



NEWS LETTER

Saint Andrew's Society
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MAY 1965 - NUMBER 72

LETTER FROM EDINBURGH - *a continuation*

In the last issue of the newsletter we carried an article, or rather excerpts from an article, by Alastair Reid which appeared in the New Yorker under the title "Letter From Edinburgh." Now we carry a subsequent letter written by Mr. Reid to the editors of the New Yorker.

October 27, 1964

The Editors, The New Yorker,
Dear Sirs:

In a recent Letter from Edinburgh that I wrote for The New Yorker, the word "whisky," in accordance with your magazine's style rules, appears in the form "whiskey." This would hardly be worth noting were it not that I was writing specifically about Scotland; hence, the precious fluid I was referring to *passim* was without question Scotch whisky. Now, a quick glance at the labels in any liquor store in New York will make it clear that while the Irish, rye, and bourbon camps letter their product "whiskey," Canadian and Scottish distillers stick consistently to the spelling "whisky." While it is just possible to lay one's hands on Irish whiskey in Scotland, I doubt seriously whether any Scottish publican would consider it worth his while to keep rye or bourbon in stock. Scotsmen drink whisky, which is to say Scotch whisky, except that in Scotland the qualification "Scotch" is never used, since it is completely unnecessary. There is no need to distinguish Scotch from any other whisky or whiskey. Whisky is Scotch; there is no choice. Hence, to my eye the "ey" spelling appears laughably outlandish.

Since I first tripped over the obtrusive "e", however, I have run into a regular whigmaleerie of confusion around the variant spellings of this word. It derives originally from the Irish Gaelic "uisce beatha" and the Scots Gaelic "uisge beatha," meaning "water of life" (just who hit on it first, the Scots or the Irish, will always remain a bone of historical contention), and since, in antiquity, both spelling and distilling were fairly amateur practices, the forms "whiskee" and "whiskie" were just as likely to crop up

as the other two. In the first half of the nineteenth century, when the distilling of spiritusfrumenti became a trade instead of a private activity, Scotch whisky and Irish whiskey, as distinct as two peas, were thus differentiated in spelling. The use of the "ey" spelling for bourbon, rye, and Irish and the "y" for Scotch and Canadian is a distinction firm enough to receive a nod from both Webster and the Oxford Dictionary but one that in practice, I discover, is honored as much in the breach as in the observance. The New York Times, for example, uses the spelling "whisky" throughout—a fact I would have thought might draw a spate of letters from purpling Kentucky colonels. The Encyclopedia Americana uses "whiskies" instead of "whiskeys," as the plural of "whiskey," and a fair number of books I have consulted blunder about between the two spellings. But the confusions do not end there. Acting on some bizarre information turned up for me by a Mr. Vitriol, assistant in the research department of the Licensed Beverage Industries, in Manhattan, I checked in my local liquor store and found, sure enough, that the brands Early Times and Old Forester, both bourbons, spell themselves "whisky" on their labels. Moreover, a display card surrounding a bottle on the counter read "Premier Scotch Whiskey," while the label on the bottle itself read "Premier Scotch Whisky."

I have no idea what all this proves, except confusion; nor do I think that to drink, it is necessary to be able to spell. But it does seem to me that the blending process is spilling over into spelling. I admit to having a native taste for Scotch whisky and English usage, but I would expect bourbon and Irish drinkers to be just as bewildered as I. It dawned on me last year, when the Spaniards succeeded in distilling a recognizable "ooeskee," that the trade was in for a jolt or two. I only hope that Mr. Vitriol and his fellows are up to doing something about it. But let me at least remove the impression left by your spelling that Scotland—which, after all, produces torrentially more distilled spirit for its size than any other place in the world—is taking quietly to bourbon, rye, and Irish. The thought is vaguely terrifying.

Yours, etc.,
Alastair Reid

Newsletter

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EDITOR . . . DUNCAN H. MACKENZIE

Saint Andrew's Society of Washington, D. C.
(SCOTSMEN)

P.O. Box 8058, Southwest Station
Washington 24, D. C.

The objectives of the Saint Andrew's Society are to afford assistance to Scotsmen and lineal descendants of Scotsmen, to perpetuate Scottish traditions and culture, and to promote social activities among its members. Membership is limited to men of Scottish birth or ancestry. Dues are fifteen dollars per year. The Society is not affiliated with any religious institution. Contributions to the Society's charitable funds are deductible for federal income tax purposes.

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS

President McLaughlin has announced the appointment of the following officers, committee chairmen and committee members to serve the Society during the calendar year of 1965.

Dancing	W. A. Smith
Almoner	Rev. C. S. McKenzie
Counsellor	E. S. Smith
Custodian	T. MacClure
Librarian.	D. H. Mackenzie
Historian.	M. F. H. Greenhorne
Pipe-Major	W. C. Stokoe
Open Meetings.	R. L. Ingram
	M. Greenhorne, J. A. McCartney, G. Gourlay, M. Wheeler, W. Couperthwaite, J. Gemmel
Kirkin'	R. L. Scott
	H. W. Blunt, W. C. Stokoe, J. Sutherland
Picnic	W. Fowler
	J. S. Brown, H. Ways, W. Duff, D. H. Mackenzie
Tartan Ball	H. Marsh
	N. G. Kindness, W. James, W. C. Stokoe, W. A. Smith, J. Dawson, R. Stewart
Burns' Nicht	R. McKinsey
Membership	J. S. Brown

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Scarves
Stoles
Tartan towels
Kilted skirts

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Cashmere sweaters
Shetland sweaters
Shetland tweeds & knitting yarns
Men's tartan waistcoats

Men's sport jackets
Pottery
Clan crest china
Dolls
Scottish books
Highland Regiment Prints

NEW MEMBERS

B. BRAXTON JONES, 3666 Gunston Rd., Alexandria, va.
WILLIAM MacKENZIE, 2810 74th Ave., Hyattsville, Md.
JAMES GEMMELL, 6800 Glenwood Ct. R.F.D., Bowie, Md.
THOMAS A. DARNALL, 1689 35th St. N. W., Washington, D. C.
JAMES RUSSELL, 307 Burfoot St., Falls Church, Va.
WILLIAM G. CLARK, 9810 Summit Ave., Kensington, Md.
JOHN N. GEMMILL, 710 Brookwood Rd., Baltimore, Md.
HUGH M. GILLESPIE, 12 Dorothy Lane, Rockville, Md.

We extend a most hearty welcome to these new members and urge them to mark their calendars now — thus avoiding the possibility of forgetting any of the Society's many events.

COMING EVENTS

SCOTTISH OPEN SOCIAL MEETING — May 21st, Equitable Life Insurance Bldg., 3900 Wisconsin Ave., N. W.

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN — May 23rd, National Cathedral.

PICNIC — June 12th, Palisades Recreation Center, Dana and Sherrier Place, N.W., D. C.

RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS — Sept. 24th.

SCOTTISH OPEN SOCIAL MEETING — sometime in October.

TARTAN BALL — Nov. 19th.

MEMBERS MEETING — Dec. 8th.

BURNS' NICHT — Jan. 21, 1966.

More information on these and other events will be forthcoming in your mail. PLEASE read it.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN THE 24th OF JUNE

SPECIAL NOTICE

Commencing with this issue of the newsletter we are adopting a new policy. Instead of three newsletters a year we are increasing production two-fold. You will now receive six per year. We hope to have them in your hands by the 15th of Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov. — however, due to many imponderables, your editor refuses to guarantee delivery on the 15th. — we might be a day or two late. Moreover, because of budgetary considerations, the size of the newsletter will be decreased; but it is felt that six newsletters of four or six pages will serve the Society better than three newsletters of eight or more pages.

PLEASE SUBMIT NEWSWORTHY ITEMS



Burns' Night Dinner

CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations to the General Fund and the Charity and Education Fund during 1964 totaled 20, having dropped from a total of 31 during 1963. Now we commence the list for 1965 with the fervent hope that we surpass both previous years.

RALPH INGRAM, in memory of Annabelle MacLeod
C. THOMAS CLAGETT, JR.
ROBERT N. McFARLANE
NEIL MacDONALD (non-member)
JOHN C. MacARTHUR
THOMAS P. NICHOLSON (non-member)
CHARLES C. CLARK, JR.
RAYMOND G. LOCHIEL
WILLIAM COUPERTHWAITE
ROBERT WAGGAMAN
FRANK A. GRANT
RALPH INGRAM, in memory of Agnes Finlayson.

NEARBY HIGHLAND GAMES

June 26th - 1st Annual Highland Games, Oakes Park, Niagara Falls, Ontario. Clan Mackenzie of Niagara Falls, New York is the host.

July 10th & 11th - Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Linville, North Carolina, Mrs. Agnes MacRae Morton.

July 24th - Asbury Park Scottish Games, Asbury Park, N. J. Peter K. MacHardy is Games Manager.

August 14th - Central New York Scottish Games, Griffin Field, Syracuse, N. Y.

*August 14th - Wilmington Games, Delaware Park, Delaware.

August 21st - 13th Annual Highland Games, Trenton, N. J.

*Sept. 5th - Ligonier Games, Ligonier, Pa.

*The Delaware and Ligonier dates cannot be verified at this time; however they will be corrected in the next issue of the newsletter if it becomes necessary.



Washington, D.C. - circa 1897

THE BAGPIPES IN HISTORY

Member ANGUS McDONALD, in a recent letter to a congressman in support of legislation to repeal the tariff on bagpipes, included the following passages which might serve to shed a little more light on the origin of the bagpipes - a mystery which has confounded Scots, and lesser types, for centuries.

"Although Scotland is the only country to claim the bagpipe as a national instrument its origin dates back to the dawn of history. According to a Celtic legend one of the bagpipe fraternities had the honor of playing before Moses. A medal has been found of the Nero period of Roman history with a representation of the bagpipe from which it has been conjectured that when the amiable Roman Monarch desired to express delight at the burning of his city and the roasting of his subjects, he did not employ the violin for that purpose, but poured out the joy of his soul through the "cornamusa."

The instrument in some shape or other turns up in every quarter of the globe. It was known in Greece as the "askaulos;" in Germany it is recognized as the "sacpfeiff;" in Norway as the "jockpipe;" in Italy as the "comamusa," "pira," and "zampogua;" in France as the "musette;" in Wales as the "piban;" in Lapland as the "walpipe;" in Finland as the "pilai;" in Persia as the "nei aubana" and in Arabia and Egypt as the "zoughara."

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

J. CHARLES THOMPSON, earned his Masters Degree in Linguistics at Georgetown University last February. The thesis; "The Topic - Comment Structure in Modern Spoken Mandarin Chinese." ----- DAN SILLERS, president of Jamestown College in North Dakota came all the way specifically to attend the Tartan Ball - truly this is commendable loyalty. ----- On March 19th the Naval Research Laboratory honored GEORGE GOURLAY upon his retirement from the lab after 26 years of loyal service with the Navy. George has been an Engineering Technician with the Upper Air Physics Branch of the Atmosphere and Astrophysics Division. ----- NORMAN KINDNESS is back among the active following a very serious bleeding duodenal ulcer complicated by an attack of pneumonia. ----- TOM HENDERSON, that world traveler, having just returned from Scotland is off again - this time to the American west.

SCOTCH SHORT-BREAD

Once again we have received a recipe from the kitchen of Ralph Ingram - a variation of Marion McNiels Short-Bread which Ralph calls "Pitcaithely Bannock."

First the SCOTCH SHORT-BREAD
 2 cups flour
 1 cup rice flour or Wondra.
 1/2 cup 10x sugar
 1/2 pound butter

Blend or rub in butter. If blender is used it will be necessary to knead and work by hand to form a dough. Divide in portions, according to desired size - quarters? - shape by hand into Bannock about 3/4" thick - pinch edges - prick through with fork - place on cookie tin. Bake in 325° oven about 30 minutes. (check)

Now to make PITCAITHELY BANNOCK:

Add, while kneading, to the above.
 2 oz. finely chopped almonds.
 3/4 oz. finely chopped candied peel or glazed fruits

The result, as many of our members can testify, is truly a most excellent Scottish delicacy.

PERSONALITIES IN THE SOCIETY

W. GORDON WEBNER was born in Norwood, Ohio in 1908, he came here in 1920 and has watched the many changes which have taken place in the Nation's Capital city during the past 45 years.

His Mother—who lived to age 92—was a Simpson (of the Fraser Clan). Altho she never saw Scotland, thru the eyes of others she verbally painted such an appealing picture—by quoting from memory many passages from Bobby Burns and from Sir Walter Scott—that Gordon just had to see the Highlands. So in 1960, he and his wife Elva (they have no children) visited Scotland, and saw the University of Edinburgh,



where several of his ancestors were trained for the Presbyterian Ministry. It was via the long, hard road of attending college at night, after work, that Gordon earned his two degrees; an A. B. from the American University, and the A.M. from the George Washington University, both of this City.

He became a member of this organization thru a unique experience. It was a warm Summer day—the windows were wide open—and he was singing and playing "A Hundred Pipers in 'aw" on his flute. A passer-by heard, and then asked: "Are you Scottish?" Answer: "Not by direct descent, but I thrill at hearing the drums, and especially the bagpipes!" Reply: "Then by all means, you should join the Saint Andrews Society."

Gordon plans to retire at the end of June 1965, after 30 years of service with the U.S. Federal Government. He has been a Transportation Economist, and feels he "inherited" his original interest in transportation from his Father, who was a U.S. Pony Mail Carrier in the wild-West Territories of Wyoming and Montana during the 1880's. After retiring, Gordon hopes to have more time to devote to his favorite pastimes which include: his Church, his many friends, the Boy Scouts, gardening, photography, and music.



Once again we have a biography taken directly from WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA.

W. EVANS BUCHANAN, builder and developer; b. Washington, Oct. 6, 1917; s. J. Wesley and Rosalyn (Evans) B; B.S., Wharton Sch. of U. Pa., 1940; m. Mary Clifton LaForce, Mar. 12, 1941; children - Robert Evans, Dorothy Elaine, Hope Louise, Jane Adele. With W. Evans Buchanan Companies, 1940—, pres., 1960—;

v.p., dir. County Fed. Savs. & Loan Assn., Rockville, Md., since 1957. Bd. dirs. Nat. Council Good Cities, 1964-65; mem. performance concept in bldg. com., Bldg. Research Adv. Bd., Nat. Acad. Scis., 1965; Comm. mem. home mortgage credit program HHFA, 1963; mem. home improvement adv. com. FHA, 1959-1960; pub. mem. Geneva (Switzerland) Conf. housing, Bldg. and Planning Com., Econ. Comm. for Europe, 1963; trustee Nat. Housing Center, 1964-65. Pres. Montgomery County Boys Baseball Assn., 1956; mem. President's Nat. Tax Revision Com., 1963. Bd. gov. Nat. Cathedral Sch., 1960-66. Mem. Nat. Assn. Home Builders (pres. 1963), Home Builders Assn. Met. Washington (pres. 1958), real estate bds. D.C., Md. Clubs; University; Columbia Country; Touchdown; Nat. Democratic. Home: 9616 Hawick Lane, Kensington, Md.



ALLAN McNEILL McKELVIE, a former vice-president of our Society, was born in Greenock, Scotland, 1915. Graduated in Medicine from the University of Glasgow, 1939. Spent 5 years as Surgeon Lieutenant in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. Awarded Commonwealth Fellowship and later Mayo Foundation Fellowship at the Mayo Clinic where he completed his speciality

training. Has practiced Orthopaedic Surgery in Washington since 1951. A member of the Royal Society of Medicine. He is Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Georgetown University, Honorary Consultant to the Government of Antigua, Consultant in Orthopaedic Surgery at the National Institutes of Health, President of The Washington Orthopaedic Club.

Vice-president of MEDICO, a service of CARE. He has been active in the Orthopaedics Overseas Division of MEDICO and has worked for them in Jordan, Colombia, South America, Algeria and Tunisia.

Served as U. S. Delegate to the 1963 Ditchley Conference on Anglo-American Cooperation on Medical Aid to Developing Countries. Member of the Governing Board of National Cathedral School, former Vice-president of St. Andrews Society. Wife, Cynthia Ratcliff of Maldon, Essex. Four children, eldest daughter Jill presently spending one year of study at St. Andrews University, Scotland. One son Roderick at Harvard University, one son Allan at St. Georges School, Newport, Rhode Island and one daughter Lindsay at National Cathedral School.

ROBERT WALLACE McMILLAN—A member of the Society since 1947, residing here since 1931, Bob McMillan was born on March 2, 1908, in Indiana. After first attending Indiana University, Bob received his A.B. (1931) from Ball State University; then the LL. B. (1937), LL. M. (1938), S.J.D. (1941), and M.P.L. (1957) from Georgetown University; and the M.B.A. (1955) from George Washington University.



First with the General Accounting Office, he later became the Chief Accountant of the Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration and then Assistant Legislative Counsel of the United States Senate. In 1943, he began the practice of law in Washington, continuing until 1951, when he joined the staff of the Aerospace Industries Association, operating in the financial, legal, tax, patent, Government contracts, public relations, and legislative areas. In 1963, Bob returned to the practice of law and general "con-

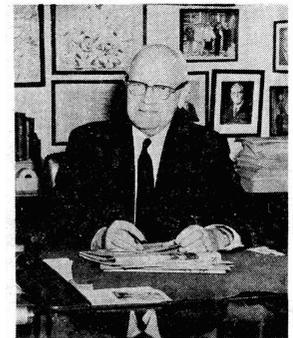
sulting" activities, especially regarding Washington Relations Services. Whatever needs to be done and is proper to be done, he can do it.

An active Mason in both the York and Scottish Rites, being a 32°KCCH, a Knight Mason of Ireland, and a Member of the Royal Order of Scotland, and also a Shriner, he has also been active in community and civic affairs in Washington and Arlington.

Bob has been married for 28 years to his sweetheart (Mary Elizabeth Wilson) from his home town of Muncie, Indiana. They have two sons, the elder being Robert, Jr., a Marine Corps Helicopter Pilot recently returned from Viet Nam, and the younger being John Edward, aged 16, a student at Washington-Lee High School in Arlington.

Formerly quite active in the affairs of the Society, it is hoped that Bob will soon be able to take time from his other pursuits and once again be a "regular".

JAMES COATS AUCHINCLOSS, Republican, of Rumson, N. J., was born in New York City, N. Y., January 19, 1885, the sixth of eight children of the late Edgar Stirling and Maria Sloan Auchincloss; educated at Groton School, Groton, Mass., and was graduated from Yale University, degree of A.B., 1908; employed by Farmers Loan & Trust Co. in New York City; was a member of the New York Stock Exchange, 1910-35, and served on board of governors for 18 years; veteran of Seventh Regiment, New York National Guard, and in the First World War served as captain, Military Intelligence; was deputy police commissioner of New York City and treasurer, president, and chairman of board of New York Better Business Bureau; served for 12 years as member of Council of Borough of Rumson, N. J., and was serving third term as mayor when elected to Congress; in 1909 married to Lee F. Alexander (deceased) and has two children—Douglas and Gordon, and nine grandchildren; two great grandchildren; married Vera R. Brown November 18, 1960; elected to 78th Congress; reelected to 79th, 80th, 81st, 82d, 83d, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, and 88th Congresses.



Since leaving Congress, where he had served in the House of Representatives for twenty-two years, Jim Auchincloss is devoting his time to the interests and development of the Capitol Hill Club here in Washington.

He founded the Club in 1948 with a membership of about 325 which has grown today to over 1400 Republican men and women from all parts of the country. The Club is temporarily located at 75 C Street, S. E., in the Congressional Hotel, but has ambitious plans to construct a new club house and promote a Republican Headquarters in Washington.