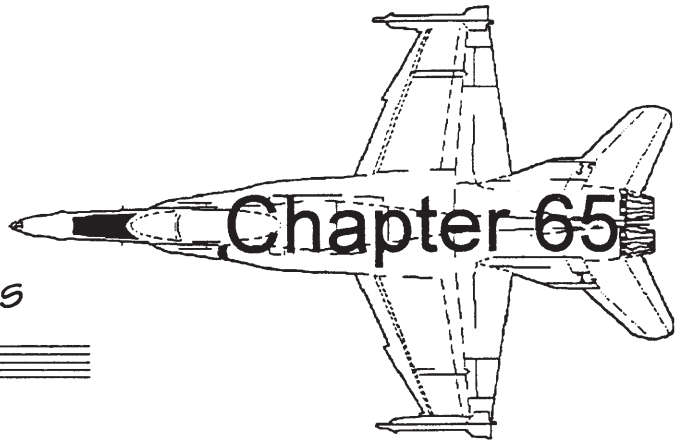


Chapter 65

Drum Patterns & Cadences

Traditionally, the buglers in a band are also drummers, both instruments being ways of communicating orders. These important people have pride of place in the Corps of Drums, with the bugles worn slung on the drummer's hips. Most cadet units usually do not have drummers trained in bugling, so this duty falls on the trumpet and cornet players.

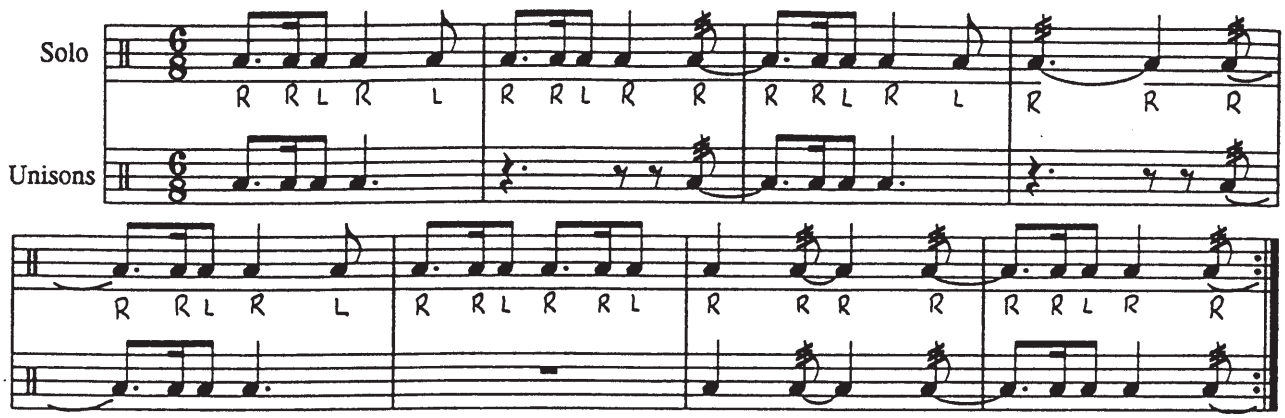
The Drum Patterns, or Cadences, given in this book are Steamboats and Viscount 6. Good practice techniques for drummers is a lot of repetition, attention to detail, and using a metronome. Trying to learn off-beats while another person gives you a tempo is difficult for both players, as usually most people do not stay on their original tempo. A metronome gives a steady beat and will help develop rhythmic confidence. Drummers should always warm up their wrists and fingers before playing , and stretch after playing to avoid tendonitis. They should stretch their wrists to develop flexibility, which usually comes slower in the left wrist. The drummers should use the traditional grip, not matched grip for marching, as once it is mastered it gives the player better technique for parade drumming. Because marching snare drums are carried at an angle when slung, traditional grip must be used. Matched grip is appropriate for snare drumming only if the snare drum is flat, not tilted, and even then many players prefer traditional grip.

While the traditions of drumming in Sea Cadet bands stems form the Royal Marines, much of the influence of playing drums in Sea Cadet bands in Western Canada is from Lt Élan McGinn (nee Masson), a CIC officer and former Sea Cadet from RCSCC Amphion. Lt McGinn studied Percussion at the University of Calgary and holds degrees in Music and Education. Her influence is vast due to her years of sharing her knowledge with others and writing patterns for cadet use. At the time of the printing of this book, an instructional audio tape for the Steamboats and Paradox drum patterns made by Lt McGinn, and a Military Snare Drum Rudiments videotape are available through the Pacific Region RCMA.

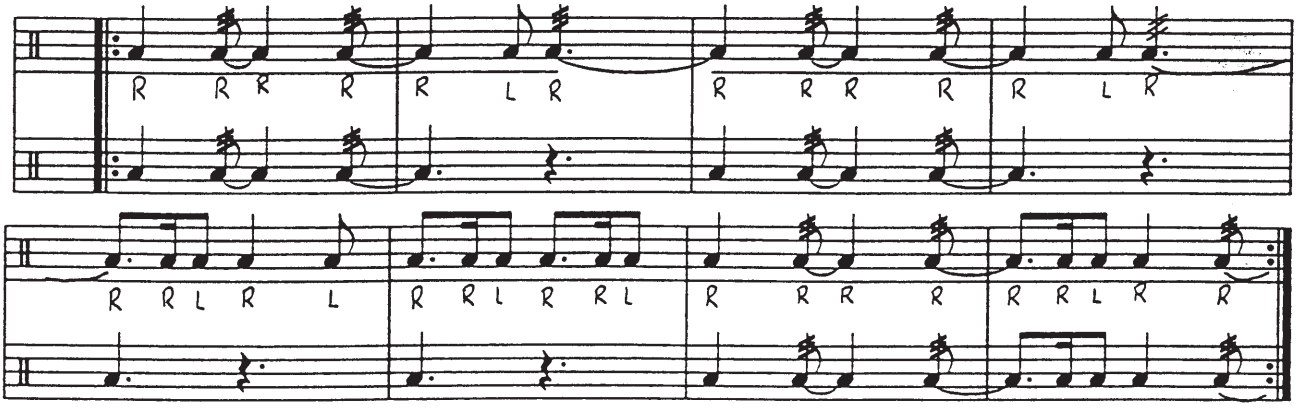
Steamboats

CPO Elan Masson

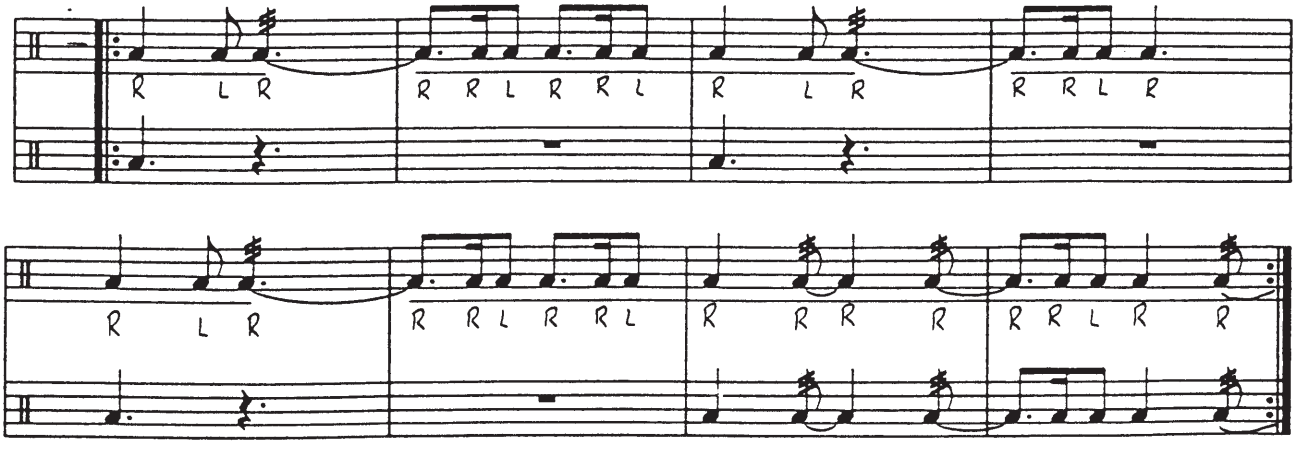
Steamboat #1



Steamboat #2

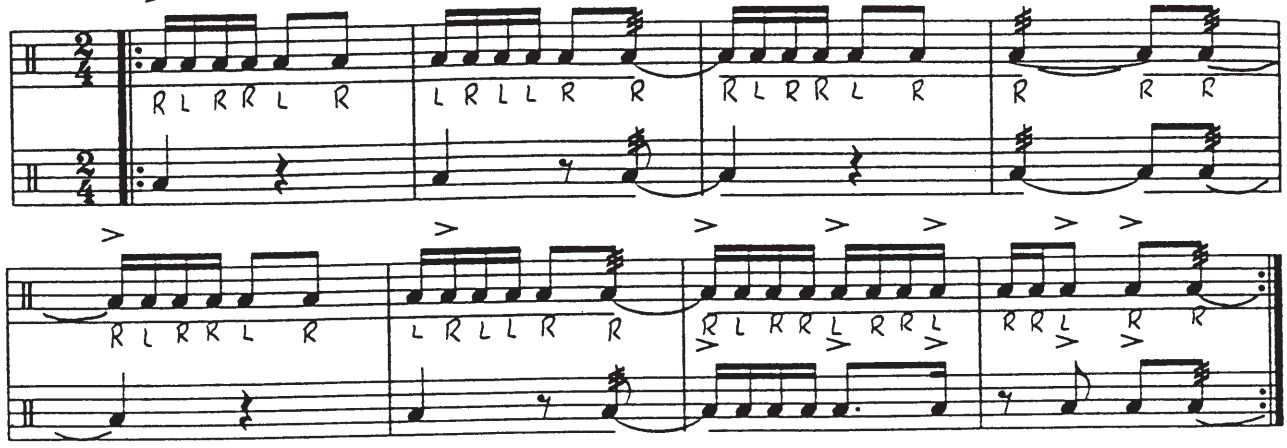


Steamboat #3

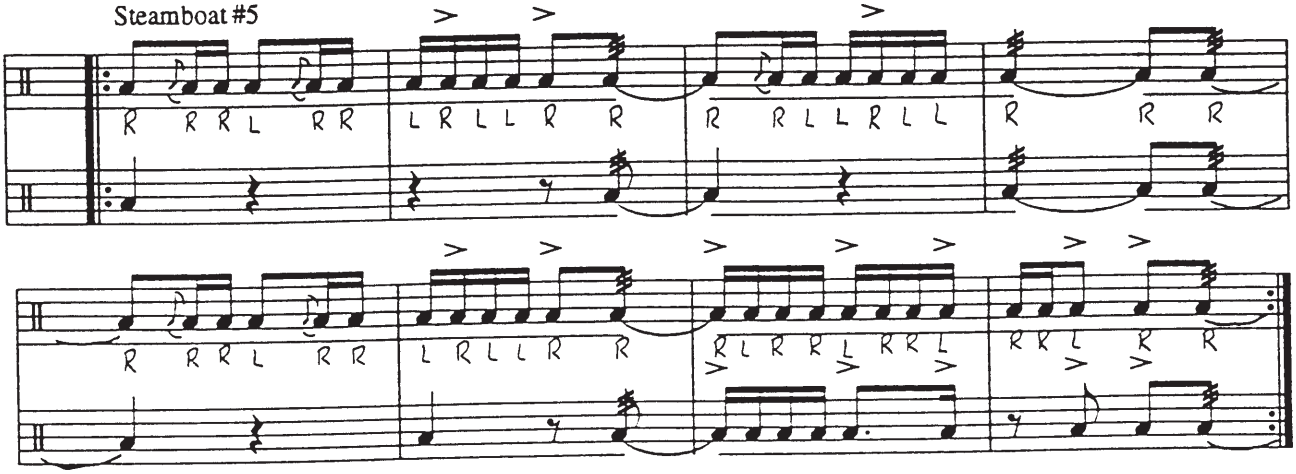


Steamboats

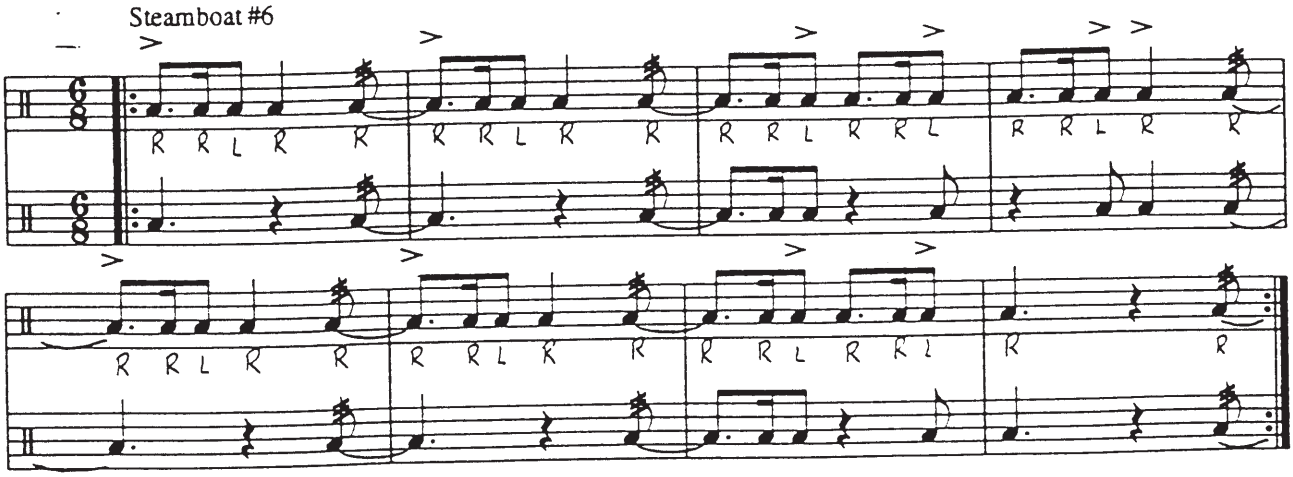
Steamboat #4



Steamboat #5

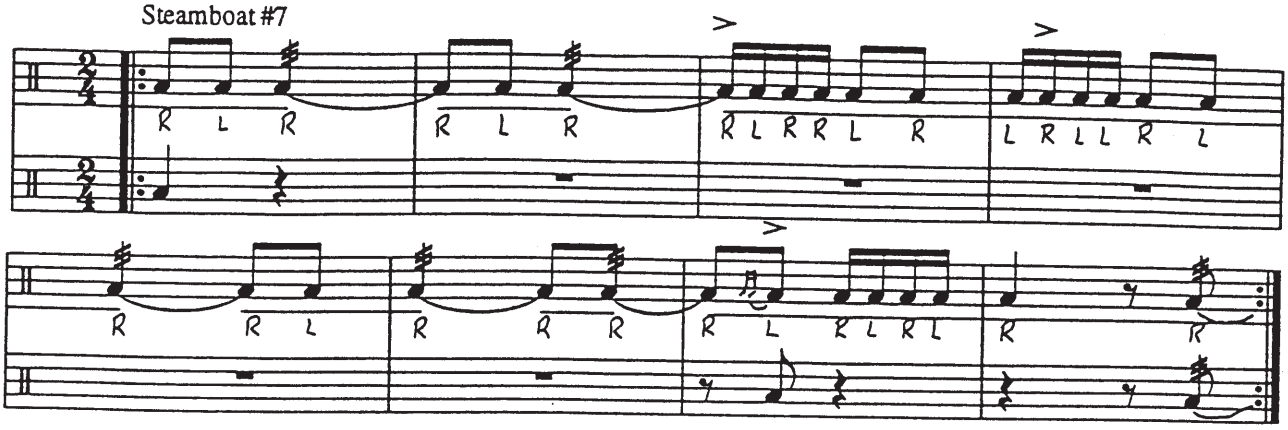


Steamboat #6

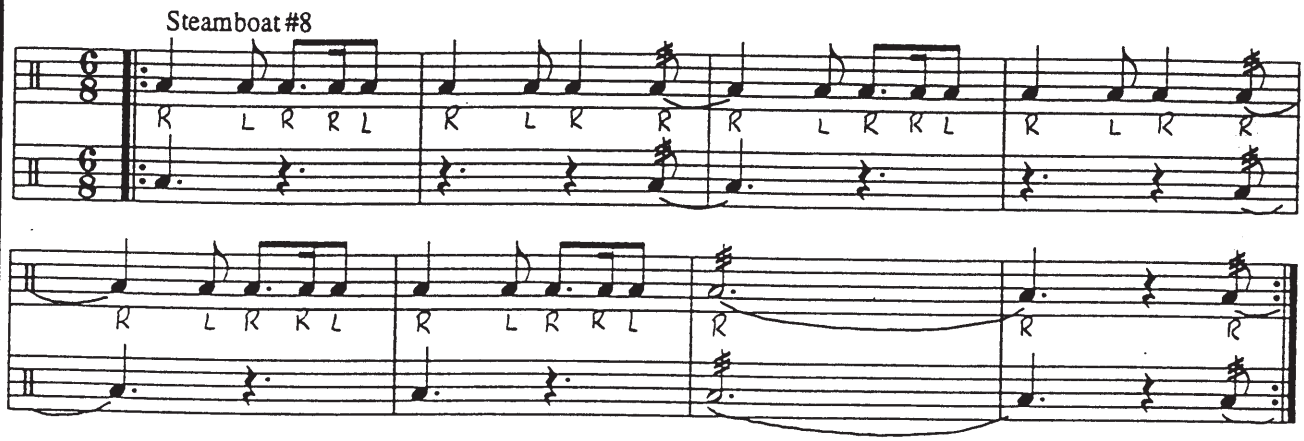


Steamboats

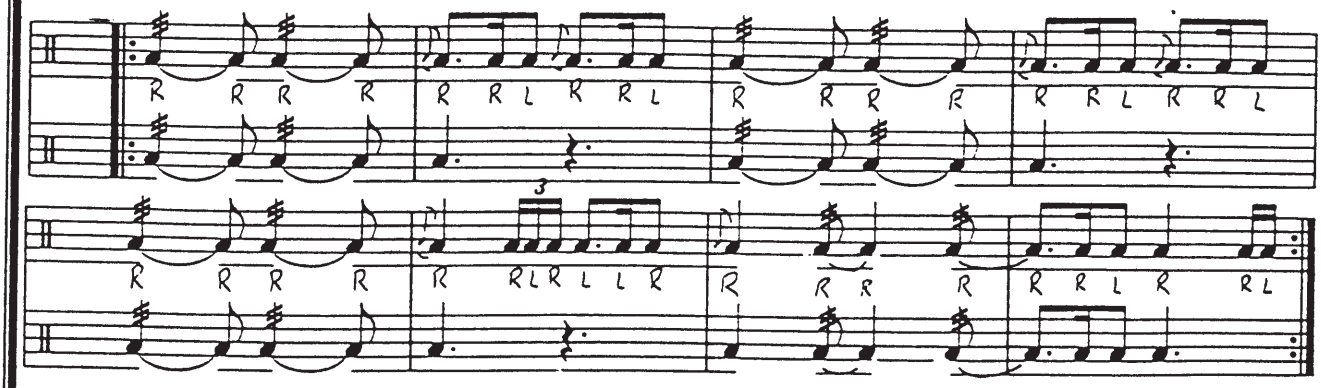
Steamboat #7



Steamboat #8



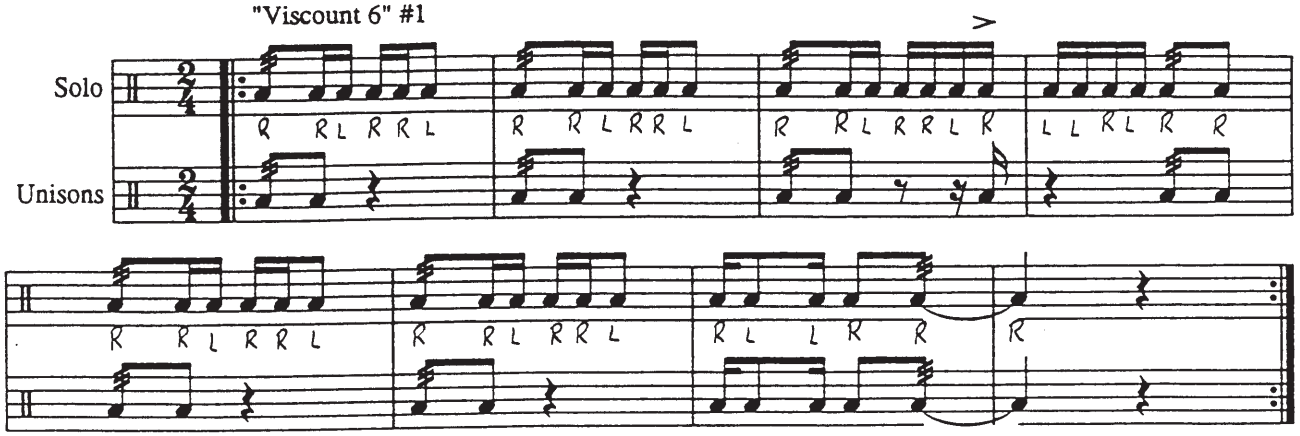
Steamboat #9



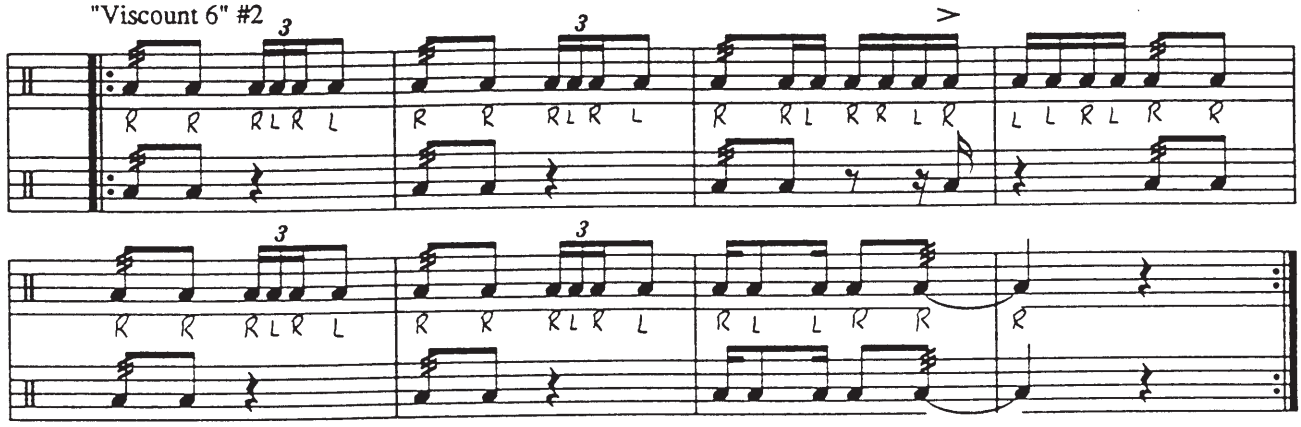
"Viscount 6" Cadences

Anon.

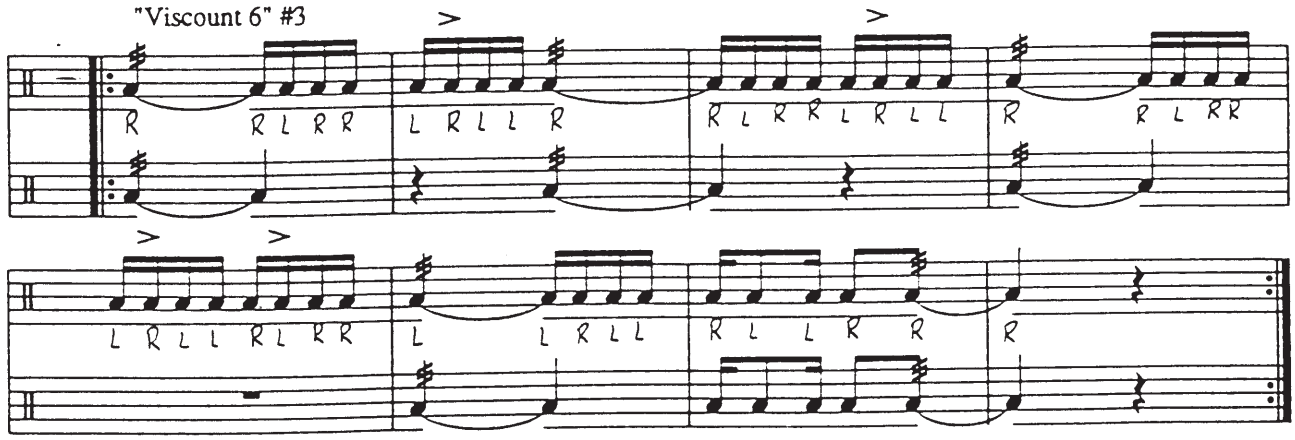
"Viscount 6" #1



"Viscount 6" #2

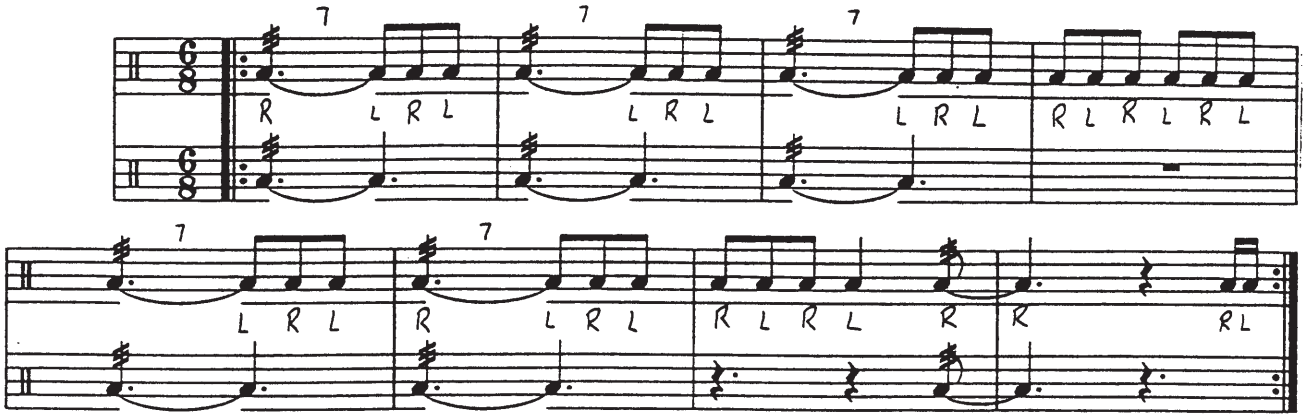
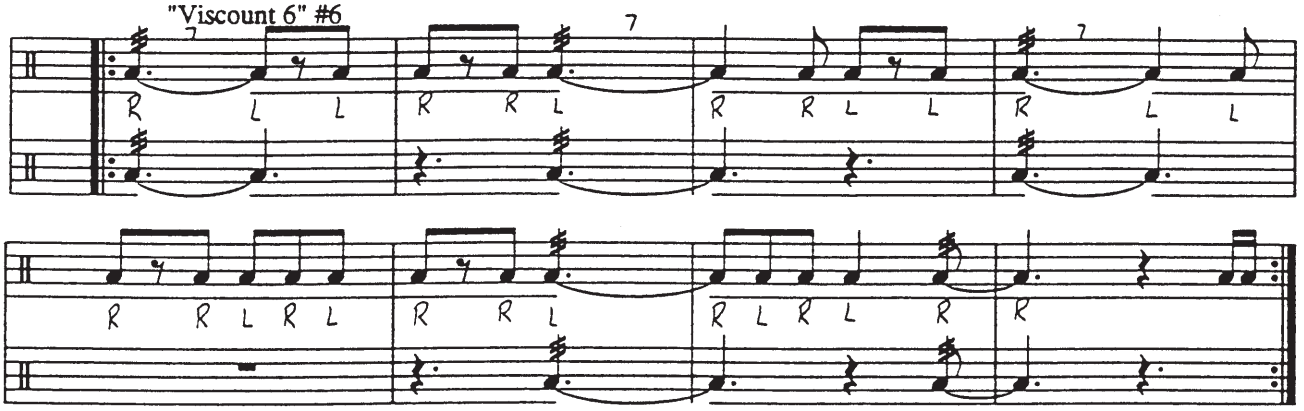


"Viscount 6" #3



"Viscount 6" Cadences

"Viscount 6" #5



"Viscount 6" #6