



The GROUND SHEET

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

104th — 47th — 131st — The Royal Westminster Regt.

Dedicated to the Ideals and Comradeship We knew in Two World Wars

Vol. 25, No. 2

BOX 854, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. V3L 4Z8

APRIL - MAY 1976

MELFA - 32ND ANNIVERSARY

SATURDAY MAY 22ND - SUNDAY MAY 23RD

SATURDAY, May 22nd

9:00 a.m.—MELFA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Ledgeview Golf Course, Abbotsford

Many Prizes and Trophies

Call your entries to:

Barney Jones — 531-4479

Ron Mannering — 521-8325

Scotty Low — 853-3123

Come early to make up foursomes

7:00 p.m.—ANNUAL MELFA DINNER

John Rosso, Chairman

Canadian Legion Hall, New Westminster

Cocktail Hour 7:00 to 8:00 —

(Tickets 50c each, per drink)

Dinner 8:00 p.m. — Tickets \$5.00

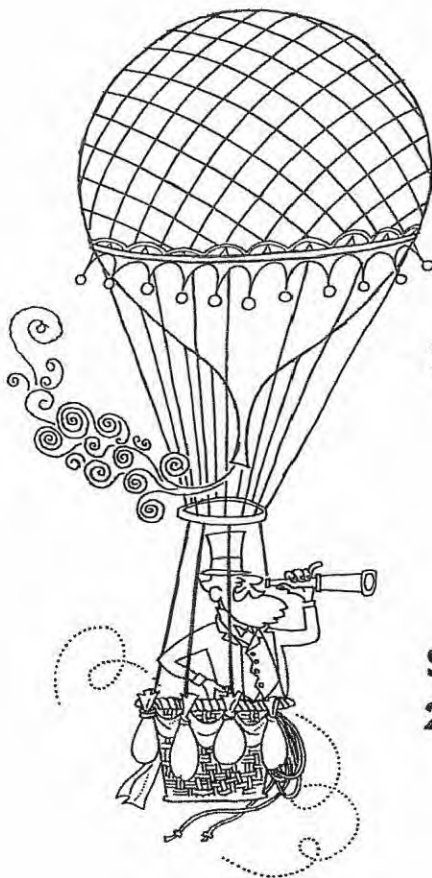
SUNDAY, May 23rd

2:30 p.m.—AFTERNOON RECEPTION

For the Ladies

All Members and their Ladies are invited to an Afternoon Tea to be held in the Combined Officers & Sergeants Mess at the Armouries.

The Museum will be open during the afternoon.



THE GROUND SHEET

President BERT HOSKIN
4736 62nd St., Delta, B.C. V4K 3L7 - 946-2277

Editor ALLAN COE
908 Tsawwassen Beach, Delta, B.C. V4M 2J3 — 943-3895

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7290 11th Ave., Burnaby, B.C. V3N 2M8 — 521-8325

Mail Bag

Thank you for the great response to my request for letters. It is most encouraging to receive so many compliments on *The Groundsheet*. I'll try to keep the standard high. Jim Oldfield writes from Oregon State University where he is still active; in part he says: "We tell our friends that we are a convenient stopping place en route to California, and over the years have been pleased to see a number of old Westies including Vern Ardagh, Duckey Drake, Ed Downing, Norm Brown, Al Nestie, Fred Day, and Shorty Hassard." Jim goes on to mention how much he enjoyed reading Ron Mannering's report on his trip to Holland and passes on his best regards to all of his old friends. Edith Bond drops a note from Calgary to enclose her husband Richard's dues and passes on their best wishes. Sometimes I feel that we should have a special award for all of the good wives who take care of seeing the dues are paid on time . . . thanks, Ladies.

Paul Ostafew of Vernon wrote asking for some assistance in locating any witnesses to an incident in which he was involved near Ravenna in 1944. He was in a truck with eight others when it ran over a mine and was blown up, he remembers that one of the others lost a toe in the accident. Any of you who were there on that truck at the time should get in touch with Paul to assist him in his claim with the Pension Commission. His address is 2103 27th Crescent, Vernon, B.C. Paul also reminded me of a humorous incident which happened to me at the Melfa. I had just been wounded by a rifle grenade hitting my binoculars and blowing me A over T. As I was lying there thinking of all my past sins, I saw my whole platoon rushing over to me, with great concern on their faces. Ah ha, I thought, what courage, they have come to rescue their beloved officer. Much to my everlasting chagrin I discovered their concern was not for me but for the Platoon Rum Ration which I had in my water bottle. So much for glory.

Robert Hardy of Burnaby reports that he has had several bouts in hospital and plans on moving out to Clearbrook this spring. Don Motzer of Sechelt, Jim Delaney of Verdun, Quebec, Jack Gebbie, North Vancouver, J. D. MacLennan, Cornwall, Ontario, G. Corman, Millgrove, Ontario, Eric Otto, Jack Smith, and T. J. Oldale, all sent in interesting notes with their 1976 dues. For all of you who enclosed "a little extra for the hospital visiting committee" many thanks, for Bill Robson finds it increasingly difficult to stretch his budget to cover the many visits he makes throughout the year.

H. H. Stenbeck of Fort Saskatchewan advises that he retired at the end of last year and hopes to make it out for the Melfa one of these years. Wes Cook writes from Puerto Rico where he is with the Addressograph Corporation enclosing his dues. It is so difficult to understand, we get dues from almost all corners of the earth, but we can't get our locals to pay up!

A nice letter from L. Carpick, now with the Winnipeg Police Department, who mentions that our old M.O. Dr. G. A. Waugh is practising in that city. He also mentions that he has some photographs taken in Italy and Holland. We'd sure like to see them for possible insertion in *The Groundsheet*. Ex 47th members might like to know that one of their members Cecil Edwin Harrison is now a patient in the Westminster Hospital (Veterans), London, Ontario. His wife reports that he looks forward to reading *The Groundsheet* and I'm sure he would be happy to get a letter from any old 47th who would care to drop him a line.

Ron Hurley advises that his and Ian Douglas' work on the report of their trip to Italy last year is progressing nicely and that they hope to publish their booklet very shortly. Both Ron and Ian have put a great deal of effort into this souvenir of their "Italian Pilgrimage" and it should be of great interest to all Association members.

George Carlson of Bienfait, Saskatchewan writes of an "A Coy" reunion held in Regina last fall. He says: "During the last autumn 'A Coy' had a reunion in Regina, Saskatchewan on the spur of the moment. R. W. Hassard, Norm Brault of Calgary, Ray Hockley of Trossacks, Jim Kyle of Manor and another Westie, whose name is missing, spent an evening with me reminiscing and going back to have a few laughs about things that happened." George enclosed a photo showing the group and a fine looking cake, but unfortunately the photo wouldn't reproduce in *The Groundsheet*. The fellows wish to be remembered to all their old friends of A Coy and the rest of the Regiment.

Thanks again for your good support by writing to us, and keep up the good work, remember it only costs eight cents to keep in touch.
ALLAN COE, Editor

Colourful Ceremony

The Annual Church Parade and Regimental Christening was held on Sunday, March 28th, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Westminster, The Rev. Thomas Allen officiating. Eight sons and daughters of Regimental personnel were presented for Baptism in a most colourful ceremony. The Regimental Band paraded with the unit and provided a musical background to the service. Children baptised were Austin Nicholas, son of Major and Mrs. J. N. Gangur, Eileen Janet, daughter of Sergeant and Mrs. M. R. Grieve, Russell James, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Cann, Melanie Gayle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Carpenter, Cindy Enid, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Carpenter, Alison Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. McKinney, Kristine Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Pickell and Bradley Edward, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Silvaggio. Bibles were presented to each of the children by the Royal Westminster Regiment Association as has been the practice for the past several years. The Colours hanging in the Chancel are the first stand of Colours received by the Regiment in 1919. These Colours were laid up in Holy Trinity Cathedral for safekeeping at the outset of World War II.

The association of the Regiment with the Cathedral goes back for over 100 years. Holy Trinity Cathedral is truly the parish church of the Regiment.

A Christening Tea was provided by the wives of the officers and senior N.C.O.'s of the Royal Westminster Regiment in the armouries.

The Royal Westminster Regiment Assoc. Minutes of Annual General Meeting Held at the Armouries on Thursday, March 18, 1976 New Westminster, B.C.

The meeting was opened at 8:10 p.m. with a one minute silence in honour of fallen comrades. President Bert Hoskin presiding, 31 members in attendance. The President welcomed the members attending, declared we had a quorum and proceeded. The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting were adopted as circulated on a motion of Low/Glenn.

President Bert in his remarks thanked those in attendance for turning out to the meeting and for their continuing interest in such affairs as the Smoker, Draw and Melfa Dinner. He especially thanked the members of the Regiment, Col Mike Steede, Officers and serving members for their support and interest throughout the year. He commented that the executive being human, had made mistakes, some members had felt slighted, some had felt ignored, but now, more than at any other time in our history, we needed to stick together as an association if we are to survive. Where do we go from here? Bas Morgan is chairman of a committee on membership, whose task will be to try to advise us on what the future of our association might be.

Sick and visiting committee chairman, Bill Robson reported making 21 visits to various hospitals, George Derby, Shaughnessy, General, Royal Columbian and to two private homes. He reported distributing cigarettes, candy, cookies, cards, Christmas cakes, books and chocolates to all reported comrades in hospital. Bill welcomes information of any hospitalized member as often it is difficult for him to find out that members are in hospital. Give him a call at 254-2876 and he will include them on his monthly tour.

Bill was given a hearty vote of thanks for his continuing good work.

SMOKER

Walter Lyle in absence of a written report, stated simply that this year's Smoker, delayed by the change in the dates of the Annual Draw, was a resounding success and submitted his financial report which follows:

REVENUE

Bar sales	\$356.50	
Surplus stock — sold to Assn.	67.99	\$424.49
Less — cost of sales (beer, liquor, mixes, ice and cups)		348.78
Profit on bar operation		\$ 75.71

EXPENDITURES

Newsprint roll ends	1.50	
Sound system	40.00	
Catering	262.50	
Dishes — rental	35.00	
Bartender	30.00	
Prizes	16.70	385.70

LOSS — on operation

	\$309.99
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BUDGET

	200.00
Absorbed by "Surplus" account	\$109.99

SECRETARIES REPORT

Ron Mannering said how much he enjoyed the year, especially renewing the contacts with the membership of the Association through the notes and letters received when dues are remitted. He also reported that he had enjoyed working with President Bert and Editor Allan Coe. He expressed hope that the new format of billing dues and distribution of membership cards would result in greater support of the Association. Bill Robson was mentioned for his assistance in putting on the tea and coffee for the executive meetings. Ron offered to serve the newly-elected President if requested.

REPORT OF THE 1975 MELFA COMMITTEE

Scotty Low reported on the start of the Melfa celebrations with a good turn-out of golfers and duffers at the Tsawwassen Golf Club. Scotty had volunteered for Barney Jones and Ron Mannering who were delayed. A good time was had by all who turned out and the hope was expressed that although we are one year older that a bigger and better turnout can be expected this year. Doug Glenn, chairman of the 1975 dinner, reported that the Committee catered for 150 but that only 107 attended. The drop in attendance was attributed to the fact that the dinner was held in the Armoury. This year it is planned to hold the dinner in the Legion Hall which has, in the past, encouraged a better attendance. The Sunday afternoon tea for the ladies was successful although sparsely attended. It was recommended that the tea be held again this year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Vern Ardagh reported in detail the financial standing of our Association in his usual capable manner. First the good news, we have total assets of \$1932.00. Now the bad news, liabilities total \$4158.00, leaving a deficit of \$2226.00. Half of this was created by the purchase of tables and chairs in 1974.

Receipts	\$5118.00
Expenditures	\$6799.00
Over expenditures	\$1681.00
Deficit from 1974	\$ 545.00
Total Deficit	\$2226.00

Vern moved adoption of his report, seconded by Williams, carried.

REPORT OF THE REGIMENT AND CADETS 2316 Royal Westminster Regt. Cadet Corps (New Westminster)

This is our resident Cadet Corps and is sponsored by the Regiment. As a sponsored Corps it looks forward toward the Regiment for logistical support in addition to training support. In addition, the Regiment also is obligated to provide it with financial assistance. The Corps under command of Capt Pat Moore is presently parading 45 strong. Their training is imaginative and their administration is good.

1922 Royal Westminster Regt. Cadet Corps (Matsqui)

This Corps is parading in the old Matsqui Armoury which B Coy of the unit vacated in 1969. It continues to have a financial problem due to the high rental being charged them by the Municipality of Matsqui. The monthly tariff of \$100.00 is most difficult to raise and they have had poor response from service organizations in Matsqui in answer to their requests for support. Branch No. 2 of The Royal Canadian Legion has been most generous in giving some financial aid. The fact that the Corps continues to survive is largely due to the hard work and dedication of their CO, Capt Dannis L'Ami. They are presently parading approximately 20 cadets.

1838 Royal Westminster Regt. Cadet Corps (Maple Ridge)

The Corps has recently had a change of command. Capt T. Pinch has retired and has been replaced by Maj R. Stevenson, late of The Lord Strathcona's Horse. This is an affiliated Corps and as such does not look towards the unit for financial aid but does receive both logistical and training support. The Corps was rated as second highest in B.C. last year. They have recently had difficulty with accommodation but their sponsor, The Royal Canadian Legion in Maple Ridge has come to their assistance. They are presently parading approximately 25 cadets. Cdt/MWO Whitebone, E. D., the Corps RSM, has recently applied for his commission in the Regiment.

2822 Royal Westminster Regt. Cadet Corps (Surrey/Delta)

This is our youngest Cadet Corps having applied for affiliation only two years ago. They are prospering very well under the command of Capt Tom Buchenauer. They are presently parading 60 cadets and are in process of organizing their second company in the Whalley area.

All our Cadet Corps, sponsored and affiliated, supported the Regiment's efforts in this year's Draw. As a result, they all shared in the proceeds received.

THE REGIMENT

The serving battalion is presently up to full strength. In the past month we have recruited approximately 60 new members. This recent influx of personnel is largely the result of our being tasked this summer for the support of the Olympics in Montreal.

At the present time the unit has on attachment and under command three members of the Regular Support Staff. These three regular force soldiers bring with them a wealth of experience upon which we can draw and we are delighted to have them. Capt Bob Halpin, the Adjutant, came to us from 3 PPCLI where he commanded Support Coy. The Training Officer, CWO G. Naylor, came to us from Calgary where he was Garrison RSM. Prior to that he was RSM of the Royal Military College, Kingston. Sgt Whitehead, the Chief Clerk, was sent to us from Germany where he was serving with 4 CMBG.

As a member of the Primary Reserve, the Regiment is

tasked with being in direct support of the Regular Force. In this regard, several members of the unit were sent to Germany in the past year for service with 4 CMBG. While there they learned much which is adding to the general improvement of the unit. At the present time five NCOs of the unit are serving in Egypt with the UN truce team and, in fact, several others have already been rotated home. At Christmas I received a letter from one of our NCOs, Sgt K. R. Charlton, who was at that time stationed on the Golan Heights.

Four members of the unit are now sporting very proudly their newly won parachute wings. The last to graduate was Capt John Lamb who has recently taken command of B Coy.

We are still in the process of attempting to have official approval given to D Coy which we have been organizing in Chilliwack under command of Capt Barry Cameron. Their strength presently rests at 35 and they have a waiting list of another 25. Due to our present strength these additional applicants cannot be enrolled and it is hoped, therefore, that we will receive soon the approval for our increased establishment. Branch No. 4 of The Royal Canadian Legion has been most helpful and cooperative in assisting us in our program and we are most grateful to them.

The band is as busy as ever and has done very well under the guidance of the Bandmaster, Sgt M. Grieve. Their musical standard is second to none and we are very proud of them. In the past year the band has recruited six young ladies who have proven to be a great asset. They have brought with them good musical potential and have added much to the standard of the band.

Summer camp will again be held in Ft. Lewis, Washington. We are expecting good participation as the training facilities there are of the highest calibre.

I am delighted to report that Capt Jack Usher, who retired in December after 35 years service in the Unit, has been awarded the O.M.M. (the Order of Military Merit) which has replaced the D.S.O. in the Canadian Forces. We are all pleased that Jack's years of service have been recognized in this way.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Association and the Association Executive for all their support and assistance over the past year. You have done much to make my task easier and it is greatly appreciated.

—M. H. H. STEEDE, *Lieutenant Colonel*

AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for two \$250 awards open to descendants of former members or present serving members, was at an all-time low of two in 1975.

Only one award was made. The recipient was Miss Patricia Simpson of Vernon, who is the grand-daughter of Capt Tom Harris, Westminster Regiment.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

1. Cadet WO Scott Usher was awarded \$100 for recognition of the credit he brought to the name of the regiment in having been named best cadet in the United Kingdom Leadership Course among all cadets from the Commonwealth in 1975.

2. Lyle Edward Meredith, a young man who has been a paraplegic since the age of seven. Since leaving hospital he has applied himself to helping other handicapped people. As the Assistant Executive Director of the Handicapped Resource Centre since 1972 he has, by determination, ability and effort, helped to make that organization a very important source of encouragement and help to hundreds of handicapped individuals. He is co-author of a group homes manual which is being used by similar groups outside this area. This award has not yet been made.
3. Jerry Milne, aged 18, a customer in a New Westminster corner grocery store when an armed hold-up took place. He followed the culprits in his car, running one of them down. As a result of his unselfish and courageous action the New Westminster police were able to clear up a number of other similar crimes. This \$100 award also has not yet been made.
4. An award of letters of commendation and plaques are also approved to be sent to three people responsible for rescuing a young swimming pool victim. This was a combination rescue and resuscitation incident.

—WALTER LYLE

REPORT OF THE MUSEUM COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1975-1976

For our Committee this has been an eventful and, in most respects, a rewarding year. In particular, our physical arrangements have been improved and our status as a Canadian Forces Museum is paying off reassuringly.

At the beginning of this fiscal year the Museum Committee was comprised of these members: Bert Hoskin, Chairman; Mike Steede, Roy Rigby-Jones, John Rosso, Walter Tyler, Walter Hogg, Vernon Ardagh, George Hughes, Glenn Gates, Malcolm Stewart, Ian Douglas. Dave Adlem joined the Committee last October and Basil Morgan last January. Malcolm Stewart has been obliged to give up the Treasurer's job, which has been assumed by Dave Adlem.

Physical changes have increased the display area by over 40%. Four new display cases made by inmates at the B.C. Penitentiary have been installed and were promptly filled. Their vertical arrangements provided a small office and work area. The space needed for the new display arrangements was provided by the removal of the cannon which you now see in front of the Armoury. Its removal was a professional job performed by Commercial Truck of New Westminster — for the very nominal sum of \$42.00. Peter Adlem made and donated a rifle case to the Association for use in the Museum.

As our Treasurer's annual report will show, our finances — thanks to the Association and The Canadian Forces Museums Committee — are in good shape. For 1975-76 the Association granted the Museum \$440.00; for 1976-77 the grant, received in January '76 was \$1000.00. The CF Museums Committee made a grant of \$2700.00 for the fiscal year 1975-76 (March to March) and for 1976-77, \$1900.00. Since the DND grants could be received only upon claims for expenditures already made, a bank loan of \$1000.00 has been made, to be repaid as grants are received. The CF grants (DND) are not being employed to pay for furniture or other tangible acquisitions but for services such as the four-month employment of

Sgt Cull and for a part-time Assistant Curator (when we get one) and for operating expenses.

The work of the Museum last summer was without benefit of grants from outside sources such as we had in the two previous years, but the Committee did function in July and August and entertained quite a number of casual visitors. In September our Chairman attended the Annual Meeting of the Organization of Military Museums in Canada (OMMC) at Calgary. That meeting was highly productive because of the personal contacts Bert made with the executive of the CF Museums Committee. The next OMMC meeting will be at Kingston this September, which we should attend with at least one representative. Travel is by Air Transport Command and accommodation is provided.

On October 23 Bob Switzer and a CBC TV crew taped Bob's Nov 11 broadcast from the Museum. That experience was interesting in itself, but it gave good publicity to the Regiment, the Association, and to the work of the Pen inmates from whom the last of their cases had just been received.

Our Visitor's book collected 307 signatures during this past year, although many people neglected to sign.

The employment of Sgt Cull, former Orderly Room Sgt, has been very profitable. She has done a great deal of work — first in bringing our Inventory for our Loan Agreement with the Association up to date, and then in cataloguing and tagging acquisitions and in guiding visitors. The CF Museums grant for her employment runs out a week from now.

We have not yet advertised for artifacts but some acquisitions have been made — a Bren and a field telephone from DND, some clothing from Association members, and a badge and button collection that Dave Adlem has mounted on a loose collection supplied long ago largely by Barney Jones.

A definitive history of the Regiment does not exist, but should. Walter Tyler has begun to work on the writing of such a history and is digging into sources supplied by the Curator of Rodd Hill Museum.

The most urgent job to be done in 1976-77 is the appointment of an Assistant Curator. We need such a person to keep the Museum functioning in a regular way, and we have a grant for the purpose from the CF Museums Committee, provided we spend it for budgeted items. We shall submit a budget to that Committee in June and seek support for an employee's wages and operating expenses for the FY 1977-1978. Our plans also include the refinement of our Catalogue File, the assessing and cataloguing of the contents of Room 209, the creating of a good file for the safekeeping of documents, the further identification of persons and places in our photos, the printing and framing of The Founding Members' Roll, and a lot of little jobs that make up the business of operating a museum.

At one time we expected action by the City in creating a Civic Museum complex in which we might become involved, but the Kenora project fell through and no new scheme has surfaced.

The most important new project will be the creation of the Diorama of our Motor Bn in Revue Order. As you know, an anonymous donor provided \$2000 to get the project going — a handsome beginning of an idea on which Veron Ardagh is working with a model-building society in Vancouver.

—IAN DOUGLAS, *Acting Secretary*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At this time President Bert Hoskin vacated the chair, passed the gavel to Ted Hammersly, who consented to conduct the election of officers. The following is the list of your elected and appointed officials for the year of 1976:

<i>President</i> —Stan Moorehouse, 1404 700 Hamilton St. N.W.	522-3507
<i>Vice President</i> —Bas Morgan, 1547 54th St., Delta	943-4177
<i>Past President</i> —Bert Hoskin, 4736 62nd St., Delta	946-2277
<i>Treasurer</i> —Vern Ardagh, Bank of Montreal, 6th & 6th N.W.	526-4461
<i>Editor</i> —Allan Coe, 908 Tsawwassen Beach, Delta	943-3895
<i>Secretary</i> —Ron Mannerling, 7290 11th Ave., Burnaby	521-8325
<i>Executive Members:</i>	
Gerry Gangur, 2015 Hyannis Dr., N. Van.	929-5785
Dave Adlem, 1716 River Rd., Richmond	278-2303
Walter Lyle, 614 4th Ave. N.W.	521-3265
Gerry Pickell, 1000 Taylor St., Vancouver	
J. McConnell, 3660 No. 2 Rd. RR2, Sardis	
Bill Robson, 2335 Wall St., Vancouver	254-2876
Red Williams, 9132 120th St., Surrey	594-4621
Walt Jackson, 7604 Elwell St., Burnaby	526-8152
Ed Shannon, 940 Dixon St., Richmond	277-6525

At this point, Bas Morgan, Vice President, took over the chair in the absence of President Elect Moorehouse. Bas thanked Past President Bert Hoskins and the Executive for their efforts and hard work during the past year.

NEW BUSINESS

Ted Hammersly moved that no women be allowed to attend either the Melfa Dinner or the Smoker, seconded by Williams. Many spoke on the subject and an amendment by Glen/Huff that they not be allowed until both events were opened up to our wives was withdrawn after it was pointed out that those in question were serving members of the Regiment, members of the C.W.A.C. and as such had every right as members of the Association to attend Association functions. The chairman put the original motion to vote and it was defeated.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The motion re life memberships received final reading, moved by Secretary Ron Mannerling, seconded by Vern Ardagh, "That new life membership dues be \$5.00 per year." This notice of motion now standardizes all annual dues at \$5.00 per year except for World War I Veterans, who will continue to be free. The motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned for refreshments at 10 p.m.

**THE MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT AND
THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT (For Fiscal Year Ended December 31st, 1975)**

Cash at Bank (Current Account Ledger Balance) January 1st, 1975		\$1,645.51
DONATIONS:		
J. A. Neill	\$ 5.00	
Sgt D. A. Elder	\$2.00	
Miss Evelyn Simpson	10.00	
Gyro Club of New Westminster	100.00	
Royal Westminster Regiment Association	455.00	572.00
INTEREST REVENUE (Savings Account)		66.57
PETTY CASH on hand December 31, 1975		50.00
		<u>\$2,334.08</u>
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Bank Charges and Services	\$ 21.97	
Changing Locks for Door and Display Cases	242.92	
Desk Lamp	22.61	
Two Display Cases	721.71	
Electrical Supplies	73.03	
Framing	25.08	
Map Case, Stand and Leg Risers	383.42	
Museum Maintenance, etc.	41.94	
Moving Cannon	42.00	
Petty Cash Expenses (Postage, Office Supplies and Miscellaneous)	83.12	
Photos	90.55	
Public Relations	50.28	
Stationery	134.40	
Telephone	53.94	
Typing of Honour Roll	26.00	
Wages, Assistant Curator (after p/r deductions)	174.88	
Wiring Materials	55.63	2,243.48
Cash on Hand and at Bank December 31st, 1975		<u>\$ 90.60</u>
CASH RECONCILIATION		
Current Account		\$ (205.22)
Savings Account		245.82
Petty Cash		50.00
		<u>\$ 90.60</u>

Toronto Members Great Hosts

Ron Hurley, your ex-editor, often speaks with great enthusiasm of the hospitality extended him by the members of the Toronto chapter of our Association whenever he visited that city. Well, this year it was my chance, as your new editor, to learn first hand what true hospitality is all about.

Returning from a trip east I found myself in Toronto on November 11, however because of the mail strike, then at its peak, I had been unable to advise my contact, Bill Majury, of my time of arrival. The first thing I did after checking into the Airport Hilton was to call Bill on the phone and let him know where I was located. I hadn't seen Bill since that fateful day of May 24, 1944 at the Melfa. I must say I was a little astounded at the organization which went into action at that point. Within an hour or so Bill was at the hotel with several stalwarts of the Toronto chapter of our Association. It was a real reunion for, apart from being Remembrance Day, it was truly a day of reminiscence. I'll swear we refought all the battles of the war and remembered so many of the humorous incidents which fortunately our memories choose to select over the less pleasant ones.

Bill especially asked to be remembered to all of his old buddies. I must say he looks terrific, in good health and just the same sense of humour he always had. Those of you who remember Bill will be glad to know that he is still courting the Goddess of Chance and appears to be doing pretty well. He says that when he is not chasing the girls he is chasing the horses, more power to you, Bill. Ed. Lasher is Inspection Supervisor of the Region of Peel and most kindly offered me the hospitality of his home on my next visit. Alf White is the General Manager of a Toronto printing company, Maurice Press, Ltd. and one of the most active members of the Toronto chapter. Wally Lockhart, whom I recognized immediately, is Manager of the Pulp and Paper Safety Association and as such does a great deal of travelling in Ontario. Bill Dennis who looks almost as young as he did in 1944 is with the Ontario Hydro in their Transport Department. Pat McCarthy, President of the Toronto chapter was kind enough to phone during the evening. Pat was just getting over a serious illness and couldn't get in for the reunion. Pat mentioned that the chapter was a rather close knit group composed of about 30 members who enthusiastically supported the Association. Pat's only complaint was that they very rarely were able to attract any of the ex-officers who live in the area. Like our own Association the support seems to come from the same small group every year. Perhaps now that this has been brought to your attention, fellows, you may make that little extra effort to support the Association at least once a year by attending the Annual Meeting.

My most enjoyable reunion came to a close when room service cut off delivery of beer and the assistant manager suggested that some other guests had asked we refight the war some other place. Obviously they must have been pacifists because it was only 2 a.m.

A sincere vote of thanks, Torontonians, for your wonderful hospitality.

—Allan Coe, *Editor*

President Moorehouse Appeals for Support

Greetings to all members of the Royal Westminster Regiment Association. I am indeed honoured to have been elected as your President for the coming year and I will endeavor, together with the newly elected executive, to continue the excellent work done by my predecessor.

We are fortunate in having one of the best associations of its kind in Canada, much to the envy of some others.

We can attribute much of our past success to the support we receive from our membership. Our current strength is 700, that's how many members receive each issue of *The Groundsheet*, our paid-up membership is 205, that's how many have sent in their dues for 1976.

The prime objective of your Executive for 1976 is to try to bring back the missing members, who for one reason or another have drifted away from the Association.

To this end I would ask each and everyone of you who read this message to contact just one other member, whom you know, to encourage him to attend the Melfa Dinner, or any other association affair, pay his dues and come back into the fold.

In particular we are concerned with the local area, that is the Lower Mainland, where a lot of our members reside. You are the fellows we would like to see support the Association by showing up at our various functions. This, while not a new idea by any means, is still a necessary fact, for our Association is only as strong as you, the members, make it.

As your new President I am counting on you to make 1976 the best year ever for a strong membership. If you haven't yet paid your dues, why not take a minute and put a cheque in the mail today, or better still, come to the Melfa Dinner on Saturday, May 22.

—STAN MOOREHOUSE, *President*

Past President's Report

As I reach the end of my tour as President I want to record my heartfelt thanks to the members of the Executive and all of our hard working committees who have done so much for the Association these past two years. My appreciation also to the membership at large for their attendance at the smokers and annual dinners and whose work as both sellers and buyers of draw tickets has kept the Association a strong, viable and respected organization. One could not ask for a greater participation than that provided by the Colonel and members of the serving Regiment.

I have little to add to my last message in the last issue of *The Groundsheet* except to ask you all to stick together regardless of any real or imagined slight, or of some oversight on the part of your Executive, for we are not infallible by any means.

We have some serious policy decisions to make in the near future about "where do we go from here." Bas Morgan is Chairman of a special committee which will offer guidance about this. We need each other now as much as we ever did, and we owe the Association our complete loyalty.

—BERT HOSKIN

What Became of Kelly?

MIKE BOND, 9013 Prince Charles Blvd., Surrey, B.C.
 GEORGE DOMINICK, Box 8, Site 5, R.R. 2, Calgary, Alta.
 BILL HISCOCK, No. 23 - 848 Hockley Place, Victoria, B.C.
 R. G. HOLTBY, R.R. No. 1, Diamond View, Quesnel, B.C.
 AL PRADINE, 10463 Jasper Ave., Edmonton, Alta.
 ORBIN SIMLE, 1106 Second Ave., Trail, B.C.



**ANYONE
FOR
GOLF?**

**COME TO
THE 1976
MELFA**

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 22nd

Ledgeview Golf Course, Abbotsford

Tee Off - 9:00 a.m.

Coming Events

Mark Your Calendar

ANNUAL DUES PAYABLE NOW!!!

MELFA GOLF TOURNAMENT, MAY 22, LEDGEVIEW
GOLF COURSE, ABBOTSFORD.

ANNUAL MELFA DINNER (STAG), LEGION HALL,
NEW WESTMINSTER, MAY 22, 7:00 P.M.

AFTERNOON RECEPTION, LADIES AND ESCORTS,
ARMOURY, MAY 23, 2:30 P.M.

Please come early to enable us to arrange foursomes before tee off time. Trophies for gross and net plus plenty of other prizes.

Phone entries in advance to:

Barney Jones — 531-4479

Ron Mannering — 521-8325

Scotty Low — 853-3123

Ledgeview can be reached from Vancouver by Highway 401 to Main Street in Abbotsford, then left on the road to Mission, then right on McKee and Hazel Road. You can't miss it! If in doubt ask a native . . .

This is a great course and we are looking for a good turnout. Don't let us down, come early and avoid the crush.

RETURN
REQUESTED

THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 854, New Westminster, B.C. V3L 4Z8



D. W. GLENN,
6666 WALKER AVE.,
BURNABY 1, B. C.