

BAGPIPE FESTIVAL:

France revives a custom interrupted by the first world war, by holding a national bagpipe festival at Brest. Champion pipers, young and old, come from all over the country to compete - and among the foreign visitors are the pipe band of 402 Regiment R.A. from Greneck.

Bagpipes are more widespread in Europe than most Sassenachs realise. Czechoalovakia's is another pipers' stronghold - and there's a Czech group here, complete with fiddlers and a team of folk dancers as well as their own version of the pipes.

We understand there is no danger of our own Highland regiments adopting the double bass.