

B. C. PIPERS' NEWSLETTER



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

NOVEMBER, 1961

No. 20.

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:	C. I. Walker
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Charles MacKenzie
SECRETARY:	Roderick MacVicar
TREASURER:	Wm. A. McAdie

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 \$1.00 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, 2078 York Street, Vancouver, B.C.

NOVEMBER, 1961.

CONTENTS

No. 20.

Ceilidh - November 10th	Page 2
Bi-Monthly Competition - December 8th	Page 2
Charles Patrick Sterling Taylor	Page 3
Composition Contest	Page 5
Army Piping Stories	Page 7
Kiwanis Junior Boys Pipe Band - Social and Dance	Page 11
Piping for Highland Dancing	Page 12
General Meeting - November 24th	Page 13
Letter from the Vancouver Island Pipers' Society	Page 15
Bi-Monthly Competition - October 27th	Page 17
Piping Yarns	Page 19

CEILIDH - NOVEMBER 10th.

Members were given an opportunity to hear some of our better Amateur pipers at their best at the annual Ceilidh, held at the Seaforth Armoury on Friday, November 10th. This Ceilidh, as in part years, was arranged for the purpose of awarding prizes to the aggregate winners of last season's Bi-Monthly Competitions.

Piping numbers were given by Dorothy MacArthur, John MacLeod, Bob MacDonald and Bill Elder, winners in the Novice, Juvenile, Junior and Amateur classes respectively, and by Harry Mumford, runner-up in the Senior Amateur class. A quartette composed of Bob MacDonald, Bill Elder, John MacLeod and Larry Gillott (2nd in the Junior class) performed. All four boys are members of the Kiwanis Junior Boys Pipe Band, and they could indeed be called a quartette of champions.

Scottish songs were given by Soprano Mrs. Mary Stewart Thomson and by Tenor Tom Walker, both of whom were accompanied by Mrs. Alex Finlayson. Donald Collins, of the Seaforth Pipe Band played a number of Scottish songs on his accordion. Especially enjoyable was the performance of Beth Buchanan, who danced the Highland Fling, Seann Triubhas, and the Sword Dance. Miss Buchanan, who has just returned from Scotland after a two year visit, is one of the finest Open Dancers on the Pacific Coast. We appreciate the kind assistance which these artists gave us in arranging our Ceilidh.

At the conclusion of the programme, prizes and trophies were given to the winners, and refreshments were served.

- 0 -

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION - DECEMBER 8th.

The next Bi-Monthly competition will be held in the Lecture Room of the Seaforth Armoury on Friday, December 8th.

The events of the evening will be as follows:

Novice 6/8 Marches
Juvenile Marches
Junior Old Highland Airs
Amateur Strathspeys and Reels
Senior Amateur Piobaireachd

Competitions will begin at 8:00 p.m., and it is hoped that all competitors will be prompt.

- 0 -

CHARLES PATRICK STERLING TAYLOR

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome back to Vancouver Charles Patrick Sterling (Pat) Taylor, after an absence of several years. Patrick Taylor, an accomplished piper, was well known in amateur competition in the late 1940's and the early 1950's. It is felt that at this time a biographical note would be of considerable interest to our readers.

Born in Toronto, Pat Taylor received his initial tuition in piping from Frank Ross, Pipe Major of the University of Toronto Pipe Band. While in Toronto, Pat played in the 48th Highlanders Cadet Pipe Band. Moving to Vancouver in 1946, Pat took piping lessons from Donald MacDonald, and entered amateur competition in 1947. For a short time he played with the Seaforth Cadets Pipe Band.

Pat Taylor was an original member of the University of British Columbia Pipe Band, and served as Pipe Major of this band from 1948 to 1952. During this time he studied Piobaireachd under Kenneth MacLeod, and enjoyed considerable success in local amateur competitions.

As well as being interested in piping, Pat was extremely active in folk dancing at U.B.C. He organized a Scottish Country Dance Club, and participated extensively in square dancing.

In 1952, Pat Taylor received his B.A. in Physics, and was awarded the Rhodes Scholarship for the year, entitling him to study at Oxford University. Pat studied honours physics at Worcester College, Oxford, for two years. During these two years, he was active in various dance groups, and served for one term as the President of the Cecil Sharp Club, an English Folk Dance Club. He prepared a team which performed a Canadian Square Dance at a Dance Festival in Albert Hall, London.

Pat went to Philadelphia in 1954, and studied Biophysics at the University of Pennsylvania until 1960, when he received his Ph. D. During these years, he played his pipes when time permitted.

In 1960, Pat went to Cambridge, England, and spent a year in the Department of Theoretical Chemistry. He has now returned to Vancouver, and has received an appointment as Assistant Professor in the Physics Department of U.B.C., where he will lecture in Biophysics.

We send our best wishes to Patrick Taylor and his wife Elizabeth, and it is hoped that before long we will see him again take an active part in the piping community of Vancouver.

A Collection of BAGPIPE MUSIC

by DONALD SUTHERLAND, of Portland, Oregon.

**Published by Hugh MacPherson (Scotland) Limited,
of Edinburgh, Scotland and Darnley, Stirling.**

**An interesting and varied collection of original tunes
gathered from all around the world.**

NOW AVAILABLE

**Send all orders to:
Donald Sutherland,
Box 355,
Glide, Oregon,
U.S.A.**

**Price : \$ 1.25
(including postage)**

COMPOSITION CONTEST

We would like to remind you of the contest being held by the B.C. Pipers' Association for original begpipe compositions. Any readers may enter this contest. We hope that by means of the competition, new talent and new tunes will be discovered.

The winning tunes will be printed in the Newsletter, and the winners will be announced at the Indoor Gathering in March.

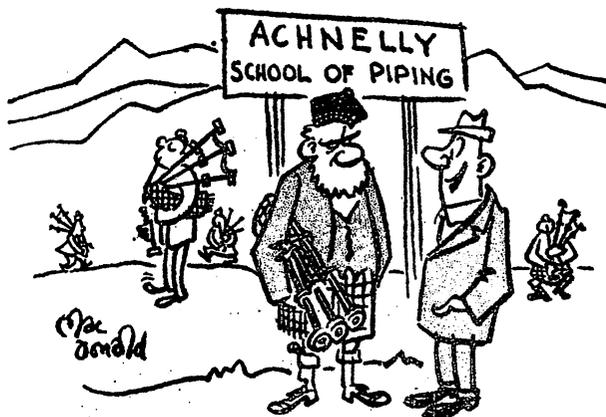
The competition will consist of three classes:

1. Marches
2. Strathspeys or Reels or Jigs (one only)
3. Slow Marches or Retreats

The prizes will be \$10.00 for the winning tune in each class, and an additional \$10.00 for the top tune in the contest.

CONTEST RULES:

1. Each tune will be submitted in duplicate.
2. The composer's name, the name of the tune, and the year of its composition will be stated in an accompanying letter, but will not be written on the music.
3. An entry fee of one dollar will accompany each tune.
4. A competitor may enter as many tunes as he wishes in each class.
5. All entries must be sent to 3726 Blenheim Street, before March 1st, 1962.
6. The Association may reprint any of the entries at a future date.
7. The names of the judges will be announced only at the conclusion of the contest.
8. Prizes in any class may be withheld in the event of insufficient entries.



"How do you know when they've completed their training?"

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

ARMY PIPING STORIES:

The following are a number of piper stories that, no doubt, will be interesting and entertaining. They are from one or two books I have read, and there are a few which I have been told, one time or another.

As all of these stories concern pipers, I cannot do better than to quote C.A. Malcolm, the author of "Pipers in Peace and War", who states at the beginning of the book: "Everybody knows the piper; his dark green doublet, glossy black shoulder belt, and debonair bearing are familiar to all. Supplied with a uniform of finer material and better fit than that of the private soldier, the piper is expected to set an example to the regiment." (Heads up, pipers!) "As a soldier he provides a standard of excellence in all the duties pertaining to the profession of arms". (So there you are!) But when all is said and done they are only members of a company. Scottish regiments have had pipers from their formation, but not recognized by the War Office. When Maj.-Gen. J.E.C. Napier reported it as an irregularity, that the 92nd's had pipers, he received this report from the Commander-in-Chief, the Duke of Wellington: "I am surprised that an officer who has seen, as you must have seen, the gallant deeds performed by the Highland regiments, in which their pipers played so important a part, should make such a report". Due to this observation, an order was issued, in 1854, that Highland Regiments be allowed a Pipe Major and five pipers. They appeared, however, on the Rolls as "trumpeters" or "drummers".

On one occasion, when a drummer led the van, the piper, when he got an opportunity, asked an officer: "Will a fellow that beats a sheepskin with two sticks, gang in front o' me who am a museecian?" (Good boy, piper!)

Some O.C.'s consider Scottish birth an essential in a piper. An O.C. of the 91st asked a young soldier piper to what part of Scotland he belonged. He promptly received the answer: "Liverpool, sir". This delighted the O.C. so much that the friendly alien was signed up.

The "Gordons" so hounded an English piper, named Smith, that in the end he deserted from the regiment in Ireland. Many years after, when the Gordons were in India, and had for neighbours a battalion of Camerons, they recognized in Pipe-Major Sandy MacGregor of the Camerons the long lost Piper Smith. The Camerons had the Gordons to dinner one night, and an old Gordon officer recognized Smith, as he played around the table. On the following morning the sergeant of the Gordons asked the officer if he spoke to Smith. "Oh! no, no," said the officer, "he is doing well and it is better for me not to know that he is a deserter". (Good boy!)

The following story is one pipers shouldn't forget.

At the battle of the Heights of Abraham, for the capture of Quebec, the pipers of the Fraser Highlanders were encouraging the regiment with stirring airs. A staff officer ordered them to cease playing. Soon after, when the British were not doing so well, the same officer got frantic and blamed the Fraser Highlanders O.C. "It's your own fault, sir, in stopping the pipes". "Let them play them", said the officer. This, they did, and the Frasers swept the enemy in front of them, beaten and broken. So it was the pipers who gained the Dominion of Canada for the British Crown. (If Canada gets a flag of her own, we should see to it that there is a piper in it. The B.C. Pipers' crest would do!)

Sikhs and Ghurkas have their pipe bands, and are very keen on the pipes. It was entertaining, they say, in a certain Indian Mess to watch the dusky Pipe-Major accept the glass after piping: He drained the glass, reversed it, returned it, raised his right elbow, wiped his mouth with the back of his hand, and then gave the final salute. He was an apt pupil, who copied a sturdy Seaforth Pipe-Major who wiped his moustache, and the pupil took on the mannerisms of his instructor, and never forgot that part of the ceremony wiping his mouth.

Before the day of the pipe bands, the tune that most often led the old time warriors in battle was "Cogadh no Sith" (War or Peace). It was the tune played by the Governor of the Hudson's Bay piper, when on an inspection of forts the Governor entered Fort St. James. The piper in full Highland dress, with his pipes under his arm, stood outside the Fort. The missionary of the Fort came outside, and when admiring the piper, said to him as he pointed to the pipes: "Can you play sacred music on that instrument?" "Och, man,man!", said the piper, "It is all saacad". (A good Highlander, no doubt!)

If "Cogadh no Sith" inspired the old warriors it was a different kind of tune than that played by Piper Clancey of "The Royal Scots", and, if not intended for the pipes, it was decidedly appropriate as an enemy village in Salonica was on fire at the time of the battle. He played "Keep the home fires burning". It is not likely that the composer of the song ever thought it would be used on such an occasion, and by a piper.

The 42nd Highlanders took part in the fighting for Fort Teconderoga, and here the pipes were heard often. One of the pipers was John MacDonald, who retired on pension some time later. He obtained the post of piper to Glengarry, where he assumed the dignity of Chief's piper. The considerable leisure which was his, he kept as a sacred rest. "Why don't you do something in your spare time, John?", once inquired Lady Glengarry. "Ma'am", answered the piper, "It's a poor estate that cannot support the laird and the piper without working". This same John competed at the Highland Society, Edinburgh, at eighty years of age.

In the Kaffir War, 1834, the 72nd's captured a Kaffir Chief. He took a great interest in the pipes, and was told it would sound all signals but "Retreat". Thinking this was a defect in the instrument, the chief offered his captors a wooden whistle which, when blown, was the signal for "Retreat".

In the Indian Mutiny, three Seaforth privates and a Piper Gibson, were charged by six troopers of native cavalry. They galloped to within twenty paces of the party, when the piper filled the bag of his pipes, presented the drones which sounded a long shrill note, stopping the enemy, who then turned and galloped away, mistaking the bagpipe for some infernal machine. (Cabar Feidh gu Brach)

On their return from the Mutiny, the Seaforths were called "The Saviours of India". The pipers were given the green doublet and other trappings. That, with the red sash, dirk and waist-belt, made the Pipe Major, as he expressed it: "Look very smart, inteet, and weel becomes one, with the rank of Pipe-Major".

Piper Duncan Smith, of the 92nd's, when asked by a fresh young ensign: "How did you feel at Waterloo, Duncan?", said, "Och! I shust plaw awa', an' no gie a tawm whether I be shot or no'!" Years later, Duncan was a witness in a law court, and was asked the question in this form by a lawyer: "I believe, Duncan, you fought at Waterloo?" Duncan with contempt said: "How could I pe fighting when I was plawing the pipes aal the time? It wass more wind than work wi' me - like a lawyer".

In 1883, "D" Company of the 91st was converted into a Mounted Infantry Company. Piper Londen was also mounted, and the equestrian piper aroused curiosity as he announced from horseback: "The Campbells are comin". They say he retained his seat and played well, thanks to the mild character and great age of his war horse.

At the taking of the Cape of Good Hope in 1806, a piper of the gallant Seaforths, who was thirsting for blood, handed his pipes to a comrade, and drawing his broad sword, said to all around, in Gaelic: "We'll show them that if we can play pipes we can also fight". He rushed forward and cut down no fewer than five of the enemy, then returned and resumed playing the pipes to the great amusement of all who witnessed the incident. (Cabar Feidh gu brach)

(to be continued next month)



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

H A S T I N G S H I G H L A N D H O U S E

W O O D S T O C K , V E R M O N T

The best in Scottish bagpipes, Highland Dress and accessories. Extra fine reeds and bags a speciality. Exclusive formula seasoning, pipe repairs, and hand crafted practice chanter.

At last - A booklet requested by pipers everywhere:

"SOME NOTES ON THE PROPER CARE AND UPKEEP OF THE HIGHLAND BAGPIPE"
Practical advice with some jottings on reed adjustments, tuning of pipes, care and maintenance, etc.

This material answers a long-standing need

Available from: HASTINGS HIGHLAND HOUSE, WOODSTOCK, VERMONT.

\$1.50 per copy

- 0 -

(I have read "SOME NOTES ON THE PROPER CARE AND UPKEEP OF THE HIGHLAND BAGPIPE", by Mr. Scott Hastings, Jr., of Hastings Highland House, and I have no hesitation in commending it to pipers young and old. It contains some very practical advice for pipers, especially beginners.

Donald Sutherland,
Glide, Oregon.)

- 0 -

KIWANIS JUNIOR BOYS PIPE BAND: SOCIAL AND DANCE

A Social and Dance is being held at the Victoria Drive Community Hall, 2026 East 43rd Avenue, on Saturday, December 2nd. The proceeds from this dance will go towards the fund to send the Kiwanis Junior Boys Pipe Band to Scotland in 1962.

Mr. John MacLeod is organizing this party, and says that it will be even better than the ones which have already been held.

The Social and Dance will commence at 8:00 p.m., and admission is only \$1.00 each. A bar will be open. Everyone is welcome. Make all inquiries to John MacLeod, HE 4-8009.

- 0 -

PIPING FOR HIGHLAND DANCING

In a moment of rashness and mental oblivion, I was foolish enough to say that I would write an article covering piping for highland dancing. Since that time, it has occurred to me that I could write on the present Berlin crisis, and create less attention than my observations, forthwith, will arouse.

It becomes very apparent that very little consideration has been given to piping for highland dancing, nor has the worth of those stalwarts, who have so faithfully braved the wrath of irate parents and teachers and disgruntled competitors been fully appreciated. These pipers have borne the brunt of the blame by the competitor for his or her failure to place in competitions, little realising that the piper has most likely not had any coaching or training in one of the most important parts of highland dancing. This in no way casts any reflections on the piper's ability to pipe or lack of co-operation on his part. It was something which no Association to date has seen fit to provide.

It is generally accepted that a concert pianist makes a very poor accompanist for a solo artist. His training and teaching has made no demands on him beyond the desire to express his emotional feeling for the music through his instrument with or without an audience. The dancing piper on the other hand has to play, not only for his own expression, but also to help the dancer express and show her technique through the rhythm and accent of his music. It requires a very close harmony, since the piper should not lead nor follow the progress of the dance. Perfection in this matter would be a complete affinity of understanding between piper and dancer. To accomplish such affinity in a competition, with more than one competitor dancing at a time, is an impossibility. Therefore, a certain definite tempo has been set by the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing for each of the highland dances. To refer, for a moment, to the Official Board text-book, it states; "Hitherto, they (various Scottish organizations the world over) have been in a quandry, as to whose description of the highland dances, and whose version of the technique, they should adopt. Now, with the advent of the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing, they have available to them, authoritative, practical and comprehensive instructions governing that art in all its aspects".

However, this does not mean that all aspects of research have been completed; there is still a great amount of work to do, and especially in the field of tempo. A year ago, the British Columbia Highland Dancing Association, checking the times as listed by the Scottish Official Board, found that the fast time of the Sword Dance was incompatible with the tempo danced here or elsewhere, It was beyond the scope of the young

dancers and did nothing for the technique of the professionals. Representation has been made by the B.C.H.D.A. to the Scottish Official Board on this matter, and work has been received that the matter of time has been referred to the Technical Committee. Pending the outcome, the B.C.H.D.A. are using their own time revisions.

A study of the text-book of the Official Board makes it apparent that the piper should have a feeling for the dances, and should know exactly the points of rhythm changes. He should also know the theory of counting, so that he may quickly be aware of rhythm and accent changes. Many variations exist, so that a knowledge of the dances is as important as the knowing of the correct tune to play. To quote again from the text of the Official Board: "Although Reel tunes are usually written in Common Time, they are played at a tempo so much faster than Strathspey tunes, that it is found expedient to count steps or movements executed to Reel tunes as if the music were written in 2/4 time. Consequently, we get the same counting, no matter whether that movement or step is executed to Strathspey Tempo or Reel Tempo".

So how important it is that the dancer gets the piper who has this extra knowledge. It has been said that the piper calls the tune! What of the dancer?

Phil. Wandle
President
B.C. Highland Dancing Association

- 0 -

GENERAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24th.

This month's General Meeting will be held on Friday, November 24th, in the band room of the Seaforth Armoury. The meeting will commence at 8:00 p.m. and will be followed by a session of piping.

Come out and support the Association!

- 0 -

We would like to increase the circulation of the Newsletter throughout the various piping centres in British Columbia. If you have a friend in B.C. who might enjoy the Newsletter, send him a subscription. The cost is only \$1.00 per year.

- 0 -

PIPE MAJOR
J. T. McHARDY

HIGHLAND EQUIPMENT
COMPLETE OUTFITS FOR:

★ DANCERS

★ PIPERS

★ DRUMMERS

By **THOMAS GORDON & SONS** and **KINLOCH ANDERSON LTD.**

Representative of all leading Scottish Bagpipe makers
(Bagpipe repairs a specialty)

★ SCOTTISH JEWELLERY

★ RECORDINGS

BAGPIPES BY R. G. HARDIE,
P. HENDERSON, R.G. LAWRIE
& JAS. ROBERTSON.

CARLTON GAELIC & PREMIER DRUMS.

Catalogues forwarded immediately on request

Phone TRinity 6-9715

231 West 23rd Avenue

Vancouver 10, B. C.

LETTER FROM THE VANCOUVER ISLAND PIPERS' SOCIETY:

May I offer my congratulations on the success of your very interesting Newsletter. It is indeed a credit to yourself and members of your hard working staff. It contains interesting reading, and I sincerely hope it does not eventually become an advertising medium, but remains the "Newsletter".

Your effort to encourage pipers to become composers is commendable, and hope you receive the support you deserve.

I wish to offer an item that should be of interest to the younger pipers. It is a form of notation which I believe that great composer G.S. MacLennan invented and used.

The next time a tune comes into your head, and you do not have music paper available, pull out your cigarette packet or credit card, and jot it down right away. Using the scale notes thus: G, A, B, C, D, E, F, with Q for high G and Z for high A. The accentuated note of the beat is shown by using a capital letter and various symbols can be used, such as x for grips or taorluaths.

For example, the first part of "The Brown Haired Maid":

a/Dc ba/D ad/fd qf/fe eq/fZ qZ/A De/F qe/D D ://

"The Fair Maid of Barra":

ab/xCbc Eca/xBac bAc/Ece fZe/fZz fEc/
/Dce Zce/Zqz fEa/Def Eca/xBac bA ://

I hope the following poem will be of use and interest:

BONNIE SCOTLAND

By a Scotsman

Land of chivalry and freedom,
Land of old historic fame,
May your noble sons and daughters,
Long preserve their honored name.

Land where foreign foe ne'er ventured,
Land where dastard slave ne'er trod,
Land whose sons are ever foremost,
Treading nobly life's long road.

Land of simple-hearted kindness,
Land of patriotic worth,
May your virtues ever flourish,
Hardy clansman of the north.

Land where rest in silent slumber,
Ashes of our honored sires,
May their mem'ries long be cherished,
Round our humble cottage fires.

REPLY

By an Englishman

Land of ancient bloody tyrants,
Sneaking traitors, deep and sly,
A Land of thievin' Hielin' deevils,
Kilted rogues and stolen kye.

Land of Bibles, Kirks, and bastards,
Saints and lasses awfu' frail,
Drunkards, shebeens, godly deacons,
Parritch, whiskey, brose and kail.

Land of cunning, carefu' bodies,
Foes to all ungodly fun,
Those who sum up men's whole duty,
Heaven, hell, and number One.

Land of psalms and drowsy sermons,
Fawky wits and snuffy bores,
Faur-gaun chiels sae fond o' Scotland,
That they leave it fast in scores.

"Land mae yir lum reek".

Peter George
President
Vancouver Island Pipers' Society

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION - OCTOBER 27th

This season's first Bi-Monthly Competition, held on October 27th at the Cambrian Hall, was quite successful. The entries in the Novice and Juvenile classes were excellent, - sixteen in each, and some very enjoyable piping was heard.

Judge, Donald Murray, chose the following winners:

Novice Marches:

1. Wayne Penner
2. Bobby Lamont
3. Bill Lamont
4. Ross Lamont
5. Brian Willis

Juvenile Old Highland Airs:

1. Linda Rowe
2. John MacLeod
3. Douglas Graham
4. James Penner
5. Raymond Irvine

Junior Strathspeys and Reels:

1. Bobby MacDonald
2. Larry Gillott

Senior Amateur Jigs:

1. Harry Mumford

- 0 -

A NOTE ABOUT DIFFERENT TYPES OF CARS:

In the last Newsletter, it was stated that the streets in the South Granville neighbourhood were enhanced by the presence of two highly-rated cars.

One was a Vauxhall and owned, it was said, by Rod MacLeod, but the name of the man who owned the distinctive and powerful Jaguar was not mentioned. We hear, however, that while the owner of this Jaguar was driving along one of the streets in the South Granville district, he bumped over something that gave a clatter like a lot of empty tin cans. The driver was much alarmed, for he thought that he had run over a Volkswagen. However, he was relieved when he discovered it was only an empty oil can.

The cause of his alarm was the thought that he might have injured a member of the B.C. Pipers' Association who drives one of those tiny Volkswagens.

- Anonymous -

(The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor)



Royal-Scot Triple Success!



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

FIRST, MUIRHEADS.



ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP

EQUAL FIRST - 29th OLD BOYS AND BALLYCOAN



CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

FIRST IN THE SECOND GRADE - CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC.

Premier

24 Strand top snares, four-way adjustable, straight-lay or throw-off bottom snares; unbreakable hoops and brackets are just four of the winning features of this new pipe band special. The drum that helps you win Championships.

From dealers in 91 countries. Colour Brochure Free.

See your dealer or write for colour brochure to

CANADA MUSIC SUPPLY LTD.

472 De Lauzon Street, Montreal, Que.

PIPING YARNS:

If it's true that a little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men, an old anecdote or two about piping may not be amiss in the Newsletter.

An Aberdeenshire crofter, an ardent piper, had a favourite chanter reed which he kept in condition by storing in a jar on the mantelpiece. Coming home one evening he noticed with alarm that the reed was gone. Enquiry revealed that his wife had unwittingly given it to a tinker piper that afternoon. "It lookit sae black and auld that I thocht it worth naething", she offered in defence.

"Och, woman", shouted her good man. "Better reed never was in onybody's chanter. But I'll hae it back".

After a hasty supper he tramped three miles to a tinkers' "howff", and with some difficulty regained his property. Then, with mixed feelings of satisfaction and resentment, he trudged the three miles back home. He treasured his "sax-mile reed" more than ever, but for a time could be heard muttering about "the silliness o' weemin interferin' wi' things they ken naething about".

Years ago there lived in a certain village a character who today would be euphemistically described as "mentally retarded". The folks, who were kind to him, simply called him "Daft Davie". Davie sometimes showed a sly wit, as when he asked the Doctor to pull his teeth out. "They're fine teeth", Davie conceded, "But ye see, man, I hae nae use for them". A ready shilling from the Doctor for provisions was forthcoming. Davie had made his point.

But back to piping. - Davie at one time had a set of broken-down pipes, and occasionally would carry them on rounds of the neighbouring farms. He would take a stance near the kitchen door, and torture the air with discords such as only brutally treated pipes can produce, until the housewife in kindness and self defence appeared with a handout.

"Man, Davie", she might say. "Ye're a grand piper, but I dinna ken that bit ye played".

Davie would assume a lofty air. "Nae wunner aboot that. It's a brand new tune, ye see".

A Pipe Major slated to play at the Officers' Mess had been a bit too intimate with John Barleycorn. "He wasna fou' but just had plenty" - enough to make clean fingering impossible. Even the new Colonel, an aristocratic Englishman, noticed that something was amiss.

"I say, Pipe Major", he called out. "Aren't your pipes making rathaw ghawstly noises?"

The Pipe Major had his wits with him still. "It's the chanter, Sir. Worn out, Sir. This bottom hole - my little finger keeps sticking in it, Sir".

" 'Pon my word", said the Colonel. "That won't do - what! Here's a sovereign, Pipe Major. Get yourself a new chanter".

The Vancouver Island Pipers' Society now meets in the Little Orange Hall, 725 Courtney Street, Victoria, the fourth Saturday of each month.

The present officers are:

President: Peter George, 3838 Saul Street, Victoria.
Vice President: Ian Duncan, 10 Moss Street, Victoria.
Secretary Treasurer: James A. Berry, 4651 Pipeline Road,
Victoria.

James A. Berry
Secretary Treasurer
Vancouver Island Pipers' Society

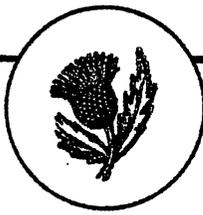
- 0 -

We thought that you might be interested to learn that James Young, of Perth, was engaged as the "Wee Scottish King", described in last month's Newsletter. Mr. Young, who is a proficient, took first in the Marches at this summer's Northern Meeting.

We are pleased that if it was considered necessary to use a piper for such an unorthodox purpose, at least they hired one who will not bring discredit to the instrument through want of playing ability.

- 0 -

268 St. Paul Street
St. Catharines, Ontario
(opposite the Leonard Hotel)



THE SCOTTISH SHOP LIMITED

AUTHENTIC IMPORTED TARTANS
KILTS - LADIES' PLEATED SKIRTS - TARTAN SUITS
TARTAN STOLES & SCARVES - TARTAN SHIRTS, TIES & BELTS
CASHMERE COATS - CHILDREN'S WEAR IN TARTANS - WOOLLEN SWEATERS
AUTO RUGS - DRESSING GOWNS - HANDBAGS - GLOVES & SHOES
SCOTTISH JEWELLERY - SOUVENIRS - NOVELTIES
COMPLETE PIPE BAND OUTFITTERS
RECORDS

SEND FOR YOUR FREE PRICE LIST

THE CLUNY MACPHERSON CO.
MU 5-8619



GENERAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 24th

BI-MONTHLY COMPETITION -
DECEMBER 8th

