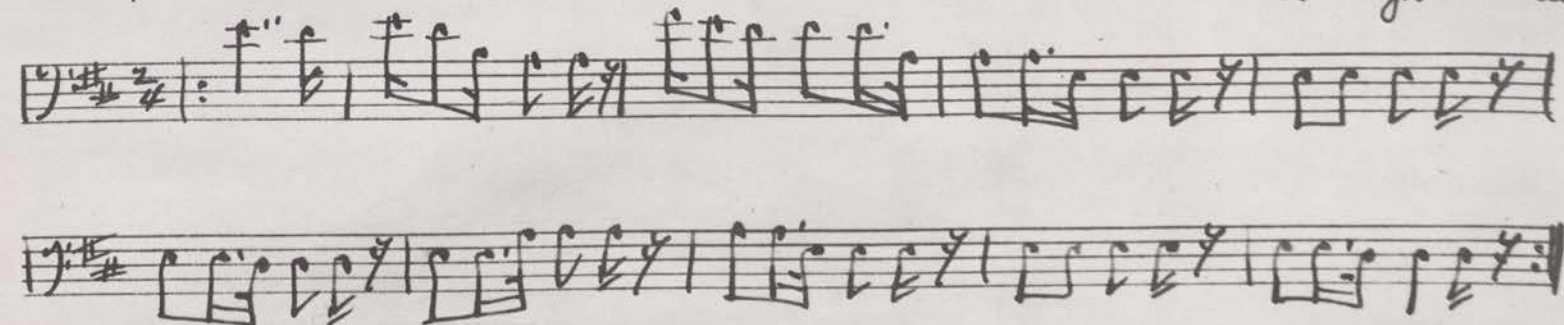
38 Stahak game song (c) (from Thompson River)
 Voice $\text{♩} = 156$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 156$ (Drumbeat in 16 notes)



39. Stahak game song (d) (Thompson River)
 Voice $\text{♩} = 156$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 156$ (Drumbeat in 16 notes)



40. Stahak game song (f) (Thompson River)
 Voice $\text{♩} = 154$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 154$ (Drumbeat in 16 notes)



2.4
64

Voice $\text{♩} = 96$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 96$ (Drumbeat varied) ^{4'} Stahad game Sug (f) ^(Champion River)

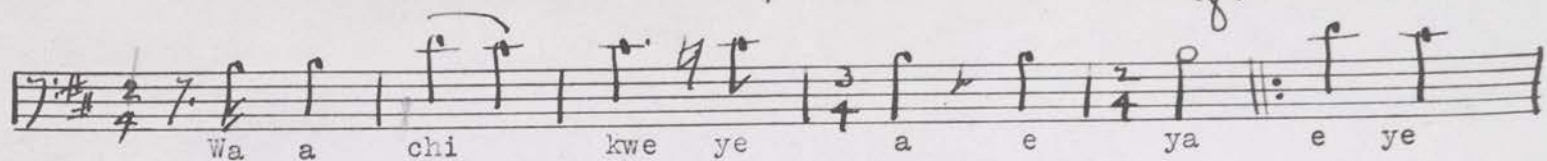
20
63

Voice $\text{♩} = 69$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 69$ (See 16th notes) ^{4'} Stahad game Sug (g) ^(West Coast)

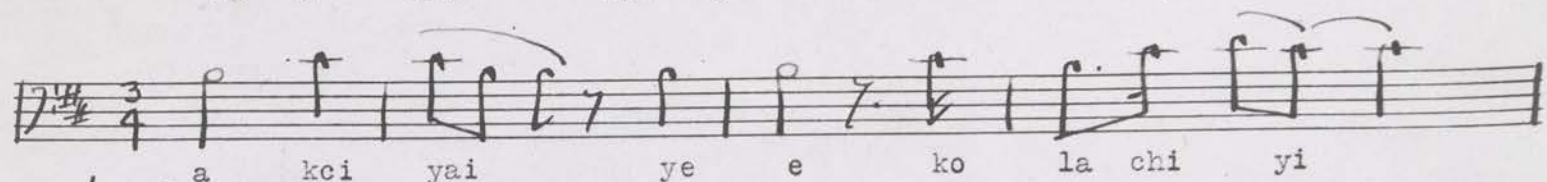
98
65

J=80

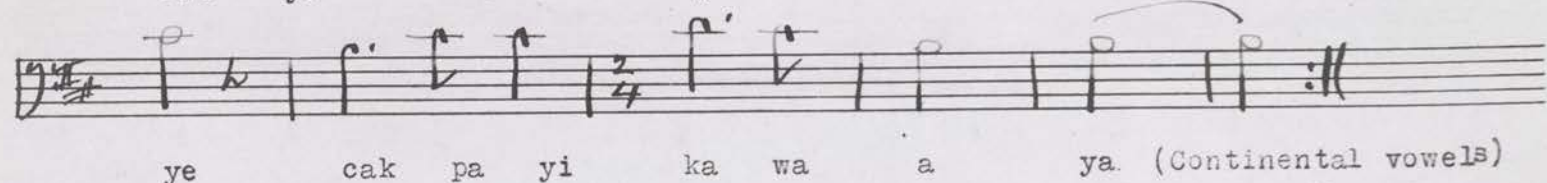
43. "I will scrape my body on the rocks" (from Vancouver Is.)



$\frac{6}{14}$

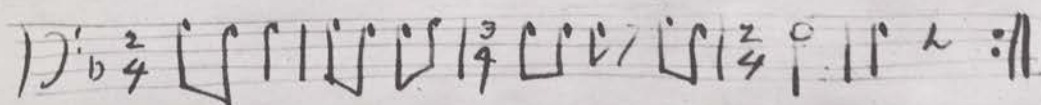
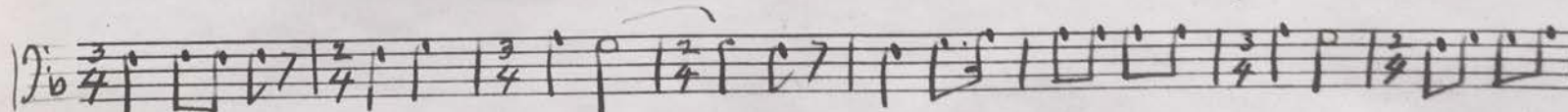
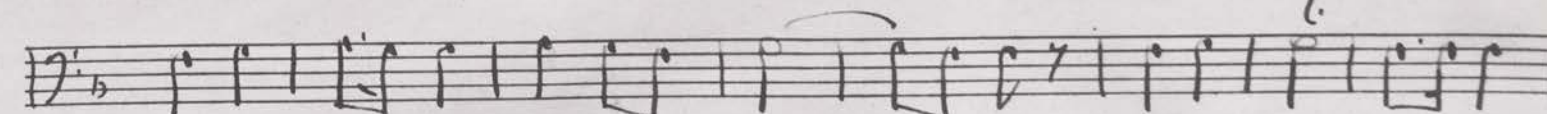
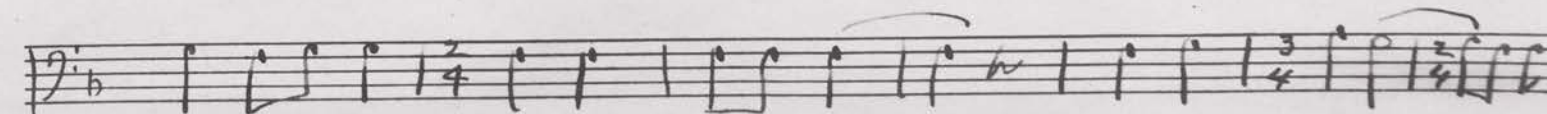
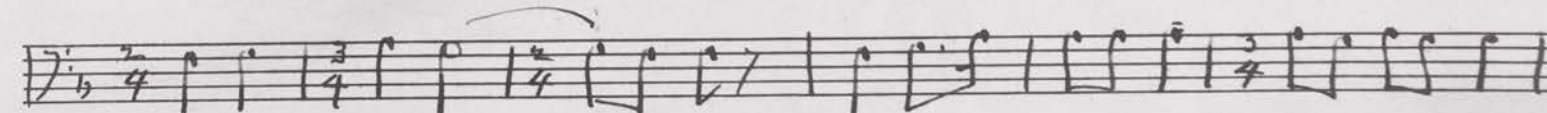
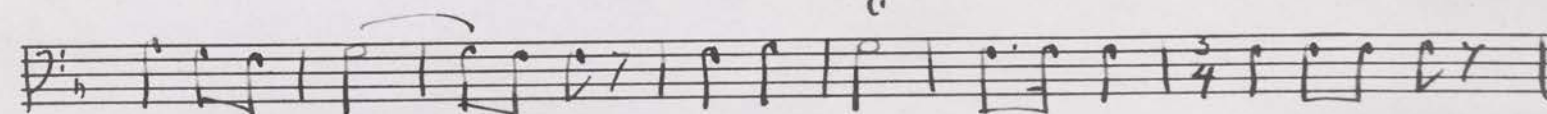
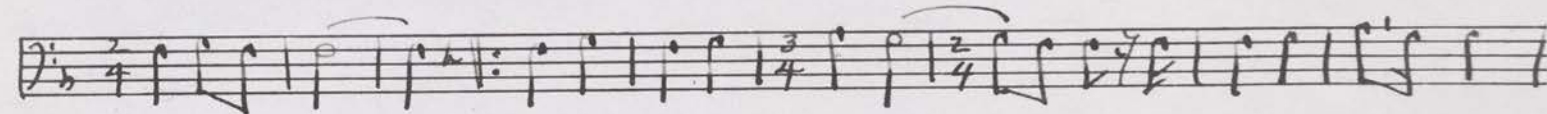


J=72



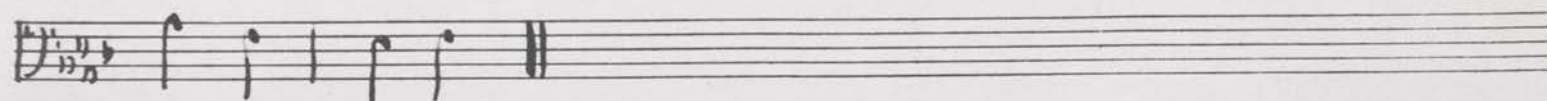
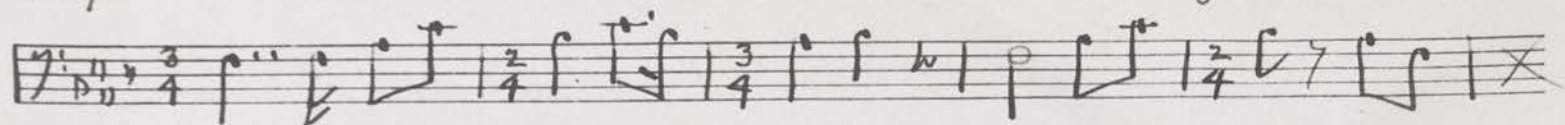
44 The little boy and the whale (story)

Voice J=88
Drum J=88 (Quarters)
Irregularity irregular



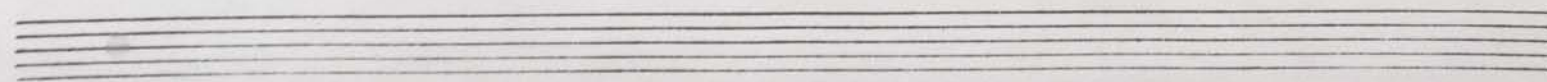
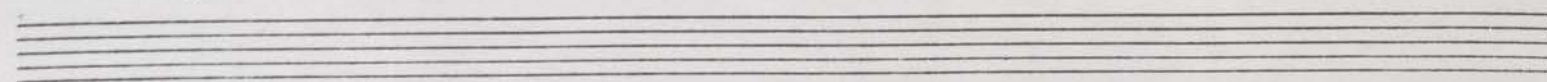
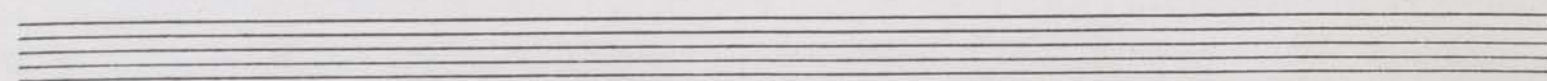
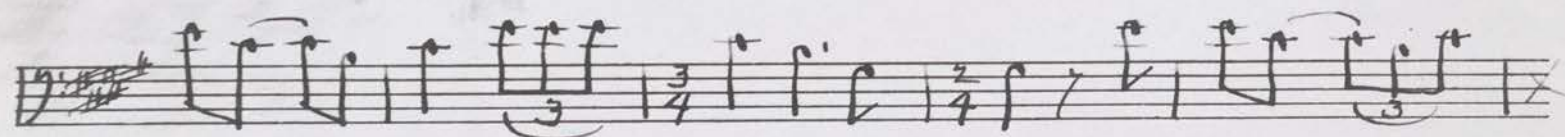
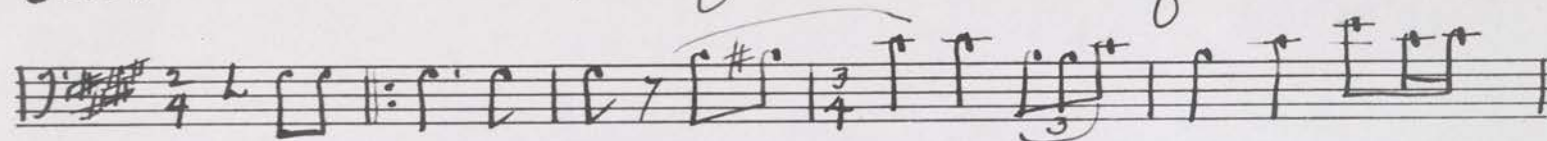
45, Song with Story of frog-woman
(from Port Simpson)

$\text{♩} = 69$



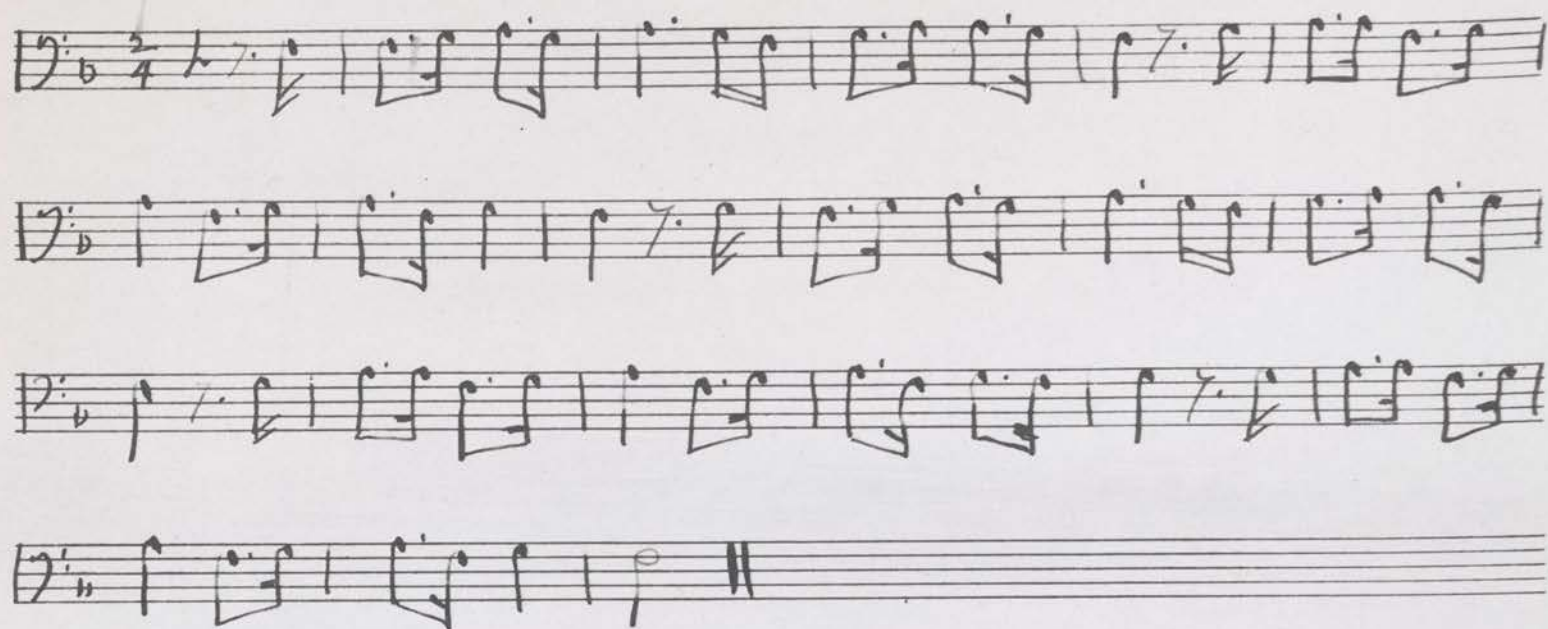
46 "Wrap a feather around me"
(from Skeena River)

$\text{♩} = 104$



$\text{♩} = 63$

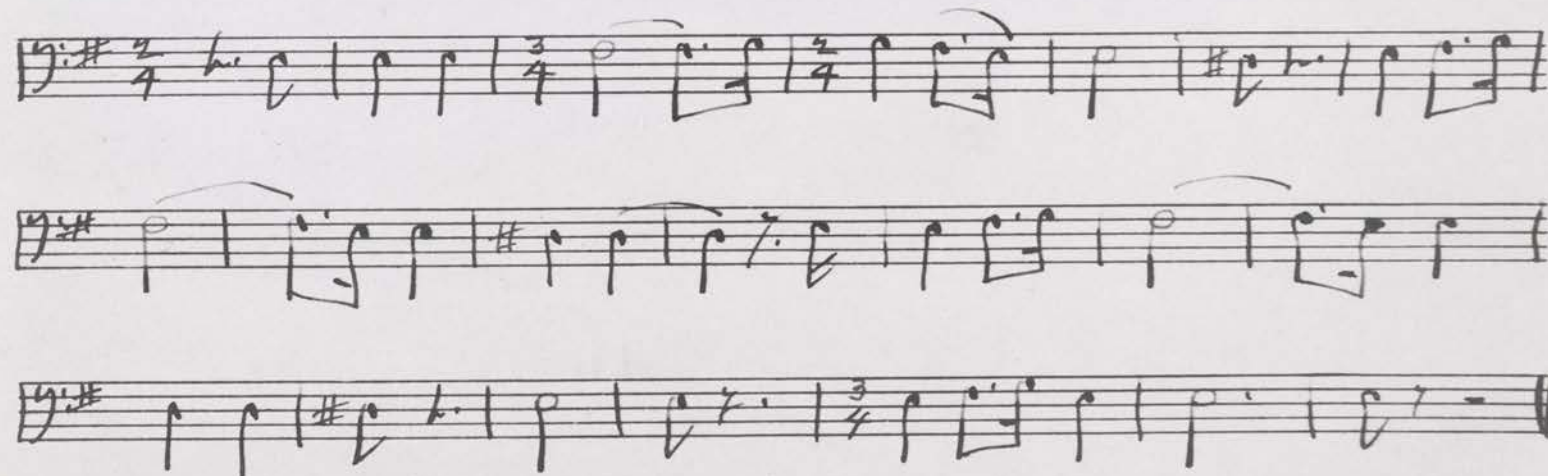
47. Canoe Song (a) (West Coast)



102/10

48. Canoe Song (b) (West Coast)

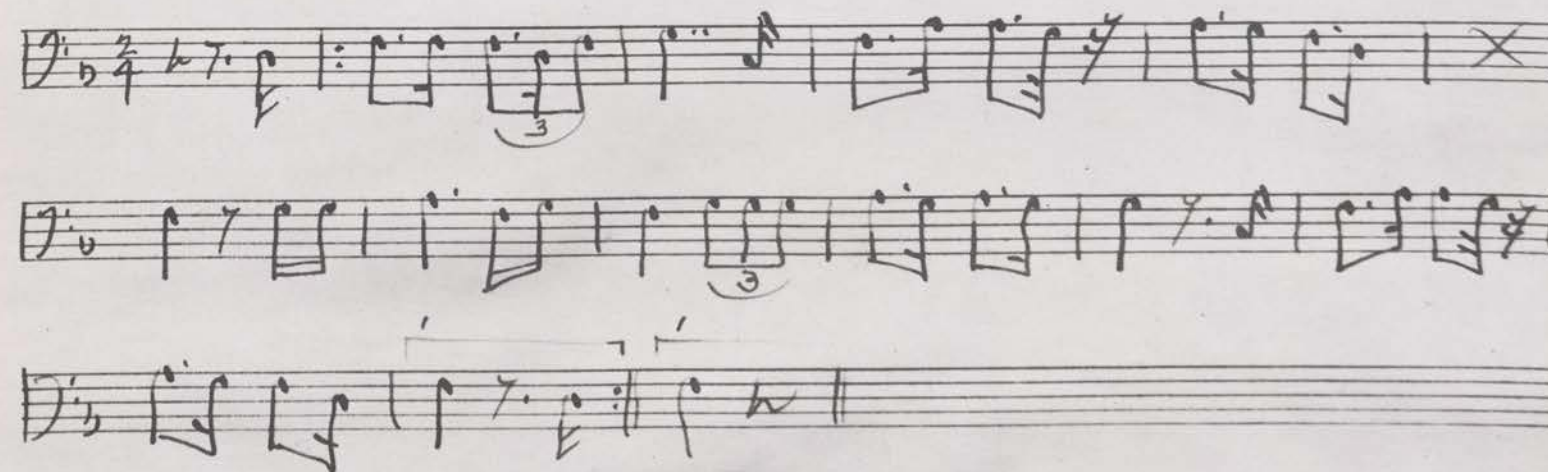
$\text{♩} = 84$



2/71

49. Canoe Song (c) (from Port Simpson)

$\text{♩} = 63$



69/100

Children's Songs and Love Songs
 50. Song by a little girl (Vancouver Is.)
 Vain $\text{♩} = 88$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 88$ (Drum in quarters)

Handwritten musical notation for the first song, consisting of three staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The second and third staves are in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

51 Lullaby (from Church House, on Homaco Reserve)
 $\text{♩} = 69$

Handwritten musical notation for the second song, consisting of two staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff is in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

58/77

Handwritten musical notation for the third song, consisting of three staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The second and third staves are in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

52. Love Song "I wish I were a cloud" (from Hope)
 $\text{♩} = 48$

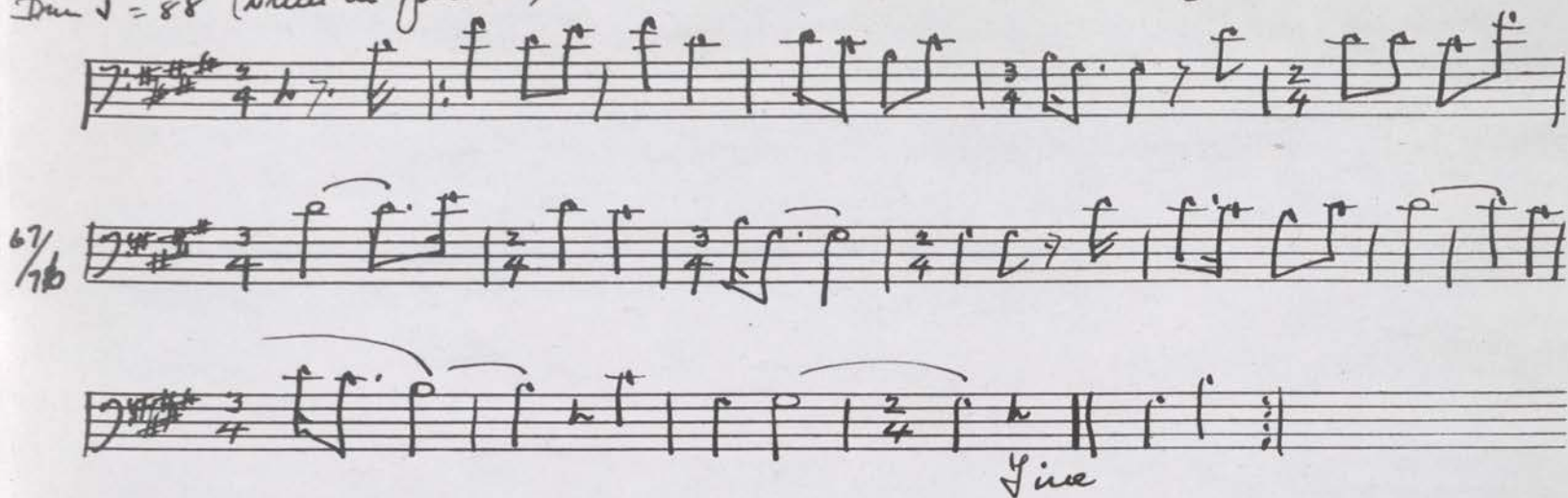
Handwritten musical notation for the fourth song, consisting of two staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff is in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

110/78

Handwritten musical notation for the fifth song, consisting of two staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff is in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

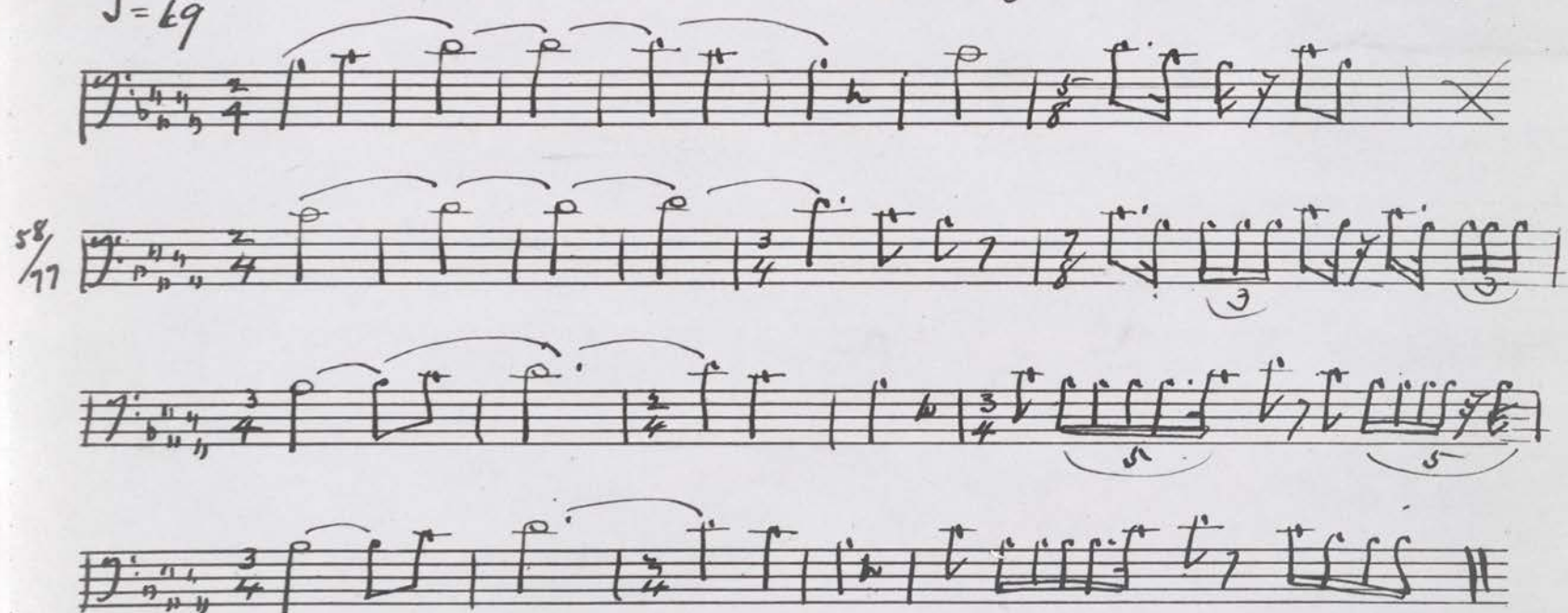
Children's Songs and Love Songs
 50. Song by a little girl (Vancouver Is.)

Vin $\text{♩} = 88$
 Drum $\text{♩} = 88$ (Drum in quarters)



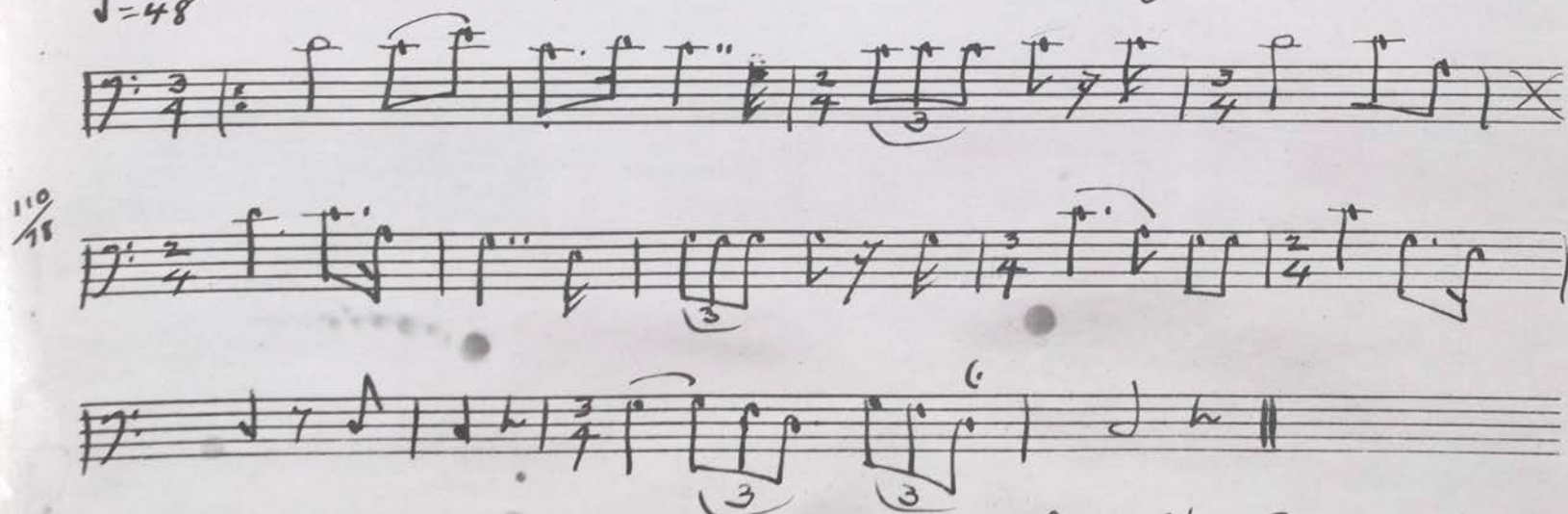
51 Lullaby (from Church House, on Homaco Reserve)

$\text{♩} = 69$

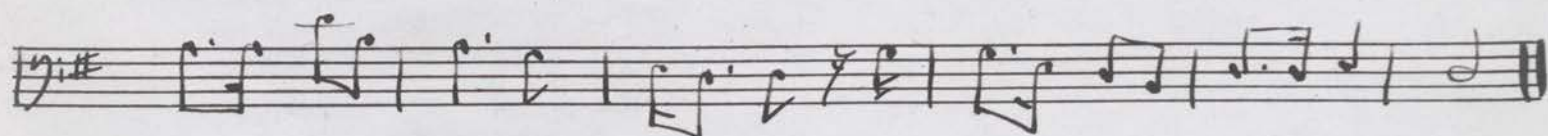


52. Love Song "I wish I were a cloud" (from Hope)

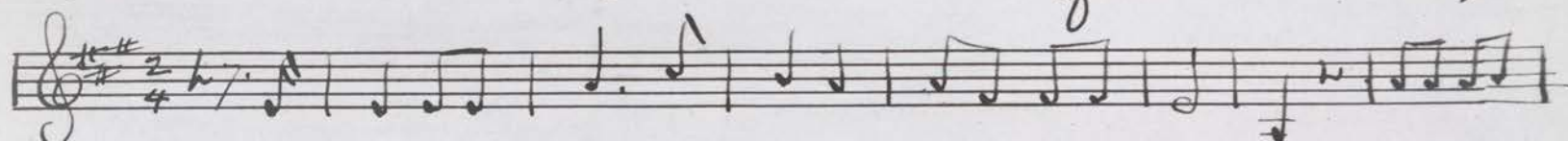
$\text{♩} = 48$



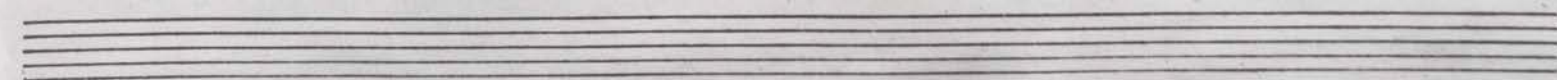
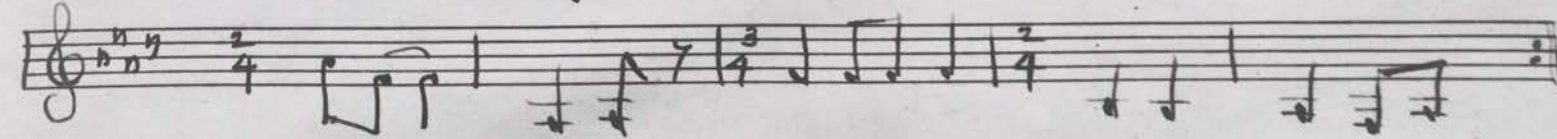
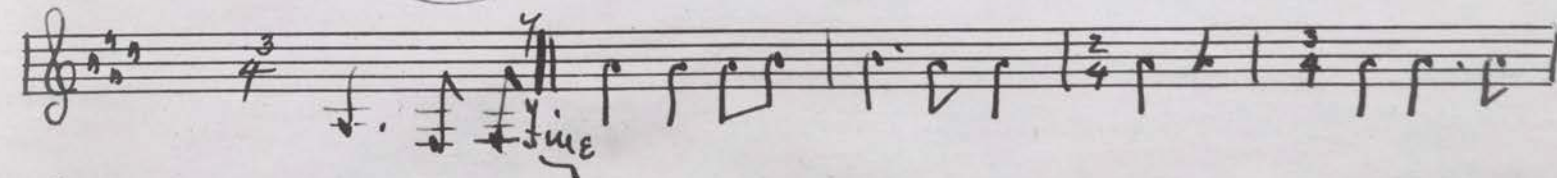
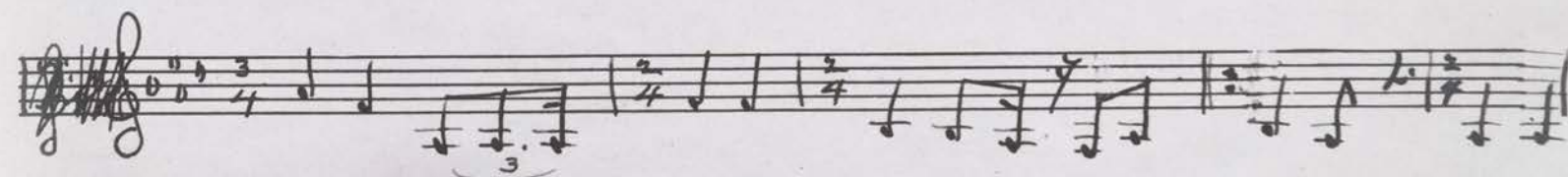
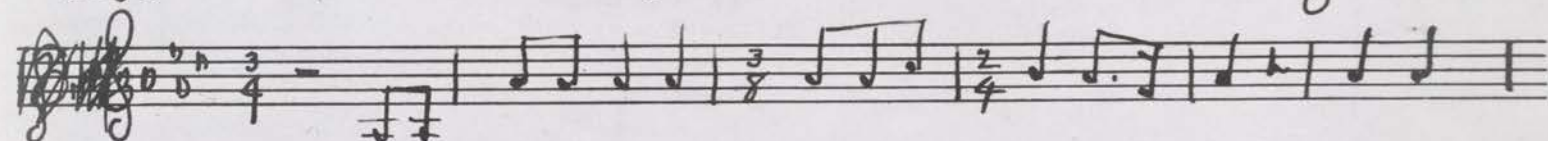
Voice $\text{♩} = 69$ (Drum beat in Eighths) $\text{♩} = 69$ "all my sweethearts are gone except one" (Love Song)
(from Hope)



$\text{♩} = 100$ $\text{♩} = 100$ "I am going to stay at home" (Love Song)
(from Skeena River)

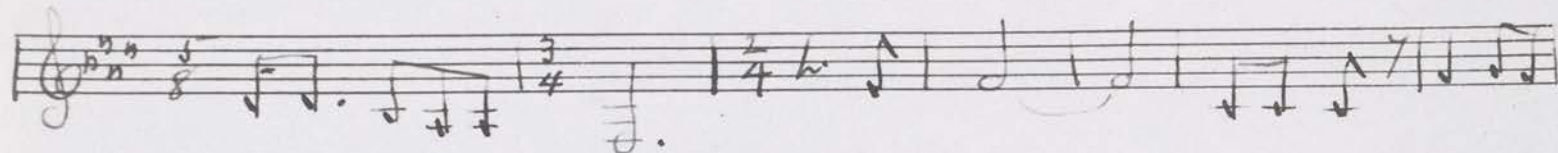
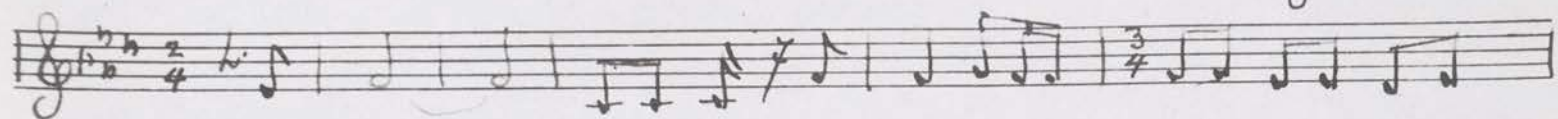


$\text{♩} = 80$ $\text{♩} = 80$ "She is glad to see him" (Love Song)
(from Nass River)

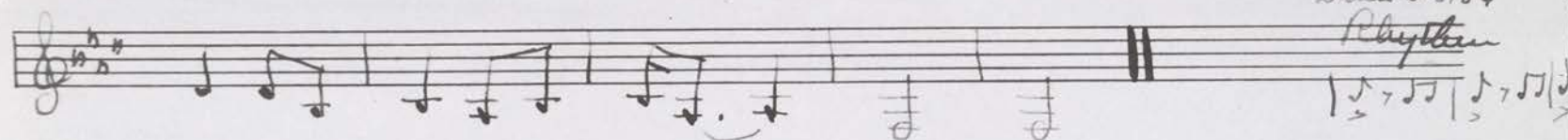


$J = 104$

56. "Give me a bottle of rum" (Laur Sing)
(from Nass River)

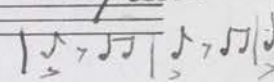


$\frac{9}{82}$



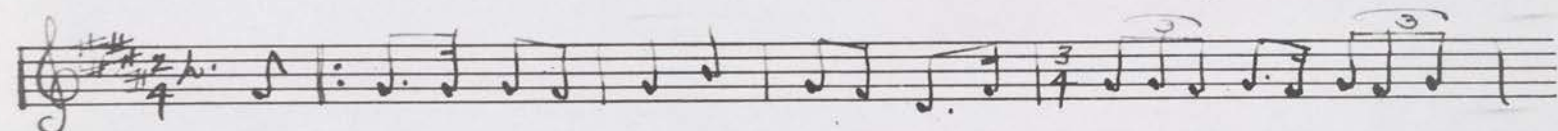
Drum $J = 104$

Rhythm

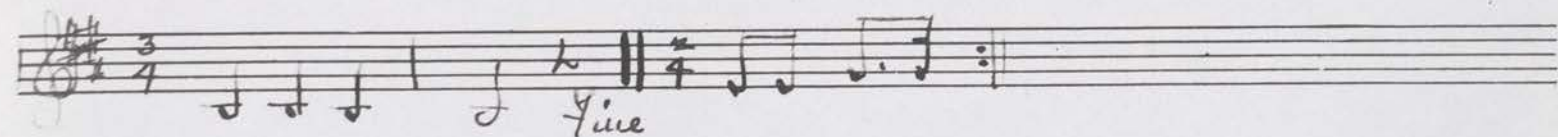


57. Divorce Song (a) (from Skeena River)

$J = 84$



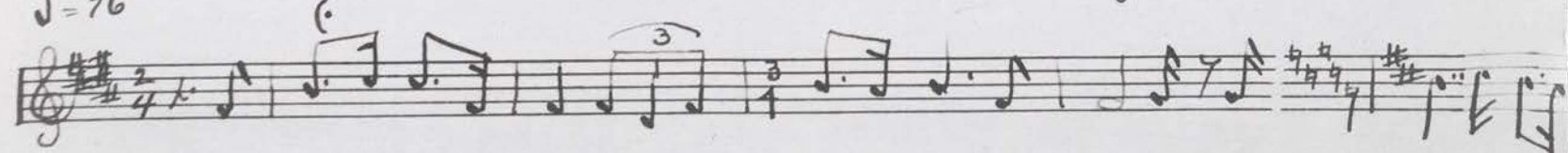
$\frac{88}{83}$



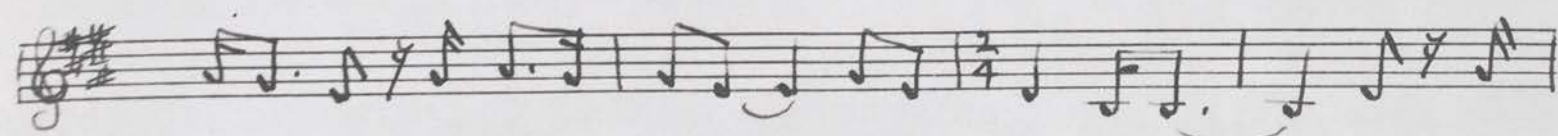
Five

58. Divorce Song (b) (from Skeena River)

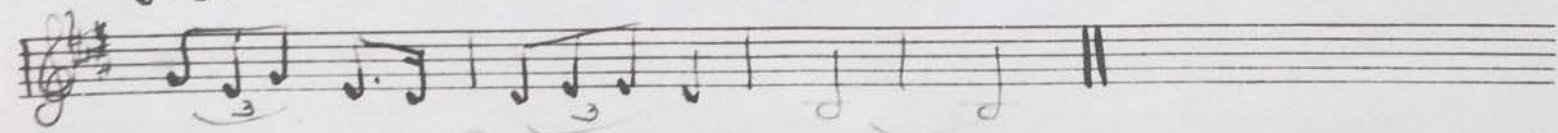
$J = 76$



$\frac{89}{84}$



$J = 60$



J=104

59. Song h a spirit in the fire
(The crackling of the fire is supposed
to be the voice of a departed human spirit)
(from Skene River)

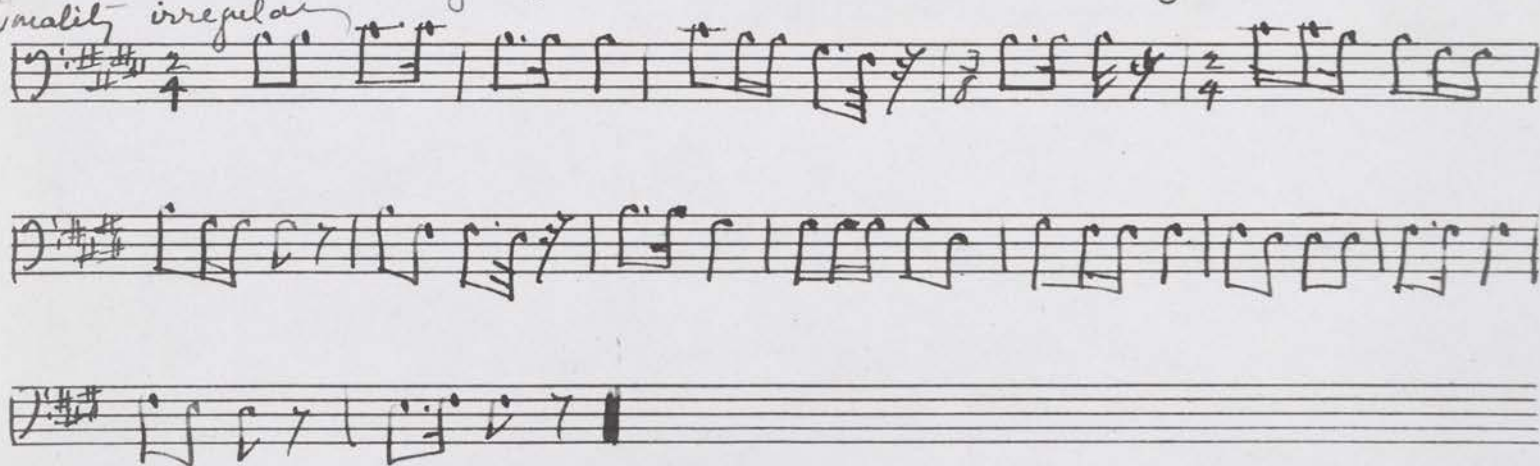
3/85



60. Song concerning the prophet Skil mahat
(from Squamish River)

Voice J = 63
Drum J = 63 (Drum beat in eighths)
Vocality irregular

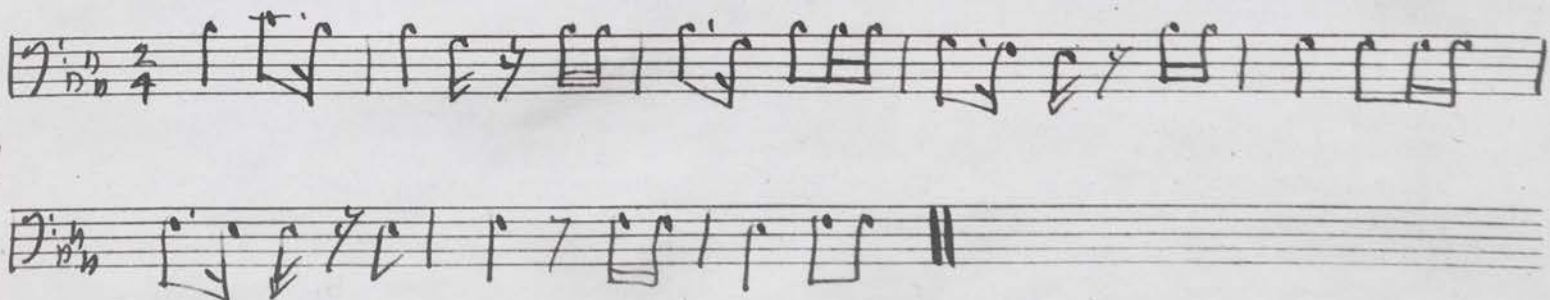
68/86



61 Song at termination of period of mourning
(Squamish River)

J=56

20/87

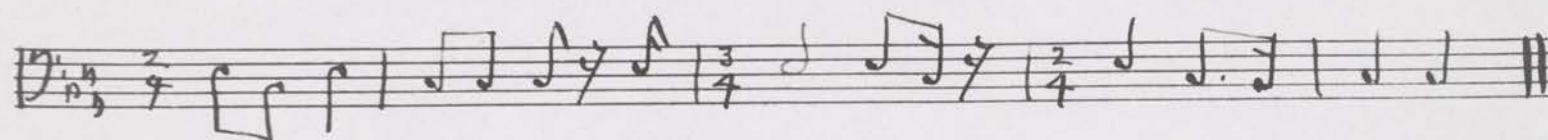
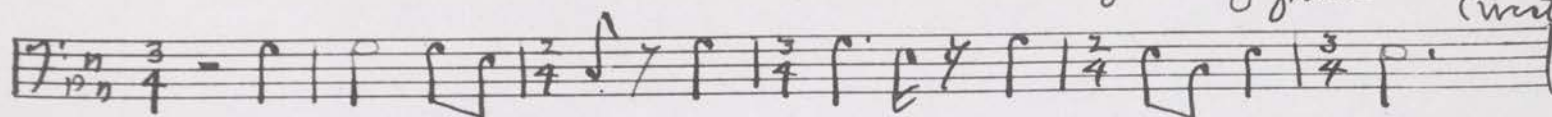


$\text{♩} = 72$

62. Song of a seal

(This is the only instance I
ever found of a song received
from a seal)
(West Coast)

117
88

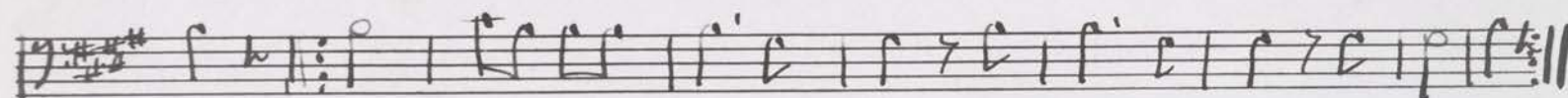
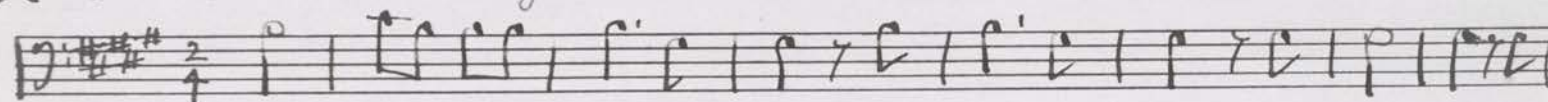


63. Song of a shark hunter

(Vancouver Island)

Voice $\text{♩} = 120$
Drum $\text{♩} = 120$ (Drumbeat in Eighths)

82
89

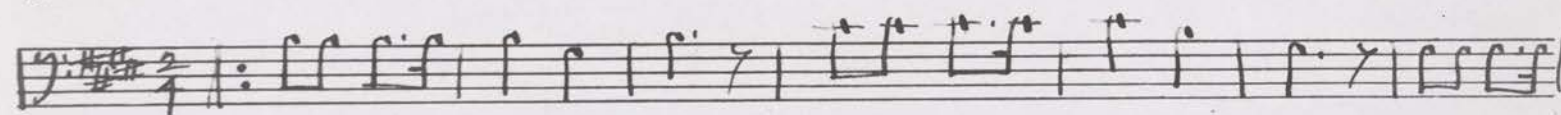


64. Song of a Hunter

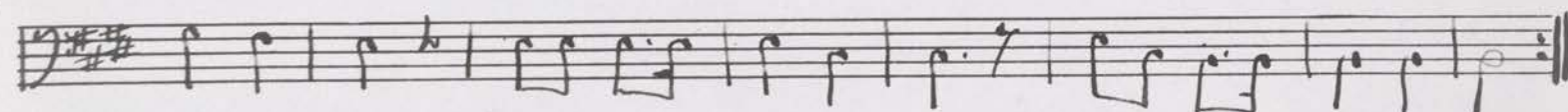
(Squamish River)

Voice $\text{♩} = 126$
Drum $\text{♩} = 126$ (Drumbeat in quarters)

87
114



109
90

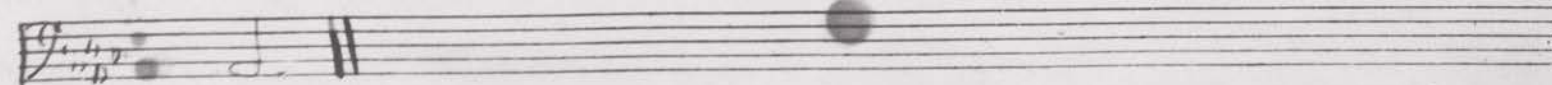
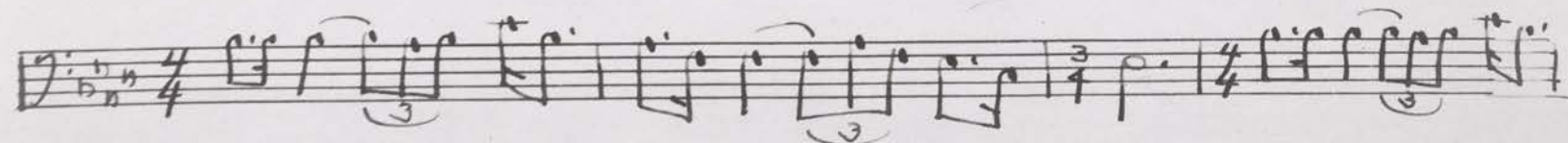


65. Song of Lappiness

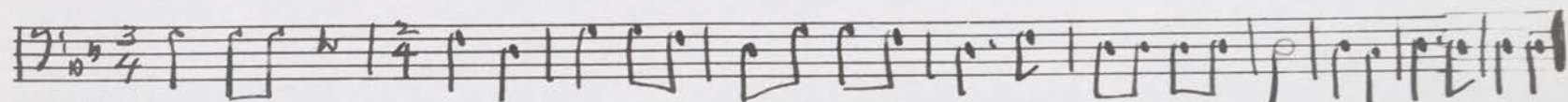
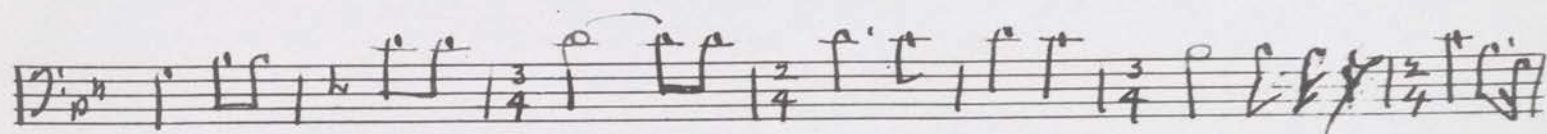
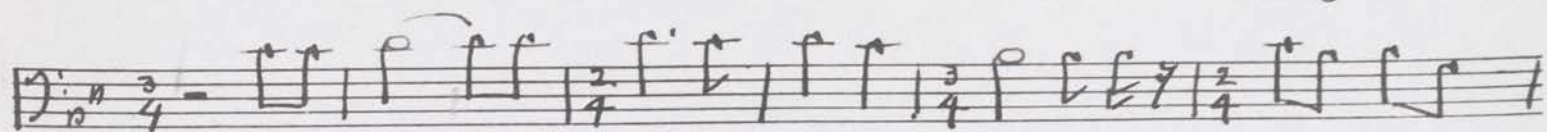
(Squamish River)

$\text{♩} = 54$

107
91



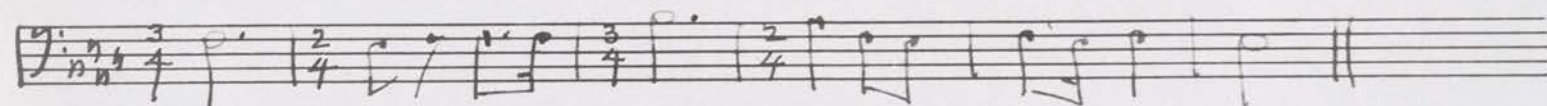
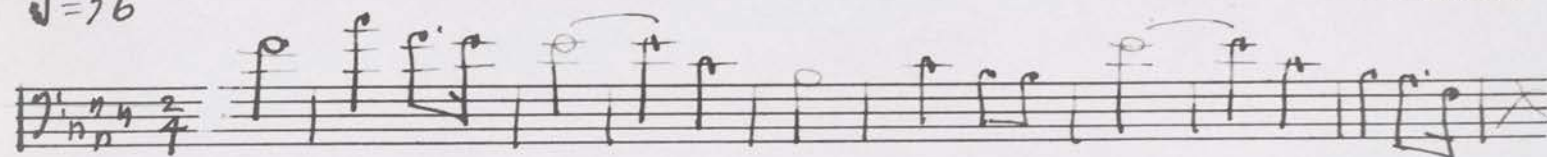
$\text{♩} = 100$ 66. Dream about going to Ottawa (Squamish River)



67. "I wish I was in Butte Inlet"

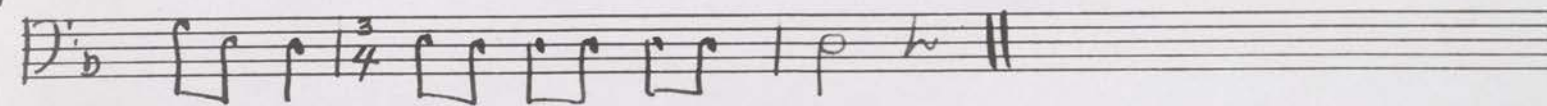
(Church House -
Houmao Res.)

$\text{♩} = 76$



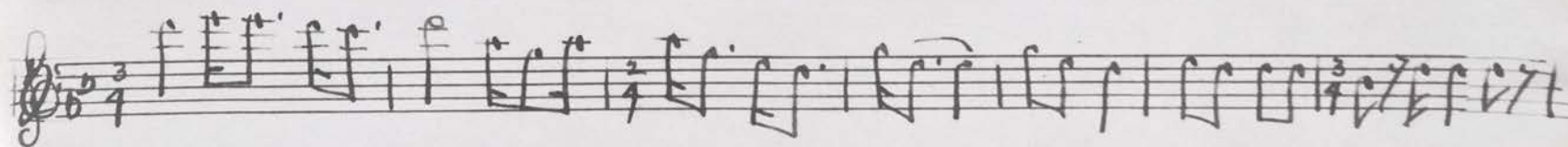
68. Song of a traveller

(Houmao Reserve)



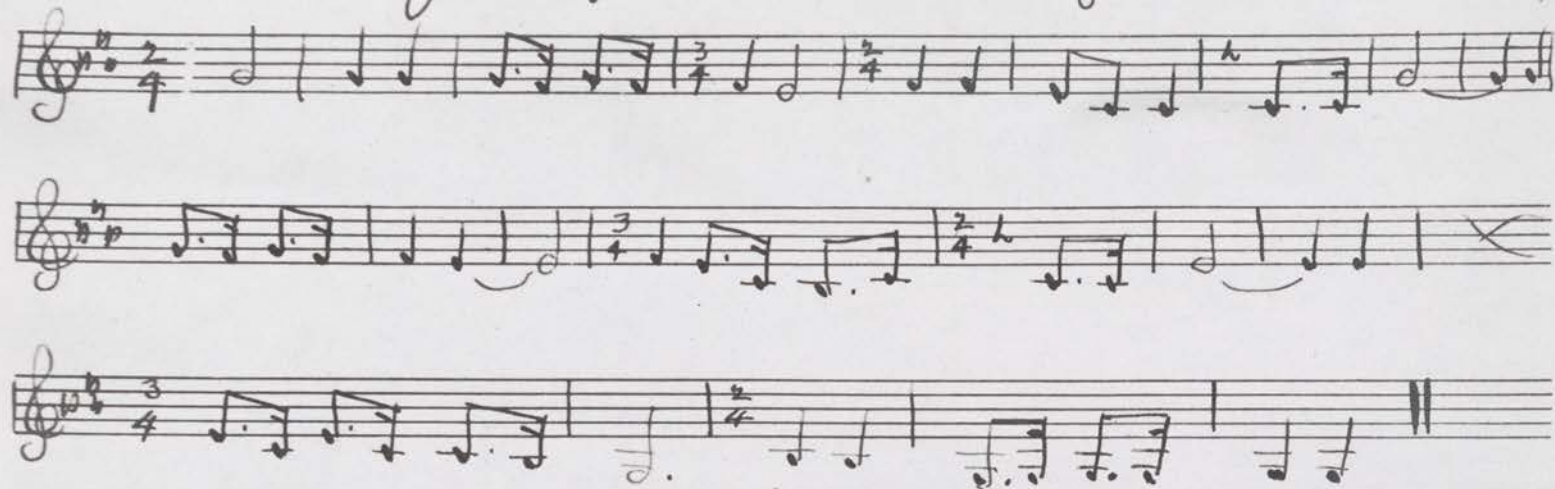
69. "Whiskey Song"

$\text{♩} = 88$



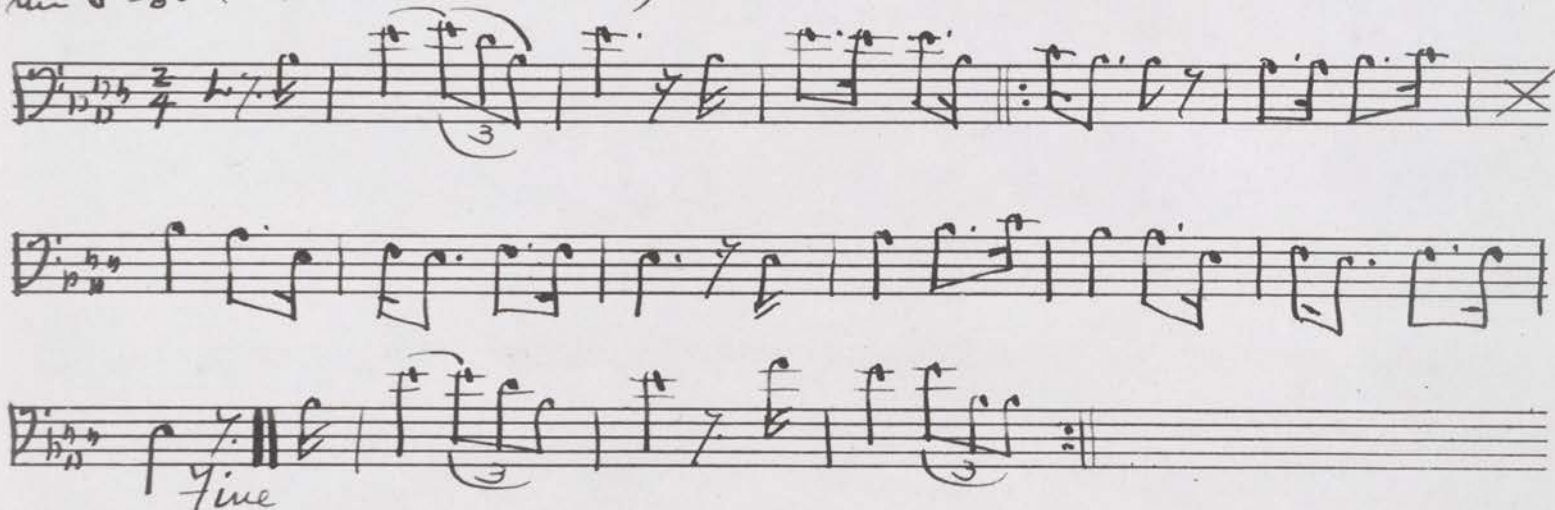
$\text{♩} = 108$

70. "Your pretty hair" (from Port Simpson)



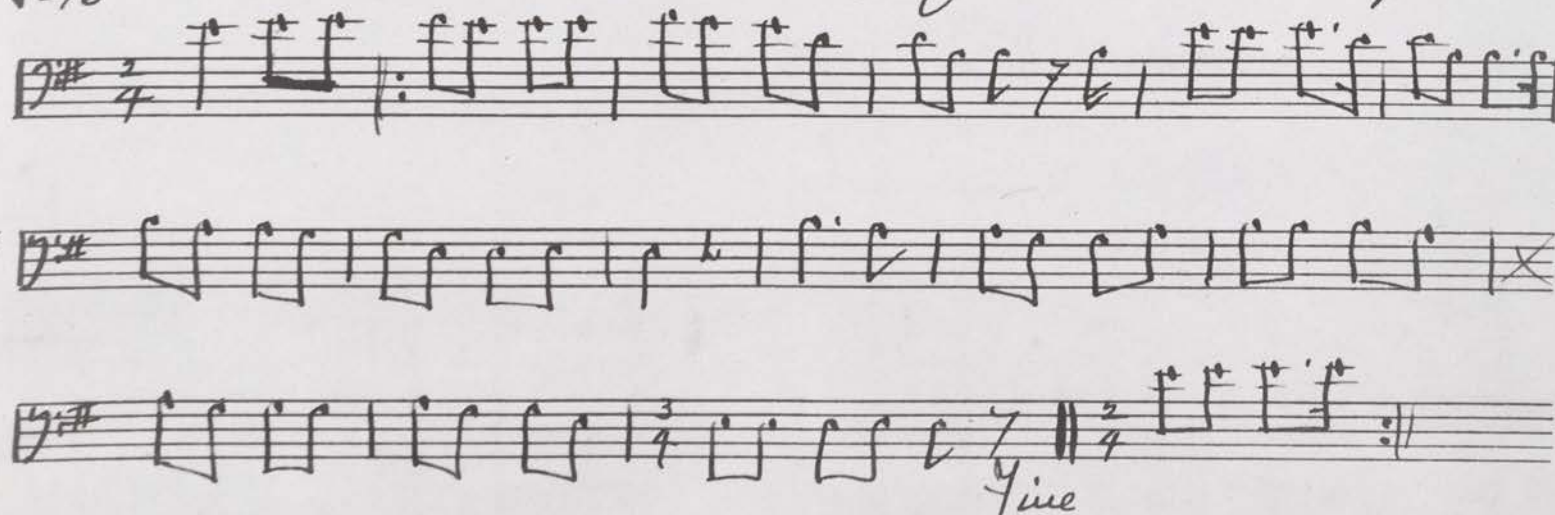
71. A Woman's Song (from Hope)

Voice $\text{♩} = 60$ (Drumbeat in Quarters)



72. Indian Cowboy Song - from Karlooper 18

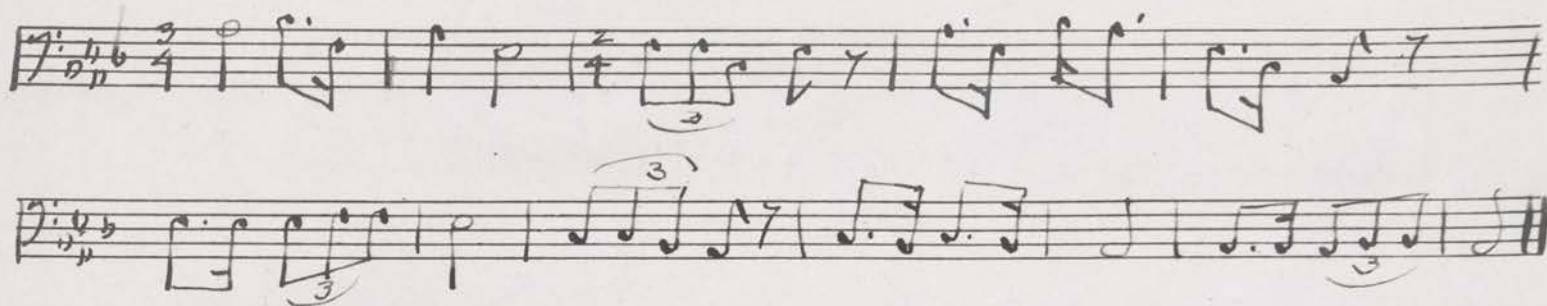
$\text{♩} = 96$



$\text{♩} = 66$

73. Song of Pleasure (from Fraser River)

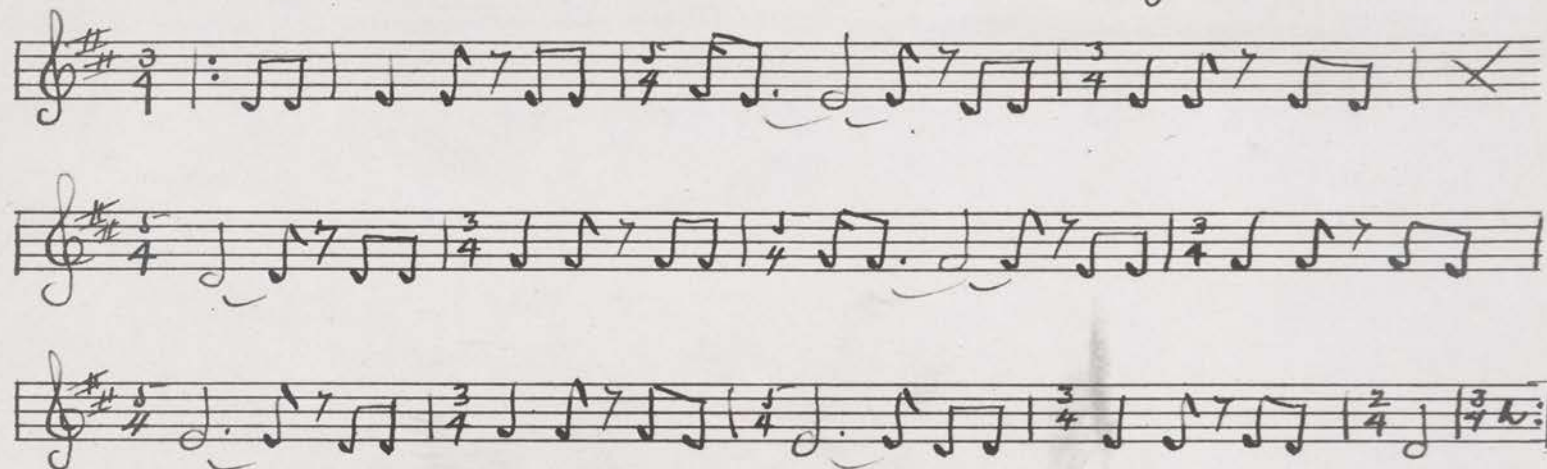
$\frac{34}{66}$



74. Gambling Song (a) (from Thompson River)

$\text{♩} = 100$

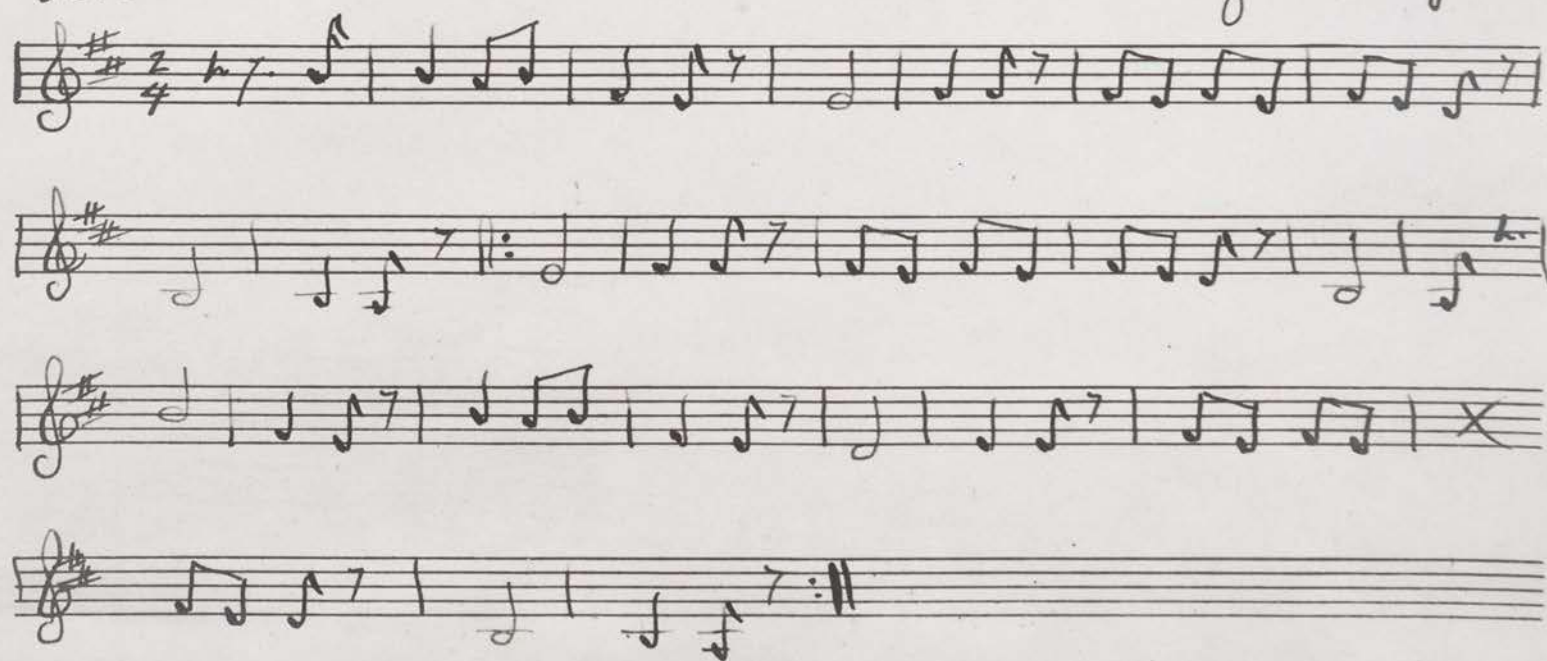
$\frac{3}{61}$



75. Gambling Song (b) (from Thompson River)

$\text{♩} = 96$

$\frac{4}{68}$



End