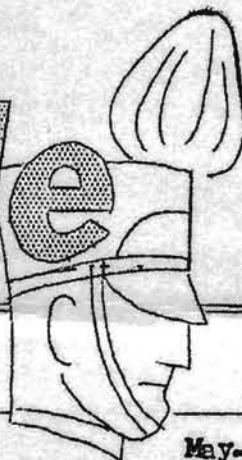




GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS

Inside



PERSONAL COPY OF NO

19

editor: Doug McPhail
Associate editor: Don Daber

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May-June 1961

an open letter to The Optimists from Barry Bell ...

RE: OPERATION 'INDIVIDUAL PERFECTION'

Dear Corpsmen:

Do you want the Corps to be unbeatable this year? Of course you do. Do you want the Corps to climb to a greater degree of perfection than ever before attained? Naturally you do. Here then is the secret to success in two words---INDIVIDUAL PERFECTION.

"Ah yes," you say, "this is something we've heard a great deal about, lately. O.K. That's fine...but what have you done about it? Have you tried to improve your ability to the stage where you can say "I'm as good as THE BEST player in ANY Corps...AND PROVE IT. This I doubt. And here's another thing...is the only practicing you do accomplished at Corps' rehearsals? If this is so then you can never hope to achieve a... high degree of perfection either individually or collectively.

You must identify yourselves with other phases of Show Business, for instance ---an actor receives his lines, goes home and memorises them and practices saying them...then he rehearses with the rest of the cast. He does not 'waste' the time of his associates by having to be taught his lines.

In a Drum Corps a PRACTICE is time utilized by one member striving for INDIVIDUAL PERFECTION...A REHEARSAL is time utilized by a GROUP striving for uniform perfection.

CONCLUSION: THE CORPS will improve tremendously if you first improve yourself to the point where you can say modestly "I AM SUPERIOR" and then be able to PROVE IT.

RESULT: Better performances by the OPTIMISTS---thus greater enjoyment for YOU!!! I have a complete and sincere faith that you will drive yourselves to this new and much needed phase of improvement, that of "INDIVIDUAL PERFECTION" with real Optimistic enthusiasm---

Let's GO you guys...

Barry

GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS 'INSIDE' THE EDITORIAL POLICY OF G.C.C.

Our policy: To instruct...to inform...to entertain---and to say that which is necessary concerning your Corps. That we have succeeded in the first five issues is evident from the response we have had from letters and 'column comments' and the occasional comments from members of the Corps themselves. The first issue of G.C.C. was begun both as a 'P.R.' medium and Corps' instruction sheet...but as more issues came out it was soon evident that most of the space was swung into the P.R. Division with only the occasional editorial page specifically aimed at the Corps.

Then, there arose the question on just what the outsider should or should not see. This was controlled in the past by eliminating the editorial page from mailed out copies...but in a few cases I understand there was a slip-up. To remedy this, your newsletter GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS, beginning this issue, will come out in two sections---the first, the General News Section...the second, this section G.C.C. 'INSIDE',

(Continued next page...)

WHY THE FIRST SECTION?

Some of you may ask, "Why bring out the first section at all?" It means more work for your editors, it adds to the expense, it requires more work to prepare and print...but it is an important aspect of the Public Relations Division of the Corps.

At present GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS, to the extent of 75-100 copies, is mailed out to 8 elements of the public.

(1) Drum Corps' Writers—Bob Mannhardt, Ernest Saxton of Drum Corps World as well as the publishers of The World.....Pat Newman and Ken Whittington of Off the Line...Henry Berish of Cadence and Ed Rooney of The World and Drum Corps News.

(2) Certain Judges and sponsors of important Canadian and American Contests---to keep the Optimist name up where it counts.

(3) The Executive of The Toronto Optimist Club and associated Optimist Clubs in Canada and the U.S.A.

(4) Given to you for your information and the hopes that you will pass the first section on to your family so that can be kept 'up to date' on the Corps activities.

(5) To Corps Boosters both in Canada and the U.S.A. who have written in especially to be placed on the mailing list...boosters extend from Buffalo, Rochester, Boston, Jersey City, Chicago, Garfield, New Orleans, in the States...and Hamilton, Toronto, Kitchener, Simcoe, Ottawa, Montreal, Oakville, Lindsay, Niagara Falls, Brantford, and smaller centres in Canada.

(6) To certain members of the executive of the Association.

(7) To a few Directors of Competing Corps....specifically Midtowners, Hamilton Optimists, Simcoe Optimists, Trafalgar, Jesters, Royalties and St. Marys.

(8) Certain friends, and in some cases perhaps, enemies in competing Corps who have asked especially to be placed on the mailing list that they should receive the Newsletter is good psychological warfare as it builds THE OPTIMIST LEGEND UP TO A GREATER DEGREE to perhaps what it actually is...it develops that they are competing against an "idea" which is much harder to defeat.

THE FIELD comes first, naturally---but in our wide travels others will see us and know THAT WE ARE NOT the ordinary run-of-the-mill, mediocre Drum Corps ---we can express ourselves in print and ideas as well as field activity. Your name always goes ahead of the Corps wherever you travel!

Think of the number of Junior Corps there are---especially in the United States...then think of those you have actually heard of. I bet you can count them on the fingers of both hands! Now, when a Contest Committee is putting together a show, who do they consider? Local Corps first, naturally...then some feature, outside attraction either as competition or exhibition. With the number of Corps to consider you can realize why it is important to keep our name up with the top and in front for consideration. You're in business to do Drum Corps shows in front of the public...not spending your summers down on the waterfront performing for the birds.

It's nice to know that in almost every instance where THE OPTIMISTS have appeared at a parade, exhibition or competition, they have been asked back again the next year...except in a few instances where behind-the-scenes-politics have been involved.

You want to open up new territories...and this can be partly done by G.C.C. pushing your name ahead. Chicago and the mid-west are not beyond your scope.

Should we drop the first section of G.C.C. and cut off the above 8 elements of the public and lose out on possible shows and appearances...drop down to the 'run-of-the-mill' Corps' category, unknown and unheralded?

PUBLICITY IS A FRIGHTENING THING...The Optimists have a column in DRUM CORPS WORLD...G.C.C. is mailed out about every six weeks to 100 people...our activities are regularly reported in Mr. Mannhardt's column, mentioned in Mr. Rooney's and Mr. Saxton's. Photos and a writup on the Corps are requested and sent out as publicity for every important show and parade. Great things are expected of THE OPTIMISTS when they come into town to do a show! You are Canada's Jr. Champions! You are riding on a reputation made by the past Corps of 1958-1959 and 1960. But it is THE 1961 CORPS that the crowd and judges are watching.

That the show is put together properly, that the drill and music is "right" is evident from the crowd's reaction in Phillipsburg, Jersey, and Ottawa and that the G.E. is "right" with the judges was evident from the top GE score in Jersey. But what of the Corps standing on the field? This is up to you in the Corps...and your attitude. That your attitude was becoming "right" was evident in Ottawa.

You've got to live up to your publicity...your publicity says YOUR CHAMPIONS (of '58-'59-'60). Your Publicity Department is 'selling' a top product and if I, as Editor and Publicity Director, wasn't sure THE OPTIMISTS weren't the top Corps in every way---off the field and on--- I wouldn't be associated with the unit.

HIGH OR LOW...Your publicity can run high or low but it can't be shut off completely. Right now the publicity is running at low gear because it is you, The Corps, that now make the publicity---with every show you do. The results and scores of your shows are reported within days, and sometimes hours after the show...

The only time the publicity goes into high gear is in the fall and spring when its important that the Corps name be kept in the foreground.

Some of you have expressed concern about your publicity. You are frightened over it. You shouldn't be if you KNOW your a top unit that you are. If you have any doubts about this, either get rid of these doubts by working to make yourself the top unit, or move to another corps that doesn't get any publicity...and it doesn't really matter what they do on the field. Just as in marketing, when your associated with a top product...be it R.C.A. Victor, General Motors or Swifts Canadian...you live up to the advertising expressed in the product or lose the confidence of the consumer and 'drop out' of the market.

THE SECOND SECTION:

GREEN CAPSULE COMMENTS 'INSIDE'

"The printed word is the armory of the human mind; and at once contains the trophies of its past, and the weapons of its future conquests..."

This second section, that you hold in your hands, will contain G.C.C.'s obligation to the Corps. Here you will find all the pertinent information pertaining to the Corps and only to the Corps. You will notice each is numbered and is your own personal copy. Only 70 copies are printed...one for each member of the Corps and each member of the Director's staff. No other copies are available. No copies are mailed out...either to columnists, Honorary members, Alumni, past members, members of the Optimist Club or boosters.

This edition concerns only the 1961 OPTIMISTS...its policies, drill, music and organization. Naturally, you will NOT show these to members of competing Corps...or the information contained within passed on verbally to these Corps...or mentioned in any correspondence you may be having with Corps members in Canada or the USA.

You have worked long, and hard, to build the Optimist Organization into the Championship unit that it is today...why tell our plans, policies, or ideas to 'other' Corps? Let them build their own organization and learn from their own mistakes. We leave it up to your own good 'common sense' by the way you handle this second section.

STAFF:

The Editor for 'INSIDE' will be Doug McPhail; associate editor, Don Daber and assistant editors are Al Baggs, Barry Bell and Bern Beer.

EDITORIAL FORMAT: as you can see will be quite different from SECTION ONE. The layout will be straight-forward and to-the-point...all entertainment, "gimmicks," ads, cartoons (except political) etc will be confined to section I, where they belong.

WRITERS: Before I close this rather long editorial, may I comment on writers for G.C.C. When the first issue was published back in December, 1960, writers from each section of the line were appointed. I don't know whether the right people were chosen, or not, but their byline has never appeared in any of the first 5 issues of G.C.C. They probably have their own reasons for not writing but writers are the lifeblood of any publication and unless we build up a staff of writers G.C.C. will be discontinued. The whole Corps should be capable of writing something at some time or other for the publication. You all have a good Canadian education. Your paper shouldn't be limited to just a sounding board for Don Daber, Ed Nanni, Doug McPhail, Sadie Map-Mau, Al Baggs or Barry Bell. Lets see what we can do.



editor, Green Capsule Comments.

NEW JERSEY: It is interesting to note that the consensus of opinion amongst many of the 'older' boys of the Corps that the "hanging" at St. Pat's was in poor taste and added nothing to the occasion...although it did show a certain 'spirit'. It might be an idea in the future to have a bit more discussion amongst the whole Corps before this type of preparation is embarked upon. Remember, the efforts of a few, when unveiled publically, reflects the thinking of the whole group.

THE 'BALLS' FROM BLESSED SACRAMENT... Here is a fine example of a good idea, if controlled,,,but can't we come up with something "original" that reflects the same idea...casualness before the show. Surely with 52 "brains" on the line we can come up with some constructive suggestions.

PUBLIC ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOR OF THE CORPS couldn't be finer. Both Mr. Beer and your Public Relations Officer were complimented on "The Gentlemen of The Corps" all during your recent trip to New Jersey. Compliments were expressed by the management of the Easton Hotel, a member of the Phillipsburg Centennial Committee, a restaurant manager in Easton, and the executive of St. Pat's.

...and in every case you were invited back!

DOUG YARKER at PHILLIPSBURG... "I'm not out of step...its just the guy beside me with both legs off the ground. But notice in the photo the D-R-I-V-E in that wrong leg!!!

ROSS COLVILLE and NEIL IBBITSON, two from the Bugle Line have volunteered to drop out of the Horn Line and help out the Guard. Their experience is a big 'shot-in-arm' for the unit. CONGRATULATIONS to MIKE LAYTON as new GUARD INSTRUCTOR,... with the resignation of ERIC BURTON. Our Guard now includes BOB COOK as GUARD CAPTAIN...with ANDY HENDERSON and AL MILLER on rifle...and on flags PHIL CAMPBELL, DON REID, JIM NESBET, BILL McNABB, ROSS COLVILLE, NEIL IBBITSON and DAVE JOHNS, LEIGH CLINE.

THE TITUSVILLE LINEUP "Music In Motion", Saturday, Aug. 19th., The names of the following Corps that we are competing against has been forwarded to Mr. Baggs... They are THE HAMILTON VISCOUNTS, THE PITTSBURGH ROCKETS, THE ROCHESTER GREY KNIGHTS, and THE TYRONE GARDNER GUARDS (who they?). This contest follows directly the weekend after the NEW-YORK CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS in ROCHESTER on the 12th. All the above units are senior...TYRONE we are not quite sure of. CANCELLATION of one day of the WINDSOR TRIP...this was scheduled as a two day event, has now been altered to one...THE EMANCIPATION DAY PARADE on SUNDAY the 30th July.

CORPS'MOVIE...Your Corps' Directors are considering the possibility of having a 16MM colour movie made of the complete 1961 Optimist Show, set up in uniform, at a special Sunday afternoon rehearsal...with little or no audience. This will provide the opportunity to place the complete show on film, with synchronized sound under ideal daylight conditions.

CRESTS OF THE ASSOCIATION are now available to the Corps (see attached illustration) The crests will sell at \$1.00 each, are to be worn by Drum Corps members only and are not to be supplied to families or boosters. Because of the number of crests already on your 'official' GREEN JACKET it has been decided by your executive that this crest should not be attached to this jacket but may be worn on your unofficial white jacket or any other clothing you wish.

REPLY TO THE DEL LETTER...For you that feel that a reply is necessary to the DEL LA SALLE letter in section 'one' of G.C.C....remember that 'mouthing-off' can be done by the written word as well as the spoken. But I'm sure you have your own thoughts on the matter ...and a well-written letter will straighten this lad out.

CONGRATULATIONS (in printed form) TO THE PEANUT COMMITTEE and TED SHAW, DOUG YARKER, ROSS CATION, HOWARD DAVIES, RONN PROKOP and ROSS COLVILLE who all received 1961 GOLDEN-GREEN PEANUT AWARDS. These awards were presented several weeks ago after the peanut sales were closed. There is still over \$100.00 held by certain members of the Corps who were to have all money turned in weeks ago. What's your excuse? Better have your answers ready.

CONGRATULATIONS to MEL DEY and COLIN HEDWORTH on winning the DRUM HEAD DRAW for the 'old' heads. Bet their rooms are starting to look like OPTIMIST MUSEUMS.

DOUG McPHAIL SAYS..."Old Optimists never die, they just miss the odd rehearsal"

NOTED AT THE OTTAWA AND HAMILTON SHOWS...AL MORRISON in that new uniform, looking sharper with every show. He does the Corps proud!!! Comes up with a little something NEW almost every show...

Complete series of 36 'high angle' drill shots taken from the announcer's booth at the HAMILTON SHOW by DON DABER under the command of DOUG McPHAIL. ...this will check the drill and let the Corps see what you look like from the stands...very impressed with DOUG YARKER'S very cool, c-o-o-l, entrance to the line. You look like you own the field, Doug.

RICHARD WARD tells us our total mileage for 1961 trips to date will be 4,312.

AL BAGGS says..."Learn from the mistakes of others...you won't live long enough to make them all yourself."

INTERESTING OBSERVATION...(to fill up space...) Will there be more DRUM CORPS SHOWS in TORONTO on Sundays...if there will then this old saying won't hold true... "I spent a week in Toronto last Sunday".

...No you haven't been drinking...some of the lines above are crooked. This stencil is slipping in the typewriter.

...and no, KEITH MORGAN has no official connection with the OPTIMIST CLUB or THE OPTIMISTS CORPS...

...AND who says G.C.C. has nothing to say to THE CORPS...here we are on page 4 already...and you have only been reading for half an hour...

Thanks to the DE LA SALLE (theres that name again) DRUM LINE and their \$15.00 donation...will there be more bets at East York? We may never have to sell peanuts again...

THE CORPS SONG...On an attached sheet you will see all the Corps songs accepted in the CORPS SONG CONTEST. From these you will vote on which will be #1 and the winner will receive a cheque for \$15.25 (the price of a complete jacket) You should also choose a second and third place song.

EDITORIAL by Doug McPhail.

"THE MANY CHANGES"

It has been suggested that there are too many unnecessary changes taking place within the Corps.

I emphatically disagree. Unnecessary?

Would man have evolved from the ape if it were not for the changing? Would you mature in the ways of the world if it were not for changes? Would a poor Corpsman be respected if it were not for changes?

Definitely not; a positive change is progress defined. POSITIVE!!! ("Aye, there's the rub")

...and DISCIPLINE is positive.

Discipline necessitates response; response stimulates conditioning; conditioning perfects reflexes and perfect reflexes WIN all contests. In other words DISCIPLINE MAKES YOU WIN CONTESTS,

Historically, even Rome became too complacent to make the necessary changes. They fought and won and fed gluttonously on past laurels. The handwriting was on the wall, but they had 'a ball' and watched Rome fall.

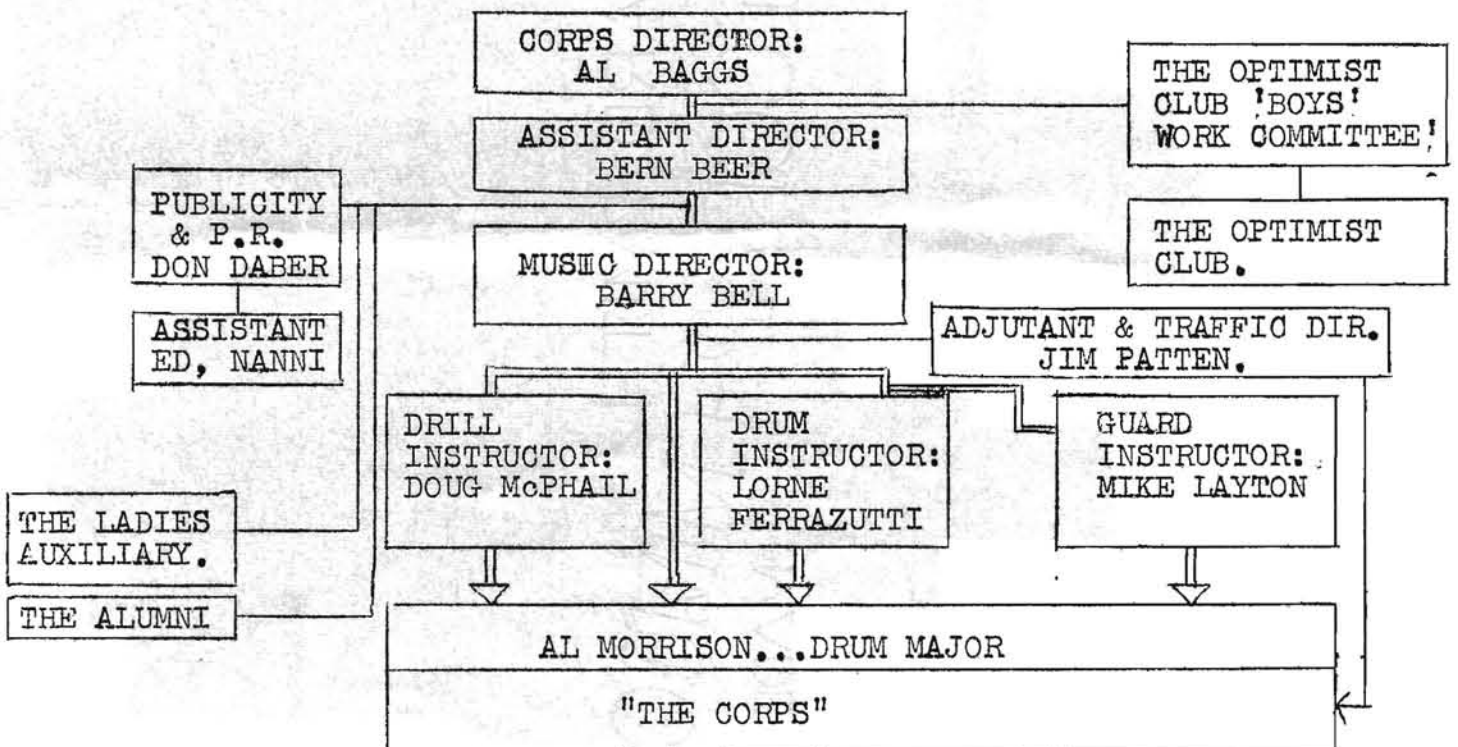
Perhaps the greatest deterrent to progress is our own resistance to change. We cling sentimentally to a false idea... 'The Good Old Days.' Progress requires thinking and to some people nothing is more difficult than thinking.

THINK...

If we progress won't our future laurels exceed our pasts? Would you rather "have a ball" or work? If you want to finish stronger and last a lot longer, then think on this: ---If you have two things to do and cannot make up your mind which to do; then you must do the hardest.

Gentlemen, in our scramble for greatness we overlook one thing: Nothing is constant but change itself. We will change and KEEP CHANGING and add indefinitely to the Legend, "ANOTHER OPTIMIST FIRST".

THE 1961 OPTIMIST CORPS (as of June 1961)





.....
"THE OPTIMISTS"

(Sung to the Optimist Theme)

.....
We're the Pride of Canada
The Green Machine by name
We are called THE OPTIMISTS
With Optimistic claim
Perfection is our motto
Champions is our fame...

.....
come now

Give three cheers boys
For our Drum Corps
Hail! Hail! Hail!

.....
Joe Gianna.
.....

.....
THE OPTIMISTS

(sung to the tune of 'THE WEARING OF THE GREEN')

OH...We're a Corps of Champions,
The Finest ever seen,
And you will recognize us,
By the wearing of the Green.

We're the Pride of our Instructors,
Where-ev-er we have been,
We strive to be of Credit,
To the Wearing of the Green.

When we play in competition...
You should hear the crowdstall cheer,
But the credits due to 'Daddy Baggs',
Barry Bell and Bernie Beer.

So, if you follow us my boys,
You'll see just what we mean...
At trophy presentations,
None can beat The Green Machine.
Karl Bossert.

.....
THE OPTIMISTS

(Sung to 'MEADOWLANDS')

On, March on,
Our battles not yet won,
We'll march 'till setting sun,
And sing, the coming dawn;
Defeat shall never come, march on!!!

The pride of our nation,
Champions in competition,
Armsswinging, bugles ringing, drums resounding
Legs lifted high, come swiftly pounding upon
the ground,

The Optimists by name,
The Green Machine by fame.

Colour and splendor
Only add to our endeavor
Marching and Music done in glorious fashion,
Pride and perfection is our passion,
Optimists Drum Corps,
Of thee we sing,
We will march on forever.

.....
Glenn Durish.
.....

(To the tune of 'Theme')

We are called the Optimists
Gent-le-men in Green
Canada's re-nowned for this
Em-erald-Green Machine,
Daddy Baggs and Bern-ie Beer
Bring home all the money
Which we have won fair square &
Justly
With our Drive!

Flam-acues by Fer-azutt
Suit the Judges fine
Listen to that rhy-thmic style
Fam-ing our snare line. (cont. above)

THE OPTIMISTS

(Sung to the tune of:
The Caissons Go Rolling Along)

Drums and horns are shining bright,
Every flag is held upright
As our Drum Corps goes marching along,
Every man is full of pep,
Vim and vigour in his step,
As our Drum Corps goes marching along.

(chorus)

We are the Corps, THE TORONTO OPTIMISTS
We're the men in Green, & Black & White,
Our spirits are high & our hearts are
full of song,
As our Drum Corps goes marching along.

Every show, every test,
We all strive to do our best,
As our Drum Corps goes marching along,
Every time we compete,
We all know we're hard to beat,
As our Drum Corps goes marching along.

(repeat Chorus)

Every day we insist,
WE'RE the finest Optimists,
As our Drum Corps goes marching along,
Every goal we attain,
Brings added honours to our name,
As our Drum Corps goes marching along.

A Corp's fan.
.....

.....
Tri-p-lets from the ten-or drums
Bass drum flams un-equalled
Accomp-an-ied by the ash-can-lids,
in In The Mood!

Hark! I hear that blaz-ing brass
Belt-ing Meadow-lands,
Hear our driving Bar-it-ones
Blasting through the stands,
Solos blow through gleaming horns
G's by our French Horn Line
Are sure to bring to Barry more than
Victory!

Sharpest of the Colour Guards
Burton's bur-ly crew,
Guard the Pride of Canada
Up there in the blue,
When they spin those 3-03's
By our brilliant banners,
We know they're proud to be
Supreme in Canada!

Glenn Copp.

THE CANADIAN DRUM CORPS ASSOCIATION

Official Jacket Crests

