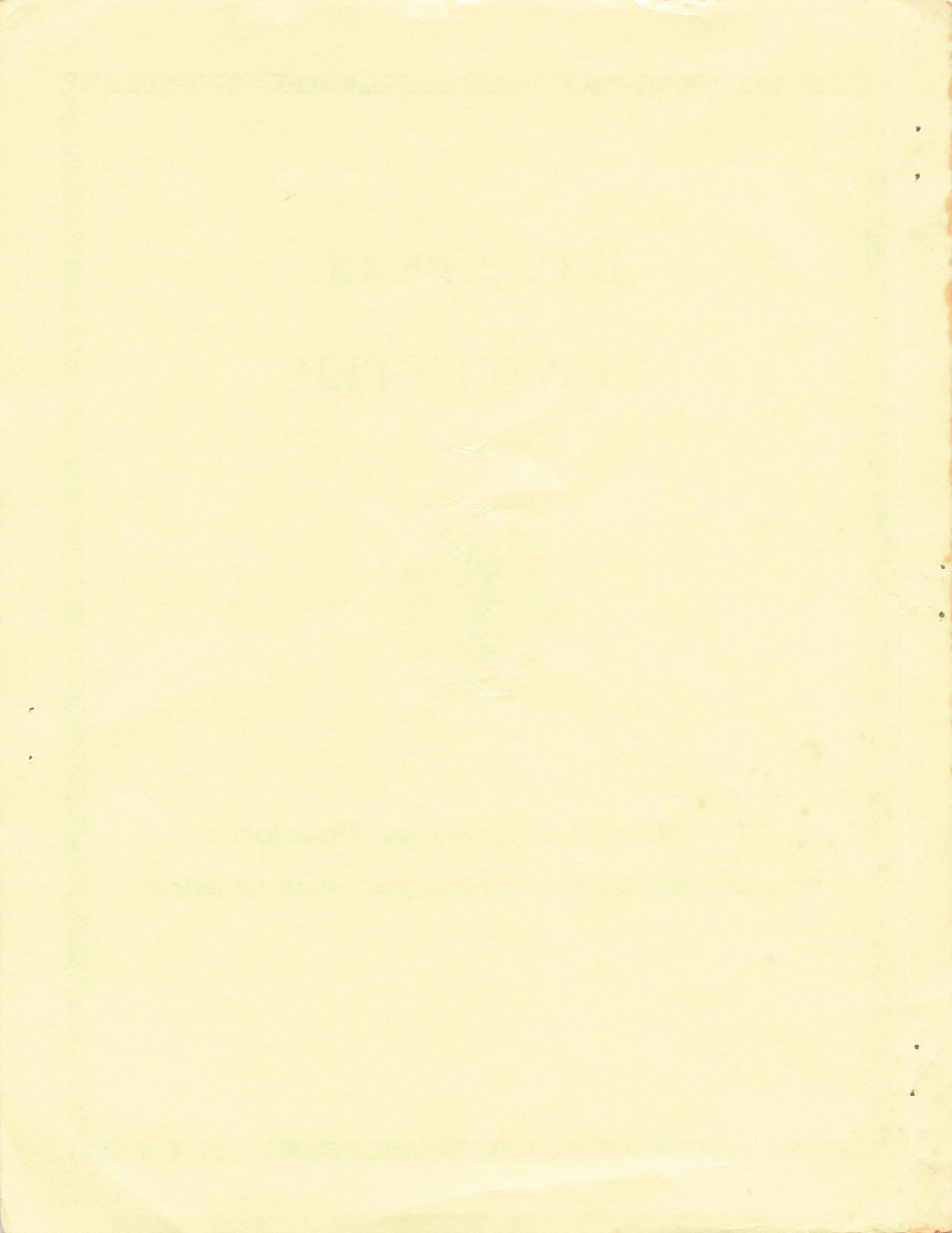


# B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



# 165

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



B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER

Published by the British Columbia Pipers' Association

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SEPTEMBER 1977

no 165

Letters to the Editor

October General Meeting and Knockout

Results of Northern Meeting

Trial of James Reid

Bi-Monthly Competition

Dear Sir:

I would like to reply to Ian Wallace's lament (August) re the lack of piping and pipe band entries at this year's Nanaimo Highland Games. He asks what Kimberley has done "to promote Highland Games here in the Pacific Northwest and why our pipe bands bypassed Nanaimo to go to Kimberley," and the reasons might prove an object lesson to most Highland Games committees on how not to run Highland Games.

Primarily, Kimberley did not promote "Highland Games" as we know them here (which are, as we have pointed out far too often, "dancing Games")-- they promoted pipe bands, promoted them well, and drew a large receptive crowd as a result. They began organizing their 50th Anniversary celebrations a long time ago, and approached the bands as early as December of last year to participate--not "such a short period of time" as Mr. Wallace suggested. They flew us to Kimberley, housed us, fed us, and showed us great hospitality and great organization.

How many games in this area can claim to have offered even enough prize money (for first prize even) to offset the cost of ferries, gas, etc., for 25 or more band personnel, let alone set up such a great reception? We thoroughly enjoyed playing in Kimberley--the conditions were excellent, the tattoo was well run (we even knew to the minute what time we were going to play) and the house was packed to hear us. Such treatment on the West Coast is rare, to say the least. We played in Nanaimo four years ago, on a field that resembled a moonscape, in the late afternoon when the dancing had finished, in the roasting sun (and no trees to tune under), and in front of (literally) fewer people than we had in our band! And for not even enough money to pay for the ferry! And Mr. Wallace wonders why we have been less than enthusiastic about returning!

If Nanaimo (let alone most of the other games on the Coast) has spent 20 years in the business, then surely they must have learned something about highland games. Or have they? Highland games here have for too long treated the pipe bands (as well as their paying patrons) as second class citizens (behind the dancers), making the bands (and crowds) wait until as late as 6:00 p.m. before playing (and sometimes shuffling the bands off to a far corner of the field where they won't interfere with the dancing). When the games are run effectively, utilizing the proven "show appeal" of the bands to the fullest extent, I'm sure we can look forward to crowds more like the ones we saw in Kimberley (and back east, and California, and Scotland), and the problem of finances will be greatly diminished.

Money is certainly not the "sole purpose" of the highland games. It's a matter of promoting the fine arts involved, and giving the participants (like the bands) a sense of worth within the highland community. The "beer and pretzels" we received at Kimberley was far more than we ever received at Nanaimo, and I suggest that when the Highland Games committees in our area realize that, we'll be well on our way to promoting our highland games and highland music properly.

Yours truly,

Hal Senyk, P/M, Triumph St. Pipe  
Band

I had a cheery note from Nigel Alakija regarding some of his piping activities during the Summer month's what with Solo competitions, band trips, also, a two week teaching stint at Fort Q Appelle in Saskatchewan. As he put it, "quote" the highlight of the Summer was the Kimberley Pipe Band's 50th Anniversary Tattoo. Nigel will send in a write up on the Piping School at Fort Q Appelle, later on. The following is a list of Pipe Bands who took part in the Kimberley Tattoo.

CITY OF PENTICTON PIPE BAND (Nigel has it No. 1 of Course)	
CITY OF VICTORIA PIPE BAND	ANGUS SCOTT PIPE BAND
CITY OF PORT MOODY PIPE BAND	CITY OF GOLDEN PIPE BAND
TRIUMPH ST. PIPE BAND	GLENGARRY HIGHLANDERS PIPE BAND
TRAIL PIPE BAND	(CALGARY)
KIMBERLEY PIPE BAND	
CLAN McBAIN PIPE BAND (CALGARY)	
VISCOUNT PARK PIPE BAND (EDMONTON)	
CANADIAN SCOTISH REG. PIPE BAND	
BURNABY LADIES PIPE BAND	

In all 13 bands - who was it that said 13 was unlucky, by all reports, it was a tremendous show, with glowing reports in the Kimberley Newspapers, as one worthy was heard to remark "I can hardly wait till the 100th Anniversary."

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The many friends of Bill Lockie, will be pleased to learn that Bill is on the mend after his recent illness. Bill hopes to be back to work soon, if only for part time. Speaking for the board and also for the association in general, we all wish Bill a full and speedy recovery.

A Young

Pres.

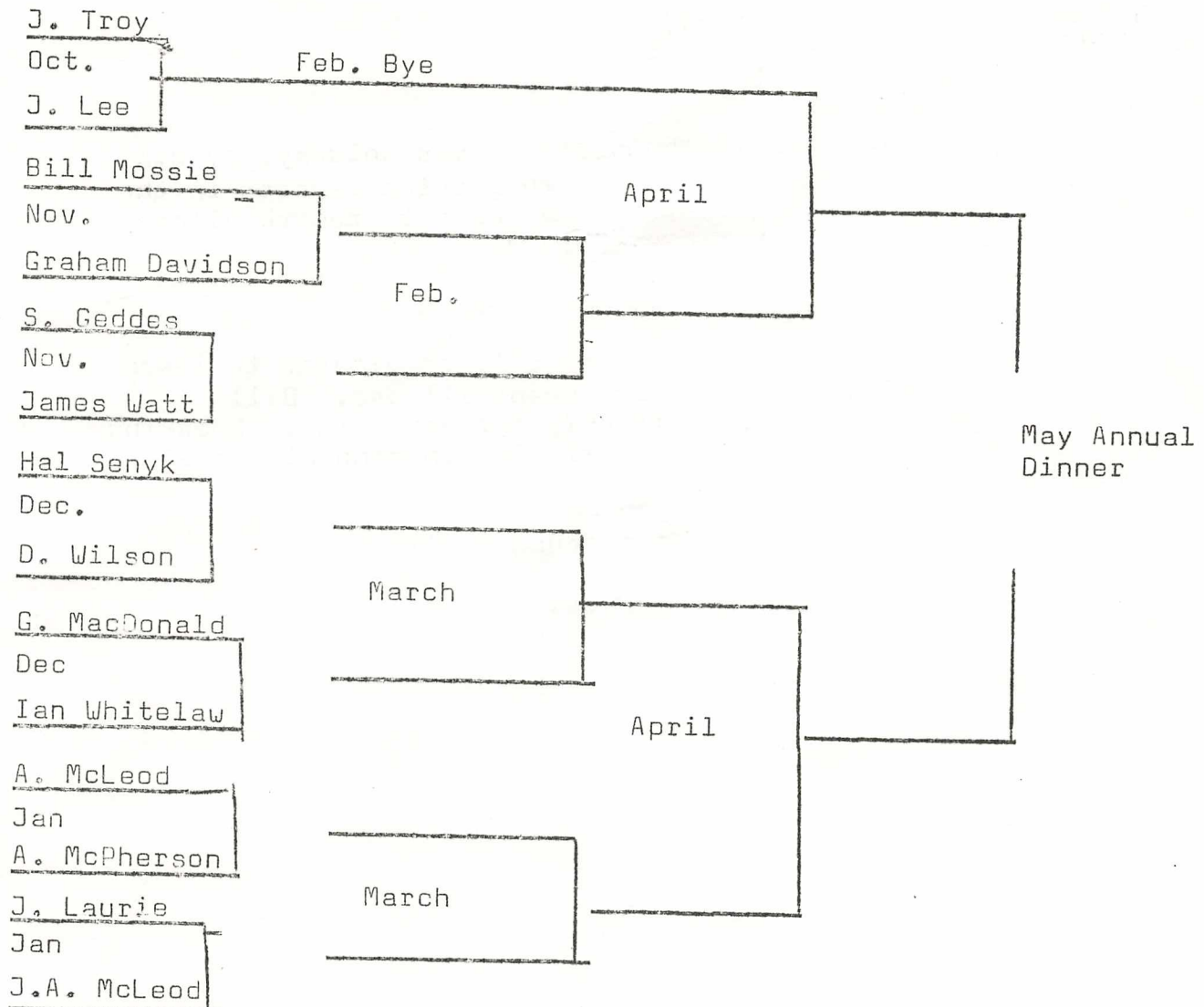
## OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING & KNOCKOUT

Fall activities start in the Scottish Auditorium 8 p.m. sharp, Friday 7th October, beginning with the General Meeting.

This Month the board of Directors have decided to hold a 2/4 March Competition for Senior Amateurs. To date, there are eleven entries, which promises to make an interesting competition.

Also on the agenda for Friday night will be the first of our Professional knockouts, competing in the first draw will be James Troy of Victoria, vs, Jack Lee of Vancouver. This also should be a very good event, Pipers will play a 10-12 min medley.

The Professional Individual Knockout draw was made at our September board meeting, here are the results and set up of the draw.



For the remaining months during the Friday night Knockouts there will be an Invitational Trio Competition, with a \$60.00 prize going to each months winner.

Note: The Senior Amateur Competition is for the month of October only.

NORTHERN MEETING

RESULTS OF INVERNESS GATHERING HELD SEPT. 15th & 16th 1977

CLASP

JUDGES: Mr. J Campbell, Mr. J MacFadyen and P.M. D. MacLeod

- 1st. Hugh MacCallum from Bridge of Allan Playing Port Urlar
- 2nd. Duncan MacFadyen from Renfrew playing Sobieŝki's Salute
- 3rd. John MacDougal from Kincaraig playing Port Urlar
- 4th Malcolm MacRae from Australia

Monetry Awards were 1st. 40 pounds, 2nd. 20 pounds, 3rd 15 pounds  
4th. 5 pounds.

GOLD MEDAL

JUDGES: General Richardson, Mr Seamus MacNeill, Capt. D.R. MacLennan

- 1st. Bill Livingstone from Ontario
- 2nd. W. Wotherspoon from Aberdeen
- 3rd. Malcolm MacRae from Australia
- 4th, Tom Speirs from Edinburgh
- 5th. Duncan Watson from Aberdeen

Monetry Awards were, 1st. 35 pounds, 2nd 25 pounds, 3rd 15 pounds,  
4th 10 pounds, 5th 5 pounds.

MARCH

JUDGES: Mr. J Campbell, Mr. J MacFadyen, P.M J MacKenzie

- 1st. Robert Worrall from Ontario
- 2nd. R. Wallace from Glasgow
- 3rd. Ian Clowe from Dumfries
- 4th. Fritz Hoffman from California

Monetry Awards were, 1st 15 pounds, 2nd 12 pounds, 3rd 8 pounds,  
4th 5 pounds.

MARCH-STRATHSPEY-REEL

JUDGES: Lt. Col. J.B. Murray, Capt. John McLellan, P.M. J. MacKenzie

- 1st. Prize of Royal Scottish Pipers Silver Star and 30 pounds went to Donald MacPherson, playing Marchioness of Tullibardine, Lady Loudon and MacAllisters Dirk.

2nd. Place and 15 pounds went to Ian MacFadyen playing Pap of Glencoe, Dornie Ferry, John MacIntyre.

3rd. Place and 10 pounds was awarded to John MacDougal playing Braes of Castle Grant, Shepherds Crook, and Mrs MacPherson of Inveran

SILVER MEDAL

JUDGES: Capt. J. MacLellan, Mr. Andrew Wright, Mr. T. A. McIntosh

1st Place, Silver Medal and 25 pounds was Awarded to Pte. R.S. Barnes of 1st Batt. Queens Own Highlanders

2nd Place and 20 pounds went to Capt. R. Pinkman from Inverness

3rd Place and 15 pounds went to Mrs. Patricia Henderson from Angus

4th Place and 10 pounds was awarded to Mr. Patrick Grant from Canon Bridge.

5th Place and 5 pounds went to Robert Worrall of Ontario.

STRATHSPEY AND REEL

JUDGES: Capt. D.R. MacLennan, Capt. J.C. Cameron, Mr. Seamus MacNeill

1st. place and 15 pounds won by Robert Worrall from Ontario  
2nd place and 12 pounds went to Murray Henderson from Angus  
3rd place and 8 pounds went to Walter Cowan from Dumfries  
4th place and 5 pounds was awarded to Ian F. Clowe from Dumfries

JIGS

JUDGES: P.M. D. MacLeod, Lt. Col. J. B. Murray, Capt. J.B. Cameron

1st place and 10 pounds won by P.M. Ian Morrison of 1st. Batt.  
Queens Own Highlanders.

2nd place and 8 pounds awarded to Ian F. Clowe from Dumfries

3rd place and 5 pounds went to PTE. R.S. Barnes 1st. Batt.  
Queens Own Highlanders.

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List of Tunes for 1978 Inverness Gathering will be Published  
in next Issue.

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Our Bi - Monthly Amateur Competition is going ahead as  
scheduled for Saturday morning 10 A.M. October 8, 1977 at the  
Scottish Auditorium. To date the entries could be a little  
better, so how about it teachers, these competitions can only  
improve your pupils piping abilities, not to mention the time  
and effort put in by your elected board of Directors, to organize  
these competitions. Not that anyone objects to working on the  
Bi-Monthly committees, only it would be more gratifying if there  
were good turn outs on Saturday Mornings. Last year all the  
piping classes were over by 1:30 P.M., so, it's not as if one would  
be tying up a whole day. See you all on Saturday morning  
(Come early and avoid the rush)

A. Young  
Pres.

P.S. Entries will be accepted Saturday morning at Scottish  
Auditorium.

\*\*\*\*\*

WANTED!!!!

Pipers & Drummers for the Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band.  
Anyone interested phone 526-6353 or 526-9166



From the files of The Spokane Piobaireachd Society

By James Campbell  
Pembroke College  
Cambridge England

The Trial of James Reid, Crime--Playing the Bagpipe

1. It was a Special Court for the trial of rebels, convened by the King's Commission. I believe that the courts were convened in various parts of the country. Previous to the sessions at York the Court had sat at Carlisle.

2. The trial was before the Commissioners who consisted of four judges and seven or eight local dignitaries. The Judges were Lord Chief Baron Parker, Mr. Justice Burnet, Mr. Justice Denison and Mr. Baron Parke. The laymen were Lord Irwin, John Reed, Esq. (Lord Mayor of York) and six others. The contemporary reports suggest that the Commissioners did not sit the whole time but that they took it in turns of two judges and three or four laymen. In all contested cases, there was, in addition, a jury of twelve.

Now for some information gleaned from the periodicals. The session at York had 75 rebels for trial. The trials began on 2nd October and were continued on the 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 7th. Of those 75, 54 pleaded guilty, 12 were found guilty, 4 were found guilty but recommended to mercy, 5 were acquitted.

James Reid was found guilty but recommended to mercy. At his trial (I am now quoting from the Scots Magazine) "it was proved that he had engaged with the rebels and acted as piper to a rebel regiment, but it did not appear that he had ever carried arms; and therefore the jury recommended him to mercy. The Court observed that every person who joined any set of rebels engaged in an open rebellion, though they did not bear arms were yet guilty of High Treason; that no regiments ever marched without musical instruments such as drums, trumpets or the like and that a Highland regiment never marched without a piper, and therefore his bagpipe, in the eye of the law, was an instrument of war. On this the jury would have retracted their recommendation but were told by the Court that it would not be permitted.

More fortunate was John Ballantyne, another piper who pleaded "Not Guilty." Several witnesses deposed that he was forced into service by a party of rebels who took him by violence out of his bed, threatened to stab him if he did not go with them, and did not allow him time even to put on his clothes; and that afterwards they had placed a guard on him to prevent him making his escape. When the jury returned their verdict - "Not Guilty" - the poor fellow was in such a transport of joy that he threw his bonnet up to the very roof of the Court and cried out "My Lords and Gentlemen, I thank you. Not Guilty! Not Guilty! Pray God bless King George forever. I'll serve him all the days of my life." and immediately ran out into the courtyard, with his irons on, took up a handfull of channel water, and drank his Majesty's health.

con't from J. Reid Trial

On Tuesday, October 7th, James Reid was brought up to the bar to receive judgment, as also were Sir David Murray, Captain George Hamilton and 44 other rebels. Lord Chief Baron Parker addressed them in a "Very pathetic speech" setting forth "the horrid nature of High Treason, which involved in it many other heinous crimes; particularly Wilful Perjury in all those who have taken an oath to the government; and also Murder, for all those who were concerned with this Un-natural and Unprovoked Rebellion were answerable for the deaths of those Brave and Gallant Men who fell in the cause of their King, their Religion, their Laws, their Liberties, their Properties in the Battles of Preston Pans, Falkirk and Culloden. That the heinousness of the late rebellion was greatly aggravated in regard there was no sort of foundation or even the least pretence to be made for it; his present Majesty having never invaded nor so much as attempted to invade any of his subjects' Liberties or Properties in the least degree or in one single instance, during a reign of near twenty years. That therefore, an attempt calculated to depose and murder so gracious a Prince, one of the best and most merciful monarchs that ever sat on the English Throne, and to destroy his illustrious family was a crime of so flagrant a nature that he wanted words to express. His Lordship concluded with exhorting them to reflect upon their past actions, sincerely to repent of the horrid crime they stood convicted of, and all the other offenses of their lives. - He then proceeded to pass sentence the law required of him. "You prisoners at the bar, and every one of you, are to return to the prison from which you came; and from there you must be drawn to the place of execution. When you are there you must be hanged by the neck, but not until you are dead; for you must be cut down alive and your bowels must be taken out and burned before your faces; your heads be severed from your bodies and your bodies divided into four quarters and these must be at the King's disposal; and God Almighty be merciful to your souls."

In all, seventy were convicted and condemned. Of these 48 were later reprieved and 22, including James Reid, were executed. The execution took place in York on successive Saturdays - 1st, 8th and 15th November. The Scots Magazine gives a gruesome description of the actual carrying out of the executions in public. James Reid was the last to be executed, I think because of the recommendation to mercy. The same recommendation was given effect to in the case of the other three in that category, but the reprieves arrived rather late in the day. Of James Reid's execution it was said in the Scots Magazine; "He behaved very devoutly, prayed fervently, and sang part of a Psalm; "and in the York Courant: "He behaved himself with great composure of mind and seemed very penitent. He was of the Shire of Angus and a private man of Lord Ogilvy's Regiment.

Foot Note:

Mr. James Campbell of Kilberry accomplished this research in support of a project initiated by Mr. Donald Duncan president of the Athena Highland Games Committee and a Board member of the Spokane Piobaireachd Society. The project mentioned is a film of the court room scene of the trial of James Reid and his execution done in collaboration with the Drama Dept. of Whitman College, Walla Walla Washington.

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