

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



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

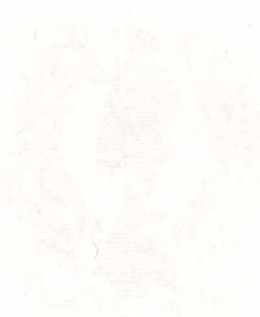
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No. 82.

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JUNE/JULY/AUGUST, 1967.

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- 3 -

The summer is now over, and here we are with another winter's Season of activities.

We have taken the summer off from printing the Newsletter, but we are putting out an extra large edition for you now, and will also put out a large September issue.

The first meeting of the season will be held on Friday, September 29th, at the Band Room of the Seaforth Armoury. The meeting will commence at 8:00 p.m. Plan to be there.

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A SAD DAY:

from The Vancouver Province, August 22nd, 1967

It was a sad day for the Scots at the Glenfinnan Gathering on the shore of Loch Sheil.

For who should turn up as the winner of the pibroch competition but a bagpiper with the unfamiliar name of Francois Allain, whose home is in Brittany, France.

The Frenchman beat seven of Scotland's finest with a rendition of the "Lament for Donald of Laggan".

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Piper David Don, of the Vancouver Kiwanis Boys Pipe Band visited his grandmother, Mrs. Janet Miller in Glasgow, this summer, and while there attended the Piping College at Tarradale House, in Ross-shire. He planned to attend the Highland Games at Lochearnhead, Perthshire.

Returning by plane from Scotland August 5th, he joined the Band in Toronto and proceeded to Halifax with them to compete in the Dominion Championship.

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The Bagpipe Music Index are presenting a Concert featuring Pipe Major Donald MacLeod, of Glasgow, Scotland, at Montclair, New Jersey, on October 7th, 1967.

If any of our eastern readers are interested in attending this concert they may contact:

Bagpipe Music Index,
57 Clark Street
Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028

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MOVING PLAYING AT MacCRIMMON DAY - PIPING A SKYE WEEK HIGHLIGHT:

(from The Oban Times, June 1, 1967)

As always, MacCrimmon Day at Gorreraig was one of the highlights of Skye Week and the following account of last week's event has been written by a well known piping authority Mr. Seton Gordon, Duntulm.

"This year the hourney by sea from Dunvegan Castle to Borreraig, a distance of seven miles, was memorable because of the piping of Ceol Mor by two distinguished pipers. The passage took 45 minutes and in that time Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod, her daughter Mrs. Wolrige-Gordon and their guests listed eagerly to three piobaireachd tunes played with skill and the musical expression that nowadays is so often lacking. Mrs. John MacFadyen, who won the Bratach Gorm at the London competition in April, led off with his prize-winning tune at this competition, "Beloved Scotland, I leave thee gloomy." Mr. Seumas MacNeil followed with "Lament for Donald of Lagan", and when in sight of Berreraig John MacFadyen played a special favourite of Dame Flora's "Lament for Mary MacLeod".

After the party had gone ashore at low water Seumas MacNeill as president of the College of Piping paid the year's rent for the ground on which the ruins of the MacCrimmon College of Piping stands. This rent, purely nominal, is one penny and a piobaireachd. For the piobaireachd Seumas chose the well known "Tulach Ard" and was heard with appreciation by a large gathering.

Pipers and piping enthusiasts then climbed the brae to the austere, wind-swept plateau where the strongly built cairn overlooks the sea.

Here followed an interesting piping event. John MacFadyen played a piobaireachd, "Salute to the Cairn at Borreraig," which has been composed by the well known piper and piping judge, Mr. Angus Macpherson of Invershin. This is the first time this tune has been played in public and it made a favourable impression, having a bold and musical rhythm.

John MacFadyen then played one of the greatest of all pipe tunes, "Lament for Donald Ban MacCrimmon," composed in memory of MacLeod's piper who was killed at Moy, near Inverness, in the rising of 1745. Beneath a dark sky, Dunvegan Castle rising massive at the rocks across seven miles of sea, Harris hazy in the distance, this time with its expression of abiding sorrow, the piobaireachd was played in such a manner that deeply impressed those who heard it, and remained clear in mind and memory as we returned across the loch where, beneath a rocky island bright with sea thrift, seals thrust sleepy heads above the quiet water."

PIPING RECITAL GIVEN BY PIPE MAJOR JOHN MacLELLAN:

On Friday, August 25th a Piping Recital was given by Pipe Major John A. MacLellan, Chief Piping Instructor of the Army School of Piping, Edinburgh Castle, Scotland. Pipe Major MacLellan played to a capacity crowd, assembled at the Sports Pavilion, Stanley Park, Vancouver, B.C. Having completed a teaching assignment in Spokane, Washington, he visited Vancouver for a week, where he gave lessons to interested pipers.

Pipe Major MacLellan gave an extremely interesting programme, touching on each branch of bagpipe music.

The first set of tunes were "Glengarries March", "Lord Panmure's March" and "Campbell's Farewell to Redcastle". Pipe Major MacLellan then played "The Drunken Piper", "Cabar Feidh", "Lord Blantyre", "The Braes of Tullymet", "Highland Whiskey", "Sandy Duff", "The Wee Maid", and "Dancing Feet". Then followed Brig. Gen. Ronald Cheape of Tiroran", "The Conundrum" and "George Stewart". The next set of tunes were "Lady Louden", "Cabar Feidh (Strathspey)", "Delvinside", "The Smith of Chillichassie", and "Lochiel's Away to France" (Reel).

Following a short intermission Pipe Major MacLellan gave an extremely interesting lecture of the Mackays of Raasay. Tracing the family from very early days this family did much to perpetuate Piobaireachd in the Highlands, and in the person of Angus Mackay was largely responsible for committing into scientific and universally accepted musical notation many tunes of the Ceol Mor, formerly preserved by means of the archaic Gaelic Vocables, Camntaireachd. Angus Mackay's Collection of Piobaireachd is the foundation of all other such works, according to the pipe major.

After the lecture, Pipe Major MacLellan played a group of his own tunes: "Scotland's Welcome to the King of Norway", "The Borthwick of Borthwick", "The Princes Street Parade" and "Pipe Major Gordon Asher". Then he played "Loch Duich", "Mist Covered Mountains", "Captain Oldfield", and "Major John MacLennan". He chose the ever popular piobaireachd "MacCrimmon's Sweetheart", thrilling the audience with it. Finally, Pipe Major MacLellan played "The Tenpenny Bit", "Smith's Old Wife", "Barbara's Jig", "The Skyeman's Jig", "John Paterson's Mare" and "Cork Hill".

William Lamont, Vice President of the association introduced Jim MacMillan as Chairman for the evening. In moving a vote of thanks to Pipe Major MacLellan, Pipe Major Ed. Esson expressed the thoughts of everyone in saying that if a person missed the summer's games, he would make up for it during this wonderful evening.

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In Pipe-Major John MacLellan's lecture on the MacKay's of Raasay given at the pipers' Ceilidh, the Pipe-Major frequently referred to Angus MacKay's Collection of Piobaireachd. Considered universally as the first comprehensive collection of Ceol Mhor using the modern system of staff notation, this book is indeed a classic amongst collections of bagpipe music. Years ago we were fortunate to obtain a very fine edition formerly owned by the late William Urquhart, and we would like to reprint some interesting extracts from this invaluable volume.

A COLLECTION OF ANCIENT PIOBAIREACHD or HIGHLAND PIPE MUSIC by Angus MacKay.

Published in 1838, the title page reads thus:

A COLLECTION OF
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OR
HIGHLAND PIPE MUSIC

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in performing on this

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HEREDITARY PIPERS AND THEIR ESTABLISHMENTS
WITH HISTORICAL & TRADITIONAL NOTES RESPECTING THE ORIGIN OF THE
VARIOUS PIECES.

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HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON

by

ANGUS MACKAY

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Printed by C.G. Roder, Leipzig

Angus MacKay dedicated this book in the following manner:

"To the Noblemen and Gentlemen of the Highland Society of London,
the patronisers of all efforts to preserve the National Manners &
Music, This Collection of Piobaireachd, is inscribed by permission
with the highest respect and gratitude, by their humble, and very
obedient Servant,

Aonghas Mac Aoidh. "

In the Preface Angus MacKay apologizes to his patrons for the many years required to produce his book. He states that because very little music was committed to regular notation, his undertaking was difficult. MacKay also indicates that he had originally intended to dedicate the book to King William IV, who took a great interest in Scottish matters, but because of his death (in 1837) was honoured to dedicate it to the Highland Society of London.

The next section of the book "Account of The Hereditary Pipers" is of the greatest interest to pipers.

THE MACCRUMMENS, Hereditary Pipers to MacLeod of MacLeod, or of Dunvegan.

The most celebrated Pipers were the MacCrummens, who, under the liberal patronage of the Lairds of MacLeod, became famous all over the Highlands; and their abilities were so well appreciated, that students from all quarters resorted to them, or were placed by their respective chiefs under those famous masters, whose residence consequently became dignified with the name of College. Here was imparted a knowledge of that particular class of music which cannot be acquired except by several years of assiduous study and practice; for the simple reels and strathspeys and far inferior in the estimation of a Piobaireachd player.

The first establishment of the MacCrummens as hereditary Pipers to MacLeod of MacLeod is beyond traditional record; but is probably coeval with the constitution of one of this profession as an important functionary in the following of a chief. Their Oil-thigh or College was at Borerraig, eight miles north of Dunvegan castle, and they held the farm rent-free in virtue of their office, on which at present eighteen families reside, paying upwards of 100 pounds. The house occupied by the MacCrummens still remains, displaying thick walls, massy cabers or rafters, and other characteristics of old Highland habitations. It was divided into two parts built at right angles - one forming the class-room, and the other the sleeping apartments; and MacDonald, the present tenant, points out to strangers the localities of many transactions handed down in oral tradition.

On the top of a brae or rising ground near the college, there is still to be seen a small hollow where the pupils used to retire to practise their respective lessons on the chanter, and where they occasionally played the full Pipes. From this place there is a beautiful view of Vaternish across the Loch Vegan, and in a clear day the islands of Harris and Uist can be distinctly seen. A little southwards of a rock called "the Lady", there is a place known as "Uamh na'm Piobairean", i.e. the Piper's cave, to which they also frequently resorted to play over their tunes. Close to this cave, on the south, is another, about a mile in length, called "Uamh na'n Calmain", or the Pigeon's Cave, and tradition informs us that MacCrummen's daughters would steal out with the oinseach, a favourite set of their father's pipes, in order to indulge themselves in performing on them. It appears rather an unfeminine

instrument for ladies; but in the Highlands they certainly did play, especially after the harp went out of use, and they were sometimes proficient too, - MacCrummen's daughters being able in his absence to superintend the instruction of the students.

A worthy lady, Mrs. MacKinnon, the last who retained the family profession, is at the present day able to go through the intricacies of a Piobaireachd.

At Dunbhorreraig, Leum an Doill, or the Leap of the Blind, is pointed out, which received the appellation from a remarkable circumstance. John dall MacKay, one of the pupils, having quarrelled with his companions, endeavouring to escape from their pursuit, is said to have leapt from the top of the rock on which the dun is built, a height of 24 feet!

It is probable that the MacCrummens were established in the family of MacLeod long before we have any authentic notice of them, but the first of whom we have any account was Eain Odhar, or Dun-coloured John. He was succeeded by his son Donull Mor, i.e. big Donald, who, under his father's instructions became eminent in Piobrachd playing and while he was yet young, he acquired the especial favour of MacLeod, who resolved to give him all the instruction that could be had. He therefore sent Donald to Ireland, where a celebrated Piper, who had gone from Scotland, had established a college of celebrity; which fact shows, that at least among the Scots of Ulster the national instrument continued to be held in proper estimation. In this establishment there were twenty-four students, and the manner of teaching was thus:- Each pupil came into the schoolroom by himself, and, after receiving his lesson, retired; for the professor would not instruct one in presence of another. When MacCrummen, who had remained some days before he began to practise, understood the mode of teaching, he concealed himself in a place where he could hear the scholars while receiving and completing their lessons. It is said of him that his memory and taste for music were so extraordinary that he could perfectly recollect whatever tune he once heard; consequently he was not long with his new master, before he acquired all the new pieces that could be given him. On his return to Skye, MacLeod, as might have been expected, was very much pleased with the progress of his Pìer while in Ireland, and every since that time the MacCrummens have been allowed to be the best Pipers in Scotland; so much so that no one was esteemed a perfect player, unless he had been instructed or finished by them.

(to be continued next month)

In a recent issue of the Oban Times a gentleman wrote inquiring whether any reader had a copy to sell of Angus MacKay's "Book of Piobaireachd". He stated that his son, a piper, had searched in vain for three years for a copy of this book, but no copies were available in any second hand music booksellers. This letter prompted us to wonder how many copies were printed, and how many are now in existence. If any of our readers know any of the facts and figures concerning this book, we should be interested to hear.

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FAMOUS PIPING JUDGE - PRESENTATION TO ANGUS MACPHERSON:

(from The Oban Times, July 20, 1967)

Seated in his small shelter tent beside the playing platform, Mr. Angus Macpherson is a familiar figure at the Strathpeffer Highland Gathering in the grounds of Castle Leod, residence of the Earl of Cromartie, the Chieftain of the Gathering.

One of Scotland's best known pipers and composers of classical music for the pipes, Mr. Macpherson has been a faithful attender at the Strathpeffer Gathering since 1894, first as a young competitor, and latterly for many years as a judge of piping.

To mark the occasion of his 90th birthday, and as a token of appreciation of his long years of service to the games, a deputation from the games committee recently visited Mr. Macpherson at his two centuries old residence, Achany House, near Lairg, and in a simple, informal ceremony presented him with a case of wine and a shooting stick bearing the inscription "A tribute to Angus Macpherson from Strathpeffer Highland Games, 1894 - 1967."

The party was hospitably entertained by Mr. Macpherson and his daughter-in-law, and in the course of the afternoon, Angus as he is affectionately known to the games, treated the deputation to a piobaireachd or two, and to reminiscences of his piping days over the years, and played them off in fitting style when they departed.

Hale and hearty despite his years, Angus has undertaken to be on duty in his accustomed judge's seat at this year's Strathpeffer gathering on August 5. His cheerful presence will, as always, be a source of pleasure to his many friends, who have come to regard him as an essential part of games today.

The deputation consisted of Mr. John MacIntock, games convener. Mr. A. Robertson, former convener, Mr. K.A. MacMaster, secretary, and Mr. Roy Munro, piping steward.

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ROUND THE GAMES WITH JOHN WILSON.

THE DELEWARE HIGHLAND GATHERING, 1967.

The sixth Delaware Highland Gathering was held on May 20th at Fairhill. This is a smaller and less pretentious place than the previous one, but is an excellent venue for Scottish Games, with fine views over the surrounding countryside and with ample seating accommodation. Providence must look with favour on the Delaware Highland Gathering, for despite the early date (the earliest for out-door Games in this hemisphere that I know of) and the inclement weather right up to the day before the Games, Saturday, the 20th day of May was clear and sunny all day with a high of 80 degrees. The wind was a little strong at times, but nothing to complain about. My fellow judges for the piping events were Col. Neil Ramsay of New York, and Hugh McInnes of Glen Falls, N.Y. I was interested to hear from Col. Ramsay that he had been invited to judge this year at Skye, Oban and Inverness in Scotland, and had accepted all three invitations. I remember him as an excellent piper in his younger days, and I also remember that he was one of the judges at the Argyllshire Gathering, Oban, when I won the Open Piobaireachd competition there with "The Lament for the Earl of Antrim". In those days both days of piping at Oban were open air affairs and the winner of the open piobaireachd event had to play his tune over again in the afternoon. Needless to say, all the competitors listened very carefully to this performance, and, of course, criticism was free and severe, but praise was generous when merited.

I thought the programme at Delaware was carried through extremely well and according to schedule. I judged the 14 and under class and then the Open Piobaireachd. Some of the youngsters showed real promise. One little boy of eleven years of age competed in the Open Piobaireachd and amazed me with his calm assurance and surprizing grasp of the tune. He couldn't execute one particularly difficult movement properly but he made a good effort. His tune was "The MacGregor's Salute". Some of the best performances in the Open Piobaireachd were spoiled by errors of memory. The winner, Roddie MacDonald, played his tune "Clan Campbell's Gathering" very melodiously on a fine sounding and well tuned pipe. He also won the Open March and Open Strathspey and Reel competitions.

The "C" Pipe Bands were not as hard to listen to as I had imagined they would be. This kind of experience should encourage them to practice and to improve.

The "B" Bands were fairly good but need a lot more practice in togetherness. Also, some players obviously didn't know the tunes thoroughly and I mean thoroughly.

The only "A" Class band present, "Kenmure", played its set beautifully except for a slip up in the Reel. Its tone and tuning were first class and I predict that **this** band will be a real contender for the North American Championship at Maxville, Ontario, in August.

Several officials of the U.S. Pipe Band Association as well as U.S. Pipers and Games representatives asked me about the squabble in Canada between the Games people and the Pipers and Pipe Band Society of Ontario. I told them what I knew. When they complained about U.S. Pipe Bands having to pay \$25.00 to become members of the P. & P.B. Soc. of Ontario, in order to be eligible to compete at Maxville Games in Ontario, I pointed out that they could do the same to the Canadian Pipe Bands who wish to compete in the State of New York. They all said they wouldn't dream of doing anything so petty.

Sheep-dog demonstrations were items of added interest.

After the Games a Ceilidh was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Laird Stabler, Jr. Mr. Stabler is Chairman of the Board of Directors. The large number of guests who attended will not easily forget the kind and generous hospitality they received. The relaxed atmosphere and the piping and dancing and singing made the evening a most enjoyable one. To help accommodate the many friends of the Gathering the City of Wilmington Pipe Band organised a social evening at the Newark Fire Hall, where yet another area of Delaware that night resounded to pipes, drums, song and dance. It was a grand get-together and the band looks forward to repeating it as an annual event following the Games.

The Delaware Highland Gathering is most fortunate in having such a dedicated and enthusiastic group of organizers and supporters, from the Chieftain, John R.H. Thouron, C.B.E., a former Colonel in the Black Watch, and who also served with the Special Airborne Services, right down to the Civil Air Patrol Cadets who helped out at the park. Scottish traditions will always be worthily upheld as long as we have such genuinely interested people. Their efforts, I am glad to say, were rewarded by this year's Gathering showing a nice profit, all of which will be distributed to various charities.

Here are the results:

Class "A" Pipe Band: - Glencoe Challenge Targe (no competition)
Kenmore Pipe Band

Class "B" March, Strathspey & Reel: Judges, John Wilson, Hugh McInnes,
Col. Neil Ramsay

1. City of Wilmington
2. Denny & Dunipace
3. Lovat Cameron

Class "C" March:

1. Highlander Girl Pipers
2. Duncan McCaskill

Open Piobaireachd: - Judge - John Wilson

1. Roderick MacDonald
2. Donald Varella
3. Stewart Crawford
4. Joyce Fox

Class "A" March Open: Judge - Col. Neil Ramsay

1. R. MacDonald
2. H.M. Workman
3. D. McCaskill Jr.
4. S. Robertson

Class "A" Strathspeys & Reels Open:

1. R. MacDonald
2. H.M. Workman
3. S. Robertson
4. D. McCaskill Jr.

Class "B" March: Judge - Hugh McInnes

1. J. Earley
2. R. Waters
3. J. Carey
4. A.G. McMullin

Class "B" Strathspeys & Reels:

1. R. Waters
2. J. Carey & J. Earley (tie)
4. Albert McMullin

Piping Juvenile 18 & Under March: Judge - Hugh McInnes

1. R. Hall
2. H. Robinson
3. M. Ferrick
4. R. Sterzinger

Piping Juvenile 14 & Under March: Judge - John Wilson

1. B. Mitchell
2. D.W. Kerr
3. J. Miller
4. P. Silver

Drum Corps: Judge - John Moon

1. City of Wilmingtonton
2. Lovat Cameron
3. Denny & Dunipace

Class "A" Drumming:

1. E. Rookard
2. N. McLeod
3. R. Robinson

Drum Major's Content:

1. E. McKinley
2. H. Girwood
3. D. Ricklis
4. B. Stonier
5. R. Belleville

14 & Under Drumming:

1. R. Davies
2. K. McMullin
3. L.J. Silver
4. B. Liberati

MARY ISDALE MEMORIAL FUND:

As soon as the many friends of the late Mary Isdale learned of her passing, enquiries were received as to whether some form of memorial would be established. A memorial was discussed with her son Gordon, and met with his approval.

A committee to be responsible for establishing a memorial fund was selected by Gordon and consists of Mrs. W.M. Kerr, Mrs. T.G. Fridge, Mrs. S.H. Pinkerton, Mr. W.G. Brandreth and Mr. C.I. Walker. It is hoped to establish a perpetual scholarship, but until the fund is complete, it is impossible to plan all the details.

To get the fund established the British Columbia Highland Dancing Association offered to underwrite the initial expenses. A special trust account has been opened with The Toronto Dominion Bank, 839 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, 1, B.C.

As well as Miss Isdale's many friends, we would like all the societies with which she was associated to know of this memorial. All who wish to contribute may do so by sending a donation made payable to the "Mary Isdale Memorial Fund"; c/o Mrs. T.G. Fridge, 5560 Columbia Street, Vancouver 15, B.C.

All donations will be acknowledged.

- (Mrs.) M.L. Pinkerton -

- 0 -

WORLD PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP - MOSSFIELD PARK, OBAN: - JUNE 24th, 1967.

GRADE 4:

1. Ardrossan Burgh
2. Tیره Piping Society
3. Alloa Collieries
- Drumming - Maclean Ladies
- Best Juvenile band - 167th Glasgow B.B.
- Best Ladies band - Maclean Ladies
- Marching & Discipline - Peterhead British Legion

GRADE 3:

1. British Hydrocarbon Chemicals
2. Mount Carmel
3. Queen Victoria School
- Drumming - British Hydrocarbon Chemicals
- Juveniles - 214th Glasgow Boys Brigade
- Marching & discipline - Aberdeen Caledonian
- Juvenile - Queen Victoria School

GRADE 2:

1. MacKenzie Caledonian
2. Paisley Burgh
3. Ayr Society
- Drumming - National Cash Register
- Marching and Discipline - Paisley Burgh

GRADE 1:

1. Muirhead & Sons Ltd. (P.M. Robert G. Hardie) - 187 pts
2. City of Glasgow (P.M. Ronnie Lawrie) - 183½ pts.
3. Edinburgh City Police (P.M. Iain MacLeod) - 182½ pts.
4. Shotts & Dykehead Caledonia -
5. Invergordon Distillery
- Drumming - Invergordon Distillery
- Marching & Discipline - Edinburgh City Police

Drum Majors' Championship:

1. Eric Allan (Watson Memorial) 96 pts
2. Robert Dowds, Lowland (A & SH) 95 pts
3. Ian Lang, Ceannloch 94 pts
4. A.J. MacPherson, Invergordon Dist.

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RESULTS OF BELLINGHAM HIGHLAND GAMES - JUNE 24th, 1967.

Novice Marches:

1. Robert B. Menzies
2. Grace MacGregor
3. Londa Freshwater
4. Hazel Ramsey
5. Susan Purdy

Juvenile Marches:

1. Bill Russell
2. Sandy Marshall
3. Lindsay Maddock

Juvenile Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Lindsay Maddock
2. Lynn Grocott
3. Jim Leonard
4. Heather Abel

Junior Piobaireachd:

1. Sandy Marshall
2. Kelvin Wood
3. Colin Abel
4. Ross Lamont

Junior Marches:

1. Neil Hunter
2. Donald Taylor
3. Mary Swift
4. Jean Jarvis

Junior Strathspeys and Reels:

1. David Don
2. Bill Macaulay
3. Jean Jarvis
4. Donald Taylor

Amateur Piobaireachd:

1. John Angus MacLeod
2. Laurie McIlvena
3. Donald MacMillan
4. Robert Heggie & Dal Jessiman (tie)

Amateur Marches:

1. Sherea Barwell
2. Donald MacMillan
3. Laurie McIlvena

Amateur Strathspeys & Reels:

1. John A. McLeod
2. Donald MacMillan
3. Sherea Barwell

Open Marches:

1. Bob MacDonald
2. A.J. Duncan
3. Therese MacInnes
4. Mike MacInnes

Open Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Bob MacDonald
2. Norma Nicholson Thompson
3. A.J. Duncan

Open Jigs:

1. Therese MacInnes
2. A.J. Duncan
3. Mike MacInnes
4. Norma N. Thompson

Junior Pipe Quartettes:

1. Kiwanis "A"
2. Vancouver Ladies
3. Kiwanis "B"

Open Pipe Quartettes:

1. Port Moody #2
2. Vancouver Ladies
3. Port Moody # 1

"C" Bands:

1. Kiwanis Boys
2. Highland Laddies
3. Vancouver Ladies

"B" Bands:

1. Port Moody
2. Vancouver Ladies

"C" Band Drummers:

1. Kathryn Forsyth
2. Ian Hunter & Gordon McCartney (tie)
4. Michael Palmer

"B" Band Drummers:

1. Ross McRae
2. J. Thomas
3. K. Blomquist

"B" Band Drum Section:

Port Moody

Bass Drummer:

Vancouver Ladies

- 0 -

THE PIPERS ARE COMING: by Arnold Serwer (from The Progressive, December, 1966)

It was about eight years ago this month, if I recall correctly, that a terrible plague fell upon our house. Our teen-age son developed an addiction to bagpipe music. He took his savings, and such money as he could wheedle from us under false pretenses, and bought Scottish bagpipe recordings. There were records of bagpipe soloists, of small groups of pipers, and of hordes of them playing in marching bands. Hour after hour when I was not at home, and all too often when I was, my son played these records, lost in rapture as he listened to the unholy Celtic din. The squeals were piercing, the moans dolorous, as the pipers squeezed the tortured air out of the bags and played their keening pipes.

I recall that the worst of these classics consisted, for the most part, of a single high-pitched note sustained for what seemed to be ten minutes at a time while assorted Scottish voices cried out exultantly: "Aa-ah, McGrr-regor!" Scots supposedly are able to make a little go a long way, but there is such a thing as a tune and lyric that are too frugal.

When a year passed by and our boy showed no cooling of his passion for the cruel pipes (Nero is said to have played the bagpipes, possibly while making plans for the Christians; the fiddle he reserved for municipal bonfires) there seemed only one way to preserve our sanity. We sent our son to college - records and all - a thousand miles away. The change of surroundings, the proximity of co-eds, and the competition of other cultural interests gradually

reduced his obsessions for bagpipe music. Eight years have passed and although he has not yet "kicked" the habit entirely he can go as many as four days without playing a record of "Bonnie Dundee" or "Scotland The Brave". The doctor has said that our son is definitely on the road to a cure.

But now something new and ominous has taken place which threatens to afflict countless families and communities across the land. In the closing days of the Eighty-ninth Congress the House passed a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to provide that "bagpipes and parts thereof" shall be admitted free of duty. This iniquitous measure, if it becomes law, will flood the country with bagpipes and pipers. In speaking for the bill which, incredibly, was unopposed, Congressmen vied with each other for the favor of Americans of Scottish ancestry, as well as Irish Americans who are also said to be addicted to bagpipes. And there was some indulgence in the old custom of twisting the British lion's tail.

"Now, of course, there are always scoffers," Representative Robert B. Duncan of Oregon told the House. "Old Samuel Johnson scoffed at things, Scottish. Modern detractors of today may scoff. There is, I am told, in a certain land just south of Scotland, a misguided definition of a gentleman (as) "a person who knows how to play a bagpipe but doesn't." Well, we Scottish have borne much abuse in respect to the bagpipe, but it is a thrifty instrument and plays a bonnie tune."

Well me no "wells". Here is a dismal prospect. With the duty eliminated the bagpipe will be an even thriftier instrument than it was and there will be a coast-to-coast cacophony of bonnie tunes.

One assurance which probably prevented opposition to the bill that might have materialized among Congressmen who normally rally in support of tariff protection for America's "infant industries," was offered by Representative Wilbur Mills of Arkansas. He said that his Committee on Ways and Means "was advised that there is no known commercial production of bagpipes in the United States." This was a revelation to me. For clamor as you will, oh reformers, against the anti-social products of American industry - the cancer-causing cigaret, the overpowered death-dealing automobile, the wares of John Barleycorn - you still must credit our free enterprise system with this one noble act of self restraint - it does not manufacture bagpipes.

Congressman Duncan made it abundantly clear that he is mad for the skirling of bagpipes. He said that on "most days" of his campaigning for the Senate in Oregon this fall he was accompanied by his own piper. Who does Duncan think he is - Bonnie Prince Charlie? He further declared that "lifting of the duties would provide the widest possible circulation of the bagpipe to all our advantages." If a national epidemic of bagpipery is a boon, they might as well take the tariff off Japanese and ruin the country proper.

The cold warriors in the House were comforted by Representative Donald Irwin of Connecticut; he broke the news that "importations of any woodwinds that could include bagpipes from Communist-controlled countries

has been negligible." And those who need to be reminded that the American melting-pot is still making a stew of various cultures no doubt were heartened by the story Representative Dante Fascell of Florida told a "a Jewish piper in a (Miami) Scottish band playing "The Wearing of the Green" at a picnic for an American of Italian extraction ..."

Thus with quips and wiles, in a mood of insufferable drollery, the House voted to open our gates to a rising tide of bagpipes. Instead of learning to play "Humoresque" on the violin, or "When the Saints Come Marching In" on the trumpet, American youths by the tens of thousands will be practicing that wailing ten minute-long note on the bagpipes while their friends cry out raucously: "-a-ah, McGrr-regor!"

When the din begins never send to know for whom the pipe squeals; it squeals for thee. But not for me. I will be hiding out in the boiler factory where there's a little peace and quiet.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING PIPING COMPETITIONS:

Certain observations from a new-comer, with suggestions as to remedies. It seems to me that the judges must be about ready to quit because of the pipers' attitude that they can appear when they feel so inclined. This is unfair to judges and also to the pipers who appear on time. I cite the example of the games at Brockton this year. In the Junior Class two pipers played, and there was then a space of half an hour, before any more appeared, and then only because there was a threat to cancel the class. This cannot help but result in unfairness to the pipers who played on time, as the judge could not possibly remember all points with this lapse.

I suggest that when an entry is received, it be allotted a number in order. When the competition is called the pipers must appear in the inverse order., and one should always be standing by to take his or her place on call from the judge. Failure to appear in order to be penalized by either disqualification or loss of points.

The second point involves the jam up in certain classes. It is understood that the association, in an endeavour to avoid this has made some pipers move up. The theory, as I understand it, being that in the past there has been a great exodus as the pipers reach late teen-age. I submit that this loses sight of the fact that the picture has changed recently, and that pipers are not leaving as before. Therefore the crowd has not been eliminated, but merely displaced to another level, and I am sure that inside two years the senior amateur class will be terribly top heavy.

I suggest that the quality of piping is such that the time has come when anyone in the junior class or above should be able to tune his or her own pipes. It is a shame that, as at present, some of the top seniors and even professionals cannot do this themselves. What is wrong with having the stand-by piper as in the suggestion above be made to come to the platform with untuned

pipes. Then allot one or two minutes to allow for the piper to tune before playing, and more points to depend on the quality of tuning.

After all, the object is supposed to be to train pipers. If the argument is advanced that this takes a lot of time, I refer again to what has happened in the past where I have on several occasions heard judges threaten to cancel a class, because of having to wait while some teacher spends Lord knows how long tuning his pupils up.

- A.R. Shatford -
Aldergrove, B.C.

- 0 -

NEW WESTMINSTER GAMES: JUNE 10th, 1967.

Novice Marches:

1. Tim Noot
2. Linda Freshwater
3. Susan Purdy
4. Drew Noot

Juvenile Marches:

1. Bill Russell
2. David Anderson
3. Sandy Marshall

Juvenile Strathspeys & Reels:

1. David Anderson
2. Bill Russell
3. Glen McKinley

Junior Piobaireachd:

1. Sandy Shatford
2. Kelvin Wood
3. Bill McAulay

Junior Marches:

1. Kelvin Wood
2. Sandy Shatford
3. John Wright

Junior Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Sandy Shatford
2. Don Taylor
3. Jean Jarvis

Amateur Piobaireachd:

1. Laurie McIlvena
2. Robert Heggie
3. Therese MacInnes

Amateur Marches:

1. Robert Heggie
2. John A. MacLeod
3. Therese MacInnes

Amateur Strathspeys & Reels:

1. John MacLeod
2. Therese MacInnes
3. Donald MacMillan

Amateur Jigs:

1. Therese MacInnes
2. John MacLeod
3. Donald MacMillan

Professional Piobaireachd:

1. Albert Duncan 2. David Wilson 3. Bob MacDonald

Professional Marches:

1. Bob MacDonald 2. Albert Duncan 3. Cathy McLellan

Professional Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Bob MacDonald 2. Cathy McLellan 3. David Wilson

Professional Jigs:

1. Bob MacDonald 2. Cathy McLellan 3. Albert Duncan

"B" Class Bands:

1. City of Port Moody Pipe Band

"C" Class Bands:

1. Vancouver Kiwanis Boys
2. Highland Laddies

"C" Class Individual Drumming:

1. Ian Hunter 2. Neil Marshall 3. Doug Smith

"B" Class Individual Drumming:

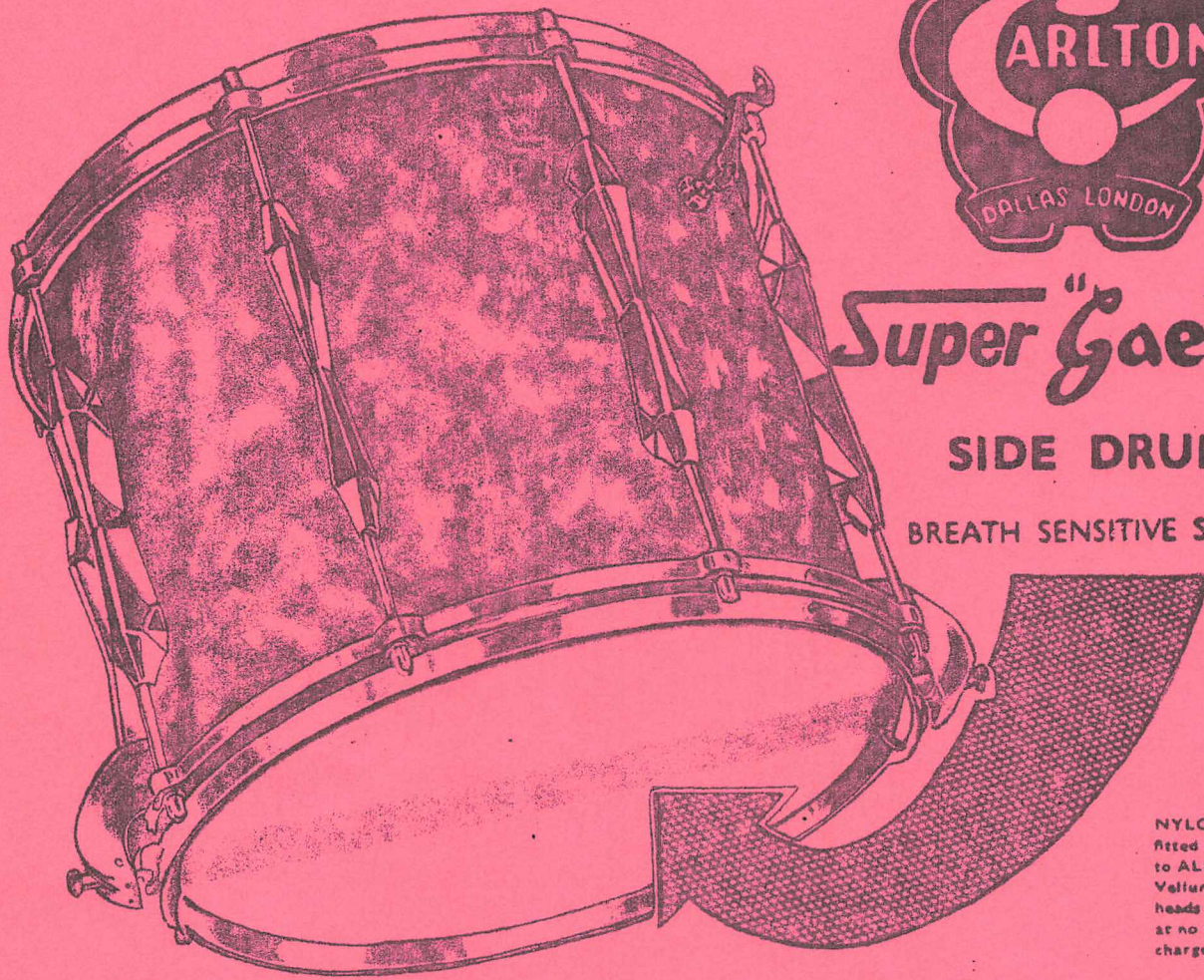
1. Ann McNeil 2. John Thomas 3. Kathleen Blomquist

Drum Corps Competition:

1. City of Port Moody Pipe Band

Aggregate Trophies:

Glamis Camp Trophy	-	Novice	-	Tim Noot
Camille Mather Trophy	-	Juvenile	-	Bill Russell) David Anderson)tie
Alex Murray Trophy	-	Junior	-	Sandy Shatford
The Barry Trophy	-	Amateur	-	Therese MacInnes
Donald Stewart Ross	-	Professional		Bob MacDonald
The Milne Trophy	-	Drumming		Port Moody
The Johnson Trophy		Drumming "C" Class		Vancouver Junior Ladies



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SCOTLAND

SEATTLE HIGHLAND GAMES, AUGUST 12th, 1967.

Novice Marches: Under 16

1. Andrew Noot 2. Alan Weeks 3. Robbie Buchanan

Novice Strathspeys & Reels: Under 16

1. Andrew Noot 2. Dan Diessner 3. Gordon MacDonald

Juvenile Marches:

1. Bill Russell 2. Jim Leonard 3. Sandra Campbell

Juvenile Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Heather Upton 2. A. McEvan 3. D. Guthrie

Juvenile Old Highland Airs:

1. Bill Russell 2. Bernie Rudsit 3. Heather Abel

Junior Marches:

1. Andrew Youd 2. Sandy Shatford 3. Bob Gallaher

Junior Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Andrew Youd 2. Donald Taylor 3. Bob Gallaher

Junior Old Highland Airs:

1. Andrew Youd 2. Donald Taylor 3. Bob Gallaher

Amateur Marches:

1. Donald MacMillan 2. Sherea Barwell 3. Laurie McIlvena

Amateur Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Laurie McIlvena 2. Sherea Barwell 3. Donald MacMillan

Amateur Old Highland Airs:

1. Ian Cameron 2. Laurie McIlvena 3. Donald MacMillan

Amateur Piobaireachd:

1. Andrew Youd 2. Donald MacMillan 3. Laurie McIlvena

Novice Marches - Over 16:

1. Linda Freshwater 2. Jeff Brewer 3. Robert Gunn

Novice Strathspeys & Reels:- Over 16:

1. Robert Moore 2. Jeff Brewer 3. Linda Freshwater

Open Marches:

1. Theresa MacInnes Rae Marie MacAulay 3. Norma Thompson

Open Strathspeys & Reels:

1. Rae Marie MacAulay 2. Theresa MacInnes 3. Catherine MacLellan

Open Jigs:

1. Rae Marie MacAulay
2. Catherine MacLellan
3. Therese MacInnes

Open Piobaireachd:

1. J. Low
2. Norma Thompson
3. Catherine MacLellan

Class "C" Pipe Bands:

1. Seattle Scottish
2. Highland Laddies
3. Vancouver Junior Ladies

Class "B" Pipe Bands:

1. City of Port Moody Pipe Band
2. Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band
3. Seattle Pipe Band

"B" Class Drumming:

1. Ann McNeill
2. Barb Purser
3. Ross MacRae

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FIRST ALL GIRL PIPE BAND IN SINGAPORE: (from Pipes and Drums, May, 1967)
N.S.W. Pipe Band Association)

Former Pipe Major of the Dagenham Pipers, Miss Peggy Iris, has undertaken the task of turning out a pipe band in six months from very raw recruits.

Formed by the Singapore Peoples Association, Miss Iris was introduced to the forty members of her new band on 12th March.

The ages of the girls range from 16 to 23 years. Most of the girls have just left school.

Miss Iris intends devoting some thirty hours a week to training for the next five months and says that although she will have a terribly difficult task of training the band to make its debut on National Day, with a lot of hard work and very much patience, they will just be able to make it.

A second batch of ten girls will commence training with the arrival in Singapore of Miss Irene Hamilton, another ex-member of the Dagenham Pipers.

The formation of this band has caused quite a number of letters to be written in the "Straits Times", many of which express the doubt of forming the band in time for the National Day on 9th August.

Pipe Major Iris, who has piped in fifty countries in the world, says she isn't the least bit intimidated by her assignment to get the Singapore girl pipers on parade by that date. The Singapore International Chamber of Commerce is backing the band and is providing all equipment and the three instructresses.

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QUEEN HEARS BEATING OF RETREAT BY 250 PIPERS AND DRUMMERS:

(from The Oban Times, July 13, 1967)

For the first time in the long and stirring history of the British Army the pipes and drums of nine Scottish regiments combined in a united parade for the beating of retreat on Monday evening on Horse Guards Parade, London.

It was a moving and unforgettable sight to see these fine pipers and drummers massed in martial array march and counter-march across the historic parade ground playing their splendid and poignant music. It was a unique occasion, for never before have so many Army pipe bands appeared together at one time and with continued rumours of regimental amalgamations it is doubtful if they will ever appear in such numbers again.

Thousands packed the stands around Horse Guards Parade and along the route from Wellington Barracks as the bands marched 15 abreast, onto the sun-drenched square, playing "The Portree Men". It was a glorious splash of colour with tartans of many hues mingling with the blue, scarlet, gold, and green tunics and silver accoutrements of the 250 pipers and drummers of regiments made famous in the history of the once powerful British Empire. At the right of the first line of pipers marched Pipe Major J. A. MacLellan, Queen's Own Highlanders, in charge of the Army School of Piping, Edinburgh Castle.

The pipe bands taking part in the beating of retreat were:

Royal Scots Greys (Pipe Major J. Pryde); Scots Guards (Pipe Major A. MacDonald, Drum Major B.R. Abethell); Royal Scots (Pipe Major R.S. Burns, Drum Major J.F. Blyth); Royal Highland Fusiliers (Pipe Major D.W. Aitken, Drum Major R.D. McGeachen); King's Own Scottish Borderers (Pipe Major J. Wilson, Drum Major I. Russell); The Cameronians (Pipe Major T. Anderson, Bugle Major R.J. MacDonald); Black Watch (Pipe Major J. Anderson, Drum Major J. Cuthbertson); Queen's Own Highlanders (Pipe Major J.M. Allan, Drum Major W.G.L. Grant); Gordon Highlanders (Pipe Major J. Kerr, Drum Major G. Hall).

From the parade one Highland regiment's pipe band was absent. It was that of the 1st Bn. the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. They are at present in Aden where the sound of their pipes has helped to instil the respect of the people of the troublesome Crater district since the Argylls re-occupied it at the beginning of last week.

But this did not mean that no Argyll took part in the parade. Drum Major J.M. Malloch of the 1st Bn. who was on the rear party when the Argylls left for the Middle East last month, led the parade; a former pipe major of the 1st, Pipe Major A. Pitkeathley, now piper to the Queen, was also present as was another Argyll piper L/Cpl. K. Craig, Highland Brigade Depot, while on the extreme left of the front rank was Pipe Major Ronnie MacCallum, late of the 8th Argylls.

The beating of retreat was witnessed by Her Majesty the Queen, standing on a flower-decked dais near Horse Guards Arch. She was accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, wearing the uniform of colonel in chief of the Queen's Own Highlanders, Princess Margaret, the Duke of Gloucester, the Duchess of Gloucester, and Princess Marina, all of whom are also colonels in chief of Scottish regiments, watched from a window of the HQ London District Building.

When the Queen and the Duke arrived at 6:15 p.m. they were received by Lieutenant General Sir Derek Lang, late Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, general officer commanding in chief Scottish Command. He presented to Her Majesty, Major General W.T. Campbell, colonel, Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment), representative colonel Lowland Brigade, and Major General F.C.C. Graham, colonel, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's), representative colonel The Highland Brigade.

At the conclusion of the parade, the massed pipes and drums marched off playing "Blue Bonnets" and returned to Wellington Barracks by way of The Mall.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness later attended a reception given by the colonels of the regiments in the Banqueting Hall, Whitehall.

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CANADA'S OWN

They come on the march from Canada's Highlands,
Out from her Lowlands and in from the Islands
To the Annual Gatherings. And on Parades
The pride of Canada is on display.

Schooled through 100 years of dedication
Since Scotland's tutors first sailed over;
From that generation to new generations
"Canada's Own" Pipers train on her soil.

Today in Canada's anniversary parades
Her Pipers attend from coast to coast.
Sad for Centennial would be our grief
If none for Canada could say "Tog orm mo piob".

- Cathrine Paterson -

- 0 -

THE ORIGINAL NEIL KIRK'S

WHITE HEATHER CONCERT PARTY

DIRECT FROM BONNIE SCOTLAND

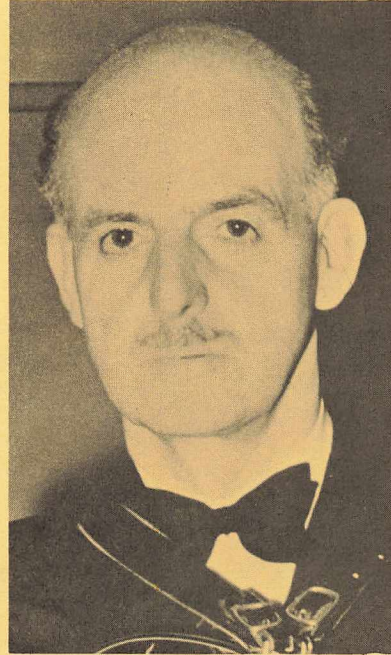
JIMMY LOGAN

Scotland's Great
Entertainer and
Showman



JIMMY SHAND

Greatest Name in
Scottish Dance
Music



Vincent Massey High School Auditorium

NEW WESTMINSTER

MONDAY, Oct. 9, 1967

8:30 p.m.



Queen Elizabeth Theatre

VANCOUVER

TUES. and WED. Oct. 10, and 11

8:30 p.m.



Ivy Carey

Scotland's Popular Lady
of Humorous Scottish
Song. Star of Stage,
Radio and T.V.



Bill McCue

Popular Scottish
Recording Artist.
B.B.C. Performer and
Notable Operatic Star.



RONNIE DALE

"Mr. Versatility of Scottish Show Business"
Multi-Instrumentalist and Vocalist



JOHN CRAWFORD

Soloist and Accompanist to Many Well Known
Scottish Artists.

Sponsored by the British Columbia Pipers' Association and St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society of Vancouver

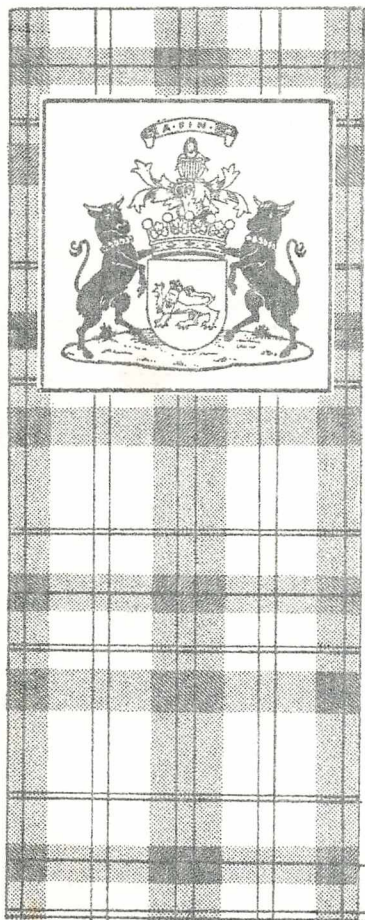
NEW WESTMINSTER Ticket Sales Start September 21st
for the New Westminister show and will be Only sold at
Woodward's Record Bar — 610 - 6th St., L.A. 1-9611

\$1.00 to \$3.00

(from 1:00 p.m. till 5:30 p.m. only)

VANCOUVER Ticket Sales Start September 18th
for the Vancouver show and will be Only sold at these locations
Vancouver Ticket Centre — 630 Hamilton St., 683-3255

All Eaton's Stores
Town House Electronics in Kerrisdale — Town and Country Electronics in Richmond
\$1.50 to \$3.00 (from 10:00 a.m. till 5:30 p.m.)



Robert C. Gilchrist

SCOTTISH IMPORTS BY MAIL



2204 LITTLE LANE, ARDEN WILMINGTON 3, DELAWARE



GENERAL MEETING -

SEPTEMBER 20th

