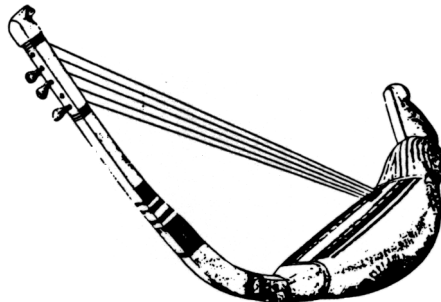


The opening of any house was the occasion for a house-warming; the opening of any public building called for a dance. In fact, any and all occasions were celebrated by parties and dances, and special occasions even by formal balls. For some years, New Year's Day was set aside for the Fireman's Ball, which at first was a 'ball poudre,' when we all showed up with hair powdered white. Although a very pretty custom, the powder was discontinued after a couple of years, on account of the horrendous effect on the men's dress suits. Oh, yes, they wore them! Bridge parties were also very popular, both as a fund raising medium or just for fun. In fact, if you wanted to, there was somewhere to go every night.

--Jean Cameron Kelley, ca.  
1915, I REMEMBER  
(Peace River, Alberta)

(Contributed by George Lyon)



#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In the last Bulletin (Vol.24, No. 4) I enjoyed Farrell Boyce's well-crafted "Penman's Combinations". Since I felt the need of a bit more information on the historical context, I did a bit of digging. I found the Penman 'hatchbacks' could well go back to 1870 when the Penman Manufacturing Company was founded, which is not quite as early as that other Canadian saviour from northern winters, Stanfields, which began in 1868. BVD's (for the partners Bradley, Voorhees and Day) sprang up in 1876.

Yours, etc.  
Phil Thomas