# B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER


**The official monthly publication of the British Columbia Pipers' Association**

APRIL/MAY, 1967. No. 81.

# B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published monthly by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

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EDITORIAL ON THE MIDNIGHT PIPERS:

Once more have the piping activities of a few misguided souls brought a degree of notoriety to piping in Vancouver. We are, of course, referring to what is described in the following two articles, "Midnight Piper Found Not Guilty", in the Vancouver Sun, and "Burns Third Rate Poet, Cor!", in the Province, both dated April 22nd, 1967. While we look with extreme disfavour to any persecution of pipers and any disparagement of bagpipe music, we are of the opinion, if the facts as outlined in the articles are correct, that the persons charged with creating a disturbance were treated with leniency by Magistrate Bewley. (We are not concerned with Mag. Bewley's opinion of Burns - unpopular in certain circles).

It is indeed deplorable that pipers frequently want to inflict their music on others at unreasonable times and places. To play the pipes on a public street at midnight, or even at 10:30 p.m., without any regard to the discomfort and inconvenience which it might cause unwilling listeners, brings our instrument into considerable disrepute. Our experience is that those who usually play under such circumstances are at least partially under the influence of liquor, are poor to middling pipers at the best of times, and give forth with rousing renditions of "Scotland the Brave" and "Highland Laddie", because these are the most solid items in their rather limited repertoire.

It is certainly not surprising that the uninitiated therefore say that all pipe tunes sound alike; probably they always hear the same few tunes, and played badly, at that. We feel that to play the bagpipes in an apartment area late at night is as inappropriate as to play them in the ward of a maternity hospital.

Defence counsel undoubtedly referred to the case against John Sutherland, in submitting that bagpipes are not noise. The cases are easily distinguishable. In the famous Sutherland case, the piper played in residential areas during the daylight hours. If he was a nuisance to anyone it was the traffic authorities, rather than the citizens. In the present case, the players were performing in a heavily settled apartment area at an unreasonable hour. Let us hope that examples of this type of behavior are not repeated by local pipers.

MIDNIGHT PIPER FOUND NOT GUILTY: (from Vancouver Sun, April 22nd,1967)

Pipe Major Gordon Webb met with a cool reception Burns' Night when he played Scotland the Brave outside a West End apartment block. A court heard Friday how one irate tenant whose wife and child were disturbed by Webb's rendition threw four pans of water over Webb and some fellow Scots.

Webb appeared in magistrate's court Friday to answer a charge of causing a disturbance. The bearded Scot was resplendent in kilt and sporran. A long dirk was in a sheath at his side. Webb, of 1250 Comox, a 26 year old pipe major with the University of B.C. band pleaded not guilty to the charge. His fellow celebrants, Anthony Mayger, 41, of 1310 Bute, and Thomas Richardson 22, of 2859 West Ninth, both denied similar charges.

The three were found not guilty by Magistrate Les Bewley.

Axel Luhman, a salesman, who has an apartment at 1531 Beach, said he was at home Jan. 26 at about 10:30 p.m. when he heard a lot of noise including the sound of pipes. He said he looked from his balcony and saw the three accused and a large group of people. He said he made several requests for the group to stop the noise and when they declined he threw four lots of water at them. He said the three entered his apartment where his wife and child had been awakened by the noise, and only left after repeated requests.

Webb said he started playing the pipes when he was 16 and later joined the Canadian army. He said his schooling in the pipes was furthered in Edinburgh, Scotland, and at one time he was the youngest pipe major in the Canadian army.

He said he and the other two were invited to a part Burns' Night on Beach Avenue. "When we arrived in front of the apartment there were three or four people in the street who asked me to play," Webb said. He said when Richardson arrived he started playing his pipes, too, and that was when the water was thrown, hitting Richardson.

He said Richardson went to enter the apartment and he and Mayger dragged him back. Mayger testified that he and Webb only entered the apartment to restrain Richardson, who was annoyed by the water throwing.

Magistrate Bewley dismissed the cases after defence counsel Gerry Coultas submitted there was an appeal court decision that the bagpipes are not noise. Bewley said that perhaps the court did not have the proper background to appreciate Burns' Night celebrations.

"My background is part Phoenician and part Norman," Bewley said. "I am at a loss to understand these perpetual celebrations in connection with a third-rate poet."

BURNS THIRD RATE POET? COR? (from the Province, April 22nd, 1967)

Robbie Burns a third-rate poet?

Yes, says Magistrate Les Bewley, and a poet who writes about haggis at that.

No, says Warnett Kenney, the Scots-born architect and president of the Men's Canadian Club, Burns was a good poet and a great social philosopher. Kennedy said Vancouver's Scottish community will be "conentionally outraged" at Bewley's remark. "I think Bewley must be an Englishman by origin. He hasn't got the spiritual dimensions to understand Robert Burns."

The storm blew up after Bewley panned Burns during a court case in which three Scots were charged with disturbing the peace on Burns' night on Jan. 26th. . Gordon Webb and fellow Scots Thomas Richardson, 22, and Anthony Mayger, 41, were accused of disorderly conduct in a public place.

The charges arose when University of B.C. pipe major Webb, 26, dressed in a kilt, sporran and what-not, played Scottish airs for passersby in front of 1531 Beach around 10:30 on Burns' night. It pleased some but not Axel Luhmann, who threw water from hisfirst-floor apartment. "I had a sick child," he explained in court.

Somebody else threw an egg at the musicians. The Scots scaled Luhmann's balcony. Luhmann called the police.

Bewley dismissed the charge but said Robbie Burns Night venerated "a third-rate poet".

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SCOTS GUARDS PIPE MAJOR WINS POLICE PIPERS' COMPETITION:

(from The Oban Times, April, 1967.)

The competitive piping season made a splendid start in the capital last Saturday with an entry of over 40 in the second solo piping competition organised by Edinburgh City Police Pipe Band in the Royal Arch Halls. Playing in the piobaireachd class was of a fairly high standard, with exceptionally good tunes from the winner and runner-up - Hector MacFadyen (Pennyghael) and Hugh MacCallum (Doune).

The overall award of the competition, won by Pipe Major Angus MacDonald 1st Scots Guards, was the Piob Mhor Trophy, presented to the police by ex-members of the 47th Edinburgh Company Boys' Brigade Pipe Band. During the immediate post-war years this young band climbed through the ranks of the pipe band world from the juvenile grade and, as well as many other honours, won the European second grade championship.

The band, unforunately, had to go out of existence owing to National Service commitments, but several former members are still playing at home and abroad, including two now in Edinburgh City Police Pipe Band. It was decided that the achievements of the old 47th B.B. Band should be commemorated in perpetuity, preferably in a way which would promote the interests of piping, and it is a remarkable achievement that a band which always had to work on the proverbial shoestring has nowpresented so handsome a trophy.

Pipe Major MacDonald won it for highest marks over the entire competition; he was second in marches and won both the strathspey and reel and jig classes.

The judges were Pipe Major Peter Bain, Major General Frank Richardson, Dr. Kenneth Mackay, Captain D.R. MacLennan, Pipe Major John MacLellan, and Pipe Major George Stoddard.

Class results:

Piobaireachd - 1. (challenge Trophy presented by the Royal Company of Archers and 20 pounds) Hector MacFadyen, Pennyghael, 2. Hugh MacCallum, Doune, 3. Pipe Major Ronald Lawrie, Glasgow, 4. Kenneth MacDonald, Glasgow

Marches: 1. D. Ferguson, Glasgow 2. P.M. Angus MacDonald, Scots Guards 3. A. MacLellan, Glasgow 4. I. MacLellan, Glasgow

Strathspey & Reel: 1. P.M. Angus MacDonald, Scots Guards 2. I. MacLellan 3. Hector MacFadyen 4. J. MacDougall, Glasgow

Jigs: 1. Pipe Major Angus MacDonald 2. D. Ferguson 3. I. MacLellan 4. Kenneth MacDonald.

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A NEW B.C. PIPE BAND IS BORN:

Vancouver's North Shore now has its own Boys' Pipe Band, thanks to two hard-working young men, Pipe Gordon Drybrough and Drummer David Russell. The whole idea was the conception of David, and when he approached his friend Gordon with it, the dream began to take shape as they worked on it together.

From his start in the Navy Cadet Band, David later served as Drummer in the Port Moody and Powell River Pipe Bands for a while. Then after returning to Vancouver he served in the Seaforth Highlanders Pipe Band for the past year.

With a good response from a few Ads in the local Citizen, The North Vancouver Junior Boys' Pipe Band was officially organized in January of 1966. Lessons were arranged to train 17 boys for Piping and 23 for Drumming, ages 9 to 14, with Gordon teaching Piping and David for Drumming. Gordon was a pupil of David Wilson, and also served with the Seaforth Highlanders Pipe Band, later under Bob Stoker.

The aim of the studious organizers is first to build a Junior Pipe Band with a good solid foundation to start off with, and in time build up experience with street parades and small trips. They plan to form a Senior Pipe Band later for boys reaching age 16 to move up to.

At present they have no Sponsor, and will soon be looking for one. But they have all their drums, and expect the Band will be outfitted with full uniforms by the end of August. Pipers will supply their own Pipes.

The Band's present strength is 18 Pipers and 17 Drummers in training. They are looking for two boys to fill the positions of Bass Drummer and a tall Drum Major. A standard size Mace is waiting for the boy interested in applying for Drum Major.

Now in its second year, the North Vancouver Junior Boys' Pipe Band is the first Pipe Band to be established on the Mountain-side of the harbour, and Vancouver's North Shore is happy.

- Cathrine Paterson -

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Along with the previous article, Mrs. Paterson forwarded a clipping taken from The Vancouver Province, B.C. Magazine, dated April 3rd, 1954. The article is entitled "Cuidich'n Righ", and is an excellent history of the Seaforth Highlanders in general and the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada in particular. Although not strictly speaking an article pertaining to piping, we know that our local readers will find it of great interest, and we take great pleasure in reproducing this story.

CUIDICH'N RIGH: (by Ed Moyer, from the Vancouver Province, B.C. Magazine, April 3, 1954)

Mysore, Sevastapol, Lucknow, Kabul, Khartoum, Paardeberg, Marne, Ypres, Vimy, Palestine, Baghdad - a roll-call of glory, of boundless courage and gallantry. Hindustan, Cape of Good Hope, Koosh-Ab, Kandahar, Chitral, Atbara, Loos, Somme, Arras, Cambrai, Agira, Ortona, Kestel, Ihssel - battle names that ring like trumpet blasts; crimson punctuation marks printed in Seaforth blook on the crowded pages of British history.

"CUIDICH'N RIGH!" The Seaforth Highlander's motto - "Help the King" - and their stag's head crest, is more than 700 years old. It was won by an act of courage that saved a Scottish king from death. Colin Fitzgerald, founder of the Mackenzie family, was granted the crest and motto by royal decree for killing a wounded stag at bay that threatened the life of King Alexander III.

One of Fitzgerald's descendants, the Fifth Earl of Seaforth, lost his title and estates for taking part in the Jacobite Rebellion. His son was permitted to repurchase the land and in 1771 his grandson was made the Earl of Seaforth. In gratitude he offered to raise a regiment, and at Elgin, a year later, the Seaforth Highlanders were placed on establishment of the regular army and numbered the 78th Regiment.

That is the rather prosaic story behind the birth of a regiment whose fierce loyalty and service to the kings and queens of England played a major part in the creation of the greatest empire this world has ever known. Little more than three months after the regiment was formed it repulsed an attempt by the French to land on the Channel Islands. And in the 10 years that followed Seaforth pipes skirled to victory on six different battlefields.

In 1786 the regiment was re-numbered 72nd, seven years later the 2nd Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders was raised. They were glorious campaigners, those Seaforths of Old, Tough, valorous men who died uncomplainingly under a hundred suns to win the colors that the men of the regiment so proudly salute today.

Consider for instance, their 10 month voyage to India in 1781 when the colonel and 247 men died of scurvy. The remnants of the regiment went on to triumphs of conquest against the finest fighters in that war-riddled land. "I was with them on the Plains of Hindoostan and they were famous for their high order and discipline... they have engaged in the conquest of some of the most valuable colonies of the British Crown," said the Duke of Wellington when, before Queen Victoria, he presented the regiment with its new colours.

This, then, was the military heritage of the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders of Canada when, in 1910, the regiment was formed to become Vancouver's only infantry unit of the Canadian Militia. It was composed almost entirely of officers and men of Scottish descent. Some had been born in Scotland but most were sons and grandsons of Scottish pioneers. A year after its formations the regiment was officially affiliated to the Seaforth Highlanders of the British Imperial Army.

At the outbreak of World War One the eager young regiment champing to get into action, a sked that it be allowed to fight as a unit. Denial did not dampen Seaforth ardor and in the early days of the war it supplied more than 2000 officers and men to Canadian infantry units.

In 1915, however, permission was granted by the War Office to form an overseas unit and in less than a year Canadian Seaforth troops were screaming their wild war-cry "Tulloch Ard," in their first bayonet charge on a German trench. The regiment paid heavily in Seaforth blood in its most outstanding action of that war - Vimy Ridge. They spearheaded an attack that won the Canadian Corps in France undying glory. After the bloodbath our troops, weary and victorious, counted, not the dead, but the living, because it was much easier. The Seaforths numbered only 11 officers and 62 men.

When the veterans returned to Vancouver they brought with them 11 battle honors and more than 100 orders and awards.

During the uneasy peace of 20 years that followed, re-organized under Lieut.-Col. G.H. Kirkpatrick, D.S.O., the regiment forged ahead in efficiency. And on Dec. 15,1939, the asphalt of Vancouver's streets again echoed to the tramp of Seaforth boots, marching to battle.

To many of those eager young warriors the worst part of World War Two were the monotonous months of waiting and training in England that dragged into July, 1943. When Maj.-Gen. B.M. Hoffmeister, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D., then a Lieut.-Col., led his battle-anxious superbly-trained Seaforths ashore in Sicily, neither he, nor his 800-odd men, in their most belligerent imaginings, anticipated the years of violence and suffering, misery and mud, triumph and honours that were before them. But the baptism wasn't long in coming. Leon Forte, Agira, Val di Salso, Aderno, these were the Sicilian battles that won the plaid-clad infantiers their spurs. And especially Aderno. It gave them a taste of things to come. It was there they came up against troops of the cream of the German army - "The First Paras."

Many battles later the Seaforths defeated two battalions of that outfit in Ortona, Italy, in merciless street fighting that lasted a week. The engagement became known throughout the Allied world as "Little Stalingrad".

On May 23, 1944, four Seaforth rifle companies led an attack that opened the door of the "impregnable" Adolph Hitler line. It was a costly victory;out of 450 officers and men, 75 were killed and 250 wounded. It was in that engagement that every Seaforth officer on the field was a casualty. The battalion, incidentally, suffered the highest officer casualty rate of any Canadian unit in the war.

So the Seaforths slogged through Italian mud and fought. And slogged through more mud and fought again. And the names of battles in which they took part were on the lips of the world. There was Hill 1007, the Battle of the Gothic Line, the Battle of San Fortunato, of Kestral and Naviglio, of Bagnacavallo and

Savio, where Smoky Smith, now a permanent force recruiting sergeant, won his Victoria Cross, the second to be awarded a Seaforth man in World War Two. Earlier in the war, at Dieppe, Seaforth-trained Lieut.-Col. C.C. Merritt, V.C., commanded the South Saskatchewans, won the Empire's highest award, was captured and spent years as a P.O.W.

From Italy the Seaforths moved into north-west Europe and fought a major battle on the Igssel River. They had faced up the Grebber line when an armistice was signed so they were posted to Amsterdam for occupation duties.

The largest crowds to assemble on Vancouver's streets, more than 200,000, by official estimate, turned out to welcome them home. In Nov. 1945 the unit was disbanded as a Canadian Active Service force and in March of the following year a new battalion - The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, Reserve Force, was created. At first the new battalion was 100 percent overseas personnel but since then about 700 recruits have passed through its ranks. Under the leadership of Lieut.-Col. Merritt the unit has been more successful than most in its fight against peace-time apathy. They parade in greater strength than any other reserve force in western Canada. Full strength is seldom less than 250 officers and men. Recruits number about 100 a year.

Pride of the unit is the Seaforth Band. It has captured the Steward Trophy for the past six years in competition with pipe bands from all over the Pacific Northwest. The trophy, which has a place of honour in the officer's mess, is insured for $4,000.00.

There is another trophy in the officer's mess that means as much, or more, to members. It is a walking stick. A very ordinary appearing, inexpensive ash cane enshrined above the bar. It is called the "Drinking Stick." On each New Year's Eve it is brought down with great ceremony. In Italy the Drinking Stick was the treasured possession of Captain Tom Wooley, M.C.. Whenever he went on leave the cane went with him. Finally it got so that when any party of officers went to Rome or Naples on leave they carried the cane with them for luck. No matter what happened they always brought the stick back. Occasionally they lost their wallets and clothing, luggage and side-arms and a jeep or two, but never the stick.

And those who carried it inscribed their names upon it, more than 100 of them. When Captain Wooley was killed the drinking stick was sent to his parents but they sent it back. "It belongs to all of you," they wrote. And it did. To each of those who are left it recalls old comrades, particular memories - memories of a few hours of release in a world that knew no tomorrow.

The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada are, once again, standing by. But not passively; not indifferently. In their armory on Burrard they drill and study endlessly, keeping pace with a fest-moving science where weapons are born and die into uselessness without seeing combat.

"CUIDICH'N RIGH - Help the King." If the call comes again they will be there, fighting in the front where they have always fought. Proud warriors, fierce, gallant, loyal warriors - Vancouver's own.

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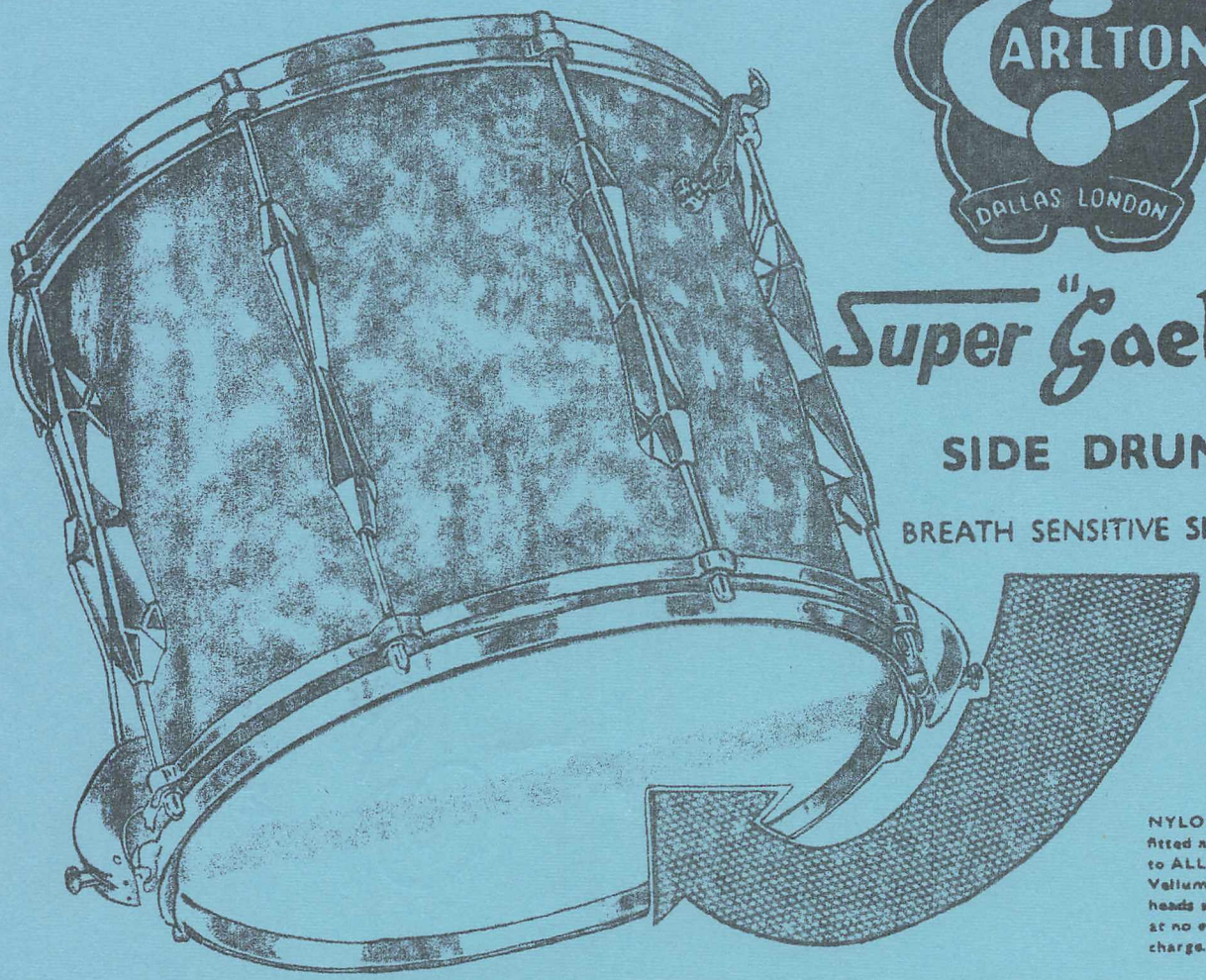

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TORONTO INDOOR GAMES - APRIL 1st, 1967. John Wilson

My wife drove me down to the Moss Park Armoury on Saturday morning. As we drove round the back of the Armourh and down Sherbourne Street, the bums were everywhere in evidence. Yes, that's right - bums; you see, the Sherbourne, Queen, Jarvis district is very much run down and has seen better days; and all sorts of unsavoury characters live there. On this morning at 8:40 a.m., they were hanging around in little groups and lolling on the benches. On a bench facing Queen Street one specimen was litting all by himself playing a violin. He wasn't playing for money becuase the bench was too far back from the sidewalk, so he must have been practicing, or just playing for the sheer love of it. The new Armoury, however, is very nice indeed, and the district is gradually being cleaned up. Uniformed attendants are constantly on duty and ensure that undesirables are not admitted.

I was asked to judge the Piobaireachd competition, as Alex. McNeill had judged it last year. This event was held in the 48th Highlanders band room, an ideal place for it, as it is large and has excellent accoustics. The other open events were held on the main floor of the building while the confined piping events had other rooms allotted to them.

Reay MacKay started his tune "The Bells of Perth" at 9:31 a.m., and we carried right on without a break until the last man finished his tune at 3:03 p.m. I didn't even bother to have a cup of coffee; I was too interested. What a difference it makes when a competition is run properly, with no gaps, and the competitors following each other in order (more or less). I didn't have time to get bored and I could have gone on longer. Twenty-three entered this event and twenty-two actually placed with only one break down and one stopped by me.

Reay MacKay played very well all through. His pipe was excellent at the start but the drones gradually went off and then in the Taorluath Mach seemed much better. I was suspicious and during the Crunluath Mach I quietly rose and tested the drones. I found that the outside tenor drone had stopped.

Garry Hall played "The Bells of Perth". Pipe excellent from start to finish. Played well but missed out doubling of Var. 2 and went off in Taorluath Mach.

R.B. Henderson played "Corrinessan's Salute". Pipe very good at start but drones went off. Played well but Crunluath doubling too slow.

R. Eller played "MacDonald of Kinlochmoidart's Lament" Tune # 1. Pipe too flat; and high G very bad. Went off in third line of ground, so I signalled him to stop.

Ian Slater played "MacCrimmon's Sweetheart". Drones slightly out at start and went farther out. Played well apart from bad bubbly note in Urlar and going off in first line of Crunluath Mach.

J. Goodenow played "The King's Taxes". Pipe excellent from start to finish. Played well but Var. 1 and its doubling much too jerky and hurried.

Dale Brown played "Tulloch Ard". Pipe chanter very good but drones out a bit at start and got worse. Playing too slow and a few slips.

Chris Anderson played "MacL eod of Raasay's Salute". Pipe excellent from start to finish. Played well but held second last E in first line of Urlar too long. The doubling of the Taorluath was too slow. There were several little misses in the Crunluath variations.

Stewart Crawford played "The Desperate Battle". Pipe excellent until end of variations, then drones slightly out. Played well but changes from varrovar not accomplished smoothly. A couple of small chokes.

Rudy Schaal played "The MacFadanes' Gathering". Pipe very good from start to finish, but the F sounded a little queer at times. Played well but the D gracenote in cadences not distinct.

R. McDonald played "Lament for Donald of Laggan". Pipe excellent from start to finish. Played well, but doubling of Taorluath too slow. Tapping with foot to help timing should be confined to practise sessions.

S. Girling played "The Little Spree". Pipe very good from start to finish. Played well but had a miss and a couple of slips.

J. McRobb played "MacLeod's Salute" Pipe excellent from start to finish. Playing could have been excellent too, but as I didn't know the tune and it wasn't in the books I had, I couldn't judge it.

Hugh McInnes played "Lament for Mary MacLeod", F sharp. Drones went out slightly. A few catches in ground. In Var. 1 second line played an E instead of low A. After choke in Var. Doubling, broke down.

David McIntyre played "The Desperate Battle". Pipe very good at start but drones went slightly out. A few misses in ground, and catches in one of the variations. Taorluath Mach too light and Crunluath and Mach too light also.

H. Robertson played "MacLeod of Raasay's Salute". Drones out from start. Too hurried and jerky from Taorluath on.

Trudy Campbell played "MacLeod of Raasay's Salute". Drones out at start and went very far out. Played well, but whole tune spoiled by out of tune drones. Off in Crunluath doubling.

Bill Gilmour played "The MacKay's Banner". Pipe excellent from start to finish. Played splendidly except for a fault in the Taorluath and Crunluath which is very common nowadays. It is not desirable to play those movements round, but although we should not rest on the last low A's of the Taorluath

movement, we should not race through each movement like lightning to see how quickly we can get back to the theme or main notes. There is a happy medium and it is much more musical and more distinct. I intend to write about this later.

A.G. McMullin played "The Lament for the Old Sword". Pipe very good but drones out a little. A slip in first line of Dithis and too jerky. Crunluath not distinct.

R. Kean played "MacDonald of Kinlochmoidart's Lament" (Setting # 1) Pipe excellent from start to finish. Played well, but repeated first line of Taorluath once too often. A little choke in the third line.

H. McPherson played "Lament for Sir Jas. MacDonald of the Isles". Drones out a bit. A choke in Var. 1, and then went off in second and third lines.

A. MacLeod played "Lament for Donald of Laggan". F sharp at start. Drones very good at start, then went away out. Played nicely for a young boy. Missed a lot of G gracenotes and made a few slips.

The Class "A" Quartette competitions: - Eleven quartettes took part and provided some excellent playing. The accoustics are excellent on the main floor and perhaps this troubled some of the players. The hearing is perfect for the player, but until one gets used to it, rather troublesome for the player, because his instrument sounds weaker than usual and this tends to make him blow harder. It's something like playing in the open field after playing indoors all winter.

The three prize winners gave excellent performances on beautiful sounding bagpipes. I was pleased to see the 48th Highlanders right up there again, and in fact I had them first on my score. The Clan MacFarlane # 3 was almost as good in my opinion but the Clan MacFarlane # 2 didn't nearly come up to the dizzy height it reached at Hamilton last fall. The City of Toronto # 2 gave a very smooth performance also, but their # 1 quartette was away below par. The St. Andrews quartette played well, too, but St. Thomas had an off day, as did Goderich and C.G.E. The Adirondack Quartette courageously had a go at it and didn't disgrace themselves.

The other competitions had the usual good entries and provided some excellent playing. Everything was over by 6 p.m. so that showed that the organisation was really good. The bar closed so quickly that I had time for only one drink, but I met lots of old friends and enjoyed speaking to them.

We are indebted to the following for their efforts.: D. Monahan and Mrs. Monahan, Joan MacKay, Lorain Steven, Helen Duncan, A. Herd, I Burraway, M. MacKenzie, R.S.M. Bill Elms, Bob Spiers, Any others who I may have missed. And, of course, the C.O. of the Armourh for granting the use of if for the day. The attendance was perhaps slightly below last years, but the increased admission, and the busy bar made up for it.

Open Piobaireachd: (Judge - John Wilson)
1. P.M. Wm. Gilmour (96 pts) 2. P.M. Chris Anderson (92 pts)
3. Rudy Schaal (88 pts) 4. John Goodenow (87 pts)

"A" Quartette: (Judges - Alex McNeill & John Wilson)
1. Clan MacFarlane # 3 (71 3/4 pts)
2. 48th Highlanders (71 ¼ pts)
3. City of Toronto # 2 (71 pts)

"B" Quartettes (Judges- A Dewar & S. Keith)
1. Highland House # 2 ) (69 3/4 pts)
2. Highland House # 1 ) tie "
3. 400 R.C.A.F. # 1 (68 pts)

Open March: (Judge Reay Mackay)
1. Chris Anderson 2. R. Macdonald 3. A. Dewar & W. Gilmour (tie)

Open Strathspeys & Reels: (Judge - Alex McNeill)
1. W. Gilmour 2. C. Anderson 3. R. MacKay

March 14 and Under (Judge - A. Dewar)
1. T. Carey 2. L. Jones 3. W. Baird & L. Sloan (tie)

March 16 and Under (Judge A. McNeill)
1. T. Campbell 2. G. Hall 3. C. Osborne & A. McMullin (tie)

March 17 and Under 22 (Judge - S. Keith)
1. R. Henderson 2. D. Boyle 3. L. Allen

Strathspeys & Reels (17 and Under 22) (Judge - S. Keith)
1. J. Sutherland 2. J. Early 3. S. Girling

Drumming 14 and under:
1. A. Robinson 2. R. Davies

Drumming 16 and Under:
1. C. Page 2. R. Robinson

Drumming 17 and Under 22
1. E. Rookard 2. C. Millar

Open Drumming:
1. J. Kirkwood 2. N. Nash 3. W. Jarvis

- John Wilson -

- 0 -

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ANNUAL MEETING - APRIL 28th, 1967.

The Annual General Meeting of the B.C. Pipers' Association was held in the Band Room of the Seaforth Armoury on Friday, April 28th.

Various reports were given including the President's report, which is reprinted following this article. The chief order of business is of course the election of officers, and it was indeed disappointing that only 24 members attended. It seems such a pity that with a membership of almost 200 members, such a small number attend this most important meeting.

The officers for the following season are as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PRESIDENT | Albert Duncan | |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | William Lamont | |
| TREASURER | William McAdie | |
| DIRECTORS: | John N MacLeod<br>Rod MacRae<br>Wm. McAdie<br>Bob Green<br>John MacKay | Rod MacVicar<br>John McHardy<br>Tom Binnie<br>Seb Nellies |
| AUDITORS: | Al. Baillie<br>Duncan Watson | |
| TRUSTEES: | Donald Urquhart<br>Edmond Esson<br>Charles MacKenzie | |

The Secretary's position will be temporarily filled by the present appointee Ken McIlvena until June 30th, or sonner, if a replacement can be found.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, April 28th, 1967.

In presenting my report on our Association's activities for the past year, I would like to say that I have enjoyed another term in office. Once again I have to admit that I have not accomplished some of the things I had hoped to, the time having gone too rapidly.

Our 35th Annual Gathering was fairly successful with a greater number of entries in the Novice, Juvenile and Junior Events than ever before. Financially we went down, as the gate was approximately 150 less. The lack of competitors in the Open Events was disappointing. We thought that by dispensing withthe short leets and completing the Novice and Juvenile events

on Friday we would gain more time for the Saturday schedule. The large entry in the Junior events, particularly the Piobaireachd class, threw our Saturday program off schedule for the remainder of the day. A solution to this problem would be to hold the Gathering for two full days, which would enable us to keep the program on schedule and make it easier for the stewards and competitors alike. It would also make it more pleasant from the spectator's viewpoint. Our visiting judge Pipe Major William Gilmour is to be complimented for the excellent job he did of judging. When you consider that there were 203 competitors in the solo events, 14 quartettes and 8 miniature bands, this was a terrific accomplishment for one man. I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. James MacMillan for their kindness in acting as hosts to P.M. Gilmour and helping to make his visit a pleasent one.

The Bi-Monthly competitions are continuing to be successful and are attended with enthusiasm by the younger competitors. The rearrangement in classifications which we started last fall has balanced the number of competitors in each class more evenly, and for the present is working satisfactorily. We are still having our problem getting these competitions started on time. It would be appreciated if more of our members could be on hand to assist as stewards, thus freeing the secretary tolook after the entries and other duties incidental to the competition.

The White Heather concerts which were held in New Westminster and Vancouver last fall were a huge success and were almost sold out. The Spring Concert, which made its first appearance here this year, was also a success, the whole three nights being sold out. It now appears that the Spring Concert will become an annual event, contracts having already been made for the Fall Concerts for the next three years and a Spring Concert next year.

Our Annual Members' Dinner which was held in the Stanley Park Tea Room on February 18th was one of the most successful. The hall was filled to capacity and for the first time we had the pleasure of the full attendance of the Association's Honourary Officers.

Our "Charter Flight to Britain" is progressing slowly with about one-third of our capacity filled. The management of Wardair informs me that the earlier flights departing in May and June are filled and also assures me that there will be a demand for ours. However, I must remind our members of flight regulations that restrict advertizing publicly, so it is necessary that each of us do our share if we wish to make this flight a success.

Again I would like to mention the matter of attendance at the meetings. In recalling my early years in our Association, I can remember when the meetings were very well attended and our bank account was barely sufficient to meet our obligations from one month to another. Today we are probably one of the world's wealthiest piping association, yet we have difficulty in finding ways to stimulate interest in the meetings. At our last Annual Meeting I suggested that we give serious consideration to the possibility of purchasing a meeting

hall of our own. A few months ago a building committee was appointed to look into this matter and although this committee has not met formally, some of the members have been gathering data regarding zoning, building costs and financing. This committee will be meeting shortly with suggestions to present to the membership. It is my firm belief that in having our own hall it would stimulate an interest in some of our members who have been indifferent in the past.

In concluding my report I would like to thank the table officers and each member of the Board of Directors for their assistance during the year - their help was greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank the chairman and members of the following special committees; the Chief Steward and Assistant Stewards for the efficient manner the Annual Gathering was conducted, the chairman and members of the White Heather Concert Committee for their part in making the White Heather Concerts a success, the chairman of the entertainment committee of the Annual Dinner for arranging an enjoyable program, the Editor and staff of the Newletter for keeping out membership informed, not only of local events but also events of special interest from throughout the Piping World, and the members of the Board of Trustees for safekeeping our reserve funds. My special thanks goes to the faithful members who came out to meetings regardless of the weather, always on hand to give their support.

- Roderick MacVicar -

- O -

NEW PIPING CONTEST - WORLD'S BEST WILL COMPETE IN SKYE:
(from The Oban Times, Apr. 27,1967.)

The world's leading pipers are expected to take part in a new competition at Dunvegan Castle in August.

Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod has invited the top exponents of the art to compete in the room which was for centuries the castle's banqueting hall, and where for nine successive generations the MacCrimmons played their famous music.

The MacCrimmon competition will be held on August 24, and the trophy will be a replica of the silver chanter which tradition says was the gift of the fairies.

Dame Flora told the "Oban Times" yesterday that she intended the new event to be annual. Asked why she had instituted it she replied: "I wanted to attract the best pipers to Skye."

"To the best of my knowledge and belief," she said, "I have invited every piper who has won the gold medal at London, Oban or Inverness. A few have emigrated, so that invitationshave been sent abroad."

The silver chanter will be handed over either by Dame Flora or her grandson John, the next chief.

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SUMMER GAMES SCHEDULE:

In the March issue of the Newsletter we incorrectly listed the date of the Seattle Games as August 5th. This date is in fact August 12th, and we are sorry for any inconvenience that this error might have caused. We are advised that Pipe Major MacLellan will be the chief piping judge at the Seattle Games.

The current list of dates is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| New Westminster | June 10th |
| Bellingham | June 24th |
| B.C. Highland Dancing, Vancouver | July 1st |
| Nanaimo | July 8th |
| Portland | July 15th |
| Victoria | July 29th |
| Seattle | August 12th |
| Vancouver | August 12th |
| Nelson | September 2nd & 3rd |

If there are any other dates available, we would be grateful to get them as soon as possible.

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VANCOUVER LADIES' PIPE BAND CEILIDH - JUNE 10th, 1967.

"Let's have a Ceilidh" on June 10th, when the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band have planned a social evening of good entertainment at the Burnaby Winter Club, 4646 Grandview Highway in Burnaby. Dancing from 9 to 12. Admission $1.00, and tickets can be obtained from members of the Vancouver Ladies' Pipe Band or by phoning 278-2037.

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The Vancouver Seaforth Highlanders Pipe Band will be taking part in a British Columbia Tattoo through many parts of the Interior, consisting of a contingent of Pipes and Drums under the command of Pipe-Sgt. Jimmie Lang, and a 50 man Guard, from July 10 to 23.

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Missing from the local Piping scene for the summer will be Pipe-Cpl. Bruce Topp of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Pipe Band, as he will be taking part in the Canadian Armed Forces Military Tattoo across Canada. He will be back with us September 10th.

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KNOCKOUT FINAL PRODUCES SOME SUPERB PLAYING: (from The Oban Times, May 4,1967)

The final competition of the "Knockout" organised by the Scottish Piping Association which was held in the Institute last Saturday was undoubtedly the best of the four finals held to date with the star competitors Iain MacFadyen and Iain MacLellan giving superb performances.

In his introductory remarks Mr. John MacFadyen, president of the association, said that the capacity crowd indicated the popularity of this type of piping. He thought the incentive of the competition lay in the fact that the audience could participate in deciding the winner. If the audience did not think there was something of intrinsic merit in the competition then they would not have supported it in the way they had done.

It seemed a pity then that these two star performers should be separated but this they undoubtedly were and the winner of the Knockout in 1967 by the majority vote became Iain MacLellan, and Mrs. Effie MacFadyen presented the winner with a trophy donated by the Piping Times, and her son Iain with the silver tankard for being runner-up. Mr. Seumas MacNeil, editor of the Piping Times and principal of the College of Piping, associated himself with the president's remarks.

Pipe Major Hamish MacColl gave a vote of thanks to all responsible for the success of the evening and especially the participants during the session.

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BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION, MAY 5th, 1967.

Close competition once again highlighted the evening's events, with a wide range of tunes being played. Our piping judge for the evening was Mr. Ed Peden. Mr. D.R. MacDougall, back after a lengthy illness, performed the duties of deportment judge.

Juvenile Strathspeys & Reels: (19 competitors)
1. Glen McKinley 2. Marjorie Forsyth 3. Jimmy Leonard
4. Terry L eonard 5. David Anderson 6. Brian Carse

Amateur Jigs: (4 competitors)
1. Donald MacMillan 2. Robert Heggie 3. Dal Jessiman

Dress and Deportment:

| | |
|---|---|
| Juvenile | Jim McNeil |
| Amateur | Robert Heggie |

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BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION, MAY 12th, 1967.

Another evening of fine piping entertainment was provided for a large attendance of parents and friends. Garnet Snow judged the events.

Our new President Albert Duncan presented the certificates.

Novice Strathspeys and Reels: (26 competitors)
1. Tim Noot 2. John McMath 3. Drew Noot
4. Linda Freshwater 5. Gordon Peterson 6. Russell Lawrie

Junior Marches: (12 competitors)
1. Sandy Shatford 2. Bill MacAulay 3. Bob Gallaher
4. Donald Taylor

Dress and Deportment:

| | |
|---|---|
| Novice | April MacDonald |
| Junior | Donald Taylor |

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The Association is expecting a visit in August from Pipe Major John MacLellan, of Edinburgh Castle. A committee has been appointed to make all arrangements in connection with his visit. More details later.

- 0 -

# The CLANSMEN

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We have a large stock of Scottish Jewellery, Silver and Gold lace, Music books of all kinds, including Ross's, 5 in 1 with hard cover, Scot Guards in hard and soft cover, Kilberry and Piobroch Society books, Sealskin, leather and Semi-formal sporrans, also all types of horse-hair sporrans.

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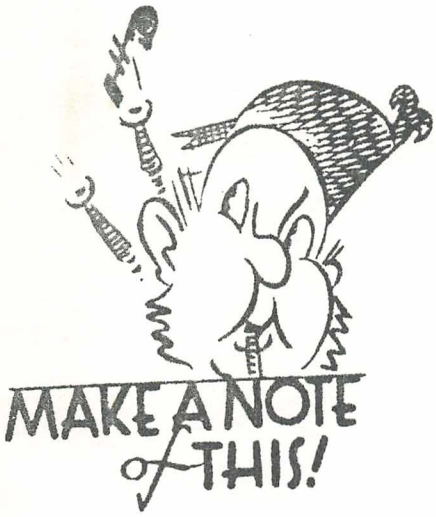
We also have received the North American agency for the famous Inverness Cape known as the bandsmen's cape. Can be worn in comfort by all musicians. They are Nylon and wind and rain proof and made specially with holes out for drummers. Tested and proven to be very successful by the 1st and 2nd Battalion Black Watch Regular Army. Deal with the Clansmen with confidence. We guarantee our products. Fast and efficient service. Price lists forwarded upon requests.




Nanaimo Highland Games will hold the Quartette Championships again this year. It is to be hoped that more entrys will come in for the top division than in the past. A miscue has been made the past two years on the classification. Quartettes were playing for B and C class trophies. The trophies are inscribed A and B. The error was made in printing the programme.

In 1967 the Quartettes will play A and B. One again the Quartettes will be asked to play a four part 6/8 march and jigs.

The classifications have no connection with the division a band plays in, and have meaning only to the four playing in the quartette. Class A is open to those who feel that this is the division that will give them a challenge. Class B is for those who know they will feel more at ease playing in this class...

SEE PAGE 23 for Summer Games Schedule