

# New England Military School

South Byfield, Massachusetts 01980

P. A. MUNIER  
SUPERINTENDENT

19 February 1966

Dear Ed:

Received your note today and was pleased to know that the "Company" might print a memorial to Frank Fancher. He certainly deserves one.

According to information that Frank gave me, he was born on August 15, 1884, so he was in his 82<sup>nd</sup> year when he died on February 1, 1966. He earned his living as a machinist and tool-maker, and besides drumming - his hobbies were hunting and fishing. He worked for a while as a representative of the Ludwig Drum Company (like Frank Arsenault is now doing). He studied drumming with J. Burns Moore. The first corps that he joined was the Golden Legion Corps of New Haven. He later

played in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Corps of  
New Haven and Odell Chapman's Corps of  
Willimantic, plus several others over the  
years.

He won three national snare drumming  
championships: Madison Square Garden, New York, 1907  
Newark, New Jersey, 1915  
Washington, D. C., 1925

He repeatedly won the <sup>state</sup> championships of New York,  
Conn., Mass., Rhode Island. Also, the New England  
Championship and the Eastern States Championships.

He claimed 183 first prizes during his  
long career. He received his last cup in 1958 as  
<sup>a Champion</sup> ~~Drummer~~ <sup>1st. Fine Drummer</sup>  
from the Military Association of Parade Drummers, and  
~~in~~ in 1962 he was named an Honorary Member  
of the Military Association of Drum Majors in recognition  
of his historic record as a Champion Snare Drummer.

Enclosed is the MAPD Bulletin for 1958, and  
good luck with the Tucker Memorial because  
he has certainly earned such a tribute. Send me  
a copy when it appears. Best wishes to you & the wife.

Sincerely,  
Paul