

Gracious and levelly in any kind of weather, once again the city of Edinburgh becomes the host to the world's travellers ~~from every~~ ~~country~~ --- here in Scotland for the ~~English~~ international Festival; and the artists who will entertain them -- arriving hour by hour.

~~As always, the Festival opened with the service in St Giles Cathedral, since 1954 the Festival has been the occasion,~~

~~and~~ **I**n the streets are the signposts which point the way to a promised land of entertainment and culture.

And Behind the scenes, is all the feverish activity that will somehow evolve into smooth and apparently effortless achievement, Before the scenes --- and before the arrival of the audiences --- ^{the} last rehearsals ~~with a gloss on the 1954 performance of Macbeth~~ --- a Scottish story --- ~~with a script~~ surprisingly well-written by a Sassenach.

On the operatic account --- this is the rehearsal by the famous Glyndebourne Company, for the Opera --- ~~The "Le Comte Ory"~~

And --- of course --- at the Castle, the Tattoo with ~~the~~ Highland Dancing.

And the massed bands of the pipes.