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DI-ARDAOIN, 11 LATHA DE'N OG-MHIOS 1970

THURSDAY, 11th JUNE 1970

No. 84 Sixpence



The heavy Atlantic swell on the west side of the remote Hebridean island of North Rona. This island, with St Kilda, Salsburgh, the Flinnans, the Monach Isles, is the subject of a fresh socio-economic study contained in a new book to be published next week by Mr Francis Thompson, a well-known writer, who is a native of Stornoway.

Helmsdale Bridge To Be Replaced

A SCHEME estimated to cost almost £500,000 for improving the A.9 trunk road at Helmsdale in Sutherland, has been approved by Mr William Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland. The work will be undertaken by Messrs William Tawse Limited, Aberdeen who have been awarded the contract.

Under the approved scheme the bridge, carrying the A.9 over the River Helmsdale on which one-way working is now in force, will be replaced by a steel and reinforced concrete bridge, 300 ft. long. The new bridge will have a 24 ft. carriageway flanked by 8ft. wide footpaths. The scheme also includes the building of a bridge over the railway, the realignment of half-a-mile of the A.9 to the junction of Dunrobin Street in Helmsdale, and an associated underpass of Shore Street, and some coast protection works.

Construction will start this month under the supervision of Messrs Babbie, Shaw and Morton, consulting engineers, Glasgow who have designed the scheme. It is expected to take about two years to complete.

Royal Thanks

THE Provost of Stornoway, Mr Donald J. Stewart, has received a letter of thanks from Kensington Palace regarding the recent Royal visit. A letter from Princess Alexandra's Lady in Waiting, said: "Princess Alexandra has asked me to write and say how very much she and Mr Ogilvie enjoyed their visit to Stornoway on May 2nd. "Her Royal Highness was so touched by the very warm welcome she and her husband received and they were delighted to have the opportunity of meeting and talking to so many people."

SKYE COUNCIL PROTEST

Remarks made by the Scottish Transport Group's Executive Director Mr W. M. Little about the Kyle-Kyleakin Ferry have brought a strong protest from the Skye District Council.

In a recent statement he described as "grossly exaggerated" complaints made about delays at the ferry. Mr Little has been asked to withdraw his statement in a letter sent by the Council to STG in which he is accused of being "completely out of touch with what is happening at the ferry."

The letter made public earlier this week by Mr J. Philip, Council Clerk, concern is expressed at the "deteriorating situation. Mr Philip says that Mr Little referred at a Press conference in Edinburgh on April 30 to "grossly exaggerated, unreasonable and unjust statements" about the ferry.

"Mr Little did not refer specially to any particular person or bodies as being responsible for these statements. It is quite obvious, however, that Mr Little was referring to the meet-

ing held under the auspices of the Skye District Council at Portree on April 27, 1970."

"Accordingly, I was instructed to write to you, expressing the Skye District Council's strong disapproval and concern that Mr Little should so lightly dismiss the criticisms emanating from a responsible body.

"This meeting was called by the Skye District Council as a result of the deep concern felt by the members about the deteriorating situation at the ferry.

Out Of Touch

"It would appear that Mr Little was completely out of touch with what was happening at the ferry — otherwise he would not have used the words 'grossly exaggerated' when referring to the complaints regarding delays."

The letter says that during April there were delays of three hours, occasionally longer. This was at the time when the tourist traffic was very light.

The Council feel that their action was fully justified as it

was obvious to them that the agreed deadline for the introduction of the first ferry would not be met, because the ferry was not ready and work on the pier was far behind.

Efficient Service

The Council remind the group of their requests put to the Secretary of State for Scotland. These were that a 24-hour service be introduced immediately; an emergency acceleration of work on the Kyle of Lochalsh jetty in an effort to meet the deadline; contingency plans to deal with any delays and to ensure an efficient service, and the immediate reinstatement of the n.v., Clansman on the Mallaig-Armadale run.

The letter continues that it is of interest to note that the first three requests had been dealt with fairly quickly.

"The fact that the measures proposed or suggested at the meeting have been partly introduced would indicate that some note had been taken of the statements made at that meeting and that they are not so 'grossly exaggerated'."

The Council hoped, therefore, that Mr Little would reconsider the position and withdraw his remarks.



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DEAN DO ROGHAINN

SEACHDAIN bho'n latha d'uiagh theid iarraidh oinn taghadh a deannam a chum is gum bh roghainn nan daoine air foillseachadh a thaobh 's co bhithes 'gan riaghladh fad cùil bliadhna eile. Tha gach taobh a cur an cèil a ghealltanan fhéin agus a' sìor moladh dhùinn an rian aca fhein feuch an gabh an luchd taghaidh ris agus gun toir iad daibhsan cumhachd, Chan eil e duilich a thuigsinn gu bheil mòran obrach, eadar dealbhadh gach rian agus tomais na h-àma ceart air cùl gach taghadh Parlaimaid.

Tha a h-uile taobh a'feuchainn ri greim fhaighinn air sùil chraobh sgaoidh a chum is gun l-eudach iad gu mòr air na riantan aca agus gur dòcha gun tionaid iad cuid de'n luchd taghaidh chaca fhein. Ris an t-sùil reumach tha e uaireanan caran coltach ri dha no trì chearcan a'spòrthail a measg tòrr mòr sil. 'S dòcha gu bheil seo a'dol ro fhada ach tha e duilich ciall fhacinn, mura bheil thu uille gu léir faoin, ann an taghadh de'n t-seorsa seo. O chionn bhliadhnaichean bha an aon duine air a thilleadh bho mòran de na roinn parlaimaid. Tha seo a'foillseachadh cho stuama is a tha daoine 'nam beachd.

Faodaidh luchd tomais seo a chur a mach ann am figearan nuair a dh'arbas iad gum feum uread seo a dhaoine as a'cheud, gluasadh bho aon taobh ris an taobh eile. A bharrachd, air cho math no dona bha an riaghaltais no am ball parlaimaid bitheadh an luchd leanmhain gu cunbhalach 'gan taghadh.

Faomaidh e bhith air a'ideachadh gu bheil buadhan aige seo cuideachd. Tha an dòigh seo a'toir dhùinn cunbhalas anns an dùthaich seo nacheil ann an dùthchanan eile. Murs taimeig De Gaulle an air dha bha cha mhòr parlaimaid air anns an fhrang a h-uile bliadhna. Nuair a tha seo a'sachairt tha e 'ciallachadh nach gabh crìoch chur air rian nas bith a thoiseachas a'cheud parlaimaid agus a bharrachd gu bheil am Parlaimaid a'gabhal an eagail toisinn air riantan ura — 's dòcha nach bitheadh iad a stigh cho fada sin.

Cha mhòr nach fhadamaid a ràdh gu bheil ceud roinn Parlaimaid a'riaghadh co gheibh cumhachd anns an dùthach seo. Is iad sin na roinn crìochail anns a bheil am ball parlaimaid a stigh le nas lugha na dà mhìle bhòt. Ma theid iadsan gu Labour no ma theid iad chun nan Toraidh gheibh iad an deagh chrothom air fhaighinn a steach. Air a shon sin 's air fada' se an t-seirbhis sibhalta far a bheil na daoine a'fuireach fad am beatha agus a'ruith gnòthuichean na dùthcha gu cunbhalach is stèidh do gach riaghaltais a thig no dh'fhalbhas anns an dùthaich seo.

FOUR UP

THE Fourth Annual Report of the Highlands and Islands Development Board displays within its fact-packed pages a confidence which will not go unnoticed by those who have a genuine concern for the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and the people who live in the region, whether they be Gaelic-speaking Highlanders, English-speaking Highlanders, or incomers to the region with a sense of affinity.

The confidence, however, seems to be placed fairly and squarely on the Board's potential as a developing agency for the region. There is no doubt about this aspect. Not, at least, now, when the early storms which often threatened to break the Board are well away and a clear blue sky is seen. There does not seem to be the same confidence in the hands which hold the other end of the Board's long leash which stretches south to the "weak in Westminster."

The Labour people have always held the Board up as one of their most wondrous creations, ignoring that the idea was not theirs by a long chalk and that the Labour Member for the Western Isles had to agitate, no doubt at the urgent behest of his compatriots in Lewis, for the inclusion of the "Islands" in both the prospective Board's title and region of activity.

It is the Labour Government which has bedevilled the H.I.D.B. in most of its dealings. While the Highland population drains away the paltry sums needed for Highland regeneration seem not to be forthcoming. We say paltry, compared with the £250 million the Labour Government has handed over to the London Transport Board (London being a city in the south-east of England) to wipe off its debts.

Yet again, while one can, at a pinch, accept the iniquitous Selective Employment Tax as a measure suitable for certain areas of the country, it was certainly akin to the bureaucratic hand of death so far as the Highlands and Islands were concerned. The latest unemployment figures (what Labour supporter can honestly say they are not the result of S.E.T.?) show an increase that may well go over the 8% they were at in 1967. That at least is something that cannot be blamed on the Tories, though

perhaps a stronger and more effective Opposition might well have carried public opinion with them to minimise the effects of S.E.T.

The numbers employed in primary production have decreased by some 25%. This has been almost offset by a similar increase in manufacturing. There has been a disturbing increase in the administrative and hotel/catering sections of employment. It may well be that these latter sections may taper off. But one will have to wait and see.

But is there time to wait and see? One cannot expect a refill of vinegar for the sponge from the Labour Government if it gets returned. And one cannot define exactly what the Tories intend to do with the H.I.D.B. if they are returned.

It may well be that Highland voters should consider the future of the H.I.D.B. in the context of their own future, and that of their growing children. It may even be to their advantage to consider the old and well-proven political role of the Highlands: Liberal and Radical. Not to consider to where one bears one's cross on June 18, may well result in a heavy cross to bear for the rest of one's life.

Transport Study Suggested

A comprehensive study of transport, tourist and amenity needs in the area between the Moray Firth and Skye and Lewis, has been suggested in a letter from the Scottish Railway Development Association to Mr Fred Murray, Minister of Transport.

The study should take place before plans to close the Kyle of Lochalsh-Dingwall railway line are implemented in January 1972, says the Association.

Troimh Uinneag Na Gaidhlig

Ciamar a chumas duine a dhualchas gun chanan? Tha fios gle mhat aig na fir-turais an Leodhas no Barraidh gu bheil iad am measg slugh sonraichte, nach eil? Ach de mu dheighinn Ceannloch, far nach chunn duine facal Gaidhlig, ach a mhaoin nuair a tha na tuathanaich a' tighinn a stigh dho' bhàile ud a Gigha? Chan abrainn idir nach eil Gaidhlig an Ceannloch, ach is gle bheag a chluinnnes duine, mar a tha fìos again. Bha caraid dhomhsa air turas an Cinnitree, agus cha chreideadh e gur anns a' Ghaidhealachd a bha e, gun an d' fhuair e dearbhadh air sin latha-na-margach . . .

A reir mo bharail-sa, is e dìut' colais air Gaidhlig 'an ceud-nuislidh' 's motha air daoine bhì cho a'neolach air cuspairan air dùthcha an duigh is cho sìneolach air eachdraidh nan laithean a chaidh seachad. Is chan e a mhaoin na seann laithean air a bheil mi an' bruidhinn. Gheibh mi an 'Gairm' agus 'Sruith,' agus 's Ghaset, baraillean nan Gaidheal 'san latha an duigh, agus is ann a tha na Gaidheal a' deannam rannachadh na's fhearr air cuspair san bhì 's Gaidhlig na nì iad sin an canan eile. Chan abrainn idir nach eil Beurla cho math aig na Gaidheal 's th' agamsa, is docha gu bheil i na's fhearr, o nach

eil bias na Galldachd oirre! . . . ma's e Beurla Ocsford a tha sibh ag iarraidh.

Tha na leabrichenan an latha an duigh a' nochdadh dhomhsa gu bheil Gaidhlig 'na canan bheò, oir chan i' dreach an aon Gaidhlig ris an canan a bh' aca ceud-bliadhna air ais . . . tha i' 'dol air adhart. Ann an Leabhar a fhuair mi o chionn ghoidir, 'Rosg nan Eilean,' tha

le Uilleam Neill

Gaidhlig as gach ceam, an doighean-chaimt cadar-dhealaidhe (direach mar a tha Beurla) ged is i an aon chanan a th' innte.

Tha iomadh bard is speulaidhe aig na Gaidheal fhathast, agus is iomadh rud is urrainn a ràdh 's Gaidhlig nach gabh eadar-theangachadh choimhionta gu Beurla, gu h-araidh nuair a tha sinn a' bruidhinn mu bhàrdachd. Mar a thuir mi chomasa, chan urrainn dhùinn bardachd a chur an canan eile gu ruideigin a' dol air call.

Chan fhaic mi riagh 'Blar na h-Eaglais Brice' no 'Blar Inbhir Lochaidh' cho soilleir 'nam intinn 's chumnaic mi iad an deidh 'bhli' leughadh na sgrìobh Donnachadh Ban is Iain Lom m'an deidhinn, oir is i a' b'ardachd chumhachdach a th' ann.

Eisidhb ri . . .
'A' dol an cionneamh a' Phrionnsa Gum bu suinnach a bha sinne. Shòil sin gum fhaigheamh cuis dheth
'S nach robh dhùinn ach dol g' shreadh . . .

An coimeas leis na thachair . . .

'Nuair a thachair riu Clann Domhnuill,
Chum iad comhdhail air an uchdan;
Dh' fhag iad creuchdan air an reubhadh
'S cha leigheadh leigh an cuis-leann'

Tha na faclan sin a nochdadh dhùinn an atharrachadh a theid air beachdan daoine oga a' dol gu cogaidh, agus an fhuair nuair a ruigeas iad am blar.

Ars' Iain . . .

'Dh'irich mi moch maduinn Domhnaich,
Gu braigh Caisted Inbhir Lochaidh;
Chunna mi'n t-arm a'dol an ordugh,
'S bha buaidh a' Bhlar le Clann Domhnuill.'

Chumnaic Iain an t-sabaid fhuiltteach sin le a shuillean fein, agus tha sin a' dealbhadh Latha Inbhir-Lochaidh na's soilleire na leabhar eachdraidh san bhì, air cho snasmhor 's a tha a' b' Beurla a chuireas iad oirre.

(Ra Leantainn)

The Growing New Towns Of Scotland

More than a hundred thousand people have already been housed in the expansive new towns of Scotland. They represent a good proportion of young families who are more than satisfied with the progress of the New Towns architects and organisers.

The highest proportion of new dwellers are Glaswegians, making up the growing communities from Cumbernauld to the northern reaches of Ayrshire. There are four new towns offering a five-year guarantee of stable rents and their prosperity rates high compared to the English new towns over the border.

East Kilbride, seven miles out of Glasgow, has passed through the controversial stages

when farming experts predicted at despoliation. The protests are mainly forgotten now in the rising growth of the town which

by Reg Moore

won the Saltire award for the best housing in Scotland over one year.

East Kilbride has been picked out as the most progressive industrial employment town in Scotland. Twenty-two years have passed since it first went through the initial stages of growth and it has improved like vintage wine to maturity. Attracting regular visitors from

abroad, the town compares favourably with any over the border for architectural planning and sociological progress. The amenities include a magnificent ski slope and golf driving range. It is also one of the few towns in Britain where old folk can be safely housed and where all its homes are open to new arrivals and sitting tenants.

Glentworth owes its growth to the sinking of a new coal pit. Opportunities exist here despite criticism of planned flats and maisonettes, which took the place of two-storey homes with gardens. The Scottish affinity with the Continent extends to the partiality of compact flat life and newcomers to the town are given every

(Continued on page 12)

Sounds of Gaelic on London Scene

The premier Gaelic event in the South of England was successfully promoted for the 33rd time by Comunn na Gaidhlig an Lunnainn in the heart of the metropolis. Competitions, held during Saturday, 30th May at Royal Scottish Corporation Hall, Fetter Lane, E.C.4, covered choral singing, solo and group singing, literary contests, Gaelic conversation and reading, art and crafts. A good response was forthcoming both from Highland schools and from Gaelic learners in the South of England. Of particular interest were entries from the North of England, including Coisir-Chiuil Ghaidhlig Mhanuain, the Manchester Gaelic Choir, and the choral competition winners, Cor Conradh na Gaeilge Londain, the Irish Gaelic Choir.

In the evening the sound of Gaelic was well in evidence in nearby hostels prior to the Grand Concert at Camden (formerly St Pancras) Town Hall. How refreshing it is to hear the accents of Lewis, North Uist and the islands in and around one of London's principal assembly halls! An entertaining evening was completed by Norman MacKinnon MacLean (mod Gold Medalist and Crowned Bard) as fear-an-tighe and the hall was regaled with his wealth of anecdote, humour and Gaelic song throughout the programme. The evening was sustained by Joan MacKenzie and Evelyn Campbell (of Lewis and Edin Singers fame), Ian MacFadyen (of Covent Garden and Concert Hall note) who amongst operatic selections gave us An Aitair-chaidh Ard, by the Mod choral and solo competition winners and by Flora Argent's Celtic band. Particular interest attached to a costume perform-

ance of traditional Lewis Luadh singing under the watchful supervision of the cailleach (Mrs Anna Morrison, Tolstaich (Mr Arthur Findlay). A demonstration of traditional calands skills of the fearsaid, card, cuidhadh and cuigeal was performed by Mrs Morrison, whilst the Luadh party finished the Clo-mor to the accompaniment of Orain Teasachaidh, Shugraidh, Baslachaidh agus Coinneachaidh.

The platform was graced by Mr James Shaw Grant and his lady. As Chairman of the Crofters Commission Mr Grant paid tribute to the hardihood of the sons of Gael who as crofters had preserved the qualities and traditions of an heroic age and amongst whom the Gaelic culture of our forebears had been handed down to the present day. Crofters were playing a role of economic importance today: reclaiming annually for arable use land equal in area to one of London's larger parks and who in recent years had brought into useful production an area equal to the whole of Inner London. Mrs Shaw Grant presented the prizes.

Great credit attaches to Comunn na Gaidhlig an Lunnainn for the annual promotion of this unique cultural event. The music and language of the Gael are being given vigorous encouragement in the English capital. Thanks are due to Mr Donald Smith (South Uist) who so ably acted as Mod convenor and to all his helpers.

Next year's Mod will be held in the same premises on Saturday, 5th June 1971.

Details of prizewinners follow in the next issue.

A Century

This is the story of an idea — the story of man's duty to his neighbour.

Now and again men and women are born who do not act for material gain, either for themselves, or for their families, but are moved instead by some feeling of perspective or sense of destiny in their hearts, which makes them act only for the well-being of their fellow men.

To these people mercy is not a dated word, but a reality which brings them to the side of a man wounded in battle, or a victim knocked over by a passing car, or a patient far from home in an hospital bed.

This idea, which is as old as the story of man himself, was expressed in the parable of the Good Samaritan, upon whose example the work of the Voluntary Aid Societies is based. Finding a man set upon by thieves, he gave first aid by pouring oil into the wound, provided transport by setting the man upon his beast, and ensured his welfare by putting his hand into his purse and paying for the sick man's keep.

This rendering of first aid, nursing and welfare fill the unfolding chapters of the hundred years of Red Cross service to the suffering. These pages record the achievements of this Society, and the endeavours of unselfish men and women who held fast to an idea until success was accomplished, and then straightaway pioneered fresh paths for the benefit of humanity, demanding further work and sacrifice.

The past lies behind, giving an inspiration, the future stretches ahead, providing the challenge.

* * *

History

Henri Dunant's book describing the sufferings of the wounded at the Battle of Solferino was the inspiration for the foundation of national relief societies, and for the first Geneva Convention, signed by a Diplomatic Conference in 1864, which gave protection to the Sick and wounded as well as to those who went to their help.

This Conference and others were attended by British representatives; but, although attempts were made by Mr John (later Sir John) Furley and others to form a National Red Cross Society, it was not until July 22nd 1870, after the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War, that Colonel Robert Loyd-Lindsay, V.C. (later Lord Wantage), a veteran of the Crimea, wrote a letter to "The Times" appealing for funds. His letter acted as a clarion call. On August 4th the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War came into being. During the war, Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, (who became the Society's first Chairman), obtained permission

1870 + 1970

BRITISH RED CROSS



of Service

John, was responsible for organising the work of the V.A.D.'s in the various theatres of war. It also provided medical supplies, undertook searcher work for wounded and missing soldiers, and packed parcels for prisoners, who were now protected under the Hague Regulations of 1907 (transformed into a full scale Convention in 1929). When the Armistice was signed the two organisations resumed their separate identities.

During the 1939-1945 War, the War Organisation of the British Red Cross Society and Order of St John performed nursing and welfare functions in hospital at home and in theatres of war in Europe, the Middle and Far East, packed parcels for searcher work for the missing and many other relief activities.

At the end of the war when the two organisations resumed their separate identities, the Joint Committee was reformed to care for those disabled in both world wars. Besides providing and maintaining settlements and homes, the Joint Committee gives help to war disabled within the community and also takes care of elderly nurses who have had war service. The Joint Committee provides a Library service in Service hospitals and institutions; and both Societies have welfare officers in Naval, Military and Air Force hospitals at home and abroad.

In the years succeeding the war, concern for civilians became a permanent feature of Red Cross work. The British Red Cross Commissions gave help to refugees and victims of conflict in Europe, in India and Pakistan upon the granting of independence, and in Palestine upon the ending of the Mandate. In 1946 the British Red Cross Society extended its peacetime work into civilian welfare and established a Welfare Department at National Headquarters. Three years later growing concern for the sufferings of civilians in modern warfare inspired the fourth Geneva Convention, giving limited protection to sick and wounded civilians in war.

The history of Red Cross is thus an unfolding story leading to every type of service to the sick and suffering.

(To be continued)

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 2,000 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 C.2.

THE CELTIC ARTS — PAST AND PRESENT — 1970

An Exhibition of the Celtic Arts, the spirit of a people, past and present, will be held in New York on the weekend of July 25-26th, 1970, for the benefit of the Celtic League International.

The Exhibition will consist of paintings, sculpture, prints, and handicrafts, expressing the soul of the Celtic struggle for independence.

Through both traditional and modern expressionism, the spirit wanders from the exotic works of Kells, and Lindisfarne, through the majestic feelings at Stonehenge and Carnac, to emerge into the light to today's aspirations for the freedom of our people.

The Exhibition will be held at the Hotel Commodore, with an admission fee of \$5.00 per person.

No commission is taken from the donating artist upon the sale of his works, all sales are considered final.

The donating artists are: YOUENN GWERNEG, BRIAN O'BAOGHA, PADRAIG MA SUIBHNE, EADHMHONN O'CUINN, IRV DOCKTUR, BRIAN MAIGHREAD UH CHUINN, SEAN MAC POTAIR, MAIGHREAD NI THAILTE, TOMAS O'STANDBHAIN, WALTER STOCK.

Handicrafts will be from Cornwall, Wales, Ireland, Man, Brittany and Scotland.

CELTICA

A look at ALBA . BREIZH . CYMRU . EIRE

KERNOW . MANNIN

by P. BERRESFORD ELLIS

"It is an abiding and indisputable truth," wrote Thomas Johnston (History of the Working Classes in Scotland), "that a people which does not understand the past will never comprehend the present nor mould the future." This is a particular truism in the Celtic countries where history has off-times been ignored and frequently distorted. Napoleon Bonaparte once wrote: "What is history but a fable agreed upon?" The idea of the perpetuation of fables to manipulate people into certain attitudes or actions has been commonplace the world over.

This column will be cutting away the fables and taking a look at the little known, but important episodes in the history of Celtica and at the great Celtic figures who have emerged as leaders of their peoples.

Our first glance into history is at Cornwall and at the last major Cornish uprising. In fact, Cornwall raised an army no less than three times for a peculiarly Cornish purpose — all within a period of 100 years.

* * *

IT was in 1542 that Andrew Borde published his "Book of the Introduction of Knowledge" that:

"In Cornwall is two speches, the one is naughty Englysshe, and the other is Cornyshe speche. And there be many men and women the which cannot speake one word of Englysshe but all Cornyshe."

The position of the Cornish language at the start of the Reformation is clear from this statement. Cornish was being used in many walks of life, religious services and sermons were being conducted in the language. The language had just gone through a great literary revival giving the world a number of Medieval religious plays. The most famous of these plays being "Bewnans Meriasek" — the only full-length saints' play in a Brythonic language that survives. Even in law courts it is recorded that interpreters were used to translate from Cornish into Latin or Norman-French, the official languages of the time.

In 1547 Edward VI decreed

that "The English Book of Common Prayer" should be introduced into Cornwall. The old Celtic customs adopted by the Cornish Catholic Church were to be stamped out. King's Commissioners were sent to enforce this legislation on the duchy. This resulted in one of them, attempting to remove religious statues from Helston Parish Church, being stabbed to death.

To Humphrey Arundell of Lanherne and Henry Boyer, the mayor of Bodmin, the introduction of the English language in an official capacity in Cornwall meant the death of the Cornish language. Similarly, Celtic Catholicism retained many of the ancient Cornish customs and folklore (a reason why it gained such a hold on the people). The introduction of "the Sawson religion" would also be an attack on Cornwall.

Arundell and Boyer sent a petition to the young king and, although professing their loyalty to the monarch, they simply stated they would not receive the new legislation. "We, the Comysse men, whereof certain of us understande no Englysshe, utterly refuse thys newe Service."

Edward VI's answer was to send troops to Cornwall. Arundell and Boyer managed to raise an army of 6,000 men. Rather unwisely the Cornish army marched across the River Tamar into Devon and laid siege to Exeter, where troops of the king were quartered.

It was not long before the tough, battle trained troops of Edward, had smashed the Cornish but, in the words of Lord Grey, who fought against them, "only after a display of such valour and stoungness he never, in all the wars he had been in, did know the like."

With the Cornish army routed, the leaders were soon rounded up and executed. English was enforced on the Cornish in all religious matters. Had the new prayer book and Bible been translated into Cornish as it was Welsh perhaps the situation would have been different. It is true that an English Protestant movement tried to remedy the matter. The movement

drew up some judgements on the affairs of the Anglican Church in 1560 and one of their demands was: "... that it may be lawfull for such Welsh or Cornish children as can speake no Englysshe to learn Praemise in the Welsh tongue or Cornish language."

Needless to say this was not granted.

Following the defeat of the Cornish army there began a tremendous persecution of those who clung to "the old ways and superstitions." This much can be judged from the Lay Subsidy Rolls and the parish registers of Cornwall.

Also a large number of Bretons were shown living among their Cornish cousins in 1540. By 1560 the Breton names cease. Maybe the ill treatment of the predominantly Catholic Bretons caused them to turn to Brittany and cease the centuries old intercourse between the two Celtic countries.

Certainly the idea of capitalising on the persecution of the Catholic Cornish occurred to an Italian agent of Philip II of Spain. In a report to Philip (now in the Spanish State Papers, in the British Museum) the agent pointed out that the Cornish, like the Irish, were good Catholics and a different race, with different language and customs, from the English and resented the English domination of their country. The agent suggested that the Cornish would be likely to help Catholic Spain in their wars against the Protestant English.

Whether Philip tried to follow up this report we do not know.

From this time on however, the destruction of the Cornish language was ensured. By the middle of the 17th Century there were few monoglot Cornish speakers left, mostly in the extreme west from St Keverne to St Ives, Ludgvan, Land's End and Zennor. Most of Eastern Cornwall had been monoglot English speaking while the rest of Cornwall was bilingual. It was not until the latter 19th Century that the last native Cornish speakers finally died out.

TIME FOR A CHANGE

by Alex Craig

As we approach the birth of a new parliament, those of us who were active in the political field for many years reflect back over the years to see what progress has been made, particularly in the Highlands of Scotland.

It is with some gratification that I record a proposal by my late colleague, John L. Kinloch, Writing in the "Daily Record" 8th January 1930, he called for the creation of a Development Board, to develop the depopulated areas and initiate new industries, especially the tourist industry.

Following the scheme, Mr Tom Johnstone, M.P., then under Secretary for Scotland declared:—

"It is the stranglehold of private monopoly on our wonderful scenery and great potential holiday resorts can be torn off in time and if we can get a Development Board, operating on an all party basis, if we can ensure reasonable transport facilities, there is no doubt whatever but that many millions of money spent annually on the Continent of Europe would be spent in Scotland."

Mr F. Norie Miller, Managing Director of the General Accident Assurance Company, of Perth said:—

"Anything that would benefit the Highlands would reflect on the general prosperity of Scotland."

Moving forward to 1945, it is interesting to record that the Scottish Council of the Labour Party, in its "Plan for post-war Scotland," explicitly stated, "We desire a Scottish Parliament for Scottish Affairs." Mr Neil Beaton, when President of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, published the statement,

"The problem of Scotland will only be solved when the working people of this country decide that the political and economic resources of the nation shall be under their control in Scotland."

The Scottish Committee of the Communist Party, in their "People Plan for Scotland" "believes that the establishment of a Scottish Parliament is now essential for Scotland's full development."

The Liberal Party were definitely committed at the General Election to Scottish Home Rule. Several Conservatives offered a measure of devolution.

At the opening of Parliament in 1945, King George VI said, "The special problems of Scotland will have the attention of my Ministers."

Electors in the Highlands of Scotland will readily observe that political propaganda does not alter very much.

Thirty-five years were to pass before the creation of the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

"It was a measure of the value of its work that other areas of Scotland were now asking for similar boards to be set

up. But the Highland area had problems which were quite unique and requiring a different approach from those existing elsewhere."

(Mr William Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, addressing the Scottish Trade Union Congress at Oban, 24th April 1970.)

The problems are political and economic.

Politically, its social life is conditioned by a system of confused machinery, which duplicates and overlaps.

Covering an area one-fifth of Britain, or half the size of Scotland, the Highlands and Islands Development Board have two main functions:—

1. To assist the people of the Highlands and Islands to improve their economic and social conditions.
2. To enable the Highlands and Islands to play a more effective part in the economic and social development of the nation . . .

In its natural resources which are still to be developed, the area is one of the richest parts of the United Kingdom. The potential in the tourist industry is boundless. Highland transport problems are very different, because of the geographical features and smaller population. In this respect they are different from other parts and require special treatment by those who are familiar with them. The sea routes to the Islands are as vital as bridges and are as an important link as the proposed rail link between Central London and Heathrow to be constructed at a cost of £19 million.

In April 1970, the Secretary of State for Scotland approved five major road schemes in the Highlands, costing £1.3 million. (The equivalent of one and three-quarter miles of a modern highway, such as the M.1.)

The key factor in development of such an area as the Highlands and Islands, must be co-ordination of road, rail, sea and air. It was the basic factor behind most of Telford's work to provide good communications chief among these good roads for the conveyance of wool to the markets.

Over duplication is showing itself at the moment with the recent statements by the Highlands and Islands Development Board about the future of the Dingwall/Kyle line. In their Third Report, page 69, referring to rail transport, the Board state "they will be consulted if there are any proposals to amend or withdraw services." The Board cannot afford to leave the future of rail transport to either the Transport Users Consultative Committee or British Railways. Action must be taken now to show the key role that railways and roads play in future development plans. If decisions are allowed to be made over their head closure of any lines will

(Continued on page 9)

HIGHLAND BOATS "E" PROCESS"

The fourth annual report of the Highlands and Islands Development Board records steady progress across a wide range of development activity.

In his foreword to the report, Board Chairman, Professor Sir Robert Grieve assesses the progress made in implementing the development strategy expressed in the first report, and concludes: "Here in the Highlands and in the Islands a powerful beginning has been made. There is great and solid hope that the tide is now with us. The process will go on."

The Regional Economy

Discussing the regional economy, the report accepts the mid-year estimates of the Registrar-General for Scotland, which had shown for the Highlands and Islands a drop of a mere sixty-five people, as further evidence of the relative stability in total Highland population. The report adds, however, that "for confirmation that a turning point may have been reached in the long history of Highland depopulation, it will be necessary to await the results of the 1971 Census." The relative stability of the total

population and machinery, furnishings and equipment and working capital and shareholding. So far, the greater part of the assistance given by the Board had been by way of loans, currently yielding around £400,000 a year in capital repayments and interest—the Board expects this to rise to £500,000 in 1970—and to return the Board had used to help the financing of other development projects.

The report continues: "The 229 applications approved in 1969 was less than the peak achieved in the preceding year. But we think this was satisfactory bearing in mind that there was a limit in 1969 to the total amount of money we could devote to new grant and loan applications falling due for payment in that year. Nevertheless, the approved Board investment in new projects amounted to £1.1 million and actual payments to projects approved in 1969 and to projects approved but not paid in 1968 totalled £1.4 million—a significant injection into the region's economy."

The commercial contribution of £1.5 million was further evidence of the continued willingness of

million—£1.8 million from the Board, mostly in loans, and the remainder from the firms themselves.

It is also encouraging to report that 1969 saw a continuation of the trend of new manufacturing jobs making up a large proportion of the total new employment created over the range of our work.

The figure overall is now forty per cent and this has to be seen against the background where only some twelve per cent of the working population in the Highlands and Islands are engaged in manufacturing or processing jobs. This is still not nearly good enough. Without a better representation of manufacturing industry in the economy, the region will continue to suffer the loss of its best young people and will still lack the numbers needed to ensure regeneration—despite the obvious strides forward which have been made in developing other sectors of the economy."

The report goes on: "We have had successes in the manufacturing fields, but they are important—but the rather inadequate statistical picture relating to employment and unemployment in this region would appear to indicate that most of the new jobs we have helped to create in manufacturing barely replaced others lost.

Against that background it is clear that an even greater effort will be needed to get more firms north, and we are now planning how we should set about this. But, although it will be no easy job, experience has shown that in selected places we have the kind of combination of resources which, with patient endeavour, will attract the right kind of job-producing activity."

Area Development

In a chapter on Area Development, Planning and Natural Resources, the Board report progress in developing the three areas they consider have special advantages and resources for growth—Moray Firth, Wick, Thurso and Lochaber—and record that they have completed the first stage of an examination of the potential that existed for development at and around the principal population centres in the north and west of the region.

The information gathered from such examinations "will be a useful guide to the future of the Board to assess the priorities for further economic and social investment in each of the areas concerned, and will provide valuable factual data which can be used to steer the right kinds of development, whether it is incoming small manufacturing industry or the development of existing rural resources."

Referring to the exploitation of mineral resources in north-west Sutherland, revealed by the surveying and mapping work done by the Robertson Research Company, the report states that provisional agreements had been reached with the owners of the mineral rights in that area to extract shale. The proving-work show this to be commercially worthwhile.

"The success we have had in bringing the potential of Highland mineral resources to the attention of the mining companies has encouraged us to think that the industry might be prepared to join with the Board in sharing the cost of additional assessments in other parts of the region, and towards the end of the year talks were being held with the industry about the recovery of mainland Ross-shire and the island of Mull."

Tourism

In many ways 1969 has been a significant year for the tourism industry in the Highlands and Islands, states the report. The excellent results achieved by the Board's marketing campaign in 1968—its first a record year—had been surpassed, and the special

scheme aimed at extending the season into the off-peak periods, the first objective of their tourism development plan, had shown encouraging signs that with substantial marketing effort this problem could be solved. The Area Tourism Organisation network had been established by the summer, and when fully operational should prove to be a vital force in developing the industry on sound professional lines. In addition to a start on construction of the first hotel under the Board's hotel scheme—at Craignure, Mull—work had begun on other new hotels being financed by private enterprise with Board assistance and improvements and extensions to existing hotels and boarding houses had gone on apace.

Despite the considerable financial investment by both the Board and private enterprise—had added nearly 2,600 extra beds in the last four years in new hotels and extensions to existing ones at a cost of some £1.1 million—the report states that there is still an unreported demand for accommodation, particularly at peak periods. "In the longer term we are sure that the demand for holidays in the region will grow even faster and that we shall have to provide a minimum of 2,000 extra beds each year for some considerable time ahead."

Fishing

This year, states the report, had been yet another successful one for the development of the expanding fishing industry in the Highlands and Islands. Financial assistance had been approved for the purchase of forty-six new and second-hand boats bringing the total so far acquired with Board help to 126, of which ninety-two were now fishing. This substantial increase in the fleet's catching capacity had been matched by a large Board and private investment in ancillary industries ashore—fish processing factories, lobster storage tanks, fish farms, ice plants, boat building yards and in service industries.

Although during the year, the Board had invested over £1 million in the industry, and when the private contributions and grants from the statutory fishing authorities were added, the total was over £377,000. The cumulative Board investment in the fishing industry since 1965 was now over £2 million, bringing new jobs, or safeguarding existing jobs, for almost 1,000 people.

The report goes on: "During the past four years there has been a remarkable development in the region's fishing industry, both at sea and ashore. We are confident that there are both the manpower and the fish supplies available, we have consulted marine scientists on the latter point—for further controlled expansion. Not only will this help the region's economy by providing a new life

and vigour in areas with high unemployment and in remote islands, whose future is fraught with uncertainty, but it will also play an increasingly vital part in contributing to the catching power of the Scottish fleet as a whole. Our main concern now will be to ensure that development is maintained at the right pace, to encourage the adoption of new ideas and techniques and generally to nurture and promote the industry to its rightful position in the national economy."

Land Use

Dealing with land use, the Board state that they are particularly pleased to see an increasing interest being taken in horticulture on a field and market gardening scale. "This is a valuable and expanding market. At present far too much produce is imported which could be suitably and economically grown in the Highlands and Islands."

Referring to the Central and Western Highlands, where hill sheep farming was still the main agricultural activity, the report states that "any expansion of productivity in these areas must depend primarily on an accelerated programme of land regeneration and reclamation. This is important not only for the areas concerned, but also in the national interest."

Detailing progress on the experimental bulb scheme in North Uist, the report states that the results of technical feasibility and other studies "show that the large-scale commercial production of bulbs in the 800 acres of reclaimed Vallay Strand, would be a viable proposition in its own right without taking into account derived social and economic benefits for the islands and for the country as a whole." The authority of the Secretary of State was being sought to proceed with the reclamation of Vallay Strand to develop it in association with commercial interests, as a large-scale bulb growing area.

Transport

Turning to transport, the report declares that good communications, particularly difficult in the Highlands and Islands, were vital to the economic development of the region and therefore it had been the Board's aim to seek to influence, in the interests of Highland development, those bodies which had the executive responsibility for building new roads, piers, airstrips and operating passenger and freight services in the air and on the land and sea.

"Looking to the long term, the aim must be to establish a good co-ordinated transport network covering the whole region. Basic proposals covering the various main elements of mainland road, sea, air and rail—have already been, or will shortly be, submitted to the Scottish Office and the other Government Departments and agencies concerned."

Professor Sir Robert Grieve

population was attributed, states the report, to reduced migration from the region—down to about 800 in 1968/69.

The report goes on to reveal that although 1969 saw employment in primary production falling from the 1967 level, the fall had been considerably smaller than in the previous year, and it might be that some levelling off could shortly be expected.

The latest economic indicators offered a picture of relative improvement in the mainland rural economic situation. With the exception of Shetland—whose economy has failed to represent the various island groups continued to have problems. The report goes on: "The general strategy for most of the islands must depend on exploiting natural resources and indigenous skills to the utmost."

Financial and Management Services

In four years, states the report, there had been an approved Board and private enterprise investment of over £11 million in 134 projects ranging from one-man enterprises to factories employing up to 100 people. Measured in terms of jobs saved or new jobs created this investment had exploited work for over 4,000 people, many of whom lived in areas which suffered from distressingly high levels of unemployment, when all the projects were fully established.

The Board's contribution to this investment—almost £6 million—had been made available to approved projects in the form of building and special grants, loans

the private sector to invest in the future of the region.

The report states: "Growing confidence in the future prospects for Highland development has encouraged proposals for larger individual projects costing upwards of £100,000, and our experience—gained in negotiating projects in this range—is that the assessment and provision of the necessary financial assistance cannot be divorced from the promotional aspects of development. The job should be done by one body."

At the end of the year the actual loss on twenty-six projects which had failed to represent three per cent of the Board's actual total loan investment. The Board stress that if they are to be successful in their task reasonable risks must be taken in backing schemes and projects which might not be acceptable to normal sources of finance.

Industrial Promotion

Turning to industrial promotion, the report records progress in the drive to strengthen the manufacturing and processing sectors of the Highland economy. Several more companies, with financial and other help from the Board had decided to set up in the region, and many others were expanding their operations. Since November 1965, the total number of smaller manufacturing and processing units helped by the Board totalled 259, some fifty of which were new ventures. The great majority of these were now in full production, and jobs, mostly for men, had been provided for over 1,600 people. This represented an investment of over £3

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AG IONNSACHAIDH NA

LE IAIN A. MACDHOMHNAILL

LEASAN A' FICHEAD



Tha Alasdair 'na chadal anns a' chaitheir aig Alexander is sleeping in the chair at an unneige agus tha Mairi trang ag obair anns the window and Mary is busy working in an taigh. Aig leth uair an the house. At half past four, deidh ceithir thaing Iain dhachaidh John came home as an sgoil agus chunnaic e athair 'na chadal anns from school and he saw his father sleeping in an unneige the window.

Iain: A bheil sibh aig an taigh a mhàthair?
Mairi: Are you at home mother?
 Nach used thu?
 Won't you be quiet.
 Na bi ag èigheach mar sin.
 Don't be shouting like that.
Iain: Carson, dé tha ceart?
Mairi: Why, what is wrong?
 Nach fhac thu d' athair 'na chadal an sin?
Iain: Don't you see your father sleeping there?
 Tha gu dearbh.
 Yes indeed.
 Nach coimhid sibh air.
 Won't you look at him.
Mairi: Na dùisg e is e cho crossa.
Iain: Carson a tha e crossa an duigh?
Mairi: Why is he cross today?
 Chanell fada bhon thaining.
 It is not long since he came e dhachaidh agus tha e cho sgith, home and he is so tired.
Iain: An robh e fhéin agus Seumas Was he and James anns a' mhòndh fad an latha? in the hill all day?
Mairi: Bha gu dearbh.
 Yes indeed.
 Nach coimhid thusa na speuclairean air an làr.
 Don't you see the spectacles on the floor.
Iain: Nach coimhid sibh e fhéin.
 Won't you look at himself.
 Tha a bheil fogsalife.
 His mouth is open.
Mairi: Leig thusa leis.
 You leave him alone.
 Tha e steach an seo.
 Come in here.
Iain: A bheil am biadh deiseil?
Mairi: Is the food ready?
 Tha ach c'ait' a bheil Anna?
Iain: Yes, but where is Anna?
 Tha i comhla ris na cailleagan eile.
Mairi: She is along with the other girls.
 Dé a' chabhaig a bh' ortsa?
Iain: What hurry were you in?
 Bha d'oil agam gun bitheadh I thought that my father m'athair a' dol a dh'iasgach would be going fishing.
Mairi: Cha bhi an duigh mata.
 Not today then.
 Tha e cho sgith.
 He is so tired.
 Rach thusa agus abair
 You go and say
 ri Anna gu bheil am biadh deiseil.

Iain: to Anne that the food is ready.
 Cha bhij mi fada mata.
 I will not be long then.
Mairi: Dùisg Alasdair.
 Waken up Alexander.
Alasdair: Dé an uair a tha e?
 What time is it?
Mairi: Tha e fichead mionaid gu coig.
 It is twenty minutes to five.
 An do chaidil thu gu math?
 Did you sleep well?
Alasdair: Cha robh mi 'nam chadail idir.
 I wasn't sleeping at all.
Mairi: Nise, nise, na abair sin.
 Now, now, don't say that.
Alasdair: Cha do chaidil mi idir.
 I didn't sleep at all.
 A bheil am biadh deiseil?
 Is the food ready?
Mairi: Tha. Suidh aig a' bhord.
 Yes. Sit at the table.
Alasdair: An táinig a' chlann dhachaidh fhathast?
 Did the children come home yet?
Mairi: Thainig Iain dhachaidh.
 John came home.
 Oh seo e fhéin agus Anna.
 Oh here he is and Anne.
 Glanaibh ar lámhan a nise.
 Wash your hands now.
Anna: C'ait' an cuir mi na leabhairchean—?
 Where will I put my books?
Mairi: Fág an sin aig an unneige iad.
 Leave them there at the window.
Anna: Dé tha seo air an làr?
 What is this on the floor?
Mairi: Oh dìreach. C'ait' an do
 Just so. Where did you
 dh'fhag thu do speuclairean Alasdair?
 leave your spectacles Alexander?
Alasdair: Tha iad anns an unneige.
 They are in the window.
 Ciannar a tha thu fhéin Iain?
 How are you yourself John?
 Tha gu math tapadh leibh.
 Fine thank you.
 Fág am paipear sinn Anna.
 Leave that paper Anne.
Anna: Dé tha seo?
 What is this?
Mairi: Sin an litir a bha d' athair a' leughadh.
 That is the letter your father was reading.
 Cuir anns an unneige i.
 Put it in the window.
 Suidhibh a nise. Tha mi.
 Sit down now. I am
 cinnteach gu bheil annt- acras oirbh,
 sure that you are hungry.



Iain: Dé an uair a tha e?
 What time is it?
Mairi: Nacheil e gu bhith coig uairean.
 Isn't it nearly five o'clock.
Iain: Nise athair innis dhùnnid dé
 Now father tell us what
 bha sibh a' deanamh an duigh?
 you were doing today?
Alasdair: Uill mata. Bha mi fhéin agus Seumas anns
 Well then. James and I were in the
 a' mhòndh fad an latha.
 hill all day.
Iain: C'ait' an robh sibh?
 Where were you?
Alasdair: An toiseach chunach sinn suas an Cnoc Mor
 At first we walked up the Big Hill
 agus an sin ois an gleann gu ann
 and then down the glen until we
 d'fàinig sinn an Loch Fada.

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GALLGLIG

TROIMH MO PHROSPAIG

reached the Long Loch. Shuidh sinn greis an sin. We sat there for a while oir bha e a' fas teth agus as it was getting hot and then an sinn thoisich Seumas air innseadh James began to tell about mun áite mun cuairt, the place round about.

Iain: Nach robh Seumas a' fuireach Wasn't James staying an sin an uair a bha e óg, there when he was young.

Alasdair: Bha gu dearbh, Rughadh agus Yes indeed, James was thogadh Seumas faisg air an Loch Fhada, born and bred near the Long Loch ann am baile ris an abrar am Bealach Mór, in a village which is called the Big Pass.

Anna: Carson a bha e a' fuireach an sin? Why was he staying there?

Alasdair: Bha athair na chiochair an His father was a shepherd sin còrr is fichead bliadhna, there more than twenty years.

Iain: Cha bu toigh lean a bhith I would not like to be a' fuireach an sin idir, staying there at all.

Alasdair: Oh is e áite breagha a tha ann. Oh it is a beautiful place.

Iain: Chanell rathad a' dol ann idir. There is no road there at all.

Alasdair: Cha robh feum air rathad There was no need for a road o chionn fada. Cha robh carraichean ann. long ago. There were no cars there.

Iain: Ciannar a bha iad a' dol do'n sgoil? How were they going to school?

Alasdair: B'fheudar dhaibh coiseachd They had to walk trì mìle do'n sgoil cuideachd, three miles to school as well. Ach ithibh ur biadh an drasda. But eat your food just now.

Read this passage and answer the questions which follow it

Bha cabhag air Iain a' tighinn dhachaidh as an sgoil oir bha dùil aig gum bitheadh athair a' dol a dh'iasgach feasgar. An uair a thainig e dhachaidh bha athair na chadal aig an uinneig agus bha a' mhàthair trang aig obair anns an taigh. Ged a thainig Iain dhachaidh cha thainig Anna dhachaidh idir. Bha Anna comhla ris na caileagan eile.

Bha a' mhàthair aig innseadh do Iain gun robh athair seith agus crosa aig thuirt i nach bitheadh e a' dol a dh'iasgach.

Dh'innis Alasdair aig fichead mìonaig gu coig. Bha e fhéin aig radh nach robh e na chadal idir. An uair a bha am biadh deiseil shuidh iad uile aig a' bhòrd agus bha Alasdair aig innseadh dhaibh dé bha e fhéin agus Seumas a' deanamh iad an latha. Bha e aig radh gum robh Seumas a' fuireach an an áite, ris an abrar am Bealach Mór an uair a bha e óg. Bha athair Sheumais na chiochair an sin còrr is fichead bliadhna. Bha e aig innseadh dhaibh gum bitheadh Seumas aig coiseachd trì mìle do'n sgoil a h-uile latha.

Bha Maire aig radh gum bitheadh ise a' coiseachd trì mìle do'n sgoil cuideachd.

1. Carson a bha cabhag air Iain?
2. Dé bha a' mhàthair aig innseadh do Iain?
3. C'ait' an robh e Seumas a' fuireach an uair a bha e óg?
4. Carson a bha Seumas a' fuireach an sin?
5. Dé a' bhuidhe do Sheumas a dheanamh a h-uile latha?

GRAMMAR

Is and Bu
Is toigh lean, I like
Bu toigh lean, I would like
e.g. Bu toigh lean
Cha bu toigh lean
Am bu toigh lean?
Nach bu toigh lean?
Bu toigh, yes
Cha bu toigh, no
Is fheudar dhomh, I must; it is necessary for me
B' fheudar dhomh, I had to/it was necessary for me.
N.B. B' fheudar dhomh coiseachd, I had to walk
B' fheudar dhomh sin a dheanamh, I had to do that
The Infinitive form of the verb is not used with Intransitive Verbs such as "coiseachd".
The Regular Verb
Past: Coisich, walk
Toisich (air), Toisich (air)
Imperative
Uist, be quiet
Comhhd, look
Dùig, waken
Verbal Noun
Ag eighnach, shouting
The Irregular Verb
Imperative: Rach, go
Abair, say
Passive Form
Past Tense
Rùgadh e, he was born
Thogadh e, he was brought up
Present Tense
Abair, is called
Masculine Nouns with and without the Definite Article
Gléann, a glen / An gléann, the glen
Cnoc, a hill / An cnoc, the hill

(Continued at foot of next column)

Dichotomy, is toigh lean am facial beg snazill sin, Bithidh mi 'ga chanaill riom fhein gum bitheadh feadh an lath is uaireannan feadh na h-oidhche. Chan eil duine 'ga chleachdadh idir 'sa' bhaile seo ach mi fhein agus sin riom fhein a mhaire mar a thubhairt mi roimhe. A'cheud turus a chuala mi e - Shalaim: Carson a bha thu' cleachdadh an fheilidh?

Ball Aosda: Nach e ceud aig a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach a tha ann?

O: Is beag orm Ann Comhunn. Chan eil ann ach droch bhodach. Inns' de feum a tha 'san fheilidh.

B.A.: Nach d'thubhairt am bard sin, Fear Srath Maithisidh gu robh e uamhasach fhein math airson deanamh clann 's na presanan?

O: Cha chreid mi gun cuala mi riamh cail na bu mhossache na sud. Sid aig uachdarain na Gaidhealtachd, bruidhean a bhitheadh riuth feadh na dutcha gun churam, gun throcair a deanamh population explosion nuair nach robh iad ri tilgeal nan daoine mach as na dachaidhean. Sin ciannar a dh'eirich Fuadach nan Gaidheal, Nach eil thu faicinn gur e am feilidh bu choireach ris.

B.A.: Weil mata nach d'thubhairt Donnachd Ban nan Oran dar a thog am Parlamaid an lagh a bha an aghaidh an fheilidh:

"Togaidh na Gaidheil an ceann
Cha bhitheid iad an fang nas motha
Dh'fhalbh na speirichean team
Thug orra bithh mall gun luth."

O: Gu dearbh 'se rann iongantach tha sin cha chreid mi gu bheil a leithid ann am bardachd sam bith agus tha e cudthromach cuid-

eachd. Taing dha'n bhard tha fios againn ciannar a bha saoghal nam Gaidheil a' fàil an am sin. Cha b'urainn dhaibh togail na cinn no bhith sibhach ach gu mall agus bha iad gun luth: Leis cho lapach 's a bha iad, dh'fheum iad fuireach ann am fang. Ach Carson a bha iad mar sin? Tha Donnachd Ban aig innseadh dhuinn Carson. Bha na speirich riamh enn cho teann 's a bha aca-san. Ach chan eil sin uile, smaoinich, roimh an achd cha robh speirichan idir a' cur. Carson mata nuair: a' bh'fheudar dhaibh briogais a chur orra a thagh iad briogais le speirichan cho fhadhach team. 'Se mo bharrail gu bheil seo 'cur an ceill gu robh nadur Gaidheil nan laithean sin car mar a tha 'san latha an diugh, agus nach robh dath cadar dubh is geal aca. 'Se ceist nhor a tha ann co dhiubh.

B.A.: Seadh, seadh ach feumaidh tu eideachadh gur e deise handaidh a tha ann. (Bha an t-ollamh trang a' tachas a chinn le spog ghioimach 's an doigh "absent minded" a' bhiteas aig sgolreicean gus an cuala e seo.)

O: Traill 's e nach e. De feum a tha ann airson obair latha an diugh mar caradh an washer sin ann an cistern no toilet, no bhith chluich Mhono-poly no bhith cantail hullo ri Professor Greive air an t-sraid air maduinn chlubhraidh Cheitein.

B.A.: Bithidh e toirt am follais mata gur e fìor Gaidheal a tha 'san fhear a bhitheas 'ga chleachdadh.

O: Oh, a thrusaidr cha bhithe gu dearbh. Mur eil Gaidhlig cheart aige tuigidh an saogal gur e fear ionnsachaidh a tha ann. Ach ma bhitheas Gaidhlig aige o' ch'ch tuigidh iad an uair sin gu bheil e airson 's gum bitheadh iad' creidsinn gur e fear ionnsachaidh a bhitheadh ann.

B.A.: Ach nach e eideadh nan Gaidheal a tha ann?

O: Ablach 's e nach e. Is grann gnuic fuaic a' air sraidean Mol na Hearadh, Denny Loan Head no eachon Inbhrisradh. Chan fhaicear idir ann am Paris, Kansas City no Timbuctoo fhein.

B.A.: Tha thu agam nist a laochain. A reir na tha mi cluinnintinn bithidh h-uile mac m'eadail an sin a dol leis na masan riugte.

O: Thalla 's fuirich an sin mata.

Feum, need Am feum, the need
Rathad, a road An rathad, the road
Feminine Noun with and without the Definite Article
Litir, a letter An litir, the letter
Adjectives
Ceàrr, wrong
Crosa, cross
Fosgaillte, open
Breagha, beautiful
Common words and usage
Mun cuairt, around
Fad còrr is fichead bliadhna, for more than twenty years
Tha na chiochair, he is a shepherd
Tha e na chadal, he is asleep

EXERCISES

- A. Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks
 1. Thainig Aalsaidr dhachaidh aig gu ceithir.
 2. Bha Maire trang 's an taigh.
 3. Bha aig Iain gum athair a' a dh'iasgach.
 4. Bha Alasdair chadal aig an
 5. Thainig bhò Iain Alasdair.
- B. Give the answer "yes" to the following
 1. Am bitheadh Maire trang anns an taigh?
 2. An tainig Iain dhachaidh traigh?
 3. An t'fhuair Alasdair litir?
- C. Give the answer "no" to the following
 1. Am bitheadh Alasdair a' dol a dh'iasgach?
 2. An do chaidh Iain aig an uinneig?
 3. Am fuirichheadh Iain anns a' Bhealach mhór?

Auld Lang Syne Done Up In Tartan

Should Gaelic speech be ne'er forgot,
An' never brocht to min' ?
For she'll be spoke in Paradise,
In the days o' auld lang syne.

When Eve, all fresh in beauty's charms,
First met fond Adam's view,
The first word that he spoke to her
Was, "Camair ta sibh diu."

And Adam in his garden fair,
When e'en the day did close,
The dish that he'll to supper teuk
Was always Athole brose.

When Adam from his leafy bower,
Cam' out at break o' day,
He'll always for his morning teuk
A cuach o' uise beath.

And when wi' Eve he'd hae a crack,
He'll teuk't his sneeshin-horn,
And on the tap ye wight meik mark
A ponny brae Cairngorm.

The sneeshin-mull is fine, my freens,
The sneeshin-mull is grand,
We'll teuk a hearty sneesh, my freens,
An' pass't frae hand ta hand.

When man first had the want o' eales,
The wind and cauld to fleeg,
He twisted round aboot his waist
The tartan phildibeg.

An' music fine on earth was heard,
In Gaelic accent deep,
When Jubal in his organ squeezed
The blether o' a sheep.

The braw bagpipes is grand, my freens,
The braw bagpipes is fine,
We'll teuk't another pibroch yet
For the days o' auld lang syne.

ON one of the Field Club's excursions last summer, when they travelled to Cannich, they were met there by a gentleman who gave a chatty, informal talk on the local place-names, their interpretation, and any anecdote, historical or traditional, connected with them. Towards the close of his talk, the speaker quoted the second verse from the above poem, which caught the fancy of his audience, and some of them wished to have the rest of it. Some of those present that day, may be readers of "SRUTH" and for their benefit, we give the whole of the poem. We hope it may also interest other readers.

The author of these clever verses was the Rev. Dr Thomas Hardie, minister of the parish of Fowles Wester, Strathearn, Perthshire. He was presented to the parish by the laird of Abercromby in 1852, and died minister of the parish in 1910. It was his only parish. Before coming there, he was for a short time, assistant in the High Church, Inverness. He was born before his time. Had he still been alive, he would see many of the social changes he advocated among the lower strata come into being. He took a great interest in the tinklers and tried hard to wean them from their wanderings about the country, to settle down and send their children to school. But the nomadic instinct was too strong in them, and although they would settle for a time, they soon wandered away. It must be said, however, that these people appreciated what he tried to do for them. I think I am right in saying that no minister of the Church of Scotland ever officiated at more tinkler weddings than did the minister of Fowles Wester.

Tinklers are generally regarded as a thankless, graceless lot. It says something for them that even into the third generation, they never forgot the kindness of Dr Hardie. His grandson, an esteemed minister of the Church, and who has inherited his grandfather's gifts, is frequently asked by these wandering people to officiate at their weddings.

"Preacher, Poet, Pastor," is the title of a memoir written by one who knew him well, and published after the death of Dr Hardie.

J. E. S.

SEALLADH le Dornhnùll. Maclomhair

Bha cas an deùh coise a' lotadh na sràide,
Dorchadas air ghluasad an tighinn na h-oidhch',
Saoghal teann 's e a' micheadh na thigheadh na chòir;
Nach bu bhòidheach an ad a bh'air Seonag an raoir?

B'iomadh crathadh chuir crith an meuran na làimhe
's cha fhagh iad an nighe le chaidh;
Beannag an dubhachd gluasad na talmhainn
Nach bu bhòidheach an còta bh'air Seonag an raoir?

Ag èideachd 's ag èideachd gun tuigsinn nam faic
's a' coimhead 's a' coimhead le barrachd de shùim,
'Nuair dh' fhogail an doras 's a dh'èirich gach duine,
Nach bu bhòidheach na brògan bh'air Seonag an raoir?

Bha cas an deùh coise a' lotadh na sràide;
An dorchas 's e tilleadh ag deirheadh na h-oidhch',
Bha sgrudadh is caineadh a' brisheadh an àile;
Bu bhòidh nach robh Seonag cho bhòidheach na raoir.

The Fortunes of Gaelic 'Neath the Blast of the - ANGLO-SAXOPHONE

Before the establishment of an Irish colony in Dalriada, that is the Scottish Dalriada in the area now known as Argyllshire, the language spoken in Scotland was a form of Celtic whose descendants are represented today by Welsh and Breton. Indeed, much of the early Welsh literature deals with people and events which belonged to the Scottish area. To cut a long story short, however, the Gaels eventually became the dominant force in Scotland, and preserved this state of affairs throughout Scotland until the time of Malcolm Canmore. The broad background of the country known as Scotland is a Celtic background. Like Ireland, however, Scotland has absorbed incomers throughout her history; some were invited, some were not. The sons of Ljod, Asketil, Olaf and Thorkeil peppered our land with MacLeods, MacAsgills, MacAulays and MacCorcodales. The Grants, Sinclairs, Stewarts, Frasers and Bruces were, eight hundred years ago, just as Norman as the Burkes, Butlers, and Fitzgeralds. Few men of today bearing such names, would take it kindly if you claimed that they were not Gaels and Scotsmen.

Though the vernacular languages of Scotland and Ireland must have been diverging steadily throughout the centuries, the language used by the literary classes for their special purposes, in Scotland, was the language of the fildh.

Up until the seventeenth century, this standard literary language persisted as the medium of the poets. It would, of course, be foolish to assume that everyone spoke this literary language; no doubt the 'plebs' had a vernacular speech which was much less 'refined' and artificial. They probably had an oral vernacular poetry, which would of course be despised by the literary men of the establishment. It was not until the partial disruption of the old order that the vernacular poets came into their own, a situation which has its parallel in Ireland. In 1780, Niall Mac Mhuirich could still read this 'Irish' literary language, although he could read no English, but in 1746 Alasdair MacDhomhnuill is writing:

"Nach nan dhuit fein mar thachair dhuit,
O alba bhòidh ta truagh,
Gann lan an duirn de Gaidhealibh,
Fhagail ri uchd -bhualt."
(Are you not ashamed of yourself, poor sad Scotland, to have left a mere handful of Gaels to face the brunt of the battle). This was written by a man who had been educated in Glasgow University, not the bardic school. It is distinctly Scottish Gaelic, and not the literary language, though it is claimed that MacDonald could in fact read this.

Nowadays the Gaelic of Scot-

land is not that of Ireland, although it resembles the Irish of the North closely enough to make it easy for one literate in Scottish Gaelic to read Irish of this type without much difficulty.

It is a common fallacy, perpetuated both in and outside Scotland, that Gaelic is a

by William Neill

'Highland' language which was never spoken outside a Highland area. Yer Galloway, in the most southerly area of Scotland, was a Gaelic speaking area until the seventeenth century, and according to the Irish scholar, O'Rahilly, it was the Gaelic of Galloway which was, in all probability, responsible for the Scottish flavour of Manx Gaelic. Manx, after all, is only sixteen miles from the Galloway coast at its nearest point.

All the foregoing is a recital of commonplaces known to every student of Celtic. In Scotland, however the Celtic scholar rarely gets a fair hearing. We have about 10,000 native Gaelic (speakers who scarcely get a hearing, either, nor are they likely to unless Scotland obtains a government which has their real interests at heart. Such cultural standards as obtain in Scotland at the moment seem to be dictated to us by radio-waves controlled by London, and emanating from what a disgusted fellow-Scots has called the 'Anglo-Saxophone.'

The greatest disruption of Gaelic culture in Scotland took place after the unsuccessful rising of 1745. The bards and fildh, the repository of this culture, were no longer maintained in the great houses when the gentry abandoned their

native ways, which is again a parallel to the Irish situation. Nevertheless, Scotland still had a healthy vernacular tradition which has lasted till the present day, and in those areas in which Gaelic is still spoken, the language maintains its vigour. We have had then, in Scotland, a Gaelic tradition which has lasted for fifteen centuries, and a Celtic linguistic tradition of more than two thousand years. Before the fourteenth century, English was an unknown language throughout the major area of Scotland.

What then, is the situation today? In the Linguistic Survey carried out by Edinburgh University in 1951, native speakers were found in every area in which Gaelic had been spoken in 1745, with only one very small exception. Ten years later a similar survey revealed that, due to the deaths of speakers in the eastern area, most of whom were elderly people, the line had retreated to the western islands. There, the number of speakers remain surprisingly constant. Now that the Anglo-Saxophone blasts away in those areas as well, the maintenance of the language may well depend on the attitudes of the blasters.

Scottish M.P.'s (whatever that term may mean) do little or nothing to assist the Gaelic culture. A short time ago one of these gentry actually went out of his way to oppose a trifling grant to an Comunn Gaidhealach.

It is not my place to lecture the Irish on methods of encouraging Gaelic. At least, in Ireland, the young have a chance to learn about the Celtic language and literature of their country. In Scotland, most of the children grow up without a chance to learn anything valuable of this aspect of their country's background. You will find that they know all about Bruce and the spider. They will know nothing of the fact that the language of his troops was predominantly Gaelic. Few Scots know any Gaelic other than 'Slaointe mhath,' and whenever an event such as the Mod takes place, the newspapers are full of articles which imply the Gaelic culture is somehow alien to 'real' Scottish culture.

And yet, oddly enough, now that Gaelic has reached its present low state, there is considerable evidence that many more people are evincing a concern for it. As a Gaelic proverb says, "a good well is never missed until it runs dry." There is evidence that many educationalists would be perfectly willing to introduce Gaelic courses in the schools if they could obtain teachers. The problem is that they cannot obtain such teachers, since young Scots are too busy taking degrees in languages which are supposedly of 'use' . . . by which is meant commercial use.

(Reprinted from "ROSC")



Chanell feum againn air Opinile pole 's a bhaile seo.

The views expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the publishers: An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Naidheachdan Mu Na h-Eaglaisean Air A' Ghaidhealtachd

Le "FEAR-FAIRE"

EAGLAIS NA H-ALBA

An t-Ard Sheanadh

Chruinnich corr is mille ball, eadar ministearan agus eildearan, as gach ceann de'n dùthaich, gu Ard Sheanadh na h-Eaglaise an Dun-eideann. Chaidh an t-Oll Urr. Uisdean A. Dubhghlas (Dun-de) a thaghadh mar Mhoderator an aite an Oll Urr. Tomas M. MacCalmain. Tha am Moderator ur a' cur cuairt air Cleirean an an Earraigh-eil, agus bha e a' lathair aig seirbhis a chumadh mar chuimhneachan air an Oll Urr. Domhnall Friscale, a rugadh ann an 1870. Bhùineadh e do Cheann Loch Gilp, agus chuir e bliadhnanach mora seachad mar mhisionaireadh thall ann an Africa.

Chualas ministearan Gaidhealach a' gabhail co-phairt ann an cuid de dheasbairichean an Ard Sheanadh. Air fear de'n fheadhainn a labhair nuair a rinneadh iomradh air an daimh a tha cadar Eaglais na h-Alba agus eaglaisean eile bha an t-Urr. Gillesbuig Mac a' Mhaoinle (Port-right) Rinn an t-Urr. Seumas Mac Ghille Chàir (Omhanach gearan 'na aghaidh pairt de na cuspairean a bhios air an craobh-sgoileachd air an reidio agus air an telebhisean.

Bha ullach air buill an Ard Sheanadh mu chor na h-Eaglaise air an dùthaich agus chuir eadh Comhairle air chois airson rannachadh a dhanann air a' chuis. Bidh trìuir ministearan Gaidhealach air a' Chomhairle

seo—na h-Urr. Domhnall MacLeod (Fairlie), Iain M. M. MacArtair (Ceann Loch Buirbhe) agus Coimheach Mac a' Bhìocair (An Ceann Mhor).

Chumadh seirbhis Ghaidhlig air Sabaid an Ard Sheanadh. Air a ceann bha an t-Urr. Domhnall Moireasdan, a bha ann an Croidh, Chaidh na sgrìobur an leughadh leis an Urr. Ruairidh MacLeod (Bearnarigh na Hearadh).

Mar is abairt bha Coinneamh Ghaidhealach air Di-h-eòine. Bha duil gum biodh Aonghas Mac a' Bhìocair, an sgrìobhaiche ainmeil, a' bruidheann aig a' choinneimh seo ach cha b' urrainn dha bhith a lathair. Sheas an t-Urr. Iain Mac Artair 'na aite, agus labhair e gu comasach.

Clach-mhìle

Tha sinn a' cur mealladh-naidheachd air an Urr. Iain MacLeod (An t-Oban) a tha nis air a bhith coig bliadhna fichead 'sa ministearalach. Buidh Mgr. MacLeod do dh'Arnoil ann an Leodhas, agus bha e 'na ministear ann an Canada. O 1970 gu 1967 bha e air ceann comhthionail ann an Newton, Dun-eideann.

Air an Adh'ar

Air ceann nan seirbhisean air an reidio air a' mhios seo tha an t-Urr. Domhnall Mac Amhlaigh (Leumrabbhagh). 'Se "Teairneachd a' Chrainne-chusaich" an cuspair a' th'aig. Rugadh Mgr. Mac



AIR TUR NA FAIRE

Amhlaigh ann am Bearnarigh Leodhas,

Comanachadh

Bidh Sacramaid Suiper an Tighearna air a' frithealadh ann an Loch nan Madadh air a' cheathramh Sabaid de'n Og-mhios. A' cuideachadh aig na seirbhisean aig an t-Urr. Coimheach Mac Ghill Iosa (Glasch'v) agus an t-Urr. Ruairidh MacLeod (Bearnarigh na Hearadh).

AN EAGLAIS SHAOR

An t-Ard Sheanadh

Chaidh an t-Urr. Murdoch Moireach a thaghadh mar an Moderator ur. Tha ean 'na ministear air a' Chnoc an an Leodhas. Nuair a shearmonaich e aig crìch an Ard Sheanadh thubhairt e gun robh moran ministearan ann an Albainn "nan coigrich do'n t-Soisgeul." Bha seirbhis air a' craobh-sgoileachd air an reidio air an t-Sabaid.

Bha ullach air an Urr. Uisdean Mac Caoith (A' Chanaich) mu chor na rìoghachd. Dh'aontaich an t-Urr. Sheanadh gum biodh an t-1Mh

latha de'n t-samhainn air a' chur an dara taobh mar latha irioslachaidh agus urmuigh.

Leabhar Ur

Aig am a' c'heud chogaidh chuireadh lethbraichead beaga a mach airson nan saighdearan Gaidhealach. Tha "Knox Press" ann an Dun-eideann air "Teagasg nan Aithrichean" a chlo-bhualadh as ur. Tha e a' cosg '3/6. Gheibhear searmonaich 'nan leabhar seo le teachdairean a bha cluicheadh 'nan latha is 'nan linn—Macrath Mor. an Dotair Ceanaidheach, caraid nan Gaidhealach agus mar sin air adhart. Còrdaidh an leabhar seo ri sean is og. 'Se an seoldh aig Knox Press, 15 North Bank Street, Dun-eideann.

AN EAGLAIS SHAOR CHLEIREIL

Coinneamhan

Bidh Cleirean na h-Eaglaise a' coimheachadh air an 23mh latha de'n mhios. Bidh Cleir an Taobh Tuath a' tighinn cruinn ann an Inbhirnis agus bidh Cleir nan Eileanan A-

muigh a' coimheachadh ann an Steornabhagh.

Orduighean

Air an treas Sabaid bidh an comanachadh ann an Loch Caram, Gleann-dail, Dornoch agus Uige Leodhas.

SOP AS GACH SEID . . .

CUIRIBH naidheachdan gu fear-deasachaidh na duilleig seo.

GUTH O NA LAITHEAN A DH'FHALBH: co esan a tha teachd a bhriseadh cuibheach na h-uagha, a dhughadh nan marbh agus a chruinneachadh a mhuinntir shaorta fein o cheithir airdibh an domhain? Tha e turling air neul lasarach; tha fuaim na gall-truimp a' dol roimhe; tha mìltean de ainglean air a dheas laimh,—'se Iosa Mac Dhe a tha ann, Fear saoraidh a' chinne-dhaonna, caraid nan ionnaran. Tha e teachd ann an glòir Athar, fhuair e cumhadh o'n airde.

—Caraid nan Gaidheal

Proverb

Is fhearr comhairl na thrath, na tioidlach fadach.

A timely advice is better than a late gift.

Text for the Times

Is craobh beatha teangadh fhialaig; ach is briseadh spioraid fìaradh innis.

Gnathfheacal C. 15, r. 4

A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.

Proverbs Ch. 15, v. 4

National Mod (Oban) 1970

SATURDAY, 3rd OCTOBER 1970

A' BHRATACH OIR (GOLD BANNER) PIPING COMPETITION

GROUP A (open) MARCH, STRATHSPEY AND REEL

1st Prize — £50 and A' Bhratach 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 COMMUNN GAIDHEALACH
65 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW

Closing date for entries — 27th June

NOTE — Membership subscription fees — £1

Life £75

Branch 10/-, plus local subscription payable to local branch

FIDDLE GROUPS COMPETITION

Groups will consist of — Four fiddles, viola and base, piano or accordion or melodian

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.

Entry Fee 2/6d

All entries to be sent to —

AN COMMUNN GAIDHEALACH
65 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW

Closing date for entries — 27th June

Time for a change

(Continued from page 4)

further aggravate the transport problems.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport is reported as saying that "He would require more cogent evidence of the social or economic need for the Kyle line to continue." This is where the Board whose duties include "acting as advisers to the Secretary of State on matters affecting the Highlands and Islands," should call the attention of the Ministry of Transport to the statement made by the Secretary of State for Scotland at Oban on 24th April 1970.

The statement by the Ministry of Transport is typical of over-centralisation, when power goes to the centre and decisions are made by people hundreds of miles away from people whose lives will be affected.

There would appear to be a policy of shrinkage of the railways in the North and there is every indication that costs are deliberately maintained in order to inflate the costs of maintaining a particular line. The classic example is the hauling of empty or near empty stock, by

expensive engines.

In this connection I have been interesting British Rail in London in the provision of a dual moded vehicle. By its versatility on road and rail it would become the smallest unit cost of operation, yet still provide the essential services required. Most important of all, is that it would ensure that the track remained on the ground and be used. It would relieve pressure on the roads. Discussions are still going on. The Highland Board who are aware of the possibilities of this type of vehicle, have the advantage that the Deputy Chairman, John Rollo, patented such a vehicle in 1962. With his knowledge and expertise, the vehicle could be built in Scotland and become an important factor in saving the Highland lines.

As a former railwayman with many years' service over the Highland Railways, I would urge the Board to take steps to acquire the railways in their area, on behalf of the people. It is only by co-ordination of communications that the success of development can be achieved. Again the Board are fortunate that one of their members, the Rt. Hon. Tom Fraser was a former Minister of Transport, and would be of invaluable assistance.

Examining the merits and talents of the various candidates

in the Highland Constituencies, all have something to offer. To the large political parties, the Highland seats don't mean much in terms of number of seats. But to the people of the Highlands, their Member of Parliament means success or failure. If I were a Highland voter, I would support the candidate who has the love of the Highlands and its people—who will work irrespective of Party to see that development takes place for the benefit of all. The elected member must always fight against bureaucratic control, whether in London, Edinburgh or Inverness. Centralisation of these points either government or business undertakings glorifies the importance of pieces of paper. This dims the sense of reality. As people acquire a preoccupation with papers they become less understanding, and less conscious of the reality of those matters with which they should be dealing, particularly human beings.

Statutes seem irrelevant and harsh and destroy confidence of many of the inhabitants in the area of development. To see each citizen as a "human being" is easy at the grass roots.

Irrespective of which Party is returned to power, we must continue to fight against bureaucracy if we are to achieve success.

THE COMMON MARKET — A Disaster For Ireland?

"I have always found the word Europe on the lips of those politicians who wanted something from other powers which they dared not demand in their own names." These cynical words of Bismarck are well justified by the realities of the Common Market, which has so unjustly arrogated to itself the name of "Europe."

The Common Market is one of the most undemocratic political conceptions of the twentieth century, though many people have been taken in by the idealistic rhetoric of its skillful and well-financed propagandists. It is literally a rich man's club whose members, leaving out little Luxembourg, are all former colonial powers who want to grow richer at the expense of the rest of us.

The rest of us means the smaller countries outside the Common Market, like Ireland, as well as vast areas of Africa and the Middle East whose economies can be more easily exploited by the Common Market powers when the latter concert their policies than when they act separately as they used to do in their colonialist days.

Britain's third attempt to join this rich man's club may drag the Irish into it with her. It would be disastrous for Ireland if this were to happen. For Ireland to stay out if Britain goes in would be difficult and dangerous; but this is no more than to state the truth that life is not easy for a small country in a world dominated by rapacious Great Powers. Staying out, however, would be the best course for the Irish people, the only way for us to preserve a shred of independence, to hold on to what we have of national identity and to build sometime a decent society for Irish people in Ireland.

In Britain 72 per cent of the public are now against British membership of E.E.C., but since the leaders of the Tory, Labour and Liberal Parties are in favour of going in, the British people may yet see themselves sold down the river to "Europe." So may we by our Government, unless the people wake up to the appalling consequences of entry and demand that Ireland should not be dragged into joining on Britain's coat-tails, which is the present position, it is in.

Switzerland is not joining the Common Market, though she is a landlocked island, surrounded by the E.E.C., with far less resources than we have. The Swiss intend keeping their centuries' old independence and neutrality in Europe's wars. Finland is not joining, though she does most of her trade with E.E.C. members or with applicants for membership. Neither is Sweden, another small country, with one of the highest economic growth rates in the world during the 1960's.

Neither is Austria, nor Portugal, nor Spain nor Iceland.

Most of these are small countries like Ireland. For them, as for us, an E.E.C. which included Britain would pose enormous problems, especially as four of these countries already have free trade in E.F.T.A. They have decided, however, that the problems of staying out

by
ANTHONY COUGHLAN

(Lecturer in Social Administration,
Trinity College, Dublin)

are less than the dangers of joining.

What do these other small countries intend doing if Britain joins the E.E.C.? If Britain joins they will conclude trade agreements or form of association with the E.E.C. for purposes of trade which would avoid the political consequences of membership and which would not subordinate their Governments to the direction of the Brussels bureaucracy.

The Common Market has already concluded such agreements with many countries—Yugoslavia, Greece, Israel, Turkey are the most recent ones—and they will be concluded with the smaller European countries if Britain joins. This is the position we also should adopt, aligning ourselves with the smaller countries mentioned and retaining freedom of action to diversify our trade, reduce our present trading dependence on Britain and foster economic and political independence.

There is no doubt we could obtain such a trading agreement. As Britain's third best customer the 26-Country Market is of considerable value to Britain and it would be quite against her interests to drastically reduce her trade with us. How favourable such an agreement would be, however would depend on how determined the Dublin Government was to act independently and how strong was the pressure of Irish public opinion demanding that it should so act. And here, of course, is the rub, for Dublin has to date gone overboard in its professions of enthusiasm for the Market, though this is primarily a publicity exercise for the benefit of the Irish public. Indeed the Government's verbal enthusiasm for the Market is extraordinarily ill-conceived from any point of view.

The difficulties of staying out need to be balanced against the consequences of membership. Most Irish people are totally in ignorance about the appalling character of these.

First of all, is the effect of the Market on Irish farmers. Prospects of better agricultural prices for the farmers has been accepted as the main economic advantage of the Market for

Ireland since the issue of membership was first raised. The Government has said we will get the benefit of the high-price Common Market Agricultural Policy if we join.

This, however, has now become a complete gamble, for the Common Market Agricultural Policy is in crisis. Food prices are so high in Europe that the farmers have produced enormous gulfs of products. The bureaucrats of the Common Market Commission have drawn up the Mansholt Plan to solve this problem. The Mansholt Plan proposes to get rid of the surplus food by getting rid of half the Common Market farmers in the course of the decade we are now in, the 1970's. Farmers in the E.E.C. are to be cut from 10 million to 5 million in this ten-year period. Half the 5 million will be pensioned off and the other half can work for wages in industry, if they can find the jobs. Twelve million acres are to go out of production and the typical farm is to be the large unit, with two hundred cows and one hundred acres, highly efficient, highly capitalised, and employing very little labour.

There is no hope here for the mass of Irish farmers. To long for the Common Market food policy is like building castles in the air. Everyone knows that if Britain negotiates Common Market membership one of her main aims will be to get the expensive Common Agricultural Policy abandoned. Once enough of the farmers are cleared from the land and it becomes politically possible to ignore them, the other Common Market countries will undoubtedly agree, for industrialists and city workers benefit from cheap food; it keeps labour costs lower than they would otherwise be. If Ireland joins the Sommon Market for the sake of better agricultural prices we would find that before long that we had bought a pup, as the big powers change the policy to suit their industrial interests.

In the short-run, however, the Agricultural Policy would rocket the housewife's food bill. Steak at 15/- a lb., butter at 8/-, sugar at 1/10—the cost of living would jump 15-20 per cent. Wage increases to balance this would be powerfully resisted because Irish industry would be facing the full competition of the giants of European business as they moved in to gobble the Irish market.

The Treaty of Rome makes it impossible for the government of a small country to protect its industry or foster full employment. Tariffs, quotas, grants, special concessions, state monopolies, new public enterprise, favouring one's own nationals against foreigners are all against the rules. We couldn't sign trade treaties on our

(Continued on page 12)

CORNISH HISTORY

by Christopher Bice

The areas of Cornish history which have been most neglected are often those which have most to tell us about the Cornish as a Celtic nationality.

Many a Victorian county history proves that it is possible for a historian to describe an area's political and ecclesiastical administration, to chronicle events and provide genealogies for its landed gentry, and yet to say nothing of the people who lived under this superstructure. For this reason, the history of Cornwall is not always the same thing as the history of the Cornish people.

The Conquest of Cornwall in the 10th century was followed by the installation of an English ruling class and the imposition of ecclesiastical and political institutions which conformed to the English pattern. Only by remaining the predominant element in the population were the Cornish able to preserve their language and a sense of national identity, and avoid the fate which befell the Cumbrian Britons, whose cultural distinctiveness did not survive the early Middle Ages.

Since Cornwall has not possessed separate political and ecclesiastical institutions for about a thousand years, it follows that the areas of Cornish history which they most closely regulate cannot be considered in a wholly Cornish context. It was in this field in particular that Cornish historians in the past seemed to possess an extra-

ordinary incapacity for distinguishing between what was properly Cornish and what was properly English—and conversely, an extraordinary capacity for remaining insensitive to facets of Cornish history which were significant when considered as Cornish history, but which did not add to the sum of English history.

What is lacking most in Cornwall is accessible, published research dealing with the social and linguistic status of the early Cornish. For example, the Bodmin Manuscripts, which record the manumissions of slaves from between about 941 to perhaps as late as 1050, contain over 100 Old Cornish personal names. These names have been edited by two eminent Celtic scholars—whose work was published outside Cornwall and is apparently not available in any Cornish library. They have never appeared in full in a Cornish journal.

The preamble of the 12th century charters refer to "All men both English and Cornish" and to "the whole of England and Cornwall," thus seeming to indicate some official acknowledgment of Cornwall's status.

Yet one searches in vain in the standard histories for a qualified assessment of the implications of such preambles. It is through such vignettes, set against the grey mass of inconsequential matter, that Cornish nationality takes shape.

South-East Cornwall

by Roger Holmes

The Redcliffe-Maud Committee recommended the transfer of Torpoint, Saltash and St Germans to Plymouth.

On October 6 last year, a referendum was held in Torpoint Urban District, at the instigation of the local Council, to enable the electors to decide whether or not they would like to merge with Plymouth.

As was confidently expected, the people voted overwhelmingly to stay with Cornwall. I say confidently, not just because of our natural faith in the people of Cornwall, but because during the week before the poll, some members of the Cornish National Party had distributed leaflets to every household in Torpoint.

During this, they had received many comments on the Maud proposal, all of them anti-merger. Obviously this vote was a grand result for Cornwall as well as for Torpoint.

But can any more general points be adduced from this? I think there can.

Firstly, it suggests that Cornish people are conscious of being Cornish and are sensitive to any proposal that does not

recognise that fact. This suggestion received strong confirmation from Bude. This must be encouraging to Cornish patriots everywhere, just as it must be disquieting to the Centralists; not, mind you, that it will deter the Centralists from trying again!

Secondly, it must have been disquieting to the realists of the Plymouth City Council. Ever since the war the City Council has been casting covetous eyes on South-east Cornwall.

In 1946 they made an abortive attempt to acquire the area. In 1968/69 the attempt was repeated, firstly for a site for a reservoir, then for a site for an airfield.

Now, in 1970, encouraged and indeed spurred on by the report of the Redcliffe-Maud Committee, they are trying again.

The result of the Torpoint poll must be an encouragement to all Cornishmen to fight to preserve South-east Cornwall, and to develop it, for the benefit of its inhabitants in a Cornish way and in a sensible way.

Recent Events in Scotland, Ireland, Wales and Brittany may cause one to wonder if the Celts are once more restoring and claiming recognition for their language, heritage, culture and traditional way of life. For too long the Celts have been regarded as insignificant and inferior, clinging to the Western fringe of European Civilisation. Exploited by the unscrupulous greed of power politics, the Celts have become a race divided against themselves.

In a world dominated by material wealth, Agnosticism and material wealth, we have much to learn from the Celts with their deep devotion to spiritual values and the need to bring religion into every phase of life. To make one simple illustration: If Christianity could be brought into every phase of life, there would be no crime and no mud and misery would be avoided.

Celts, with a clear sense of vision, can see the whole picture and become religiously fanatic but down-to-earth realities limit the vision, and bigotry and intolerance set in. Scotland and Wales, predominantly Celtic, are devoutly Roman Catholic. Nevertheless, Eire has a good Protestant population. North of the Tweed appears to be the most bigotted area of the British Isles, whilst Scotland shows signs of being the most friendly, giving the lead for more unity in Christ's Church. Religious bigotry, prejudices and sectarian interests perpetuate the divisions which have divided the Celts against each other. All this makes it difficult to obtain unity which can only be achieved if it is based on love, compassion and respect. Opposition is inevitable, even if it means having to tolerate a small group of bigotted extremists who are usually less than a few per cent of Christian humanity.

Little appears to be known of the Britons before the coming of the Romans, but the general assumption is that the Romans brought civilisation to the Barbaric lands of the west. But the Barbari, from which the word "Barbarian" is derived, were natives of the Barbary Coast of North Africa. It is arguable whether the Britons were Celts, but their language must have been Celtic; this would give the Welsh the right to claim that their language should be the official language of Britain. After the fall of the Roman Empire, Ireland became the Lamp of the Civilised World. So we learn that "The sun shines brightest in the east, O Callum Cille of a Thousand Graces . . . We shall abide in the west if 'Thou desire it, for there will unfold His Mysterious Intentions'".

During the same period, Southern Britain was successively overrun by the Angles, the Saxons, the Danes and the Normans. As many of the Norman knights of William the Conqueror were Bretons, Celtic blood may have flowed from those Britons who fled from the fury of the Anglo-Saxon invaders? If so, it would have laid the foundations of the Celtic ties between Scotland and Brittany. Nevertheless, for nearly four centuries after the Norman Conquest, the language of the English upper-class was Norman-French; Latin was the most universally spoken language and the language of the Church in Scotland is Norse-Celtic, but Ireland is more Gaelic. The Britons of Strathclyde belong to the Cymric group, the Ingubrii or "Cambria" are the same name, and were it not for the Anglo-Saxon invaders would have had the same common name. Wales, the absorption of Strathclyde into Scotland during the Eleventh and Twelfth centuries gave Scotland a British-Gaelic-Cymric background.

The Viking and Anglo-Saxon invasions caused the complete separation of the Celtic civilisation, being in small isolated

communities with little or no contact with each other and without the modern means of communication it is surprising they have managed to survive as they have. This may be due to their abiding faith and strong individuality.

Ireland is the first Celtic country to regain her independence. Will Scotland and Wales follow suit? If so, what about Brittany? Cornwall and the Isle of Man are also to be included in the Celtic group of nations. Scotland,

was in his hands. A century earlier, Somerset revived the Gaelic culture and heritage of Arcturion the Isles. The fleet of 1263, a Norwegian fleet was defeated at Largs, and three years later the Western Isles were restored to Gaelic rule.

The Wars of Independence could have united the British Isles against Plantagenet aggression. The Scots and Welsh could have certainly shared a common hatred of Edward I. But the wars of Wallace and Bruce

by H. R. BAILLIE

Ireland, Wales and England belong to the British Isles, Brittany does not. So the Bretons are more likely to be semi-autonomous race within the French nation, in fact, many sailors in the French Navy are Bretons. Wales, a Celtic minority, who have an equitable right for autonomy and independence and recognition for their unique cultural values. The complete independence would be desirable, for others quite impractical.

England became the dominant part of the British Isles by keeping the Celts divided against themselves. This policy is now beginning to recoil against England. It is also possible that the ultimate unity of the British Isles will be most achieved in time.

If James VI had proclaimed himself "High King of the Isles" when he succeeded to the Throne of England in 1603, it would have acknowledged the Celtic background of the British Isles. Unfortunately, he antagonised his Gaelic-speaking subjects by his policy of bringing Scotland into line with England and using the Reformation Church to root out the Gaelic language and culture. He tried to colonise the Island of Lewis with gentlemen-adventurers from Fife; when the scheme failed, the island went to the Mackenzies, James proceeded to create the Mackenzie chief "Earl of Scotland". He was also responsible for colonising Ulster with Scots Presbyterians, a policy which was to produce many insoluble problems. In fact, the English in Ulster and the native Irish population were to dislike each other intensely.

Anglo-Norman families, it is true, had settled in Ireland during the five centuries which followed the Norman Conquest of England. In fact, the most English part of Ireland is the Dublin area. Yet these Anglo-Irish families could live alongside the native Irish. Where there is co-operation of the British Isles, the Anglo-Saxons, Protestants and Roman Catholics can get on well together. This applies to Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England. In fact the late Dr Agnes Mure Mackenzie wrote in "Scotland in Modern Times" that the enemy of the king is the Englishman, who is often her friend, than the Anglo-Scots Quisling who is always her foe. The stumbling block is the deep chain of hatreds caused by religious bigotry and which separates the Ulster-Scots Presbyterians from the native Irish ("Roman Catholic") population.

The Thirteenth Century saw fresh hope for the Celtic heritage of the British Isles. Wales was uniting under the banner of Llewelyn Ap Griffiths. At the Coronation of Alexander III, a Celtic Bard gave a long recital of the king's lineage to the Gaelic which could be traced to Prince Gathelus who married Pharo's daughter, Scotia. As the king could claim descent from Emperor Alpin, who united the Picts and Scots in 843, and through him to Fergus who came over from Ireland, the destiny of Scotland

took a national turn as they were for the independence of Scotland; the Celts and the Welsh could have certainly shared a common hatred of Edward I. But the wars of Wallace and Bruce

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whose throne was very insecure. If it had been possible an alliance between Owen Glendower and the Lord of the Isles would have enabled him to achieve his aim, which was to win independence for Wales. Nevertheless he was to remain a national hero.

Riflemen and Cannon. The first was a disaster for Scotland, though she managed to recover; the second was a disaster for the Highlands and the Gaelic culture and heritage which were the spiritual lifeblood.

By the end of the Sixteenth Century the Celts were clearly re-fused as "Outside the Pale". English was to be the official language of Britain. The discoveries of Christopher Columbus and his successors resulted in Ireland becoming strategically important. So the official policy of the Tudors was to pacify Ireland, which meant putting Ireland under the control of English law, whilst the native Irish population were to be "Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water". The policy of James and Marie de Guise was to keep Scotland on the side of France, and if Francis II had not died childless, Mary, Queen of Scots, might have united Scotland and France under one crown. The Sixteenth Century was a cruel and ruthless age, but it bred a quality of life which has been the strength of Scotland; this was due to the Reformation which began in Germany and Switzerland.

The Celtic Church, which came over from Ireland with St. Columba, was not Roman Catholic, was quite independent of Rome and was isolated from the main stream of Christianity, with the result that its organisations evolved on completely different lines. The Celtic Church was renewed the Celtic Church gradually petered out. Moreover in 1486, the Pope was responsible for giving Ireland to the Crown of England. By the end of the Sixteenth Century, however, the Irish had become devoutly Roman Catholic and the Church of Rome as their one hope for deliverance from the tyranny of the Protestant English families who had been granted lands in Ireland by England's Queen Elizabeth. But the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland embraced was a Reformed Celtic Catholic Church, free from corrupt Roman Catholic Church against which Martin Luther, Calvin and John Knox made their stand.

In Scotland, however, the scene was more complicated. In one sense, Gaelic helped the Reformation as it was possible for Gaelic-speakers to hold their services in their mother tongue. Many Presbyterian ministers have been renowned Gaelic scholars, and right up to the present day Gaelic-speaking ministers have become Moderators of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. In another sense, the Reformation in Scotland was shown during the reign of James VI — was uncompromisingly hostile to Gaelic culture, though the Highlands remained staunchly Roman Catholic.

Charles II was a great patron of Gaelic culture. His Restoration was a welcome relief from the austere Puritanism of the Cromwellian regime. He liked a gay life and the town of London was a gay metropolis which competed with Paris and other cities on the Continent where life was full of fun. Unfortunately, he had all the faults of an Absentee Landlord. His policy towards Scotland was largely in line with the interests of the Covenanters who had forced him to accept the crown, which was his right of inheritance, on his own terms. Charles II would have certainly given the cultural life of the Highlands the boost and the encouragement it needed. But his activities were influenced by the Courts of Holland and France where artistic and cultural pursuits were thriving.

Highland Consultative Council

The names of members of the reconstituted Highlands and Islands Development Consultative Council were announced last week by Mr William Ross, M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

The Council are the advisory body for the Highlands and Islands Development Board and have been reconstituted until March 31, 1974.

Lord Cameron is to continue as chairman and appointments to three remaining vacancies are still under consideration.

The 33 members of the Council are:—

Direct Appointments

The Hon. Lord Cameron, Chairman; J. S. Grant, Crofters Commission; J. P. Mummyer, U.K. Atomic Energy Authority; D. Murray, British Aluminium Co. Ltd.; L. Dewhurst, Scottish Pulp and Paper Mills; Mrs Eric Linklater, Ross and Cromarty County; Mrs M. MacPherson, Inverness County; Lady Naomi Mitchison, Argyll County.

Appointments on Nomination

W. Scholes, H.I.D.B.; J. G. Mathieson, Argyll County Council; Lt. Col. A. G. Miller, Argyll County Council "Island" interest; A. Rugg, Caithness County Council; Lord Macdonald, Inverness County Council; J. Donald Brown, Orkney County Council; T. Nicolson, Ross & Cromarty County Council; E. Thomson, Shetland County Council; W. J. MacKay, Inverness Burgh; D. L. McMillan, Convention of Royal Burghs (Campbeltown); W. F. Dunnet, Convention of Royal Burghs (Wick).

Agriculture and Forestry

K. W. Bateman, N.F.U.; H. A. Maxwell, Scottish Woodland Owners Association Ltd.

Crofting

C. Macleod and F. Macintosh, Federation of Crofters' Unions.

Industry and Commerce

D. M. Duncan, Scottish Chamber of Commerce; J. M. Sinclair, Confederation of British Industry.

Tourism and Recreation

*J. F. A. Gibson, National Trust for Scotland; E. W. Cameron, Scottish Council for Physical Recreation; *A. I. McIntyre, Tourism.

Fishing

*J. Sinclair, Scottish Inshore White Fish Producers' Association Ltd. and Scottish Herring Producers' Association Ltd.

Trade Unions

*W. Fraser and *W. P. Reid, Scottish Trades Union Congress.

Social

R. Hendry, Scottish Council of Social Service.

Gaelic

*Miss K. B. Matheson, An Comunn Gàidhealach. * Reappointed.

EADARAINN FHEIN

MAR a thubhairt mi roimhe na muinntir 'abhaile mhór, feadhainn dhiubh co dhiubh, umhachas fein miadhaíl air a bhith ann am Comunn-fine air choireigin. Bu ghasda leo a bhith 's a fhéileadh aig na geumaichean no aig toiseach nam finneachain ann an lúib nan ceann-cinnidh ann am páillúinn. Ach is suarach cho miadhail 's a tha lúchd na Gàidhlig air an dibhearsain seo. Nach eil fhios aca co dhiubh gu bheil latha nam finneachan teachadh? Chan eil sinn, a réir coltais, a'tóirt a leithid-du d'urrann dha na cinn-cinnidh agus a' b'abhaist gu h-àraidh dha na bleaban na a' bhithas an Leoghann a' slaidheas a mach a' f'roigeann dubha doimhean o 4m gu am.

Ged a tha muinntir na Gàidhlig ceart 's a' b'harail seo dh'fhaodadh nach eil iad' tuigsinn gu bheil droch dhileab no dhà 'nar measg fhast, dileaban a' fhuaras an linne bhorb. Ged nach bruidh-inneamaid an diugh ach airson spòrs, oirme-e fhéin mar luchd fhinneachan, bithidh sinn an comhárnd ri bhith eadar-dhealachadh nan Leodhasach o na Sgiathanach, nan Barrach o na h-Uibhistich etc. Ged a tha seo nádurra is reusanta, gu leor tha ceagal orm go bheil sinn ro thrice a' b'eadachadh air cùisean is cuspairain Gàidhealach tromh shùilean air n-àit' àireach, an àite sùilean na Gàidhealtach. Air a thaobh agus air a shàilleabh seo bithidh sinn ghe thrice, car coma de Ghàidheil sam bith eile ach iadsan a bhuintean dh'ar n-àit' àireach. Uair-eaman is dócha gum bi rud beag de mhi-nrann ann cuid-eachd. Co-dhiubh, co is urrainn a ràdh nach eil sinn car

mar a thubhairt am bard Eireannach "Gan ceangal be cheile" agus nach eil sinn a' cur bacaidh mhór air cor nan Gàidheal?

Biodh sin mar a bhithas e agus an déidh uile is gu léir bha na Gàidheil riamh roinnt ann am finneachan air choireigin on am a' rianáidh Earraghaidheal mun bliadhna eug ceud agus roimhe sin cuideachd, Chan iognadh mata, gum bithéadh criomagan dhe na seann dóighean 'nar lúib fhastais. 'S e mo b'heachd gu bheil d'orlach fhastais 's a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach agus gur e gu bheil iad a' comheadh gun fhios iad daibh, air a' Chomunn mar gum biodh fine aca fhéin 's a' thad ioch no nimheil ri duine a bhithas mi-chórdail riutha, dh'aindeoin cho feumail 's a' gum bithéadh comhairle an duine bhochd.

Ma tha sin for dhe'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach tha e a' cheart cho f'ior de bhuidhnean eile gu h-àraid measg dhaoine a tha seo an oibair pholitic. Ma chanas Gàidheil sam bith ruidéigin nach eil a' córdadh ris am party line aca bithidh na biodagan a mach 's a' mhionaid. Chi na daoine seo an truaghan mar gum bithéadh namhaid' don phairtich aca. Ach mas e coigreach na Beurla nach eil a' córdadh riutha cha bithidh iad idir cho gaisgeil no cho dona. Chin eil mi faicinn gu bheil mórán deifir eadar partidh sam bith am measg nan Gàidheil, nan Naiseantaich mar an ceudna Cha tréigeadh gin dhiubh am party line eadhon airson ard-aingl. 'S e mo b'heachd uair-eaman gu bh'ogha leinn a bhith "reabadh" sgórann dh'aindeoin co tha ceart no nach eil.

Ach 's e mo bharail gu

bheil na Gàidheil óga an diugh nas soilleire agus nas glíce na tha sinne agus gun sabbail iadsan saoghal nan Gàidheil. Bithidh sinn ceangailte ri cheile an uair sin, le ur canan mar bu chóir dhuinn.

A Disaster for Ireland?

(Continued from page 10)

own, as the Common Market would do that for us. Unbridled "free" competition, which is the rule of the economic jungle, is the basic principle of the Common Market. It is fine for the big countries and for the big industries in the big countries. It would ruin Irish industry, swell the emigrant ships and lengthen the dole queues at the Labour Exchanges.

No country in Ireland's undeveloped state has ever industrialised itself and achieved full employment in a situation of free movement of goods, capital and labour with rich and highly industrialised neighbours. There would be enclaves of prosperity based on a few highly specialised industries and the tourist trade, but the rest of the country would become a desert.

The whole Common Market set-up is extremely undemocratic. The Brussels Commission has to date, for example, issued about 12,000 directives, decisions and recommendation, most of which would become law in Ireland once we joined the E.E.C. They would override the Dail and Supreme Court here and we would have to obey them whether the Irish people and Parliament wanted to do or not. We don't even know what all these decisions are. The British Foreign Office has only translated 3,000 of these directives into English; yet translated or not they would apply to us.

Integrated in the Common Market, Irish nationality would expire. What hope would there be for the language or our national identity when we had no control over the political and economic decisions that were taken? It is the grossest deception to pretend there would be any hope. We have had too much of such deception. The Irish people need to awake themselves and to demand of the Government that it change its present policy.

(Reprinted from 'Rose')

COMUNN GAIDHEALACH AN OBAIN

JUNIOR PIPING COMPETITIONS
Oban
Friday, 19th June 1970

Entries for the undernoted should be lodged with Mr A. J. MacLeod, Woodlands, Oban, not later than 12th June 1970.

1. Chanter—Under 12 years.
 2. Chanter—Over 12 and under 15
 3. Piping—Over 12 and under 15
 4. Piping—Over 15 and under 18
 5. Piping—Over 18 and under 21
- (a) March, Strathspey and Reel
(b) Slow March and jig
R. L. M. BANKS
Hon. Secretary

The Growing New Towns Of Scotland

(Continued from page 2)

opportunity to see these comfortable smaller homes.

Eleven miles from Glasgow's slum area is the thriving site of Cumbernauld. The town was developed the Reynolds prize for the finest piece of community development in the world. Potential owner-occupiers are given every encouragement by the new private homes offered to residents on a basis of being able to specify most of the design themselves. Good mortgages made available by the Dumbarton Council which also helped young families to settle in quickly and a population of upwards of twenty thousand seem contented with the new homes. The high-density planning came in for some criticism during the initial development stage, but multi-storey accommodation in a limited area achieved rapid results and relieved some of the pressure from Glasgow.

North Ayrshire's Irvine was the first new town built on the Scottish coastline. The general district hospital near the town centre helps to make it a regional new town with space for a quarter of a million people. Young doctors are offered a package scheme of vocational training at the hospital.

The courageous pioneering of the early architects in these Scottish new towns has deservedly paid off and the numerous awards are living proof of the continual success of living away from the congested cities in a compact twenty-first century community.

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(C. & J. Morrison)

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Stockanenn . Tweed Slippers
Tweed Deerstalkers . Hose and Working Socks

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Births

MACKENZIE — At the Lewis Hospital, on 26th May 1970, to Norman and Marion, 36 Cromwell Street, Stormovay, a daughter. Both well.

MCLENNAN — At Oban Maternity Hospital on 20th May 1970, to Kenny and Kathleen (nee Campbell), Achallader Cottage, Bridge of Freuch, a son (James Iain), a brother for Caroline, a daughter and all nursing staff.

Deaths

MacDIARMID—Suddenly, at County Chest Hospital, Oban, on 28th May 1970, Margaret Jane Murray, beloved wife of Donald MacDiarmid, "Rockburn", Tobermory, Isle of Mull.

MACLEOD — At the Lewis Hospital, on the 24th of May 1970, Dolina Gillies, wife of the late Duncan Macleod, 16 New Shawbost, aged 73 years.
Cha teid do ghrian tuilleadh slois.

Misc.

AN T-EILEANACH. Leabhran misail Eaglais Bhrèanarigh — gu leir ann an Gàidhlig, 10/7, sa bliadhna o An t-Eileanach, Berneray, Lochmaddy, North Uist.

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Faile Do Lybster

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over to you:

A Dhùn' uasail,

Is minig a' their fearachd dhìomsa carson a bheil mi urrainn do canan 'ri uchd baits', do ceol 'de' na 'in' de agus do gnathas-beatha 'sean-fhasanta'. Feumaidh bhith moran againn ann a bhios a' freagairt cheist d'a leithid uaireannan, agus bu mthach leam fios a bhithi againn de their daoine eile.

Cha neil mi 'nam dhuine deas-briathrach, agus ged nach eil ganntarach air leabhraichean mu'n chuspair, cha bhì leabhar 'a' sior ri fhaotainn nuair a bhios feum air; gu tric, thig orinn freagairt cabagach fhaighinn co-dhiu. Ciamar a mhin-eachadh sibh, ri daoine aig nach eil brath mu'n chuspair carson a tha na nitean sin cho luachmhor dhuinne fhastach?

—Ohiunneir gu tric, na facail for Ghaidheil no caochon 'sar Ghaidheil' air a sgrìobhadh mu thimchìoll dhuine choir 'sa Ghaidhealtachd. Ach am bi seo a' ciallachadh barrachd air "fios dhuinne," "sar" dhuinne" an aite sam bith eile? Se mo

bheachd sa gum bi, ach direach de'n seorsasa de dhuine a th' ann? An toir leughaidh 'Sruth' dhomh tuiarisgeul dealbh—chunntas cotromach air a buaidh ann ionnholta ri moladh am measg nan Gàidheil 'sna linntean a dh'aoim, agus ma tha eadar dhealachadh ann, 's an latha 'n diugh, cuid-eachd?

Bithidh uidh agam gu h-àraidh leughadh beachdan charaid nan Gàidheal aig nach eil sinnsrean Albannach idir, oir nuair a bhios a leithid sin de dhuine a' cur speis 'san aobhar, is dócha gu bheil cuid eile aige os cionn 'nationalist sentiment'. Am faod e bhith, gu bheil fios ann a' b'urrainn do na daoine glíce aig am 'permissive society' dh'ionnsachadh bho na fearaibh bho Albainn? Le beagan irioslach, cha chreid mise nach fhaod!

Is mise, le meas,

TERENCE MINKER

43 Farningham House,
London, N. 4.