

MORECAMBE DANCE FESTIVAL.

All Lancashire thrills to the magic of the Rockferry team in the Ballroom formation-dancing contest for the Morecambe and Heysham Corporation trophy. It's the 7th annual dance festival, and the contest is open to the whole world. Can Rockferry repeat their winning performance of 1950?

The hopes of six towns (and 49 couples) hang on the adjudicator's marks, and the team entered by Leigh earns high praise for this stylish presentation of a fox-trot.

Not only the foxtrot, but the waltz, tango and quickstep - these and their variations are open to each team to choose. And each dazzles the onlookers by its consummate performance.

Mr. Alex Moore and his adjudicators (and the audience too) find judging difficult where there is so much perfection. But - the Tango, as danced by Sheffield - this goes straight to their hearts.

While the marks are totted up, and the hopes of six towns are weighed in the balance, the mayoress (Mrs. Norman Edmondson) holds hopes of quite another kind in her hand. Quality has been matched against quality in this magnificent evening organised by William Milner and his committee - but the winner of the "charity raffle" is a star turn for many as he duly collects from the mayoress his booty.

To Miss Constance Grant, who coached the team, the valuable 100 guinea trophy is presented - a worthy tribute (as the Mayor said - to display of such superb dancing. Sheffield last won the contest in 1948. It is a Cup on which the names of Blackpool, Rockferry and Weston-super-Mare are already proudly inscribed.

Congratulations, Sheffield, on your victory in the Floral Hall Ballroom - and a pat on the back for the entire staff of the Empire Theatre, who helped to make the evening such a success.