



THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

1955-1965

Newsletter

"GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS"



Editor, Don Daber. Editorial Offices — Suite 302, 205 Keele St., Toronto 9

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SHRINERS HONOURED AT OPTIMIST CLUB BY CORPS! •

*****Toronto, Wed., May 19: The Rameses Shrine Temple of Toronto was honoured at the mid-week luncheon meeting of the Optimist Club at the Royal York Hotel here today when Ron Kaiser, representing his fellow members of the Corps, presented a framed citation to Mr. Gordon Robinson, Recorder for the Temple, and Lord Athol Layton, 1965 Chairman of the Shriners' International Pageant. Lord Athol Layton was the guest speaker at the dinner (top photo); and following his talk, Ron Kaiser made the presentation, (photo: left to right, Lord Athol Layton, Mr. Gord Robinson, Ron Kaiser and Mr. Bert Alexander, President of the Downtown Optimist Club.)

For this occasion the head table included Don Daber, Director of the Corps, Ron Kaiser, representing the Members of the Corps, Ivan E. Card, Secretary of the Club, Bert Alexander, President of the Club, Lord Athol Layton, Tom Kendall, Gordon Robinson, and Al Baggs.

Mr. Tom Kendall, as a member of The Optimist Club and a member of Rameses Temple, introduced his fellow Temple member, Lord Athol Layton.

Athol Layton opened his talk with a kind reference to the Corps, the Optimist Corps and corps in general, and the Clubs' work with youth. He then undertook to present a graphic word picture on the "Art of Wrestling" and the sport today, especially as covered by modern television. Lord Athol Layton, who was born and educated in Sydney, Australia,

(Continued page 2...)

SHRINERS HONOURED (continued):

and held the Australian Amateur Heavyweight Boxing Title 1944-45, outlined the 'Art of Wrestling' and told some details of his successful tour of South East Asia, Japan, India, India, England and North America. He pointed out that the whole programme is one of super entertainment and that the build-ups of the different 'types' such as the 'villian', the 'Crazy kind', the 'Grotesque', the 'Bullies', the 'Intellectuals'...his Hollywood "Nap Award"...The wrestling riots...and that wrestling is entertainment and that if the villian is good, then the bouts are all good. Is there money in wrestling. There certainly is. Like anything else, the top men can demand and make a very good living...like a hundred thousand a year! Wrestling anyone???

EVENTS COMING UP

OPTIMISTS TO PRODUCE 1965 MOTION PICTURE OF CORPS...

***Toronto, May 29: Don Daber, Director of The Toronto Optimist Corps announced today plans to produce a complete film of the Corps 1965 Field Show. The film will be 16 MM; shot in full colour with synchronize sound. In announcing plans for the film, Mr. Daber stated; "Undoubtedly this is the year to film the Corps..music and drill are up this year over almost anything we have seen in the past!! The completed film should be a fitting tribute to the Corps on this, their tenth Anniversary Year; to our sponsor, The Optimist Club of Toronto and to each boy in uniform who is working so hard to make this 1965 Season a banner year for the Optimists! ..

The film will be made by professional motion picture people using all the techniques of the modern motion picture art to graphically place on film all the colour, sound, drama and entertainment offered by a corps of today in the M&M field.

The dates for shooting the film will be the weekend of July 24th, 25th. The film will be shot in Toronto.

The film will be in two parts. Upon the completion of the 13 minute field drill on film the first part of the film will then be undertaken which will tell the 'behind the scenes' story of a Corps...the winter rehearsals, on music and drill, the bus trips, the getting ready for a show, parades, and the organization behind a corps. This will be produced of special interest to other Optimist and Service Clubs who may be interested in sponsoring a Junior Drum Corps. The completed film will run 26 minutes and be valued at over \$6,000.00.

The second part of the film, the Corps on the field, is planned for release by late September and will be available to Corps and other interested organizations, on a rental basis. First screening of the film is planned for the Optimist Corps at their Tenth Anniversary Dinner to be held in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto in September.

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EVENTS COMING UP: The Optimists schedule is now complete and is as follows:
 Saturday, June 12; Boy Scout Parade 12:30 PM., New Toronto.
 4:00PM--Rehearsal on the field, Civic Stadium, Hamilton.
 10:00PM--Exhibition 7th INTERNATIONAL PAGEANT, Civic Stadium, Hamilton. (see ad this issue, G.C.C.)

 Friday, June 18th: Shriners' International Parade. Evening, from Queen's Park to City Hall. Exhibition at the City Hall.
 (Dressing rooms will be at the Shrine Temple, for parade)

Saturday, June 19th: Exhibition, SHRINERS' INTERNATIONAL PAGEANT, C.N.E. STADIUM, TORONTO. (see ad this issue, GCC.)

Saturday, June 26th: FIRST CONTEST: 1965 Ontario Championships, Seagram Stadium, Waterloo. JR. Division: Optimists, De La Salle, Sertomanaires, SR. Division: Royallaires, Ambassadors, Commanders, Flying Dutchmen. Girls Div: St. Johns and Sarnia Lionettes.

 Thursday, July 1st: DOMINION DAY CONTEST, Port Hope at 6:45 PM.
 Corps: Optimists, Les Cadets La Salle, Preston Scout House, York Lions, De La Salle.

Saturday, July 3rd: "Rose Festival," Welland. CONTEST: 7:30 PM.
 Jr. Contest. Corps to be announced.

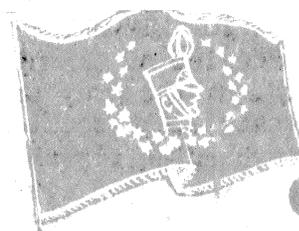
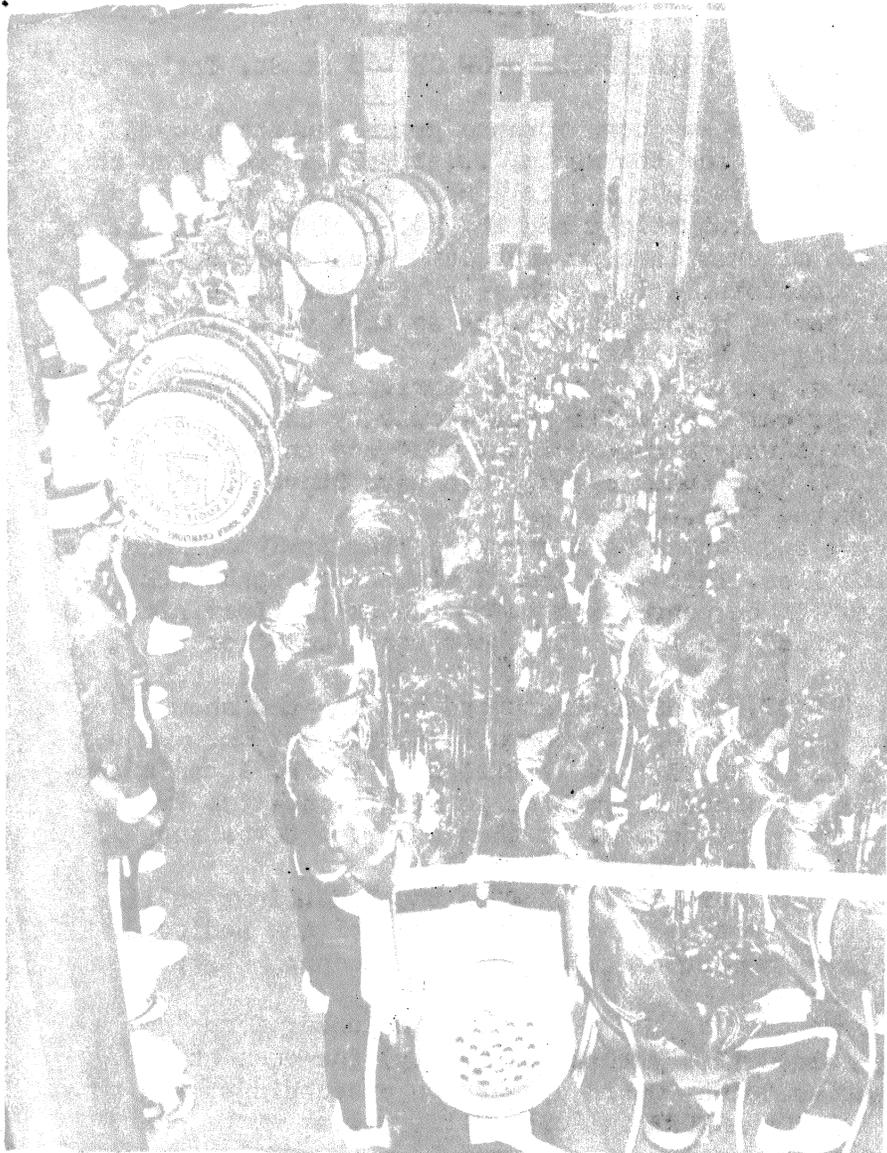
Saturday, July 10th: "Music In Motion", Cockshutt Park, Brantford, 8:00PM.
 Corps announced to date: Sertomanaires, De La Salle.

Saturday, July 17th: "Chemical Valley Contest and Parade" Sarnia.
 Parade in afternoon, Contest in evening. Competing Corps to be announced.

Saturday, July 24th: Toronto. Production of 1965 Corps film.

Saturday, July 31st: JR. CONTEST, Civic Stadium, Hamilton. Competing corps to be announced.

(Schedule of events for August continued on page 5)



inside the corps!

BY DOUG SPARKES & KEITH BUCKINGHAM.

"Inside The Corps"...Hi Gang!---Did you hear about the Anonymous (?) Corps Director who fell into the alphabet soup? No? ...Well, he saved himself by sending up an "S.O.S." Yuk! Yuk! Yuk! After that, you must be feeling pretty "Green!"

Now, down to some serious (?) business here.

Photo at left is a high shot (shot high, backstage) of The Optimists' last appearance in Concert (we thought then) when at the Commander's Show April 3rd. Guest Corps included the Hosts, Commanders, The Guelph Royalaires, and The Ambassadors. I think all the Corps on a fairly decent show (we didn't actually see the show.)

The next day, Sunday, the rehearsal was at The Shrine Temple. It turned out that the highlight of the day was the accident during the lunch break which involved a certain

"jinxed" Volkswagon (previously owned by the Drum Major) which ran into an oncoming tree on the Lakeshore Boulevard. Now...we will endeavor "to pass on" to you THE INSIDE STORY from the INSIDE of the V.W. Like I said, it all started on the lunch hour break when the Music Director, Barry Bell, was informed by The Fuzz that 3 Optimists and 1 fan were being "detained" at headquarters. It turned out that the car that was owned by Tom McGregor (alias 'The Whop') was driven by John Kearns (the Fan) and it seemed that James Stewart (No, not THAT James Stewart, silly) must have thought that he was still in Conqueror for a split second, because he pulled one of his old tricks of pulling the steering wheel to the right and expecting Kearns to pull it back. But, like, HE DIDN'T. So, there's that tree. And there's the police wondering how they "rolled a car" on a "straightaway." But the Optimist Luck, or something, was with them and the only person injured was Wayne Bean with a wrist scratched by his watchband.

Two weeks later, on April 17th., we had the first parade of the '65 season, for our sponsor to open "Boy's Clubs Of Canada Week" Taking place in this magnificent array of colour were about 500 slightly disorganized kids...at 10:00 WE were organized and dressed...at 10:30 A.M. (I think the Parade Marshall forgot us or something.) anyway, we were rushed out of the dressing room and moved out immediately...right into the SNOW. It was a wet warm parade, right to city hall and back.

Saturday, May 1st. was next when we helped to 'clean up Toronto' in Parade Formation. Optimists led the parade of clean-up-equipment and bathing beauties for miles and miles till we finally hit the O'Keefe Centre finishing point, stopping off at the city hall, again on the way. At the end of the parade there was a bus waiting (to take us to Hamilton) later that night but before we left the publicity department took a special series of photos for "Yearbook '65". Finally, with all our stomachs crying for f-oooo-d, the bus took us back to the dressing room and then took our equipment to the bus terminal where it waited till the complete Corps left for Hamilton at 6:30 PM. This left the Corps with the afternoon free in exciting downtown Toronto! Wow! I guess 6:30 didn't arrive soon enough. I can't report all that went on on the bus, mainly because we travelled by car (so sorry), Yea, Steve Savage!

In Hamilton, as guests of The Viscounts (Ex-Conqueror) getting on the actual stage was a bit of a mix-up but we finally struggled into some kind of order. The actual concert to a house that was unfortunately less than ½ full, was the best performance the Corps did to that date and the Optimists got a great ovation for the 'Colour Presentation' which came as an unexpected pleasure to both the Corps on stage, and Barry Bell, our announcer.

At the end of show it was back on the bus...we thought we were on our way home, but instead went on to the Junior Party, eh, Stewart!!! The Optimists, led by Steve Savage, sort of took over one corner of the restaurant party...mainly because I guess there weren't many girls there. It was before midnight, and we all turned into pumpkins, that we left (OVER)

"INSIDE THE CORPS" (continued)

the party (?)....ON TO THE NEXT EVENT...THE FIRST GREAT DRILL SHOW OF '65 at St. Catharines at their "Spring Preview of Champions."

At 9:00 A.M. at the grey coach terminal in downtown Toronto green jackets popped in and around the busses...the rookies loaded under and top racks, ...at 9:30 we departed the Capital of Ontario heading for the Garden City. To make the trip seem shorter, or should I say longer? we were serenaded with Ron Kaisers drum sticks and the VOICE of Dave Harris. On arrival at the arena at St. Catharines, ten minutes late we went into squad drill, much to the dismay (I think) of the local corps spectators. While each squad was working on their close order drill, Drill Instructor Ivor Bramley picked dandelions so that we wouldn't have any excuse for throwing out the dressing of the line.

After a half hour of basics and the complete Corps finally arrived (by car) it was on to step two and two-and-half hours of the complete drill break-down. By then we almost had a break-down (nervous type) but the Corps was in an excellent mood and an even better mood when it was announced that we had a two hour lunch break. This gave Steve Savage and his boys a good chance to really look over the town.

At 4:00 PM we drifted into the arena and formed on a starting line as The Commanders finished off their rehearsal on the finish line. This gave Ivor 2 minutes to rush back and start on Optimists drill...and the problem on condensing it on the drill floor. After about an hour of suspended animation the Corps finally gained their confidence for the first M&M Audience show of the year.

"The Spring Preview" started off with ST. JOHNS of Brantford opening the show. The Jr. A Girls Champions did a terrific Show and their drill and music should put them up top again this year. Following ST. JOHNS were DE LA SALLE, our traditional rivals. I can't report on their show because at this time we had formed up outside in an off-the-line front while Barry Bell conducted us through a very quiet number. We then sang the Corps song as we waited for Del to exit, and we entered to form a starting front.

We remember...the usual comments from the crowd directed to the D.M...Ivor yelling from the audience "Beat The Weirdo"...the heat of the arena, the ovation of the audience. After the show, and outside, a dearly beloved member of the guard, Ron Cooper, flaked out (fainted, stupid) but fortunately he recovered.

At intermission, before the Senior section of the show, all the junior Corps proceeded to their seats and immediately raided (I say that literally) the coke stands. For the second half of the show The Majestics Colour Guard opened the proceedings, and very sharply too. They were followed by THE COMMANDERS in full drill, not as large a Corps as appeared on this same floor last year, but just as powerful, at least inside. THE AMBASSADORS followed Commanders and came out smartly into concert formation where they proceeded to steal the show, blasting out a terrific 13 minutes straight at the centre stands. Following The Ambassadors...and who could really follow that terrific performance... came the host Corps THE Jr. 'B' Champs "The Majestics" Led by their terrific Girl's Guard... They put on a creditable performance. End of show...MASSED COLOUR GUARDS with BILL COY.

SURPRISE...a Junior Corps party after this one at the Dennis Morris School with St. Johns, Del., and Majestics. Only STEVE SAVAGE and his crew from The Optimists seemed to mix with the girls at the party and after ST. JOHNS left the party broke up.

Exactly one week later, at the same terminal the bus transported all us "Steve Guys" to Barrie for a parade and indoor drill exhibition. For this show there were two aims...one was tribute to Retarded Children and the other was to publicize drum corps in the Barrie area. At 2:30 it was drill for two hours, then supper (rushed), then quick change into uniform for a dress drill rehearsal on the arena floor before rushing up to the parade site. We were supposed to run through the show just once but Ivor became a little peeved and responded with "One more time..." As it turned out we then had to rush to the parade site only to wait there for about 15 minutes before we moved off.

The parade was about a mile in length and the response from the town was poor...and, as we found out later, so was the crowd in the arena where the parade ended. The units participating were The Orillia Hospital Boys Band, The Pickering Blue Notes, Kempenfelt (the host Corps) The 2nd. Signals, The Leaside Majorettes, York Lions and The Optimists.

The show was set on the pattern of a build-up...building up to the full M&M show of a Jr. 'A' Corps... (us.) At this stage of the game each performance of the Corps shows a marked improvement with this Barrie event a marked improvement over the performance in St. Catharines. Immediately after the show the Corps pulled a "Titusville" and marched back to the dressing rooms, parading through darkened streets. Happy to see Mr. Gord Robinson of The Shrine up with the Corps...I noticed the Guard and the Contras were making good use of his convertible...and THANKS Mr. R. for the cokes---that's the time that "The Pause that refreshes" really refreshes!!!

The Barrie weekend was also the long weekend extending over to Monday (Victoria Day) when we again had the opportunity to do the first outdoor drill of the season, at Memorial Park in Forest Hill. The Optimists opened the show while it was still daylight (as they didn't have elaborate lights there) and were featuring fireworks later in the evening. There were a few mistakes in the drill, but I understand not nearly as many as at this show by us last year! May 24th marked about the last complete rehearsal at this time as final exams for those at school (like us) are hitting the Corps right now. The next "outing" will be the parade and Exhibition at the Hamilton International, June 12th.

...And that's INSIDE THE CORPS for this issue.....Doug Sparkes, Keith Buckingham.

.....
REMEMBER "STEVE SAVAGE Says..."PRACTICE AT HOME..."

EVENTS COMING UP (continued from page 2)

Sunday, August 8th. CONTEST, Attica, N.Y. Competing Corps: St. Josephs of Batavia, The Statesmen of Irondequoit, The Marion Cadets, and The Viscounts of McHenry, Illinois.

Saturday, August 14. ~~Contest, "The Blue and Gold Championships" Chicago, Illinois. --- Featuring: The Optimists, Racine Kilties, Garfield Cadets, Madison Scouts, Cavaliers, Norwood Imperials, Troopers, Royal Airs, Skokie Vanguards, St. Mary's Cardinals. SEE NOTE ON PAGE 10.~~

Saturday, August 21. Contest: The World Open Championships. Bridgeport, Conn.

Saturday, August 28. Contest: The International Bandland Pageant, Kitchener, Ont.

OR

Contest: "The Pow Wow of Junior Champions", Kingston N.Y.

Saturday, September 4: Contest--Shawinigan, Quebec.

Sunday, September 5--- Parade and Exhibition, Shawinigan Quebec.

Monday, September 6---Contest--CNE Championships, 7:30 PM small stadium at Dufferin Gates, CNE, Toronto. Corps to be announced.

Saturday, September 11--The 1965 Canadian Drum Corps Championships, Varsity Stadium, Toronto. Prelims: afternoon.

Finals: evening.

STEVE "Some people think it's a mistake to expect to win every contest. If you accept the responsibility to put on a good performance, dedicate yourself and prepare

SAVAGE: yourself mentally---why, there's no reason you can't win EVERY TIME OUT."

I tell them: "We didn't come here to lose...we came to WIN."

Summary: the 1965 year from our Kitchener exhibition, Feb. 13th. to the National Championships, September 11th.

Parades-5. Concerts-4 Exhibitions-7 Contests: 13. Total number of appearances 29.



905 Deerfield Rd.,
Highland Park, Ill.
April 24, 1965.

Dear Don:

Sorry for not having written sooner to thank you for the records. I enjoyed them very much and have played them for several of my friends who also thought they were very good.

I would like to offer my congratulations on your tenth anniversary and wish you all the possible success for the future.

Please extend my greetings and congratulations to all the Corps members!

Sincerely,

Ted Stromberg.

DENNIS MORRIS SCHOOL, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

May 20, 1965.

Dear Don: My very personal thanks to you and the staff of the "Optimists" for participating in our first show--"The Canadian Spring Preview of Champions".

Kindly convey our appreciation to all the members of the Corps and assure them that their following in the St. Catharines area has increased because of their fine show.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. L. Bechamp, C.S.C.

Director, The Majestics.

RECREATION COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST HILL

May 26, 1965.

Dear Don: Once again you have excelled your own excellency in a most thrilling performance displayed at our Fireworks program on Monday night. As you are no doubt aware, we had a record breaking attendance estimated from 15,000 to 18,000.

Please accept my thanks for the splendid job and kindly extend my appreciation to the boys.

It was a pleasure working with you and I trust that we will be able to do so again next year.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Dane,

Director of Recreation.

The Canadian Commanders proudly presents
THE INTERNATIONAL PAGEANT...7th GREAT YEAR...7 GREAT CORPS!!! SAT., JUNE 12, 7:45 PM at The CIVIC STADIUM HAMILTON***Featuring: Syracuse Brigadiers, Royalaires, Crusaders, Ambassadors, Kingsmen with exhibitions by: The Commanders and The Toronto Optimists.



MERRY-CORPS-ROUND: US Government may do something about subsidizing drum corps among its youth projects. Congressman BUCINSKI (Chicago) is readying a bill to be presented at the next session....MIKE RAMELLI is the new Major fr the ROYAL AIRS. He recently won a scholarship fr the U of Wisconsin but is refusing it fr one nearer home....KEVINS planning "Columbia, The Gem Of The Ocean" fr color presentation....It'll replace "Stars & Strips" (which is being moved up to the opening)...If the date's right--many Bostonians plan the trek to Canada fr the CANADIAN NATIONALS....DCWorld boss-man JOE KALADY was the 'spark' behind Chicago's grandiose GREEK INDEPENDENCE PARADE....Back-stage move being made to bring HAWTHORNE and the notorious DCA to some sort of terms---this is being done without the santion of the Association big-wigs....ST MARYS CARDINALS s'prising all of the Boston fans with their greatest show in yrs. and yrs....GREY KNIGHTS/Upstate NYork CRUSADERS merger ós paying off. The combinded mooosic-drumming is songsational....Canada's DeLa SALLE playing a nedley of folk tunes fr color presentation (which should prove QUITE interesting)...and fr something funny, why not step over to the next paragraph.....

CORNfidential: "What's the definition of a toilet?"

"A place where bums hang out!" (hehehehehehe !)

DEPARTMENT OF SWEET NOTHINGS: Mr & Mrs Howie DAHNERT (Racine Scouts) are celebrating 25 yrs of wedded bliss....Ex-KEVINcutie LOIS HAGAN (our secretary) and MIKE O'KEEFE (Bledded Sac) walked down the aisle on April 3---and livin happily everafter.....and in the handholding stage we have BARBY SCHMIDT (Wisconsin's Buccanneers) and KILTIEman JIM KING (her Instructor)....and also add loverleeeee MARYELLEN DOYLE (Norwood DEBS) and Kevinknight RICHIE MATTHEWS....Not EVERYone in this world of ours is whistling sweet tunes, take frxample GLENN SMITH and TRU CRAWFORD (Chicago music businessmen) and also Miami's BILL HAYES and HERB BRASFIELD...but then again, life CAN be beautiful. Seems the CAVALIERS and the ROYAL AIRS have made up with their Association (after a stormy pre-CIVIC OPERA HOUSE session)....and can't think of a thing to say than Onnnnnn to the next paragraph.

FAN-FARE: Two Southern Illinois Corps are having problems....PATT LINDBERG is the boss-gal fr the ALL-AMERICAN Military Ball (set fr the Fall)....Many Canadians making plans to do spectator bit at VFW Nationals....Boston CRUSADERS looking-sounding GREAT so early.....EVERYone talking about the wunnerful job BOB BOND is doing out front of his COMMANDERS....US Corps not too enthused over the Euphonium (which is SO popular in Canadá)....A very BIG Senior corps having a very BIG morale problem....and howzabout jotting the following dates in yr little black book: MISSION DRUMS (June 26)/ CYO NATIONALS (July 10)/ DREAM CONTEST (Aug.8)/ VFW NATIONALS (Aug 18)/ WORLD OPEN (Aug.21).....and now ole Edderino will sign off fr this issue and if yr wise you'll read the other columns fr the REAL news.....Ed Rooney, 62 Garfield Ave., Hyde Park (36), Mass.

AT THE C.N.E. STADIUM, TORONTO, 8 P.M., JUNE 19



SHRINERS' INTERNATIONAL DRUM CORPS PAGEANT

FEATURING, IN COMPETITION:

**The Sensational HAWTHORNE CABALLEROS,
Hawthorne N.J.**

SHRINERS' INTERNATIONAL TICKETS — \$2.50 reserved box, \$2.00 reserved and \$1.50 general admission from: Mr. Gordon Robinson, Rameses Temple, 1395 Lakeshore Boulevard, W., Toronto 3.



From the Sidelines

Optimists
Drum quartette
with
DON DABER.

NEWS OF CORPS IN AND 'ROUND THE TOWN... From the Optimists' Camp---Optimists music and drill 'way ahead of last year with Corps spirit way up...Executive impressed enough to push for a full colour feature film of the Corps this year (a project considered a few years back). There is no doubt that a professionally made film of a Corps' field show is certainly needed to promote Corps and is something that actually should come from the Association...but since they don't have the necessary \$\$\$\$ then its up to one of the Association Corps to take the led. Optimists have announced they will proceed this year....Two of Optimists Exec. DAVE JOHNS (publicity) and AL (DR.) PECZENIUK doing the promtional bit for the Corps on an extended tour of Quebec, Mass., and Jersey areas over two weeks...a letter from them dated May 23rd. reads as follows:(in part)

Bonjour you crazy Optimists: We're having a fantastic time here in Three Rivers...being the guests of ST. PAUL'S CADETS, they're painting the town green for us! Yesterday we went to Shawinigan Falls to a show by the Shawinigan Grenadiers and were swamped by many a Corps fan...Look out Optimists, when you come to Shawinigan---the whole town is looking forward to seeing you---get ready for a real great time! We are on our way to Quebec City tomorrow to see the Diplomates (they will just be returning from New York...then on to Boston, Cape Cod, New York and Jersey, Garfield, Hawthorne etc....

BARRY BELL, Music Director of Optimists developing the memory bit. He announced to the Exec that on the next bus trip he is on with the Corps that that he will demonstrate his great feats of memory by asking each member of the Corps in each of the 41 seats to name an object, any object. These will be listed on paper and after a few minutes of concentrated study he will name off, in the correct order, forward and backward all the objects listed. **KEEP THIS IN MIND CORPS!!!**

RON KAISER'S drum class finally on the way with present enrollment at nine with the first class taking place on Friday evening, May 28th with those in attendance being RON GAULT, RICHARD COY, CHRIS DEAKIN, DAVE JUNG and ALLAN ACCORN.

ALEX GLOVERS Rock and Roll group "THE CASUALS" getting the big publicity buildup from Don Daber at a recent Saturday nite session...MARK WICKEN, outstanding drummer with the Optimists over the past few years (and Canadian Individuals Tenor Champ) no longer with the Corps as of May---he will be missed by many but you may see him 'round the Corps on several trips over the summer...Optimists rehearsed OFF-THE-LINE in Barrie almost had Don Daber drop his camera and Barry Bell, who was doing the announcing bit, drop the mike!! WOW!...Drum Major ANDY HENDERSON continin' the McConkey tradition by the comments from the crowd at off-the-line...BARRY RADFORD stepped down as columnist for P.C.WORLD to take up the post as editor of GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS...FRANK MENDICINO steps into the WORLD position...and speaking of WORLD---several Corps members ordered and paid for records of the corps in Chicago; understand the records are now released, so they are wondering "where are their records???"

CORPS 'ROUND AND ABOUT TOWN... YORK LIONS---York was the top junior corps on parade in St. Catharines May 30th., at the gaint Lions Club convention there covering the Ontario and Quebec districts of Lions Clubs. There score was 65 with the next corps down Grantham, with 78.00!!! But York didn't come in first this year---they were overpowered by THE AMBASSADORS who took first prize of \$1000.00 with a score of 87.5...Bill Simon, Yorks sensational Drum Major of last year I understand won't be with the Corps this year---according to an exclusive by enterprising E. J. MOUNTFORD. Rumour has it that York may have pulled out of some early contests ...but if this is true or not we will just have to wait and see---sure hope not; the Jr. Corps scene in Ontario is not that healthy...like with VISCONTES JR'S running into all kinds of problems over the month of April...Canadian Corps to be travelling like mad with YORK headed for Los Angeles the week of July 5th to 10th., and flying yet (the GREAT way to go)...and SCOUT HOUSE now booked into England come '66. Yes, this is now definite.

DE LA SALLE:---De La Salles "THE CORPSMAN" no longer in publication as announced to their subscribers by a letter from the Corps. While THE CORPSMAN existed

FROM THE SIDELINES (continued)::

it was one of the sharpest looking Corps papers in existance...Del will front two Drum Majors this year, TOM KELLY (their former Guard Commander) and RICK NEDZA (formerly of Monarchs.) MIKE McCULLOUGH is the new Guard Commander. ...Note Dels' sharp practice flags during their rehearsals this year---done up in their school and Corps colours of red, green and white...a gift from the D.C.World writers the O'Donnells....Del is featuring new silver sparkle Roger's Dynasonic drums this year, as noted in St. Catharines....Their repertoire this year is as follows: FANFARE: "The Devil's Dream." OFF-THE-LINE: "Together, Wherever We Go."....SHOW STOPPER #1:"Golden Slippers."... PRE-CONCERT:"Downtown."....CONCERT:"Hud."...OUT OF CONCERT:"Put On A Happy Face." SHOW STOPPER #2 (& FLAG PRESENTATION): Folk Song Medley..."Crooked Little Man", "The Ship John B" and "Blowin In The Wind."...FINALE: "It Had Better Be Tonight..."

...And that's the view from the sidelines for this issue...

"THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS: by Barry Radford, Editor, G.C.C."

You know, this Corps, Optimists '65 has something that it missed last year, and badly needed. What could we possibly have missed last year? 'Corps Spirit' It is evident that we lack nothing in this catagory this year!

Now, "Corps Spirit" is something almost every drum corps writer has talked about at some time or another...mostly in abstract terms of which nobody can really understand, including this writer. 'Corps Spirit' is something you must feel and experience and not try to limit this sensation by words.

However, I have fallen into the trap of others...but with a different angle. To have 'Corps Spirit' is one of the most important ingredients for any group. But let us apply it to just one corps...ours!

Spectators outside the Corps can see the spirit in The Optimists because of the appearance we give on-the-field. "Pride" of the Corps, and even more important, the pride of each member of the Optimists ...both off the field and on!...but particularly ON THE FIELD.

How does this pride show up? By personal bearing. I think this lacked greatly last year mainly because of the loss, because of age, of many members, who were so enthused and enveloped in 'Pride' of the Corps and their own personal accomplishments, that it showed everywhere the 'dazzling green' played. Whether it was just lack of experience and confidence or not, it was lacking.

But this year the 'spirit' has returned; and it is up to us to make it stay! It can so easily be lost by improper conduct or major disagreements among members.

It may be hard for that 'spirit' to remain after months of drill and practice unless we move every moment towards 'perfection'. Unless, everytime we move off-the-line we have just one thing in mind...PERFECTION OF OUR SHOW, in both music and drill, we will become stale. The excitement will be lost and that 'spirit' will die. Too many great Corps have passed by because of loss of Spirit.

The Optimists' Executive this year has done everything in their power to provide us with the BEST in equipment, the BEST in instructors and the BEST in rehearsal facilities. We could not ask for more from them unless we in turn produce something ourselves. If we produce, then they will continue to produce, and the so often referred to "Machine" of ours will continue to function in top gear.

This tenth year we have the talent and the backing to make this Optimists' greatest year! Let's PROVE IT!!!



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STEVE SAVAGE SAYS:
"No need to 'mouth off' on
sidelines on how good you might
be...SHOW IT ON THE FIELD!"

.....
STEVE SAVAGE SAYS:
"After a hard day's work
(at Marcel's Parcel Shop)
Steve says--"That about
wraps it up!"
.....

++++++
STEVE SAVAGE
SAYS: "Every
member of The
Optimists
works for the
'Public
Relations Dept."
++++++

STEVE SAVAGE SAYS:
"Everytime your late at rehearsal it adds a possible tenth to the
scoresheet."

G.C.C. PROFILES THREE OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF THE CORPS--RON KAISER, BILL HOLLOWAY, and STEVE SAVAGE!!!



PROFILE!



RON KAISER: Perhaps it was destiny that Ron, Optimists' lead snare and Assistant Drum Instructor with the Corps this year; should find himself involved with drum corps as that extra 'free-time' activity...as destiny of family background set his present high course...like, you can't claim you don't know anything about drum corps when your father holds gold medals as a top baritone player in the 1951 Waterloo Music Festival and the first winner of The David Tachauer Memorial Trophy for Canadian Senior Bugling in 1953; when, as you grew up your father held the position as Bugle-Major with the Q.O.R. Bugle Band of 1956...to move up to the position of Regimental Sergeant-Major of The Second Signals Regiment in 1962 when, during the summer of 1960, and your father was connected with The Ambassadors Drum Corps, you attended almost every one of their rehearsals with him; and, as you were interested in Glenn Miller and dance band drumming at the time and the Ambassadors were the closest you could get to a real drum line at the time...it was natural that you should study their drumming techniques closely. Then came the big opportunity...you were given a old army rope drum, and you set it up in the cellar, using you mother's washer top as a cymbal...and you were given the big test by you father to see really how interested you were in drumming. The test: to break down the long roll on your own using the Ludwig drum record on rudiments as the basis. After one week and four days you had the long roll down to a passing speed and off you went to the Drummer's Paradise 'Private Class' which went one hour a week for a month. Then you met Orest Burack and discovered the Optimists Bantam Corps of which Orest was a member, and in July of 1960 you joined the drum line of the Bantams. Came September of that year and you were with the Bantams at the Canadian Championships in Hamilton, where they were entered in the Jr. Novice Class. There you saw The Jr. Optimists, for the first time, win the Canadian Championship for the third straight year.

You knew then that this was the Corps you had to join, so in October of that year you came down as a new recruit to their first "Rally Night" at the paper box plant, in October. Your application was accepted but you didn't make the line during 1961 and over that season served as a spare. In October of 1961 you moved 'on-the-line' and your first contest was at the first Optimist Junior International in Varsity Stadium when The Optimists were set against The Garfield Cadets and The Queensmen.

Since that date, Ron has seen the Optimists' drum line go through many changes as drummers came and left and he steadily moved up the ladder under the guidance of Optimists' veteran drum instructor, Lorne Ferrazzutti.

Ron's favourite drum line is, of course, Blessed Sacrament with Boston's Crusaders coming in second. His favourite Corps: Blessed Sacrament and Skyliners. One of his ambitions: to meet and talk with Bob Thompson, drum Instructor for Blessed Sacrament.

When not drumming, Ron can be found in the great library of the Law Society at Osgoode Hall, where, he admits, it takes some 'control' not to practice drumming.

BILL HOLLOWAY: Bill joined Optimists in October of 1963, moving into the position of solo soprano; based on his eight years of horn playing experience. Bill began lessons on the cornet at the age of 11, when he studied for a year with Eldon Lehman, one of Toronto's finest trumpet teachers. In 1958 he joined the Greater Toronto Region Boy Scout Silver Band, the then Kiwanis Music Festival Champions since 1956, starting on second cornet then moving to soprano cornet (equal to an obligato soprano in a drum corps).

In June of 1960, he joined the Midtowners Drum Corps and played second soprano for one year. His first field show was the Ontario Championships of 1960 and he still remembers the experience..."Man, was I scared." The Midtowners were The Jr. 'B' Champions of that year. During 1961 and 1962 Bill moved in a soloist along with Jeff Shimo. Came 1963, and Jeff left for bigger and better things with the Optimists and Bill remained as the only soloist in the newly uniformed, newly sponsored Golden Monarchs. But in October of 1963, Bill fulfilled a three year ambition...he joined The Optimists. They accepted him and even put him on solo soprano! That same year, as a new member of The Optimists, Bill took (OVER-)

PROFILE OF THE CORPS: (continued)

part in a sextet that somehow brought back a trophy from the New York-Canadian Individuals. The following year, he and buddy Jeff Shimo, entered the Canadian Individuals as a duet and pulled off a second-second to some French Horn duet. (?)....

To close his first year with Optimists, 1964, Bill was presented with a 'Perfect Attendance' Award at the Corps' Banquet...the first time this award had been earned by any member of the Corps. "Oh well," says Bill, "We all excel in some field".

1965 marks Bill's last year with the Corps, as he turns 21 in June...also he plans to 'walk down that aisle' in October. But look out, you might notice an extra joe-boy on the Executive next year...an assistant to the Assistant to Something or other!

Outside the Corps Bill works for the Ontario Government. He started pushing a mail cart for a while, but soon worked his way up to claims checker for the Department of Mines. His ambition is to further his education and eventually to take over Robart's job---optimistic, eh??? He enjoys working for the government and comments that his fellow employees will buy positively anything come pay day...as was evident in his chocolate bar sales!

STEVE SAVAGE: One of the most popular members of the Corps is Rookie Steve Savage... the member with the 'movie-star' complex. Steve was in the Bantam Corps for four years and is a well-rounded Corps man. He is rookie to Ivor, (of England.)

When not with the Corps he is employed as a wrapper at Marcel's Parcel Shoppe (which I understand is a stone's throw from the De La Salle campus. On Wednesday nights he helps his father out at the "Green Stud" as he claims he is 22 in September.

Steve's sister, Stella and brother Powerful Pierre want to join the corps but Steve keeps telling them they are too young and they keep telling him he is too old! Besides, Steve keeps telling Stella that she can't join Optimists but should go up to Brantford and join St. Johns if she wants to be a Girl's Champion!

Besides the Corps, Steve claims his other hobbies are Karate, Judo and weight lifting and although he has the build as a weight lifter no one has yet tested him out in Karate or Judo. Steve's ambition..(now that he has discovered the Jr. Optimists)he wants to remain in the Corps as long as he can. Other hobbies: Girls, Cars, Food and 'The Village.'

NEW JACKETS



Illustrated by
DELUKE
MODEL
MELTON &
LEATHER

...To commemorate the Tenth Anniversary of the Optimists this year, the members of

the corps will be seen around the Contest fields this summer with their new style corps' jackets of green melton, white leather sleeves and featuring the Optimists new 7 Year Championship Crest of white, black and two tones of green. The new crest was designed by Optimists' Puplicity and Camera-man, Dave Johns. The of the jacket was submitted and decided by the members of the Corps.

CHICAGO TRIP OF AUGUST 14th CANCELED!

Letter received by the Corps Director on Thursday, June 3rd, reads, in part....

...After 8 straight meetings The Blue and Gold Tournament of Champions" Committee decided, on May 31st., that we were unable to hold The Blue and Gold Tournament of Champions on Auguat 14th.

We have tried everything humanly possible to hold the show, but due to inefficient lighting in any desirable stadium, our decision was made realizing that a show of

this caliber needs, and must have, the best, especially when it comes to lighting. As you attended last year's show in Highland Park, you know what I mean...and we have no guarantee that this year's lights would be any better.

We have tried many stadiums, and those with sufficient lighting did not have adequate seating and those with suffivient seating had no lighting and portable units would have to be brought in.

This would have been the sixth year of The Blue and Gold Tournament of Champions and the third one as an International Show.

AUGUST 14th is now an open date. The Corps Executive is trying to have the corps booked into another contest on that date, especially in the United States.

THE MISADVENTURES
of
Steve
Savage
the **MR. CLEAN** of the Comics



The flame that couldn't

By **GEORGE BAIN**

OTTAWA
I don't know how that story last week about Expo '67 and the eternal flame affected you, but I wept. Wept.
There was Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, out in front of the Parliament Buildings in his dinner jacket, handing this torch to a student and sending him off in the direction of Montreal with it.
"I take great pleasure in lighting this torch which will burn for two years," the Minister said. Hail.
And off down the highway went these students from the military colleges at St. Jean and Kingston, in their running underwear, relaying the torch.
And then at the fair, after they'd lit the eternal beacon with it, somebody decided that Expo couldn't afford the gas to keep an eternal flame going and they'd have to settle for a flame of enthusiasm that would burn in the hearts of Canadians.

O, the ignominy of it.
It's all very well to have flames of enthusiasm sustained by the gas round the hearts of loyal Canadians, but cannot we do better than this for our World's Fair? I think that if we all put our shoulders to the wheel the necessary money to pay the gas bill can be raised and, as for me, I'm proposing a pageant on the Parliament Buildings lawn.
This is still a little rough, mind you, but we could start with a dramatic reading by a chorus of mixed voices (Liberals and Conservatives) of The Ballad of Mitchell Sharp, or, It Was Just As If They'd Taken The News From Ghent To Aix Only To Discover There Was Nobody Home.

And the Minister stood with his burnished head
Aglow in the setting sun,
And he handed the torch to a student there
And he said to the student, "run,
Carry this torch where the fair's being built
And men even now commence
To prepare that fire which shall not expire
Till the opening two years hence."

And then through the dark of a rain-swept night
They carried it one by one
And never a student would let it go
Till muscles and lungs were done,
And they pounded along to St. Helen's Isle
And then as daylight came,
Came the last in view and he lurched,
it's true,
But he carried the sacred flame.

By George, that fair sends a shiver up the old back, doesn't it? I mean the drama of it and all.
They lifted the brand from his failing hand
And he spoke as a man in a daze:
"The Minister said that you'd want this torch
To light your eternal blaze."
And they looked at him then with puzzled eyes,
"Eternal?" said one, "alas,
That's all very well," he said, "but, hell,
Just think of the cost for gas."

Well, I suppose it tails off a little there at the end, impact-wise, you might say. Anyway, the next thing is the Expo song, which, the way I see it, ought to be done by the whole ensemble (which means including the NDP and Creditistes and types like that).
Gonna have us one great world-wide fair,
Gonna aye-tract lots of people there,
If it costs a zillion, we don't care
—That's Expo.
Gonna re-veal there all the world's great finds,
Gonna show 'em marvels of most all kinds,
If it costs a mint, why no one minds
—That's Expo.
Gonna search for talent in every land,
Give 'em Little Egypt and Sousa's hand,
An' to tempt the daring there'll be Sally Rand,
—That's Expo.
Gonna have the whole thing up to scratch,
Gonna burn a constant flame there, natch,

Or we are if . . . buddy, could you spare a match?
—That's Expo.

Finally, I've got a thing here that I see being sung, alternate choruses, by Maria Callas and the Beatles (availability permitting). As I've got it, it's tentatively titled There's A Flame In My Heart (But Is It Patriotism Or Those Cucumber Sandwiches?)

DIVA:
Come sleet or hail or slashing rain
There'll never be suppressed-o,
That sacred flame which I maintain
Within my burning breast-o,
O, think you not to dunn that light,
To douse it; don't suggest-o,
It burns forever, day and night,
Within my heaving chest-o.

QUARTET:
Got this flame in my heart
Wat I've had from the start
At the thought of the fair that's projected,
And it burns with a light
That's as hot as it's bright
From the keenness with which I'm infected;
But I'm bound to confide
That it's hard to decide
(It's a matter I've thoughts bitter-sweet in),
Does pride in the nation
Produce that sensation
—Or could it be something I've eaten?

DIVA:
Come, Expo, naught let us dismay
Or render us depressed-o,
Think not of costs you cannot pay
But of the golden rest-o;
The fair has wondrous things in sight
And zillions to invest-o,
I'll burn one in my breast-o.

QUARTET:
Got this burning inside,
Wat it's hard to abide,
Till you think what the flame's in support of,
Though it sears me (right there),
I'm a flame for the fair
An' that's hardly a thing to make sport of,
So warm is my fervor
I doubt an observer
Could ever begin to conceive it,
It's a patriot's flame
But it's strange all the same
How a Tums goes so far to relieve it.

Ticket prices begin at \$2, and remember, it's for a good cause.

Candles Sub For Fair Flame At Cost of \$50

MONTREAL (CP)—Candles that cost 20 cents each and burn for three or four days are being used to supply the symbolic flame for the Montreal World's Fair. The candles, which burn in a two-foot ornamental stand, replace the gas-fed urn that was to have burned continuously until the opening of the fair April 28, 1967. The gas urn was lit Thursday by a flame brought by a team of runners from Ottawa but was extinguished after fair officials discovered it would cost \$15,000 to keep going for two years. The candles will cost about \$50

I'd ride miles for a copy of the

YEARBOOK

*** '65**



.....
This year, an end of the year bonus...
***** YEARBOOK '65 *****

A complete "review of the Year" with The Optimists... "Inside" Inside-The-Corps photos... "Intimate" biographies of each member... "Crazy-Cartoons" and photos by 'Dave Johns'... Photos of the complete Corps, portraits and 'action' shots. ALL THIS, AND MORE, IS YOURS, FREE as a subscriber to Green Capsule Comments... 40 big pages in all. Date of publication: Late October, 1965!!!

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ITS NOT TOO EARLY TO START THINKING ABOUT ORDERING YOUR 1965 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP TICKETS... ONLY ABOUT 13 WEEKS TO THE BIG FINALS AT THE VARSITY STADIUM, TORONTO... TICKETS \$2.50 (reserved box)... \$2.00 (reserved centre) and \$1.00 (general admission.) WHEN ORDERING TICKETS, ORDER DIRECT FROM:
MR. BRONKO SABAN, Suite 610, 2200 Yonge Street, Toronto, 12.
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MORNING & AFTERNOON PRELIMS... ALL RUSH SEATS @ 50¢, purchased at Varsity Stadium.
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