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SEINN AN T-SAOGHAIL CHEILTICH bho Sheumas Robasdan

CHUMADH an t-Siathamh Féis de Mhíno—"Canción del Mundo Celta"—ann an Orense, Galisia, ann an ceann an iar-thuath na Spáin, air Diardaoin is Dhaoiné na seachdúin mu dheireadh dhe'n Og-mhíos. 'Si seo an fhéis as áirde clúí a bha r'a cumail anns a'bhailé Ghalsianach so am bliadhna.

Bha fichead de luchd-farpuis, eadar grúpannan is seinneadairean singilte, a'gabhall co-phairt 'sa cheud dolamach, 's iad bho dhutheanan Ceilteach leithid na Spáin fhéin 's na Frainc, Bhreatainn, Eirinn is Portugal. Chaidh deicheadh dhúibh sin air aghaidh chun na cuairt mu dheireadh.

Tha na h-órain a bhuanach na ceud thrí duaisean mar a leanas: 1 "Stop Look and Listen" (Breatainnach) —

Danny Street, a'ghabh an t-óran, Ray Davies a rinn; 2 "Si volviera a nacer" ("Nan Ceilteach, mar tha sinne 'ga do rughadh mi rithis"— Spáinteach) — Los Magos de Oz (grúp) a sheinn, César Nuño de la Rosa a rinn; 3 "Cantiga

das Fontes" ("Oran nan Tob-raichean" — Spáinteach — Nuevas Amistades (grúp) a sheinn, Fernando Vázquez a rinn.

Tha Nuevas Amistades 'nam buidhean Ghalsianach agus 's ann anns a'chánain Ghalsianach a'ghabh iad an t-óran aca. Chaidh an grúp so chur air bhonn o chionn ghoirid.

Shoirbhich leis an Fhéis á réir na rúintean a bha m'a coinneimh, 's iad sin: Seinn, 's i 'na bárdachd air a sgeadaicheadh le ceòl; Saoghail, 's e ghabhas a stigh na náiseanan fo sgéith bhraithreachais; Ceilteach, mar ainm a dheilbhas co-nádur nan dùthchannan air oid a'Chuaín Shiar agus mar staid-inntinn a sheasas ri aghaidh taobh nan Laidionnach is ran Gearmailteach anns an Roinn-Eòrpa air fad.

Ach a dh'aindheoin briathrachais, feumar a'ceadachadh gur e glé bheag dhe'n bhlas "Si volviera a nacer" ("Nan Ceilteach, mar tha sinne 'ga thuigsinn, a fhuaras air 'ga chuid bu mhotha dhe na h-òrain a chualas aig an Fhéis.

FERRIES FURTHER DELAYED

THE sad saga of the Kyle/Kyleakin ferries still goes on, to the great inconvenience of the ferry-users and the detriment of the Skye tourist industry.

There is still no sign of the new ferry boats and no positive indication from Scottish Transport Group of a delivery date for the first of these.

Mr. Russell Johnston, MP for Inverness-shire exposed S.T.G.'s failure to maintain the existing service at a reasonable level at the height of the tourist season, and accuses the Group of approaching the problem of the ferry with 'diffident incompetence'. This latest chapter results from a failure to make any provision for providing more than one ferry boat when two boats broke down on July 9th. The fourth boat, 'he Loch Coruisk, was apparently undergoing Board of Trade testing at the time.

Expressed concern
Mr Johnston wrote to the President of the Board of Trade, Mr Michael Noble, MP, expressing concern that testing should be done when the boats were most needed. It is evident from Mr Noble's reply that the Board of Trade

were not advised of the very real urgency of the situation and the month extension of the test date was not requested by S.T.G. in the case of the Loch Coruisk.

The whole situation is one that gives ground for concern.

"In six years in Parliament I have never seen such a catalogue of ineptitude as we have witnessed over the Skye ferry. I intend to raise the S.T.G.'s handling of the whole question when Parliament re-assembles," said Mr Johnston.

Manadh na tha ri thighinn

NUAIR a'gheall Mgr Eideard Heath gun robh "seol ur riaghaltais" gu bhith againn, cha do thuig moran nach biodh an uine coo tada gu am foillsicheadh e de gu dearbh a bha e a'ciallachadh. Ach rinn e a' chuis gle iholaiseach leis an doigh anns na laimhsich e an suidheachadh 's an lorg e e fhein le bas Jain MhicLeoid.

Ann an 1965 cha do thilleadh Mgr Gordon-Walker do'n Pharlamaid agus dh'fhag seo Mgr Wilson gun Runaire Cein-threan. Mas robh an latha 'na cheis Eha an gnothuch an deidh chuir a dhara taobh; thugadh an dreuchd do Mgr Stubbard agus chuireadh ruintean a Phrionnaire air beulthaobh na Ban-Rìgh.

Tri latha an deidh do Mgr

Heath an Ionmhasair a chall-cha robh log aige fhein co bha e dol a chuir an ceann oifig cho cudthromach 'sa tha 'san riochachd. Ach chuir e ceann — latha roimhe — an Di-haoine air an robh an amhlachadh ag gabhail àite 'smu 'na tigheadh e tuath a' dh'Alba a thadhail aig a' Bhan-Rìgh.

Mu dheireadh thall righ-naich e Mgr Barber 's bhàsan gu duil a leigeil as mu'n do dh'innsadh dha amnoch Di-ardaoin.

Cha bu chabhagaich na sin tighinn gu co-dhùnadh a thaobh co ghabhadh àite Mgr Barber air ceann cùisean a' Mhargaidh Choitcheoinn. An deidh coig latha — air Di-mairt — leig e mach gu robh Mgr Seoras Rippon ag gabhail na h-uallaich seo.

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Conserving the Countryside

This is European Conservation Year and the agricultural industry is playing a very full part. Landowners, farmers and everyone who works on or for our land are co-operating with a wide variety of institutions and organisations who have specialised interests in the countryside, and this part which agriculture has to play in conservation is being discussed and demonstrated at a host of Conferences and Shows all over the country.

Those who live and work in the countryside will therefore be looking to visitors and holidaymakers to make their contribution to European Conservation Year. They can do this by paying particular attention to the Country Code and by trying to observe and appreciate what agriculture is doing to help conservation while at the same time carrying on its job of producing the nation's food.

The countryside has unfortunately become a convenient dump for the rubbish of modern living. Garbage, unwanted furniture, old cars, mattresses and the ubiquitous bottle and can too often disfigure and ruin hedgerows and laybys. Picnic litter is left in fields of crops and in meadows, camp fires cause destruction of natural habitat and valuable crops of trees or cereals. All this causes grief to farmers and their stock, and it equally affects plant and animal life.

People using the countryside may be threatening by their numbers the very thing they seek, state the Nature Conservancy in "Conservation in Action - Scotland" (price 2s), a booklet giving an account of their work in Scotland.

"In the past, when our natural resources were great and people few, there was little thought for the future and man squandered much", the booklet states. "Now, when the resources are smaller and human numbers are greater, multiplying every minute, man is making new demands on his environment,

introducing new processes, off-loading more and different kinds of waste.

"Unthinking man in the past polluted some of our finest rivers, thinking man, now, is on the one hand cleansing them of the more obvious effluents, but on the other is releasing the waste of new types of manufacture which may be even more dangerous in the long term".

The booklet emphasises the need for conservation of wildlife in Scotland and describes the work of the Nature Conservancy both as a manager of national nature reserves and adviser to central and local government on conservation of resources.

The Conservancy manage nearly 40 reserves and have identified half as many again for possible acquisition in the future. "Undeniably there are in Scotland many more areas than this which are deserving of recognition as reserves, but the Conservancy can hope to care only for most of those of perhaps the highest national and international importance.

Accounts are given of research activities in the mountains, moorlands and wetlands of Scotland. The booklet includes advice about visiting the 37 national nature reserves in Scotland.

Moves To Improve Distribution Of Teachers

Three education authorities in Scotland — Aberdeen, Fife and Midlothian — are being asked to restrict recruitment of secondary teachers. Three others — Glasgow, Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire — are being encouraged to recruit more teachers and the remaining 29 authorities are being asked to keep the staffing of their secondary schools at the present level.

This is the main point in new moves to improve the distribution of secondary

NEW HOTEL FOR BARBARAVILLE

RAPIDLY growing demand for accommodation and dining facilities in the Invergord area of Ross-shire will be met by the new Jackdaw Hotel at Barbaraville.

A ten-bedroom hotel with two lounges, dining accommodation for 60 people and a public bar, the Jackdaw has been promoted by a Dublin company, Jackdaw Limited, at a cost of over £61,000. Financial assistance has been provided by the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

The new hotel meets the highest modern standards, with all bedrooms having private bathrooms. It will be open all the year round.

Mr William Hunter, a director of Jackdaw Limited and factor of Balnagowan Estates who have leased an eight acre site to the company, said: "The purpose of the project is to provide facilities much needed in the area, particularly in view of the considerable development now under way at Invergord. We feel certain that further developments will follow and the hotel has been planned to allow the addition of another 20 bedrooms, with complementary dining and bar facilities, whenever the need should justify."

The hotel will provide full-time, year-round employment for five men and 18

women and full-time seasonal employment for a further one man and eight women.

Designed by S.G.A. Limited, of Glasgow, the prefabricated building has been constructed by Alex Morrison, Builders, of Tain.

Mr William Hunter is also a director of Oykell Hotels Limited, a subsidiary of Bal-

nagown Estates, which operates the Lady Ross Roadhouse at Ardgay, Ross-shire.

The name Jackdaw Hotel has a direct association with a former laird of Balnagowan Estates, Sir Charles Ross. Sir Charles, who lived in the mid-19th century, was nicknamed "The Jackdaw."

EDINBURGH LOCAL MOD

The 1970 Edinburgh Local Mod is being held in Leith Town Hall on Saturday, 26th September.

There are competitions for all age groups and many prizes and handsome trophies to be won. For a good number of years past, the Mod has been under the Convener-ship of Mod Gold Medallist, George Clavey, now resident in Stornoway, and this year Mr Hector Smith, President of Comunn Tair nam Beann, Duneideann, has taken over. It is hoped that there will be continued support for this very popular Mod, and entry forms can be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Isa Macmillan, 29 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh 3 (Tel. No. 225 2907). The closing date

for entries is the 31st of August.

At the Concert following the Mod, it is hoped that the Guest Artist will be George Clavey, the remainder of the programme being sustained by the competition winners.

A fund raising Ceilidh is being held in the West-End Hotel, Edinburgh on Friday, 28th August, at 7.30 p.m. and tickets may be had from members of Committee.

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teachers announced by Mr Gordon Campbell, MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, in a circular issued to education authorities.

Growing numbers

The circular points out that a recent analysis of the staffing situation showed that while there had been an increase of over 1,000 qualified teachers in secondary schools at January 1970 compared with two years ago, the national pupil-teacher ratio had improved only marginally because of the growing number of pupils staying on at school. Although there had been some progress towards a better distribution of teachers, many schools, particularly in the west of Scotland, were still seriously short of teachers. 75 schools in 7 areas, including 31 in Lanarkshire alone, had ratios of 20:1 or over compared with the national average of 17:1. Average ratios for individual authorities ranged from 13.9:1 in Aberdeen to 19.8:1 in Lanarkshire and 20.2:1 in Renfrewshire.

As a step towards greater equality in staffing, the circular invites education authorities to adopt a scheme of distribution based on prescribed pupil-teacher ratios.

AG IONNSACHADH NA

LE IAIN A. MACDHOMHNAILL

LEASAN A CEITHIR AIR FHCHEAD



Chord an turas do Ghlaschu ris a' Their journey to Glasgow pleased chloinn agus ri Mairi. Bha an the children and Mary. The day latha b'fheàrr agus grànach agus was beautiful and sunny and chunnaic a' chlann mòran àitean the children saw many places nach fhaca iad riamh. that they had not seen before.

An uair a bha iad faisg air When they were near Glaschu chunnaic iad mòran bhàtaichean Glasgow they saw many ships aig Bun Abhainn Chluaidh. at the Firth of Clyde.

Bha Iain 'gan coinnneachadh John was meeting them an uair a rainig iad Glaschu. when they reached Glasgow.

Iain: Anna trobhadh gum am faic thu seo
Anna: Dé tha thu 'a' faisginn? What are you seeing?

Iain: Tha bàtaichean mòra. Big ships.

Anna: Tha gu dearbh. Yes indeed.
Dé tha iad a' deanamh an sin? What are they doing there?
Càit' a' bheil sinn? Where are we?

Mairi: Tha sinn a nise aig Bun Abhainn Chluaidh. We are now at the Firth of Clyde.
Tha mòran bhàtaichean an sin daonnan. There are always many ships there.

Iain: Càit' am bi iad a' dol? Where will they be going?

Mairi: Bithidh feadhaim dhùibh a' Some of them will be tighinn a dhùthchannan céine agus coming from foreign lands and bithidh feadhaim eile a' seòladh others will be sailing do dhùthchannan céine. to foreign lands.

Iain: Dé na h-àitean a tha thall an sin. What are the places over there.

Mairi: Sin agad Grianaig nu aig coinnneamh. There you have Greenock opposite us.

Iain: Càit' a' bheil Glaschu? Where is Glasgow?

Mairi: Chi thu Glaschu a dh' aithghearr You will see Glasgow soon. Tha e nise cairteal gu seachd. It is now a quarter to seven.

Anna: C'uinn 'a ruigeas sinn Glaschu? When will we reach Glasgow?

Mairi: Ruidh sinn Glaschu aig We will reach Glasgow at leth uair an deidh seachd. half past seven.

Anna: Tha mi a' dòchas gum bi I hope that John will be Iain 'gar coinnneachadh. meeting us.

Mairi: Thuir e gum bithidh. He said that he would be.

Iain: Am faca sibh riamh uidir de bhàtaichean? Did you ever see so many boats?

Mairi: Chan fhaca gu dearbh. No indeed.

Iain: Nach iad a tha mòr. Aren't they big?

Mairi: Feumaidh iad a bhith mòr They must be big is iad a' seòladh do gach as they are sailing to every cearmad de'n t-saoghail. part of the world.

Iain: Feumaidh gu dearbh. Yes indeed.

Mairi: Seo agad Dùn Breatann. Here is Dumbarton.

Anna: Bha am maighstir sgoile ag The school-master was in seachd dhuinn nu na h-àitean seo. telling us about these places.

Iain: Dé bithheas daoine a' deanamh an seo? What do people do here?

Mairi: Bithidh mòran dhùibh a' togail Many of them will be building bhàtaichean an seo. boats here.

Anna: Am bi iad a' togail bhàtaichean Do they build boats an Glaschu?

Mairi: In Glaschu? Bithidh gu dearbh. Yes indeed.

Iain: Tha an t-àite seo ainmeil airson This place is famous for a bhith a' togail bhàtaichean. building ships.

Iain: Tha sinn gu bhith an Glaschu a nise. We are nearly in Glasgow now.

Anna: A bheil e gu bhith leth It is nearly half uair an deidh seachd? past seven?

Mairi: Tha. Cha bhì sinn fada tuilleadh. Yes. We will not be long now.

Iain: Stad an tren. The train stopped.

Mairi: Oh stad gu dearbh. Oh yes indeed.

Mairi: Suidh thusa far a bheil thu gu You sit where you are until am faic sinn an e seo an t-àite ceart. we see if this is the right place.

Anna: Cuiridh mi orm mo chòta codhiubh. I will put on my coat anyway.

Iain: A bheil cuimhne agad air Do you remember the na h-àitean a chunnaic sinn Anna? places which we saw Anna?



Anna: Tha. Sgrìobh mi na h-ainmean Yes. I wrote the names 'nam leabhar. in my book.

Mairi: Carsa? Why?

Anna: Bithidh am maighstir-sgoile The school-master will be a' foighneachd de na h-àitean asking what places a chunnaic sinn. we saw.

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AN ENGLISHMAN IN SCOTLAND

AMONG the young officers with the forces which were sent north to crush the Jacobite rising of 1745, was the very young, very enthusiastic James Wolfe. Born in January 1727, he was the son of Colonel Edward Wolfe and Henrietta Thompson.

James Wolfe was to spend some years in Scotland and his views on the country and its peoples are interesting. Though the Wolfes were of Welsh origin, and had come to England via Ireland, the young officer was a typical 18th century Englishman.

In Aberdeen, he and the notorious General Hawley were lodged in the home of Mrs Gordon of Hallhead and Eslemont, the great-grandmother of the Australian poet Adam Lindsay Gordon. The lady had been compelled to leave her home, which was thoroughly looted by Hawley, Wolfe left a letter of thanks and money — presumably considered adequate compensation.

The story of Wolfe riding over the field of Culloden with the Duke of Cumberland, and indignantly refusing to carry out the Duke's command to shoot a wounded Highlander, is well-known. He was, he pointed out, a soldier, not an executioner!

In fact, though he neither liked nor understood the Scots Wolfe favoured a policy of reconciliation. The brutalities of his officers, must have been very repugnant to him.

The early Jacobite successes had given the government a very bad fright. That a Highland army had marched triumphantly as far south as Derby, was something they were hardly likely to forget.

It was, then, perfectly understandable and legitimate, that they should disarm the Jacobite clans. The tragedy was that they, apparently, had neither the intelligence nor the humanity, to then pursue a policy of reconciliation. That, in fact, they embarked on a ruthless policy of exterminating the whole heritage of the Gael.

No Scot had served the government more loyally than Duncan Forbes of Culloden. Convinced that the rising must fail, he had used his considerable influence with the chiefs to persuade many of them not to come out. Now, his pleas for clemency for the vanquished, were treated with contempt.

Despite the pleadings of Duncan Forbes, and, as after the '15, in direct violation of the Treaty of Union, the Jacobite prisoners were deported to England for trial. The government appreciated that they would have been dealt with leniently in Scotland.

In 1748, after a few months in Stirling, Wolfe was posted to Glasgow, where he lodged in a house built by the father of Clementina Walkinshaw, mistress of Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Writing to a friend, Captain William Rickson, he tells him

by Joan Young

that, "I am endeavouring to repair the damages to my education and have a person to teach me Latin and mathematics, two hours a day, for four or five months, this helps me a little."

His tutor came from Glasgow University, which, he informs his mother, "furnishes abundantly all the arts of learning to the inquisitive." A pleasing comment, one feels, on the quality of Scottish education. Always eager to be a soldier, Wolfe had left school very young, being commissioned at 15, and was to lament that he could "never aspire to be a man of letters."

To his mother, alarmed that he should be attending the kirk on Sunday, he wrote, "I do several things in my character of commanding officer, which I should never think of in any other . . ." Presbyterian ministers are "not like our good folk at home," he comments.

One of the few things in Scotland to meet with Wolfe's unqualified approval was sport. "We went three days successively a shooting from five in the morning till night," he writes, and praises most enthusiastically the quality of the game.

In Glasgow he met the cultured merchant class. Many were the younger sons of the local gentry, and very elegant in their silver and gold trimmed scarlet cloaks, and carrying silver mounted canes.

In 1751 Wolfe revisited Culloden and found "room for a military criticism as well as a place for a little ridicule upon the famous transactions of that memorable day." No doubt he appreciated that victory had been due to the unsuitable ground chosen by the Jacobites, and the utter weariness of their troops, rather than to any genius on

Cumberland's part.

In Inverness, Wolfe wrote, "We have an assembly of female rebels every fortnight, composed of MacDonalds, Frasers, and MacIntoshes. I had the honour to dance with the daughter of a cheiftain killed at Culloden, the Laird of Keppoch. They are perfectly wild as the hills that breed them." He believed in "dancing his officers into the good graces of the Jacobite women."

Yet, he could write to a brother officer in Nova Scotia, "I should imagine that two or three independent companies (of Highlanders) might be of use; they are hardy, intrepid, accustomed to rough country, and to great mischief if they fall."

The cynicism of the last words are very revealing. Wolfe had come to admire the fighting qualities of the Highlanders, but he showed no interest in their ancient culture, which, consequently, remained a closed book to him. He simply saw them as a most useful reservoir for manpower.

His time in Scotland was interrupted by a visit to Paris via Ireland. Then he was back in Glasgow, and engaged on road building round Loch Lomond.

Scotland, he now found, "less disagreeable than it appeared at first," and the Scots ladies "very civil." He was entertained by the Duchesses of Hamilton, the former Elizabeth Gunning, and wrote, "We have plays and concerts; we have balls private and public."

In 1759 when he defeated the French at Quebec, several of his officers were former Jacobites, and the Highland regiments played an outstanding part in that victory.

James Wolfe was an Englishman of his time. He was far more civilised than the majority of his fellow officers who policed the Highlands after the '45.

The final comment on their conduct, and that of the king and government they represented, can be left to that great Englishman, Dr Johnson: "It affords a legislator little self-applause to consider that where there was an insurrection, there is now a wilderness."

E.E.C. TO BE DISCUSSED AT FOLK-SCHOOL

A symposium on Ireland's entry to the E.E.C. is being organised by Dail na Mumanh, the Munster Council of Conradh na Gaeilge, as part of its annual folkschool, Daonscoil na Rinne. The folkschool will take place from 21-28 August next in Colaiste na Rinne, An Rinn, Co. Waterford and the symposium on the E.E.C. will be held on Wednesday, 26th August.

The theme of the folkschool will be "World Problems." Lectures include "The Influence of the Person on his Environment" by An tOllamh Sean O Cinnide, Galway, "Authority and Oppression" by Ciaran O Cathain, Queen's University, Belfast, and "The Pollution of Natural Resources," Liam O Broin, Industrial Research and Standards Institute.

PUT GAELIC TO THE TEST . . .

. . . says IAIN CHRICHTON SMITH

IT is not because I myself indulge in writings which are not strictly Highland that I feel the time has now come for us to find at least some of our subject matter not necessarily in Highland fields of consciousness. I think it is possible for the Highland area to be overworked in a literary sense and that unless we are careful we may sink into a provincialism without development. There is a place for the kitchen comedy but we ought to be more ambitious about this. It may be that we are beginning to exhaust the old Highland themes, the incomer from the south or from America, the affair with crofts and wells.

I see no reason why we shouldn't begin to test the resources of the Highland language: why for instance, we shouldn't extend ourselves into science fiction (as has already been done with some success in "Oirthir Tim"). There are so many areas we haven't yet tapped. The First World War is one. The adventure story is yet another (though Finlay Macleod made a beginning with this in his serial about the boys on Rona).

This of course, will require qualities of imagination and daring, not simply observation, but a free-wheeling imaginative power which may uncover possibilities and resources in the language which are as yet unrealised.

I don't know, for instance, how much creative work is being done in schools in Gaelic (a certain amount is being done in English). But I am not at all sure that a school is the best place to nurture creativity, though it is better to nurture it there than not at all. Poems, plays and short stories could be done in school and not simply essays on set themes. I would even like to see nonsense poems being written, for these demand more interesting imaginative qualities than purely logical constructs and would focus attention on words even as an element of play.

It is a well-known fact that though IQ tests are a measure of intelligence (insofar as this may be possible), open ended tests are a measure of creativity. For instance, one might ask: "Give as many uses as possible for a brick. The uncreative person will say: "A brick is for building something with." The creative person will say: "A brick can be used to break a window, to measure out a rectangle, to hold up the leg of a table, hollowed out it will make a house for a dwarf," and so on.

I feel more and more that imagination must be nurtured, that what is necessary is to

use every technique to break down the logical and narrow patterns of the mind. In the Highlands we haven't a great deal of imaginative nourishment, for the simple reason that the number of stimuli is limited and therefore the number of permutations necessary for creative clashes fewer. Creativity demands a plethora of stimuli which will organise themselves into creative combinations. Perhaps these could be provided.

Music, for instance, is a fine catalyst for creativity. One sometimes has a vision of English or Gaelic laboratories which could contain all sorts of creative stimuli in the form of paintings, music, colours, etc. These seem to me to be far more important than language laboratories.

If this were done it might be possible for us to break free from the eternal themes which dominate the Highlands. Words must be seen as having creative charges. In the early stages, games can be played with them so that they can be freely and imaginatively handled much as children handle plasticine.

Then we might break out into the free wheeling imaginative world where we can handle stories about science fiction, and fiction which is not exclusively centred here but is the product of the autonomous imagination and therefore permissible to anyone anywhere.

Our literature has been operating on to narrow a base. Where is our "Coral Island" in Gaelic, our "Treasure Island," our "Beau Geste"?

When one considers (even on this level) how well-travelled Highlanders are, it is scandalous how little it gets into our literature. One would think that we as a race had never ventured beyond the bothans and glens, or had never talked to anything more spiritual of Faustian than a fairy. Our Highlanders have been to Canada, Australia, Africa. They work in atomic stations. They have fought in many wars.

It is time we forgot about Culloden totally. It is time we forgot our failures and forced a consciousness of the future. Our descendants are already forging it — but not in literature.

Naturally this does not mean losing our traditions, but traditions after a certain point can be stultifying. One gets sick of the past. Of these lost battles, all these backward ghosts, all these anecdotes.

It is vital that Gaelic should be made capable of encompassing these things, that the language should be fully tested. It is not from what we know already that good

Scotland 'Not only Free but Gaelic as well' (part 1)

by Seumas Mac A'Ghobhainn

The phrase national hero usually conjures up in the average person's mind the image of someone who has done great deeds and faced physical danger in time of war on behalf of his country. However, this phrase can equally be applied to many people who did not actually have to face overt danger in their country's cause, but whose behaviour was nevertheless heroic in the service of their land and its people.

Such a national hero, albeit a relatively unknown one, was Seumas Mac Garaidh, who was born in the ancient town of Arbroath in the county of Angus in north-east Scotland, on the 17th February 1887, and who died many thousands of miles away from there on the 9th January 1966, in the great city of San Francisco, California.

The old grey town of Arbroath, despite its fame in Scottish history as the place where the famous Treaty of Arbroath — Scotland's Declaration of Independence — was drafted in 1320, was a most unlikely place to have nurtured such a perverid Gaidheil and Scot as Seumas Mac Garaidh. In the closing years of the last century whilst Scotland in some ways was more independent of England than she is today, there was very little genuine national feeling about.

The Scots had a pride in Scotland right enough, but it was mainly a pride in their country as an important and integral part of the great British Empire "upon which the sun never sets." The Anglicisers in charge of Scottish education had done their work well and the great majority of Scots had but little if any idea as to their true national identity and their knowledge of Scottish history was scanty and distorted. In Arbroath as in most other parts of the so-called Lowlands of Scotland the national language — a' Ghaidhlig — had been dead for very many years.

This was the inhospitable atmosphere into which James Carr MacDonald Hay, later to be known to all for Gaidheil Albannach throughout the world by his true Scottish name — Seumas MacGaraidh — was born and grew to manhood. His parents were poor working folk and his formal education, by reason of this fact, was short and sketchy. At an early age he had to leave school and was soon working the crippling long hours for a meagre wage which was the usual lot of the ordinary people in those "good auld days."

He drifted from one dead-end job to another for many years, but he was far from being a drifter intellectually. Despite his lack of formal education he very early on in

life obtained a tremendous love of the printed word and he dug deep into Scottish history all the time "reading between the lines." He first started studying the Gaidhlig language when he was about sixteen years of age, and such was the situation in Scotland at that time that even as a dedicated student such as he had to wait years before he heard the language spoken or could attempt to speak it himself.

For years he was absolutely alone in his devotion to the cause of his country's freedom and to the restoration of its national language to the whole of Scotland. Lesser men would have given up the fight there and then and joined the crowd but his was not the Mac Garaidh way.

In the Autumn of 1911 he managed to get a Gaidhlig evening class started in Arbroath, and largely because of his transparent sincerity and strength of character soon built up around himself an enthusiastic band of young people keen to learn their country's national language and to absorb its attendant Celtic culture. Around about this time also he established a branch of the Scots National League in the town. This was an organisation made up in the main of young people pledged to work for Scottish self-government. The Scots National League in the context of Scottish politics of those days was considered an extremist body.

The years moved on, and true to his Gaidhlig nationalist principles when the English national anthem was sung at the Dundee Gaidhlig Mod in 1913, Seumas Mac Garaidh led a band of fellow Gaidhlig nationalists out of the hall in silent protest. This was, of course an "unspeakable" action in the eyes of the majority of his fellow countrymen in pre-World War One Scotland. Like many of his counterparts in Ireland at the time, Mac Garaidh wore a khaki coat during the First World War, the war ostensibly fought for "the freedom of small nations." He served most of his time in the Middle East and often recounted the amusing incident when he "frightened" a fellow Scot by offering to loan him his copy of "Sinn Fein" which he had regularly sent to him from Ireland.

Returning to Scotland at the cessation of hostilities, he lived from hand-to-mouth for a few years. Steady work was denied to him as he was considered to be a dangerous

man politically. The authorities probably took into account his close association with the small band of London based Scottish nationalists who had formed into such groups as Comunn nan Albannach and Clann na h-Alba who worked as a Sinn Fein "clearing-house" during the Irish War of Independence. Seeing no hope of regular employment he, like so many of his countrymen before him, crossed An t-Aiseag Mor — as the Gaidheil so poignantly

member the kindness of the real Mac Garaidh. Year after year he gave Gaidhlig lessons to students of the language through the post and depleted his precious personal library of Gaidhlig and nationalist books by "loaning" books to people often tens of thousands of miles away.

Seumas Mac Garaidh was in effect a one man nationalist movement. While all branches of the official nationalist movement in Scotland preached nothing more than a limited form of home rule he preached pure undiluted logical Scottish separatism. His goal was Alba chan ann saor a mhain ach Gaidhlig cuid-each — "Scotland not only free but Gaelic as well." In desiring such a future for his country he was one with such men as the signatories of the 1916 Proclamation and with all other genuine nationalists throughout the world.

No channel of communica-

calls the Atlantic — and reaching San Francisco in March, 1923. To most other men such an exile would have spelled the end of all activities on behalf of their native country.

"How can anything constructive be done so far from Scotland" the ordinary sensible person would say. Seumas Mac Garaidh of course was not an ordinary person nor was he sensible in that sense.

With hardly a pause he forged ahead with his propaganda activities as lethir's teanga. For the next forty three years despite almost complete lack of support and co-operation from his fellow Scots and Gaels at home and in North America his pen and voice were never stilled in service of the cause he held most dear. Hardly a week went by that a letter did not appear over his name in some newspaper in Scotland or in America exhorting his fellow Scots to wake up to their country's shameful condition and to their lack of interest and concern in their own national language and separate nationality.

He could be extremely fierce at times in public correspondence and true Celt that he was he revelled in the sobriquet — "The Wild Boy from Donegal" that another correspondent had bestowed upon him in a letter to a now defunct Glasgow newspaper. Nevertheless like so many publicly contentious men, he was the most gentle and moderate of men in private. To those who shared his love of Scotland and her language he was generosity personified. Countless Scots throughout the world have reason to re-

tion was neglected for the dissemination of his views. For some years he ran a Gaidhlig record programme from a local San Francisco radio station. He was far from being just a bizarre type of early disc-jockey however. He prefaced each song with a potted history of its writer and place of origin and then went on to explain the meaning of the words.

PUT GAELIC TO THE TEST

... says IAIN CHRICHTON SMITH

(Continued from page 4)

writing comes, but from what we find out when we throw ourselves onto the mercy of the language. These are our true discoveries and not the stories about superstition, wills, crofts, brash silly Englishmen, the '45 and so on.

It seems to me to be quite possible that we haven't as yet discovered what Gaelic is capable of as a language simply because we haven't as yet tried deeply and fully enough.

At one time people thought that the motions of the planets must be circular because the circle according to the Greeks was the perfect figure. We seem to think in much the same way in the Highlands. Our stories must be Highland because Highlandness represents perfection. It took a Kepler to make the slight shift which showed that only the ellipse could explain the motions of the planets which the perfection of the Greek circle had made completely confusing and even chaotic. May it not be that only a slight shift in consciousness will be enough to permit us to enter a completely new territory where Gaelic becomes a new language, shining with infinite possibilities?

LANDLORD ALLOWED TO TAKE AWAY COMMON LAND

AN absentee Highland landlord has been granted approval by the Scottish Land Court to take 384 acres of common grazing land from three of his crofters.

But Lawrence Byrne (62), of Garvan, Argyll, an ex-soldier and spokesman for his fellow crofters, angrily said on hearing the verdict: "I will defy them taking this land which has been handed down."

The landlord, John Guthrie (60), a Yorkshire businessman, wants to use the common land for forestry.

CABHSAIR

le Domhnull I. Maclomhair

Balaich, miltean de bhalaich
A'onn an eideadh na h-àrd sgòil!
Tiugh air cabhsairean an duleaidais;
Leig an clag, 'seadh an clag, iud mu sgòil!
A choiseachd nan cabhsair foilleil
A dh'fhàg sinnsearan mar dhèilbh.
Togaidh an deòraidh ceann toitein
'Ga choimehad le sannt.
'A' coimehad, 's a' coimehad, 's a' coimehad
'ga chur thuige 'san am
'N' balaich, miltean de bhalaich
Ann an eideadh na h-àrd sgòil!
Gàire, lachan gàire, ag amhrach air truaighe
Le eagal, gu'n coisich iad, 'san uair dheireannach
Na cabhsairean foilleil
A dh'fhàg sinnsearan mar dhèilbh.
Snuaintean, ghluais an clag uimhne;
B' aithne dhà na cabhsairean,
Am foill, am piantan, an dòbhrain,
Air an sàitair le balaich, le miltean de bhalaich
Ann an eideadh na h-àrd sgòil!
'A' tagasdha foille, dòbhrain, agus phaintan.

— REVIEW ORDER —

"Patterns of Highland Development" by David Turnock (Macmillan, £8).

Dr David Turnock is well known in the Western Highlands for his work on the population and physical geography of Lochaber and North Argyll. Having now moved from Aberdeen to Leicester University he has gathered together the results of many years work in a new book entitled "Patterns of Highland Development". The book outlines the historical developments which have brought about the present distribution of population and economic activity within the Highlands (using the now conventional definition of the sevencrofting counties) and endeavours to suggest solutions for the continuing problems of the area in the context of current regional thought and policy.

To some extent the title of the book is misleading in that Dr Turnock deals mainly with Lochaber and the Western Highlands and refers only occasionally to other areas of the Highlands, such as Orkney, Shetland, Sutherland and even the Moray Firth. For example, sixteen of the thirty-two figures and six of the fourteen tables included in the text refer specifically to Lochaber and its surrounding districts. The author defends this approach on the grounds that the historical evolution and current development of Lochaber are typical of many areas of the Highlands, and although this may be true it would be dangerous to accept without qualification. Generally, the Highlands are treated not as a unique area but as an example of the common phenomenon of the peripheral region of a developed country.

The first two chapters of the book provide a good and comprehensive account of the early history and the incursion of the industrial revolution into the Highland economy, together with the accompanying political and social changes. Dr Turnock then deals in turn with the historical developments of the agricultural, fishing and forestry industries and it is in these chapters that the most significant content of the book is contained. The chapters on land use and Highlandcrofting and farming are particularly outstanding, and the conclusions reached are rationally developed and explained. The author suggests the setting-up of a Land Use Commission and gives his support for proposals enabling crofters to become owner-occupiers. The need is, however, to complement any improvements in land use and crofting by employment outside crofting: "Where crofting can be combined with work in manufacturing and tourism, an opportunity is provided in the Highlands to work towards a new form of industrial sci-

ety which could be healthier and more stable than any community which is completely urbanised." (page 117); and, "indeed an agricultural solution to thecrofting economy would be tantamount to further depopulation and resettlement" (page 115).

The chapter on the growth of communications and attracts contains an interesting analysis of the existing road and sea transport networks, but it is weaker on the rail and air networks. The conflicts between traditional local interests and the requirements of tourists is well explained and a good case is made for more rational co-operation between the different types of transport. This leads on to an assessment of the role of Fort William as a service centre and it is pointed out that "as long as opportunities of employment in manufacturing and services remain concentrated, villages and districts situated on the periphery of the various hinterlands will continue to experience a declining population and a deteriorating age structure" (page 148).

It is a pity that the section of the book devoted to manufacturing industry is inferior to the earlier chapters. Dr Turnock shows a lack of understanding of the causes and effects of regional economic growth (and decline). He endorses the Highlands and Islands Development Board policy of major growth centres in the Moray Firth, Lochaber and Caithness, offset by smaller centres in the more remote parts of the Highlands. What both he and the Board have failed to realize is that, while the major centres must attract population and employment opportunities, they themselves will generate beneficial spread effects (rather like the ripples caused when a stone is thrown into a pool of water) which, if identified, can result in self-sustaining growth for the peripheral towns and villages. There need be no long-term danger of the major growth centres denuding other areas of their populations if development is approached in a planned and balanced manner. The real challenge is in the islands and in the north-west. It is surprising that Dr Turnock pays only brief attention to the pioneering work of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, particularly as an assessment of their achievements would be of great interest as the Board approaches its fifth anniversary.

Nevertheless, Dr Turnock gives good summaries of the whisky, tweed and aluminium industries in the Highlands and of the role of the Hydro-Electric Board, and the population statistics which he has compiled offer interesting information for further research. The statistics do demonstrate that within the Highlands

there has been a continuing process of agricultural depopulation and concentration in the larger towns and villages, and the case of Fort William is a good example. Furthermore, the warning is given that unless centres such as Fort William and Dounrae are able to continue to attract ancillary industries there is the danger that they themselves face substantial decline.

In conclusion, this is an interesting and well-presented account of the development of the Highland economy. Although there are significant gaps, they only serve to emphasize the fact that a great deal more work needs to be done if a viable and acceptable policy for the Highlands is to be found. "Patterns of Highland Development" should be read by all those concerned with and interested in the future of the Highlands—if they can afford to do so. For a book of 272 pages, the price of £8 is extremely high.

★ ★ ★

MACDIARMID AGAIN

THE recent double issue of Akros, which featured Hugh MacDiarmid has been sold out—despite reprinting, until the page plates are quite worn out.

The half-tone illustrations have survived however, and opportunity has been taken to re-issue the illustrated section of MacDiarmid's "The MacDiarmid's; A Conversation." This is available from Akros Publications at the address below.

In a new essay, Professor John C. Weston looks at MacDiarmid's "A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle."

Many things have been said both for and against "Drunk Man." For the reviewer it has been a song of Scotland in an infinite number of verses, so many have been the interpretations of each and every verse, line and word. That this is so, is borne out by Professor Weston's very close look at the poem: "A careful reading of the poem is enough to correct the suggestion of a sudden creation from the miscellaneous scraps implicit in the story that MacDiarmid, when he thought he had finished this poem, found himself 'surrounded by innumerable bits of paper, which had to be culled and arranged one night with the help of a bottle of whisky and his friend F. G. Scott'."

The whole poem is rich in symbols and it is this which has made it such an outstanding contribution to Scottish letters, acting as it does in a brain-storming way for the discerning Scot who wishes further to probe into the inner recesses of his (he hopes) Scots m'nd.

Says Weston, in one of a number of focussing looks on the poem, "... the drunk man constantly comes back to his physical situation, lying in the moonlight and looking

at the thistle, the thistle and the moon are recurring and related symbols. In this reiterated comparison, the thistle always represents man's mortality, his practical everyday weaknesses and limitations—the moon, man's ideals and romantic dreams."

A note by MacDiarmid himself explains the quatrain: "I'm fou o' a sticker God..."

Altogether this essay is something worthwhile to read after a fresh reading of the poem itself, for it adds an extra dimension to one's appreciation of this poem which MacDiarmid's poems "... is in point of fact a favourite of my own just from the qualities in it you discern—'deliciously outrageous, bawdy screechingly irreverent'."

"The MacDiarmid's; A Conversation"; and "A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle", essay by John Weston. Both from Akros Publications, 14 Parklands Avenue, Penwortham, Preston, Lancashire.

★ ★ ★

DANCE THE DANCE

ALMOST any book by almost any Irish author is a delight to read. "Dance the Dance" is no exception. A collection of short stories the book by Tom MacIntyre presents the reader with as much entertainment for his eye, his ear and his mind as he can ever wish for.

The author uses an original flow of language for his stories. "Epithalamion" is a long-short story of a honeymoon couple. "Such a Favour" involves a boy and his mother who faithfully believes that by the lad's ear has been cured by a miracle of the Blessed Olive. "Stallions" is a very short piece, yet redolent of the experiences of those whose early years have been spent in small towns with similar yards like that of Carroll's. In "Wood Crumbles" there is a twist in the story of Father O'Donnell and his fetish of hygiene in life, only to go to the final earth in a bleached coffin.

The stories themselves must be read to be appreciated. A writer like Tom MacIntyre guarantees a full evening's entertainment, which, let's face it, is what any fiction writer worth his salt should provide. There will be no demands for money back with this book.

"Dance the Dance" by Tom MacIntyre; 30/-; Faber and Faber Ltd., 20, Russell Square, London, W.C.1.

SCOTTISH FOLK NOTES

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Glasgow Folk Centre 114 West Nile St., Glasgow C.1

over to you

COMMONWEALTH GAELIC?

Sir, — Flashed on TV screen at opening of British Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, "CEUD MILE FAILTHE." Yours etc.,

J. MACDONALD, 133 Craigentinny Avenue, Edinburgh 7.

★ ★ ★

A Charaid,

Readers might be interested to know that Seumas MacGaraidh (Sruth 23 mh Iuchar, 1970) was born in Arbroath, Angus in 1885. He was 38 years of age when he was forced to emigrate to the U.S.A. in 1923. This great Albannaich taught himself Gàidhlig when there were none of the aids to learning the language that we have today. In the Autumn of 1911 he got a Gàidhlig evening class established in Arbroath and about the same time launched a branch of the Scots National League there also. In these two bodies Seumas Mór MacGaraidh gathered around himself an enthusiastic group of young people whose aim was Alba chan ann saor a màin ach Gàidhlig cuideachd. Such was the power of MacGaraidh's teaching that 20 years afterwards an audience in the town demanded of a Scottish National Party speaker that his party should fight for the re-Gaelicisation of all Scotland.

Seumas Mac Garaidh died in San Francisco on January 9th, 1966. No other man apart from his friend Ruairidh Arasaich is Mhairi (The Hon. Ruairidh Erskine of Marr) did more for the cause of fur chànain a h-Alba and the cause of Scottish freedom in this century to date. He deserves to be much better known by this generation of Albannaich òga.

Is mise le trèidhthireas mòr Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn 63 Westford Road, Surbiton, Surrey, Sasann.

1,000 LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

OVER 1,000 copies of publications about the Irish language are sold each year outside the G.P.O. in Dublin by members of Craobh Mòibh, a branch of Conradh na Gaeilge. The branch recently won an award as the city's best branch (Ichniore was the most progressive). It is based in Ely Place, Dublin.

In her annual report to members, Mairéad Ní Chinnéide, secretary, said that among the activities of the branch during the year had been training courses, social events, tours, an annual dinner and lectures.

A number of members, she said, sold language publications outside the G.P.O. each Saturday and this amounted to over 1,000 copies a year.

Padruig Gobha Pabbaidh

Bha Padruig Gobha ann an Pabbaidh na h-Earadh 's bhua ann na charraiche neo-chumanta. Cha robh duine dhí, fhiacladh car ris nach cuir, eachd e 'n drúim ri talamh. Uill, 'nuair chuala Mac Leoid na h-Earadh gu'n robh e mar seo 's nach robh duine 's sheasadh ris, dh'fhalbh e a Rodul gu ruige Pabbaidh le stuagh. Bu le MacLeoid Pabbaidh cho cointeach ris a' chuid eile de'n duthaich. Thainig fear as deigh fir do dhaoine MacLeoid dh'ionsaidh Pdraig 's bha e 'cur an drúim ri talamh gu' a' d'fhiaic e fear an deigh fir.

"S'trean an duine thu," arsa Mac Leoid, "a Phadrug! Tha thu cur a h-uile duine 'thig uisge fodhad. S'ann 'is fear dhomh fein 's dh'eo fhainn." Fhaciainn ri cheile. "Chan fhiaich, chan fhiaich," arsa Padruig, "cha dean sin an gnothach. Mu chuireas mise mo lamhan, umad Mhíis Leoid, n' m' ort ga ríreamh mar a rinn mi air a' chuid eile d'heath d' dhaoine." "Uill fhiacladh sinn cara ri cheile, a Phadrug." "Chan fhiaich, chan fhiaich, ma dh'fhiaichas mise riut cuiridh mi do dhruim, ri talamh 's cuiridh sin tamaill ort." "Tamaill ann no tamaill as fhiacladh sinn cara ri cheile." Chaidead an carabh a cheile 's chuir Padruig druim Mhíis Leoid ri talamh. Annd, 's ann 'is chunnaic fear dheth na daoine aig Mac Leoid seo, 's tharraing e'n claidheamh 's shath e ann 'n Padruig e 's mharb e 's. Thubhairt Mac Leoid: "gu de thug ort sid a dheanamh?" 's 'nuair chunnaic an duine gu robh fearg air Mac Leoid, theich e. "Ruithibh as a d'heighill" as Mac Leoid, 's bhíabha an ceann dheth." Níabha Mac Leoid diombach. Ruithíad sán ach theich easan. Thanaig e air bearradh creigear nach robh doigh tionndadh aige 's chaidh e leis a' sreig. Bha aon ghill aig

Padruig 's thug Mac Leoid leis a Rodal e. Thug e stigh dha theaghlach fein e 's thog e suas e an aodach, am biadh 's ann am foghlum mar aon dheth theaghlach. Thanaig e air aghart mar sin 's gur e bha riaghladh na h-Earadh uile eadar Rodul 's Maol-na h-Earadh (na Baigh, a' Mhachair 's na Beannaibh Seilge). Nise bhíodh Tighearna Cholla (no Tighearna Dhuairt) a' taghal air Fear Rodul 's bhíodh Mac Leoid a toghal air-san. Bhíodh MacLeitheain toirt leis a' Rodul dilleith nigeahn a bha aige. Latha dhe na lathaichean thubhairt Mac Leoid ri Padruig, "tha an fear a nise dhut rúdeigin a dheanamh air do shon fein 's bean a ghabhaidh dhut fein. Arsa Padruig an uair sin, "cha 'n fhios agam c'aite an teid mi a dh'iarraidh te." Arsa Mac Leoid tha dithis mhaighdeannan sgiamhach fodh do chomhdh ar seo. Co dhíubh is roghnaichead leat? "Tha fios agam co te dhíubh a roghnaicim," arsa Padruig, "ach co aig tha fhios an gabhadh i mi?" An sin thubhairt Mac Leoid ri MacLeitheain: bheil thu seo deonach an te seo a roghnaichead Padruig thuir seachad dha mar mhaoi ma bheos i fein deonach air? Fheargair MacLeitheain gu robh e lan thoilichte nam bhíodh iad fein thoilichte. Chuir an uair sin Mac Leoid aig MacLeitheain a cheist ríthe fein 's dh'iontaich i air chumhnant na tacrachd gu'm bhíodh dithis mhac ann gu'n deanadh d'gobha dheth 'n dara fear dheth na mic aig ministear uig 'n fhear-eile aig na dutha tígheadh cain na dutha steach dh'a'n fhear bhíodh 'n ghobha. Thachair mar a lughaic i e. 'S mar seo than aig na goibhean bho na mhac bha na ghobha 's lean Padruig anns an teaghlach gu an latha 'n díugh.

The Celt in the '70s

THE challenge of the years of the 70s decade is probably the greatest ever in the history of the Celtic peoples of Scotland, Cornwall, Wales, Man, Ireland and Brittany. This is particularly so in view of the increasing emphasis on materialism rather than the quality of life.

In the 1970 Annual book of the Celtic League the various facets of nationalism and nationhood are featured in a 200-page public relations exercise mounted on behalf of Europe's six Celtic nations. Printed in Inverness, and edited by Frank Thompson, Inverness, who is also editor of SRUTH, the book contains 35 articles which look back to Celtic roots, look at the present-day role of the Celt in the 70s.

In an introduction, Gwynfor Evans, the League President, says: "The nationalist Celt subordinates politics and economics to the social end of creating the condition in which their national communities can be themselves, and can realise their possibilities to the full. That is the road to a fuller and more meaningful life for each member of the community."

Included in the Annual are: Economic Growth and Cultural Liquidation; Celtic-speaking National Assemblies; The Achievement of Political Freedom; Is Scotland a Celtic Nation?; Commu na Canain Albannaich; The Death of the Anglo-Saxon Idea; Radio and TV in Cymru and Alba; Glor na nGael; Language and Social Freedom; The Northern Irish Crisis; Ireland Today; The Twenty-six Counties; Common Language for the Celts.

Participation Essential

THE active participation of all the people of the Gaeltacht is essential if the new Gaeltacht Authority is to be more successful than the county councils it will replace. This active participation can only be achieved by non-party elections. All the main political parties have stated their extreme concern for the state of the Gaeltacht. They now have a practical way of showing this concern — by abandoning party politics on the Gaeltacht Authority and uniting with all members of the Gaeltacht communities to improve the economic and cultural well-being of their area.

This was said recently in Dublin by Liam Mac Mathúna, Tánaiste, Conradh na Gaeilge.

The proposed local radio stations should be administered by local, democratically elected committees free of party politics. Even if

R.T.E. persisted in demanding ultimate control, largely autonomous local committees would still be required; they would be the most efficient means of assessing and providing for local needs, thus helping to reinforce the sense of community of Gaeltacht people.

Officials of the new Health Authority must have a fluent command of Irish. These officials cater for Gaeltacht areas and can only adequately provide a service for the people there when they have a knowledge of Irish.

Conradh na Gaeilge fully supports the recent protest of Gaeltarra Éireann workers in An Spideál who were served redundancy notices in English. This kind of action on the part of Gaeltarra Éireann was something for which there could simply be no excuse.

The very many recent developments are encouraging and I hope they will strengthen the will and community of the Gaeltacht people.

SCOTTISH JUNIOR MINISTERS' NEW TITLES

FOR the first time the Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State at the Scottish Office have been given designations which indicate their precise responsibilities.

Mr George Younger is the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Development; Mr Alec Buchanan-Smith the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Home Affairs and Agriculture; and Mr E. Taylor the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health and Education. These designations will be used for all official business.

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Development covers the Secretary of State's responsibilities for housing, roads and local government.

He is specially concerned with the promotion of industry and trade in Scotland and with the development of the necessary services. He will maintain continuous contact with the U.K. Government Departments on economic and industrial matters affecting Scotland and with Scottish industrial and commercial bodies in promoting and implementing plans for further development.

The detailed allocation of subjects to each of the Ministers includes: Mr Younger — Regional development, including industrial questions; Local government; roads, passenger transport by road and sea; Highlands and Islands Development Board.

Mr Buchanan-Smith — Agriculture; fisheries; crofting; forestry.

Mr Taylor — Education; recreation; the arts; food.

The new designations conform with recommendations in the report of Sir Alec Douglas-Home's Constitutional Committee.

SCOTLAND'S INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT RISES

Scotland's industrial output in the first quarter of this year was 0.7 per cent higher than in the corresponding quarter of 1969.

This overall rise came from an increase of 3.8 per cent in manufacturing output, partly offset by decreases in mining and quarrying (minus 8.6 per cent). In construction (-6.6 per cent), and in gas, electricity and water (-1.9 per cent).

Within manufacturing the largest increases were in the food, drink and tobacco industries (+9.7 per cent), engineering and electrical goods (+6.7 per cent), chemicals and allied industries (+4.1 per cent), and in vehicles (+5.5 per cent).

The largest decreases within manufacturing were in other manufacturing (-4.4 per cent), metal goods (-3.6 per cent), textiles, leather, clothing and footwear (-3.5 per cent), and in shipbuilding and marine engineering (-2.9 per cent).

MORE IRISH IN THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

THE Department of Finance has promised Conradh na Gaeilge that there will be more Irish in the telephone directory from now on.

In a letter to Pádraig Ó Dálaigh, Dáil na Mumhan (Munster Council, the Department said: "We have been told by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs that from 1971, the foreword will be published in Irish as well as in English in the telephone directory."

An Uas. Ó Dálaigh had made representations to the Department in February.

CELTIC LEAGUE

THE fundamental AIM of the Celtic Celtic League is to contribute to the struggle of the six Celtic nations to secure or to win their full freedom (political, cultural, social, economic). In particular it aims at:

1. Fostering co-operation between the national movements.
2. Developing the consciousness of the special relationship between the people of the six countries, and a sense of solidarity among them.
3. Making our national struggles and achievements better known abroad.

A substantial 200-page Annual for 1970 is now available. For further details, write to:

Mrs M. Denovan, 9 Dalgleish Road, Dundee, Scotland.

