

THE FALCON

October, 1953

This publication is issued under the authority of Lt.Col. G.A. Fraser, Commanding Officer of The 48th Highlanders of Canada. The contents of this publication have been edited and approved by Hon./Capt. R.K.Cameron, Padre of the 48th Highlanders of Canada.

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CONTENTS

The Commanding Officer's Message	
Camp Niagara, 1953 -	David Bishop, Lt.
Report from "B" Company, 2 Cdn. Highland Battalion, Camp Wainwright, Alberta -	Casey Jackson, S/Sgt.
The Sergeants' Mess -	J. M. Irvine, CQMS
The Men's Canteen -	S. Heighington, Capt.
The Rifle Association -	Len J. Falkner, CSM
Charlie Chatter -	Sgt. Saunders
Don Coy Doings -	by members of Don Coy
Support Company Reports -	Major D. C. Haldenby
The Pipe Band -	Emr. Lloyd Tucker ✓

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### THE COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE:

I would like to express to all ranks my satisfaction on the attendance and interest shown in all phases of Regimental activities in the past year. The climax of the past year being reached at the annual summer camp with the Regiment winning the 4th Infantry Brigade Military Efficiency Trophy was ample proof of the high standard of training and Esprit De Corps.

Now that we are beginning a new training season I know that we shall work together throughout the coming year to maintain this high standard of training.

Naturally we would all like to have the Regiment increase in number and efficiency in the year to come, so let us all strive to this objective and if you can interest a friend in becoming a member of the Regiment invite him down to see a Regimental parade and introduce him to your fellow members and I am sure that he will become a new member of the Regiment.

### CAMP NIAGARA 1953:

Very few Highlanders will forget Camp Niagara 1953. From the point of view of all ranks, it was a most successful week in training, meals, spirits and entertainment.

Training was carried out for the most part on The Platoon level and involved The Platoon in the attack and in the defense, patrols and field craft. The opportunity for the officers, M.C.O.s and men to work as teams with the common aim of becoming efficient in modern warfare methods will prove very valuable in the long run.

Signals platoon under the leadership of Mr. de Pencier, was heralded as being the finest in camp this year. Even though they were not provided the opportunity of proving their abilities in competition with the other regiments, we feel that mention should be made of the work of this very important part of the infantry regiment.

Both the 3" Mortar and Anti-Tank Platoons showed their prowess by coming second and first in their respective competitions and the Bren team placed second in their competition.

The Tug O'War this year deserves special mention not only because our team were the Brigade Champions, but also because pulling for the Highlanders this year was over a ton (2,000 lbs.) in eight large men. Each pull was a gruelling battle of strength which lasted for what seemed several minutes, but the efforts extended to win the day were well worth while in the light of the fact that this is one sport where all feel that the outcome is a true test of the Regiment's esprit de corps and overall strength as a unit. We might add that the beer tankards which the team won as the victors, seldom left their sight and were only empty when they were on parade. Next year our team should come close to a ton and a half.

Apart from two torrential downpours, which very conveniently came after dark, the weather was excellent for training and the days were not overly hot. Consequently there was no report of bad facial sunburns like last year.

Perhaps one of the greatest advantages of being the last Brigade to go to camp is that the civilian chefs have received the benefit of continuous blaggarding and buffeting about meals, which is found in the Orderly Officers reports. The meals were very good this year and the writer was even told by a Sergeant that he "didn't get meals as good at home!". Either the Sergeants were fed better than the officers and men, or this particular three

striper starves when he is at home.

Having talked of food leads on to liquid refreshments and in this category, we hear that the Men's Canteen was again ably run, but one does get tired of looking at canvas tent walls and it is really a simple matter to cross the "great undefended 2,000 miles of border". McVari's, The Chez Amis, The Whirlpool Bar and some German Pub in Buffalo once again found out who The Highlanders are and why they were there. Never-the-less we are sure that all The Highlanders who participated in "Operation Border Crossing" conducted themselves as such and created a favourable impression with our neighbours.

REPORT FROM "B" COMPANY, 2 CDN. HIGHLAND BATTALION, CAMP WAINWRIGHT ALBERTA:

Dear Sir: Greetings to all members of the affiliation of the 48th Highlanders from "B" Coy, 2 Cdn highland Bn.

The last time I wrote was from Camp Aldershot, N.S., Since then we have moved to Camp Wainwright, Alta., and completed a summer of very extensive training.

But before I go on with the account of our activities in Camp Wainwright I will first give you the more personal news of the Company.

To begin with Maj. Clarke has taken over command of "HQ" Company. He has finally admitted the fact that walking isn't as much fun as it used to be. He may be seen these days riding comfortably along in his company jeep.

Our new Company Commander is Major GA Donaldson formerly of Revelstoke, B.C. He now makes his home in Calgary, Alta. Major Donaldson has just completed a year and a half as resident staff officer at MacMaster university in Hamilton. During the war he served with The Loyal Edmonton Regiment. He is a married man with two children and a very staunch 48th Highlander.

The 2 i/c of the Company is Capt KC Tracy of Kentville, Nova Scotia and during the war he served with the Princess Louise Fusiliers. When he re-enlisted he served with the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and was also Adjutant of 2 Cdn Highland Bn. His family still resides in Kentville.

We also have a new Sergeant Major. He is WO II Laidlaw, C.B., formerly of the North Nova Scotia Highlanders. Last year he completed a qualifying course for WO's at the Brigade of Guards in Caterham, England. He hails from Halifax and is an expert on discipline and drill as practised by all Guards Regiments. (All aspiring recruits for B Coy. please note).

There are no other main changes in the company. Lt. Firstbrook from Toronto still commands number four platoon with Sgt. Denne from Newmarket as platoon sergeant. 2/Lt. Beal from Toronto has number five platoon with Sgt. Curran from Toronto. 2/Lt Burton of Kentville, N.S., now Vancouver, B.C. and Sgt. MacKay of Toronto have number six. We have our full complement of Junior NCO's Cpl. Clinton who has just joined us is making his fourth trip to Korea.

Shortly after arriving here Lt. Firstbrook and Sgt. Denne and several members of the company were sent to the Canadian Army Training Camp in Jasper National Park on the instructional staff. Within a few days the Company arrived there and began two weeks of training in all the phases of a company in the attack, defence and withdrawal with accent on mountain climbing and physical fitness.

Then back to Wainwright and a heavy training schedule. A great deal of time was spent on the ranges with everyone qualifying as a marksman first

or second class shot. We worked six days and several nights a week.

Each man in the Battalion was given one week-end pass a month and a special train was chartered to take them into Edmonton, the closest large city.

Several exercises were held during the summer each one to practise a special maneuver. We finished up the summer training program with Buffalo IV (the largest peacetime military exercise in Canadian history) and which included all the phases of military problems which we had engaged in during the summer. Then back to camp for refitting and the long awaited embarkation leave.

As this battalion is made up of units from the east to west coasts of Canada it has been a terrific administrative problem to get everyone to their homes and back in the allotted time. Several special trains and planes were run and everyone is now back in camp and at the moment busy with the many last minute details always encountered before embarkation.

After seeing many of "B" Coy in Toronto on embarkation leave I am sure you will agree that the proud record of the 48th Highlanders is in good hands.

I will write again from Korea and give you whatever news I think will be of interest to the readers of the "Falcon".

Sincerely yours,  
S/Sgt. Casey Jackson.

#### THE SERGEANTS' MESS:

Summer Camp, 1953: It just shows what fresh air, good food and clean living will do -- for the second year in a row the Battalion has won the 4 Inf Bde Efficiency Shield. Perhaps the most gratifying victory was that of the Tug-of-War team who outpulled all comers. The team and coach Wignore were presented with silver mugs, suitably engraved (and probably suitably filled many times over).

Incidentally, there was also a tug-of-war contest between the Officers and Sergeants. Oh well! As they say in Brooklyn "Next year". Our spies misled us on this one, we were informed O.C. T. Carnegie was to be the Officers' Anchor man.

Seriously, Camp this year was far better than 1952 and any sergeant (or others) who didn't attend missed a great opportunity.

We'd like to express our thanks to Johnny Dow who took over as Mess Steward for camp -- he did a grand job, not once did we go hungry - or thirsty.

RSM F Wignore, MM, CD, appears to be fully recovered from the serious injuries he received last January. It's been a long convalescence, but during all that time he never missed a parade, not even when it meant struggling into a ED blouse with a cast on his left arm. There might be a lesson here for a lot of young soldiers.

At the September Mess Meeting RSM Wignore invited RQMS Wignall to take over as Chairman for a very special event. The RQMS then had the pleasure of welcoming his son Sgt. Harry Wignall into the Mess as a new member. Also introduced as new members were Sgts. J. Knowles and W. Cook. Their duties and responsibilities were made clear to them by the RQ and each spoke briefly in reply.

Sgt. Webb Ayre, also a comparative new comer to the Mess has taken over as Secretary from CQMS A Newlands whose ill health compelled him to relinquish the position.

Another change in the Mess finds former CSM A E Alves, MM, behind the bar as our new Steward. Ed takes over from John Dow who helped out when Bob Smith unfortunately had to retire. To Bob, who proved himself a loyal servant a good Highlander, we extend our sincere appreciation for a good job well done.

Former CSM WAD Young now a sergeant of Black Watch in the 1st Cdn Highland Bn was a recent visitor to the Mess just prior to his departure for the West Coast and then on to Korea.

And now we start our serious training for the upcoming crucial baseball game with the sergeants of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Hamilton night, repeat night, win the Grey Cup this year, but Toronto can pin their hopes on the 48th Sgts., this is one trophy we can guarantee will stay in town. Pass me the bottle boy and lets get on with our practice. (Our apologies to RSM McGinley for that Argyle slip in the last issue - Argyles are socks not soaks!).

This has been our first opportunity to pay tribute to a gallant soldier and good friend who passed away last May. RSM Fred Gledhill, DCM, who was at one time the youngest RSM in the entire British Army, was borne to his final resting place by members of the Mess he served so well for many years. To his brother, RQMS Stan Gladhill, and all members of the family go our sincere regrets and sympathy.

#### THE MEN'S CANTEEN:

The purpose of this article is to acquaint you with a few facts regarding the Men's Canteen.

The canteen is organized by a committee on which each unit in the armouries is represented, and the basic purpose is to have a form of club where the members of the units may enjoy themselves during off-duty hours and get to know their fellow-soldiers.

By the regulations of the new canteen, anyone who is a member may use the canteen at any time when it is open, and for this purpose you have all been issued with membership cards. These cards are to prevent outsiders from using the canteen except by the invitation of one of the members, and with your membership card you may visit the canteen in civilian clothes on evenings when other units are parading. Members are also entitled to bring guests, and if you have lined up a possible recruit, bring him down to meet your friends and to learn something about the Regiment.

On Friday evenings, the canteen is out of bounds to the Regiment during parade hours, but it is open both before and after parade. Besides the regular evening hours, the canteen is also open between 1200 hours and 1400 hours every week-day for lunch, and is available on Saturday evenings for company or battalion dances. As there is a large demand for the use of the canteen on Saturdays, dates have to be reserved in advance. A book of the available dates is kept in the canteen and if your company social club wishes to hold a party in the canteen on a Saturday night, their application in writing should be turned in, well in advance of the night wanted, to your unit representative, Capt. Heighington. Ladies are also welcome on Unit Open House Nights, on the last Friday of each month.

As has been mentioned, the canteen is for the use of the men of the units. The officers and sergeants have their own messes, and this is your own club, so you should take an active interest in its welfare. The canteen is designed for your enjoyment, so don't spoil this enjoyment by abusing its privileges.

#### Sentiment

A sentimental woman was married to an unromantic man. One evening she said to him with a sigh: "Oh darling, would you mourn for me if I were to die?"

"Oh, yes," he mumbled, "of course I would."

"And would you visit the cemetery often?"

"Certainly," he said, with a little more animation. "I pass it on my way to the club, anyhow."

## THE RIFLE ASSOCIATION:

The short summer allowed us about twelve Saturday practices before the O.R.A. matches. Most of the old-timers as usual turned out and several new faces. Some of these newer members needed no prompting and scored high in the Aggregates.

The Mercier Agg. at the O.R.A. was won by Cadet Crossan, a grandson of Armourer Sgt. "Bob" Crossan of the 15th Batta.

One of the highlights of the O.R.A. meet was the tie for the Gibson Match, 10 rounds-300 yards in 45 sec. Two members of the 48th R.A., Lt. Col. "Des" Burko and Sgt. George Boast both finished with 46 out of 50. A shoot off was arranged and in two tries they were still tied. Major Vickery - Chief Range Officer agreed to allow them to decide it by a standing shoot which was won by Lt. Col. D. T. Burke, by one point.

Shooting in fog was experienced in the City of Toronto Match 600 yd range 15 rounds. The fog got so bad that it was impossible to see even the coloured indicators and shots were telephoned back and some did not finish.

The 48th Highlanders of Canada, represented by Major J. MacIntosh, 2 i/c acting for the C.O. presented a trophy to the Ontario Rifle Association to commemorate the honourable service of the late Capt. Guy F. Mackenzie in the Regiment, the old Comrades Association, the Rifle Association and the O.R.A.

The trophy is to be competed for annually in an aggregate of several ranges 200 to 600 yards.

Team shooting at D.C.R.A. was not as spectacular as in previous years, however, we took 1st prize in the Gordon Highlanders Match, 1st in the Kirkpatrick, 2nd in the Sherwood and Sir Arthur Currie Matches and 4th in the Woods.

Lt. Gilmore Boa was the only member to make the Bisley Team.

The Annual Match and dinner under the guidance of our new President Capt. S. W. Graham was the best attended and the most successful for many years about 100 people took part.

Visitors from Buffalo, Camp Borden and Listowel helped to swell the attendance.

Speakers were Capt. H. J. Brown Adjutant, Col. L. Wallace of the 174th Reg. U.S., Buffalo, Major Hampton of Camp Borden, Lt. Col. J. T. Steel Pres. of O.R.A., Major Kirk of Listowel and others. Good neighbourliness and assistance to younger shots was the main theme of the speakers.

60 prizes in all were distributed. The principals were 1 The Good-fellows Trophy won by the 48th over a team from Buffalo, 2 The Aggregate Cup, combined score of O.R.A., D.C.R.A. and Annual Match, won by Sgt. F. Wallace, 3 The Annual Match Trophy, silver plate presented by the Buffalo R & R Club in memory of the late Capt. Guy F. Mackenzie, won by W. K. Gregory, 4 National Rifle Association of England, Silver Medal, won by Sgt. W. V. Thompson, 5 & 6 D.C.R.A. Souvenirs, won by G.S. Stewart and W.B. Burley, 7 & 8 O.R.A. Silver Medals, Lt. Gilmore Boa and Capt. T. Vamplew.

The Service Matches were surprisingly well attended - 73 Bren teams and 324 riflemen.

Improvement in efficiency is making it harder to get into the prize money, however, as more good shots prove themselves and enter as seniors so more room is left for beginners.

This Regiment kept its record clear registering the largest Reserve unit to take part - 7 Bren teams, 26 riflemen.

As George Herbert once said "Skill and confidence are an unconquered army".

CHARLIE CHATTER:

We would like to welcome back for the Fall training season, all member of Charlie Company.

A special welcome is extended to the new members of the Company: L/Cpl. McCrimmon, Ptes Ryan, Thornhill, J. Dance, Messham, Dunne, Robinson, Mason, Waud and Parkman.

Camp was a grand success as far as our Company was concerned. We had a good turnout and everyone enjoyed themselves. We also did ourselves proud on the field day as Pte. Turcott proved himself at grenade throwing and Sgt. Saunders assisted the winning 880 relay which helped to bring C Company to the front.

Before leaving for camp, a number of us along with our lady friends spent an enjoyable Sunday at the summer cottage of Captain and Mrs. Lowndes. Boating, swimming, lots of hot dogs and perfect weather helped to make the day a big success.

L/Cpl. Snow finally made Marie an honest woman. They were married on September the 25th. Best wishes to both of you from the Company.

Some of the members of the Company under the able guidance of Lt. Hargraft, went out on a Sunday bridge-building scheme. From all reports, it was a little damp due to both the river and the rain but a bridge was erected and it is hoped that a lesson was learnt.

Right now we are in the midst of decorating and painting the Company room. Any assistance on Tuesdays will be appreciated.

Now that we are into the Fall season, don't forget to bring down your recruits and prove to others, what we already know, Charlie Company is the best.

DON COY DOINGS!

Fall parades are back again and everyone has finally recovered from the strenuous exercise at Niagara-on-the-Lake, or was it Buffalo? Several of the members of Don Coy were seen in the local opera house soaking up some higher type of learning.

Ptes. Boggs & Turner spent some time on an N.C.O's course at camp and were happy to report that the results were not too bad.

Lt. D. S. Barclay has left us for Baker Coy and we wish him the best of luck. Capt. Ware has come to us from Charlie Coy. and we also have attached to us Mr. John McFarland of the Black Watch (R.H.R.) Montreal. We welcome them both. Cpl. McKean has left us for the serenity of the Pay office and Cpl. Turner has become a support company man.

Since the Spring parades the Coy has dropped in strength but we are now on the up grade again. Pte. O'Prey leads the recruiting parade with a total of 5 recruits to date.

Since Cpl. McKean's departure we are happy to have Cpl. Appleton take his place in the capacity of clerk.

We were all very sorry to hear that our CSM, WO II Fullerton will be leaving the Regiment shortly. We will miss his smiling face and booming voice and trust that his retirement will not prevent him from visiting us frequently. Good luck, Sergeant Major.

With a scheme and a day at the ranges in the near future, training is in full swing. However our class of first year men sadly need reinforcement, so lets all make a real effort to bring in some recruits.

A British statesman whose mother-in-law had died suddenly in Argentina was faced with a critical decision. The telegram that announced the sad news asked for instructions: "Should we bury her or cremate her?" the cablegram enquired. After a moment's thought the statesman cabled back, "Both, take no chances."

SUPPORT COMPANY REPORTS:

Our training last year was well rewarded as seen by our standing in the Support Coy weapons competition at Niagara Summer Camp. We placed first in the Anti-Tank competition, first in the 3" Mortar and second in the Vickers. Remember next year we want to make sure we take firsts in all three competitions. Everyone in the Coy can be proud of our record at Camp which can only be bettered by more work and regular attendance. Remember - bring down your friends and let them see the Coy in action - get them interested for we want to see them in Support Coy. Remember there is a good prize for each recruit you bring into the Coy.

Now lots hear from the platoons:

ANTI TANK PLATOON:

The Spring training season terminated in glorious fashion for the Anti-Tank Platoon.

Summer Camp gave this platoon the opportunity to put into practice what they had worked hard and long at for almost one whole year.

Competitions with other Regiments of the Brigade left nothing to be desired of this platoon, as they went in against some of the keenest competition shown in years, and despite an unfortunate setback in their organization went on to set new records and leave no doubt in the minds of anyone but that the 48th do have the sharpest and most hustling Anti-Tank platoon in the Brigade.

The Platoon was a little short in numbers at the beginning of the Fall training season, but have come on strong in the past few weeks and with the competition champions still intact as a detachment, the only question in the minds of those that watch and wait is, just how badly will this platoon beat their own records next year.

The sincere thanks of the Platoon go to L/Cpl. Neil of the rifle companies for the very co operative way in which he pitched in with us and worked and finally went along with us to win this all important competition for the Regiment.

"Cpl. E. Turner".

MORTAR PLATOON:

The Mortar Crew which won the Brigade competition for the 48th last Summer at Niagara Camp has seen some changes in its personnel. Pte. Chappell has been appointed a L/Cpl. and Cpl. Grant has left the old gang for the life of a sergeant. Other items of interest in the platoon's activities include L/Cpl. Chappell and Pte. Gordon who are attending the Jr. N.C.O. Course. -- Pte. McKinnon is studying to be a piper - Pte. Unsworth has joined the Anti-Tank Platoon for further Support Coy experience -- Mr. Whiteacre has entered the noble state of matrimony.

Pte. McKinnon lost a five dollar bet to Sgt. Grant who insisted that payment be made in the form of drinks for the whole platoon. What started as a normal Friday night parade ended up in as a successful recruiting drive as ever was for the Mortar Platoon.

"L/Cpl. Chappell"

SIGNAL PLATOON:

A new training season has started and there are a few new faces with us. Welcome Ptes. Stringer, Gardner and Bryan. Hope you enjoy yourselves and stay with us for a long time. Summer Camp is over and once again our Sig. Pl. had the best turn out of all sigs in the 4th Inf. Bde. We should have been given a prize for effort, on Sports day. We have two men on the Jr. N.C.O.s Course, good luck to L/CPL Martyn and Pte. East. Hope you make it. What happened to Cpl. Martin who was absent from parade last Friday, the first time in four years. Must be the new lady friend he has been seeing. Congratulations to Cpl. McIllmoyle who is now playing with the Balmy Beach Football team. See you soon.

"Sgt. Cook."

TRANSPORT PLATOON:

are happy to report that after Summer Camp this year we turned in all vehicles to Lakeview. These vehicles are going to be repaired and sent overseas for another 20 years service. We received a new  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton panel, 3 ton stake, to start the ball rolling as replacements.

Let's have everyone out to qualify on the Transport Course which we are running for the Coy this fall. "Sgt. Leebody"

VICKERS PLATOON:

Summer Camp is over for another year much to the regret of our platoon. Many evenings were spent in the canteen as the majority of our platoon were either too tired or too broke to go to town. We did have one enjoyable evening in Buffalo. They told me later it was McVan's night club. In this establishment we met many interesting people, one who sticks in my memory--a Lt. Potts, our current Platoon officer. Oh yes, the waitress was wonderful! Getting back to our course we had terrific instruction under the guidance of Major McKenna of the Toronto Scottish Regiment. Many interesting moments happened during the week. One, was "This gun is a highly technical weapon as Sgt. Lamont and Cpl. Graham hammered with large mallets on the crank handle. On Thursday night Cpl. Kelly and his seeing eye-dog recovered the roller and collar. There were numerous other comical times as well.

At present we are preparing for our scheme to Meaford. Till next time, farewell. "Sgt. Lamont"

Practical Application

They were talking about luck and the strange conventions that surround the idea. "Why," said one, "could you ever believe that so many people would think that a rabbit's foot would bring them luck?"

"Sure thing," his friend agreed amicably. "I'm one of them. Rabbit's foot saved me a lot of money once."

"You don't really mean that?" demanded the skeptic.

"Sure I mean it. Had it in my pocket one night and my wife thought it was a mouse."

Desperate Realities

The Irishman was relating his adventures in the jungle to a group of breathless listeners.

"Ammunition, food and whisky had run out" he said, "and we were dying of thirst." "But wasn't there any water in the country?" one of the more thoughtful listeners enquired.

"Oh, sure, sure," said the Irishman with ill-concealed impatience, "but it was no time to be thinking of cleanliness."

Proper Approach

One woman to another: "Why don't you go to him in a perfectly straight-forward way and lie about the whole thing?"

Desperation!

Two elderly ladies were strolling along a street in Paris when one said to the other, "You know dear, we have been in Paris for ten whole days and I haven't been to the Louvre yet!"

"Don't you worry too much dearie", she replied, "perhaps its just the change in the water!"

### THE PIPE BAND:

Well, once again the leaves are falling, the nights lengthening, and from Scarborough to Port Credit the mashed potatoes are bolted and wifey gets a hasty smack of a Tuesday or Friday evening as the good man heads for the Armouries. The ladies shouldn't eel too badly however as they will be figuring prominently in the Fall and Winter activities being lined up by the Band Committee. But now for a look at the Band doings over the past few months.

Again the highlight was Summer Camp and the 17 of us who attended for the full week had a rollicking good time. Ten of the boys attending played in the competition band this Summer and the opportunity afforded for additional practise paid off as we'll see in a moment. Glancing back over that week some highlights were: the party thrown for us by the Toronto Scottish Pipe Band and the "long voyage home" from their tent lines to our own in the wee sma' hours. Touched by the hospitality shown us we stopped in the middle of the parade ground and cheered the Scottish to the echo, to the astonishment of, a stray dog, two cooks and no doubt the orderly officer! Then, of course, there were the sing-songs and the perfection of "Coney Island Baby". We can't forget, either, Drummer George Pearce's "monkey-shines" - so realistic they were that we're willing to wager it wasn't so long ago since George's ancestors swung from tree to tree by their tails. Then there was Cpl. Fred Fisher's story about Bad Man Gonzalez, guaranteed to render Piper Jim Macpherson helpless for some time after its telling! And we mustn't forget the drummer who, in a moment of weakness, translated the Latin tag "sic transit gloria mundi" as "so the Rapid Transit starts on Monday" - when they took him away he was muttering something about having lost his head! Then there were the daily practices in the Grove watched by the usual group of gum-chewing, picture-snapping American tourists. One of these latter approached a group of the Band "taking five" one afternoon and inquired tranquilly if he could be favoured with "You Are My Sunshine" on the pipes. After a polite but firm rebuff he sauntered away through the trees whereupon Pipe Major Dewar sat up on his improvised picnic-table bed and astounded Band members by suggesting they "dig that crazy tourist!" Yes, it was a lot of fun--Vive le sport!

This was our 8th Summer of competition work since the end of the War and it finished on a most successful note. In ten Class "A" entries at Oshawa, Embro, Buffalo, Maxville and Fergus Highland Games we garnered seven firsts and three seconds. Pipe Bands in this area have been steadily improving with the arrival of many fine pipers and drummers from across the water, however we were able to hold our end up and a little more this Summer. Looking at the record book we find that during the period 1946-'53 in 86 Class "A" entries the judges have picked the 48th Pipe Band as first prize winners on 54 occasions giving us in addition 18 second, 10 third and 4 fourth prizes. These totals of course do not include the many prizes taken in individual competition over the years by our pipers and drummers. This year saw no less than seven of our pipers in individual competition and carrying off a good share of the prizes. Competing were Cpl. Colin MacKay, and Pipers Bill Gilmour, Reay MacKay, John Wakefield, Stu White, Ken Davies and Harry Hodgson.

The recent visit of the Welsh Guards Band will long be remembered. We renewed acquaintances among some of the Guards who were with the Band when it last visited Toronto in 1948. The reception sponsored jointly by the Sergeants' Mess and the Pipe Band was a rousing success turning into a real old English Music Hall show with one of the Guards' Sergeants, a trombonist named King, proving himself a one-man variety show, "Brahm-n-n boots, now I ask you....."