

SRUTH

DI-ARDAOIN, 25 LATHA DE'N OG-MHIOS 1970 THURSDAY, 25th JUNE 1970 No. 85 Sixpence

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Peace and quiet beside Loch Urragach. These qualities are particularly characteristic of the Western Isles' inland waters. It is no wonder that the tourist is attracted to them. The Isles offer much besides: the quiet unhurrying life which gives the visitor ample time to reflect on his raison d'être in this world. For the tourist who is on a walking tour, there is the pleasure of trekking the moors under a pleasant sea sky. These island skies reflect the sea that surrounds them, the sea wherein the wealth of the island lies, if only there was the capital to develop it.

Sand Yachting at Dunnet Bay

THE Caithness and Highlands Sand and Land Yachting Club are preparing to host the 4th Scottish Open Sand Yachting Championships at Dunnet Bay, Caithness, on July 3rd and 4th.

Competitors from all over Britain are expected to attend.

The main prize is the Scottish Championship Claymore Rose Bowl donated by the North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board; in addition a special Caithness glass trophy will be up for competition. Speaking for the Caithness Club, whose sand yachting centre at Dunnet is attracting increasing interest from home and abroad, Mr. A. V. Levens, Caithness County Development Officer said on Tuesday: "Although sand yachting is a relatively new sport in Scotland, it is developing at a rapid pace. In addition to our own club, there are others at Dunbar, Aber-

deen, Irvine and Ayr, and an association of Scottish clubs has been formed. We hope that competitors from all these Scottish centres will participate in the championships."

OFFICIAL IMPRESSED

AT the end of his week's tour of Shetland — his first since taking up office about a year ago — Mr John Cormack, senior official in the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, with special responsibility for crofting, expressed his keen interest in the saw.

During his short stay, he managed to visit Foula and Papa Stour; a fair bit of the Shetland mainland; Yell, Unst and Fetlar. In addition to finding it interesting and impressive he held a healthy respect for crofting and the Shetland crofter.

LOWEST JUNE JOBLESS FOR 3 YEARS

THE counties of Invernesshire, Ross-shire, and the Isle of Skye have recorded their lowest unemployment figures for three years, according to the latest report by Mr J. D. McCracken, secretary to the Highlands Local Employment Committee.

Invergordon employment exchange recorded their lowest figure for 13 years. This is due to the construction of the British Aluminium Company's smelter in the area.

Against national trend

Construction and hotel industry activity in other exchange areas, said Mr McCracken, had held unemployed levels to a lesser degree against the national trend of high June figures for some years, though Fort William and Portree showed considerable increases over the three-year period.

An interesting feature of the register at Portree this

month was the complete absence of boys, girls and women.

Placings in employment by the five exchanges over the quarter totalled 1,530—40% of the total in the Invergordon area — and at mid-June

ANGLO SAXOPHONE

The figure of 10,000 native Gaelic speakers quoted in the article by William Neill in the last issue should read 100,000.

there were 453 unfilled notified vacancies, slightly under half of which were for the hotel industry.

Prospects good

Forward prospects over the summer season remained good with a variety of construction projects in hand. Recruitment for the first intake of craftsmen and operator grades by British Aluminium Co. Ltd., at Inver-

gordon exchange had been most encouraging, said Mr McCracken.

A number of small expansions of the labour forces at establishments, particularly in the Inverness area, offered prospects, and a canvass of firms for vacancies for summer school-leavers had produced a sizeable bank of posts.

Mr McCracken reported that the only clouds on the horizon towards the end of the year were the gradual rundown of staff at Duncan Logan Ltd., and the beginning of the decline in personnel as the civil engineering phase of the construction of the smelter passed its employment peak.

The level of unemployment in the committee area, he pointed out, had not reflected the national trend and at 1,570 was down.

The committee have also pledged their support for the recently-intimated proposals of the Highlands and Islands Development Board for a programme of advance factory building.



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HIGHLAND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

A SCHEME to continue the improvement of the Invermoriston / Moriston Bridge road A.887, has been approved by Mr William Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, who is making a 75% grant to Inverness County Council towards its cost, estimated at £62,000. This is the third section of the County Council's planned reconstruction of this tourist route.

Under the scheme, three-quarters of a mile of A.887, both east and west of Bhlairaidh Bridge will be rebuilt on a better line and provided with an 18 ft. carriageway and two 7 ft. verges. At present, this length of road is only 14 ft. wide.

At the same time, the old bridge at Bhlairaidh will be replaced by a new 25 ft. span bridge.

Another scheme — the sixth in a series — by Ross and Cromarty County Council, will continue the improvement of the Garve-Achna-shaan road (A.832) along the side of Loch Maree, by

rebuilding two thirds of a mile of the road.

Mr Ross is making a 75% grant to the county council towards the cost of this scheme, estimated at £55,000.

The length of road to be improved is on average, eight feet wide, with sharp gradients and bends, and weak supporting walls alongside the loch.

It will be rebuilt on a better line with an 18 ft. carriageway and two 6 ft. verges.

RADIO FOR THE GAELTACHT

"THE question of providing sound broadcasting stations to cater for the Gaeltacht areas in particular and Irish speakers in general is being examined in Radio Telefis Eireann. I do not know at this stage, when a report on the study with cost and other data will be available." The Minister for Posts and Telegraphs said recently when speaking on the estimate for his Department in the Dail.

SPALDA 1969-70

The National Economic Development Council Report, "Economic Assessment to 1972," admitting as it does that food and feed imports rose by £103 million in 1968, fully justifies SPALDA's case that increased home food production, even on the underestimated £160 million a year import saving target cannot be achieved without (a) a more realistic approach to accepting reduction of food imports and increased home food production as a major instead of a minor plank in Government policy and (b) much greater stress on Land Reclamation as the best and most economic aspect in achieving increased home food production.

SPALDA (Scottish Peat and Land Development Association) says that though the increased capital grants and fertiliser subsidies are moves in the right direction, end prices, especially on the hills, are still quite inadequate and the overall picture is indecisive. If the 8.5% increase in productivity needed even to give the modest target of £160,000,000 a year saving in food imports by 1972-3 is to be achieved, a single hearted drive for increased land reclamation with acreage targets on all suitable farms must be launched. Reclaimed acres mean more stock and grain carrying capacity and also meet the dangerous challenge of underfed and overused land which is coming to be recognised as a growing menace.

SPALDA's very successful A.G.M. in Oban in May, 1969, with its record breaking Symposium on Increased Hill Farm-

ing Production and Profitability and visits to farms of great reclamation significance at Barguilean, Fanans, Achnalrig, and Luing was a splendid first round, direction of attention to essentials and to influencing bodies like the H.I.D.B.

This was followed by a visit to one of Scotland's largest exploitations of horticultural and agricultural peat, at Gardrum Moss, near Falkirk in July—a reminder of the value of our underdeveloped peat resources.

One final word on SPALDA's direction of pressure to significant growth points. After a preliminary survey and after obtaining a detailed survey from the Macaulay Institute for Soil Research, SPALDA approached the H.I.D.B. for backing for Mr John Carr's scheme for reclaiming the Glen Bellart bog in Mull for grass mead production for animal winter keep for Mulla farmers. SPALDA invited the Board's Land Use Officer to visit Easter Inch Moss in West Lothian to see a large scale bog development at present going on in Scotland, a model and modern demonstration of the reclamation of our neglected peat land resources (1.7 million acres of peat in Scotland). Mr Cameron, the Board's Project Officer, came to Easter Inch and was impressed by this practical demonstration. It is believed Mr Prophet Smith and those concerned are now fully aware of the feasibility of peat land reclaimed for much needed winter keep and grazing facilities in many of our Highland and Islands areas.

A Century

+ INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

THE supreme deliberative body of the Red Cross movement is the International Conference, which meets every four years. It is composed of delegations from duly recognised National Societies, delegations of the States parties to the Geneva Conventions and of the International Red Cross bodies.

During the intervening four years, the work of the Conference is done by an elected body of nine members, known as the Standing Commission, whose number includes two from the League and two from the International Committee. Angela, Countess of Limerick, has been its chairman since 1965.

It was the International Committee of the Red Cross, originally composed of five citizens, who translated Henri Dunant's vision into practice by calling an International Meeting in Geneva in 1863, as the result of which the first National Societies were formed. The Committee is an independent institution, governed by its own statutes and recruited by co-optation from among Swiss citizens, whose number must not exceed 25. For over 100 years the Committee has acted as the guardian of Red Cross principles, the authority for recognising new Societies, and the neutral Red Cross agency, particularly in time of war or armed conflict, when it intervenes on behalf of the wounded, sick, prisoners of war and civilians. Its Central Tracing Agency, the normal channel in war time for enquiries about such people, now has more than 45 million index cards. In both World Wars the Committee visited prisoner-of-war camps, transmitted parcels and gave relief to civilian refugees.

The League of Red Cross is the federating body of the National Societies, for whom it is the spokesman in the United Nations and other governmental and non-governmental agencies. It is headed by a Board of Governors, representative of every member Society, and an Executive Committee elected from this Board. The purpose of the League is to co-operate with National Societies for the purpose of study, and of co-ordination and liaison, this is particularly important during disaster relief, and to promote the development of National Societies by giving help to newly established members in personnel, material and economic aid. (Once a Society is recognised by the International Committee it can apply for League membership.) There are various administrative Bureaux, including Relief, to co-ordinate aid during international emergen-

1870 + 1970

BRITISH RED CROSS



cies; Health and Social Service, to promote medico social work; Nursing, to maintain high standards in the profession; Junior Red Cross to support efforts to organise national youth sections. The League also provides information services giving news of Societies' activities all over the world.

* * *

+ ORGANISATION AND ACTION

THE British Red Cross Society is governed by the Council, which appoints annually an Executive Committee and its chairman to regulate and manage the general business and organisation of the Society. The policy decided by them and by the appropriate sub-Committees is carried out under the direction of the chairman, upon whose office the organisation at National Headquarters is based. The Executive Committee includes twelve representatives from branches in England and Wales and two representatives from the Scottish Branch. Branches are under the direction of a Committee and are usually sub-divided into Divisions, which include Voluntary Aid Detachments and Members' Groups. There are 63 such branches in England, Wales and Guernsey a Committee in Jersey and Central Council Branches in Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man. The Society has a home and overseas membership of nearly 200,000, including 87,500 Junior Red Cross members, and, in addition, 365,000 Associates who pay a subscription.

The efficient running of the Society depends on strong and inspired leadership, a numerous, enthusiastic and well-trained membership, a vigorous Junior movement, the support of the medical and nursing professions, and lastly, the support and confidence of the public.

People often ask "What does the Red Cross do?" These are examples of how the B.R.C.S. helps people at home and in countries all over the world:

IN ONE YEAR — Members manned 7,800 First Aid Posts; Helped at 1,500 Child Welfare, Orthopaedic and other Clinics, gave auxiliary nursing and welfare service in 6,200 hospitals and homes, paid 27,000 visits to assist District

of Service

Nurses, Arranged holidays for 7,400 handicapped and elderly people, administered 910 Clubs for elderly and disabled people; Escorted 52,000 sick or disabled travellers; Visited 84,000 sick people at home and served 122,000 "meals-on-wheels"; Gave 100,000 training courses in First Aid, nursing and allied subjects; Administered 22 homes for old people, 3 homes for training the young disabled, 3 holiday homes for disabled adults, and 3 homes for the young chronic sick. Sent aid abroad to 6 countries suffering as a result of earthquakes, 6 from floods, 3 from cyclones, 3 from famine, and gave relief to refugees in 9 areas of war and conflict; Helped new Societies to provide health, medical and welfare services, such as schools and workshops for the handicapped, milk and feeding schemes and immunisation campaigns, blood donor and other services.

* * *

+ VOLUNTARY AID DETACHMENTS

"NO job is too small for them to undertake, no gap is too large for them to fill." This was a tribute paid to V.A.D.s in the First World War when they worked in dressing stations, auxiliary hospitals and convalescent homes, drove ambulances and carried stretchers. When in 1909 the scheme for the Organisation of Voluntary Aid was announced by the War Office, Voluntary Aid Detachments were raised and trained. Two years later when the senior lecturer had presented the Society with Instruction Manuals, in which First Aid to the injured was set out as an exact science, and the first Detachments had proved their efficiency, War Office approval was given to the B.R.C.S. to grant its own certificates in First Aid and Nursing. By 1913 V.A.D. membership had reached 52,577. The first public street duty undertaken was at the Coronation of George V; the first emergency relief given was at the Welsh pit disaster in 1911.

(Between the wars, V.A.D.s

(Continued on page 12)

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CELTICA

A look at ALBA . BREIZH . CYMRU . EIRE

KERNOW . MANNIN

by P. BERRESFORD ELLIS

IT is a heart warming aspect of Celtic history that many of the great figures in the struggle for cultural and political independence have been non Celts. In particular, many men and women from England have defied their country's Establishment to side with the Celts. One such man was James Pearse, a Devonshire man, who migrated across the Irish Sea to live in Dublin and sided with the Irish cause.

In a hard-hitting pamphlet (*England's Duty to Ireland*) as it appears to an Englishman, Pearse wrote: "England has no moral right to rule this country."

It was James Pearse's son, Pádraig Pearse, who declared the Irish Republic from the steps of the Dublin G.P.O. during the 1916 Rising. I would like, however, to deal with an Englishman who is not so well-known, Bishop Hildesley, Bishop of Man, and Sodor 1755-1772, whose tireless work gave the Manx people a Bible in their own language.

Hildesley was consecrated Bishop of Man and Sodor in Whitehall Chapel by the Archbishop of York, Dr Hutton, on April 24, 1755. On August 6, he was installed in St German's Cathedral. Straightaway this great humanitarian set about learning Manx "so that he might make himself generally understood by the people."

In fact, of the island's 20,000 population in the mid-18th Century, two thirds of the island spoke no English. The English language was confined only to the Manx trading ports and to the English gentry who had bought land on the island. But the situation was far from good, there was little literature available in the language and the Manx were being subjected to the old brainwashing

technique that Manx was the language of illiterates and that the only true civilised tongue was English.

Hildesley was horrified at this process. In 1763 he wrote: "This, I believe, is the only country in the world that is ashamed of, and even inclined to extirpate, if it could, its own native tongue."

At the Convocation in 1758 Hildesley was "declaring a great desire of having the Church Catechism printed in the Manx tongue by itself." He also recommended the clergy in the island "to use their best endeavours to improve the use and practice of the Manx tongue." He desired "the ordinary service of the Church, together with the several occasional offices, translated into Manx, and "a select number of the singing psalms translated into Manx verse, fitted to tunes and used in churches, for the instruction and comfort of such persons as do not understand the English language."

Hildesley found willing translators but there was little money to finance his projects.

S.P.C.K. granted him £100 in July, 1762, "for the purpose of printing the Scriptures and other good books in the Manx tongue." Hildesley was, however, being put under pressure by his hierarchy which condemned the practice of translating "the Scriptures and the Liturgy off-hand out of English into the language of the island."

Hildesley continued stirring up interest in the Manx language and trying to raise the Manx themselves from their brainwashed apathetic state. Luckily S.P.C.K. proved a strong support and in 1763 issued "A Proposal for printing the Holy Bible, Common Prayer and other religious books in the Manx Language."

Soon after this, the Acts and Gospels were published. Hildesley kept up the pressure and in 1765 a Prayer Book was published. Then the great mammoth work of the Bible was published in three volumes. The first volume (to the end of Job) appeared in 1771; the second part of the Old Testament (including the Apocrypha) appeared in 1773 and the New Testament appeared in 1775.

The work had been done by almost the whole clergy of the island supervised by the Rev. Philip More and Dr John Kelly who helped to correct the manuscript for press.

Vallanz in his *Grammar*, writes: "The beautiful expression of the Manx, superior to the Irish translation, is visible to every Celtic scholar."

Yn *Vible Casherick*, like the Welsh Bible before it, produced a high literary standard in the language. No longer could it be dismissed as a barbarian tongue, the language of illiterate peasants. And it was thanks to the tireless work of an Englishman.

Tragically, Hildesley did not live to see the second and third part of *Yn Vible Casherick* published. He died on December 7, 1772, and was buried in Kirk Michael Churchyard.

But perhaps Hildesley found reward when (recounting in his *Memoirs*) he saw a Kirk Michael woman sitting in church listening to her son reading from the first part of *Yn Vible Casherick*. Hildesley recalled her joy was something to behold. "Until now we have sat in darkness!" she whispered to this great Englishman who did more than anyone to make Manx into a literary language and stop its eradication by the forces of Anglicisation.

Innleachdan airson cor na Gaidhlig 'san deachad tha romhainn

Tha co dhiubh da dhoigh ann air dèiligeadh ris a'Ghaidhlig is a'Ghaidhealtachd. Ann a cheud aite dh'fhaodadh duine a' radh, "S' coma 'm òi Ghaidhlig beo ceud, no eadhon leth-cheud, bliadhna an ama so"—se rud gu bheil aireamh mhilleant 'ga bruidhinn an diugh, agus bu choir feuchainn ri a' coirichean, an "Civil Rights," a bhuanachadh dhaibh sin agus chan e mhaoin ach ad deanamh cinnteach gu bheil ga goireas cae—radio, stuth-leughaidh, cur-seachadan—nan canan fhein is a tha aig luchd channan eile air feadh an t-saoghail. Nuair a chanas mi Civil Rights 'se tha mi ciallachadh a' cead a'Ghaidhlig a bruidhinn an curtean-lagha, ceud paipercan Riaghaltais—Bord an Fhearrain, o Luchd nan Cis.—a ionadh an Gaidhlig

fhaidhte nach tugadh seachad e ach airson ar breugadh air falbh o bhith 'g iarraidh rudan nas motha (mar innbe 'sa lagh do'n Ghaidhlig) agus airso luchd-bhoatadh a thaladh o'n S.N.P. (c) 's docha nach rothas air ciall idir fhaighinn mura b' e 'n cusd a tha na Cuimrigh oga air a bhi deanamh o chionn bliadhna—a'peantadh shogh-nichean-rathaid a'cur stad air Ard-Chuir Shastuin 'sa dol, mar mairtach do'n phiosan: tha e mi-onarach is mi-fhial-aidh dhuinne a bhith gabhail brath mar so air na iadsan air deanamh de dh'adhartas tro chunnartas is prìosan 's gun sinn fhein a'deanamh dad dhe'n r-seorsa.

(2) 'Se an dara doigh air coirichean a bhuanachadh, so. An aite muinntir na Gaidhlig fhein a bhith brosnachadh, sinn

le D. I. MACLEOD

agus mar sin air adhart. A thaobh chur-seachad, tha e nas goireasaiche bruidhinn orra-san a meag nan doighann airson a'Ghaidhlig a chumail beo. Nise, ni bhith strìth sin air coirichean feum, 's docha, ann a bhith cumail beo na canain ach 'se coimhead air an da obair mar rudan eadar-dhealachaidhe bho cheile saoilidh mise as buannachdaile.

1. Ar Coirichean:

Tha ceithir doighann ann air strì airson coirichean dha'n t-seorsa so. (1) An Chomunn Gaidhealtach, no buidhean, no daoine eile a tha riochdachadh luchd na Gaidhlig a dh'ol a bruidhinn, gu modhail, sìobhailt, iriosail, ris na daoine sin aige a bheil ughdaran—an Riaghaltd—airson seasamh a bhuanachadh do'n Ghaidhlig anns an lagh; luchd-stiùirdh nan Stiorrachd an cur iad suas ainmhean bhaltean 'sa Ghaidhlig; Oifis a'Phuist son gun gabh iad ri litrichean air an seòladh anns a' Ghaidhlig etc. Nise thathas air a bhi feuchainn na doigh so bho chionn greise—daoine o'n Chomunn comhla ri lethidh Dr MacIleathainn, Inbhimis agus Ruairidh MacThomais—dol far a bheil Uilleam Ros is a lethidh agus na h-ubhir de dh'adhartas a bhuanachadh. Ach chan'eil mise samoinachadh—ach tha mi'n dhaos gu bheil mi cearr—gun dean an doigh obrach so an t-uamhas feum. Gun teagamh fhuaircead an t-airgid a bha so airson A' Chomunn agus airson clo-bhuadh air a'bhliadhna so chaidh ach feumar so a chiumhneachadh mun airgid sin:—(a) Chaneil ann ach air bheagan taga ris na an Riaghaltais a cosg, troimh'n Arts Council, air cultur air feadh Breitann. (b) Ma dh'i-

a thoirt air buidhean eile aig nach'eil boireannaid idir ris a'Ghaidhlig part de'n obair a'deanamh dhuinn. Tha seo 's docha cealgach ach tha e fheadhainn an aghaidh a bheis sinn a'sabaidh a'cos calgach ri Riaghaltais fo'n ghreim. Chuir mi eiscampal air a so: bho chionn greise chuir an Scottish Central Library rompa (as an ceann fhein) cunnatas fhaighinn air caite fàighear leth-bheac de'n a h-uile leabhar Gaidhlig a chaidh riann a sgrìobhadh agus tha iad air sgrìobhadh gu Roinn an Fhoghlum sin airgid a chumas fear-deasaichidh is clair an tuarasd fad ri bliadhna. Nise, ged is e rud Gaidhlig a tha so, chan e buidhean Ghaidhlig a tha 'ga bhrosnachadh—'s ann a tha an S.C.L.'son gun dean iad an obair fhein nas aotruimh chan'eil moran diu aca do'n Ghaidhlig—agus tha so 'gam fagail nas coltaiche an t-airgid fhaighinn agus 's fhearrid a chuis air fad gu faic buidhean mar Roinn Foghlum Alba gu bheil uidh aig buidhean Gallda mar an Scottish Central Library anns a'Ghaidhlig. Nise, cha chreid mise gun biodh an aon seasamh aice 's lagh ris a'Bheurla nan gabhadh comunn mar "The Faculty of Advocates" no "Law Society" an gnothach aos laimh 's gun canadh iad "Chan-eil gnothaich againne ri comunn Gaidhlig no ri canan seach canan ach tha uidh againn ann an ceartas agus 'se ar beachdne, mar fir-lagha, nach-eil moran ceartas aig a'Ghaidhlig an drasda: Bheil'ios agad, ma dh'iarraas lethidh A Chomunn Ghaidhealtach call air an riaghaltd, tha e farasd gu leor dhaibh a' radh—'it's these

(Continued on page 12)

North American Scotsman

'... Where two or three Scotsmen are gathered together...'

It is a fact of the world's life that Scotsmen all the world over simply and steadfastly refuse to release their mental hold on the land of their birth, or the land from which their forebears came.

SRUTH has in the past three years of its existence

printed many words about the enthusiasm of Scotsmen for the heritage. And last week we received another indication that all is well in North America.

News to exiles

We received Volume 2, Number 2 of "The North American Scotsman" which is a monthly magazine reporting news to

exiles on the Scottish scene. It is published each month at 121 Marlborough Road, Catharines, Ontario.

The subscription is three dollars per annum and the publishers are G. S. Tuck and A. J. MacLeod.

This is an excellent magazine and one spends a pleasant and informative hour with its pages.

THE 1320 CLUB FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BUREAU

The Foreign Affairs Bureau of the 1320 Club exists to advertise Scotland abroad: particularly in Europe.

The Bureau, coming under the aegis of the Club in January 1969, began as an extension of the personal campaign conducted over many years by the Bureau's Director when he was living on the Continent.

The Bureau's first activity was the distribution to all the participants in the Common-wealth Ministers' Conference held at Westminster of copies of the original edition of Ludovic Kennedy's broadcast address, "The Disunited Kingdom." The original intention had been to publish an article written by the Bureau's Director; but he realised that Mr Kennedy's piece bore the strength of the great "mystique" of the BBC. The force of this is particularly strong on the Continent, and is derived from the BBC's multilingual transmissions during and after the war. So it was decided that the Bureau's initial campaign should be the distribution of originals and translations of this address.

The first translation of "The Disunited Kingdom" was into French, and many hundreds of copies of it were sent to newspapers all over France, the French-speaking Cantons of Switzerland, the French (or Wallon) provinces of Belgium, the French-Canadian Province of Quebec, and to French papers in Syria and Lebanon. A signed letter went to every editor. Other forms of letters went with pamphlets to embassies, consulates, and university libraries.

Over a thousand copies of a new English edition were then distributed throughout England, the U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan, India, and Ireland. Editors, as a rule, do not waste time and money in acknowledging press-bulletins; and it was understood that it would be almost impossible to gauge the impact. The Bureau had been prepared to pay the not inconsiderable cost of subscribing to the International Press Cuttings Agency; but the Agency—an English-controlled firm operating from London—refused to accept the Bureau as a client! There is, of course, no international press-cuttings agency in Scotland. The Bureau was working in the dark. Then suddenly, from Atlanta, there came a letter from a features writer with a cutting of an article he was serialising throughout the southern States. Soon after that, the Bureau began to receive letters, newsletters, magazines, and pamphlets from all over France, and from the Breton, Basque, and Catalan Freedom Movements.

The second translation was into Italian; and it, too, received a fair number of acknowledgements, including one from the Freedom Movement of the Trentino. Letters were also received from Sardinia and Sicily.

Other translations followed at approximately monthly intervals: German, Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian; and Dutch, for Holland and Flanders.

By the time all these had been distributed, twenty-five different countries had been covered. Since then, Welsh and Breton translations have been made. As almost every Welshman speaks English, and nearly every Breton understands French, these two publications were more in the nature of a gesture towards our fellow Celts; and it is hoped that they will help to strengthen the friendship which already exists between the 1320 Club and the Nationalist organisations in Wales and Brittany.

A Gaelic translation of "The Disunited Kingdom" was prepared last autumn, and was distributed through various sources at home, in England, and in Canada; and the full text was printed in the bilingual newspaper "Sruth." Although our native Gaelic language was scarcely a matter for the attention of the Foreign Affairs Bureau, the Director of the FAB accepted the responsibility of publishing, in the name of the Club, the Gaelic translation which had been made by the Reverend William Matheson in collaboration with the National Bard, William Neill, lately editor of "Catalyst."

Disregarding finance which is always difficult, the Bureau appears to have been fairly successful in doing what it set out to do: to make the first organised attempt at trying to

put Scotland back on the map of the world.

There has been a failure to get any sensible reply from anyone concerning the fact that passports issued to domiciled Scots by the Passport Office in Glasgow emblazon the Arms of England and not those of Scotland. This is illegal. A protest was made to the Lord Lyon. He instigates prosecutions against transgressing tradesmen; but over this matter he was apparently unable, or unwilling, to proceed. It is suggested that members of the Club, or, indeed, any Scot holding a passport issued in Glasgow, should protest to the Chief Passport Officer, and to the Lyon Clerk at the Register House, Edinburgh. The more protests these people get, the better.

Projected posters

A few months ago they came into the possession of the Bureau a series of press photographs, taken secretly in the London Offices of the British Travel Association. These were photographs of projected posters intended for distribution abroad, and designed to advertise Northern Ireland, Wales, and Scotland. Northern Ireland was described as being part of ENGLAND; Wales, too, came under the generic description of ENGLAND. The third poster showed mountains, an obviously Scottish castle, and in the foreground a man in a civilian kit, wearing a blue bonnet, pointing the way to two tourists. This poster bore the caption "Tour by car—see Britain better"; and then, in large letters, ENGLAND. The word "Scotland" did not appear.

Having made sure that the identity of the photographer could not be traced, the Bureau sent photostat copies to the Director of the British Travel Association, making no secret of where the photographs had been obtained; and threatening that if these posters were ever shown abroad, as many of them as possible would be torn down. The Bureau asked its correspondents on the Continent to complain to travel agents who displayed the posters, and to remove the posters if at all possible. The reply of the British Travel Association's Director, after a considerable amount of acrimonious correspondence, was a downright denial of any responsibility.

An approach was made to the appropriate committee of the United Nations to see if it were possible to get the letters SC or SCO recognised as the International Registration Marks for Scottish motor-cars. The reply from the committee dealing with this matter was much the same as the replies received from other committees, concerning other matters: "... when Scotland has achieved its independence, we will be prepared to consider this." Note: "when," NOT "if."

Gaelic Activities Run Through The Summer For London Gaels

IN the season when many Highland and other cultural societies fold up for the duration of the hot season, (or annual moonson!) Comunn na Gàidhlig an Lunnainn carries a comprehensive programme of events of interest to the Gael.

On Saturday, 2nd May, a packed hall awaited a wealth of amateur talent when Gaelic learners staged an evening's entertainment in their acquired language. This turned out to be one of the most Gaelic events of the year. Courtesy normally extending to part — or most — of an evening's events through the medium of English for the benefit of learners of Gaelic was now returned as the learners staged virtually the whole of their show in Gaelic. Fear-an Tighe was Mr Arthur Findlay. Scots and Highland fiddle music was by Miss Lindsay Polson. Highland dancing by Miss Freda Graham, songs, readings and poems (including The Birliinn of Clan Ranald) and stories by members of the City Literary Institute Gaelic classes, under the direction of Mrs Anna Morrison, M.A. (Tolstaidh - fo - Thuath). By colour slides and Gaelic commentary, Mr Kenneth MacKinnon took the audience Air Turus dha na h-Eileanan.

The following Saturday, May 9th, witnessed the erection of the society's traditional Clachaan in the Old Deer Park at Richmond, as part of the Festival of Scotland Highland Games. Here, traditional crafts and skills were displayed in the old Tigh Dubh and Highland style traditional fare was cooked, sold and consumed in situ. The society broadcasts by public address Gaelic entertainment by its own singers, including the Thum Uist singer, Miss Cairistiona Laing, deservedly ever-popular at London Gaelic events, and gramophone re-

ords of Highland artists for the benefit of the crowds who come to this popular Scottish event in the south. Nor forgetting the literary and economic sides of Highland life, the Clachaan is a means of promoting the smaller Highland companies and Gaelic literature to its visitors.

The London Mod of 30th May has already been reported in these pages, but friends who have not already done so may wish to book next year's date: Saturday, 5th June, 1971 at R.S.C. Hall, Fetter Lane and Camden Town Hall.

The Gaelic classes continue at the City Literary Institute well into July, under Mr Kenneth J. MacLeod (Skye).

Comunn na Gàidhlig an Lunnainn takes some pride in its charitable activities in the Highlands and Islands. It has distributed thousands of pounds in recent years through its Eventide Homes appeal and it is a society which is active in the Highlands as well as in London. Members of the society on holiday and members returning to their home area have promoted concerts and dances which have the threefold objectives of providing local entertainment and tourist attractions and raising money for its charitable efforts in the Highlands and Islands. Readers of SRUTH, resident in Skye and intending visitors may wish to note the dates of the Comunn na Gàidhlig an Lunnainn attractions in Skye this summer: evening concerts with dances following at Broadford on Wednesday, 19th August, and at Portree on Friday, 21st August.

Thighibh Uile !

The Gaelic old-word has it: "Cum ort Cùmail ort!" Comunn na Gàidhlig an Lunnainn keeps on South of the Border and in the Gàidhealtachd all through the year!

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AG IGNNACHA H NA

LE IAIN A. MACDHOMHNAILL

LEASAN A H-AON AIR FHCHEAD



Tha am biadh seachad a mise agus tha Mairi The meal is over now and Mary a' faighneachd co' tha dol a ghlanadh nan soitheachan. is asking who is going to wash the dishes. Tha Anna ag radh gu bheil ise a' dol Anne is saying that she is going a mach a chluich agus tha Iain ag radh out to play and John is saying gu bheil obair aige ra dheanann do'n mhaighstir-sgoile. that he has work to do for the school-master.

Mairi: A bheil sibh deiseil a nise?

Iain: Are you ready now? Tha gu dearbh Yes indeed.

Mairi: Bha sud glé mhath. That was very good.

Suidh: Suidhibh aig an teine, mata, Sit at the fire, then, agus an sgobhlach mi am bòrd. until I clear the table.

Alasdair: C'ait' an do chuir thu Where did you put the an litir a bha mi a' leughadh. letter I was reading.

Mairi: C'ait' an do chuir thu fhéin i? Where did you put it yourself?

Alasdair: Chuir anns an uinneig. I put it in the window.

Mairi: Nise Alasdair. Now Alexander.

Suid: Suid i air an litir aig cas a' bhùird. There it is on the floor at the leg of the table.

Alasdair: Chanail i aig cas a' bhùird. Channel i aig cas a' bhùird. It isn't at the leg of the table.

Mairi: Tha i aig cas a' bhùird b'big aig an uinneig. It is at the leg of the little table at the window. Iain their thusa an litir do d'athair. John you give the letter to your father.

Iain: C'ait' a bheil i? Where is it?

Mairi: Nach fhaic thu i aig cas a' bhùird? Don't you see it at the leg of the table.

Nise: Co' tha dol a ghlanadh nan soitheachan? Now who is going to wash the dishes?

Anna: Tha mise a' dol a mach. I am going out.

Iain: Tha obair agamsa r'a dheanann I have work to do do'n mhaighstir-sgoile. for the school-master.

Mairi: Nach sibh a tha leisg? Aren't you lazy?

Alasdair: Nach d' rinn mise gu leòr an duigh? Haven't I done plenty today?

Mairi: Rinn gu dearbh. Yes indeed.

Iain: Leigh thusa d' anail. You have a rest.

Mairi: An faca sibh mo pheann? Have you seen my pen?

Alasdair: Chunnac. Yes.

Nise: Nach eil e far an do dh'fhàg thu e? Isn't it where you left it?

Iain: Tha air a' chairt aig an teine. It is on the chair at the fire.

Suid: 'S e an taigh a tha seo. What a house this is.

Anna: Tha mise a' faibh mata. I am going then.

Mairi: Na bi fada. No be long.

Anna: Cha bhi. No.

Alasdair: Bitheadh mi dhachaigh aig ochd uairean. I will be home at eight o'clock.

Iain: Dé an obair a tha agadsa ra dheanann Iain? What work have you to do John?

Alasdair: Bha am maighstir-sgoile ag The school-master was iarraidh oirnn dealbh a dheanamh asking us to make a picture.

Iain: De'n dùthaich mu'n cuairt agus de'n garraic country and coig ainmean aitean a chur air an dealbh. to put five place names on the picture.

Alasdair: Glé mhatha Iain. Very good John.

Iain: Cordaidh sin riut. You will enjoy that.

Alasdair: Cordaidh, ach dé na h-ainmean Yes, but what names a chuireas mi anns an dealbh? will I put in the picture?

Iain: Nan robh thu air a bhith If you had been combla riumsa an duigh with me today.

Alasdair: Dh' innsadh Seumas ainmean gu leòr dhuit. James would tell you plenty of names.

Iain: Nach innis sibh fhéin coig ainmean dhomh. Won't you yourself tell me five names.

Alasdair: Feumaidh iad a bhith ann an Gaidhlig. They must be in Gaelic.

Iain: Dé na h-ainmean eile a tha ann? What other names are there?

Alasdair: Bha am maighstir-sgoil ag innsadh dhutinn The school-master was telling us that gun robh mòran ainmean Lochlunnach there were many Norse names ann an dùthaich seo. in this country.

Iain: Bheir mise dhuit ainmean Gaidhlig gu leòr. I will give you plenty of Gaelic names.

Alasdair: Ach dean thusa an dealbh an toiseach. But you do the picture first.

Iain: Thoirbh dhomh na h-ainmean an toiseach. You give me the names first.

Alasdair: Nach eil an Cnoc Mòr shuas Isn't the Big Hill up an sin air cùlaibh an taighe? there behind the house?

Iain: Nach eil Creag an Fhèidh air Isn't the Deer Rock cùl a' chnuic? behind the hill?

Alasdair: Fuairichibh agus an sgrìobh mi sin. Wait until I write that.

Iain: Dé eile? What else?

Alasdair: Tha Bealach a' chruidh The Path of the Cattle is faisg air Creag an Fhèidh near the Deer Rock agus faisg air sin a ann and near that rithis tha Creag a' Mhill agus air cùl again is the Rock of the Hill and behind na creige sin tha Bealach an Fhèidh. that rock is the Path of the Grass (Grassy Path).

Iain: Air mullach a' bhealaich At the top of the path is jha Achadh nan Con. the Field of the Dogs.

Alasdair: Ni sin an gnotuch That will do.

Iain: Feumaidh mi innsadh I must tell dha dé tha na h-ainmean sin a' ciallachadh. him what these names mean.

Alasdair: Tha sin soirbh gu leòr That is easy enough to say.

Iain: Bealach a' Chruidh, sin an The Path of the Cattle, that is the rathad a bhithheadh iad way they used to a' tighinn leis a' chrodh. come with the cattle.

Alasdair: Creag an Fhèidh — Tha iad The Deer Rock — Tha iad ag radh gu bheil a' chreag say that that rock sin coltach ri fhadh. is like a deer.

Iain: Creag a' Mhill, tha meall The Rock of the Hill, meall means a' ciallachadh cnoc agus a hill and there is the creag mhòr air mullach a big rock on the a' mhill no a' chnuic seo. top of this "meall" or hill.

Alasdair: Achadh nan Con, tha iad The Field of the Dogs, they say radh gun robh coin that there were wild fhàidhach a' fuireach anns dogs staying in am achadh seo. this field.

Iain: Tapadh leibh. Ni sin an gnotuch. Thank you. That will do.

Alasdair: Sgrìobhaidh mise sin a nise. I will write that now.

Iain: C'ait' a bheil mo speucelean? Where are my glasses?

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Rocket-Mail and the Moon

Going to the moon is common-place today, so much so that it is easy to forget the early days of rockets. One episode in the history of rocket development concerns the small Hebridean island of Scarp with last year's landing of Apollo 12 on the moon.

Away back in 1934, Scarp,

a flimsy structure of wood, with an elastic sling to give the rocket an initial impulse. The first rocket was fired from Scarp to the Harris mainland. But it exploded prematurely and the mail contents were damaged. The local postmaster applied to the backs of the damaged letters a three-line

by Francis Thompson

on the west coast of Harris, saw itself the scene of an experiment to carry mails by rocket.

The inventor of the rocket was a Herr Zucker who later became prominent in the V-rocket work during the last war, work on which Werner von Braun, Head of the present American Space Research programme, took part.

Herr Zucker was commissioned by the British Postal authorities to fly mails by rocket propulsion, and he chose the Hebrides as his launching pad.

Herr Zucker's rocket was a large metal cylinder with a pointed nose. It was three feet long and weighed about 30 lb. The body could hold several thousand letters. The rocket's firing power was provided by ordinary high explosive, designed to burn with a series of rapid explosions to produce a flight speed of 1000 miles per hour.

The launching pad itself was

cached which read: 'Damaged by first explosion at Scarp-Harris.'

The next two firings also failed and the whole experiment was called off. Herr Zucker went back to his drawing board in Germany to help which did so much damage in London.

Had the experiment been a success, the rocket mails, addressed to Kirkwall in the Orkney islands, would have followed a unique route: First by rocket to the Harris mainland. Then by ferryboat to Skye; by motor car to Kyleakin; by steamer to Kyle of Lochalsh; by train to Inverness; and finally flown by the old Highland Airways to Kirkwall.

I don't think it is stretching credits too far to say that the failure of the Scarp rocket post may well have led to the kind of modifications to rocket design which have today enabled man to land on the earth's silent partner in space—our moon.

QUALITY OF HIGHLAND LIFE

"It might seem pretentious to speak of the crofting way of life when so many people had to leave the crofting areas because they could not earn a living there, but there were spiritual values no nation could live without which were preserved in remote townships by simple crofters to a degree which was not possible in the rush and bustle of an industrial town," said Mr J. S. Grant, chairman of the Crofters Commission, speaking at an Annual Mod of the Gaelic Society of London in Camden Town Hall, last Saturday night.

In the last month, the Commission had to deal with four applications for permission to assign crofts in Lewis, Barra, Skye and Mull, to men with science degrees, who wanted to live and work in a Highland township. Two of them were Doctors of Philosophy. None

could make a living from the croft he was seeking, but all of them saw value in living and working as members of a crofting community.

Two were Highlanders returning home. Two were Englishmen who had got to know the Highlands more or less by chance. And in the Highlands, they found a quality of life they had not found elsewhere.

"You in the Gaelic Society of London, have kept the language, the culture and the spiritual values of the Celt alive in this great lowland metropolis," said Mr Grant.

"The day will come I hope, when the Gael has cities of his own in the Highlands — or prosperous towns and villages at least, so that he can continue to make his distinctive contribution to the life and culture of this great nation."

Irish Government Gives 50 p.c. Backing To Starting Small Business

Most of the pain has been taken out of the business of financing a small industry in Ireland—provided the determination and imagination is there, the capital is forthcoming. The State-backed Industrial Development Authority, through the medium of its Small Industries Division, can arrange for as much as half the initial expenditure to be supplied towards your new factory.

Grants are available towards the cost of sites, new buildings or extensions and reconstruction of existing buildings, and new machinery and equipment. There is a two-tier grants structure, the basic level in the so-called "designated areas" (our polite euphemism for underdeveloped localities being 40 per cent and 25 per cent elsewhere).

For projects likely to be of special benefit to the economy, as those which provide significant male employment or use native raw materials or have a high technological content, the grant may be 60 per cent in the designated areas and as much as 45 per cent in other areas (excluding Dublin where the maximum is 30 per cent and the aid more selective).

So far, the Small Industries Programme, inaugurated only a couple of years back, has been pretty much in the infant stage. But already, the cumulative effect of its endeavours has made an impression on the Balance of Payments—already, new ventures have started the praiseworthy process of import substitution.

In pharmaceuticals, garden swings, armature cores for electric motors and dynamos, roofing washers, steel shelving, honey and even fortified wines, new firms are supplying products hitherto shipped in from abroad. And, despite their sophistication, they started on a small scale.

To supplement the grant schemes, loans and hire purchase finance for further financing fixed assets are provided by the Industrial Credit Company, a Government institution which has underwritten over half Ireland's industrial undertakings since 1933, and by other finance houses.

Financing of fixed assets may be partly by way of grant and partly by way of loan or hire-purchase arrangements. Recommendation are made by the Small Industries Advisory Committee to its grant-conferring arm, An Foras Tionscal, and the ICC, for small-scale manufacturers seeking assistance under the programme (there are representatives also from the Department of Finance and the Department of Industry and Commerce on the advisory committee).

Further, special arrangements have been made for co-operation between the banks and the IDA under which working

capital will be made available for small industries on a term loan basis for periods of up to five years (the old reliable "overdraft" is being phased out). Loans are provided by the ICC for permanent working capital as distinct from fluctuating or seasonal requirements.

Heretofore, there has been little innovation and a shortage of "high-risk" capital prepared to back small enterprises eager to exploit a new idea. But now industry at every level is being given equal opportunity. One of the most remarkable aspects of American business is the very large number of small industries flourishing there. Two factors have greatly eased the way for the "small man" in the home of the "multinationals."

Firstly, many of the new industries have been founded by technologists and research scientists from universities, research institutes and the like. But (and perhaps more importantly) venture finance through organisations such as the American Research and Development Corporation has been made readily available.

This Corporation was founded in Boston by a group of banks in 1946—some projects backed by it failed, but the successful ones have more than counter-balanced these and the overall record has been one of remarkable success. Similar organisations have been formed in Britain (Technical Development Capital) and Holland (the Middenstansbank, with more than 200 branches throughout the country, providing special credit facilities for small manufacturers and State guaranteed loans).

The Irish effort is thus rooted on sound international precedents. Irish bankers have become almost spectacularly more cosmopolitan and they are willing and able to provide an impressive range of services to the would-be businessman—including H.P. leasing and factoring.

Careful liaison with a banker can often mean the difference between a black or a red balance sheet. Take leasing, for example, which has certain advantages over other comparative financial methods: it re-

quires no capital outlay, all rentals are deductible for tax, balance sheet entries are not required, leaving credit lines undisturbed.

And when it comes to the subtleties of factoring, a banker is all the more useful—and indispensable. For the Irish banker is now more than "au fait" with the contemporary business world.

The scope for small industry is considerable. Irish Management Institute figures showed that 80 per cent of the 47 firms in Ireland with over 500 employees regularly exported, but only 37 per cent of the companies in the 20-100 worker group sold abroad and smaller firms were even less export-orientated.

But a network of organisations has been set up to foster and promote Irish industry: grants are available from An Foras Tionscal towards the cost of training workers in skilled processes; the Industrial Training Authority (Anco) operates training centres at Galway, Shannon and Waterford industrial estates, and further plans are on hand. And the Irish Export Board (CIT) is on call for overseas business.

In addition, various services are provided by the Institute for Industrial Research and Standards to ease the way. And an advisory service for small and medium-sized firms is operated by the Irish National Productivity Committee. This service is designed to help with advice on production, organisation, finance and marketing—all crucial areas in any industrial concern, and the small business in particular.

And what if the worst should happen? Limited liability, a full hedge against personal poverty, can be legally guaranteed to those prepared to spend about £100—you cannot be made bankrupt nor your private assets attacked if you are part of a limited company.

But that is too glum a note to sound off upon: for the small man seldom had it so good—it has even been suggested in reliable circles that the "unmerger" (the breaking up of the superfirms into manageable units) could be the trend of the future.

An Comunn Gaidhealach

National Mod, 1970, Oban

THE QUINTIN MACLENNAN PRIZES

As a sufficient number of candidates has not come forward from the prescribed area for Competition 98 (Vocal Solo) and Competition III (Violin), these Competitions are now open to natives of the County of Inverness, excluding burghs of 2000 or more. Entries for these Competitions only, with fees, will be accepted up to Friday, 19th June 1970. Intending competitors in these classes must be members of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Entries to Secretary, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 65 West Regent Street, Glasgow G.2.

PRIZEWINNERS AT 1970 GLASGOW MOD

JUNIOR

Oral — Learners

1 Recitation of Poem (under 13) 1 Joan Macarthur, 2 Katherine Marshall, 3 Christine Macleod.

2 Reading of Psalm (under 13) 1 Katherine Marshall, 2 James Macdonald, 3 Donald Macdonald.

3 Recitation of Poem (over 13, under 16) 1 Fay Murray, 2 Netta Gunn, 3 Margaret MacLennan.

4 Reading Prose with Expression (over 13, under 16) 1 Fay Murray, 2 Netta Gunn, 3 eg. Mary Ann Macdonald, Christine Mackenzie.

5 Reading of Psalm (over 13, under 16) Margaret MacLennan, 2 Fay Murray, 3 Netta Gunn.

6 Reading of Unseen Passage (under 16) 1 Fay Murray, 2 Mary Ann Macdonald, 3 Christine Mackenzie.

Alexander Munro Memorial Shield for Highest marks in Competitions 3, 4 and 6 — Fay Murray.

Oral — Fluent Speakers

9 Recitation of Poem (over 13, under 16) 1 Ishbel Lamont, 2 Noreen Mackinnon, 3 Christine Mackay.

10 Reading Prose with Expression (over 13, under 16) 1 Ishbel Lamont, 2 Angus Lamont, 3 Noreen Mackinnon.

11 Reading of Poem (over 13, under 16) 1 Ishbel Lamont, 2 Angus Lamont, 3 Noreen Mackinnon.

12 Reading of Unseen Passage (under 16) 1 Ishbel Lamont, 2 Noreen Mackinnon.

Oral — Open

13 Short Dialogue — Own Choice 1 eg. Catherine Mackinnon, Catriona Macleod.

14 Sgeulachd (duration 2-3 minutes — own choice) 1 Fay Murray, 2 Christine Macdonald, 3 Mary Ann Macdonald.

Literary—Confined to Schools

15 Essay (under 16) 1 Lorna Macneiven, 2 Angus Lamont, 3 eg. Catherine Mackinnon, Duncan Macatavish.

16 Essay (16 and over) 1 John Macaskill, 2 Donald Ross, 3 Murdo Mackay.

Vocal — Open

17 Solo Singing, Boys (under 13) 1 Patrick Byrne, 2 Brian Thorrat, 3 Graham Macphie.

18 Solo Singing, Girls (under 10) 1 Catherine Thomson, 2 Joan Drury, 3 Rhona Thomson.

19 Solo Singing, Boys (over 13, under 16) 1 Duncan Mackay, 2 Thomas Love, 3 eg. Alasdair Beaton, Norman Mackinnon.

20 Solo Singing, Girls (over 10, under 14) 1 Katherine Marshall, 2 Margaret Ann Mills, 3 Kirstine Fairley.

21 Solo Singing, Girls (over 13, under 16) 1 Ishbel Lamont 2 Anne Mitchell, 3 Christine Davidson. Winner receives the Uist and Barra Association Trophy.

22 Duet Singing (under 16) 1 eg. Netta Gunn, Margaret MacLennan.

23 Solo Singing of Psalm Boys and Girls (under 16) 1 Katherine Marshall, 2 Ishbel Lamont, 3 eg. Duncan Mackay, Netta Gunn.

Choral—Confined to Primary Schools

24 Unison, Lochfield.

25 Unison 1 Knightswood, 2 Falkirk.

26 Puirt-a-Beul 1 Lochfield, 2 Knightwood.

27 Two-part Harmony 1 Govan Jun. Gaelic Choir, 2 Falkirk Jun., 3 Knightswood Juniors. Winners receive the Margaret Duncan Trophy.

Piping

28 Playing of March on Chanter (under 14) - Garry Thomson, 2 Calum Macdonald, 3 Eoin Ashford.

29, Playing of Strathspey and Reel on Chanter (under 14) 1 Garry Thomson, 2 Eoin Ashford, 3 Alexander Macpherson.

30 Playing of Piobaireachd (under 18) 1 Alex Thomson, 2 Alastair Macdonald.

31 Playing of March (under 18) 1 James Hardie, 2 Iain L. Macdonald, 3 Alastair Macdonald.

32 Playing of Strathspey and Reel (under 18) 1 James Hardie, 2 Martin Gilfillan, 3 Alex Thomson.

Clarsach

33 Solo or Song with Clarsach Accompaniment (under 17) 1 Margaret McGuinness, 2 Fay Moore, 3 Shona Moore.

INTERMEDIATE

Vocal

34 Solo Singing, Girls and Boys (over 16, under 18) 1 Morag C. Macintyre, 2 Lorna I. Macdougall.

SENIOR

Oral — Learners

35 Recitation of Poem 1 Lorna Macdougall.

36 Reading Unseen Passage 1 Charlotte L. Findlater.

Oral — Fluent Speakers

37 Recitation of Poem 1 Cath Fletcher, 2 Mysie H. Thomson, 3 Betty Macdougall.

38 Recitation of Prose 1 Mysie H. Thomson, 2 Betty Macdougall.

40 Sgeulachd 1 Mysie H. Thomson.

41 Reading Unseen Passage 1 Betty Macdougall, 2 Mysie H. Thomson.

Vocal

42 Prescribed Song—Males (Qualifies for Nova Scotia Competition at National Mod) 1 Alistair C. Gillies.

43 Prescribed Song—Males 1 Alistair C. Gillies, 2 Donald C. Macfarlane.

44 Prescribed Song—Females 1 Lorna C. Macdougall, 2 Karen Macdonald, 3 Pauline McGillivray.

45 Prescribed Song—Females (Qualifies for Nova Scotia Competition at National Mod) 1 Lorna I. Macdougall, 2 Anne Maciver, 3 Cath Fletcher.

46 Final Male and Female Alistair C. Gillies, Karen Macdonald.

47 Kennedy Fraser—Male and Female 1 Pauline McGillivray, 2 Charlotte L. Findlater, 3 eg. Cath Fletcher, Anne Maciver.

48 Neil Maclean Competition 1 Anne Maciver, 2 Margaret Drury, 3 Charlotte L. Findlater. Govan Ceilidh Shield awarded to winner.

49 Duet Singing 1 Anne Maciver, Mary Maciver, 2 Neillan S. Patrick, Mairi Mackenzie.

50 Ensemble 1 G. G. Ensemble, 2 East Kilbride.

Folksong

52 Gaelic Song sung in Traditional manner Annette Symon.

53 Poem on any subject Kenneth Maclean.

Literary

53 Poem on any subject Kenneth Maclean.

ARGYLLS MAY BE SAVED

A last minute reprieve for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlands, which were due to be disbanded by the Ministry of Defence later this year, now seems a strong possibility. According to General Sir Gordon MacMillan, Chairman of the "Save the Argylls" campaign, the Tory party recently gave ang undertaking to retain the Argylls in some suitable role should the regiment was still in existence. The Argylls, shortly to return from Berlin for Royal duty at Balmoral, are due to remain in the army's order of battle until St Andrew's day.

"Now is the time for the million Scots, who signed our petition, to voice their support for the Argylls in any way they can," he said. We must demonstrate to the new government that to keep the Argylls would be an immensely popular move in Scotland as well as a fillip to Army recruiting north of the border.

LONDON MOD Prizewinners

Seinn—Singing

4. Solo (Boys and Girls 6-10 years inclusive adjudicated on Gaelic and Music). Test song: "O teannaibh dluth is togaibh fonn" (Orain Na Cloinne 1970 duileag 8). Prize: Kilt Pin or Brooch—Elizabeth Metcalf.

5. Solo (Boys and Girls 11-15 years inclusive adjudicated on Gaelic and Music). Test song: "Leis an Lurgainn" (Orain Na Cloinne 1970—duileag 4). Prize: Kilt Pin or Brooch—Amanda Rankine.

6. Solo (Boys' and Girls' own choice in an Celtic language). Prize: Gaelic Society Cup—Elizabeth Metcalf.

7. Duet (Boys' and Girls' own choice in any Celtic language). Prize: Book Token—Eimir and Deirdre O' Donnell (Irish Choir).

Ealain Dhealbh—Art

10. Composition (Competitors under 12), depicting scene or incident in the Highlands. Prize: The Gaelic Society Cup Morag Macdonald, Lochmaddy.

11. Composition (Competitors 12-16 years, Highland landscape or incident in Highland history, song or legend. Prize: The Mary Stewart Cup. (Replica to be retained by winner.)—Murdina MacIver, Laxdale.

Learners Only—Literary

Oral—13. Reading Set Prose, "Comhradh mu'n Oigridh" (Orain Aon Neach 1970—duileag 15). Prize: Book Token—Mr T. Minker.

14. Recitation from memory, "Piana Fhionnghail an Nursy" (Orain Aon Neach 1970—duileag 16 or Gairm 37). Prize: Book Token—Mr T. Carpenter.

15. Reading unseen prose (chosen by adjudicators). Prize: Book Token—Mr T. Minker.

16. Simple conversation with adjudicator. Prize: The Donald Gillies Cup—Mr T. Minker. Eilean a Cheo Cuach: Mr T. Minker.

Open to All—Literary

18. Translation into Gaelic of twenty terms of which there is no adequate equivalent (list enclosed). Prize: Book Token—Peter Kelly.

N.B.—The Gordon Baxter Cup is awarded for the highest aggregate marks in competitions 18, 19 and 20—Peter Kelly, Inverness.

Oral—21. Recitation from Memory, "Cead Deireannach Nam Beann" verses 1, 2 and 4 (Orain Aon Neach 1970—duileag 4). Prize: Book Token—Sandra Fraser.

22. Reading unseen prose (chosen by adjudicators). Prize: Book Token—Joan Lynn.

N.B.—The "Angus Robertson Memorial Cup" is awarded for the highest average mark in competitions 21 and 22—Lee Collin.

Solo—Open to All

24. Ladies' Test Song, "Se n t-Eilean Uain Heach" (Orain Aon Neach 1970—duileag 13), and song of own choice—both unaccompanied. Prize: Forsyth Pendant—Margaret MacVicar, Ardshairg.

25. Gentlemen's Test Song, "Mo Nighean Chruinn Donn" (Orain Aon Neach 1970—duileag 10), and song of own choice—both unaccompanied. Prize: The Gaelic Society Cup—Peter David Forsyth, Liverpool.

26. Solo with accompaniment (see Rule 9). Any song from Mrs Kennedy-Fraser's collection "Songs of the Hebrides." Prize: The Londonderry Cup—Peter David Forsyth.

Duet—own choice in any Celtic language. Prize: The Iain Cameron Shield—Joan Lynn and Jean Morris.

28. Puirt-a-beul—own choice in any Celtic language. Prize: The Flora MacLennan Medal—Peter David Forsyth.

29. Unpublished Song—own choice, unaccompanied—in Scottish Gaelic. (Words and music to be supplied a week before the Mod.) Prize: The Iain MacRae Cup—Margaret MacVicar.

30. Winners of Competitions 24, 25, 26 and 29 will sing song of own choice, accompaniment optional. Prizes: The "London Inverness-shire Cup will be awarded for the highest marks in music. The Weekly Scotsman Quach will be awarded for the highest mark in Gaelic. The James MacPhee Memorial Cup is awarded for the highest aggregate mark in Gaelic and music on Competitions 24, 25, 26, 29 and 30. Music: P. Forsyth. Gaelic: Margaret MacVicar. James C. MacPhee. Prize: Margaret MacVicar.

Coisrean—Chorus

31. Mixed Voices. Two songs in any Celtic language—own choice. Prize: The Peggy Macdougall Cup—London Gaelic League Choir.

32. Ladies' Choirs. Two songs in any Celtic language—own choice. Prize: Eilean an Fhraich Cup—London Gaelic Ladies.

Review Order

HEBRIDEAN ISLANDS IN A NEW LIGHT

A completely fresh approach to some now-deserted Hebridean islands is contained in a new book published last week by Francis Thompson, a lecturer in Inverness Technical College.

Mr Thompson, a native of Stornoway, Lewis, has written a socio-economic study of St Kilda, North Rona, the Monach Isles, the Flannans, and Sulasgeir, from a Highland viewpoint. The islands are treated on the basis of their value as an environment to the human communities which once lived on them. The book covers, for each island, the island society, its origins, organisation and economic structure.

The new book, 'St Kilda and Other Hebridean Outliers,' follows Mr Thompson's two previous successes: 'Harris and Lewis' and 'Harris Tweed.' He is now working on books on the Uists and Barra, and the Faroe Islands.

Mr Thompson said yesterday: 'Though many of Scotland's islands are being deserted, they still offer a special kind of environment, appealing to people who are willing to work hard for the rewards which come from a basic desire to mark out their own lives. Far from being society drop-outs, there are many who prefer the opportunity for personal fulfilment which only an island environment can offer. Electing, as they do, to keep the far corners of a nation's land store alive, rather than let them revert to nature, island communities play a special role in their country's social and economic welfare.'

Mr Thompson is closely associated with many Highland organisations. He is General Editor of SRUTH, the fortnightly bilingual newspaper published by An Comunn Gaidhealach. He is a Director of Club Leabhar, the Highland Book Club, and a professional member of the Society of Authors.

Book: "St Kilda and Other Hebridean Outliers" by Francis Thompson; published by David & Charles, Newton Abbot, Devon, 50s.

BLACKWOOD OFFERINGS

Mention the name 'Blackwood' in connection with quality Scottish fiction and one immediately expects the best. The latest volume in the series of tales from Blackwood makes no exception to the rule of providing the reader with something to read and enjoy.

'Scottish Tales from Blackwood' is a collection of thirteen (why 13?) short stories taken from past issues of Blackwood's Magazine, a journal which more than justifies its existence in the decade of the 1970s.

The stories take in Edinburgh, the Scottish Highlands, and wherever. The writers include James Hogg, Neil Munro,

Andrew Lang, John Buchan Ian Hay, W. Croft Dickinson, and Eona Macnicol.

With thirteen stories covering a period of Scottish literary activity from 1829 to 1969, it is difficult to choose any one piece or a selection of pieces from this book. Each story, some familiar enough, some being read for the first time (if one does not subscribe to Blackwood's Magazine) has something to offer. Styles, subjects, treatments all differ.

But that is why this selection makes excellent reading. The book is in effect sitting at the feet of thirteen good storytellers in one night. And there is not a single trace of literary indigestion at the end of it.

'Scottish Tales,' published by William Blackwood & Sons Ltd., 45 George Street, Edinburgh, 2; 21s.

THICK-SKINNED ORANGES

Le Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn

As could have been expected in the circumstances there has been a spate of books about the Northern Ireland crisis. Most of them seem to have been thrown together at break-neck speed in order to not miss getting in on the act. Patrick Riddell's book "Fire Over Ulster" would appear to be one of these although technically this book is very readable.

The publisher's blurb informs us that Mr Riddell is impartial in his judgment of all sides engaged in the present and past conflicts of this unhappy Irish province. I am afraid that I cannot go along with this evaluation at all. The author slams the Catholics, Civil Rights, Republicans, Nationalists etc. to a far greater extent than he does the Protestants, Unionists, Paisleyites and people of that sort. No doubt the author has tried to be impartial according to his lights but Orange bigotry and hatred leaps at one from almost every page of this book. Material such as the following is commonplace in Mr Riddell's impartial account—

"The native Irish have ever been a fickle feuding race, given to political assassination and related murder, lacking the national purpose and tenacity which the inheritance of Norman blood developed in the English." And again—"Yet it can truly be said of a saddeningly large proportion of Southern Irishmen that they are of the kind that holds human life to be cheap."

This book tells you little that is new about the tragic modern history of Northern Ireland but it gives one a very clear picture of the workings of the English government fostered closed and hate filled Northern Ireland Unionist mind. This is a frightening book.

'Fire Over Ulster' by Patrick Riddell; Hamish Hamilton, London; £1 15 shillings.

IN SAFE HANDS

From 1st August 1970 it will be illegal for anyone to give professional tuition in driving motor cars unless he is registered with the Ministry of Transport as an Approved Driving Instructor. The maximum penalty is a fine of £100 or four months' imprisonment, or both.

What's all this then? Bureaucracy for the sake of bureaucracy? Unnecessary Government interference? What's it all about?

Let's get one thing straight rightaway. The new law does not mean that relatives or friends are to be prevented from helping anyone to learn to drive. Dad will still be able to take his son or daughter out for a practice run whenever he can spare the time and the neighbours will still be able to help out, too. The whole idea is to put paid tuition in competent hands—in the hands of fully qualified driving instructors.

The Minister of Transport who announced the new requirement, back in February 1969, made it clear that it was all a question of road safety. "Just as we expect vehicles and equipment to come up to scratch," he said, "so, too, we are entitled to ask minimum standards of people making a living out of driving instruction.

Too many instructors are simply not giving value for money and I want to get rid of the man who isn't up to the job. Competence must be the yardstick. This is why I have a public duty to require every professional driving instructor to prove his ability," said the Minister.

How can we be sure that a driving instructor who is registered with the Ministry of Transport is competent?

To qualify as an Approved Driving Instructor he must have passed a written and practical examination set by the Ministry. The examination tested not only his driving ability but his instructional ability as well. So you can be sure he can teach and not simply demonstrate his own prowess at the wheel of a car. (As a matter of fact the pass rate for the examination is only about 60%, which is a sure indication that the standard set is a pretty high one.)

It doesn't end there, though. While he remains an instructor the Ministry's inspectors check his work at intervals to make sure it is still up to the required standard and that he is still giving you good value for your money.

All the people most concerned—the motoring organisations, the road safety bodies and

the motor schools as well—have given one hundred per cent approval to the principle of compulsory professional qualification for driving instructors. It makes real sense as a step towards greater safety on the roads.

The number of vehicles on Britain's roads has risen from under 9½ million in 1960 to 15 million today and with each vehicle that comes on to the roads conditions become that much more difficult for everyone. As driving becomes more and more demanding in terms of skill, it is no more than common sense to insist on the highest possible standards of driving tuition.

So, if you are thinking of learning to drive, do the thing properly. There's no need to wait until 1st August. You can choose a Ministry of Transport Approved Driving Instructor now. There are already more than 10,000 of them on the register and you can get the names and addresses of those in your locality from your Ministry of Transport Traffic Area Office—the place where you will, in due course, apply for your driving test. With a Ministry of Transport Approved Instructor you will be in safe hands.

over to you:

OPEN LETTER TO SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES

A university's essential tasks are to make researches and to teach. Though the latter has been mainly restricted to students that are able to attend the lectures every day, I think that under certain circumstances an exception might, or should be made and others should be given a chance too. For that matter, it seems that this idea is gaining ground in some countries nowadays.

In such an exceptional case is, to my opinion, the teaching of the Gaidhlig. This most persecuted language of all is now in a very sad plight as compared with earlier times, owing to English politics, that unfortunately have also been supported by some Scots.

In these times, if any language is to survive as a spoken language it is mandatory for that language to be written, read and studied. And this, of course, first means that there should be sufficient means of education in that particular language. And this again means money. Now it is very unfortunate that for the teaching of the Gaidhlig there seems to have been never any sufficient amount of money. Yet, if any, the old language of Scotland needs to be taught—not only to the children of those speaking it already, but also to the child-

ren of those living and working in Scotland who do not speak the Gaidhlig as their mother tongue, and also to all those who are willing to read, write and speak Gaidhlig.

Until now the teaching of Gaidhlig at Scottish universities seems to have been very imperfect, even for "ordinary" students. But for those students who are in any way unable to attend colleges or evening classes regularly or at all, there are only such self-teach books as Mackenzie's and MacLaren's.

I would, in view of this, ask you to consider the possibilities of enrolling students of Gaidhlig by post. This method of correspondence courses has proved satisfactory in other cases and with other universities—so why not with a Scottish university teaching the Scottish tongue?

I can imagine only one condition that might make you cautious: the number of students. Although, to my opinion, this possibility of learning Gaidhlig by post—either to learn to speak the language, or a secondary course for those wishing a more scientific treatment of the subject—should be opened even if there would be only one student to attend, I can imagine that you would like to wait a little in such circumstances. But please

notice that there is already one student to be . . . is mise, le gach deagh dhurachd, Hans Uyl, Tigh na Comhachaig, Adriaansdreef 21, Meerveldhoof (Tir na Machrach-Nederland). Fhir Deasachidh Ionmhuinn,

On receiving my copy of the 1970 Edinburgh International Festival programme, I looked for the usual Gaelic event in Leith Town Hall, under the auspices of the Festival. To my disappointment and regret, there is none this year, and this feeling is shared by many with whom I have discussed the inexplicable omission.

A Gaelic occasion in the official programme under the auspices of the Festival was a proper representation of the native language and culture of Scotland, besides being a valuable educational and publicity medium to an international audience.

One year in that splendid Leith Town Hall, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh was present to welcome the cosmopolitan audience which as usual, filled the Hall to capacity.

We ask, sir, if cosy little gatherings on the Fringe of the Festival, chiefly for the initiated, are a worthy substitute for a comprehensive Gaelic occasion under the joint auspices of the International Festival and An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Surely Scotland, as the host
(Continued on page 12)

The Celtic Heritage of Ireland

Though William of Orange has been a national hero to the Orangemen of Northern Ireland it is doubtful if he was interested in his Irish subjects. His Holland, which was a great centre for trade, and the House of Orange belongs to Holland, not to Northern Ireland. The House of Orange belongs to the House of Stuart until a son and heir were born to James VII in 1688. This deprived him of his prospects of succeeding to the throne of England and recovering the Dutch Colonies (New Netherlands and the city of Amsterdam which were subsequently named New York) which Holland had lost to England during the reign of Charles II. Having gained England, William of Orange could hardly afford to let Scotland and Ireland fall into the clutches of Louis XIV. But Scotland and Ireland shared the same Celtic heritage which differences in religion could not destroy. Scotland, however, was divided between a tracing of the prospects of a professional pro-Dutch element. Many Scots had studied Law at Dutch universities, so the Law of Scotland was largely based on the Roman-Dutch Law of Holland. The traditional group favoured James whilst the legal and professional group favoured William. In Orange, Scotland, however, were the religious issues as the Episcopalians and the Roman Catholics continued to support James whilst the Presbyterians came out on the side of William of Orange who was an ally of the Pope by the terms of the League of Augsburg. It is a popular theory that the Highlanders were Jacobites and the Lowlanders were not; there were many Jacobites in the Highlands, and the Mackays, one of the leading Highland clans, were Williamites.

The Jacobite leader, Viscount Dundee, was killed at a Battle of Culloden, and the issue was decided in Ireland to the great misfortune of that unhappy country where the Jacobites met on the Banks of the Boyne. Both wanting their Heads on the back of a coin. The House of Londonderry and the Battle of the Boyne have been celebrated as great victories for the Protestants against the "Catholic" and "traitors" of the "west." But if the Irish were fighting for their own country, how could they be traitors? The defence of Londonderry showed a remarkable degree of heroism, but the trouble starts with the colonisation of Ulster by Scottish Presbyterians. The Jacobites of James VI could be relied on to give William of Orange their most loyal support and keep Dundee out of Ireland, but it was a matter of conflict between the native Irish and the hated Scots settlers in Ulster as it was a conflict between James and William of Orange. If James could keep William of Orange out of Ireland he could gain control of Ulster, and anything could happen to him regarding the rest of Scotland. This fear revived the policy of Anglicisation and the ruthless determination to destroy the Gaelic culture of Scotland and Ireland. So the Jacobite risings were to a large extent linked with a Highland resistance to the policy of Anglicisation which, during the reign of James VI. It is doubtful, however, if James could have regained the throne of Scotland. Every time a Jacobite position had become impossible, and his best policy would have been to abdicate in favour of his son, which would have had the unfortunate effect of giving Scotland another Regency.

The Jacobite movements nearly broke Scotland in Ireland together, and a Celtic revival could have occurred in the Eighteenth or Nineteenth Centuries instead of being delayed until the Nineteenth by which time all available evidence could indicate that the cancer had crept in too far. The Massacre of Glencoe, which belonged to the old order which

the Campbells were unjustly blamed, was part of the policy of William of Orange to "pacify the Highlands." By the standards of the time it was a complete and rights against an all-powerful conqueror; the following two centuries were to witness the Campbells' slaves and the Indians by the white settlers on the American Continent, and two centuries had to pass before the major coups could claim quite rights. Moreover the Protestant Anglo-Saxon ascendancy tended to regard "Gaelic" and "Celtic" synonymous with "Popery." "Uncivilised Highlanders" and "Irish Papists."

If Prince Charles Edward Stuart had spent two years consolidating his position in Scotland before attempting to regain the throne of England, he might well have succeeded in regaining the throne of Scotland for the House of Stuart. Prince Charles had many enduring qualities which could have worked to his advantage, but he sublimed in the hour of his adversity and his enemies he was, nevertheless, the most tragic and most romantic prince of the House of Stuart. It was the House of Stuart, or not she preferred the House of Stuart to the House of Hanover, and, unlike Scotland, she had no right to the throne of Stuart restoration; in fact the Hanoverian settlement had worked to her advantage. The March to Derby which was the fatal mistake, for instance, Prince Charles acted against the advice of his clan chiefs who were opposed to the march. In a second instance, it was the impression that Prince Charles was making use of the Highland clans to give England a king she did not want. The rejection from Derby led to the Highlanders and the subsequent fenish reprisals of the Duke of Cumberland. All this could have been avoided if Prince Charles had put the interests of Scotland first and the Highlanders before the claims of his dynasty. Yet the Rising of 1745 showed that the Jacobites could reflect all that was fine and honourable in the heritage and traditions of the Highlands. Thirteen years after Culloden, Robert Burns was born.

The fall of the House of Stuart ended the old Highland way of life with its basically Gaelic background, and with it went its good. For forty years, wearing a kilt was illegal. Many Jacobite chiefs were in exile, and when they did return they were estranged from their own people whose forebears had followed their chiefs to the field. Every fenish device was used to root out the native Gaelic language and heritage of the Highlands. The Clearances wide areas of the Highlands were desolate. Ironically, the old Highland way of life with its bond in kinship between clansmen and chiefs would have commended itself to a Twentieth Century outlook with its emphasis on social equality and equal opportunities.

What historians have described as "The French Revolution" was in actual fact a European Revolution. The only significant fact of the Revolution which came, took place in France. The French Revolution and the subsequent rise and fall of Napoleon Bonaparte were events which began with Charlemagne, and the stage was set for the sequence of events which led to the two World Wars of the world of the Twentieth Century.

Eighteenth Century Britain was largely governed by a hierarchy of English country squires who, during the course of the Nineteenth Century, were gradually replaced by industrialists and a professional middle-class. Scotland's trade and industry were concentrated in Glasgow, whilst England tended to monopolise the political life of the British Isles. The Celts

was dying. They were quite content to "Build a Sweet Little Nest, Away out in the West" and "leave the rest of the world go by."

The Twentieth Century, however saw a complete transforma-

by H. R. BAILLIE

tion as the Celts began to realise that they must adjust themselves to continual changing conditions of their language, culture and way of life are to survive.

If England associated the Roman Catholics with persecution, Ireland associated the Protestants—whether they were Episcopalians or Ulster-Scots Presbyterians—with English supremacy and oppression. Roman Catholicism became closely associated with Celtic spiritual and traditional background of Ireland. Scotland, however, was more divided. Protestantism meant the end of the traditional alliance with France; but it could also end the spiritual and cultural ties with Ireland which a Reformed Roman Catholic Church plus a reviving interest in the Gaelic language and culture could renew. Scotland's Christian heritage, starting as it does with St Columba, is more evolutionary and is shared by Protestants and Roman Catholics, Protestants and Episcopalians alike. A Christian Reformation means to destroy the evil and keep the good; revolutionary reformers want a complete break and a new start, and in so doing become overzealous and destroy much that is good.

Though the Christian heritage of Britain is basically Celtic and goes right back to the days of the Roman Empire, as far as England is concerned Christianity was brought to the British Isles by Augustine from Rome. The north of England, however, was largely converted from Iona. St Augustine was the first Celtic Christian back into the main stream of Christianity from which the Celtic Church had previously been isolated.

Whatever claims can be made for St Ninian and St Patrick, who brought Christianity to Ireland, Christianity in Scotland starts with the Celtic Church of Scotland. Once the British Isles were brought into the main stream of Christianity the Celtic Church gradually petered out and Scot-

land became Roman Catholic. The cleavages caused by the Reformation created an atmosphere of bigotry and intolerance which took a vitriolic turn during the Wars of Religion. But differences of religious views and forms of worship can become the focus of a true ecumenical movement. The Law of God cannot be changed by majority votes or Act of Parliament, nor can the Church of Scotland be served by bigoted and sectarian interests. However desirable it may be to make a fresh start, a complete break with the past, has never been possible as the traditional element will always reassert itself.

The vitriolic denunciation of "The Pope of the House of Stuart" eventually became an onslaught of the native Gaelic language and culture of the Highlands. The saving grace was that the Church of Scotland needed Gaelic-speaking ministers. The Ulster Scots Presbyterians, on the other hand, did not need Gaelic-speaking ministers and continued to associate Gaelic "Popery" and "Irish Papists." Eventually many Gaelic-speaking nationalists in the Highlands shared the Ulster-Scots Presbyterians' hatred of Roman Catholicism but did not share the Ulster-Scots dislike of the Irish with whom they shared a common Gaelic heritage, and with it a love of the Gaelic language, culture and heritage of the South-West Irish and the Welsh should cooperate of the main issues which unite and which political and religious issues cannot destroy. Such issues should include:

1. Love of their respective languages, and with it a love of their music, culture and heritage.
 2. A desire to preserve and revive the Celtic heritage of the British Isles.
- While Celtic nationalism would not destroy the unity of Britain as Unionist propaganda seems to allege; on the contrary, Celtic nationalism, whether it be Scottish, Irish or Welsh—could strengthen the unity of Britain as the background of the British Isles is basically Celtic.

The old kingdom of Kenneth McAlpin was Pictish-Gaelic. During the dynastic troubles of Duncan and Macbeth, a large part of the South-West under the rule of Earl Thorfin of Orkney, who was a first cousin of both Duncan and Macbeth, detached itself from Scotland. More Scandinavian than Gaelic, and Orkney and Shetland did not become part of Scotland until the twelfth century. The Hebrides and Islands are Norse-Gaelic and Pictish. Strathclyde belongs to the Cymric group. Until Scotland was united with Wales, the same crown a "Briton" was a "Native of Strathclyde." Unfortunately, the old language of Strathclyde must have been similar to Welsh, appears to have died out. Both the Lothians and the South-East could claim an English-speaking population. Admittedly, the Lothians have been infiltrations of Normans, Flemings and other racial groups from the Continent. So Scotland had had a very mixed race.

The question is "What is to be the role of the Celts in the new British reshaping of the British?" The Unionists have failed Britain, and in this context "Unionists" does not necessarily mean the Tories. The proposed railways—for example the lines to Kyle of Lochalsh and Mallaig—depends on decisions taken by the House of Parliament is used to a rubber stamp by the Party which forms the Government. The solution must come from the Celtic nations, taking into account the distinct national identities of Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England. But the Celtic nations have reacted to the idea of Ulster being part of a United Ireland even if it eventually brings Ireland into a truly British Federation? Bring

Scotland and Ireland together, as the two countries share a common Gaelic heritage? But this would be impractical as the roles of the two countries are completely different, and there is no object in separating Scotland from English-speaking Ireland, and Ireland, Union Scotland with Ireland, the nerve centres would be Glasgow and Belfast where the strongest objection would be the remote from Inverness as Devon and Cornwall, and the Southern Irish seem to dislike the Ulster-Scots more than they dislike English. Scotland has always had strong links with Norway, Denmark, Holland and France. There are also the facts of geography and Scotland could have a distinct role in a new World Order.

Though "Unionists" has been the official name for the Conservative Party, the Labour Party has proved to be more Unionist than the Tories. Unionists philosophically do not object to the assumption that we should all be Britons—"Anglicised Britons" whilst London should be the centre of the world. This is a dangerous assumption. The Welsh are the real Britons, and why should the Scots or the Irish or the Welsh want to be English?

Southern Britain lost her Celtic background as she was overrun by successive invaders. Nevertheless she has retained the Celtic influence and during Roman occupation as Queen Boadicea, who defied the Roman invaders, was literally the Celtic Queen and "York" is a Celtic name.

The Orangemen of Scotland are largely found in Edinburgh Glasgow and the South-West. They are every bit as bigotted and vitriolic in their denunciation of Popery as their counterparts in the Lowlands; they are even more zealous in upholding the principles of John Knox, the Reformation and the Covenanters; but they are less self-assured in their loyalty to the United Kingdom. Their hatred of Roman Catholicism is shared by the Gaelic-speaking Free Presbyterians of the Highlands, otherwise they would have disliked the Highlanders as much as the Orangemen of Northern Ireland dislike the Catholics.

The House of Stuart, as heirs of Robert Bruce, saved Scotland from being annexed by England, but they could not save Scotland from the "Wales" from English oppression. When the crown of England went to the Scottish Royal Family England was able to make use of her Parliament and the Union of Government to reduce the crown to an official seal, and in so doing gain control of the British Isles. The House of Stuart, however, would have disliked the Highlanders as much as the Orangemen of Northern Ireland dislike the Catholics.

Scotland and Wales are distinct nations, and if they wished to become completely independent. The Celtic population could then make their influence felt by the English as second-class citizens. The Anglicised hierarchy of landowners would have the most to lose; but they would have more to gain, if they would have the people, have their children educated in the local schools and participate in all their activities instead of living in a state of dependency—and perhaps better—alternative is to aim at a federal Ireland to a federated British Isles. The British population proposal is most likely to come from a small group of militant Protestant extremists who cloak their bigotry in the Unionist veil. The Celts are custodians of an ancient heritage and long established traditions. Are they to lose them through the hands of a majority or are they to make use of them to help create an even greater unity and the realisation of the Celtic nations? Or is it greater unity—that "God so loved the World?"

(Concluded)

Highland Transport Guides

The 1970 editions of the Highland and Islands Development Board's popular comprehensive transport guides, "Getting Around in the Highlands and Islands," are now available.

Giving details of all bus, train, ship and air services in the region, the guides covering individual booklets—the areas of Orkney and Shetland; Caithness and Sutherland; Inverness and Easter Ross; Skye and Wester Ross; Outer Hebrides; Oban, Fort William and Mull; and South Argyll. A combined volume is also available and the guides are complemented by the Board's public transport route map.

Demand for the guides, which help promote travel in the region generally, has risen rapidly since they were first produced in 1963.

A Century of Service

(Continued from page 3)

formed part of the Technical Reserve Forces of the Crown. First Aid staffing services were undertaken at public functions such as the Wembley Exhibition, First Aid posts were manned on roads and at Olympia, and dispensaries were opened for hoppers. Nursing duties were carried out in the Blood Transfusion Service, at Rheumatic Clinics, hospitals, old people's homes etc. To encourage efficiency a national nursing competition was started in 1927.

During the Second World War, V.A.D.s, while giving service overseas, bore a heavier burden on account of enemy bombing. They nursed in service and civilian hospitals and convalescent homes manned First Aid posts and were trained in civil defence precautions.

After the war, when the National Hospital Reserve was set up by the Government, the Voluntary Aid Societies were asked and accepted to train the auxiliary members of that Reserve. Since 1968, this service has been based on individual hospitals, and the Societies are available to be called upon by the hospitals to supplement their staff in emergencies.

In Great Britain there are now 1,871 Detachments, to be enrolled in which it is necessary to take and renew every three years the Society's Certificate in First Aid (and for women the Nursing Certificate also.) Each Detachment should have a Medical Officer, and every mixed and women's Detachment a Nursing Officer, as well. V.A.D.s fulfill First Aid duties, undertake auxiliary nursing service in hospitals (either as individual representatives of the Society or as members of the N.H.S.R.) and under the supervision of the district nurse, work in the Nursing Aid Service, caring for patients in their own home. They also carry out escort duties requiring skilled care, and assist with much of the Society's welfare work.

(To be continued)

Innleachdan airson cor na Gaidhlig 'san deachad tha romhann

(Continued from page 4)

blòidh Gaelic pests againn — ach, ma thogas buidheann "independent" urramach a chuis, cha e idir cho farasda dhaibh dol na h-aghaidh. 'S deas-danas a'Chomunn Ghaidhealach agus nan Comunn Ghaidhlig eile bhì pìobrachadh cleas an Law Society etc.

(3) 'S e so an t-seasaid do' obrachadh. A bhith abas tro' na paipèaran, on T.V. agus a h'uile meadhan eile a th'ann, agus stait ar canan a chur fa chomhair an t-sluaigh. Bheir na meadhanon, mar is tric, ruud do beachd sam bith (cha mhòr) ma gheibh iad program no artigeal math.

(4) An ceathramh doigh 'se bhith togail stad a bhì ri buair-eadh — "civil disobedience." Chan obraicheadh e ro mhath do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach a bhith ri cus de'n se. O chionn greis, chaidh comunn a chur air chois a bha gaealltainn beagan dhe'n t-seorsa a dheanamh. Tha cuid dhiubh a nise air toiseachdainn air a bhith cur litrichean troimh phòst a th'air an seoladh anns a'Ghaidhlig. Ach 's an nì obair de'n t-seorsa so call mur a bi gu leor beachdachadh is comradh ann roimh 'n am agus mur a bi an obair air a steidheachadh air plana: Mus do thoisich iad so air litrichean a sheoladh an Gaidhlig, bu choir dhaibh a bhith air lister a dheanamh air

ainmean Gaidhlig Alba leis a' Bheurla mun coinneamh agus an uair sin cha deadh gin a litrichean "Bruaich Chluaidh" a chuir gu Bruichladdich agus cha chuireadh iad luchd Oisn a'Phuist an aghaidh na Gaidhlig nas miosa na tha iad mu thrath. Cha tuirt an gearran so, ge ta, nach'eil moladh mòr agam air an doigh obrach so — 's chan ann a mhin a thaobh na Gaidhlig ('se clar-rocaid Uibhist agus Caisteal Amhunnusuidhe da shuidheachadh eile a th'agam 'san amharc far an obraicheadh so).

Ann a bhith co-dhùnadh mu stri son coirichean: da phuing. A cheud te so: nan tigeadh againn air a shealltainn do "liberals" Bhrèatainn — sean is e a bheil iad — nach'eil sian a dh'eadar - dhealachadh eadar "cuis na Gaidhlig" agus "cuis nan daoine dubha", agus gu faigheadh sinn iad air cul, bhiodh an latha an iare mhath leinn. An dara rud; faodar coinneadh air a bhith stri son ar coirichean mar phairt de'n oidhirp gus a'Ghaidhlig a chumail beo ach, ma nì sinn so, chan fhaigh sinn gu brath cuideachadh o leithid an United Nations Organisation agus na buidhean-eile de'n t-seorsa oir bu choir dhuinn a bhith an comhaidh ag obair. 'S buan-nachdail, na mo bheachd-sa an da rud a chumail air leth.

(Ra Leant'inn)

National Mod (Oban) 1970

SATURDAY, 3rd OCTOBER 1970

A' BHRATHACH OIR (GOLD BANNER) PIPING COMPETITION

GROUP A (open) MARCH, STRATHSPEY AND REEL

1st Prize — £50 and A' Bhrathach Oir
2nd Prize — £25
3rd Prize — £15
4th, 5th and 6th — £10 each
All prizes donated by JOHN PLAYER & SONS

GROUP B (15-18 years) MARCH, STRATHSPEY AND REEL

March — Royal Highland Fusiliers Cup and three prizes
Strathspey and Reel — Col. MacTaggart Memorial Trophy and three prizes

GROUP C (under 15)

March (only) — Roderick Munro Trophy and three prizes

Entry Fee 2/6

All entries to be sent to —
AN COMMUN GAIDHEALACH
65 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW

Closing date for entries — 27th June
NOTE — Membership subscription fees — Annual £1
Life £7 7s
Branch 10/6 (plus 10/6 subscription payable to local branch)

FIDDLE GROUPS COMPETITION

Groups will consist of — Four fiddles, Viola and base, piano or accordion or melodion
Groups will play — A slow air, March, Strathspey, Reel — Scottish Traditional Tunes. Competitors Choice.
Prizes — Retention for one year of trophy presented by Dr and Mrs Atholl Robertson, Oban.

All entries to be sent to —
AN COMMUN GAIDHEALACH
65 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW
Closing date for entries — 27th June

Gaelic Broadcasts

Thursday, 25th June

12.00 noon News in Gaelic.
Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
7.30 p.m. VHF. In the Highlands: comment, interview, music and song from Gaeldom (recorded).

Friday, 26th June

12.00 noon News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
7.30 p.m. Siream Sios, Siream Suas: A Look Around for New Talent in Music and Song. Introduced from Ness, Lewis, by Duncan MacLeod (recorded).

10.30 p.m. TV. Bonn Comhairle: A close scrutiny of events each month, the way around, in the High-lands and beyond.

Saturday, 27th June

8.00 p.m. The 1970 World Pipe Band Championships: Seumas MacNeill reports on the premier competition of the Scottish Pipe Band Association held at Hazelhead Park, Aberdeen.

Sunday, 28th June

3.00 p.m. Studio Service by Rev. Kenneth Ross, Tomintoul (recorded).

Monday, 29th June

12.00 noon News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

Tuesday, 30th June

12.00 noon News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
3.45 p.m. Cur is Dluth. Among the Gaels with Neil Fraser. From Far and near: Music, interviews and songs from Gaeldom. The New Country — The last of five talks by James Ross on the emigrations following the '45, and miscellaneous recordings.

Wednesday, 1st July

12.00 noon News in Gaelic.
6.15 p.m. 1970 World Champions — Pipes and Drums recital by the winners of the 1970 World Pipe Band Championships held in Aberdeen last Saturday (recorded).

Thursday, 2nd July

12.00 noon News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

Friday, 3rd July

12.00 noon News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
7.30 p.m. Seinn an Duan So: Concert of Gaelic songs requested by listeners. (recorded).

Births

MACLEAN — At Raigmòre Hospital, Inverness, on 4th June 1970, to Alister and Ann, a son (Allan) — a brother for Fiona.

MACLEOD — At the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow, on 9th June 1970, to Norman and Minnie (nee Maciver), a son (Iain). Both well.

Deaths

MACCALLUM — Peacefully, at 29 Ardenrive Road, Fort William, on 5th June 1970, John, aged 58, dearly loved husband of Babs Cassidy and dear dad of Iain, Eleanora, Roberta and Nicol.

MACDONALD — At McKelvie Hospital, Oban, on 5th June 1970, Agnes MacDonald, 3 Mossfield Avenue, Oban, wife of Donald MacDonald.

Misc.

AN T-EILEANACH, Leabhran mìosail Gaelic Bhrèatainn — gu leir ann an Gaidhlig, 10/- sa bhliadhna o An t-Eileanach, Berneray, Lochmaddy, North Uist.

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Faile Do Lybster

THE PORTLAND ARMS extends a warm welcome
Salmon Fishing, Trout Fishing, Sea Angling
Good Fare and a Fine Cellar

Proverb

An ramb is fhigis air laimh, iomair leis.
The ear that's nearest at hand, row with it.

Text for the Times

An Dia tha mo shlaighte agus mo ghloir; carraig mo neirt, mo thearmann is e Dia.
Salm c. 62 r. 7.

In God is my salvation and my glory; the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.
Psalms ch. 62, v. 7.

Harris Tweed Shop

(C. & J. Morrison)

Buth a Chlo Hearrach

Stocallan . Tweed Slippers
Tweed Deerstalkers . Hose and Working Socks

TARBERT, HARRIS

over to you

(Continued from page 10)

country, has its own distinctive national contribution to make to the Festival, and that contribution should not be relegated to some obscure locality where the strangers within our gates may wonder if this is indeed the 'Celtic twilight.'

Finally, sir, we hope that a satisfactory explanation will be forthcoming of the regrettable omission from the 1970 Festival programme.

Is mise, le meas,
Alasdair MacCoinnich
Eildon Street,
Edinburgh.