

# SRUTH

DI-ARDAOIN, 16mh AN DAMHAR, 1969

THURSDAY, 16th OCTOBER, 1969

No. 67

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Photo: The Evening Times

President of An Comunn Gàidhealach Rev. A. M. Beaton with Mr Ron Gillibrand, John Player & Sons, admiring the Gold Pipe Banner, presented by Players for award to the winner of the new Open Piping Competition at the Mod.

## Chairman wants more freedom for HIBB

Professor Sir Robert Grieve chairman of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, suggested on Tuesday in Inverness, that there is a need for the Board to have greater independence and more co-ordinating power.

Giving evidence before the Parliamentary Select Committee on Scottish Affairs, Sir Robert claimed that this was necessary if the Board's work is to be pursued with vigour.

Mr Donald Dewar, M.P. for Aberdeen South, asked whether this would be compatible with a body who were not producing their own revenue and were not elected.

Sir Robert said he felt it was quite compatible and pointed out that the board were set up by Parliament and appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland. They were brought into being to do a specific job and it was essential that they proceed with speed. Anything preventing them from doing so was not good.

Relationships with the Scottish Office were good, and he added: "We have begun to talk the same vocabulary, which we did not do at the beginning.

"We recognise that in our initial stages, when we were raw and untried, it was very natural for central Government to watch us carefully. We simply say there are fields in which we think we could reasonably be released from certain controls to do our job

### AN RIOGHACHD

The article which appeared in the last issue of SRUTH by Ludovic Kennedy was reprinted from a pamphlet published by the 1320 Club, at Tigh an Uillit, Wilton Dean, Hawick. Copies of the pamphlet are available from this address.

freely and vigorously. In no case are we seeking anything not fundamental or unconstitutional."

The Wheatley Commission envisaged a time when the board would be seen to have performed their function but it was his own belief that this was a long way ahead. He did not think the commission visualised the board suddenly disappearing.

Asked for his views on

redefining the board's area, Sir Robert said they had received representations on this and recognised that some areas should be included. The one most outstanding was the Cairngorms complex which took in parts of Aberdeenshire, Moray and Nairn and Banffshire.

On finance, Sir Robert stressed the delays which could occur when application had to be made to the Treasury through the Scottish Office to spend money on some projects.

Dealing with transport and the islands, he said it was important that the board should find a way to engender economic activity in Lewis and other islands. There was no doubt that one of the most pitiful barriers was that of transport charges.

The board were working out a scheme in which they regarded sea crossings as flexible roads. In it a lorry would not pay any more for a run between Uig and Tarbert than it would cost to travel over a comparable distance by road. This scheme was being submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland.

## ROLL-ON ROLL-OFF ORKNEY FERRY HIBB recommendation for Orkney

"A Ferry for Orkney", the report by the Highlands and Islands Development Board on ferry routes to the Orkney Islands, released on Wednesday

recommends that a roll-on/roll-off ferry should be built and put in operation on the Scrabster/Stromness route as quickly as possible.

### "MOD" TRAINS

The Aviemore Mod looks like living up to its description as the "commuter" mod with the introduction of special trains from Inverness.

British Rail are laying on special services at 6.07 p.m. each evening to arrive in Aviemore at 7.05 p.m. Return times from Aviemore vary according to the finishing times of official functions. There being no late evening ceilidhs on the first three evenings the return journey from Aviemore will be at 10.35 p.m.

From Monday 21st onwards, there are late night functions and trains will leave Aviemore at 12.35 a.m. on the first two evenings and at 2.00 a.m. for the remainder of the week.

The return fare is at a concession rate of 10/-

Announcing this in Inverness, Mr Prophet Smith, the Board Member responsible for transport, said: "The vessel should be capable of carrying the largest size of commercial vehicle and should be able to make the crossing in 90-100 minutes.

"The Board do not see this new ferry as merely replacing the existing ship and carrying visitors' cars rather more efficiently. They see it as becoming a main route to Orkney for commercial freight and livestock, letting Orkney take full advantage of the benefits of modern road transport. The Orkney economy has traditionally been heavily dependent on agriculture and because of this the islands have been steadily losing population in recent years as their agriculture has become more mechanised and employs less people. The Orkney economy must be diversified if population is to be maintained.

"Already there are signs of a revival of a fishing industry and tourism is slowly growing as a provider of jobs and income. We feel that the provision of a modern roll-on/roll-off ferry coupled with a more logical

(Continued on Page Nine)

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Di-ardaoin, 16mh An Damhar 1969

Thursday, 16th October 1969

## FAIGINN BHUAM

# Riochdairean Nan Gaidheal

### THE MOD — IS IT MOD ENOUGH ?

The 1969 Mod at Aviemore marks a new phase in the history of this annual phenomenon: it is longer and it is being held in a rural area, instead of the usual urban setting hitherto thought necessary for its financial success. But has the thinking behind the Mod changes gone far enough? Last year (and we do so again today) we suggested that the Mod and its organisation be committed into the hands of a Company with limited liability, to gain at least two prime advantages.

First, it would relieve an Comunn of a tail which has waggled it far too long and resulted in an Comunn being associated too closely with the Mod, the latter being seen as a psychological necessity for the annual re-assertion of the Gael not only in the context of his own environment, but, in the context of the much larger Scottish national horizon.

Secondly, there is such a climate of healthy interest in Gaelic at present that the opportunity should be taken to promote the Mod as a Scottish National Festival. The Edinburgh Festival is an international event, with a rather fluffy fringe to indicate its Scottish associations. The Mod, promoted as a Scottish National event, would offer the necessary facility through which our nation could project her true image.

While the Mod has received an increasing amount of professional attention in recent years there is still much to be done. A Company with an incentive of profit could turn some of its gain towards commissioning the necessary expertise to advantage. Further finance, derived from profits, could be used to promote music, literature and visual arts in the form of enhanced prizes of a scale to match those offered to novelists and the like at the Oireachtas in Eire, and on the Continent — all for purely Gaelic-based works.

While one may deplore the fact that the Arts have now been priced as a societal commodity, one must take advantage of this new measure to investigate those areas of Gaelic culture which will stand to benefit from an injection of money. An Comunn is the body to initiate such investigation. The new Mod Company would be the body to implement an Comunn's recommendations.

Are there new directions being advocated for an Comunn Gaidhealach? If there are, then we should hear about them at the Aviemore Mod and at an Comunn's Annual General Meeting. But if we do not hear these new ideas, will it mean that the 1969 Mod has given us a further reason for becoming complacent about Gaelic again?

### ARAN IS URNAIGH

Thuir Saunders Lewis o choinn ghoidinn ann a' ràid gu robh oigridh na Cuimrigh a' sabaid airson beatha rainn anns am bithèadh àite ar a' thoir do na nithèan a bhùineas dh'èanntinn agus dh'ann spiorad. Dh'innis Comhairle na h-Eaglais 's na Dùtcha aig Eaglais na h-Alba anns a' chùnnas aca an seorsa riaghlaidh, 'nam beachd-san, a bithèadh a' gabhail leis na h-Alba, chan ann a' mhàin a thaobh teachd-an-uir, ach a thaobh adhartais spioradail agus adhartas nan nithèan a bhùineas dh'èanntinn agus dh'ann bheachd-meanmna.

Cinnteach nach do ghabh duine sam bith iughnach dh'èanntinn aig Saunders Lewis ach bha litir anns an "Scotsman" 'bho dithis bhall dh'èanntinn Eaglais ag ràdh nach robh iad-san ag aontachadh leis a'Chomhairle idir agus nach bu choir dh'èanntinn Eaglais a bhith gabhail gnòthach ri poiltics. Bha làn chòir aig an dithis am beachd fhèin air a'gnòthach a thoir seachadh ach cha robh còir sam bith aca a ràdh nach eil gnòthach aig an Eaglais ri poiltics. Ach nach tric a chuala sinn an aon argumaid roimhe?

Tha feadhainn a chanas an aon rud mu'n Chomunn Gaidhealach ach tha an àireamh-san a' sìor dol an lughad. Ged nach tàinig moran atharrachadh air cruth a' Mhòid bho'n chuireadh air chòis an toiseach e tha spiorad ur a' brosnachadh treud dh'èanntinn a tha gabhail pàirt ann. Thàinig iad gu bhith tuigsinn gu beil e cho gòrach a thaobh adhartais na Gàidhlig agus na Gàidhealach a bhith seinn òran agus a' dol gu cèilidhean gum a bhith deanamh sion eile, s' bithèadh e bhith taghadh sìol math airson a chur gun suim sam bith dh'èanntinn talamh ann am btear 'ga chur. Chan eil uon rud nas gòraiche na seo ach a bhith saoisinn gun dèan poiltics an gnòthach le fhèin.

Cha chreid mi nach b'fhìach dhùinn beachdachadh air pàirt dhe na thuir Stephen Spender ann an leabhar "Life and the Poet":

"Chan e ceann-uidhe poiltics poiltics fhèin idir, ach na nithèan a bhithèas a' dol air adhart anns as stàit, stàit a tha poiltics a' cumail a' dol... Chan eil ann an dòigh-beatha nach eil a' gabhail suim de rud sam bith ach poiltics ach inneal a tha giùlan a chur de dhaoine gun chàil ann na riaghlaithean aige a tha co-fhreagairt dh'ann cùraman, dh'ann aonaranachd no dh'ann feum air gaol."

Chan ann le aran a bhàin a bheathichear an duine — ach cha dèan urrainn leatha fhèin an gnòthach nas motha.

Bha mi ag èisdeachd madainn Disatharna seo chaidh le ro-àire, agus le dor-thlachd, ri Domhnall (Donnie B) MacLeod, is e ag innse dhùinn air an rèidio mu Mhòd an Aghaidh Mhòir, a bhithèas oirnn mu'n àm a thig an Sruth seo am mach. Dh'èirich an tlachd an dà chuid bho na thuir e agus an dòigh anns an d'fhuir e e. Cha do chleith MacLeod oirnn mar a thachair do'n Gàidhlig bho àm a' cheul Mhòid, agus mar a thuir àireamh an luchd-labhairt anns an àm sin bho cheathramh a' mhilleil gu ceithir fichead mìle (agus co a thèir-eadh gu foghainteach gu bhèil sin fhèin a nise ann?) Cha do chleith, ach cha deach e ri cànàin na faclan tursach no guth briste mu nithèan a tha seachd.

Gu sunndach chuir e far comhair, ged a tha mòran a' call an uidh anns a' chànain, agus mòran phàrantan gu h-àraidh a' creidsinn gun dèan an clann barrachd a' tarraist as a h-àonais, gu bhèil feadhainn eile ag èirigh suas a tha air an tarrainn airson caochladh aobhar a dh'ionnsaidh na cànain.

Far an chomharradh air an uidh iur seo àmichean Bn. Raatgever, as an Olainn, a chuir beagan tìne seachd comhla ruinn air a' rathad air ais a' Uidhist a Deas. Dh'fhòadadh Bn. Raatgever a bhith air na làithean saora a chur seachd air Gaidheal, no na b'fhàise air an taigh san Roinn Eòrpa, no eadhon an Aimearaga a Deas, far an aon nìgean aice seachdainean seachd as t-samhradh seo fhèin. Ach roghnaich i a dhol do Uidhist, a chum gu fàsadh i na b'fhileanta anns a' chànain seo air nachèil moran againe a' cur an luchd a bu chòir dh'èanntinn.

Bu chòir dh'òmhlas, s' dòcha a bhith doimheadh, nam faclan Bn. Raatgever iomchaidh fuireach anns an Eilean Siathach an aite a dhol seachd air do dh' Uidhist. Cha b'urrainn domh a ràdh rithe le firinn nach robh i ceart, ged a dh'fhòadhas Ruairi an agaidh a thoir orm mu fhallineachd Gàidhlig Dhùirinn.

An Disatharna ud fhèin thainig smuaintean a steacn or mis mi a' muih a' peinteach làtha àlainn, tìne anns a' ghrèin an dèidh lathaichean gu math fhìich). Air taobh agus a' dhol-labhairt. Tha e thall an òb bha a' chlànn ri a' dol nas fhàide na sin.

Eisd ri Domhnall MacLeod mar aon d'èan cheathrar no còrr a bhithèas a' toirt dhùinn naidheachdan Alba an dèidh sia uirean air an tele-vision. Tuigidh tu nach ann a bhàin nuair a tha e ag innse mu gnòthaichean na Gàidhealach a tha e a' seasamh am mach am measg chàich, ach gu bhèil an t-eòlas agus

an rud a thuir i a dh'fhag mi cho cruaidh orra, or' ged a bha e soirbh an cluinninn thairis air uachdar an uisge, cha chuala mi dad an dèidh siud a bhithèadh orm smoin-teachadh gum b'ann orm fhuin a bha iad a' bruidhinn.

Sin mar a tha. Clann Shlèite a' faotainn leth-uair sa latha (no san t-seachdain): de Ghàidhlig anns an sgòil agus a' stalladh air Beurla nam measg fhèin. Eadhnain eile nach fhaigh leasanan idir mar a thèid iad fhèin gu uchr an saothrach, agus deannan miltean a shìubhal gu àite far a bheil còrth oirnn a' Gàidhlig shìubhlach a chluinntinn fhathast.

Sheall Bn. Raatgever dhùinn litir a fhuair i bho a nìgean. Cha b'urrainn do'n chomhlan a bha stàigh dà dhith a lughdadh, mar a bha fios aice, ach aig an dèireadh air a' sgrìobhadh agus air a' litreachadh gu curamach bha na faclan, "Is bheir mi sgrìob do dh'Uidhist leat." Ged a thug seo gairne oirnn, cha b'urrainn dhùinn gun smoin-teachadh air an nì ud "a' chi na b'fhàise" agus air "b'òidheach agus buaidh" an ionnsachadh aig.

Beagan lathaichean roimhe siud thadhail mi air Poidar Fulton ann an sgòil an Ath-Leathainn. Tha Poidar air iur thòiseachadh air ceann na sgoile seo. Tha làn a' chinn de Ghàidhlig aige ged a b'ann Gallda a bha a' thair.

B'e am a' phleadha b'han nuair a thadhail mise. Nuair a dh'fhoighnich mi de'n feadhainn a b'fhàise an rogh Mgr. Fulton a stàigh, fhreagair tè laghad "Tha" Bha seo 'na m'èiseachd ged a tha fhios againn gu bhèil feadhainn a' freagairt ceist sa bith. 'Se th'orm gun d'innis Poidar fhèin dh'òmh an dèidh làimhe mu cheist eile a' chuireadh ri clann na sgoile, bha na thàinig eann. a' foighneachd cò aca aig a' robh Gàidhlig aig an taigh, agus a' mach a' còrr is ceithir fichead, b'e còigear air chur slos gum b'ì Gàidhlig cànain na dachaid.

Gu tìleadh gu Domhnall MacLeod saoilidh mi gur e a' dh'fhag e 'na riochdaire cho math am measg nan Gàidheal, chuan e mhàin gu robh an dealachas aige o thoiseach, ach guth do chum e greim air. Thuir mi beagan mu a' ghruth gu math fhìich). Air taobh agus a' dhol-labhairt. Tha e thall an òb bha a' chlànn ri a' dol nas fhàide na sin.

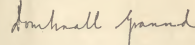
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na t-oileanachadh a tha air a' chùil, 'ga chur air thoiseach ann a bhith a' togail cuspair Albannach sa bith. Nì motha a bhithèadh e air dheireadh a' dèiligeadh ri gnòthaichean an t-saoghail mhòir. Faodaidh na Gàidheal a' nochdadh a mach mar dheagh riochdaire.

Tha fear a' leantainn Phiodar Fulton do'n Ath Leathann aig deireadh a' mhios aig a' robh mòran ri dèanamh cuideachd ann a bhith a' sgoileadh naidheachd — Calum Robasdan, Rinn an obair a bha e' deamamh deagh riochdaire dhèidh. Ged a tha Calum air ceann Comhairle Ionmhais A' Chomunn cha bhi e aig a' Mhòd an bliadhna cho fad sa bu mhaith leis. Chan e an imrich a' Glaschu as coireach uile gu léir. Tha an nìgean as òige a' pòsadh am Pòrtigh Dhaighean. Cumaidh am pòsadh mise agus feadhainn eile o bhith aig ceud lathaichean a' Mhòid. Cha bhithèadh e iomchaidh sin a chur as leth Chalun.

Cumaidh Calum air le obair a' chraobh sgoilidh, ach bithèadh litir Ghlaschu am pàipear an Obair an làmh an "Thormoid Mhìllethan, am fear a chloisinn chiu mar an aon duine ri amh a fhuair crùn agus bonn òir, agus sin anns an aon bhliadhna. Coltach ri Domhnall MacLeod, agus Calum Robasdan, cha do chuir a' Ghàidhlig a reir coltais stad sa bith 'na Bheurla, mar a sheallas an dà litir a sgrìobh e mar tha.

Nam ceadaichte eudh dh' fhaoidhte mòran eile a'imeachadh anns a' cheart rann. Faodaidh an Comunn agus na Gàidheal a-bhith riàrachd nach bi iad a chaidh as aonais deagh riochdairean am measg nan cinneach.



### NO LINK

No doubt readers of the "Oban Times" will have noticed the new time tables issued by Messrs David MacBryne and Company in the issue of Thursday, September, 18th. It is obvious that Lochboisdale is to have no link with Mallaig throughout the major portion of the year, and even that which is to be given during the summer months is at the most awkward hours.

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# Celtica - today

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

by P. Berresford Ellis

Some stirring news from the language front in Scotland! Comunn Na Canain Albannaich (The Scottish Language Society) has, at last, been formed. This is going to be a radical and militant language movement based on the lines of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg (The Welsh Language Society) which, in the space of two years' campaigning of demonstrations and civil disobedience etc., forced the English Government to pass The Welsh Language Bill, 1967. The Welsh campaign still continues and perhaps the next step of "equal status" between English and Welsh might soon be achieved.

For Scotland, if she wishes to retain her Scottish nationalities, the campaign to save her national language must start now. With a nucleus of only 1.66 per cent native speakers and only 0.02 per cent monoglot speakers of the national language, the end is clearly in sight unless something is done now.

Mods and other festivals are all right but they will not stop the ordinary man from being forced to use English in order to earn a living. Neither will it stop the criminal destruction of the Scottish speaking communities in North and South Uist. Only such a radical movement as Comunn Na Canain Albannaich can save the language now, at this stage in its history.

The society will shortly be publishing its aims and pamphlets showing up the "Highland"/"Lowland" myth for what it is and what must be done today to have and restore the national language. Its president and other officers will be announced shortly. At the moment all information about the Society can be obtained from: —Donnchadh Mac Labhrainn, 4c Lusset View, Radnor Street, Clydebank, Dunbarton, ALBA.

Comunn Na Canain Albannaich's formation marks a truly significant point in the history of the Scottish nation.

In North East Ulster the Glendormot and Ardmore Young Unionists Association have passed a resolution calling for a Scottish regiment to be sent to Derry and a request that Field Marshall Montgomery, and some other "Ulster" born generals should be used.

The London Celtic League immediately passed a resolution "appalled by this attempt to renew the worst traditions of English imperialism." The League pointed out that English imperialism has consistently endeavoured to utilise Celts against brother Celts "towards its own unsavoury purpose."

Indeed, it is a suitable juncture to remember the words of one of Scotland's greatest patriots—John MacLean, the

founder of the Scottish Republican Workers' Party, who died in November, 1923: "...the Connolly of Scotland." Writing in his publication "Vanguard" in August, 1920, John MacLean wrote:

"My lecture on Ireland is meant particularly for Scotsmen in view of the fact that the Government intends particularly to use Scottish regiments to do their dirty work in Ireland. My desire is to prevent Scotsman being used to smash our sister race, the Celts of Ireland, for English Capitalists who are descended from the Germans. Scotsmen have been taught to hate the Irish as a different race. They are not, The Welsh, the Scots and the Irish are all of Celtic origin, so that from a racial point of view the Welsh and Scots ought to line up with the Irish!"

Words that still hold good, 50 years after MacLean wrote them.

In Wales, a new magazine called CYFFRO (CHANGE) has been launched by the Welsh Committee of the Communist Party. The Party is now well and truly saddled on the "Nationalist Bandwagon" and CYFFRO is a bilingual magazine to act as a forum to discuss the need in Wales for "increased democratic and national rights."

The Communist Party join forces with the Liberal Party (both in Wales and Scotland) in their idea for devolution of government rather than independence.

CYFFRO does contribute some good historical articles, however.

In Cornwall, the Cornish National Party has now become active. It recently held two meetings in Saltash and at Falmouth. The Falmouth meeting was a demonstration by the party over the incident when a Government official ordered the Cornish National flag to be hauled down from a boat.

A large meeting was held at Saltash when C.N.P. discussed the future of South-East Cornwall. The leader of the party, Roger Holmes, who is a nationalist councillor on Liskeard Council, had to remind the meeting that it was not a recruiting meeting. There were so many people wishing to join. Also at the meeting was Colin Murley, nationalist councillor on Cornwall County Council. The Cornish National Party seems to be injecting new life into the developing Cornish national conscience.

Finally, a note from Brittany. Readers will be pleased to hear that all the Breton political prisoners (alleged members of the Front for the Liberation of Brittany) have been released.

## LOCH NESS ROWING RECORD FOR

A new record for rowing the length of Loch Ness, some 24 miles, was set up on Saturday, October 11, by five men from Edinburgh. Their time was 4 hrs. 11 mins.

# Gaelic Broadcasts

Thursday, 16th October  
12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

7.00 p.m. V.H.F.—In The Highlands from Aviemore. An all sorts magazine—song, music and conversation—from the Mod.

Friday, 17th October  
12 noon News in Gaelic.  
9.30 p.m. Junior Concert of The National Mod. A selection introduced by Douglas E. Stewart.

Sunday, 19th October  
3.15 p.m. Gaelic Service from St Andrew's Church, Aviemore. Minister: The Rt. Rev. Dr T. M. Murchison. Readings: Rev. Archie Beaton and Archie MacDonald. Precentor: Archie MacLean.

Monday, 20th October  
12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

10.00 p.m. Television—The Young Scene at The National Mod. of An Comann Gàidhealach. Introduced by John Currie.

Tuesday, 21st October  
12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

4.00 p.m. Am Fannas Dorch: John A. MacLeod talks about astronomy and space exploration (recorded).

4.15 p.m. Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by Rev. John Campbell, Drumadroch (recorded).

5.25 p.m. Freagarair Seo: A general knowledge competition for Highland schools. Final round: Inverness Royal Academy v. Oban High School. Quizmaster: John A. MacDonald (recorded).

9.30 p.m. Celtic from The National Mod. Fear-an-tìre: Murdo Campbell.

11.07 p.m. Television—Late Celtic direct from the National Mod. Introduced by Calum Robertson.

Wednesday, 22nd October  
12 noon News in Gaelic.  
6.30 p.m. Bliadh na Seumas MacNeill introduces items from piping events at the National Mod. including the John Player Gold Banner Competition (recorded).

Thursday, 3rd October  
12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

12.30 p.m. The Gold Medals of The National Mod. The Final Competition introduced by Neil Fraser.

7.00 p.m. V.H.F.—In The Highlands from Aviemore. An all sorts magazine—song, music and conversation—from the Mod.

9.30 p.m. Rural Choirs Concert of The National Mod. A selection introduced by Sir Robert Grievie. Chairman the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

10.00 p.m. Television—Gold and Silver. Winners from Wednesday's and Thursday's competitions including the Silver Pendant and Gold Medal. Introduced by John Currie.

Friday, 24th October  
12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.  
4.00 p.m. Premier Choirs of The National Mod. Introduced by John A. Macpherson.  
9.30 p.m. Grand Concert of The National Mod. A selection introduced by Norman MacLean.  
9.35 p.m. Television—The Mod as Fyfe Robertson sees it ending with a look-in at the Grand Concert. Introduced by John Currie.

# Scottish Items For Tokio

The first inflatable tyre, along with early camera equipment, which was presented to the museum by the Royal Scottish Museum in Edinburgh for the recent British Week exhibition in Tokio.

The exhibits include the front wheel of the first bicycle to be fitted with an inflatable tyre, which was presented to the museum by the inventor, Mr John Boyd Dunlop, with a handwritten description of his experiments and a photograph of his son on the bicycle. The inner tube and rubber portion of the cover were made by Thomson & Co., Edinburgh, and the fabric was sail-cloth from Arbroath.

Also on show will be early camera and photographic equipment by William Henry Fox Talbot, who described to the Royal Society in 1839 a new method of securing light pictures which he had evolved after five years of experiment. The calotype process, as he called it, was to become the foundation of modern photography.

An electric clock sent for ex-

hibition in Tokio made by the inventor Alexander Bain, demonstrates the earliest means of driving a clock by the power of electricity. It is thought to be the oldest electric clock in existence.

The fourth exhibit from the Museum is the first successful stern screw propeller, which was developed in 1828 by Robert Wilson of Dunbar.

# Scotland's Winter Work Programme

The Government have again decided to authorise expenditure on work to create additional employment during the winter months. The amount allocated for this purpose is £2.1m. Having regard particularly to the continuing decline in employment in coal-mining, this sum will, as last year, be devoted to work in the development areas.

In addition, £1.5 m. of the Post Office investment programme will be brought forward in order to provide additional employment in all development areas during the winter months.

The projects in Scotland are concentrated mainly in the Special Development Areas and some other areas with concentrated heavy unemployment. These are Ayr/Troon, Girvan, Glasgow, Greenock, Lismahog, Leven, Sanquhar and Shotts.

As in previous years, most of the money will be spent on small road programmes which will give work and have a long term value. Hospitals will also get a share with a number of projects that can give work but might otherwise be down the queue.

The programme will also include work for the Board of Trade in the Scottish Industrial Estates Corporation programme covering roads, Bing removals, and land development. A small amount of work will also be undertaken for the Ministry of Public Building and Works and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland.

# Aig A' Mhoid

Seo m' iarrtas dh'an chuideachd choir-sa  
tha aig a' mhoid tha'n seo an drasd;  
leis gach durachd agabh comhla  
fis gach mod bhios ann gu bhrath.

FONN

Beannachd gu robh agaibh uile  
beannachd uile gu robh leibh;  
beannachd gu robh agaibh uile  
faillte is fànan dhubh a chaoidh.

Cainnt bhur sinnsir, cainnt na  
bhrìghmor  
cainnt na binn leam tha sibh a  
seinn;

is e Ghaidhlig uasal phrìseil  
cumar suas 'an linn-s' i leinn.  
'S m'fìis grinn a fuaim 's a comh-  
radh

a bhardach a ceol 's a duain;  
seinnear leibh-se aig a' mhòid i  
canain fìor na h-oirgidh shuaric.

Ch'n' eil fonn a thig o'n fhìdhil  
a bheir buaidh na m' chri na's mo;  
na bh' i' g' eisdeachd, coisr chridh,  
's a chloinn iarrach aig a' mhòid.

Co nach nìrreadh a cur suas ann?  
co nach b'urris a luaidh 's a gheas?  
na leigbhis a' Ghaidhlig bhuaibh-  
mhor

Fhearaibh coimhais suas an.

D. R. MOIREASDAN, 1969

(Scalpay)

## PLACES OF INTEREST:

# Badenoch and Strathspey

## AVIEMORE — Scene of the 1969 Mod

This year's Mod is being held from 16th to 24th October in the great holiday boom-toon and Scotland's Winter Sports Capital of Aviemore. A tourist paradise, Aviemore has everything to delight everyone with almost every conceivable sport catered for and an increasing number of other attractions.

The Mod's busy programme does however offer a little time to get to know Aviemore and to explore part of the surrounding

GILBERT T. BELL

countryside. Aviemore is truly at the centre of the Central Highlands with Glenmore, Loch Morlich, the Cairngorms with Cairngorm, Ben Macdui and Braeriach on its doorstep. All around are nature reserves and forest parks while at not far off Boat of Garten our first Ospreys nested some years ago. For the hill walker and rambler this is ideal terrain.

History is not forgotten and there are many monuments to a long and thrilling past. Ruined Ruthven Barracks, near Kingussie, recall the '45 Rising for they were destroyed by the Jacobites while General Wade, the builder of the fort, also built Sluggan Bridge near Carrbridge and much of the Route A9 follows the line of his old road. Bonnie Prince Charlie stayed at Inverladrian House prior to Culloden but the house is now ruinous. Craigellachie Bridge is, incidentally, by the noted Engineer Thomas Telford.

In Kingussie is Am Fasgadh (the Shelter) and it is one of the most fascinating museums in Scotland for here the Old Highland way of life is recalled in a host of fascinating exhibits and old buildings from throughout the Highlands have been re-erected here. There is a Black

House, an old mill and a period furnished cottage and all make the Highland Folk Museum a 'must' for all who are in the district. At Newtonmore is another fine museum, the Clan Macpherson Museum, open to all 'who are attracted by the story of high resolve patriotism and loyalty' (as the notice says) and it contains much of interest.

Nethybridge and Grantown on Spey are attractive resorts and indeed the entire Spey valley offers magnificent scenery while all around is unspoilt mountain scenery which is difficult to equal. The fact that at its heart is bustling modern Aviemore well proves there is plenty of life in Auld Scotia.

There is lots to see and explore. I hope you will find time to see some of the fine countryside, enjoy some of the pleasures and explore some of the byways of Badenoch and Strathspey. Aviemore offers much to delight the Gael.

Note: "We regret the omission of the author's name for the Article in our last issue on the Middle School System for the Highlands. The author was Mr Farquhar MacIntosh, Rector of Oban High School.

### LEODHASAICH AIG CAPIELOW

Airson na ceud uaire bidh Leodhasaich a' cluich an aghaidh te de na buidhean mora aig ball-coise air falbh o' taigh. Bidh ceithir deug de chluicheadairean Leodhas, air a taghadh a sgiobaidhean eadar-dhealaichte, a' tagail Steornabaigh air a 20mh latha de'n mhios seo airson comhrag a' chur ri Morton ann an Grianaig. Tha Morton air a bhith da thurus air chuiart ann a Leodhas agus bha moladh mor aig air an aoiagheachd a fhuair iad.

## 1320 CLUB PROGRESS

The 1320 Club, during the Festival, held a series of highly successful poetry readings and ceilidhs.

The 2nd Edition of "An Outline of a Scottish Constitution" has been extremely favourably commented upon, and a 3rd Edition is in the planning stage.

A pamphlet on Education is going the rounds in Draft form. Our other publications maintain a steady sale.

The Club holds an agency from Messrs Alban Enterprises for the sale of Scottish Passport Covers. These are excellently printed in Gold on Blue and fit perfectly over a British Passport. They have been on trial runs round Europe and have disclosed no snags, but aroused great interest.

A Symposium on Gaelic Affairs which was projected for the end of this month, has been postponed to early next year, in order to ensure the attendance of the top experts.

The Club has begun to operate an Associate Membership scheme whose objective is the encouragement of people who want to work for Scotland, but have not yet found a niche. There is emphasis, but not insistence on youth. The subscription of £2 covers two years. In fact, this gives two years subscription to Catalyst while the 10/- balance is likely to be absorbed in administrative expenses.

Whatever other work the Club does, the urgency of securing cohesion between all sections of the National Movement is never absent from the Executive's mind. Major Boothby has had a meeting with Mr Jo Grimond and Mr David Steel, and other parallel contacts are being maintained with such members of the S.N.P. as are prepared to be helpful.

The efforts of the Club's Foreign Affairs Bureau are showing positive results and there is growing publicity for Scotland in overseas newspapers and in the correspondence which is maintained. This involves the Director, Ronald MacDonald Douglas, and his helpers in heavy personal expenditure and much time.

## NEW TERMS

for the representation of objects and for conceptions arising therefrom.

### AINMEAN URA

a chum beum rud-dhealbhadaireachd agus nan smuantean a bhios na leanmhuinn.

Reproduced from the Celtic Annual, 1918-1919

An approaching line (coming towards the eye.	Nall-line.
A receding line (going from the eye.	Nunn-line.
An imaginary line.	Cumadan.
The side of a figure.	Slios cumadain.
Perimeter.	Timcheallan.
Figure bounded by straight lines.	Cumadan coir-leineach.
Figure bounded by curved lines.	Cumadan crom-leineach.
Figure bounded by both kinds.	Cumadan crom-coir.
Regular figure. (	Snas-chumadain.
Symmetrical figure.	Cumadan cothromach.
Irregular figure.	Mi-chumadain.
Very irregular figure.	Buadh-chumadain.
Equal-sided figure.	Cumadan comh-shliosach.
One-line figure.	Aonan.
A circle.	Crùinnean.
Note—Other one-line figures be long to the leaf or foil series.	Spad-chrùinnean.
Two-line figure.	Dàthan.
Triangle.	Triothan.
Triangle, isosceles.	Triothan comh-shliosach.
Triangle, equilateral.	Mi-triathan.
Triangle, scalene.	Triothan coir.
Triangle, right-angled.	Triothan maol.
Triangle, obtuse-angled.	Bonn-line; bonnan.
Base.	Barr-dhàid.
Apex or vertex.	Bonn-choinne.
Base angle.	Barr-choinne.
The perpendicular.	Croch-line; crochan.
Perpendicular, a.	Crochanach.
The hypotenuse.	Claoan-line; claoan.
The median.	Line-leitheach.
Equiangular triangle.	Triothan comh-choinneach.
Quadrilateral or quadrangular figure.	Cearthran.
Quadrilateral or quadrangular figure, noticeably longer than its breadth.	
A square.	Fad-cheathran.
An oblong.	Coir-cheathran.
A rhombus.	Coir-cheathran fada.
Rhomboid.	Fiar-cheathran fada.
A parallelogram.	Breath-cheathran; ceathran breathach.
Trapezoid.	Cearthran leth-breathach.
Trapezium.	Mi-cheathran.
Diastyl point.	Dad-meadhoin; meadhonan.
Diagonal.	Fiaran.
Pentagon.	Còigean.
Hexagon.	Sèthan.
Heptagon.	Seachdan.
Octagon.	Cochdan.
Nonagon.	Naodhan.
Decagon.	Deugan.
Undecagon.	Aon-deugan.
Dodecagon, etc.	Dis-deugan, etc.
Twenty-sided figure.	Dà-dheugdan.
Thirty-sided figure, etc.	Triochadan, etc.
Hundred-sided figure, etc.	Ceudan.
Centre of circle.	Mul-dhad; meadhonan; dad-meadhoin.
Focus of ellipse.	Mul-dhad.
Radius.	Gath-line; gathan.
Diameter.	Tarsnan.
Tangent.	Beantan.
Tangential point.	Dad-beantainn.
Segment of circle.	Màman; crùinnein.
Sector of circle.	Geinnean; crùinnein.
Circumference.	Crios-line, criosan.
Arc.	Crios-mhir.
Conj of an Arc.	Teud-line; bonn-line màman.
Coordinate axis.	Tarsnan fada; gad-thr.
Transverse axis.	Tarsnan gearr; gad-thr.
Diameter of an ellipse.	Tarsnan saor; saor thr.
Any foil figure.	Duillean.
Any foil figure of one continuous line as perimeter.	Duillean-aoin.
Any foil figure of two do., etc.	Duillean dà, etc.
Trefoil.	Duillean-tri; seamar-dhuillean.
Quatrefoil.	Duillean-ceathir.
Cinquefoil, etc.	Duillean-còig, etc.
Cycloid.	Sliochdan.
Crescent.	Fasgan.
Lanct-shaped figure.	Danct-dha-beann.
Angle.	Coinne.
Right angle.	Coir-choinne.
Acute angle.	Caol-choinne.
Obtuse angle.	Maol-choinne.
Internal angle.	Aon-choinne.
External angle.	As-choinne.
Adjacent angle.	Coinne-taice.
Adjacent angles.	Coimheadhan comh-thaiceach.
Opposite angle.	Comhair-choinne.
Vertical angles.	Coimheadhan comh-ghobach.
One of vertical angles.	Gob-choinne.
Angle of intersection.	Sgath-choinne.
Angle of incidence.	Beum-choinne.
Angle of reflection.	Leum-choinne.
Angle of refraction.	Feall-choinne.
Angle of convergence.	Cuspair-choinne.
Angle of divergence.	Sgar-choinne.
Apex of angle.	Coinne-dhad.
Subtending arms or side lines of an angle.	Glac-linean coinne.



HIGHLAND FOLK MUSEUM — KINGUSSIE

# More Crofting Proposals

Further recommendations for the modernisation of crofting have been submitted by the Crofters Commission to the Secretary of State for Scotland. They deal with common grazings and with a number of points ancillary to the Commission's earlier proposals that crofters should become the owners of their crofts.

The proposals for common grazings are in two parts. One deals with ownership and the other with management. On the question of ownership within a system of croft owner-occupancy the commission has reaffirmed its earlier view that the best arrangement would be to vest common grazings in trustees who would own them on behalf of the township or townships sharing in them.

The Commission has emphasised however that whatever form of ownership may be preferred a first and important principle is that all the crofter's existing rights, including the right to apply for apportionment, must be preserved. Where development takes place a substantial proportion of any price paid for land abstracted from the grazings should be applied for the benefit of the townships involved.

The Commission recommend the introduction of new measures, backed by law, designed to strengthen the management of Grazings Committees, to rationalise and improve the financial structure of townships, to give Grazings Committees better control over matters for which they are responsible, and to allow the setting up of Area Committees comprising a number of townships where that is both desired and desirable. There should be statutory warrant for ensuring that a Clerk is paid a reasonable and regular sum for his services. Subsidies for animals using the grazings should be paid into the Committee's account for disbursement to individual crofters, and that a Committee should be able to deduct from such subsidies any outstanding dues payable to township funds.

The Commission recommend that the crofters stock entitlement in the grazings could be regarded as the base line. Dues would be levied on the stock actually carried of the entitlement, whichever is the greater.

The proposed Area Committees are seen by the Commission as flexible structures which would come into being voluntarily in areas where crofters wanted them and where they could do good. An Area Committee would include representatives of a number of

townships, and the best specialist and technical advisers available mittee's effective remit would build up gradually as experience was gained and as lessons learned in one area were applied in others.

The Commission's other recommendations supplement the earlier proposal for conversion of crofting tenure. It is suggested that the data already available in the Register of Crofts should be used to give a crofter a title to his croft quickly and free of expense. Proposals are made for protecting subjects existing at the time of conversion for dealing with crofts which are vacant at that time, and for allowing crofters to pay off the purchase price of the croft in a lump sum if they so wish. A continuing provision to permit the consolidation of runrig land after conversion is advocated.

The Commission also draw attention to those occupiers who are not legally of the crofting class but who are like crofters in many respects. These are cottars, squatters, and occupiers of fishermen's holdings and allotments. The Commission recommend that they, like crofters, should acquire the ownership of their subjects. There is no existing register of cottars and squatters and the proposal is that the onus should be on them to prove their claim to a title before the Scottish Land Court, who would hear any objections from other interested parties before coming to a decision.

## MANFULLY DIFFICULT

Manpower is becoming the new "in" word. Employees are costing more and more and business shows that optimum utilisation of human resources can make, or break, a balance sheet. The need to plan ahead is proclaimed by all, but manpower forecasting is still at a fairly rudimentary stage. It is just not possible to produce a blue print plan of labour needs and sources for any distance ahead. There is, as yet, no prospect of once for all projections of what industry would be like and what the demand for various kinds of manpower might be in any given year.

# BRITAIN'S NEW DECIMAL CURRENCY

## The 50 New Penny Piece



This photograph shows both sides of the new penny Piece, the sixth coin of the decimal series, which will be introduced from Tuesday, 14th October, 1969, and will gradually replace the 10s note.

The obverse design (left) is common to all six denominations of the new decimal coinage, and is the work of Mr Arnold Machin, O.B.E., B.A. It is already in use on the coinage of a number of other Commonwealth countries including Canada, Australia and New Zealand. It was approved in 1964.

The coin has a diameter of 30mm., and weight of 13½ grammes, nearly midway in size and weight between the halfcrown and florin.

The reverse design is a new version of Britannia by Mr Christopher Ironside, who also was responsible for the reverse designs of the other five decimal coins.

## Ten Shilling Note Replaced By Coin

An initial supply of 120 million decimal 50 new penny (50p) coins has begun to enter general circulation for us as 10s. The coins will gradually replace 10s notes. The 50p coin, which is seven-sided, is the third decimal coin to be brought into circulation in advance of D Day, Monday, 15th February 1971, when Britain begins changing to decimal currency.

The 10s note is being replaced primarily on economic grounds, not because of decimalisation, although the 50p has naturally been given decimal notation in readiness for D Day.

## CO-CHRUINNEACHADH NAM MINISTEARAN GAIDHLIG

A h-uile bliadhna bidh Ministearan ann an coimhthional a Gaidhlig ann an Eaglais na h-Alba a' tighinn cruinn airson coinneamhan. Am bliadhna choinnich iad ann an Inbhirpheofharain agus bha moran de na ministearan Gaidhlig a' lathair. B'e am prìomh fhear-labhairt aig na coinneamhan am Prof. Tomas F. Torrance a Dun-eideann, agus thug am Moderator, am Fìor Urr. Tomas M. MacCalmain, oraid seachad cuideachd Bha buidhnean a' rannasachadh a' Bhìobuill, agus 'nan ceannardan orra bha na h-Urr. Iain MacLeòid (An t-Oban), Uilleam MacLeòid (Tìrdhe), Iain Mac a' Ghobhainn (Loch nam Madadh) agus Ruairidh MacFhionghuin (Dalabrog). Bha triùir mhìnistearan ag innse beagan mu'n sgìre aca fhèin: na h-Urr. Domhnall MacAmhlaigh (Leumrabhagh) Uilleam MacLeòid (Tìrdhe) agus Iain M. MacArtair (Ceann Loch Buirbhe).

## ACCIDENTALLY OVERLOOKED

Many part-time workers in service industries will be exempt from Selective Employment Tax from November 3 as a result of an administrative accident — or oversight. At the moment, employers are liable for full or partial S.E.T. in respect of all employees working in excess of eight hours a week, but from November 3 this will change as a result of new National Insurance payment regulations. S.E.T. is paid through the insurance stamp, but from November 3, the Class I liability for National Insurance ends in respect of all employees earning less than £4 per week. Writn it will go the means of paying S.E.T. for these employees. The Ministry of Social Security were apparently unaware of the implications of this change but they accept that the situation will mean no stamp — no S.E.T.

It is known that S.E.T. may in future be collected through the P.A.Y.E. machinery if the Government's plans for income related social security benefits goes through. This may not be until 1972/73 when the Government plans to introduce the new Social Security system. Meantime, enjoy a small but temporary relief from S.E.T.

Mr Enoch Powell recently criticised his own Party's proposals to establish a Small Business Development Bureau. This was the moment, he said, to say straight out that 's was not part of the function of Government in a free society to help industry whether small or large. Mr Powell was speaking at the Eastbourne Conference of the

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# AG IONNSACHA NA

LE IAIN A. MACDHOMHNAILL

## Cuil nan Ceist—II

11—*Aimsirean na Bliadhna* . . .

1. A reir an t-seanfhaicil co ris am bheil feasgar fann Fog-hair cotach?
2. De is ciall gu litireil, do'n fhacal "Nollaig"?
3. Lion gach bearn 's na sreathann seo le ainm aimsir de'n bhliadhna:
  - (a) Gach fireach, gach tulach 's gach tom le foirm cur fonn an — orr'.
  - (b) 'S mur cuir thu siol fal-lainn ann an — na h-oige cho cinnteach 's am bas duit cuiridh Satan droch phor ann.
  - (c) Nuair a theirgas an — 's thig — an aigh, bidh cruach air an ach-adh agus maorach 'san traigh.
4. Cuin' a thig Feill Padruig?
5. Ciod is ciall do'n radh "Fog-har nan breid-gheal?"

Fuasgladh air t.d. 11



Tha e cairteal an deidh aon uair deug, agus tha Màiri anns an taigh. It is a quarter past eleven, and Mary is in the house. Tha Alasdair aig an dorus. Alex. is at the door.

## an cruinne

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Alasdair: Tapadh leat.

Thank you.  
Chaneil iad sin cho trom.  
These are not so heavy.

Mairi : C'ait' an robh na caorach an diugh?  
Where were the sheep today?

Alasdair: Bha iad uile aig an Loch Fhada.  
They were all at the Loch Fhada.

Mairi : An robh t- each anns a' mhonadh?  
Was the horse in the hill?

Alasdair: Cha robh. Tha ant-each aig a' chladach.  
No. The horse is at the shore.

Mairi : A bheil ant-each aig Seumas aig a' chladach?  
Is James's horse at the shore.

Alasdair: Tha Tha na h-eich uile aig a' chladach.  
Yes. All the horses are at the shore.

Mairi : Tha am buntata deiseil a nise.  
The potatoes are ready now.

Alasdair: A bheil iasg agad an diugh?  
Have you got any fish today?

Mairi : Chancil ach tha feòil agam.  
No but I have meat.

Alasdair: An robh thu anns a' bhùth an diugh?  
Were you in the shop today?

Mairi : Cha robh an diugh.  
Not today.

Bha mi anns a' bhùth an de.  
I was in the shop yesterday.

Alasdair: A bheil iasg agad idir?  
Have you got fish at all?

Mairi : Chaneil. C'uire bha thu ag iasgach?  
No. When were you fishing?

Alasdair: Tha mi a' dol a dh'iasgach an diugh.  
I am going to fish today.

Mairi : Cò tha dol comhla riut?  
Who is going with you.

Alasdair: Tha Seumas a' dol comhla ruim.  
James is going with me.

Mairi : C'uire tha sibh a' falbh?  
When are you leaving?

Alasdair: Tha aig ochd uairean feasgar.  
At eight o'clock in the evening.

Mairi : Suidh aig a' bhòrd a nise.  
Sit at the table now.

Alasdair: Tha an fheòil sin math.  
That meat is good.

Mairi : Tha i glè mhath gu dearbh.  
It is very good indeed.

Alasdair: A bheil salann agad?  
Have you got salt?

Mairi : Seo dhuit an salann.  
Here you are, the salt.

Alasdair: Siud an cù aig an dorus.  
There's the dog at the door.

Mairi : Trobhad Fraoch — Fraoch.  
Come here Fraoch — Fraoch.

Alasdair: Tha an t-acras air a' chù.  
The dog is hungry.

Mairi : Tha biadh agam do'n chù an seo.  
I have food for the dog here.

Alasdair: Trobhad Fraoch — Ith sin.  
Come here Fraoch — eat this.

Alasdair: Bha siud glè mhath a'Mhairi.  
That was very good, Mary.

Mairi : C'ait' a bheil thu dol a nise?  
Where are you going now?

Alasdair: Tha mi dol a dh'obair.  
I am going to work.

Mairi : Dé tha thu dol a dheanamh?  
What are you going to do?

Alasdair: Tha mi dol a ruumarh.  
I am going to dig.

Mairi : Dé an uair a tha e?  
What is the time.

Mairi : Tha e da uair.  
It is two o'clock.

Alasdair: Tha mi a' falbh mata.  
I am going then.

Alasdair: Mar sin leat a'Mhairi.  
Goodbye Mary.

Mairi : Mar sin leat Alasdair.  
Goodbye Alex.

Alasdair: A bheil thu a staigh a Mhairi?  
Are you in Mary?

Mairi : Tha. Tha thu trath an diugh.  
Yes, you are early today.

Alasdair: A bheil am biadh deiseil?  
Is the food ready?

Mairi : Chaneil fhathast.  
Not yet.

Mairi : Tha thu trath an diugh.  
You are early today.

Alasdair: Dé an uair a tha e?  
What time is it?

Mairi : Seo dhuit cleachd cairteal an deidh aon uair deug.  
It is only (but) a quarter past eleven.

Alasdair: Tha an pathadh orm.  
I am thirsty.

Mairi : Seo dhuit cleachd bhainne.  
Here you are, a drink of milk.

Alasdair: Tha sin math. Tapadh leat.  
That is good. Thank you.

Mairi : An robh thu bliath anns a' mhonadh?  
Were you warm in the hill?

Alasdair: Bha gu dearbh.  
Yes indeed.

Mairi : Chaneil e' cho bliath a nise.  
It is not so warm now.

Alasdair: Chaneil, ach bha e glè bhliath anns a' mhadainn.  
Chaneil, ach bha e glè bhliath anns a' mhadainn

Mairi : C'ait' a bheil an cù?  
Where is the dog?

Alasdair: A bheil e aig an dorus?  
Is it at the door?

Mairi : Chaneil. Eight air a' chù.  
No. Call on the dog.

Alasdair: Fraoch, Fraoch, trobhad, Fraoch, Fraoch, come.

Mairi : An robh e comhla riut aig an drochaid?  
Was it with you at the bridge?

Alasdair: Bha. Bha e comhla ris a' chù aig Seumas.  
Yes. It was along with James's dog.

Mairi : Coma leat an drasda. Dean suidhe.  
Never mind just now. Sit down.

Alasdair: Glè mhath. Tha mi cho sgìth.  
Very good. I am so tired.

Mairi : A bheil de chasan goirt?  
Are your feet sore?

Alasdair: Chaneil ach tha iad teth.  
No, but they are hot.

Mairi : Cuir dhìot do bhrogan.  
Put off your boots.

Alasdair: Glè mhath.  
Very good.

Alasdair: An robh am Posta an seo an diugh?  
Was the Postman here today?

Mairi : Cha robh.  
No.

Mairi : An robh dùil agad ri litir?  
Were you expecting a letter?

Alasdair: Bha.  
Yes.

Mairi : Bha dùil agam ri litir bhò lainn mo bhràthair.  
I was expecting a letter from John my brother.

Mairi : Oh bha gu dearbh.  
Oh yes indeed.

Alasdair: C'ait' a bheil mo bhrogan eile?  
Where are my other boots?

Mairi : Seo iad aig an dorus.  
Here they are at the door.

Bha Alasdair agus Mairi anns an taigh. Bha Alasdair anns a' mhonadh anns a' mhadainn agus bha e sgìth. Bha a' mhadainn leth agus bha an pathadh air Alasdair. Bha an cù aig Alasdair comhla ris a' chù aig Seumas. Bha Seumas agus an cù aig an drochaid agus bha Seumas ag iasgach. Bha ant-achas air Alasdair ach cha robh iasg aig Mairi idir. Bha feòil aig Mairi agus bha an fheòil math. Aig da uair bha Alasdair a' dol a ruumarh.

An robh an latha fuar?  
C'ait' an robh an cù aig Alasdair?  
Cò bha sgìth?  
Dé bha aig Mairi?  
C'uire bha Alasdair a' dol a ruumarh.

Grammar

The Regular Verb

Verbal Nouns	Infinitive
Ag iasgach, fishing	A dh'iasgach, to fish
Ag obair, working	A dh'obair, to work
A' deanamh, doing	A dheanamh, to do
A' ruumarh, digging	A ruumarh, to dig

N.B. You do not insert "h" after "g" e.g. a ruumarh, to dig. In the Infinitive verbs beginning with vowels take "dh" before the initial vowel. Also we use "ag" instead of "a'" before vowel verbs e.g. ag iasgach, fishing.

# GAIDHLIG

# Review Order

### The Imperative

Eigh, call. e.g. Eigh air Iain, call John.  
 Dean, do. e.g. Dean sin, do that.  
 Cuir, put. e.g. Cuir ort do chota, Put on your coat.  
 Trobhad, come. e.g. Trobhad Fraoch, come Fraoch.

### To Have

In Gaelic we do not have a verb "have" indicating possession. Instead we use the verb "To Be" with the Preposition "aig" or with the corresponding Prepositional Pronoun.

Usage Tha cù aig Iain, John has a dog.  
 Chanell cù aig Màiri, Mary hasn't a dog.  
 Tha cù agam, I have a dog.  
 A bheil cù agad? Have you a dog?  
 A bheil mo pheann agad? Have you my pen?  
 Tha an cù aig Seumas aig an drochad. James's dog is at the bridge.

### Masculine Nouns with and without the Definite Article

Posta, a postman	Am posta, the postman
Bráthair, a brother	Am bráthair, the brother
Each, a horse	An t-each, the horse
Buntata, a potato	Am buntata, the potato
Iasg, fish	An t-iasg, the fish
Feasgar, evening	Am feasgar, the evening
Salann, salt	An salann, the salt
Achann hunger	An t-achann, the hunger

### Feminine Nouns with and without the Definite Article

Adjectives		
Góirt, sore	Teth, hot	Trom, heavy
Deoch, drink		An deoch, the drink
Cas, a leg		A' chas, the leg/foot
Litr, a letter		An litir, the letter
Dùil, expectation		An dùil, the expectation
Caora, a sheep		A' chaora, the sheep
Féoil, meat		An fheoil, the meat

### Common words and usage

Co tha a staigh, who is in?  
 Deoch bhainne, a drink of milk.  
 Coma leat, never mind.  
 Bha dùil aig Alasdair ri litir, Alexander was expecting a letter.  
 Seo dhùil, here you are.  
 An seo, here  
 Seo iad, here they are.  
 Comhla rium, along with me.  
 Comhla riut, along with you.  
 Comhla ris, along with him.  
 Comhla ris a' chù, along with the dog.  
 Tha am pathadh orm, I am thirsty.  
 Tha an t-acras orm, I am hungry.

### Exercises

A Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks

- An robh — fheòil air — bhòrd?
- C'ait' an — a' chaora?
- Nach — an cù aig Alasdair — ris a' chù — Seumas?
- Bha — pathadh air Alasdair.
- An robh — acras air Seumas?

B Give the answer "yes" to the following

- An robh dùil aig Alasdair ri litir?
- Nach robh feòil aig Màiri?
- An robh an cù aig an drochaid?

C Give the answer "no" to the following

- An robh Màiri aig an drochaid?
- Nach robh a' mhadaoin fuar?
- An robh Alasdair a' dot a dh'iasgach?

### BRITTANY

Brittany has been so much in the news these past few years, particularly the friction between the Bretons and the central French government, that one tends to forget the substance of the region itself, the region behind the headlines, and the people themselves.

In a new book by Henry Myhill a completely faithful picture of Brittany is offered the reader. This book is essential reading for those who have visited Brittany. It will tell them just how much they might possibly have missed.

And for those who intend visiting Brittany in the future, Mr Myhill's book will tell them just what not to miss.

This is a book written with real first-hand experience. Mr Myhill's keen eyes seem not to have missed anything at all. He has divided Brittany into no less than 25 districts, each with its own distinct character. Their invisible boundaries contain innumerable details of special interest and it is a measure Mr Myhill's careful eye that he has picked out these details.

Both history and the present come together in Myhill's book.

As befits the possessor of a keen eye for detail, there is a short section on Breton Nationalism. His remarks may call for detailed comment by those closely connected with the Breton political scene.

...today the organisations of Breton nationalism range from non-political folklore associations to clandestine groups of activities. The programme nearest to practical politics is that offered by the federalist *Mouvement pour l'Organisation de la Bretagne*, founded in 1957... this has established links with the Basque nationalists and the Alsatian nationalists, and looks forward to an enlarged Common Market where Brittany will at last share a common political structure with its Celtic sister nations in the British Isles.

"There is a 'far left' of Breton nationalism whose leaders prefer to live abroad. Both their friends and their enemies will probably agree that they have chosen, in Eire, the most suitable country for their exile."

Perhaps our Breton readers will have an extra comment to add?

Nevertheless, Mr Myhill's book stands on its own merits as a very useful travel guide — and a very readable book to pick through for pleasure. "Brittany" by Henry Myhill; 24 Russell Square, London, W.C.1.

Cork, Eire, increase both the range and depth of the amount of information now available on Eire. The subjects run from hard economic and historical fact to the softer realm of words: writers and folk literature.

"The Formation of the Irish Economy" is based on a series of Thomas Davis lectures broadcast over Radio Telefís Éireann in 1968. The course of the economic history of Ireland is discussed with emphases laid on certain aspects. The role played by the railways, the linen industry are succinctly described. Interesting chapters deal with the relationship between the growth in the Irish population and the economy, and the vitiating position in which Catholics found themselves in the economic life of the country.

Reading the latter chapter one can begin to appreciate at least some of the background contributory factors which surround the present situation in the Six Counties.

Altogether this small book is a worthy purchase and gives a useful easily-readable account of how the economy of Ireland has grown — and cleared away many of the myths and misunderstandings which those of us who live outside Ireland have.

Patrick Kennedy (1801-1873) was a Dublin bookseller who spent the first 20 years of his life in Wexford. Half a century later he sat down and wrote the stories he had heard, faithfully remembering the sounds, the nuances, the integrity of the voices which had long since related them in country kitchens.

The result is a collection now printed by Mercier Press, Cork, in "Irish Fireside Folktales." All Ireland is here in this collection from the regal kings and queens to the ordinary folk who have been so much a part of history for at least two millennia.

The collection shows just how much has been preserved, and how faithfully, by the common folk of Ireland whose names are now forgotten. But names count for little. What matters most is the material they continued through the centuries by their interest and by their re-telling.

The stories are at once colourful, vivid and whimsical. The true ring of authenticity is borne out in the dialogue.

In "Old Irish Street Ballads" we have an excellent collection of ballads dealing with the history and politics from the period 1798 to Parnell. The editor, James N. Healy, has been faithful to this rich vein of Irish heritage. He has written: "Irish ballad writing enshrines a whole history within itself."

The street ballad was the authentic voice of the Irish people from the late 18th century to early in the present century. Communica-

tions media, such as they were during this period were not at the behest of democracy but controlled. Thus the ballad offered about the only way in which an oppressed people could express themselves: their grievances, their opinions, their hopes and their aspirations.

The era of the folk-singer during the past decade or so has given a new life to these ballads. More than that, the ballads give a true insight into the Irish social scene, its organization, its idiosyncrasies, its fashions and feelings.

The present Volume, the second in a series which promises to be unique, deals with the lives of Dan O'Connell and Patnell, of the Young Irelanders, the Land League and the Fenians.

Surely Ireland is the only country in the world which has such a rich store of popular expression in this kind of media. One longs for the same kind of expression in Scotland. The time is ripe for a spate of it. But we have no writers with sufficient "national" feeling on the scene today. History seems plays no part in the productions of our writers. Perhaps sex is more profitable?

The second volume of "Dictionary of Irish Writers" deals with those of Irish origin who produced literary works of non-fiction. It might seem a dry list of names and book titles. But it is far from being that. It provides an excellent opportunity to browse among an excellent crowd of men and women. Some surprises are contained herein, not only in finding out that many authors had an Irish origin but in some of the works which a few names produced, almost out of character.

The book sets the writers of non-fiction in their true niche. Ireland has for too long been credited with being a nursery of writers of fiction. Now we have evidence of the vast numbers of writers who have contributed greatly to the world's knowledge, in fields as varied as mathematics, guerrilla warfare, and chemistry.

Those who are fans of Dr Finlay's Casebook may like to know that Barbara Mullen, Janet, was the daughter of Pat Mullen of the Aran Islands. She returned there after spending her early years in Boston. She wrote "Life is my Adventure" in 1937.

This is a "lucky-dip" kind of book, as you see.

"The Formation of the Irish Economy" ed. L. M. Culein; 8s 6d; "Irish Fireside Folktales" by Patrick Kennedy; 6s; "Old Irish Street Ballads" ed. with music by James N. Healy; 10s; "Dictionary of Irish Writers" Vol. 2 compiled by Brian Cleeve; 10s. All are paperbacks available from The Mercier Press, 4 Bridge Street, Cork Eire.



Mod Agaidh Mhor

Leis cho après gèth 's a tha mi Nìllidh chanail mi doc dh'an Choinneamh Bliadhna!

### NEW FROM EIRE

Four new titles from the productive Mercier Press of

# A Scottish Soldier Suiridhe Na H-Aon Oidhche

by Joan C. Young

Three hundred years ago this year in Toul Cathedral in Lorraine, a splendid monument with recumbent effigy was raised over the tomb of Sir John Hepburn, marshal of France. The epitaph read: "To the best soldier in Christendom."

The second son of George Hepburn of Athelstaneford, John Hepburn was born in 1598. He was probably the John Hepburn who matriculated from St Leonard's College, St Andrews. Later, with his friend Robert Munro, he completed his education by visiting Paris and Poitiers.

In 1620, Sir Andrew Gray, a soldier of fortune who had served under Lord Huntley at Glenlivet, was recruiting men to fight in Bohemia against the Hapsburgs. One of the first to join him was John Hepburn. Both men were Roman Catholics, and both were proposing to fight for the Protestant sovereigns of Bohemia!

They were probably inspired by a romantic wish to serve the Queen of Bohemia. Elizabeth Stewart, born at Falkland Palace, had much of the charm of her grand mother Mary Queen of Scots, and was remembered with great affection in her native land.

Sir Andrew Gray with some 1,500 men sailed from Leith in May 1620, landing in Holland. They then made the long dangerous journey to Prague. On arrival there they were honoured by being appointed to guard the persons of the Bohemian sovereigns.

Frederick, Elector Palatine, had accepted the crown of Bohemia from the Protestants of that country, entering Prague with his Queen in 1619. A year later, after the crushing defeat of his forces at the battle of the White Mountain, he and his family fled the country, finding refuge in Holland.

The cause being abandoned by Frederick—who lost, incidentally, not only Bohemia, but his native Palatinat—the Scots fought on under Mansfeldt. When the latter was dismissed, however, they paid themselves without a paymaster.

Sir Andrew Gray left for London and passes from the scene. It was young Captain Hepburn who led his fellow countrymen to Sweden to offer their services to Gustavus Adolphus.

The tall handsome Hepburn with his lively intelligence, expert swordsmanship, military experience and courtier's graces, had an instant impression on the Swedish king, who, in any case, had a very high opinion of Scots fighting men.

The many Scots soldiers of fortune serving in the Continental armies enjoyed a reputation for courage and integrity. At one time Gustavus Adolphus is said to have

had more than 10,000 Scots in his armies. We read of four field-m Marshals, three generals, one lieutenant-general, twenty-seven colonels . . . in the Swedish forces.

James Grant, Hepburn's biographer, says that at General Wrangel's castle at Skug-Kloster, were to be seen many portraits of Gustavus's Scottish officers: George Sinclair—remembered in Norwegian song as Jorgen Zinclair—David Drummond, Patrick Ruthven . . . He does not mention there being one of Hepburn.

In the campaigns against the Empire, John Hepburn was to play a most distinguished part. He became one of Gustavus's favourite officers. Defoe writes that the king "hardly knew how to go about any great action without him."

Hepburn's old friend, Robert Munro, was with him, and they fought together "from the shores of the Baltic to the vine clad mountains of Tyrol." They were inseparable in "the revelry of the board and the rivalry of the battle."

The Scots regiments, including Mackay's Highlanders, were formed by Gustavus into a brigade, and Hepburn appointed Colonel. The drums of the Brigade sounded the famous "Scots March" through Prussia, Hungary and Poland.

When Munich fell to Gustavus, the Scots Brigade was the first to enter, piped in by Mackay's Highlanders. Hepburn was made governor. James Grant records that there were some "sixty Scottish governors of towns, Castles and forts in the conquered provinces of Germany."

Gustavus ascribed his famous victory at Leipzig to the Scots Brigade, led by Hepburn in full armour, with drawn sword, and the drums beating the "Scots March."

But Hepburn though a courtier, was a very independent Scot. When in the course of some difference of opinion, Gustavus taunted Hepburn with his well-known love of finery and also with his religion, the astonished monarch found himself being offered Hepburn's sword and told that, "Now, Sir, I shall never more draw it in your service."

Horried at the prospect of losing so brilliant an officer, Gustavus hastened to apologise. Hepburn was haughtily adamant. He considered himself to have been insulted, and that he would accept from no man.

Command of his beloved Brigade passed to his great friend Robert Munro. Circumstances, however, making it impossible to leave immedi-

ately, he did, in fact, fight again for Gustavus. Then followed a quarrel between the king and the Marquis of Hamilton, both Scots left together. A month later Gustavus was dead.

After a brief visit to London, where he was knighted by Charles I, Hepburn went to France. Ties between Scotland and France were still very close, and many Scots were serving in the French army. His fame having travelled ahead, he was warmly welcomed by Louis XIII and Richelieu.

In 1637, Hepburn was appointed to command a new regiment formed from old Scots companies. The following year, with France in the war against the Empire, he led his men over the Rhine.

The Chevalier d'Hebron—Hepburn was too difficult for the French—became the comrade in arms and friend of such men as Turenne, Henri de la Tour d'Auvergne, and the Cardinal Duke de la Valette.

Hepburn's distinguished service to France ended on the 21st July 1636 at Saverne. During the siege, he fell shot in the neck. Two hours later he died, surrounded by his mourning fellow Scots, above him the Scottish standard, and regretting only that he died so far from his own hills and moors of the Borders.

The baton of a marshal of France, then on its way to him, was to lie, with his helmet, gauntlets, and spurs on his coffin, when it was borne into Toul Cathedral.

Richelieu, who mentions him frequently in his correspondence, writes of his death, "It is impossible for me to receive comfort."

Many French writers praise him. The British army historian Richard Cannon calls him "one of the best officers Scotland ever produced" . . . "loved by both officers and men." That he a Roman Catholic, so successfully commanded many Presbyterians, in an age of religious intolerance, also surely speaks highly of him.

On his death, command of the "Regiment d'Hebron" was given to Lord William Douglas, and, on his death at Arras, to the Earl of Dunbar. Brought to Britain during the reign of Charles II, it has won many laurels as the First, or Royal Scots Regiment of Foot. "Dunbar's Drums" is one of their marches.

## Faillte Do Lybster

### THE PORTLAND ARMS

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# Suiridhe Na H-Aon Oidhche

## LEIS A' BHREAGAN UALLACH

Cha b'è gealtair trugh na buigneag muigh 's a mach idir a bh'ann an Ruairidh Beag oir n tigeadh an cruaidh, air is e ann an droch sgrìobh chan 'e' tigeamh air bith nach cuireadh e a bhann air a bhann air a bhathais agus peirceal teth a thoirt de dhùine air bith a dheidheadh ro dhàn air a chliù is urram. Bu di-chiollach ann balach e, cuideachd 's b' aighreach iasgaidh 'e geirighaig a' cheud gairn coifich a shamhradh 's a ghemhradh. Ach bha so co-dhùbh ann an Ruairidh agus gu dearbh cha b' fheairde e fhéin sin — cha robh cus carbais aige 'na dhùinealas 's na chomas fhéin; theairidh cuid eadhoin, gu robh e lag-chuiseach agus fad air ais, agus bha eagal a bheatha aige as thaibh saichean agus gu h-àraidh roimh 'n bhuidseachd. Bha caileach na dhà 's a' choimhearsnachd air an robh droch amharus aige — nach tric a chual' e gum biodh iad a' ruith na h-oidhche ann an cruth beathaichean na mach-rach agus nach ann air Anna Ruadh a bha na balacha 'a' gur gun tàinig na roganan ann an dearg Shàtan fhéin agus an eagr Iain Leisg, beathach cho modhail solt 's a sheas a riann an crann roimh sud. Seadh cuideachd! 'nair a cheannach Seòras Càrn a' bhò mhaol bho thathannach a' Ghlinn cha d' thainig e leatha riann agus an do thuit dubh dhorchadas na h-oidhche, agus eadhain an uair sin fhein cha b' e idir an rathad m' a ghabh ach eadh cuiltéan agus frith-roidean a' bhaile, air eagal gun tachradh té de na caileachan sin rìs. Ach bu bheag feum a rinn na h-innleachdan sin dha. An ceann seachduin cha toireadh i aon driog bainne gun buarach, agus, gu dearbh, theab i saighe chur air Seonag, a bhean, la a' stairich agus a' breabail. Mo thàmailt, cuideachd, gur ann aca-san a b' bhitheadh a leithid sin a bheathach — nach robh iad ann beul a' bhaile mu tràth? Cha robh air ach falbh leatha là na mhàireachd do'n nigh mharbhadh mus teidheadh ann fhaicadh gu leir air chaothach agus bun os cionn. Cha chualas a riann brunnadal is mionnann coltach 's a bheir Iain a mhaduinn ud. Bha sgeulachd air mar sin aig na balach dhubha do Ruairidh a h-uile ann coimneachadh, oir bha fhios aig a' bhaile gu robh cnead de 'n t-seorsa so ann an Ruairidh còir — chan fhacas a shròin a mach air toll doruis air oidhche dhorch ghemhradh a riann. Cha b' e idir nach robh iarrtas a mach — nach robh 'Anna nam Prineachan' 's a' bhaile thall, sgalag cho math 's cho deantannach 's a bh' air tuath, agus b' fhadha bho chuir Ruai-

ridh suil innte, ged nach robh do chridhe aige dheidheadh air los a laimhe. Bha feum aige, gun teagamh, air companach teallaich ach co dhà bu dhàraig a dhol a shuiridhe do'n bhaile thall air oidhche ghruamach fuair, 's am mac molachd fhéin fo sgaol? Bha caileachan a' buidseachd, ma b'fhiore le Ruairidh, mun tìde ud a' ruith agus a' leum air ceithir chasan 's an lagan 's a' fear-milidh fhein air an ceann. 'S maig do'n chollain a thigeadh an t-astar an uair sin! Ach cò chuireas an aghaidh cabaig? Thig gnìomh gu dearbh a aire, agus dha bu bheag sin ann, gràsca. Nach d' thubhairt an lioigear dubh, Murchadh Maol, ris gu robh féille mhor a nis air Anna, agus ann an anais, gu robh Donnall Cuagach aice bho chionn dà oidhch' 's gur h-iongantach mura biodh banais ann a dh' aithgear. Donnall Cuagach, an d' thubhairt e? Robh esan a' dol a dh' fhaigai Anna aig claobhainn gu tanaiseid de 'n t-seorsa sin? Bu tursach, iomganach, bochd Ruairidh 'dol a chadal an oidhche sin, agus is iomadh osann throm agus acain chruaidh a chualas mus tug an cadal beagan fois is sonas do mhac-mheanmhuinn 's do anan.

Ra leantuinn.

## CUAIRT A' GHEAMHRAIDH

Tha am bair-'aiseig "Heb-rides" a nis air toiseachadh air cuairt a' ghemhradh. Cha bhi i a' ruith cho tric eadar Uige an Eilcin Sgiathanach agus na h-Eileanan-a-Muigh fad na ghemhradh, agus nach sam bith a tha a' seoladh eadar Loch nam Madadh agus an Tairbhear feumaidh e a dhol a dh'Uige an toiseach. Air Di-luan, Di-ceudaoin agus Di-h-aoinè bith i a'ruigheadh Loch nam Madadh aig 7.30 p.m. an aite 10 p.m. agus bith i air an Tairbhear aig an aon am Di-maire, Diar-daoin agus Di-sathairne.

## EAGLAIS UR AIG IAIN PAISLEY

Air a' 4mh latha de'n mhios seo dh'fhosgladh eaglais a' r airson dh'ionmhadh an Uir. Iain Paisley ann am Beul Feirste. Bha an t-seann te ro bheag leis cho mor agus a bha an coimhthional air fas. Chosg an eaglais ur £175,000 agus bha na miltèan a lathair aig an t-scribhis -fhosglaidh, 'nam meag seann grunnan a bhuidheadh do dh'Eaglais na Roinne. Tha an t-Oil. Paisley 'na Mhoderator air an Eaglais Shaoir Chleireil.







# over to you:

## BRISTEADH IOMHAIGHEAN

Fhir-deasachdain. — Chan eil ach seachdainnean o bha Ruairidh MacFhionnghaigh a' magadh (mar is math is aithne dha) air dithis le'm briogaisean mu'n casan. Tha nise Domhnall Grand agann agus sruth a' ruith air fhéin nu dhunne bochd nach cumadh a mh—. An ann airson gu'n toir Rupear Murdoch as an t-slochd sibh, mar a rinn e air "A' Ghreín", a tha sibh? "Se an aon eagal a th'ormsa gu'n tóisich daoine radhag bhéil an Comunn air a dhòl dh'ann tigh—. Chan eil fhios deid a' chrioch a bhios aig a so. Am bi dùil ri "chart" airson pì-a-ghlupaid ann an "Naids" heachdhan air "Chroit". "Tigh-beag ann an Leòdhas ann an 1770?" "Sitgean a' b'aithe dhomh?" Caristiona Keeler a' toirt an urram as airde dh'an a' bhàrd? "Nuair a bhios e deis is an sithichean, dh'fhaodadh an Grand-dach Gàidhlig a chur air an dealbh iomraiteach a rinn Yoko Ono air 400 tòn. "Se dh'fhaodadh MacFhionnghaigh... ach, 's fheàrr dhomh bhith modhail.

Chaidh iarraidh orm brèagair a thoirt do Mhac Fhionghuin, ach tha e glé dhòirbh dhòmhsa so a dheas amh chionnach ann nu m'pongan a thog mise air a bheil e mach ann. Cha 'reid mi gu'n deach breugan cho sgannalach so a chur orm riamh romha. Tha mi anns an aon phoige aige ris an fheadhainn a bha is a tha an aghaidh cànan, cultur is pobull na Gaidhealtachd: ach 's ann a chanainn-sa — na cheadachais tsibh beagan mòr-chuis dhomh — gu bhéil mi na mo dhòigh a' d' math agus 's Ghaidheal cho math agus 's dòcha nas fhearr na Ruairidh còir Mac Fhionnghuin, agus gu bhéil mi, ged nach eil mi ach trian de 'aois-sa, air a' cheart uidhir a dheanadh 'sa rinn eans riamh airson na Gàidhlig.\* (Cha robh mi aig na h-uidhir de cheilidhean Gàidhlig na Gailtchad ceart gu leòr: aicidhich mi sin.) A réir 's mar a tha mi air a bhith cluinntinn, tha duine a s'bu' 's a so dh'an bharrail gu'm bon na beachdan diolain air a' bheil Mac Fhionnghuin 's a' fanaid dhòmhsa. Dh'iarrainn-sa orra so iad i' thoirt sibh a' rithist air na sgrìobh mi agus ch' iad mar a thà.

Agus tuigidh an fheadhainn rithist air na sgrìobh mi agus breithneachaille aca nach robh mi ach ri leth-spòrs co-dhuibh. Chan eil ann am "bristeadh iomhaighean" ach eadartheangachadh de'n fhacal Bheurla, "iconoclastm." Nise, 'se iconoclast fear a' bhios bristeadh iomhaighean, a' toirt ionnsaigh air dogmas, chan ann airson gu bhéil e faicinn ciorram annata ach dìreach airson gur e iomhaighean, dogmas a th'annata "Nuair a sgrìobh mise "Bristeadh Iomhaighean", cha robh a dhith orm ach beagan dust a thogail: bha mi feuchainn ri toirt air daoine beagan ceasnachadh a dheanadh air am

beachdan (is, gu h-àraidh, air an dual-bheachdan). Cha bhí cultur sam bith beo as aon ceasnach da'n t-seorsa so. Thug Iòmas MacCalmain is Dominnall Grand math gu leòr nach robh mi, gu ire co-dhuibh, ach a' tarraim as an Iucnd-leughadh. Tha fhios a'm nach eil càil as lugha air duine a tha 'ga m'haas fhéin spòrsail — mar a tha MacFhionnghuin — na gu'n réid a dhearbhadh air nach tuig a spòrs, ach chan eil cotòram air. 'Se fhéin a thòisich a' mabadh. ('S tha dìfear mòr eadar mabadh is spòrs.)

'Se comunn liason a tha 'sa Chomunn Chidhealach, comunn air a bheil e mar fnaichabh daoine is buidhne eile a phrobachadh as leth na Gàidhlig. Ach bha fheadhainn anns a' Chòmuna riamh leis am b'fheàrr a bhith brosnachadh. Taing dha'n Fhreastaid, chan eil mòran duibh air fhagail.

Thuir mi am meadhan na litreach gu bhéil mi 'na mo Ghaidheal cho math ri MacFhionnghuin: 's maite gur fheàrr dhomh beagan leudachadh a dheanadh aig a so. Tuigidh duine ciallach sam b'fear a leughas "Briogaisean 'an Casan" nach eil aig an duine so ach fìor dhroch bheachd air na Gàidheil taça ri na Goill. 'Se tha fàgail an fheidhich math, tha e radh, gu bhéil e air Hugh MacDiarmid. (Chan eil rian nach tuig e gaire air mòran, mar a thug e ormsa, bhith faicinn MacFhionnghuin 'ga chur fhéin 'san aon t-sreath ri MacDiarmid, Shakespeare is Tranter.) 'Si phrìomh argumaid a tha aige as leth na piba gur i a thagh na Sasunnaich agus na h-Amaireaganach airson tìodhlaigeach Churchill is Kennedy. Mo bheannachd aig oileannaich euga Ooradainn a bha ag iarraidh orrinn, ann an "Crann '68", meas a chur air ar dòigh-beatha, air cultur, 's ar beachdan a rèir criteira Ghaidhealach: chan ann a bhith, mar a tha MacFhionnghuin is mòran eile de Ghall-Ghaidheil, ag adhradh dh'an A' Ghall Uille-Fhiosrach (iomhaigh a tha glé fheumach air a deagh bhristeadh).

An co-dhùndh, feumaidh mi aicheadh gu'n do chòrd dibhearsinn a' Ghrannachd math rium. Duine éibhinn, onorach. Ach chan ionnann idir "Briogais Dhòmhnall si cho Fluch" agus "Briogais 'an Casan." Tha mi dò a chriochnachadh le rann, chan ann le Shakespeare no MacDiarmid no Nigel Tranter ach le ar sàr-bhàrd, a tha sealltainn nach e idir br a tha ann an nimh-aoireadh anns a Ghaidhlig:

"Ach na fuilingeachd tu spòrs uainn,  
Cha rachadh an t-bran so shéideadh,  
Mur b' na thug thu de thàmailt  
Do na thàmh s' do na dh'eug uainn...  
[Ged thug athair dha pòrsan].  
Cobhair eòlais gu aoireadh,

Ciod an truaigh chuir 'na shuidh e  
Gu bhith 'na bhreitheamh air daoineibh."

[Rob Donn]

Mise le muirn,  
\* Domhnall Iain MacLeòid  
's Agus rinn MacCalmain fada fichead a bharrachd 's am beagan a rinn an dithis agamne.

Sir.—Years ago I stumbled across Gaelic songs; the sort that we used to hear on the radio, with a tasteful accompaniment or none at all and with the titles printed in the Radio Times; I decided that I liked them and, partly for that reason and partly because I liked Scotland and its people, grew the desire to learn Gaelic. The Gaels were very kind and helpful to the Englishman who had decided to associate himself with their culture and I have never had any regrets on that account.

I became a subscriber to SRUTH in order to follow my Gaelic interests, that is to learn the language and the songs and to read of any happenings in the Highlands. Recently, however, I have noted with distaste, concern and exasperation the increasing amount of space which is being given to certain types of political paranoia, which would be childish and silly if they were not so calculated to harm the cause whose interests SRUTH was launched to promote.

I come of a family with a long history of devotion to Liberalism, and, while I am not a keen party man, I hold to those principles myself, so I am not unsympathetic to the reasonable aspirations of any people to control their own destinies, but I would like to suggest that when P. Berresford Ellis talks of oppression and tyranny, he doesn't know the meaning of those words. I deplore his use of SRUTH as a platform for his misguided views, if he will find another platform I am quite prepared to prove their absurdity, as Gwynfor Evans, M.P. did. But there can be no doubt that one of the many tragedies of Irish history was the way, during the last century, that determined and desperate politicians infiltrated the Gaelic movement and even Gaelic sports and Irish cultural activities and made them a weapon with which to perpetuate the divisions of Ireland, instead of something that could have healed old wounds. I hold no brief for Ulster Unionism, but I can quite see why they view certain apparently innocuous activities with misgiving. A Chlanna na Gaidheal! gabhaibh earail etc. Or perhaps we want Scots Gaelic to make enemies? Yours etc.

LEE COLLIN  
41 Wallace Drive,  
Huyton  
Liverpool.

Reply by P. Berresford Ellis  
I have never used the words

"oppression and tyranny" in my column, "Celtica Today." I have listed events which have happened in the Celtic countries and if friend Lee Collin interprets these events as "oppression and tyranny" who am I to disagree with him? As for his statement that I do not know the meaning of the words which, in his opinion, he thinks fits the Celtic situation today... I will be ostentatious enough to say I know more of oppression and tyranny than Mr Collin, wrapped in his Liverpoolian-Liberal cocoon ever dreamed of, having seen it first hand in many countries. Friends of mine have been shot or imprisoned for life in places like South Africa (some merely because they were African!). But there are many forms of oppression and tyranny—bureaucratic tyranny such as the magnificent example of it which one gets in English Government offices. I believe I have a fair knowledge of the whole spectrum.

Mr Collin says he will prove the absurdity of my "misguided views" if I will find another platform other than SRUTH. What is wrong with SRUTH if Mr Collin is so sure of his arguments? Incidentally, I do write for a wide range of publications including occasionally contributions to the Liberal NEW OUTLOOK which, as a Liberal, he could have crossed swords with me in.

But before he does so, I hope his arguments will be better informed than his appalling knowledge of Irish history.

Finally, rather naively, Lee Collon says "perhaps we want Scots Gaelic to make enemies?" I have news for Lee Collin, the language has enemies, that (strangely enough) is why only 1.66 per cent of the population of Scotland still speak the national language, and why the language could become extinct.

Sir.—When asking patients to sign the Institute's Petition for the compulsory registration of all chiropodists I am often met by incredulous stares. "Surely," they exclaim "it is the case now?" Alas, it is not in practice whether trained or not. He may pursue some entirely unrelated trade by day, and work on feet in his spare time.

The average man—and woman—has reluctantly come to accept a National Health Service which leaves him to bear the full cost of chiropody treatment. We must ensure that the expert he consults knows more about the foot than he does himself. That is why Mr Sydney Bidwell, M.P. (Southall) is to try and bring in a Bill in the House of Commons on Tuesday, the 21st of this month, which would allow only persons who have been properly trained to give chiropody treatment.

The public can help by writing to their M.P. demanding action. Members of the Institute

will be delighted to receive signatures at their business premises.

Petition forms may be obtained from me by those who would like to collect signatures from their friends. Letters expressing support would also be appreciated. Yours etc.,

J. Thomson Lauder, L.Ch.,  
H.Ch.D., Secretary, Scottish Area Council, The Institute of Chiropodists.  
46a Union Street,  
Aberdeen.

Fhir-deasachdain,  
Do leugh mi air t.d. 11; Sruth 2/10/69; earrain 3; mu' mheadhoin; iomradh le M. Yann Fouere a Breatain Beag. Thuabhairt e, inter alia, nach robh Breton air a theagais ann an sgoitean, an sud. Chan eil mi a' smuineachadh gu'm bhéil so ceart uile gu leir. Dh' fmnis ballach gu duinn— mu fhichead bliadhna 'aois gu 'n robh an canain air a theagais; da. An uair a bha e anns an sgoil agus thuabhairt e gu 'n robh e air a theagais an cuid de an sgoitean. Chan eil mi cinnteach, de cho moran tha so air a bhi deanta; gun teagamh ach a' bheag, ach cha sinn toilichte a dh' eiseachd gu 'n robh bhi deanta idir. Chi thu ach glé beag deth air a sgrìobhadh aite air bith, chan fhaic thu Bratach Breatainnich idir cheannach sinn bratach beag am baile Brest ach cha robh moran ann duibh. Tha paiperi—naigheachd aca "L' Avenir de la Bretagne" cha mhor uile anns an Fhrangais agus theagamh aon earrain am Breizeg. Thadhail sinn air Breatain Beag mu o cheithir bliadhna, agus a ris a' bhliadhna. Choinnich sinn Parisienne, a' fuirich agus ag obrachadh am baile a th' ann. Tha e' bhean so air a posta ri breatainnich 'se sin duine a Breatain Beag. Dh' ioinn i duinn gu 'n robh eagal orra do bhi a' brùighinn air gnothuichean breton agus bha eagal air moran eile a' fuirich anns an duthaich. Cha bu toigh leatha idir, air an doigh a bha an raighlaidh Frangach a' deanadh ruidan.

Le meas mor,  
A. D. L. CAIMBEUL

## Cuil nan Ceist—II

- FUASGLADH
- 1 "Mar chloich a' ruith le gleann."
  - 2 Tha e air a ghabhail mar iasaid o'n Laidèan "natalica"—a' ciallachadh "breith," i.e. breith Chrìosd.
  - 3 (a) t-samhradh. (Oran an t-Samhradh.)
  - (b) Earrach. (An Geamhradh.)
  - (c) Samhradh, Foghar. (Null do dh'Uibhist.)
  - 4 17mh latha de'n Mhàrt.
  - 5 Bha seo 'na fheadhaidair-eachd air latha anns am biodh na fir gu leir air an cur gu bas anns a' chath agus bhiodh na mnathan ann an eideadh-broin.

# GAELIC—AT THE CROSSROADS

(Continued from page 10)

are the attractions the Highlands have to offer? An Englishman will not want to go to Oban, Portree or Ullapool for something he can get at Margate, Blackpool or Torquay. The Highlands must offer a unique attraction which can only be found in the Highlands, whilst the growth of tourism can provide many opportunities which could help the revival of Gaelic.

A revival of Gaelic will not be seen in isolation, but in the part it can play in the world scene. By all the Laws of Evolution the twin islands of Great Britain and Ireland should have grown into a great Celtic Nation based on Cymric-Gaelic culture. Celtic is as much the language of Ireland and the Isle of Man as it is the language of Scotland. Much can be learnt from the Welsh and the efforts they are making to retain their language. To be true to one's heritage means making it play a vital part in the life of the World. As Nigel Tranter has said, "Those who scorn their country's heritage make a poor impression as World Citizens."

How then should An Comunn undertake the task of reviving Gaelic until it is once more able to play its proper part in the life of Scotland? Top priority should be given to intensive study of the social and economic problems of the West Highlands and Islands. An Comunn will only be effective to the extent that its members are prepared to make it effective. This, in its turn, requires:—

- (1) More contact with the few remaining Gaelic-speaking clans.
- (2) Ability to get hold of young people — particularly those under 25.

School-leavers present a difficult problem. Faced with a need to earn their living they must concentrate on subjects which will help them find jobs. So many of our young people are on the ratrace for good jobs or living-it-up almost as soon as they leave school; this inevitably means the

sleeping car to London.

The preliminary study of Gaelic should be done at school, and education should be linked to the art of living instead of being geared to the requirements of job-hunting. Making the study of Gaelic compulsory will not revive the language. More can be done by stimulating an interest in Gaelic. Gaelic has survived those years, when Gaelic-speaking was illegal and when children could be severely punished for singing Gaelic songs on their way home from school, better than it has survived the years when it was once more legal to speak the language and when schools are being encouraged to have Gaelic choirs to compete at the Mods. Job-hunting, money-making and careerism have done more to destroy Gaelic than all the vicious legislation of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries!

Comunn na h-Oigridh should organise a Summer Camp in one of the Gaelic-speaking areas for young people between the ages of 14 and 19. Evening classes have helped and in a good many instances there has been an encouraging attendance. Nevertheless there is still a tendency to drift away after three or four lessons. Perseverance in study and a determination to master the language are essential.

The first concern of An Comunn Gaidhealach should be the spiritual and economic welfare of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. The Head Office of An Comunn should be at Oban, whilst branch offices could be established at Stornoway, Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Edinburgh, Stirling and Glasgow. There should be a School of Gaelic Studies at Oban, which—if successful—could be followed up by a School of Gaelic and Hebridean Studies at Stornoway. By this means it should be possible to revive the ancient language, culture and heritage of the Gael, and thus lay the foundations of a finer and richer Scotland. An Comunn Gaidhealach would then be true to its motto, "Ar Canain 's Ar Ceol."

## New Tourist Board Members

The names of the six members whom he has appointed to the new statutory Scottish Tourist Board were announced by the Rt. Hon. William Ross, M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

Those appointed are:—  
Sir William Slimmings, President of the Chartered Accountants' Society in Scotland.

Sir James Mackay, Member of Highlands and Islands Development Board with responsibility for tourism.

Mr A. A. Hughes, who leaves his present post as an Under Secretary in the Scottish Development Department at the end of September to take up appointment as Managing Director of Crudens Limited. Tourism policy was one of Mr Hughes' particular responsibilities in the Department and he was closely associated with the preparation of the Development of Tourism Act under the provisions of which the new statutory Board is being appointed.

Mr W. A. Nicholson, who retired from the Directorship of the voluntary Scottish Tourist Board at the beginning of 1969, but who has been continuing as interim Director pending the handover of responsibilities to the new Board. The post of Director of the new Board has already been advertised and Mr Nicholson will continue as interim Director until the new appointment is made.

Mrs Murray Usher is a hotelier in Gatehouse-of-Fleet. Councillor H. B. Sneddon, Motherwell Town Council.

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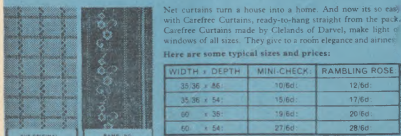
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