

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



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

JUNE, 1963.

No. 39.

AN ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF BAGPIPE MUSIC

AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF PIPE PLAYING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

B. C. P I P E R S ' N E W S L E T T E R

Published monthly by the British Columbia Pipers' Association.

Officers of the B. C. Pipers' Association:

PRESIDENT:	Ian MacDougall
VICE PRESIDENT:	Norma Nicholson
SECRETARY:	Wm. A. McAdie
TREASURER:	Georgina MacPhail

B.C. Pipers' NEWSLETTER:

EDITOR:	C. I. Walker
CIRCULATION:	Donald Urquhart Wm. A. McAdie

The B.C. Pipers' Newsletter is published monthly at 3726 Blenheim Street, Vancouver, B.C., by the British Columbia Pipers' Association, and is distributed to all members. Subscription price to non-members is \$1.50 per year. Address all communications concerning the Newsletter to: The B.C. Pipers' Newsletter, 3726 Blenheim Street, Vancouver, B.C. Address all other communications to the Secretary, B.C. Pipers' Association, 3288 East 27th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.

JUNE, 1963.	CONTENTS	No. 39.
Roderick MacLeod Celebrates 80th Birthday: May 8th		Page 3
From Pipe Major John Robertson's Scrapbook		Page 7
The Chicago Highlanders Pipe Band		Page 9
General Meeting - May 31st		Page 11
Piping Society of London Competition		Page 14
Archibald Campbell of Kilberry - Noted Authority on Piping		Page 19
Apropos This and That		Page 21
The Donaldsons of Seattle Salute - by James McColl		Page 23
Bi-Monthly Competition - June 7th		Page 25
Summer Games Schedule		Page 26

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, including the word "MURPHY" and "SIMPSON".

Series of horizontal dotted lines, likely representing a list or a form structure.

RODERICK MACLEOD CELEBRATES 80th BIRTHDAY: MAY 8th, 1963.

Tuesday, May 7th was a red-letter day in the annals of the B.C. Pipers' Association. On this day our first President, Roderick MacLeod, celebrated his 80th birthday.

The celebration took the form of a surprize party and dinner at the Coconut Grove, in Burnaby. About forty members, wives and friends turned out to honour Rod, and an extremely convivial group enjoyed an evening of humerous anecdotes, tributes, and of course piping.

On arriving at the Coconut Grove, Rod, who was pretty much in the dark as to what was taking place, was played to the seat of honour by his clansman, John MacLeod. He was then formally welcomed and congratulated by Ian MacDougall. After a fine dinner, Rod blew out the candles on his elegant birthday cake, kindly provided by his very good friends, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth MacLeod. The toast to Rod was then proposed by Ian Walker, and Edmund Esson presented a gift from the Association. A number of touching and amusing tributes were paid to Rod by some of the members, and by some old friends who had served with Rod on the Vancouver City Police Force.

An enjoyable evening of piping then ensued, including a selection from Rod, himself.

Our very best wishes are extended to Rod, and it is our sincere hope that will celebrate many more birthdays in the years to come.

A letter of thanks was received from Rod by the Secretary, and we know that Rod will not mind if we reprint this engaging letter.

"Dear Sir:

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all members of the Association, who showed me so much kindness on the occasion of my eightieth birthday, on May 7th.

I couldn't find words to properly express my feelings on that evening, when you presented me with such lovely gifts, but from the bottom of my heart I send you now my sincerest gratitutde.

My warmest thanks go also to Mr. and Mrs. Kenny MacLeod, who provided the lovely birthday cake, and took part in arranging the very nice ceremony. We regret that on account of illness they couldn't be with us.

I can assure you all that it was a very pleasant surprise to me.

Mrs. MacLeod tactfully got me to agree to have dinner at her home, and in the morning stated that our Past President, Mr. Ian Walker, would take me out there.

Mrs. MacLeod couldn't have chosen a better accomplice, for, in a nice friendly way, he succeeded very well in keeping me in the dark as to what was going to happen. Indeed, he turned out to be a diplomat of a high order, when he kept me interested in driving around "sightseeing" - as I thought - until he landed me right into the Coconut Grove Supper Club.

I was embarrassed, as you could see, but on looking around at those present, I recognised everyone of them to be warm hearted friends of mine, so all was well.

I can assure you that I thoroughly enjoyed myself, and I know full well that your kind hearts got enjoyment from doing what you did.

I regret that some had to leave before the arrival of Pipe Major Malcolm Nicholson. His lively piping, etc. gave a mighty lift to the evening's enjoyment. Many thanks, Malcolm!

I have been fortunate in having enjoyed the friendship of all the Presidents, and other members of the B.C. Pipers' Association ever since its inauguration, and now that you have been good enough to brighten the "sunset" of my life, I assure you again of my deep appreciation. This is a very small tribute indeed to you for your kindness, but it is given in all sincerity.

Let the years roll on! With friends like you around me, I can enjoy life without feeling old.

Yours very sincerely

Rod. MacLeod

- 0 -

FOR SALE:

Large Argyll & Sutherland Kilt (box pleat)

Good condition - \$20.00

Contact: Ian MacDougall - AL 3-1423

- 0 -



Royal-Scot Scores Again!

NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP, AUG. 4th., 1962, MAXVILLE, ONT.

CLASS A 1st. Worcester Kiltie Pipe Band
2nd. City of Toronto Pipe Band
3rd. 48th. Highlanders of Canada
4th. Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders

CLASS B 1st. Clan MacFarlane Pipe Band

ALL USING

"Premier"

DRUMS, OF COURSE.

In fact, bands with Royal-Scot equipped drum sections won practically every contest on this continent during 1962. Truly, a drum for champions.

Premier

24-Strand top snares, four-way adjustable;
Wire bottom snares with throw-off;
Unbreakable hoops;
Unbreakable brackets;
Everplay heads;
These are just a few of the winning features of
this pipe band special. The drum with the quality
and the sound to help you win championships.

SOLD IN 95 COUNTRIES. ILLUSTRATED BROCHURE FREE.

See your dealer or write for colour brochure to

CANADA MUSIC SUPPLY LTD.

472 De Lauzon Street, Montreal, Que.

KIRKWOOD DRUM SPECIALIST

AUTHORIZED PREMIER SALES & SERVICE DEALER

For perfect tone try...

THE NEW ROYAL SCOT DRUM (WITH MANY ADDED FEATURES). NAMELY, FOUR-WAY ADJUSTING TOP SNARES, ETC.

*pitched and balanced drum sticks
eight models to choose from!*

DRUM HEADS

AMRAWCA, PREMIER CALF, EVERPLAY PLASTIC, NEW EVAN PLASTIC WITH FIBER GLASS HOOPS. (FIRST QUALITY NYLON).

WIRE SNARES TO FIT ANY DRUM, TOP OR BOTTOM, DRUM BELTS, LEG RESTS, DRUM MAJOR MACES, EVERYTHING FOR THE DRUMMER. YOU NAME IT, I HAVE IT. DON'T WAIT. WRITE TODAY FOR PRICE LIST TO.....

DRUM MAJOR JOHN KIRKWOOD
61 DUNKELD AVE., ST. CATHERINES, ONT.

PHONE: MU. 4-2124

FROM PIPE MAJOR JOHN ROBERTSON'S SCRAPBOOK:

ANGUS MACKAY AND PIOBAIREACHD:

(To the Editor of the Oban Times)

February 19, 1937.

Sir - I have been noting with interest the correspondence on the above between our friends, John Grant and Angus MacPherson, and while I have no intention of involving myself in their little altercations, I would like, with your permission, to present a few observations.

In the first instance I very much deplore the rather personal element which has crept into this discussion and which was originally quite foreign to it. It will be obvious to all that neither of the correspondents are suffering from inferiority complex, but seeking to expand their great "egos"; the one expatiates on his having been piper to Abercairney, while the other speaks of his ancestors. Now, as readers of the Oban Times, we are not interested.

Angus MacKay gave his whole life in the piobaireachd cause, sojourning in the Highlands, collecting from time to time all he could lay hands on and rescuing many a good piobaireachd for posterity. He would be no piper who would seek to depreciate the magnitude of this great work or attempt to deprive MacKay of a single atom of credit for it, and I feel sure that our friend, Angus MacPherson will not hesitate to endorse this. We must not lose consciousness of the fact that there were others too who preceded MacKay - Joseph MacDonald, who was the first to attempt to express pipe music in staff notation, and Donald MacDonald, who published the first book of piobaireachds.

But, why erect a memorial to MacKay? Would it not be doing a greater honour to MacKay, and a greater service to piping if we reprinted MacKay's book (which has been out of print now for some years) preferably in that short method adopted by the Piobaireachd Society? Rather than spend money on a heap of stones erected on some isolated peak which few would be privileged to see.

In addition let our correspondents remember that comparisons of any kind are delicate matters and in particular any comparison between MacKay and MacCrimmon can never be any more than mere conjecture, without any foundation in fact and entirely incongruent with this discussion

Finally, I would like our two correspondents to rid themselves of this Taorluath-Crunluath-redundant "A" complex and through the medium of this paper give us a discussion on some of the really vital aspects of piping, viz., the origin of ceol mhor (from internal evidence), the peculiar system of scales upon which the compositions are constructed, the presence of nine notes on the chanter scale (one more than the octave), etc. etc.

- Breabach -



Super "Gaelic"

SIDE DRUM

BREATH SENSITIVE SNARES

NYLON HEADS fitted as standard to ALL MODELS. Vellum or plastic heads available at no extra charge.

The choice of champions

★ **INCONTESTABLY THE BEST!**

Carlton "Gaelic" Drums are not judged by one spectacular success alone, but by the consistency with which Bands playing them gain the highest awards in National Championships, in fact, in every contest of note throughout the world.

ALL METAL SNARES adjustable on both heads, give "punchy" tone with minimum effort.

The unique floating action snares perfected by CARLTON and fitted exclusively to the super "Gaelic" Side Drum, "kiss" the head and bed down evenly over the entire diameter.

WIDE SELECTION of eye-catching super plastic finishes :

Consult your dealer to-day or write for Souvenir Brochure to:-

J. T. McHARDY CO., LTD.
Scottish Imports,
534 Seymour Street,
VANCOUVER 2, B. C.



HUGH MACPHERSON
IMPORTS LTD.,
231, Lake Street,
ST. CATHERINES, ONT.
Clifton Street, LONDON, E. C. 2.

JOHN E. DALLAS & SONS LTD.,

THE CHICAGO HIGHLANDERS PIPE BAND:

The great immigration of the British people -- Scots, English and Irish -- to the U.S.A. during the past 190 years has enriched this country with traditions which, it appears, will live forever. Among these traditions which warm the hearts of nearly every American whose forebears came from the United Kingdom is the preservation of the pipe band on this continent. The stirring combination of the Great Highland Bagpipes and the drums has provided a common ground for a fraternal spirit unequalled in history.

Just as World War I stimulated the development of the modern airplane, it also brought about a revival of interest in piping and pipe bands. Immigrants to North America -- both the U.S.A. and Canada -- brought their bagpipes and their drums with them, and thus the founding of many great pipe bands in the cities and villages in these two great countries. As the years went on, interest in this great music increased, and once again, a great war (World War II) produced still more military pipers and drummers.

It was back in 1921 that a very competent piper, Robert Sim, late of one of the great Highland regiments, together with a small band of Scottish pipers and drummers of the same intense interest, founded the Chicago Highlanders Pipe Band. Over the years they experienced the usual problems known to all those who have ever belonged to such a unit -- financial struggles to meet the high cost of Highland uniforms, suitable sponsorship, a hall in which to practice regularly, transfers of playing personnel, deaths, retirements, and the usual organizational complications. Bob Sim is still very active in Chicago piping circles, as Pipe Major of the famous Stockyards Kilty Pipe Band in Chicago. Years ago, it was agreed that Chicago had a sufficient number of pipers and drummers to support two Scottish pipe bands, and so the Chicago Highlanders have continued over the years and are today a very healthy and active band -- active the year 'round.

In the year 1962, the Highlanders played a total of twenty-six engagements. The City of Chicago, veterans' organizations, suburban Chambers of Commerce, and civic associations regularly seek out their services in parades. Scottish Clan Societies, and even the St. Andrew Society use the band for balls, banquets, and church services. In January of this year, the Illinois St. Andrew Society held their annual church service at Second Presbyterian Church in nearby Evanston, at which time the Chicago Highlanders opened the service, playing "The Green Hills of Tyrol" and "When the Battle is Over", from the balcony. During the offering, the pipers and drummers played down the aisles, piping the "wee tunes" so dear to the Scottish-Americans. The entire program was televised in color for those who chose to view the program from their homes.

Probably the high point in the history of this fine band was their playing for Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip when they visited Chicago and its great International Trade Fair on July 6, 1959. The band, resplendent in their Royal Stewart kilts and plaids, was a part of the official reception, along with the 2nd U.S. Marine Division band. The Queen and Prince were visibly impressed with the pomp and ceremony accompanying their visit. The Chicago newspapers carried the headline quote, "Frightfully impressed"! The band also played for President Kennedy on one of his visits to Chicago during the 1960 presidential campaign.

Keeping such an organization in top playing order requires hours of preparation for their engagements. Members gather every Thursday evening, winter and summer, at their sponsor's headquarters, the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall, in suburban Elmhurst, Illinois. The first hour is spent in practice chanter work for the pipers, while the drummers work out in another room of the hall. Following this, the band assembles on the floor for an hour or more of practice on parade. There are many evenings when visitors drop by to listen to the band as they go through their practice routine. They are always welcome, and following the evening's work, the members and visitors drop "down below" to the V.F.W. pub for a "wee dram" and the usual animated conversation.

Membership of the band is what amazes many people who have only casual knowledge of such organisations. Currently, there are 22 pipers and 10 drummers, and they come from a wide variety of careers. Tradesmen, an insurance agent, an engineer, an art director with a large packing house, a bus driver, a brewing industry consultant, an advertising man with one of America's leading advertising agencies, a police officer, students, as well as a sales manager with a large magazine publisher, represent the membership, all of whom enjoy the association of one another to the very limit. The love of the pipes and drums is the common bond, and it is a strong one indeed. This close association and comradeship goes beyond the bandmen themselves, for following many of the summer parade engagements, the families of the band members often gather at one of their homes for a social hour or a back yard barbecue party.

The pipers and drummers of the Chicago Highlanders have served in the pipe bands of eleven different American, Canadian, Irish and Scottish military bands, including the famous Black Watch, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the Scots Guards, the Cameron Highlanders, and the Seaforth Highlanders. Some have also played with famous civilian pipe bands, including the World's Championship pipe band, Muirhead and Sons of Stirlingshire, Scotland. Approximately two-thirds of the members came to the U.S.A. from Scotland, England, Ireland and Canada. Two of the pipers are father and son, and within another year another son of one of the pipers is expected to join their ranks. Pipe Sergeant Dan Currie and his son John (a drummer), are another father and son team in the band.

Twice each year, the band sponsors a Tartan Ball. The more outstanding of the two is the one held in the fall, generally close to Thanksgiving time. Last fall, their Grand Tartan Ball was attended by 2,000 people who enjoyed Scottish and American dancing, and the thrilling experience of seeing four visiting pipe bands march into the ballroom to join the Chicago Highlanders to play "The Earl of Mansfield", "Highland Laddie", and "The Barren Rocks of Aden" together. The crowd went wild with enthusiasm. The problem in the fall of 1963 will be to engage a hall large enough to accommodate the ever increasing crowds who attend these grand affairs.

Several very competent pipe majors are responsible for having built the Chicago Highlanders into what they are today. In recent years, Pipe Majors Dan Currie (formerly of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders), George Gray (formerly of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, and Pipe Sgt. of the Edinburgh Police Pipe Band), and Pat Docherty (formerly of Dumbarton, Scotland and later with the Royal Canadian Air Force), the current Pipe Major, have devoted many hours of their time in their constant seeking of perfection. The band Secretary-Treasurer is Mrs. Peter Priest, Jr., wife of one of the senior pipers in the organization. Her devotion to the band and its members, and her skillful management of the business affairs of this unusual body of men has won the admiration of all the pipers and drummers.

The prediction is that The Chicago Highlanders Pipe Band will be around for another 42 years, and more!

- Richard C. Eaton -
Mt. Prospect, Illinois

- 0 -

GENERAL MEETING: MAY 31st.

The General Meeting held on Friday, May 31st, was well attended, and those fortunate to be at the Seaforth Armoury on time were privileged to see a large and splendidly turned out band from the Seaforth Cadets beat Retreat for a function being held in the Officers' Mess. This performance was most enjoyable and of a very high calibre, and we would extend our congratulations to the boys and their Instructors.

The usual session of piping and refreshments was held following the meeting, and we were especially pleased to see an improved attendance of the younger members of the Association.

There will be no further General Meetings until September.

- 0 -

LATEST
RELEASE

PIPE MAJOR

JOHN WILSON

Visits the British Columbia

Pipers' Association

Now!

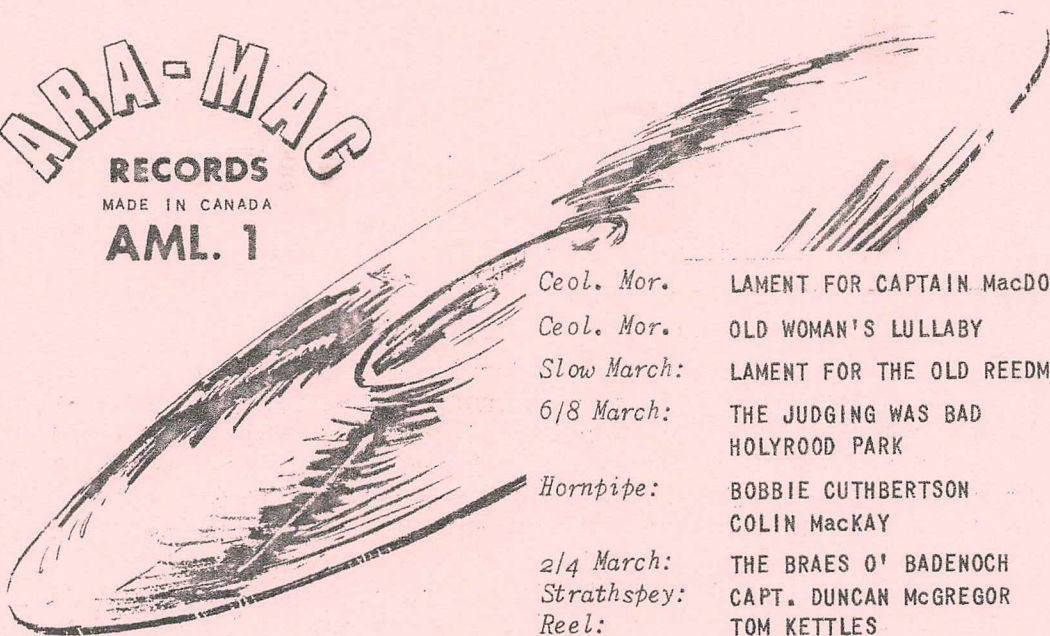
AT YOUR LOCAL RECORD STORE

ARA-MAG

RECORDS

MADE IN CANADA

AML. 1



<i>Ceol. Mor.</i>	LAMENT FOR CAPTAIN MacDOUGALL
<i>Ceol. Mor.</i>	OLD WOMAN'S LULLABY
<i>Slow March:</i>	LAMENT FOR THE OLD REEDMAKERS
<i>6/8 March:</i>	THE JUDGING WAS BAD HOLYROOD PARK
<i>Hornpipe:</i>	BOBBIE CUTHBERTSON COLIN MacKAY
<i>2/4 March:</i>	THE BRAES O' BADENOCH
<i>Strathspey:</i>	CAPT. DUNCAN MCGREGOR
<i>Reel:</i>	TOM KETTLES
<i>Jig:</i>	PADRUIG OG THE LOCH NESS MONSTER JOHN GRIEVE



The
College of Piping

20 OTAGO STREET,

GLASGOW, W.2.

TELEPHONE NO.
KELVIN 3587.

THE COLLEGE OF PIPING

.....gives a service to Pipers everywhere.

BAGPIPES AND ACCESSORIES

from Grainger and Campbell, R.G.Hardie,
Peter Henderson and R.G.Lawrie, Selected
by experts and speedily dispatched to any
part of the world.

....Matched chanters a specialty.

REEDSchosen and tested (small numbers only).

ALL PIPE MUSIC AND RECORDINGS, including.....

"THE PIPING TIMES"

\$2.50 yearly. Every month from the hub of
Piping.

"THE COLLEGE TUTOR"

Part 1- \$1.50 (Postage 15¢). Enjoy the
benefits of a College Education.

"THE SEUMAS MacNEILL COLLECTION"

\$1.50 (Postage 10¢). Best since
Willie Ross.

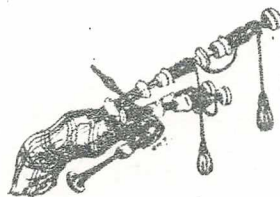
"SURVEY OF PIPING"

\$9.50 (Postage included). Tape recording
by Pipe Major, JOHN MacLELLAN and
SEUMAS MacNEILL

Write for catalogue to:

the College of Piping

20 OTAGO STREET



GLASGOW, W.2.

SCOTLAND

PIPING SOCIETY OF LONDON COMPETITION: (from Oban Times, April 4th, 1963)

Leading pipers from all over Britain converged on the London Scottish Headquarters at Buckingham Gate on Saturday for the 24th annual competition of the Scottish Piping Society of London.

Prominent in the Bratach Gorm event this year were three members of the noted piping family from Glasgow and Mull, the MacFadyen brothers, John Iain, and Duncan. All have made their name as leading exponents of the ceol mor and it was not surprising that John MacFadyen was placed first for the Bratach with an excellent rendering of "MacLeod of Raasay".

Second was Pipe Major John MacLellan, Edinburgh, with a very musical interpretation of "The Daughter's Lament".

For third place the judges, Captain Donald R. MacLennan, North Berwick, and Major Archie Macnab, Oban, chose Iain MacFadyen for his steady performance of "Mary's Praise". Iain is a former winner of the Bratach, having gained it in 1958 when he was serving with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

Robert U. Brown, Balmoral, who won the Bratach Gorm in 1956, 1960, and 1962 playing the John MacDonald style, chose as his piece the "Earl of Seaforth". It was not as good a performance as last year when he won this competition with a beautiful rendering of "The Glen is Mine".

William M. MacDonald, Inverness, played the "Old Men of the Shells", but was not at his best in this long piobaireachd. He won the Bratach in 1957.

Duncan MacFadyen, who won the gold medal at Inverness last year, was making his first appearance in the London competitions. He played "The Lament for the Only Son" a shade fast for a lament perhaps.

Kenneth MacDonald, Glasgow, a pupil of Roderick MacDonald, South Uist (late of the Glasgow Police) was also making his London debut. He played "MacLeod's Salute" in a steady performance on a good pipe, somewhat marred by a couple of slight errors.

James Young, Perth, played "I Got a Kiss of the King's Hand". He was the first to play in the Bratach competition. This was not his best performance.

David Ross played "Lady Doyle's Salute". This is David's 50th year in professional piping, since he was in the prize list at the Argyllshire Gathering in 1913, and the following week at the Northern Meetings figured in the prize list. That year, playing as a boy, he was noted by Willie MacLean who took David under his wing.

Donald MacPherson, now living in Wiltshire, had entered for the Bratach this year which he already won in 1951, but did not take part, and many were saddened by the news that his father, Mr. Iain MacPherson, had passed away in Glasgow. The late Mr. MacPherson, was a well-known piper and occasionally travelled down to the London competitions and he also had to his credit that he tutored his son Donald to be one of the finest exponents of piobaireachd of our generation.

The open piobaireachd competition was run concurrently with the Bratach Gorm in the Westminster Hall, next door to the London Scottish H.Q. There were 23 competitors; First prize went to R.U. Brown, Balmoral, his tune being the "Vaunting", an excellent performance on a tuneful pipe. This marked the fifth year in succession he has won the open piobaireachd in London.

The second prizewinner was Pipe Major J. MacLellan playing "The MacKay's Banner". This again was a performance of very high standard on a steady pipe.

Third prize went to Duncan MacFadyen, Glasgow; with "The Battle of Waternish", a much improved performance than he gave in the Bratach earlier in the day.

L/Sgt. Angus MacDonald, Scots Guards, gained the fourth prize for his playing of "Mary's Praise" in musical style. He is an all-round piper of exceptional talent and the son of a famous piper, the late Pipe-Sgt. Alick MacDonald, Glasgow Police Pipe-Band, who was a native of North Uist.

Two well known authorities of Ceol Mor judged the open piobaireachd - Major General F.M. Richardson and Mr. James Campbell, Jr. of Kilberry.

The march, strathspey and reel was confined to previous winners of this competition at Oban, Inverness, and London. L/Sgt. Angus MacDonald was first with Stirlingshire Militia, Delvinside, and Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran. Angus won this competition two years ago when he last played in the London competition and his playing on Saturday was of the highest standard. Pipe Major J. MacLellan took second prize with Bonnie Ann, Lady Loudon, and Caberfeidh. He played with his usual polished performance. Kenneth MacDonald was given third place with Arthur Bignold, Caberfeidh, and John MacDonald.

The judges were A. MacNab, D.R. MacLennan, and T.H. Johnstone.

Amateur piobaireachd for London Highland Club Cup - 1. Iain K. MacLeod (Lament for the Only Son); 2. Michael Kiernahan (The Wee Spree); 3. Ian Pearson, R.A.M.C., T.A. (The Wee Spree). Judge - P.M. M. MacMillan.

March competition - Scottish Clans Challenge Cup - (confined to civilian pipers residing in the South of England) - 1. Sgt. A. Dunnett, R.A.M.C., T.A. (John MacFadyen); 2. M. Kiernahan, Romford (Highland Wedding) Judges - T.H. Johnstone and F.G. Fergus.

Strathspey and reel (Strachan Memorial Prize) open to those not eligible in the march, strathspey and reel - 1. Gordon K. Spiers, London; 2. Archie Martin, Kilbirnie, Ayrshire; 3. James Elmslie, Glasgow. Judges - D.R. MacLennan and A. Macnab.

Amateur march, strathspey and reel - 1. John Wilson (9 years old) Campbeltown; 2. Michael Kiernahan (10 years); 3. Iain K. MacLeod, R.A.M.C., T.A. Judge - P.M. Malcolm MacMillan.

A notable figure missing this year was Campbell of Kilberry. It was a cold and wet day and he did not feel well enough to attend. As a world authority on Ceol Mor his presence here in the past added much stature to the London competitions.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. Seton Gordon. Mr. Gordon on this occasion was a visitor. Some years ago he judged regularly at the competitions. Taking much interest in the piping contest was the Canadian-born minister Rev. Thomas Hardy. Renewing an acquaintance with old friends was Mr. John MacKinnon (Mid-Argyll) now retired from the civil service and residing in the south of England. He was a well known piper at the society here a few years ago. Down from Aberdeen was Mr. Norman Reid, where he made his home after retiring from his business in London about seven years ago. Formerly he was secretary of the Piping Society. In the past he won the amateur piobaireachd in London five times and came down to the annual competitions two years ago and won it again.

Through an unfortunate accident, P.M. J.B. Robertson was unable to compete this year. He attended the Bratach Gorm contest which he has won twice in the past, and the open piobaireachd three times, but had to go back home in the afternoon. Taking much interest in the Ceol Mor was Mr. J.C.M. Campbell of the Gaelic Society of London. Though not a piper, he is a great lover of piobaireachd. A regular visitor to the annual contest is Mr. Robert G. Hardie, now with a successful bagpipe business in Glasgow. He was a well known competitor here, about 10 years ago, and won the open piobaireachd in London in 1951.

Among the successful competitors in the amateur piping were the pupils of P.M. R. Hill, also his band members in the R.A.M.C., T.A. took many prizes.

Two visitors who travelled down specially from Campbeltown for the competitions were Mr. John Walker, South Uist-born, now a schoolmaster there, and Mr. A. Wilson, whose young son, John, won the amateur march, strathspey and reel. Campbeltown in the past has produced many fine pipers, and John Wilson at his age has the makings of a thoroughly fine player. And, too, his name recalls a famous all-round piper and competitor, John Wilson of Edinburgh, now in Toronto.

P/M J.T. McHARDY
SCOTTISH
IMPORTS

534 SEYMOUR ST., VAN. 2, B.C.
MU 1-6616

BAGPIPES ~ ACCESSORIES ~ REPAIRS

- ★ SCOTTISH NOVELTIES
- ★ SCOTTISH RECORDS
- ★ TARTANS, TWEEDS
- ★ JEWELLERY
- ★ BOOKS
- ★ DRUMS

EVERYTHING

SCOTTISH

CUSTOM ORDERS



"THE" PIPE BAND SPECIALISTS!

Over thirty years in the business of supplying Bagpipes, Drums, and outfitting Individuals and Pipe Bands throughout the American Continent.

MACPHERSON ★ BAGPIPES & PRACTICE CHANTERS

The use of thoroughly seasoned materials, expert craftsmanship and careful inspection, assures you of getting the finest instruments on the market today.

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP 6 TIMES
European, British and Scottish Championships
many times since 1947. WHAT A RECORD!

Improve your Pipe Section with our matched
"Macpherson" Pipe Chanters.

DRUMS ★

Carlton Super Gaelic
Premier Royal Scot.
Available from stock. All accessories.

★ A KILT BY MACPHERSON!

YOUR PROUDEST POSSESSION
Six full time Kilt Makers
. Hundreds of Tartans to choose from.
Contractors to H.M. Canadian Government.

*INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE ABOVE?
WRITE TODAY for PRICES - FURTHER DETAILS or SAMPLES*

Hugh Macpherson Imports Limited

HIGHLAND OUTFITTERS

231 Lake Street, St. Catharines, Ontario

Telephone MU-2-1688

Associated Firms in Scotland:

HUGH MACPHERSON (SCOTLAND) LTD.

Bagpipe and Kilt Makers - Highland Outfitters

Tel. CAL. 4008

17 West Maitland St. (Western Continuation of Princes Street) Edinburgh 12, Scotland

INSTANT
MAIL ORDER
SERVICE!

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL OF KILBERRY - NOTED AUTHORITY ON PIPING:

(from Oban Times, May 2nd, 1963)

Highland pipe music has lost its finest authority in the passing of Mr. Archibald Campbell of Kilberry, whose death occurred on April 24th, at his home in London. He was 86 years of age.

The third son of John Campbell, 10th of Kilberry, he was educated at Harrow and Pembroke College, Cambridge. After leaving university, he entered the Indian Civil Service in 1900, and after a distinguished career was appointed a judge of the High Court in 1921. Retiring in 1928, he returned to Britain and in the following year was appointed lecturer in Indian Law at Cambridge University, a post he held until 1941.

Born and reared as he was in the north, Campbell of Kilberry had an intensive knowledge of all matters relating to the Highlands. He is probably best known to readers of the "Oban Times" as an authority on his lifelong hobby of pipe playing and music. To this hobby he brought a first class brain, tireless industry, unlimited enthusiasm and a technical knowledge and proficiency gleaned from instructors of the highest qualifications. Angus MacRae, John McColl and William Ross were his mentors for "ceol Beag", Sandy Cameron, John MacDougall Gillies and John MacDonald for "ceol mor". With this background he achieved a unique status in the world of piping - not only as an acknowledged expert on all forms of playing, but also as a mine of readily available information on all matters directly or remotely concerning pipers and pipe music.

His greatest work was no doubt in connection with the renaissance of the piobaireachd cult, which may be said to date from the publication of General Thomason's "Ceol Mor" in 1900. But his knowledge and appreciation of other forms of pipe music will be within the power of many to testify to - those whose playing he has judged; those who have read his many contributions to this newspaper; those who sought his advice or opinion in private or in the friendly atmosphere of pipers' gathering; those who have been participators in the agile correspondence which he delighted to carry on with fellow enthusiasts.

It was to the piobaireachd, however, that his main work was devoted. His aim was to make his knowledge of this somewhat esoteric art available to others. To the extent that the present increased and increasing interest in "ceol mor" is due to the availability to all of books of authority, the credit for such a welcome state of affairs is largely his.

The records of his achievement are two - the Piobaireachd Society publications dating from 1924, and the "Kilberry Book of Ceol Mor".

The primary object of the Piobaireachd Society publications was to make available to pipers all information concerning the tunes selected which patient research among the authoritative manuscripts could produce. The secondary object was to provide pipers with one authoritative setting of each tune in easily legible staff notation.

The system had its faults, in that the printed settings have, with the passage of time, come to be regarded by many pipers as "ex cathedra" directions as to the way in which the tunes should be played. The original purpose of submitting one of several possible and permissible alternatives has become obscure. The competition system, admirable though it is in many respects, has done much to develop the somewhat false reverence which is often accorded to "Piobaireachd Society" settings.

The main value of the books, however, is to be found in the notes. There lay the labour and the learning, and the information to be found in the notes is and will continue to be of indispensable assistance to enquiring minds.

The Kilberry Book had a different purpose. The editor shed the mantle of an impartial disseminator of information and sought to present to the piping world a record (based on notes made contemporaneously with the instruction received) of the style of playing of his three instructors, Sandy Cameron, MacDougall Gillies and John MacDonald

No one appreciated better than he the imperfections of staff notation as a medium for piobaireachd instruction. Indeed any intention to instruct beginners is disclaimed in the preface. But the work constitutes a notable attempt to suggest to the educated piper many of the subtleties of timing and expression which are the life and soul of piobaireachd playing.

As in the case of the Piobaireachd Society books, so in the case of the Kilberry Book, the secondary purpose of the publication is of more apparent current utility - such secondary purpose being to provide within a small compass an authoritative account of the history and construction of the piobaireachd and a convenient work of reference with regard to the 120 printed tunes. The subtleties of the work, however, are no less valuable for being less apparent.

The following is an extract from a contribution made by Kilberry as a young man to the "Oban Times" of September 19, 1903 under the title "The Passing of Piobaireachd": "The old tunes must be rescued and put where they can be heard and appreciated. But where are they? Hoarded and guarded with more care than ever a miser cherished his gold. Written, or unwritten, they are there, noted in old books, scrawled on stray fragments of paper, or engraved on the memory of some old-time piper. They are there today. Tomorrow they will be dead, and at the emptying and garnishing of his house his books and scraps of papers will be swept out with the rubbish while that which was in his mind will be buried with him in the grave.

"Let the Highlanders look to it, lest his grandchildren and great-grandchildren curse him, as we would fain curse our forefathers for suffering to be lost what is already lost beyond recall."

The preaching was ambitious, and the practice was limited by the span of human life and energy and by the time which a busy man can, with the best will in the world, devote to a hobby. But the ardent enthusiast of 1903 had, in his old age, no reason for dissatisfaction with his services to the cause which he then championed.

His three sons he tutored in the art and judging of piping - James today is one of our leading adjudicators. There is another son out in Kenya; Angus, a younger son, who was in the Malayan civil service when the Japanese invaded Malaya, through his ordeal as a P.O.W. died a few years ago. His wife predeceased him several years ago.

By the death of Kilberry, piping has lost a champion and one of its greatest gentleman to meet, seldom critical but always ready to give advice.

We are unlikely ever again to meet anyone quite like Archibald Campbell of Kilberry.

- 0 -

APROPOS THIS AND THAT:

Roderick MacLeod did well in the May Newsletter to call attention to the anecdote about the piper in the recent Reader's Digest article on Scotland. The accompanying article about the decorating of the wedding cake of Angus Ogilvie and Princess Alexandra with, most appropriately, bagpipes, is also noteworthy. So far, so good, but some of us who watched the wedding on T.V., and read about it in Time, may be excused a snicker to learn from that prestigious magazine that the pipers played a pibroch as the couple left the Abbey. It's the old story - To many, a pibroch is any tune on the pipes; therefore "The Bonnie Hoose o' Airlie", and "I Lo'ed Ne'er a Laddie but Ane" are pibrochs. Shades of MacCrimmon!

Of course, the "pibroch" was "skirled". The cliché has become so deeply imbedded in the vocabulary of reporters, that apparently nothing can be done to uproot it. A philologist might mention sokism; a piper recognizes it as plain blethering.

It comes to mind that even Lady Nairne in her "Hundred Pipers" is off the track on pibroch. Twa thoosand drookit Hielandman dancing themselves dy to the pibroch's sound would be something unique in the terpsichorean line. Maybe the pibroch was "Too long in this Condition".

- James A. Berry -
Secretary-Treasurer
Vancouver Island Pipers' Society

- 0 -

The CLANSMEN

15 SUNNYDALE DRIVE, TORONTO 18, ONTARIO

JOHN GILMOUR,
BELmont 1-3596

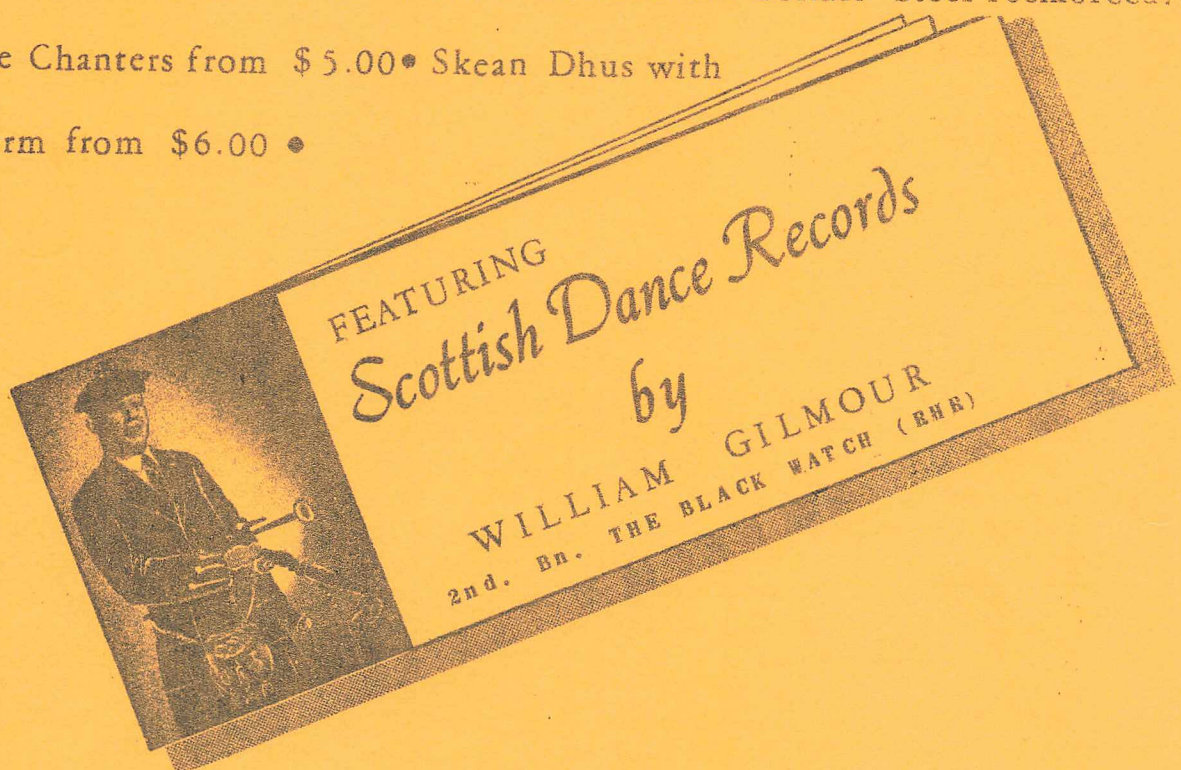
JAS. McRAE,
MELrose 5-6088

WE REPRESENT LEADING MAKERS OF ALL HIGHLAND EQUIPMENT
AND HIGHLAND DRESS • PIPE BAND AND DRESS UNIFORMS • BAGPIPES BY ALL
LEADING MAKERS • ALL PIPING REQUIREMENTS • FULLY TESTED REEDS
DRUMS AND DRUMMERS SUPPLIES

No. 1, Nylon & Plastic heads \$6.50 • Bass Drum Collars Steel reënforced. \$6.00

Practice Chanters from \$5.00 • Skean Dhus with

Cairngorm from \$6.00 •



WE ALSO HAVE A LARGE STOCK OF MUSIC BOOKS, SCOTTISH NOVELTIES,
STERLING SILVER CELTIC JEWELLERY, CLAN CRESTS, TIES, SCARVES,
CLAN MAPS AND BOOKS, ETC.

PRICE LISTS FORWARDED IMMEDIATELY UPON REQUEST.

Bagpipes - Reeds - Clan Crests - Scottish Novelties

88,8. URLAR. THE DONALDSONS OF SEATTLE SALUTE

BY JAMES M. COLL

Handwritten musical notation for the first part of the piece, consisting of six staves of music in treble clef with various notes and rests.

(VAR. I. SUIBHAL)

Handwritten musical notation for Variation I, consisting of four staves of music with many notes and rests.

VAR. II SUIBHAL DOUBLING - THE REST MAY BE READ FROM VAR. I. SUIBHAL.

Handwritten musical notation for Variation II, consisting of one staff with notes and rests.

MOVEMENTS COMMENCING WITH LOW "G" IN VAR. I TO BE PLAYED THE SAME WAY IN VAR. II

(VAR III TAOR. SINGLING) (VAR V CRUN. SINGLING) (VAR IV TAOR. DOUB.) (VAR VI CRUN. DOUB.)

Handwritten musical notation for Variations III, V, IV, and VI, consisting of four staves of music with notes and rests.

NOTES MARKED "X" IN THE C DOUBLINGS TO BE PLAYED

THE DONALDSONS OF SEATTLE SALUTE:

by James McColl

On my last visit to Vancouver, I played this tune to some close friends. Amongst them were Gordon and Ruth Donaldson, for whom the piobaireachd was composed.

The tune seemed to be well appreciated, especially by the Donaldsons. It was then felt amongst the company that the tune should be published in the B.C. Pipers' Newsletter, with whom many of us on the West Coast are members and subscribers.

There is no history concerning the piobaireachd, other than that it is three years old, and is merely a sentiment felt by myself for my two friends, Gordon and Ruth Donaldson. My thanks to the B.C. Pipers' for presenting my tune in their magazine.

- James McColl -
Los Angeles, Calif.

- 0 -

(Ed. Our thanks to James McColl for allowing us to reprint this tune)

CONSULT

GRAINGER and CAMPBELL

FOR ALL YOUR PIPING REQUIREMENTS!

BAGPIPES · DRUMS

UNIFORMS

HIGHLAND DRESS

GRAINGER and CAMPBELL

(Incorporating Duncan MacRae &
Son—Established 1897)

1103 ARGYLE STREET,

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

Enquiries answered promptly
Quotations given—without
obligation

Contractors to H.M. Government and overseas and local governments

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION - JUNE 7th, 1963.

On Friday, June 7th, Ronald Forman judged the final Bi-Monthly Competition of the 1962-63 season, held in the Gymnasium of the Seaforth Armoury.

There were 48 competitors entered in these competitions, and the final winners were chosen:

Novice Marches:

1. Don Smith
2. Colin Abel
3. Bruce Holmgren
4. Doug Bernon
5. Iola Peace
6. Heather McBride

Juvenile Jigs:

1. Bob Lamont
2. Raymond Irvine
3. Laurie McIllyena

Junior Marches:

1. John MacLeod
2. Bob MacDonald

Amateur Old Highland Airs:

1. Peggy Gillies
2. Bill Elder
3. Allan MacLeod

Senior Amateur Strathspeys and Reels:

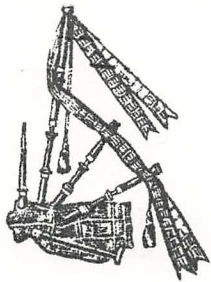
1. C.I. Walker

We were very pleased to see the enthusiasm which was apparent at all of the Bi-Monthlies this year. Undoubtedly the entries were the largest yet, and the evenings were all most enjoyable. It is our opinion that these competitions afford young pipers an excellent opportunity to gain valuable experience in piping contests, in an informal atmosphere not present in the larger games and gatherings.

We would like to thank all competitors and their parents for supporting the Bi-Monthlies. We would also thank the judges, and would give special thanks to the Commanding Officer of the Seaforth Highlanders, Lt. - Col. David Fairweather for his invaluable assistance in all of our endeavours.

Prizes and attendance awards will be presented at the Annual Ceilidh, to be held in the fall. All winners will be announced in the next issue of the Newsletter.

TO ENSURE PROMPT DELIVERY OF THE NEWSLETTER
DONT FORGET TO SEND US ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESS.



ROBERT THOMSON of LEICESTER

MAKERS OF THE WORLD'S BEST REEDS, CHANTERS AND DRONES,
OFFERS INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION TO ALL ORDERS.



**SOMETHING
NEW!!!**

NO! SOMETHING 100 YEARS OLD. THOMSON RESEARCH HAS REPRODUCED THE IDEAL DRONES - BETTER TONE AND STEADIER TUNING. TENOR REED JOINTS (26/-) BASS REED JOINTS (27/-) MOUNTS EXTRA.



SPEEDY AIR MAIL REED SERVICE TO CANADA AND U.S.A.



SILVERTONE PIPE REEDS 7/6 EACH. THOMSON PIPE CHANTERS FROM £6-10-0. HIGHLAND JEWELLERY - KINLOCH ANDERSON. PRENIER & CARLTON DRUMS - RUDIMENT NYLON HEADS - ALL ACCESSORIES.

SEND FOR FREE LISTS

Bagpipes - Reeds - Drums

ROBERT THOMSON, M. A.

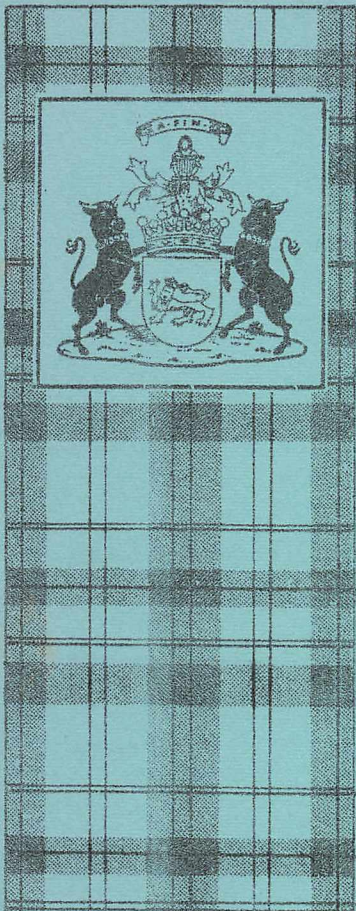
39 CARDINAL'S WALK, LEICESTER

SUMMER GAMES SCHEDULE:

The following is a list of the local games, and Games Secretaries:

- | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--|
| June 22nd | - | Bellingham | - | Isla Paterson,
2296 Chuckanut Dr., Bellingham, Wash. |
| July 1st | - | B.C. Highland
Dancing Assn. | - | Mrs. D. Fraser,
2470 West 19th Ave., Vancouver 8, B.C. |
| * July 6th | - | Portland | - | R. Clemmer
11385 S.W. Muirwood Dr., Portland 25. Ore. |
| * July 13th | - | Nanaimo | - | Miss Annie Ross
35 Acacia Ave., Nanaimo |
| * July 27th | - | Victoria | - | Mrs. G.G. Hebden,
1048 Craigflower Rd., Victoria, B.C. |
| August 3rd | - | Vancouver | - | Mrs. May Duncan,
1605 West 12th Ave., Vancouver 9, B.C. |
| * August 10th | - | Seattle | - | Garrel McAtee
P.O. Box 984, Seattle 1, Wash. |

* - denotes Games of the Pacific International Highland Games Assn.



Robert C. Gilchrist

SCOTTISH IMPORTS BY MAIL



2204 LITTLE LANE, ARDEN WILMINGTON 3, DELAWARE



DATES OF SUMMER GAMES

