

# Doodler's Hornpipe

*Ralph Page*

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"The Doodler's Hornpipe" also known as "The Doodler's Reel" was composed by New Hampshire contra dance master Ralph Page (1903 - 1985).

Page began as a fiddler and began calling contra dances in 1930. In 1943, he began leading a weekly square and contra dance evening at the Boston Y.W.C.A. He continued this class session for the next 25 years. From 1949 to 1984, he single-handedly published 165 mimeographed issues of his **Northern Junket** magazine, which contained editorials, recipes, stories, dance notes, and sheet music for squares, contras, and international folk dances, and sheet music for many folk songs. His interpretation of obscure dance directions from old books and manuscripts found in the Library of Congress and elsewhere made it possible to revive many beautiful old dances.

"The Doodler's Hornpipe" was printed in Page's **Ralph Page Book of Contras** (1969).

It has been picked up and passed on by fiddlers and other contra music players.