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DI-ARDAOIN, 19mh LATHA DE'N GHEARR AN 1970 THURSDAY, 19th FEBRUARY 1970 No.76 Sixpence

## The Nuisance But Not The Service

It has just been announced that the supersonic Concorde will be flight-tested on a route along the west coast of the U.K. in the Spring. Part of the route will be overland in the west of Scotland, including Sutherland, Ross and Cromarty, Inverness-shire and Argyll.

Announcing the Government's decision in the Commons Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Minister of Technology, said use of the route would be strictly limited to ensure there was as little disturbance as possible to the public.

But he stressed that there would be some disturbance from sonic bangs. Any claims for compensation should be sent to the Concorde division of his department.

### Overland flight route

The flight route is across the western part of Ross and Cromarty and Inverness-shire but the bangs would be heard in western parts of Sutherland and in large areas of Ross and Cromarty and Inverness-shire.

This announcement comes

immediately on that issued by the B.E.A. regarding increases in air fares of the Highlands and Islands route.

The Concorde announcement is an indication that for the next three years the Highland area will be subjected to supersonic bangs and yet are being denied the facility of cheap air travel after the Concorde is put into service.

### Objections raised

Already many Highland objections have been raised. Local Authority representatives along the Concorde flightpath expressed concern last night.

Canon G. K. B. Henderson, Provost of Fort William, said: "We want re-assurances, and so far we have not had any. We have simply been told this is the likely flightpath. Nothing in the area has been looked at yet; no one has been to inspect dams or buildings which might be subject to damage as far as we know."

In Oban, Provost Donald Thomson suggested that the line of the flight might have

been kept entirely over sea. "We have been assured that getting really serious will take place but I am rather concerned," he said. "We have two cathedrals and a number of other buildings with large glass windows which, I believe, could be shattered by the effects of a supersonic boom."

### "I have my doubts"

Provost Daniel McKinven of Campbeltown said the council had been told that the sonic boom would be about the same level of noise as the crack of the lifeboat maroons. "I have my doubts about this, and I think there will be bitter comment about the boom and its effect on property", he said.

## Increased Fertiliser Grant For Islands

The Special Grant to the Scottish Islands Scheme 1969 provides for the payment of supplementary contributions on fertilisers purchased by occupiers of agricultural land in the Scottish Islands and will apply to all deliveries made between 1st June 1969 and 31st May 1970.

**Zone 1 means**—The Orkney Islands, the island of Stroma and the Inner Hebrides, the Inner Hebrides, being the group of islands, other than the Outer Hebrides, comprising the islands on the western seaboard of the Counties of Ross-shire, Inverness-shire and Argyllshire.

**Zone 2 means**—The Shetland Islands and the Outer Hebrides, the Outer Hebrides being the Group comprising the islands of Lewis, Harris, North and South Uist, Barra, Benbecula and the other smaller islands within that group.

The Crofters Commission wish to bring to the attention of all crofters in the areas concerned the very worthwhile benefits that this Scheme provides for them.

The supplementary contribution will be included in the fertiliser subsidy payment and there will therefore be no need for crofters to make a special claim for it.

## Glencoe Ceremony Macdonalds Pay Homage

At first light last week a small band of people held a remarkable service amid the mist and snow of Glencoe.

They came from all over the West of Scotland. Some arrived in cars, some in buses. Some just walked up the road.

Most of them had one thing in common. They were called MacDonald.

It was the 278th anniversary of the massacre of Glencoe, when their clan was almost wiped out.

They met at the old bridge at dawn. Led by a piper, they marched solemnly up the misty glen.

The pibroch "Lament of Glencoe" echoed up the glen, as it had nearly three centuries before.

Slowly they made the way to the cairn in the heart of Glencoe.

Heads bowed, they started the memorial service with a short

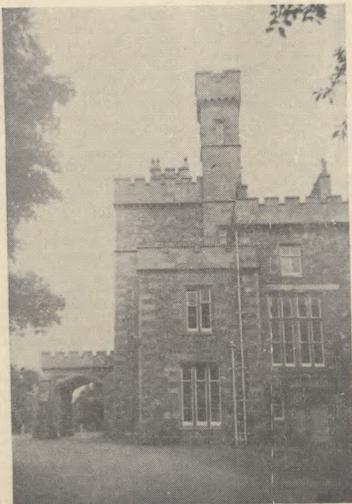
prayer. They sang a psalm and said another prayer before a wreath was placed at the foot of the cairn.

To close the ceremony they recited the Lord's Prayer and the Rector of Glencoe read the benediction.

Then the solemn procession slowly wound its way back to the tiny village. Leaving behind the wreath for the men, women and children who died 278 years ago.

## Kilravock Castle

REV. James Duncan, M.A., and Mrs Duncan, who have been wardens at Kilravock Castle since it was turned into a Christian guest house several years ago, have recently handed over to Lieut. Col. Mackintosh. In its new role the ancient castle is proving most popular with holiday makers and other visitors.



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## LEASAN DHUINNE ?

AIG a' cheann thàid fhuair a' cruid as motha de na Cuimrich òga a rinn ùpraid anns a' chùirt ann an Lunnainn a mach as a' phrìosan. A bheil leasan dhuinne anns na tachartasan a chuir iadsan air adhart ?

Thuir Rùnaire na Stàite àrda na Cuimrich nach deach an dol-a-mach ach an òchd Cuimreach as a'cheud aig nach eil Cuimris a'ghraineachadh an aghaidh na Cuimris. Eil fhionn 'e seò a' thachras? Bithidh feadhainn 'nan aghaidh o chionn 'n a' gus oileanachaid aig agus gu bheil iad sgìth a' fàin-cinn oileanach a' fàighinn dheth le rudan nach fhaigeadh daine as melle dèth leise, agus chan eil mòran a' chanaidh gum bu chòir dhùnn leigheil le daine sam bith stad a chuir air obair an lagha a'ach, a' shon sin, bheil iad oirnn smuainteachadh air dè a' thà air chùil n' gnotachian seo. 'S e an aon feadhainn as motha b'heith 'nan aghaidh, tha m'ainneachadh cuid de na Cuimrich a' chail a'Chuimris o chionn ginealach no dhà agus nach eil gu iarraidh gabhail obra riutha fhèin, no ri dhuine eile, gum do chaid iad dad as fhaich. Tha iad sin coltach ri cuid de Ghàidheil a' tha anns an aon stad.

Thig e a' stigh air daoine eile gu robh na Cuimrich cho stòda, modhail ri daoine sam bith eile anns na h-eileanan seo agus gu bheil a'chanaidh aca-sann, coltach ris a' Ghàidhlig, a' sior dhol as. Rha iad, a' réir coltas, toileach gu leòr le staid na dùthaich agus staid na cànan aca. Ach sgair iad a' bhith mar sin, agus tha e coltach gu bheil barrachd ùrram agus barrachd speis 'gan tòird dh'na dùthaich agus dh'na chanaidh an toisich cuid de Chumrich air bruidheann a mach agus eadhon brieadh an lagha air an sgàth. Nach eil na daoine dùna anns na Stàitean Aonaichte agus ann an a' bheith eile a' fàighinn barrachd speis is ùrram airson an aon aobhair? Air feadh an t-saoghail iule gu léir tha feadhainn a' bha air an cumail seas, agus a' bha gu macanta a' cur suas le seo, air tionndadh air an seann mhaighstirean, agus tha iadsan, na maighstirean, a' gabhail iogh-nadh dheth seo, gabhail iogh-nadh dh'na sìporaid air a' tha anna agus an speis anna fhèin a' tha iad air fhaighinn as ùr.

Cha chreid mi nach eil leasan femail ann an seo dhuinne.

## QUOD ERAT FACIENDUM

WHEN the Highlands and Islands Development Board came into existence it was widely accepted that the actual process of development in the region would be difficult. It was also accepted that the Board would require some time to find its feet, gather together its thoughts and get under way in a direction which would be most favourable for the people in the region.

As it happened, by a quirk of fate, the Government's economic policies have hardly made the Board's path smooth and cleared of obstacles. Many of the Government's economic measures have more than cancelled out the benefits obtained by the Board for the region.

Recent figures indicate that all is not well in the Highlands and Islands. There has been a decrease of some 6,000 males in employment (57,000 to 51,000) in the past five years. This is a net drop of more than 10 per cent. It is more than twice as bad as the 4½ per cent. figure for Scotland as a whole.

There has been an increasing tendency for the jobs (jobs with career prospects as distinct from the mere filling of temporary vacancies) created by the Board in connection with its attempts at the large-scale industrialisation of the eastern Highlands to be filled by skilled applicants from outwith the region. And there has as yet been no significant attempt to create the necessary Further Education facilities for the indigenous youth of the region to become trained first-generation Highland technicians.

The Board has also seen fit in its wisdom to promote the region as a tourist paradise. Large sums of money have been spent in enticing the tourist to visit the region, to leave a pungent smell of money after he has gone home. The pity of this is that by and large the indigenous population of the Region has hardly seen or smelt much of this influx of cash.

The other aspect of the promotion of tourism as a main element in the Highland economy is that already the region has a higher percentage employed in non-productive work than any other region in the world. Thus, attempts at increasing still further facilities for the tourist can only aggravate the present situation.

Yet another peculiar statistic. In the last five years or so there has been a national increase in female employment of some three per cent. This increase has not occurred in the Highlands.

The inference is that the Board's activities in development have not produced the necessary and correct techniques. One must wait until the Board's Fourth Report due in a few months' time to see whether the present signs have been recognised and considered.

If not . . . fiat lux.

(“Highland Culture” sounds pretentious when referring to some aspects of Highland tradition (such as Highland Games) but is a convenient general term to use)

IN a static and enclosed society, like an isolated monastery or a remote island, and organised in accordance with old traditions and customs long, they are preserved in an equilibrium and like ancient cultural climbing like ancient monuments in dry and sunny Egypt.

Nowadays Shaggy Las are rare. We do not live in one. Since the mid-18th century our

*DUNCAN MURRAY is an Inverness - shire Councillor, among many other of his activities and interests. Recently he submitted to the Inverness County Council a paper on "Highland Culture", which was taken up enthusiastically by the Council's Study Group. Mr Murray makes a plea for a significant increase in the interest shown in all aspects of Highland Culture.*

northern society has been economically and culturally in a state of unsteady revolution. We have suffered from the bitter effects of the Forty-Five, the Clearances, mass emigration, the growth of provincial cities, and the devastation of great wars, the decline of employment in fishing and agriculture and the rise of state capitalism (today its attendant centralisation, bureaucratic control, wasteful nationalisation and greedy demands for a larger and larger share of national income to squander). Throughout almost the whole of this period Gaelic was officially neglected while not actively persecuted.

In modern conditions of such violence and unrest a minority culture equally with a minority economy is desperate, exposed and may abruptly collapse. It is vulnerable because it is by definition weak and because it is being actively and remorselessly assaulted and undermined. It is not just left, as it used to be, to the haphazard attribution of time and idleness to desperate attempts for adaption and growth. Great resources of talent and effort and money are employed expressly to destroy or magnify disintegrate the culture. It is an opportunity to engineer a new demand, to make changes, to get rid of the old (model or fashion or custom or tongue). This skillful and endless commercially-inspired campaign for change which is part of modern life is generally inimical to our Highland culture. It is not easy to do good selling whisky and tweeds and ski-ing holidays.

The Highlands having had no large towns might be said to have had no civilisation if we narrowly define that as city life. A poor and thinly populated rural territory greatly fragmented by mountain ranges and the sea, possessing no sovereignty, or capital, or seat of higher learning could not be expected to retain a distinctive (or any) architectural style or school of painting or opera or ballet or press. But what we do have left us.

What still remains of Highland culture is precious to us because it is our own. The proper "pietas" requires us to respect and respect what has come down to us on the stream of time from our forefathers. The well-known line from "Ossian" LEAN GU DLUTH RI CLUI DO SHINNIREAN, which means "I will closely follow my ancestors, embodies this sentiment.

What modest portion of Highland culture remains is precious to the world because it is distinctive and original. It adds to the sum total of human cultural achievement. We are national internationalists who something original to display at home and

# Highland Culture

by D. Murray

something distinctive to take with us when we go abroad (not only the kilts) to add to the gaiety and dignity of nations.

Courage and generosity were the virtues applauded by our ancestors. We should exercise courage in supporting our language, traditions, dress and art forms. We should show generosity, even if we personally care for none of these things, in recognising that they are the stuff of our national heritage. If Highlanders will not support their own traditions others can not be expected to do so and they will disappear. Do we wish the Highlander to be turned into a Lowlander, him into an Englishman who will be transfused into an American in due course to become a Chinaman? Are uniformity and standardisation to be our aim? They are not mine. Most the individual be sunk in the sea. Could the small peoples to be swallowed by the great?

We must recognise our national heritage and nurture it faithfully. We must protest against its erosion. It is a heritage that is ample in South Uist, that last great depository of Gaelic tradition and folk lore and piping skills. Could the rockets of the H.M. Government not have taken themselves and their deadly weapons to barren shores to leave the islands of the Hebrides uneviction would be caused to crofters and lobster fishermen?

There are at present a number of voluntary agencies most of which work on shoestring budgets to preserve features of Highland life; for instance An Comunn Gàidhealach (with its offshoots and the bilingual paper "Sruth") and its publishing enterprise CLUB LEABHAR which exists to preserve Gaelic language and music — to encourage the use of Highland dress, which organises local modan and a great annual gathering of the Gaelic Society of Inverness which has been publishing its fascinating Transactions since 1870; the Gaelic Texts Society, which prints and edits scholarly and definitive editions of Gaelic classics, poetry and prose; the churches who speak and sing and print in the old tongue; clan, regional and local societies which foster pride in knowledge of the past and support bands and museums and publications of various kinds.

As well as these there are local groups which encourage shinty, dancing and Highland Games. These organisations, which receive the most trivial official financial support and even that is often grudgingly given. Too frequently these persons have done at their own expense what public authorities should have undertaken; an example is the establishment by private individuals of the forum AM FASGADH, first in Lona then in Lagan and finally at Kingussie. Fortunately its care is shared by some of the Scottish Universities and its future is assured. Miss Campbell of Killybeg is doing something similar.

There are operating throughout the Highlands commissions for Crofters, the Countryside and Red Deer, the Environment, the Tourist Board, departments of Education and Agriculture, the Nature Conservancy and the Highlands and Islands Development Board. Some government sponsored or financed agencies, but there is nothing of the kind to preserve the Gaelic language, to conserve Highland customs and traditions.

Why should there not be a "Highland Culture" conservancy? I am concerned that a systematic and concerted campaign long overdue should now be launched to encourage all aspects of "Highland Culture" and the vigorous and unequivocal assistance of public and private bodies already active in this field or who should be concerned within and without the Highlands, including County

Councils, District Councils, the H.J.D.B., the Crofters Commission and the Department of Social Services, all Highland M.P.s. Both sentiment and self-interest require such concerted action before it is too late and the Gaelic distinctively Highland led to conserve except the scenery.

Tourism is at present the most lucrative branch of the Highland economy. Visitors long to observe new sights when they travel — they take aliquid interest in the magnificent and strange is marvellous. They want to see what is distinctive, like Highland dress worn unselfconsciously because worn habitually — they desire to taste what is particular to the country, like malt whisky or grouse served with foxon or cranberry jelly — they long to hear pipe bands playing in town squares, the hotel piper rousing them for breakfast with whisky and Cope's stampp farmer across the glen stepping out to play for love a port or a pibroch before the onset of the rain. They are prepared to pay few kilts are worn at night, few meals made esculent with the delicacies described so gladly by James MacNael in "The Scots Kitchen".

In all Badenoch and Strathpey there is no longer a pipe band. The Grand pipe band fell apart some years ago. The pipers are disbanded and Highland regiments amalgamated. Here are those who loved pipe music like Dr Kenneth MacLeod, the pipers keeps piping alive by devoting his retirement to conducting a school of piping for local boys. A Borraige on the Upper Spey — the newly established Highland Tourist organisations, Highlands and Islands Development Board inspired and the Highlands and Islands Development Board financed, should encourage local pipe bands, the members of which are fitted and equipped. They must be suitably paid for their appearances and practice manuals, use not to derogate from their status, but to reward them. The same is true for Highland singers and dancers. If the tourist trade wants entertainment for their clients the entertainers should be rewarded for their performances.

The spectacle of Highland Games is a great attraction to visitors. Our Gaelic games are more expensive and in consequence some, like agricultural shows, have died — they too deserve and require support.

Why should each clan territory not have its own museum and meeting place and each district its folk museum like that at Newtonmore in the Glen of the Strathmore. Why should the House of Dornochaidh at Bruar? Where now exist District Councils could sponsor or aid such projects, making use perhaps of unwanted church buildings or superfluous village halls.

Visitors can come from the ends of the world to the Highlands and Islands to see the Gaelic landscape without even seeing or hearing in public a word of Gaelic. Why are names on notices and maps and over shops not displayed to seal a tourist's visit? It is old and unfamiliar adds to its privacy. Are Ullapool and Stornoway the only places where this is done? Let a systematic survey maps and other bases on which bravely preserve Gaelic names correctly spell. These what the curiosity of the newcomer and lead him to seek a tourist's visit. He made aware that he is in a strange land. This helps to render his holiday memorable. Aliquid ignotum propter raritatem videtur. To sum up: a minority culture is vulnerable and may suddenly collapse. We should seek to preserve what we have of Highland culture, secure to the Gaelic on our own and because it contributes

(Continued on page 12)

# Celtica - today

A look at Alba — Breizh — Cymru — Eire — Kernow — Mannin

by P. Berresford Ellis

BHA mi an comhnaidh a' saolsain (is docha na m'ainneolas) gun robh an S.N.P. a' bhuidheann pholaitiúil na's Albanach an Alba. Feumaidh mi a' deachadh nach eil mi ro chinn-teach a nis. Bha mi a' leughadh a' phaipéir-naid-eachd na'mhath sin a tha a' tighina a Steòrnabhagh gach seachdain dìreach beagan làithean air ais, agus air an taobh duilleig mu dheireadh chunnaic mi da shanas air an cuir a mach le da bhuidheann pholaitiúil ro eadar-dhealichte — an S.N.P. agus an Unionist and Conservative Association.

Bha an sanas aig an S.N.P. air a sgrìobhadh anns a' shags-beurla gu léir ach chuir am fear eile ioghnadh mòr ormsa — b'ann air a sgrìobhadh ann am fear chànan naiseanta na h-Alba (a' Ghàidhlig dhuineil) a bha an sanas seo.

De bhithheadh bhur barrail air a chuspair a leughadair-nann thuigseach ma chunnaic sibh na sanas seo?

\* \* \*

Everyone is talking about the Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (Welsh Language Society) demonstration in the U.K.'s highest court of justice, London's Old Bailey, recently. The savage sentences passed on the demonstrators have shaken the whole Celtic world.

The same day that the sentences were passed on the young Welshmen and women, representatives from Wales, Scotland and Ireland marched to Downing Street and handed in a petition to the Prime Minister.

Foremost of the signatories on the petitioning, which urged the Prime Minister to exert his influence to reduce the brutal sentences and to press for official bilingualism in Wales and Scotland, was that of Comunn na Cànain Albannaich (The Scottish Language Society). The petition was also supported by the London branches of Plaid Cymru, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg and Conradh na Gaeilge.

After the petition was delivered the 40 or so Celts marched to the House of Commons to lobby M.P.s.

Further pan-Celtic protests were made when 400 Scots and Welsh held a demonstration in Cardiff during the Scotland versus Wales rugby international.

The English national newspapers were (with the noble exception of The Guardian)

falling over themselves to condemn the demonstration and dismiss the noble youth of Wales as "long haired children", "imbeciles" etc. They even pushed out propaganda to the effect that Welsh and Scottish Members of Parliament had supported the action, of England's hanging judge, Mr Justice Lawton and his "wonderful expression of British justice!"

A look at Hansard showed that only one Scot and only three Welshmen held their people in such low esteem as to sign such a motion.

Let us look at these morticians of the Welsh and Scottish nations and remember them.

The Scotsman (if such he can be called) is that well known lover of the Scottish (Gàidhlig) language... Peter Doig (Lab. Dundee West). Yes, we all know Mr Doig and his rantings against everything Scottish, especially the Gàidhlig language. Mr "Fawning" Doig reserves a place of honour in history for surely no one can match his fanatical hatred of Gàidhlig.

T. Alex Jones (Lab. Rhondda West); G. Elfed Davies (Lab. Rhondda East, David Watkins (Consent, England, also Lab). Needless to say, the Unionist M.P. for North Down, George Currie, affixed his signature.

One should mark well such people who turn their backs in the life and death struggle of their own nations and, indeed, help on the process of death by their fawning devotion to English imperialism.

\* \* \*

A branch of the young dynamic Celtic Youth Congress was formed in Cornwall recently at a meeting at the Bishop Philpott Library, Truro. Now all six Celtic countries are represented in this movement. Attending the inaugural meeting was Emyr Llewelyn (an executive member of the Welsh branch) and Keith Bush (international secretary-general of the Congress).

Mr Bush told the young Cornish people attending the meeting that Alba, Breizh, Cymru, Eire, Kernow and Mannin) were six countries whose history was "the story of a battle for freedom against impossible odds."

Now empires are crumbling, the English empire among them, and the Celtic nations once more emerge from the shadows of a long twilight.

Mr Bush urged the Cornish youth to "become part of the international brotherhood with a mission to change the world — for the better."

## Hydro-Board Appointments

Mr I. A. Duncan Miller has been appointed to be deputy chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board and Mr Kenneth R. Vernon, the Board's general manager, as a full-time member of the Board. Councillor Norman Hogg of Aberdeen has been re-appointed and Colonel H. A. C. MacKenzie appointed to the Board, both as part-time members. The appointments are made by Mr William Ross, M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

All four appointments will be for a period of three years, with effect from 1st January 1970. Mr Miller succeeded's Mr A. I. MacKenzie, who has been deputy chairman of the Board since 1962.

## Full Census On April 25, 1970

The first full census for ten years will be taken throughout Great Britain on Sunday, April 25, 1970.

The 1971 Census will continue the ten-yearly series of full-count censuses which started in 1801. In the 1961 Census, some of the questions were asked on every tenth Census form. This time all the questions on the form will be answered by all households, so that a more accurate picture can be obtained, particularly in relation to small areas and minority groups in the population.

The topics proposed for inclusion include:

**Basic questions.** The customary questions about relationship to head of household, sex, age, marital status, usual residence and country of birth are repeated.

**Language.** It is proposed to obtain information concerning the use of Gaelic in Scotland. On this occasion information will be obtained about ability to read and write, as well as to speak, Welsh and Gaelic.

**Jobs.** As in the past, there are questions concerning people's jobs, together with a question about their means of transport to work. A new item concerns the occupation which a person had one year before the census. The answers to this question, coupled with those to the one on present occupation, will enable analyses to be made of movements from one occupation to another.

## BRETON NON-EXISTENT!

The French Council of State for Education has refused a proposal to put the Breton language (in examinations) on a par with some minor African and Asian languages, appertaining to former French colonies.

The Council's decision is in line with the official attitude that the Breton language does not exist. Evidently, the Council is itself in need of re-education, but hardly in French schools.

## GAELIC TRAGEDY

The present Gaelic teaching situation in Ross and Cromarty is tragic, says An Comunn Gàidhealach in evidence to the Royal Commission on the constitution. An Comunn's evidence is an enclosure in that given by the Saltire Society.

The teaching of Gaelic, and of other subjects through it was a medium should be pursued to a maximum in the Gaelic-speaking areas, says An Comunn, and the work started in Inverness-shire sustained and enlarged—and extended where appropriate into other Highland counties, especially Ross-shire. "The matter is too important to be left to the whims and changes of local government."

The Saltire Society's evidence is offered to the commission as light on the background to one side of Scottish life—constitutionally the society may not offer any opinion on the future form of government for Scotland.

In an historical outline, the society says that the First World War and the depression threw away a great part of the background to Scottish cultural nationhood, which had remained strong throughout the nineteenth century. Control of the commu-

nications media passed to London. The Government's growing role in education and social services is traced to the disruption, and while expressing gratitude to the efforts of the Government's Scottish departments, the society concludes that Scottish cultural life is in many ways less independent than it was in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries when, without much official support, it remained in the hands of Scotsmen.

In education the society sees a danger to the system's very foundations in the supervision of its university affairs by the minister who controls education in England... "The Scottish universities," says the society, "appear to be falling into an English pattern which could deny to some young Scots the right to higher education that they have been assumed to possess in the past. The society also draws attention to the uncertain place Scottish history has had in schools."

The position of Lowland Scots in education is much worse than that of Gaelic, says the society, even though Gaelic's treatment in the Highlands does not compare well with that of dialects in other European countries.

## FRANK TALK

### THIS YEAR: NEXT YEAR

Despite the fact that the Tory leaders are gearing for a General Election in 1971, there are behind the scenes moves which indicate a readiness for a snap election whenever it may come. The recent Tory 'Shadow Cabinet' meeting is one indication that however coolly the Tories are playing the run-up to polling day, the final detailed plans for election strategy are now being made.

Much the same applies to the Scottish National Party where, after what seems like a 'waste of years' moves are now being made to get geared up for the election.

### GET S.E.T.

The Tories have stated emphatically that when returned to power they will end the much-hated Selective Employment Tax. But before that happens we have another Budget to face in April. There are real fears that Roy Jenkins, National Purchaseholder, will actually increase the Tax in April. He has had a recent encouraging Report from Professor Reddaway who has said: "S.E.T. has had a smaller effect on the cost of living and a bigger effect on productivity than was expected at the time of its introduction."

These words by Reddaway, and repeated almost verbatim

by Jenkins, hold little comfort for those areas of severe unemployment in Scotland already suffering from the 'English Disease.'

### THE MARKET

It may yet be a case of 'Stone Cold Dead in the Market,' if the reactions to the Government's White Paper on E.E.C. entry are anything to go on. It was inevitable too that the Press and news media should concentrate on the prospects of increased food costs and balance of payments costs. It remains to be seen whether Harold Wilson will use the information in the Paper to his political advantage. The Tories may well find that the publication of the White Paper was not such a daft move by Wilson as some seem to think.

### CASTLE IN THE AIR?

Mrs Barbara Castle has managed to refurbish an image which has become rather tarnished of late, with her speech on equal pay for women. The last year or so has been full of hard times for Mrs Castle who now finds herself in the position of being a possible scapegoat for any election defeat, a position which she may also share with Roy Jenkins. It's a hard life.

# THE FACE OF LEWIS

This lesson has been studied by the Lewis crofters who have, without doubt, gone farthest in reclaiming moorland by the reseeded method. By far the greatest proportion, some 10,000 acres to date, of moorland wrested from the grip of bracken and heather in the seven crofting counties has been Lewis land. And the highest land improvement grants go to Lewis crofters as reward for their enterprise and initiative.

Smith's "green, pastoral land" is on the doorstep of reality. And lush green pastures are steadily spreading over deep peat where formerly grew only sedges, bog-cotton and heather.

Said the Taylor Commission in 1954: "There is the Island of Lewis, with poor peaty soil covering the Archaean gneiss, but with a crowded, lively, vivid community . . ." It is in growing evidence today.

Just as the land of Lewis has been a magnet, so too has the sea lost nothing in its strength to attract entrepreneur. In mediaeval times, the French and Spaniards thought it well worth the long journey and weeks away from home to reap the rich sea-harvest of the Minch. The enterprising Dutch were next on the scene; they showed by example that if the land was poor the sea compensated for its paucity.

Both Charles I and II dabbled in schemes to exploit the fishings — schemes that ended in failure. It was not until the 1850s that the islanders woke up to the fact that there were rich pickings on their doorstep. Soon Stornoway became the hub of the herring fishers; the town's population swelled to the limits. The "ancient and fish-like smell" was the smell of success. The winds of change, however, blew strongly and

the steady, slow decline began.

The paradox — one of the many associated with Lewis and the other parts of the Hebrides — is that the island's waters still team with fish, both valuable and varied. And much fishing takes place. But now fewer than 200 Lewis fishermen are engaged in fishing other than for themselves at any time in the year. Even for fish for local consumption, the islanders rely largely on the efforts of mainland crews.

This picture is in complete contrast with that of some forty years ago when every man and woman who could took part in the fishing industry, either afloat or on shore.

Today hopes are high. The Western Isles Fisheries Training Scheme has found willing, eager applicants in the Lewisman. There is now a nucleus of a truly native fishing fleet. This is what Lord Leverhulme "the wee soap mannie" — bodach an t-siapiunn — envisaged in the years just after the Kaiser War: a full-time fishing fleet based on Stornoway.

In 1954 the Taylor Commission again drew attention to the need for a full-time fishing fleet off the north-west coast of Scotland.

The first real step to establish such a fleet was, typically enough, made by the MacAulay (Rhodesia) Trust. This was set up under the will of the late Murdoch MacAulay of Ness who left Lewis with a great deal of Gaelic, little English, and less money. He bequeathed the bulk of his later-acquired fortune to be applied for the good of his native island.

The Trust's Scheme was designed to "increase the number of modern boats with efficient crews operating from or based on Lewis." The suc-

## by F. G. Thompson

cess it bred generated further Government interest and the Schemes today are the result. Further development along the same lines is promised by the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

Under the present Scheme, sixty men have been given full-time employment; boats are native Lewis. The tide of depression has turned and

Countess of Dunmore, wife of the laird of Harris, saw the possibilities of the product. About 1857, an Edinburgh lady went about getting orders for the Harris weavers. When she removed to London in 1888 she opened a small depot for tweeds. Trade grew quickly.

But Lewis was out on a limb in all this. Sir James Matheson was providing too much "public works" employment — roads, bridges, buildings — for the Lewis folk to take an interest. In

Trade, has created a pool of employment for upwards of seventy people in the surrounding crofting community.

For many decades the island has been vitiated by a lack of leadership. The heavy drain of men by emigration, the losses of the Kaiser War, and the tragedy of the 'Icraire' disaster in 1919 (some 200 Lewismen were lost), have all made a deep scar in the social face.

Only now, with external innovation, are the men, the leaders coming forward. To



Lewis initiative and co-operation now points the way to a confident future.

It is the Harris Tweed industry which provides the most outstanding examples of native initiative and enterprise. It started as a cottage industry about a century ago; the product was mainly for domestic use. In 1844 the

1903 a Stornoway merchant, Aeneas MacKenzie, started a carding mill, seeing possibilities in the rapidly increasing demand for the cloth.

Suddenly it was spring. In 1899 only 55 Lewis looms were turning out cloth; in 1906 there were 161; and in 1911 almost 300 looms cracked their way to lay the foundations of what is one of the wonders of our present commercial age.

Economic organisation took root and, though the industry claims a "factory" of some four hundred thousand acres — the weavers' crofts — operates with an admirable efficiency.

Today some 2,500 men and women are employed; and the product uses about one-third of the Scottish wool clip. The industry has an annual turnover in excess of £4 million; and seventy-five per cent. of the production is for export.

In September of this year a new £70,000 spinning and finishing mill was opened by Lord Birsay, chairman of the Scottish Land Court. The mill was not in Stornoway, where the industry is concentrated, but in Shawbost, a village on the west coast of Lewis.

This is an achievement by any standards for a crofting township. Local initiative, backed by sensible financial assistance from the Board of

instance only one pointer: the next General Election will see for the first time a definite three, if not four, candidates of native origin, standing for the Western Isles seat.

The "crowded, lively, vivid community," that is Lewis is on the move into the future. It must not go alone. Though it will be followed by other crofting communities, who see Lewis's progress as their progress, the Board of all Boards in Inverness must see to it that, whatever happens in the favourable climate of the Moray Firth, the island and its satellites present a growth point of the first order that cannot be ignored.

## Proverb

Cha bhi toradh gun saothar.  
There will be no produce without labour.

## Text for the Times

Is e an Tighearna mo sholus, agus mo shalinte; co chuiras eagal orm? Is e an Tighearna near mo bheatha; co chuiras geit orm? Salm C. 27 r. 1.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalms Ch. 27 v. 1.



# Tourism Not The Answer

"It is possible to have a very great development of tourism in the Highlands without any substantial benefit reaching the indigenous agricultural population," said Mr James Shaw Grant, Chairman of the Crofters Commission at a meeting of the Ross and Cromarty and Inverness-shire District Association of Young Farmers' Clubs on Thursday night (5th February).

This, he said, was especially true ofcrofting where the nature of the tenure made it difficult to branch out into non-agricultural development. It was recognised, he said, in most of the industrial countries of the world that it was important to enable agriculturalists in rural areas to participate in the development of the tourist industry if they wished. It was also recognised that very special efforts were needed to make that participation possible. He recalled the warning of a former French Minister of Agriculture, that while tourism is the solution of an urban problem it is not necessarily the solution of an agricultural problem.

Mr Grant who was speaking in a Symposium on the "Rural Community in the 70's" said it was no solution for the rural problem to reduce the number of people living in the countryside. That merely made it more difficult to provide schools, water supplies, bus services and all the other amenities of rural life. "Where there are too few

people the cost of living in the countryside become intolerably high."

"This is one of the reasons why the Crofters Commission has recommended to the Secretary of State that the Department of Agriculture's scheme of housing grants and loans for crofters should be extended to other classes in the rural community. We see the extension of this scheme on a basis of need rather than tenure, as a way of thickening up the rural population," he said.

"The effect of the various pressures on the countryside," he said, "was that lower paid workers tended to move into the towns, while those who are well to do, or had retired, moved out into the countryside. This is a pattern I would not like to see develop in the Highlands. The existing rural communities must inevitably change but I do not wish to see them supplanted by others."

The problems of the Highlands, he said, could not be solved within the agricultural sector alone, or by purely rural uses of the countryside such as recreation and tourism. The only solution in the long run was an expansion of industry and in this respect the Highlands was better placed than any comparable rural area in Europe. "There is no organisation I know of which matches the powers of the Highlands and Islands Development Board." The Highlands, he added, also have the great advantage of starting with a practically clean slate. They have the opportunity of creating industrial areas superior in amenity to anything which existed elsewhere in Britain.

## Scottish Forests Ready To Harvest

It takes about 50 years for even the fastest growing tree to reach maturity. The Forestry Commission founded 50 years ago "comes of age" this year and the first major area of the Commission's forests in North Scotland will be brought into production. Saw-log production will be increased by an additional 33,000 tons per year from 1971/72 and twice that amount from 1975.

The Commission hopes that substantial increase in production—for which it has waited so long—will lead investors to consider the setting up of a thoroughly modern saw-mill or other wood using industry in North Scotland. To this end it is prepared to consider a sale of about 75 per cent of this increased saw-log production on a 5-10 year contract to an interested party.

The timber trade has also

## Mayoman Of The Year

from Our Eire Correspondent

The Minister for Lands, Mr Sean Flanagan, has been chosen as "Mayoman of the Year" because of his attitude on the social and economic problems facing us in the seventies and because of his challenge to the people of Ireland to decide where Ireland is to go in the new decade. Some Mayomen were slightly concerned at an active party politician and Minister of State winning the Liam O'Hora award. They felt that politicians already had as much limelight and encouragement as they needed.

Commenting on the decision of the three judges—Mr Brian Farrell (RTÉ), Mr Thomas Rosegarve (national director, Muintir na Tire) and Mr James McGuire (editor, Western People) to give the award to Mr Flanagan, the Irish Times said: "The award has been made in recognition of his proposing a radical policy change which promises to revive rural Ireland. He has condemned the idea of the economic holding of 40 acres; he has condemned the Buchanan-type Gospel, and he has staked his political reputation, and future, on the belief that rural Ireland can and will survive by a mixture of part-time farming supplemented by industrial employment in small local factories."

## ELECTRICITY FOR MOIDART?

The North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board have agreed to canvass the potential consumers in the Acharacle/Dorlin section of Moirdart with a view to supplying electricity on standard distribution scheme terms.

Mr Russell Johnston, M.P. for Inverness-shire took the matter up with the Hydro Board recently.

waited patiently for this forest maturity, for up to this time the inadequacy of home grown log supplies has hampered its ability to modernise.

The Forestry Commission is confident both that this felling of its early plantations will attract widespread interest and that this project will set the pattern for others as all its forests in turn come to harvest.

The opportunity to create new industrial enterprises, particularly in areas where they can make a major contribution to the local economy, is one of the most challenging results of the nation's forestry programme.

The output from the Commission's plantations has been rising sharply and will increase even more rapidly in the future. In 1969 it amounted to 1.2 million tons and is expected to rise to 2.2 million by 1980 and 4 million by 1990.

# HIDB For Beef End Price Increase

The Highland Board's continuing review of the state of Highland agriculture has confirmed that special circumstances exist in the industry which justified the Board in making their views known to the Secretary of State before the start of the current Annual Price Review. The views the Board expressed were:

## Hill Sheep

Both regional and national considerations lend support to the need for improving returns to hill sheep farmers. We think this can be best achieved by a substantial increase of the end price.

The serious financial plight of many hill sheep farmers, and the consequences for the Highland economy, are already well-known. But there are wider considerations to be taken into account as well. Sheep numbers in the U.K. are declining—this at a time when the N.E.D.C. Report on Agriculture envisages a small increase in the output of mutton and lamb by 1972/73, necessitating an expansion of sheep production in the hills and uplands.

All these factors underline the need for an increased return to hill sheep farmers to provide an adequate incentive to, and greater capital injection into, the industry. Indeed in the Board's view an incentive to hill

farming to encourage investment in the technological improvements made possible by the work of such bodies as the Hill Farming Research Organisation, is essential if the industry is to achieve the greater efficiency necessary for its survival and is to be able to take advantage of opportunities that may present themselves in the future, for example for quality lamb production if the U.K. were to become a member of the E.E.C.

## Beef Production

The Board consider that maintenance of the expansion of beef production is of great importance to the economy of agriculture in the Highlands and Islands. They have therefore recommended that the end price for beef should be increased.

## Hill Land Improvement

The Board are anxious to see the improvement of hill land in their area. They have noted that the N.E.D.C. Report acknowledges that greater investment in hill land improvement can be justified. The higher cost of land improvement work in the Highlands makes the present level of 50% grant-aid for this work much less effective in our area than elsewhere. The Board have therefore recommended that there is a strong case for an increased level of grant assistance for hill improvement work in the Highlands.

# Caraid Nan Gaidheal

With commendable enterprise we are pleased to give due notice to a new publication issued by the North of England Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

This Branch is only a few months old and its programme of activities is most impressive. It puts many of An Comunn's old-established Branches to shame. Copies of the Journal can be obtained from the Editor, Mr Tim Cowe, 3 King Edward Road, Heaton, Newcastle, 6.

The Branch has formed a number of Sections each with a specific interest.

## Section Meetings

Piping: Mr A. Martin, 10 Trevor Terrace, North Shields. Other musical instruments: (appreciation of Scottish Folk-music contact Mr M. Lincoln, 4 Reay Gardens, Westerhope, Newcastle, 5).

Scottish Country and Highland Dancing: (Group leaders, Dr and Mrs Rudden, 42 Kingsway Newcastle upon Tyne, 4). Gaelic classes: Beginners (tutor, Miss Macaskill), senior (tutor, Mr McLeod) and general class (tutor, Mr D. MacLean). Literature and Poetry.

Drama: (group leader, Mrs McIntosh, 52 Percy Park, Tyne-mouth).

Choir: (group members, Mrs Mackenzie, 29 Briarfield Avenue, Sunderland, and Mrs Woodman, 26 Northumberland Square, North Shields).

Arts and Crafts: tentative plans are in hand to hold some form of exhibitions at some stage in the future. (Group leader, Miss Biles, 2 Hartside Place, Melton Park, Newcastle, 3).

Junior Section (linked to An Cruinne): a successful first meeting was held before Christmas. Age group 9-18 years. A wide range of activities to be undertaken covering hobbies, crafts, singing, projects, competitions and outward-bound activities to help the young members to enjoy, appreciate and contribute to the culture of the Highlands and Islands. (Group leaders, Mr K. Patterson, 10 Downend Road, Westerhope, Newcastle, 5, and Mr R. Black, 27 Walwick Avenue, Earsdon).

History and Archaeology, Natural History and Current Affairs:

## SCOTTISH FOLK NOTES

The first 44-page issue of *Scottish Folk Notes* ideally illustrates the proposed scope of the magazine and the outline of its contents, given below, can be taken as an indication of the form of future issues.

The quarterly magazine is intended to be of interest to the amateur folklorist, the song enthusiast and the general reader into whose hands it may find its way. It is not the function of the magazine to adopt an academic approach to the material which it prints but simply to report or reprint songs, tales and related items from a variety of sources in an attempt to interest, inform and entertain its readers. In time, the successive issues may form the basis of a useful reference library for even the most casual user.

The publishers are aware that this is a minority interest at the present time and, while they hope that *Folk Notes* will do much to extend interest in the area of human activity with which it involves itself, they trust that they will receive the support of all its readers and friends—and all who have a respect for that which gives us our national identity—our tradition.

(Subscription—12/- per annum (Post free); specimen copy 3/- from *Folk Notes* Publications, 45 Montrose Street, Glasgow, C.1.)

# AG IONNSACHADH NA

LE IAIN A. MACDHOMHNAILL

## GORT AN GLASCHU



A reir Thormoid chaneil cail aig Gaidheil Ghlaschu ach buntata is sgadan.

## an cruinne

Ma tha Gàidhlig agad  
Nochd e, 's cleachd do  
chanan.

are  
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## LEASAN A DHA DHEUG



Tha Sìne agus Mairi ag coiseachd sìos an rathad.  
Jean and Mary are walking down the road.  
Tha an latha bliath agus tha iad a' fas sgìth.  
The day is warm and they are getting tired.  
Chunnaic iad Seonaid, bean Chaluim aig a' bhùth  
They saw Janet, Malcolm's wife at Donald  
aig Domhnall MacLeod's  
MacLeod's shop.

Sìne : Tiugainn a Mhairi.

Come along Mary.  
Mairi : Nach e tha bliath a nise  
Isn't it warm now.

Sìne : Is e gu dearbh.  
It is indeed.  
A bheil thu fas sgìth?  
Are you getting tired?

Mairi : Chaneil ach tha mo chòta cho trom.  
No but my coat is so heavy.

Sìne : Is e mo chòta aotrom a tha orm sa.  
It is my light coat that I am wearing.

Mairi : Cha robh mi a' smaoinichadh gun robh e cho bliath.  
I wasn't thinking that it was so warm.

Sìne : An e siud Seonaid?

Is that Janet?  
Mairi : Seonaid bean Chaluim.  
Janet, Malcolm's wife.  
Is i gu dearbh.  
It is she indeed.

Sìne : Cò ris a tha a' bruidhinn?  
To whom is she speaking?

Mairi : Tha ri Domhnall MacLeod.  
To Donald MacLeod.  
Sìne : Bithidh Seonaid a' bruidhinn ris a h-uile duine.  
Janet speaks to everyone.  
A bheil thu dol do'n bhùth aig Domhnall?  
Are you going to Donald's shop?

Mairi : Chaneil an diugh.

Not today.  
A bheil thu fhéin?  
Are you yourself?

Sìne : Tha, ach chaneil an dràsda.  
Yes, but not just now.  
Tha mi dol air cheilleir air Seòras an toiseach.  
I am going to visit George first.

Mairi : Càit' a bheil Seòras a' fuireach?

Where is George staying?  
Sìne : Tha e a' fuireach faisg air an abhainn a nise.  
He is staying near the river now.  
A bheil thu tighinn combla rium?  
Are you coming with me?

Mairi : Oh chaneil a Shine.  
Oh no Jean.  
Tha mi dol a cheannach còta ùr.  
I am going to buy a new coat.

Sìne : Còta ùr. Nacheil an còta a th' agad glé mhath.  
A new coat. Isn't the coat you have very good.

Mairi : Tha an còta seo agam o dhìon tri bliadhna.

I have had this coat for three years.

Sìne : Tri bliadhna. Tha an còta seo  
Three years. I have had this coat  
agamsa o chionn coig bliadhna.  
for five years.

Mairi : Ach tha còta eile agad.

But you have another coat.

Sìne : Oh tha. Tha còta ùr eile agam.

Oh yes. I have another new coat.

Mairi : A bheil Seonaid a' bruidhinn ri Domhnall fhathast.

Is Janet speaking to Donald yet.

Sìne : Oh tha. Tha i an siud fhathast.

Oh yes. She is there yet.

Mairi : Nach i tha math air bruidhinn.

Isn't she good at talking.

Sìne : Nach i gu dearbh.

Isn't she good indeed.

Càit' a bheil thu a' dol mata?

Where are you going then?

Mairi : Tha mi dol do'n bhùth aig MacRath.

I am going to MacRath's shop.

Tiugainn combla rium.

Come along with me.

Sìne : Dé an uair a tha e?

What time is it?

Mairi : Tha e carraic an deidh aon uair deug.

It is a quarter past eleven.

Sìne : Tiugainn mata.

Come then.

Nach i sin a' bhùth a tha faisg air an eaglais?

Is that not the shop that is near the church?

Mairi : Is i. Is togh leam duine

Yes. I like someone

combla rium an uair a tha mi

with me when I am buying

a' ceannach còta.

a coat.

Sìne : Glé mhath mata.

Very good then.

Mairi : Gu dearbh tha mi feumach air còta ùr.

Indeed I am needing a new coat.

Tha an còta seo cho trom.

This coat is so heavy.

Sìne : Stad ort. Siud Murchadh a' bruidhinn ri Seonaid.

Wait. There is Murdoch speaking to Janet.

Mairi : A bheil gu dearbh?

Is she indeed?

Bithidh i dol dhachaidh combla rium gu cinnteach.

She will be going home with us, certainly.

Sìne : Tha mi an dòchas nach bi.

I hope she will not.

Mairi : Bithidh i a' foighneachd dhè tha

She will be asking what

sinne a' deannamh anns a' bhaile.

we are doing in the village.

Sìne : Cha bhì.

No.

Mairi : Gu dearbh bithidh.

Indeed yes.

Is i fhéin a bhitheas.

It is she who will be.

Sìne : Mo thogair. Na innis facladh dhìth.

I don't care. Do not tell her a word.

Seo a' bhùth mata.

This is the shop then.

Mairi : A bheil Seonaid a' coimhead?

Is Janet looking?

Sìne : Chaneil. Tha i cho trang

No, she is so busy

a' bruidhinn ri Murchadh,

speaking to Murdoch.

Mairi : Tiugainn mata.

Come then.

Leum a steach.

Jump in.

Sìne : Tiugainn mata.

Come then.

Read this passage and answer the questions which follow it.

An uair a bha Sìne agus Mairi a' coiseachd sìos an rathad bha iad a' fas glé sgìth. Bha an latha bliath agus bha còta cho air Mairi. Bha i a' dol a cheannach còta ùr anns a' bhùth aig MacRath. Bha Sìne ag ràdh gun robh còta ùr aice ach cha robh còta ùr aig Mairi idir.

An uair a bha iad a' coiseachd sìos air rathad chunnaic iad Seonaid, bean Chaluim, a' bruidhinn ri Domhnall MacLeod cuideachd. Bha iad ag ràdh gum bi Seonaid a' bruidhinn ris a h-uile duine.

1. Carson a bha Mairi sgìth?
2. Dè bha Mairi a' dol a cheannach?
3. Cò chunnaic iad?
4. Càit' an robh Seonaid?
5. Cò ris a bha Seonaid a' bruidhinn?

### GRAMMAR

The Copula: Is i.

Affirmative: Is i sin a bhùth, that is the shop.

Negative: Chan i sin a bhùth, that is not the shop.

Question: An i sin a bhùth, is that not the shop?

Nach i sin a bhùth, is that not the shop?

N.B. We can use the Feminine Pronoun before a Feminine Noun and the Masculine Pronoun before a Masculine Noun

The Regular Verb

Verbal Nouns

A' fas, getting, growing.

A' fuireach, staying.

A' ceannach, buying.

A' foighneachd, asking.

A' deannamh, doing.

A' coimhead, looking.

Infinitive

A cheannach, to buy.

Imperative

Leum, jump.

Masculine Nouns with and without the Definite Article

Còta, a coat

Facal, a word

Adjectives

Aotrom, light.

Ùr, new.

Feumach, needy.

Common words and usage

Cho trom, so heavy.

A h-uile duine, everyone.

# GAIDHLIG

An drásda, just now.  
An taiseach, at first  
O chionn trì bliadhna, for three years.  
Fhathast, yet.  
Is toigh leam, I like.  
Gu cinnteach, surely  
Mo thogar, I don't care.  
Math air bruidhinn, good at talking.  
Feumach air còta, needing a coat.  
Sìos, down.

## EXERCISES

A. Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks.

1. Bithidh Seonaid a' ..... dhachaidh ..... ruinn.
2. Tha an còta seo agam o ..... trì bliadhna.
3. Thuir Mairi gu bheil i dol a ..... còta .....
4. Bithidh Seonaid ..... bruidhinn ..... a h-uile duine.
5. Bha iad aig a' ..... aig Domhnall.

B. Give the answer "yes" to the following.

1. A bheil Seonaid a' bruidhinn ri Murchadh?
2. An robh còta aotrom air Sìne?
3. Am bi Mairi a' ceannach còta ùr?

C. Give the answer "no" to the following.

1. Am bi Sìne a' ceannach còta?
2. An robh còta aotrom air Mairi?
3. A bheil còta ùr aig Mairi?

## EXODUS

On hills of the Westland  
Beauty sits desolate,  
Keening the Hereses.  
The Sheilings are Childless,  
Empty the Green Glens  
Of sunlight and laughter.  
Why must the Strong  
Ride forth, none returning?  
Long will they seek,  
And never be finding,  
Pastures so green  
And Hearts holding love for them.  
Weary the toil,  
And little to gain by it.  
Would they returned to the land of their fathers!  
What avails Beauty,  
When gone are the Strong Arms?

MADELINE DALZIEL

## TURAS A MACH

Air cnocan an iar  
Tha maise na suidhe gu fàisail  
A' caoidh nan gaisgeach  
Tha na h-àirdhean gun leanabh  
Agus na gleannan uaine  
Falamb de sholus gréine agus cridhealbas  
C'ar son a' dh' feumas  
Na fir neartmhor falbh, gun tilleadh?  
Gur fada a' bhios iad a' feòrach  
Agus gun faighinn  
Ionatrachd cho uaine  
Agus cridhean làn de ghaol dhaibh  
Shaoithrich aid air son glé bheag  
O nach tilleadh iad gu  
Dùthaich an sinnsear  
De feum a th' air maise nuair a tha  
Na gairdean làidir air falbh?

# Crime: Society's Problem

by F. G. Thompson

NO reader of this newspaper need be reminded that despite the strengthening of this country's crime-prevention measures, crime is oppressively with us. Sometimes it is petty, the product of the small-time operator. But increasingly, it is the result of both small- and big-time criminals who are willing to take the big chance to make their crime pay — even if in the process, other innocent people are killed.

Britain has the best and most efficient police force in the world. In 1963 we spent about 68s per head of population on police services. Today, the figure is approaching the 110s mark. For this money we get a service from the police which is a significant contribution to the structure of society, in that it is not wholly confined to the catching of criminals, but prevents crime.

But the police have an almost unsurmountable job. Crime figures rise. In the five years 1950-54, there were some 500,000 indictable crimes known to the police. The figure today is over 1,200,000. The force manages to clear about 60 per cent. of these crimes. But it is a slow job.

It also adds another problem, the increasing population in our prisons.

In the 1930s, when it was almost an accepted thing to turn to petty crime to keep body and soul together, and with some three millions out of work, there were 11,000 people in our penal establishments. Today, with unemployment marginal, and acute poverty kept at bay by comprehensive social services, the figure is well on its way to 40,000. This is equivalent to the population of Inverness and its environs.

Crime is a social disease, mostly contracted by men. For every woman in prison under sentence there are 40 men. And only one woman in every 17,000 of all women over 17 years of age is in prison for an indictable offence.

For some reason, even the present small prison population of about 500 women is decreasing. It has been estimated that if the present trend continues, Britain's women prison population may well be contained in an establishment designed to accommodate little more than 100 inmates.

A recent Home Office research publication indicates that only one girl out of 5,000 of population in the 16 to 20 age group is received into a penal institution. This is at least prima facie evidence that she is an unusual girl. The report also indicated that a quarter of the girls received into borstals have been patients in mental hospitals or have received other psychiatric treatment.

On the male side, there are disturbing increases in the

numbers of criminal offences committed by highly disturbed adolescents and psychopaths. The conduct of these offenders is often derived from societal roots. These include bad homes, bad environmental conditions, lack of vocational guidance, and the depressive conditions in which adolescents often themselves.

Often the crimes committed are irrational and are often cathartic in nature, the need to do something and to be something suddenly appearing in a form which demands an act against society in general or one of its members.

About 15 per cent. of young offenders are recidivists, that is they form the bulk of our prison population and are constant visitors to the prisons. They are society's hardened criminals. The pity of it is that it is often the prison which makes them such.

Whereas society spends more than £25 per week to keep a patient in hospital, it spends about 15s per head on custodial care in prisons. On non-custodial treatment, including probation and after-care — of vital importance if offenders are to be maintained within the community — little more than 4s per head of population is spent.

About 6,000 men are sleeping two and three in cells designed for one man. Over 25 per cent. of the male prison population are thus in overcrowded conditions, which present added problems to those which an undermanned prison staff have to cope each day and every day.

For instance, the incidence of epilepsy in prison is seven times as great as in the community at large. The prison population is also overburdened with the mentally disturbed and alcoholics. Yet the provision of adequate treatment is still being investigated, though the problem is staring the investigators in the face. To solve the problem, society must move quickly.

But there is a growing credit side. A multiplicity of prison industries s being reduced to six. Quality and delivery alike have greatly improved in recent years. Prison turnover has almost doubled in the last three years to 6fm.

These prison industries enable men to find some stability in their lives which they can amplify once they are released. The co-operation of Trades Unions has meant that trained prisoners can go straight into industry with Union backing.

But the overall problem is still large. And society tends to ignore this running sore in its fabric. Those who feel concerned about the growing incidence of crimes of

violence are not out for pampering prisoners. What they maintain is that we cannot afford to sweep under the carpet the dirty things of life.

One cannot pass by the high walls of our prisons without thinking where the fault lies in our society: with the inmates or with our society.

## Potential In Scotland's Hills

Potential for development in the hills of Scotland lies in the selective improvement of the numerous valleys, gentle slopes and plateaux, according to a writer in the current issue of *Scottish Agriculture*, journal of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland (H.M.S.O., Price 2s 6d).

Dr John Frame, a member of the staff at the West of Scotland Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations in Argentina with a comparison between conditions in Scotland and in the Mesopotamia region of northern Argentina, where large-scale development of pasture land has in Scotland large-scale grazing taken place. He suggests that management studies especially are needed to devise systems geared to take advantage of the known pasture growth cycle and spatial distribution of the various grassland types, yet at the same time offering feed of high nutritive value at critical times in the animals' physiological requirements and rationing of pasture intake at critical times in the pastures' production cycle.

He adds: "The method of using a co-ordinated team of specialists in a specific project seems the most likely way of rapidly solving the problems which prevent development. Mesopotamian output can be quadrupled by this approach — so can Scottish upland productivity."

The importance of early diagnosis of brucellosis is emphasised by Mr J. K. Miller of the East of Scotland College of Agriculture, in an article examining the various tests which can be carried out to detect the disease. The milk ring test is recommended as a simple and reliable check in the dairy herd; for the beef herd and in non-lactating animals the serum agglutination test is claimed to provide the best possible chance of detecting unsuspected reactors.

Under modern systems of housing and management, the winter states, it should be a routine procedure to calve all animals in isolation and observe special hygienic measures. The golden rule must be to segregate known uninfected maidens, heifers from dry cows which may be brucella infected.

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# Crofters' Commission Recommendations For the Conversion of Crofting

# Review Order

### APPENDIX

#### A. PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO SHELTLAND

There are certain problems connected with the exercise of common grazings rights as they exist at present which are peculiar to Sheltness and for which mention must be made. Some 75% of the crofting estates in Sheltness are small, consisting of less than ten crofts. As the result of a series of actions of Division of Community in the Court of Session during the nineteenth century many of the larger common grazings, or chatalds, were divided among various proprietors. Today it is not unusual to find that a common grazing consists of a number of unfenced scattalds belonging to different proprietors but with the tenants of each proprietor having grazing rights over the whole, the measure of each tenant's right being regulated by the extent of his landlord's scattald. This leads to complications when a shareholder applies for apportionment of an area of scattald for his own exclusive use and the boundaries of the scattald are also an anomaly that sheep fanks and other equipment provided by all the shareholders will of necessity have been erected on land belonging to one of the landlords.

#### B. CROFTS PURCHASED BY PRIVATE AGREEMENT

Another complication (mentioned also in other areas but particularly in Sheltness) arises from the fact that over the years many crofters have purchased their crofts by private agreement with their landlords by the purchase of the right in common grazings acquired along with the croft, as described in the title deeds, has not been specified in some cases the right is described as the right of common grazing formerly affording to the croft, either without or with a proviso that no right in the *solum* of the scattald is conveyed. In other cases it may be described as a right of common share in the common grazings; and in other cases it may be the right of property in a specific area of the grazings that is conveyed.

The difficulties referred to in A and B above arise out of the existence of the Commission recommended that an attempt should be made to resolve them when considering the most effective method of bringing about a change of tenure. Many of the difficulties would certainly disappear if the common grazings were vested in one body thus eliminating questions about the boundaries of scattalds belonging to individual estates and helping to bring some uniformity into the rights of shareholders who are already occupiers of their crofts.

#### C. UNREGULATED COMMON GRAZINGS

There are 748 common grazings for which the Commission have confirmed regulations under section 16 of the 1951 Act. These regulations serve to identify the individual grazings and help to ascertain the extent of each shareholder's grazing rights. According to our records there are 52 common grazings which were at one time regulated under pre-1951 Acts. The reasons for this are of various kinds. Some are of recent regulation. We also know of some 40 common grazings for which regulations have never been made at all. It would be fair to put the onus of providing information about those grazings for which no records exist clearly on the shareholders and the landlords, with provision for reference to the Scottish Land Court in the event of failure by interested parties to reach agreement as to their respective rights.

#### ADDENUM B — POINTS ANCILLARY TO MAIN RECOMMENDATION ON OWNER-OCCUPANCY

1. Since the Commission submitted their main Recommendations on 17th October 1968 we have carried out an extensive programme of meetings with representatives of Crofters Unions and members of our Panel of Assessors to discuss and explain the proposals. A number of points of substance ancillary to these discussions and we now make the following further recommendations to supplement those already submitted.

#### 2. COMPLETION OF TITLE

The parallel Irish legislation for conversion of tenancy to ownership suggests the adoption of a summary conveying device that would give crofters a title to their crofts free of expense and without the necessity of a survey and lengthy conveyance for each croft. The Register of Crofts compiled by the Commission in the course of their function under section 15 of the Crofters (Scotland) Act, 1955 as amended by section 3 of the Crofters (Scotland) Act, 1961, contains particulars of some 18,750 crofts. These crofts were entered in the Register on the strength of affidavits sworn by the owners received from landlords and checked with the individual crofters. Before final entry in the Register should be made for each with a list of the proposed entries to revise the list. The Register of Crofts accordingly contains data sufficient to identify each individual croft and the landlord and crofter tenant thereof. The proposal is that this data should be available to the Registrar of the Register of Sasines and the issue of a valid certificate of title to the croft. In the registration of crofts at the one time would create a problem, the solution might be for crofters to remain proprietors unfeint until such time as there is no longer any dispute or to burden the property or any portion of it. All questions of title, including questions of boundary access rights, mutual rights and obligations, etc., could be referred for final decision to the Scottish Land Court as they are today. The simple summary conveying procedure could be carried further by devising a short statutory form of conveyance for the crofters to sign, transferring the right of property in the croft either absolutely or in security.

#### 3. PRICE PAYABLE BY CROFTIER

In our main Recommendation (paragraph 3.1.1) we recommended that the price to be paid by the crofter on conversion to ownership should be payable in the form of a lump sum payment instead of paying an annuity. We recommend that it should be permissible for a crofter to opt to be entitled to the amount of annuity outstanding. We also recommend that it should be in the discretion of the Secretary of State to continue the annuity to the purchaser of a croft.

#### 4. COTTARS

Although cottars have not been mentioned in the main Recommendations it is clearly desirable that they should be dealt with at the same time as crofters. In the case of cottars the dwelling-house is the principal part of the subject. There are the two classes: rent paying cottars and non-rent

paying cottars. It is recommended that cottars, like crofters, should acquire the ownership of the cottar subjects. There is no Register of Cottars and they should be identified themselves. This might be done by providing that either the cottar or the landlord could make application to the Sheriff for an order to determine the status and to determine the extent of the cottar subject and the rent (if any). If the application were successful the Land Court's Order would be the warrant for vesting the ownership of the subjects in the cottar.

#### 5. FISHERMEN'S HOLDINGS

There are six schemes in Lewis, including schemes at Cross Skigersta in the parish of Barvas, and Lower Bayble and Knock in the parish of Stornoway, on which there are some 200 tenancies which were created under section 4 of the Congested Districts (Scotland) Act, 1897 on common grazing land owned by the Secretary of State from the proprietors after the 1914-18 war and subdivided into house sites and allotments. These were let to fishermen and others at a rent of 45p per acre (10s 6d per annum and dwelling-houses were built on the majority of them) it is recommended that the tenants should be given the opportunity of these housing sites and allotments.

#### 6. SQUATTERS

It is recommended that similar provision should be made for regularising the position of squatters. These are people who, with the approval of the township, or other local authority, have built a house on the common grazing and perhaps enclosed some land. In some cases the squatter may have squatted on the inbye land of the croft. There is no reliable information as to how many squatters there are at present. Here again it is suggested that the onus should be on the person seeking to acquire a regular title to take the initiative by applying to the Land Court and identifying the subjects. The Court would give effect to any such interest as opportunity to state objections. If the Court granted the application their Order would be the warrant for vesting the ownership in the squatter.

#### 7. EXISTING SUBLETS

Contracts of sublet of croft land under section 11 of the 1961 Act, estimated at over 1,200 have been freely entered into by the parties concerned. They can be terminated at any time after the expiry of the period of sublet by one party giving the requisite notice of such notice the sublet is automatically renewed from year to year. Ever since provision for the subletting of crofts was made in the 1961 Act, it has been Commission policy to encourage crofters to sublet to active crofters land which they themselves were not using and to assure them that subletting would not in any way detract from their security of tenure. That being so it would not be proper to confer on the subtenant any higher right to the use of the croft than he has at present enjoys. It is recommended that existing contracts should not be affected by the transition from crofting to ownership—year by year, is to say, the sublets should run their normal course until such time as they come to be terminated by one or other of the parties.

#### 8. VACANT CROFTS

Provision will require to be made for crofts which happen to be vacant on the day appointed for conversion from crofting tenure to ownership. It is recommended that the provisions of section 16 of the Crofters (Scotland) Act, 1955 requiring landlords to re-let vacant

#### A BRAW BALLANT le Frang MacThomais

WILLIAM NEILL is perhaps better known for his outstanding poem in Gaelic which won him the Bardship of An Comunn Gaidhealach at the 1969 Aviemore Mod.

Not so many perhaps know him as a poet of competence in Scots as well. A volume of his poems is due to be published this year by Akros Publications. As the edition will be limited to 300 copies, readers are well advised to place advance orders now. Recently, however, Bard Neill has produced what Hugh MacDiarmid has called "a patriotic ballant." It is that — and a braw yin as well.

Called "Scotland's Castle" the poem is used as a medium or sounding board to voice William Neill's thoughts on Scotland.

As he says, it is often difficult for writers in Scots or Gaelic to see their works in print. In the old days, broadsheet verses were very popular. They may well be coming popular again.

This can be called a poem of complaints about Scotland's condition; about those who have allowed Scotland to get into their present condition; about the forces which have, outside Scots influence brought about her condition; and about those who today do nothing about it at all: "They girm at Scots wha daur mak sic a claim . . ."

Neill uses the Castle in Edinburgh as a viewpoint, both to look out over the century of Scotland's past (the Celtic contribution is duly and rightly acknowledged) and to look inwards at the visible signs of a past glory, still in embers and needing only a slight redding to allow the freedom flame of inspiration to leap out and bring about a re-birth. It is not yet too late. Maybe time is kindly standing still for Scotland to allow laggard Scots and their equally laggard opinions to catch up with the history of their modern Scotland.

But the Castle also contains many instances of Scotland's shame: "Scots kiss ill Southron Parliamentary ease/Nor think tae ditch a haund

crofts and providing for taking vacant crofts out of crofting tenure" should continue to apply to the crofts for a transitional period to allow of their being relet or taken out of the Crofting Acts. As soon as a croft was re-let the conversion to ownership would immediately follow.

#### 9. CONSOLIDATION OF RUNNIG LAND

Since 1912 there has been statutory provision for the apportionment of lands held runrig on the application of any landlord or crofter interested. There are pockets of runrig land still remaining and it is recommended that notwithstanding conversion to ownership suitable provision should be made for apportionment of runrig land on the application of any interested party.

across their mou." Bard Neill points them all out.

"In Gaelic, screivint on yon Hiellant cairn,/An auncient tongue spells out the slaughter-test clans./But wha spends siller that the Hiellant bairn/Micht keep his language, free frae London's bans?/ These shouted "Alba" wi their deen braith,/They cam frae Hiellant crofts tae shouter guns . . ./Hou daur they mak the fathiers meet their daith,/And then deny their language tae the sons?"

This ballant has a thocht for abody wi spunk and a bit care for auld Scotia. It's weel worth the packle cunzies askit by the maker: "Scotland's Castle" by William Neill; 3s, plus 9d post, from Reprographia, 23 Livingston Place, Edinburgh EH9 1PD.

#### ANGLO-WELSH

WE in Scotland have got the bad habit of thinking in terms of Scots, or Anglo-Scots. And there are even those among our Scottish society who think in terms of Anglo-Saxon only.

So it is a pleasure to be brought back face to face that we have fellow-Celts on the Celtic fringe of Europe: the Welsh and the Anglo-Welsh who live in Cymru.

AKROS, Number 12, contains essays and poetry. As John Tripp says in his introduction to the issue, in "An Anglo-Welsh Poetry Renaissance": As a bilingual culture, Wales has two literatures — Welsh and Anglo-Welsh.

The concenient epithet Anglo-Welsh makes no more than a linguistic distinction. Its literature is the creative writing of Welshmen in the English language."

That is an honest confession. Can the same be said for Scots poets who refuse to recognise that Scotland is also a bilingual culture with three literatures: Gaelic, Scots and Anglo-Scots?

However . . . The selection of English-English poetry and Anglo-Welsh poetry is a good one and offers a chance to delve deeper into those fields of taste which appeal to one.

Tom Scott looks at the characteristics of our greatest (Scots) writers; Duncan Glen's useful review of other magazines; reviews of new poetry and prose works; Scottish poems, including eight from Alastair Mackie; and an essay on Poetry and Hugh MacDiarmid by Duncan Glen.

All these and a good bit more as well are to be gotten in Akros, Number 12, available from 14 Parklands, Pen wortham, Preston Lancs; price 4s per copy; or 15s per annum for four issues.

#### Failte Do Lybster

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

(Contd. at foot of next column)

# Naidheachdan Mu Na h-Eaglaisean Air A' Ghaidhealtachd

Le "FEAR-FAIRE"

## EAGLAIS NA H-ALBA

*Latha Mor ann Barraigh*

Air a' 5mh latha de'n Ghearran bha an t-Urr. Ruairidh MacFhionghain air a' phosadh ri coimhthional Barraigh. Bhuinidh Mgr. MacFhionghain do na Hearadh, agus bha e 'na mhinistear ann an Lunnain. Air ceann scrìbhais a' phosaidh bha an t-Urr. Ruairidh M. MacFhionghain (Dalabrog). Labhair an t-Urr. Calum Mac a' Ghobhainn (Hogha-mor) facal misneachaidh ris a' mhinistear, agus bha an coimhthional air an comhairleachadh leis an Urr. Tormod MacSuain (Sgarasta), a bha uair-eigin 'na mhinistear ann Barraigh.

*Leabhar Tòineach*

Tha an leabhar air "Mac-Caidh Thiridhe" air an tug sinn tarraim 'san aireamh nu dheireadh, ri fhàinainn on Religious Bookshop, Strath Choinnich, Steornabhagh. Tha e a' cosg 5/6. Chaidh a sgrìobhadh ann an Gaidhlig ghrrinn leis an Urr. Tormod Domhnallach, mhinistear a' Chlachain.

*Searmonaiche Ainmeil*

Air a' cheud Sabaid de'n mhìos bha mhinistear iomraitheach a' searmonachadh 'san Eaglais Ghaidhealtach ann an Dun-eideann. B'esan am Morair

MacLeod — an t-oll. Urr. Seoras F. MacLeod.

*Orduighean Steornabhagh*

Air an treas sabaid de'n Ghearran chumadh an comanachadh ann an eaglaisean Steornabhagh. A' cuideachadh 'san Ard Eaglais bha an t-Urr. Coimneach Domhnallach (Sniodhasort) agus an t-Urr. Daibhidh MacAonghais (Ceann-an-loch) a searmonachadh ann an Eaglais Chaluim Chille, agus an t-Urr. Ruairidh MacLeod (Bearnaraigh na Hearadh) ann an Eaglais Martin's Memorial.

*Cuairt à Mhoderator*

Thadhail am Moderator, am Fìor Urr. Tomas M. MacCalmain, air Cleir Loch Carann bho chionn ghoirid. Chuir eadh falte air le Moderator na Cleir, an t-Urr. Iain MacLeod (Loch Carann). Thoisich an t-Oll. MacCalmain a mhinistreachadh ann an Glann-eilge.

*200 Bliadhna an Glaschu*

Air an 18mh latha de'n Ghearran, 1770, chaidh eaglais Ghaidhlig a stèidheachadh ann an Glaschu. Air an 22mh latha de'n mhìos seo bidh scrìbheasan cuimhneachain air an cumail, agus bidh an t-Oll. Urr. Tomas M. MacCalmain a'



# AIR TUR NA FAIRE

searmonachadh ann an Gaidhlig agus ann am Beurla. Tha an t-Urr. Aonghas F. MacFhionghain air ceann coimhthional Chaluim Chille. Tha scrìbheasan Gaidhlig air an cumail ann an da choimhthional eile de Eaglais na h-Alba ann an Glaschu: Eaglais Chaluim Chille agus Bhaile an t-Samhraidh ann am Baile Ghomhainn, agus Eaglais Gardner Street ann am Partaig.

na h-Eileanan o 1942 gu 1962. Bha e 82.

DHEUG an t-Urr Alasdair MacIamhair a bha uair-eigin 'na mhinistear ann an Eaglais Martin's Memorial ann an Steornabhagh. Bha e ann an Leodhas o 1907 gu 1912.

BIDH "Fear-faire" fada an comain luchd-leughaidh a chuir-cas naidheachd thuige a eaglais sam bith.

# over to you

"DOUBTS ABOUT AN COMUNN"

Sir,—I am beginning to have doubts about An Comunn. When An Comunn set up in business in 1891, something like 250,000 Scotsmen spoke Gaelic; now perhaps a quarter of that number do, and falling fast. So An Comunn, whose business it is to foster the tongue, has not been very successful. Perhaps it ought to re-think what its priorities are, and do something fast.

Mr MacNair-Smith mentions letters in the *Times* about Gaelic. Actually there was one, mine. A *Times* leader on Scotland published just before Christmas described the disappointment of visitors to Scotland who found that country so much like England. Aha, I thought this'll bring a letter from An Comunn. Here is an opportunity to wave the flag. As a mere Englishman I thought I would add a bit myself and stress how Gaelic had its commercial value (and why not — the folklore, sing-song, Mod-type promotion has not done it much good). This way the young Highlander might see the worth of learning his own tongue.

Never a cheep was there from An Comunn. Only my note (hereunder).

Now, in *The Times* of January 29 I read that the Mass Census forms are to be printed in "the main immigrant languages." My rage rises at the next sentence: "They will also be printed in Welsh but not in Gaelic because, it is explained, *The Scots have made no such demand.*" The italics are mine. What the h... is An Comunn in aid of?

Who runs the place? Is there anybody there at all?

Perhaps Mr Gwynfor Evans, M.P., could spare one or two of his young Welsh followers to do a stint in Inverness and show them how it's done?

JOHN R. HART

11 Mountview,  
Mill Hill,  
London, N.W.7.

Mr Hart's figure of 250,000 Gaelic speakers in Scotland in 1891 is correct. At the 1901 census this had plummeted to 80,984.

It should be borne in mind that when An Comunn Gaidhealtach was established its sole aim was to promote a festival of Gaelic music along the lines of the National Eisteddfod. This it has done successfully.

An Comunn's constitutionally declared interest in the economic well-being of the Highlands is relatively recent. And to dismiss An Comunn as "not... very successful" fails to take account of the work done by what has been after all a purely voluntary organisation and the climate in which that work has been done. It is wrong to believe that the sympathetic attitude to the language that presently obtains has always been with us.

The close resemblance that  
(Continued on page 12)

## AN EAGLAIS SHAOR

*Comanachadh*

Aig na h-ordughean ann an Ob na Hearadh bha an t-Urr. A. MacGumaraid (Sgalpaigh) agus an t-Urr. M. Moireach (An Rudha) a searmonachadh. Air an treas Sabaid de'n Ghearran bha an t-Sacramaid air a fritehadh ann an Eaglais Steornabhagh, far am bheil an t-Urr. Murchadh MacRisnidh 'na mhinistear.

## AN EAGLAIS SHAOR CHLEIREIL

*Orduighean*

Aig a' Chomanachadh ann an Steornabhagh bha an t-Urr. Domhnall MacGhilleathain (Glaschu) agus an t-Urr. Calum MacAonghais air ceann nan scrìbheasan. Bho chionn ghoirid chidh mhinistear ur shuidheachadh ann an Steornabhagh, an t-Urr. Iain MacLeod, as na Hearadh. Air a' cheathramh Sabaid bidh an Comanachadh ann an Ubhist-a-Tuath agus ann na Hearadh.

SOP AS GACH SEID . . .

CHAOCHAIL am Fìor Urr. Tomas Hannay, a bha 'na Easbuig air Earraghaidheal agus

## MANX REVIVAL

With the visit of the Speaker of the House of Keys (the Manx Parliament) to the United Nations at New York, the indications are that a new phase of the "Radio War" is developing.

To quote the Speaker, Mr Charles Kerruish: "The Isle of Man today is getting worse treatment than any of the United Kingdom dependencies in the world. It is being treated as an English county and the best way to stop this is to remove the control of the Island's affairs away from the Home Office to the Commonwealth Office."

A Labour M.P., Mr Edward Callister has said: "There is a U.D.I. atmosphere in Man."

There has been an unprecedented rush to buy the new edition of Cregeen's Manx Dictionary, which has already been almost sold out.

And a recent Church Service given in the Manx language drew such a large congregation that many would-be worshippers had to be turned away at the door.

# Domhnall Domhnallach Tairbeart na Hearadh

\*\*\*

PAIPEARAN NAIDHEACHD IS UIDHEAM DHEALBH

(Photo Equipment)

\*\*\*

LADIES AND GENT.'S CLOTHES

\*\*\*

CLO HEARRACH — STOCAINNEAN IS FIGHE

# BLACK HEART- THE WARM HEARTED RUM WITH THE SMOOTH DARK TASTE



LEIS A' BHLAS THAITNEACH BHLATH  
AN RUMA DUBH CIUN

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

by IIM LOTZ

Giving any stray academic access to confidential data can be extremely perilous. Even to the best will in the world, the scientists may unwittingly breach confidences, or, in his urge to publish, get mired in innumerable details which have been made available. Some social scientists confuse science with scientism; they insist on having figures and numbers no matter how meaningless they may be.

One method of protecting individuals, organisations and scientists is to develop a system of civilities. In this era of the mass media, the most casual remark may be misinterpreted by those who are unaware of the complexities of the modern world. The Highlands and Islands Development Board has suffered from this since its establishment. They have become over-sensitive to criticism, but the intensity of the attacks is changing. For one thing, its development, there are seldom any sudden breakthroughs, and people are willing to challenge any government organisation for its failures than to praise them for their successes. Boards like the HIDB need not be so close with their data. For one thing, any scientist worth his salt can soon find data if he really needs data—it is astonishing how easy it is to find data in print that agencies think are classified. The matter of the question comes up again here—on this will depend the amount and type of data that a specialist in the field needs.

But developing areas and development bodies do need some sort of screening system. Some scientists know how to handle confidential information, and to share them with a new slant to their studies, even though they do not need to use the data. Others cannot be trusted with such data, and therefore, it is classified. The matter has to be ascribed to anyone doing research work in a developing area. Generally speaking, in Canada, I have found that the more experienced or open a social scientist is, the more he or she is willing to be directed and guided in research by those responsible for regional development programmes. There are many ways to approach a problem, and in fairness to those with operational responsibilities in an area, an approach that is not to be made them has to be avoided. But some shiny, new Ph.D. who has learnt only the extent of his knowledge and a little of the intricacies of the field can be quite a menace in a developing area.

In a society that increasingly looks material away in its files and labels reports "secret" but before reading, it is university has a responsibility to disseminate the results of research to all who enquire, and to the universities involved in classified research soon ceases to use the scientific approach, with its emphasis on testability. In social science, many people are content to be satisfied by selecting an area of stress, but one that is not immediately pressing. This means that the time is spent in the laboratory, but with a concern for immediate realities. In Ottawa, for example, the factory system has just hit the federal government. From being secure in comfortable city parks and crannies, the different government agencies have now been gathered in their own, separate, completely enclosed buildings with regulated heating and winter and air conditioning in summer. What has been the effects of such a move on the health and morale of the civil servants? Social science is still somewhat vague in its methods of measuring phenomena, but biological science is precise. It is not clear whether a certain group of people are or are not poor. But the presence or absence of a virus harmful to health can be established with a high degree of certainty.

Stress on quantity of questions rather than on their quality can lead to a great deal of time-wasting in development. People involved in development are usually very busy or very harried; they are often pressed for time or to fill in long questionnaires. Sociologists favour questionnaires so that data can be transferred to punch cards. Anthropologists usually use a "structured interview" which is a jargon term for an informative conversation. A combination of the two—the collection of some basic data and answers to some significant questions—seems to be one way to avoid either having to deal with masses of data or being left with some interesting anecdotes of no particular general significance. Every community contains a number of key informants. These people have a great deal of knowledge about local activities and attitudes, and will usually talk to outsiders—if the outsiders are prepared to be patient. But those who are willing to spend an hour on a hurried run into trouble; an American psychologist was nearly thrown into a northern Ontario river because of his relentless pursuit of knowledge among the Indians there.

A difficulty that has arisen in Canada is that now even high calibre students feel they have to do "research". Research has become a magic word, yet training in research is a long and arduous task. No novice would undertake field work in anthropology, physics, and yet many an undergraduate will sally forth to examine complex situations and to ask delicate questions. In Canada, I have seen a disintegration of the field, in which so much social science is taught in the classroom and the laboratory. The English tradition of going to places great stress on field work, and learning about an area through the soles of the feet. In an experimental course in community development, I have tried to get students alternating between field work and library work, between real people and printed words. The old process whereby the notes of the professor became those of the student without going through the minds of either has only limited life; students seek an encounter with reality, and they must approach it in a disciplined, but not rigid, structured-way. Many students have travelled widely, and some have come back to college after a number of years in various positions; one of my students was a militia colonel.

The wise teacher accepts his students as colleagues in a mutual quest for knowledge. In the field of social science, the range of topics is so wide that it is impossible for any one person to keep up with them. In a research-teaching about development should be on methods of research. The teacher has to instruct students on how to get knowledge from people with large numbers of facts. It is important to let students follow their own interests and to give them the opportunity to do so. Students in my community development course have to spend five or six hours doing fieldwork and talking with people who have knowledge in a particular field. The students can talk to anyone, anywhere. Again, this is an advantage in that the student can contact local people or senior government officials. In this way, they can create a network of contacts and contacts can be a problem. At the end of the year they have to produce a paper or report. This includes the names of the people contacted, a bibliography. The report is something the student can carry away with him, and is a far better gauge of a student's ability than a mark from an exam. The student's "product" can be read and assessed by other teachers. The paper, passed around to those who

assisted the research worker, helps to put people in contact with each other and to discuss the importance of each other's existence. This is one way of breaking down the isolation so common in our macho-atomised society.

A dynamic young seminarist did a project on the role of the clergyman in urban renewal. He interviewed clergymen, had them fill in a questionnaire, now they saw their role, then brought them together for an animation session. Other projects have included a study of the organisation of a recreational programme (which fell apart while the study was being done), the problems of people labelled "unemployable" by the government (these people resented being treated as means to the ends of others), and an examination of what poverty meant in qualitative and quantitative terms in a small town (we have lots of data on rural poverty and urban poverty in Canada, little on small town poverty). At present, in Canada, a certain strained feeling exists between the federal and provincial governments; research workers can cross and recross the invisible administrative barriers that separate different jurisdictions.

Certain areas lend themselves to scientific research more than others. Canada has a wide area free state—there is a need to move from this state into post-industrial society. Life is safe, perhaps too safe. The physical hazards of life are reduced, but there are other social hazards now—repression, paternalism, lack of commitment, barriers that separate individuals. The Scottish Highlands seem to be facing something of the same problem. Life is secure in a way it never was before, but the promise of the future may be dashed if attention is not paid to the social and cultural factors in development.

I am surprised to see that little attention has been paid to the Highlands and Islands as a sort of training ground for young people going abroad as volunteers. The Scottish Highlands seem to be facing something of the same problem. Life is secure in a way it never was before, but the promise of the future may be dashed if attention is not paid to the social and cultural factors in development. I am surprised to see that little attention has been paid to the Highlands and Islands as a sort of training ground for young people going abroad as volunteers. The Scottish Highlands seem to be facing something of the same problem. Life is secure in a way it never was before, but the promise of the future may be dashed if attention is not paid to the social and cultural factors in development.

Cardinal Newman had a vision of the university as a place where the activities of the humanity could be put back together. That gentle, tormented man saw around him, in the nineteenth century, the fragmentation of men and women that resulted from the impact of the machine during the Industrial Revolution. Industry begins to disfunction as men lose contact with each other and with the product they are working on. Chaplin showed the perils of industrialisation in the silent times in a way that no textbook could.

Development inevitably involves an increased use of machine, and

more things happen more quickly than people can react to. People together by the electronic means, but I believe that there is a need for institutions to create "neutral ground" where people can meet in peace and quietly discuss common problems and possible solutions. The university can perform this function of the "inter-aid" by creating a non-profit-making person or agency that stands between different groups of people and endeavours to create conditions for them to enter into mutually rewarding arrangements) is similar to that of the "entrepreneur" in the nineteenth century. The shift from "preneur" (taken to "aid" help) to a significant one, and more accord with the modern view that science and technology can create abundance for all, a bigger cake tomorrow than exists today.

At the Canadian Research Research Centre for Anthropology, we have experimented with the concept of neutral ground. The Centre is a 100-year-old stone house (an ancient monument by Canadian standards), in a quiet residential area, a few minutes' drive from the city. Most large universities in Canada are being as busy and as depersonalised as any factory. There is plenty of motion there; the amount of meaningful action that goes on is another matter.

Over the past two years at the Centre we sponsored meetings of all people engaged in urban research in different regions. A meeting between Indian Affairs Branch officials and a group of Indians from a reserve, and a conference on the role of the state in an international meeting on north education. At this conference two senior government officials, both involved in northern education and both working in the same government building, met for the first time.

H. G. Wells described civilisation as a race between education and annihilation. Man's mechanical technology has always been ahead of his social technology, even since the first half human accidentally chipped a flint of a core, and himself began to see possibilities for the new tool. The Electronic era, the rapid pace of change requires that stabilising agencies and institutions be built into society to provide feedback and control. Individuals can do a certain amount, but they come and go. There is a need for an institution to provide continuity. Government agencies seem to appear and disappear with startling speed in Canada, and the individuals in these agencies play a continuous game of its bureaucratic equivalent of musical chairs. They dash around and when the noise ceases, they grab for the nearest vacant chair. Universities exist for several hundred years, and will continue to exist for another few hundred. The universities are being educated in general—is booming on a world wide scale.

In Canada, new universities are springing up like mushrooms—Mars say like toadstools. Some are being built with under-education. Others have succumbed to the Oxbridge syndrome with gowned undergraduates walking through the quadrangles in academic lawn, discussing the great issues of the day. One or two have become centres of student power, but their training graduates there have not yet determined whether to take over the university or to burn it down. But, in scattered places, there are signs of a new spirit on the horizon. At the University of Alberta, Professor Frank White, Chairman of the Department of Mining Engineering and Applied Geology, is training civil engineers and geophysicists seeking beyond the rocks and learn about labour relations and the human element. At the University of Manitoba, Dr John Page is studying isolated settlements in the North. Northern institutes have

been developed at several universities. The Centre d'Études Nordiques at the University of Laval, Dr Hamelin, and the Institute of Northern Studies at the University of Saskatchewan, under Dr Philip Barbour, are the sort of vigorous, interdisciplinary institutions that are developing in Canada to deal with the problems of the north.

During a short sojourn in Scotland in the summer of 1966, I found a number of people who expressed their interest in a Highlands University. The discussion of the idea in the HIDB's first annual report indicates how this body views the possible future of the area. But the university concept has to go beyond that of a "good idea." The roles for the university and the relationship of the university to the community and to the development process has to be outlined. The sorts of problems that hinder the development of the Canadian north—the lack of a high level of education, of introducing a high level of science and technology into a "backward" area, the clash of cultures, a machine-based society confronts a human-based society, the places where decisions are made, the actions carried out, "keeping the women happy in isolated areas, the problems of youth for whom the region offer limited prospects, the necessity for capital investment, the over-education of many highly skilled workers, and many other problems, seem to be present in the Scottish Highlands Canada now also. This area, like other old realities, and new possibilities might be blended to ensure a fuller life for all. Even from casual observations, the strategy of change seem to be making themselves felt in the Highlands and Islands. The ambivalence of local feelings towards the HIDB gives some indication of this. The Board is either the bringer of progress or the shatterer of tradition, depending on who you talk to.

There is a traumatic period (which seems characteristic of all enterprises of this kind) has now settled on its course. It has brought a happy instability, the rigidity that comes with stability and an increase in numbers of staff and fixed operations. Invergovodometer will consume a great deal of energy over the next few years. The Board is an economic body—such boards in general have a tendency to get depersonalised as demands for quick action are made upon them. The Board, to date, has shown an astonishing ability to be both human and inhuman. There is a need to implement the Board's efforts with some similar social institution like a university.

The Highlands and Islands have been a forgotten part of Scotland in terms of the United Kingdom, and yet this part of the nation is one that is famous the world over. What a great opportunity for a great concern to many people—no one's asked spots—the world over. Here, while the rest of Europe was in the throes of wilderness, the Celtic civilisation was born. The traditional society of the Gaelic peoples was human focused, and like all traditional societies, it was a great loss to the world. It is members that is sadly lacking in our mechanised, individualised world.

The development of the Highlands and Islands could take advantage of the most modern science and technology available. The opportunities are enormous. There is an amount of material available that might be useful in the same, scientific and human development of northern Scotland. Every part of the country is of interest to people involved in the development of northern Scotland.

But this science and technology

(continued opposite)



has to be introduced in a way that is accordant with the social environment—it must blend in at the pace of the local people. This is a delicate business, and since development must be planned in place in the context of the possible, it demands a detailed knowledge of real limits and possibilities. The development "boosters" have got all things as being possible—with a little knowhow and some money—and the development knoekers who oppose any and all changes are just as unaware of what development implies. In development one task is to separate what can be controlled from what cannot be controlled. The Inverness smelter will bring anticipated benefits to the area—more jobs, more income, more people. But what about the unanticipated consequences—the crowded streets, the traffic jams, the transient labour force, the inflationary tendencies when a great deal of money is spent in a short time, and in a limited area?

The development of the Moray Firth area has already resulted in the production of a smaller piece of work—the Jack Holmes Planning Group Report. Planners in North America have been usually concerned with the future rather than with the messy present. The Holmes report builds on the present and suggests possible ways of getting into the future. It outlines the ways of creating conditions that will attract and hold a skilled labour force and, at the same time, attract and preserve the character of existing towns and settlements. The report presents new horizons for planning—the development of the possible, rather than the destruction of the present environment. One possible "product" from northern Scotland is the ability and expertise that the Holmes Group developed in this plan—such expertise is badly needed in Canada. There is no need to drain the brains abroad, but the talents of the Holmes groups to be made available as an "invisible export" to developing nations.

While stray academics have wandered into the Scottish North in recent years, sometimes invited, sometimes uninvited, it comes as a surprise that no Scottish universities have seen the need for an area for interdisciplinary research and training. One product of the area could be knowledge, information and skills. In his book "Escape from the Classroom" shows that he understands the need to break the Platonic academic grip that the present educational system has on the students. There is a need for university students to immerse themselves totally in reality. In the Scottish Highlands and Islands, students could see, study and understand the complex realities of the modern development process. They could start from the local people and by first hand contact with a total environment would realise the dynamics of development—and of their own being. They could learn the Gaelic and understand how this subtle tongue was used for social control. Development cannot be felt only from the inside; it must be felt, seen and touched.

In the Barren Grounds of Canada's Northwest Territories, the Arctic Research and Training Centre of the University of Saskatchewan at Rankin Inlet, under Professor Robert Williamson, is acting as a focus for development. At this centre, students study Eskimo anthropology—in Eskimo country. Through the centre pass geologists, ethnologists, geographers and others. The centre serves as a focus for local people and outsiders. Government officials who are working with Eskimos are sent out on the trail with Eskimos who speak no English. A few days in the Barren Grounds soon knocks out any lingering trace of ethnocentrism.

At Inuvik, a research laboratory has provided focus for development. It has encouraged the emergence of the Mackenzie Institute which is devoted to training and research in the field of local terms and related to local needs.

A similar sort of Centre would do a great deal to aid development in northern Scotland. Development involves a movement from diffuseness to specificity. There are a large number of agencies involved in development in the Highlands and Islands, but their activities and interests are unco-ordinated and unfocused at the present time. There is no central place. Inverness where all material relevant to development (both from the Scottish North and from the rest of the world) is lodged. Everyone wants co-ordination at this day and age, but no-one wants to be co-ordinated. One effective way to be co-ordinated in such an area is to have a central place a comfortable set of offices or an old house—containing relevant material, and comfortable chairs. People with an interest in development will find such a place, and also find others with similar interests. Such a place is best run by a non-governmental body.

In the usual run of things in Britain, new universities are created by government when the size of the student population is too great. The amount of much of life today is waiting for the government. When it is decided by Whitehall that a new university is needed, the government chooses likely sites and listens to local pressure groups who claim that their city is by far the best place to create a new university. You get instant universities arising. In universities, of course, are focal points of growth in modern society. A city with a university is growing, and the government provides a knowledge focus for the area that helps to attract new industry. The students and staff provide a healthy market for many local services, especially pubs. The University of Alaska is flourishing and growing while the gold industry, on which Fairbanks was founded, is moribund.

The belief in the Scottish Highlands is that Inverness may have to wait until, at least 1972 until a certain university is established for the area. But there is certainly enough talent and interest in the Scottish Highlands and Islands to establish a healthy market for development research centres. This could be the nucleus of a university. The government can control universities—but they cannot control the development process. It is research station by any body. Like so many other things in development, it is not a question of if a certain university will place, but rather of deciding which will take place. The Highlands and Islands are going to need a central place for research and knowledge. But who will initiate the project? And how can the project be initiated in such a way that it can become part of a university in later years?

A university at Inverness could become a poor, pallid shadow of other British universities, or it could be a new term for universities in developing areas. In these areas, the social and economic conditions distinctly stormy—and they will get stormier, as the development process continues. People are demanding more goods and services, a better life, a say in the decisions that affect their lives. I believe that universities have a considerable role to play in the development process. But they run the danger of becoming a sterile operation. They should define their role, and specialise like the centre of a tropical hurricane. In these vast, turbulent areas, the winds of change are blowing in the centre, in the eye, right into the calm and quiet. The university needs to move into the future. But it should not try to do badly what other agencies are doing

well. During the Dark Ages, the universities provided a safe, safe place for those men and women who, while concerned with humanity, felt that there was a need for some sort of focus for knowledge, where all were welcome to come to share in the common heritage of man. The development process of today is a new land, a new land more human—only too frequently, with the advent of the machine, the reverse process takes place. A Northern Scotland is a new land with old problems. Here it is worlds—the old, stable, human-focused one, and the new changing, machine centred one.

There is no central place. Possibilities here for the emergence of a life style, for Britain and for other parts of the world, struggling from a bleak past into a promising but uncertain future. This area has possibilities—for complementarity of effort, or for competition. This, this possibility, like the others in the Highlands—it has shown boldness and a sense of adventure that is not typical of government bodies or development boards. It has a lot of what people should be cursing the darkness. But other possibilities for the area abound, and the university is one of these. But this possibility, like the others will not just happen. People in developing areas only too frequently react rather than acting.

Northern Canada is a focus of world attention—and a focus of world life. In its combination of qualities, and in its appeal, it leaves no person unmoved. What happens here, could have a clear impact for people throughout the world.

In development in the Highlands and Islands there is a need to create new institutions, or to change one so that the strain of change can be eased for as many people as possible. The challenge is there in the Scottish North—a challenge that the student body has picked up. "One institution that could serve the area is a research station, and then a university. I have outlined in this article some possible roles for a university in the modern world. Already, people in North America are carrying out these roles. The value of any complete institution, however, will be related to the way in which it serves all those who seek its assistance. The university can be and should be a service institution, trying to solve any problem that concerns real people. That the university is wavering at the present time between frantic action and complete inaction, between community consciousness and a distinct desire to remain uninvolved in the ordinary life of ordinary people, is an indication of a high degree of ambivalence about the role of the university and its future.

Surely, in the Scottish North, some groups and individuals will have the courage to grasp the thistle and move beyond talk to the establishment of a research centre that might in time become the nucleus of a new modern university, independent of government, yet concerned with the problems of society, pursuing its own path, but showing concern for the problems of others, objective in its assessment of problems, but sympathetic to the problems of all men. This sort of university would exist in the world, in bits and pieces, in quiet corners and remote places. Perhaps, in the last developing part of the world, in the Far North, where education is appreciated, some attempt can be made to put all these pieces together to create a university that would be of use to all parts of the world.

(This article by Prof Lotz is a development of the article which appeared in 'Scotland' under the title: 'A New Kind of University: The Highlands' Opportunity.)

## HEBRIDEAN VIEWPOINT

le Colliceach an t-Sruth

### ROADS TO NOWHERE?

In the last week or two the subject of roads in Lewis has been given an airing. Not that roads as a subject have really ever been allowed to fall into wasteful oblivion in the island.

Roads are important to Lewis. These highways keep land open on Lewis just as much as they do anywhere else in the world. Close the roads; neglect the roads; refuse to build roads, or complete them on time; and an area of land becomes depopulated—fast.

Mr Albert Nicoll, at a recent meeting of Ross and Cromarty Highways Committee, stressed the importance of the roads in Lewis, in view of the coming of the new Stornoway/Ullapool ferry service.

But these roads are in need of repair. What proportion of the Lewis contribution to the coffers of the County Council is fed back to the island? Are the County's main roads really in a better state, mile for mile? Have we an indication of the roads programme in the County, and what exactly is the programme for the island's roads during the next decade?

Another thing: Are the road pleas being based on the requirements of a temporary tourist traffic, or the permanent island traffic?

We thank Mr Malcolm MacMillan, M.P., for his efforts to have trunk road status granted to the main road in Lewis. But his efforts are obviously not sufficient to interest those of his own Party at present in power and who could easily assess the cost of road upgrading and repair in Lewis in terms of political advantage at the next election.

Roads are uppermost in the minds of the Uig people too. But here the problem is not that of catering for the tourist, to save his car springs. Here the problem is that of depopulation.

The Rev. Donald MacAulay has pointed out the size of

the problem: over the past twenty years the erosion of the social structure in the area has increased to the extent that complete desertion is the only prospect.

But why should this be so? Who is allowing this decline to take place? Who is shouting from the rooftops about this?

The voices heard so far have been too few, too remote from the ears of those in authority, and too weak in volume.

The subject of Lewis roads is one which should be taken up by all Lewis folk. It is they in the very end who will suffer, they and their children.

Mr John Paterson, Brue, has said about Uig: "This is a distressed area." What words to hear in 1970!

If nothing is done for the folk of Uig, will there in fact be a John Paterson in Brue to echo similar words in 1980?

Who will take action now over the roads in Lewis? An action that will result in a better and encouraging environment for the islanders? WHO?

## Cuil nan Ceist—18

Glaschu

1. De an t-ainn a th'air an eaglais ann an Glaschu ann an robh an t-Oll. Urr. Tor-mod MacLeod ('caraid nam Gaidheil') 'na mhìnis-
  2. Cia 'meud neach ann an Glaschu a bhruidhneadh a' Ghaidhlig ann an 1961?
  3. Lion gach bearn 's na sreathan seo a chuir na baird ri cheile mu dheidhinn Glaschu.
  - (a) B'fhearr leam na m'—  
lin thu as prìsile mhìn—  
tha 'n Glaschu.
  - (b) Glaschu a bhith o no dol 'na — o no.
  - (c) Nuair thainig mi a' Ghlaschu 'n duil ri d'fhaicinn anns na —.
  4. Co am Prabhost a th'air baile Glaschu?
  5. Cuin a chuireadh an Comunn Oiseanach air chois ann an Oilthigh Glaschu?
- Fuasgladh air t.d. 12

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**OBITUARY**

**DOMHNALL GRAND NACH MAIREANN**

**B**ITHIDH ionndrainn air Domhnall Grand air fad agus leud na Gàidhealtachd agus na Gàidhealtachd agus na biadhnaichean a bha e comhla ruinn chuir e colas air moran agus bha e 'n sas anns gach meadhan a shaol leis a bhith eadh chum leis a chanain agus a dhaoine. Cha robh e idir a' creidsinn gum foghnadh an mheadhon a mhaoin agus e daonnan deiseil gu taic a chur ris gach meadhan chan ann idir le bruidhinn, ach le obair chruaidh. Bu dhujne e air na buhlitheadh buadhan inntinn thar tomhas agus chuir e na buadhan sin gu lan bhuiil ann an aobhar na Gàidhliche agus a duthcha. A bharrachd air e sin bha e na dhune riosa ceart agus dileas agus bha mheas sin air a measg a luchd eolais. Bha e sporsail abhachdach 'na chomhradh agus 'na sgrìobhaidean agus 'na fhear cuideachd a bha baidheil cairdeil ri sean agus og.

Rugadh agus thogadh Domhnall ann an Sleibhte anns an Eilean Sgathanach agus air dha a dhearbhadh ann an Sgoil Phortrigh gum bu sgoilear da rìreabh e thainig e do Oilthigh Ghlaschu far an tug e mach an M.A. 'Se teagasc sgoile a bh'air air agus agus e thein ullachadh na b'fhearr thug e mach a rithis B.A. (Lunnainn) agus M.Ed. (Glaschu). Thug e greis a teagasc sgoile an Ceann Loch Gip ach chuir e seachd a mhòr chuid de laithean a'teagas ann an Glaschu far an robh e iomadh bliadhna 'na ard Mhaighstir Sgoile. Thug e greis cuideachd a'teagas ann an Colaise Jordanhill. Chan-

adh duine gum bu mhaith an obair sin fheind do neach sam bith ach chan fhoghnadh sin do Dhomhnall Grand. Bha e a' faghinn moran eile ar cheannan ma bha seann chanain ar dualchais agus ar subhaiceas gu seasamh air chuimhne agus air mhaireann anns an latha san robh e beo. Thug e fad choig bliadhna ficeadh 'na ruinaire air Comunn Sgathanach Ghlaschu agus a rithis bha e 'na cheann suidhe air. Bha e 'na bhail de'n agus 'na fhear comhairle air a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach fad iomadh bliadhna agus a rithis 'na cheann suidhe. Bha e 'na cheann suidhe cuideachd air Aitreachd nan Gàidheal an Glaschu agus air meur an Celtic Congress an Alba. Air a' Gheamhradh 'se fhein chuireadh urram ceann suidhe air an Celtic Society an Glaschu agus thug se thlachd do mhoran air a dh'aindeoin na bh'airear a dheanadh agus e daonnan a' cuideachadh leis an iomain, cluich ris an robh e fhein fad iomadh bliadhna.

Thoisich feisean Drama Ghaidhlich ann an Glaschu o choinn trì deug no ceithir deug de bhliadhnaichean. Bha feum air luchd cluich agus air luchd sgrìobhaidh. Bha Domhnall an sas anns an obair sin gun dad a'sgrìobhadh dhealbhan cluiche agus a'cluich. Choisinn e an adhbhar leis sinson a'sgrìobhadh agus airson cluiche ach cha b'e seo a cheud sgrìobhadh a rinn e. Chruanadh e 'na bhàrd aig a' Mhòd Naiseanta ann an 1935 agus bha e air a cheud fheadhainn a thug lann chuideachadh do Gharinn. Bha e cuideachd 'na

fhear deasachaidh air a Ghaidheal agus na sgrìobhaiche ann an Sruth nam bhò thob-sich e. Bha uigh aige cuideachd ann an ceol agus thug e greis na fhearr-stiuridh air coisr na cloinne an Knightswood. Cha robh meur de ar dualchais anns nach robh e an sas ach 'na dhacaidh fhein bha e fialaidh cairdeil agus is iomadh neach a bh'air aoidheachd aige. Bha e fhein sa cheile chaomh da rìreabh air an aon ramh agus cuideachd a mhaic agus a nighean. Is iomadh coibhneas a nochd iad do chach, do sheann daoine agus do gach neach aig an robh feum air lamh chuideachaidh. Bithidh sinn aile ideachaidh. Bithidh sinn aile 'ga ionndrainn; chan innradh e sinn a bh' 'ga chaoitdh agus gu dearb' sann bu choir dha a bhith na aobhar uail agus auingealachd dhunni gum robh an cothrom againn eolas a chur air lan Ghaidheal a bhualich a laithean agus a bhuidhan ann an tobarh ar canain agus a duthcha agus sin gu dileas agus gu treibh-dhreach.

Tha ar comhfhairreachd ann ris a' bhanntraich agus ri a theaghalch agus 'nar measg fhein bithidh sinn a'cuimhneachadh agus a' bruidhinn air Domhnall le speis agus le gradh.

**OVER TO YOU**

(Continued from page 9)

present day Scotland bears to England as described in *The Times* leader to which Mr Hart refers, might indicate to some that the forces against which an Amunn had to pitch its limited resources were not entirely inactive.

We must admit to having missed the copies of *The Times* referred to.

In fact we can be justly accused of rarely reading this particular English newspaper.

So far as the Mass Census forms are concerned it may be of some consolation to Mr Hart to hear that not only have an Amunn asked for these to be printed in Gaelic but Mr Russell Johnston, M.P. for Inverness-shire has also taken the matter up with the Secretary of State. It is not at all certain that they will not be available in Gaelic.

**Highland Culture**

(Continued from page 2)

to the sum total of the achievement of homo sapiens. Self-interest as well as sentiment require its preservation because it attracts tourists and sells Highland products. It has an economic as well as a cultural value which we would be foolish to neglect. But above all it is good in itself to add to "the delicate magic of life."

All concerned, inside and outside the Highlands, private and public bodies, should recognise their responsibilities and opportunities and concert action to preserve and develop every aspect of Highland culture. Only public bodies have the financial resources to do so adequately but perhaps only private persons have the knowledge and enthusiasm to do so fittingly—ultimately triumphantly.

All government departments, all Highland County Councils and District Councils should consider how best they can help and take action without delay. Ideally the agency to plan, conduct and partially finance the operation would be the Highlands and Islands Development Board (although at present a large part of the Highlands is outside its authority and control).

**PERTSHIRE ROAD IMPROVEMENT**

A £68,000 contract for the improvement of a section of the Perth-Inverness Trunk Road (A.9) at Atholl Road, Pitlochry, has been awarded to Messrs John McAdam & Sons Ltd., Perth, by Mr William Ross, M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

The scheme involves the reconstruction, partly along the line of the existing road, and partly in diversion, of 0.3 miles of the trunk road together with the provision of two footpaths, and a pedestrian underpass through the railway embankment.

A diversion of the junction of East Moulin Road with the trunk road, and the improvement of East Moulin Road, are also included in the work.

The scheme, which will take a year to complete, was prepared by the Perthshire County Surveyor, and will be supervised by him on behalf of the Secretary of State.

**Cuil nan Ceist—18**

Fuasgladh

1. Eaglais Chalum Chille.
2. 11,165.
3. (a) Brat.
- (b) Lasair.
- (c) Buithean.
4. Mgr. Dommhull Liddle.
5. 1834.

**MACIVER and DART**

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**Births**

**MACLEOD** — At the Maternity Hospital, Dunfermline, Fifc, on 28th January 1970, to Calum and Jennifer (Redpath), 45 Concorde Way, Inverkeithing, Fifc, a son (Norman).

**Deaths**

**MACKINNON** — At Craig Dunain Hospital, Inverness, on 28th January 1970, Mary Ann Mackinnon, late of 24 Leurbost, aged 75 years, widow of the late John Mackinnon, 8 Ranish, Lochs.

**MACDONALD** — Very suddenly at home, at the Cottage, Lochmaddy, on 28th January 1970, Nan Macdonald (Maclean), beloved wife of Murdoch Macdonald and dearly loved mother of Jessie, Annie, Donald John and Charlie. Deeply mourned and sadly missed.

**Misc.**

Rugadh an t-Eileanach air Latha na Bliadh'n Uire. 'Se "An t-Eileanach" an leabhran mosail a th' air a chur a mach le cairdeachan Eilais na h-Alba ann an Bearnaigh na Hearadh. Tha e gu léir ann an Gàidhlig, agus gan ach àireamh zheibheach, naidheachdan, laoidhean, searmonnan, dealbhan-nan, sgeulachdan beaga agus naidheachdan cloinne. Chan 'eil e a' cosg ach sia sgillinn 's mhios (deich sgillinn leith phost) no deich sàidhean 's bhàillidh, agus is an leabhran agus am faradh. Curibh 'ga iarraidh chun an t-seòladh a leanas: Rev. R. Macleod, Berneray, Lochmaddy, North Uist.

**DOMHNALL MACASGAILL ARDHASAIL**

Buth Ghoireasais is Gach ni a dithh oirbh

**MAIRI NACAOGHAS**

Snath is adach Chloinne Paiper sgrìobhaidh Ghoireasais eile

**Tairbeart na Hearadh**

**HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION**  
Holiday Cottage (Electric Light) wanted two weeks June. Quiet. Two adults only. Particulars please: Miss Brock, Tigh an Uillit, Wiltton Road, Hawick.

**PEN PAL WANTED**  
Pen pal to correspond in GAELIC with 25-year-old graduate. Wide range of interests particularly music from pop to classical to soul mor. Write: C. Stuart, 10 Highway Road, Sidcup, Kent.

An Comunn Gàidhealach **SOUTHERN REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
Members of An Comunn Gàidhealach resident in the Southern area and other persons interested are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Council in "The Highlanders' Institute, Berkeley Street, Glasgow, C.3, on Saturday, 7th March 1970, at 10 a.m.

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6th - 18th JULY 1970

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Cost for fortnight, including twin and three-bedded accommodation, meals and tuition, £27.

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13th - 18th JULY

The programme will cover the range and development of Gaelic music.

Cost, including accommodation and meals, £11 10s.

For both schools the charge for non-resident students will be 15/- per day.

Application forms from The Director, An Comunn Gàidhealach, Abertarf House, Church Street, Inverness.

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