

# SRUTH

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THURSDAY, 10th JULY 1969

No. 60

SIXPENCE

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## Dail Le Aiseag Ur A Chaoil

Chuala Comhairle Rathaidean Siorrachd Inbhir-Nis aig a' choinneamh Di-Mairt nach biodh na bataichean ura air aiseag Chaoil-acuinn gu Foghar 1970. Thairt fear garime na Siorrachd. Am Morair Domhnallach gur iad a' Scottish Transport Group a bha ag abharachadh dail a chuir 'sa chuis.

Dh' ainmich Mgr. A. Galway, iar runaire na siorrachd, gun choinnich riochdairean bhò'n chomhairle ri Scottish Transport agus Scottish Development Department. Cha robh a' chomhairle idir riachte le iarrtuis Scottish Transport gu feumadh na bataichean caraichean a ghabhail orra. 'Sa leigeil dhiubh air an toiseach 'sair an deireadh Tha seo a' ciallachadh £60,000 a chosg ri laimrigean.

Tha a chomhairle de'n bheachd gur e bataichean a leithid na te uir tha air aiseag Cheasaig bu fhreagarraich. Cha bhiodh ach eadar £10,000 is £20,000 r'a chosg air nan laimrigean.

The Scottish Transport Group remain convinced that the end loading ferries were the more appropriate but with the extensive pier alterations necessitated by the introduction of such vessels the boats would not be in operation for the 1970 tourist season.

Mr David Hamilton, county road surveyor explained that two of the end-loading boats would be required while three

### MR J. ABRACH MACKAY Castletown

Mr J. Abrach Mackay, well-known throughout the Highlands as a member of Caithness County Council and other north bodies, died at his home, The Bungalow, Harland Gardens, Castletown, on Saturday, Born in Skerry, North Sutherland, 94 years ago, he had been a member of Caithness County Council for the past 43 years.

Mr Mackay, a fluent Gaelic speaker, had as his chief interests education, accident prevention, and the promotion of Gaelic.

He is survived by three sons

of the Kessock-type vessels would be necessary.

Contracts for alterations to the pier at Kyleakin could not be awarded before November and actual work will take nine months. The committee gave the go-ahead for the work.

### EIRISGEIDH

Dh'orduich Comhairle nan Rathaidean aig an aon choinneamh an obair a chuir an laimh airson laimrig a thogail an Eiriseidh — agus gun dail a bhith leatha.

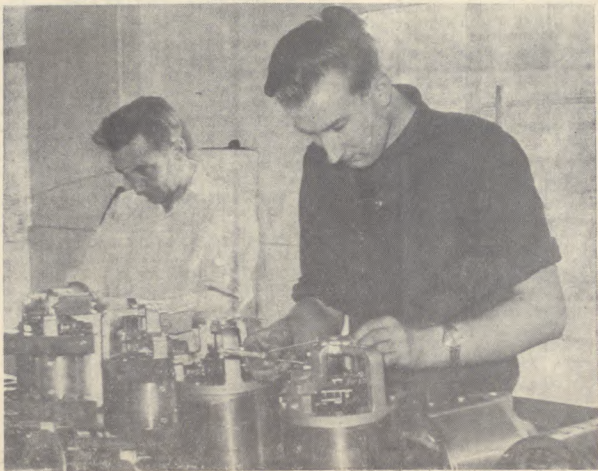
### GOIREASAN TURUSAICH

Tha duil ri barrachd luchd turuis do na h-eileanan an bliadhna na bh'ann riann roimne. Agus bitheadh cuid do mhuintir na tuath toichte nuair a thig iad cuid-each. Tha nise faisg air ceud aite air feadh na h-eileanan a tha deonach air luchd turuis a ghabhail a steach do na tìghean aca. Tha Bord na Luchd Turuis dol a thoirt dhaibh-saighnaichean a dh'aon gnò-haich, a chuireas iad a muigh an tìgh, airson daoine stiur-eachd thuca.

Thubairt Mgr Ian Horne, Ceannfhear Bord an Luchd Turuis ann a Steornabhagh, gun robh da rud eile ann a eathraicheadh iad. Is e sin eathraicheadh beaga agus caravans agus chaneil iad furasd fhaotainn idir. Tha e coltach gun beil eathraichean beag gu leir anns na h-eileanan a bitheadh freagarach airson daoine thoirt gu muir no loch — ach chaneil fìrionnaich ann a theid comhla riutha. Tha iad sin an ceann an cosnaidh agus chaneil e furasd dhaibh an obair fhagail air son dha na trì mhìosan. Ach chaneil fhios nach deanadh fear no dha airgid bliadhna ann a t-saison?

Tha luchd turuis ri lorg caravans cuideach. Tha na h-ubair ac ann gun teagamh — ach tha feum air an tuilleadh. Ach bitheadh feadhainn tha lorg aite air son a leithid so toilichte gun thug muintir Tholostaidh bhò Thuath agus muintir Choll, còrrom dhaibh fuir-eachd anns na caravans ac fhein, air pìos do thalamh a bhalle. Faisg air na cladaich-an breagha sin.

## The Modern Highlands



Another batch of electric generators near completion in the factory of Markon Engineering (Scotland) Ltd., at Dalross Industrial Estate, adjacent to Inverness Airport.

## New Machines From Highlands

A half ton of sophisticated electronic equipment, a vacuum/low pressure resin casting machine, left the factory of Antech Ltd., at the Longman Industrial Estate, Inverness, last week, bound for a customer in Leicester. It was the first of the firm's range to be produced at their new Highland plant.

"It is the most up-to-date equipment in its field," said Mr S. C. Morgan, director of the company. "At present we have a staff of nine but by early next year we hope to be producing one machine a month and to be employing about 15."

Antech are in the process of moving from Leicestershire to the Highland capital with assistance from the Highlands and Islands Development Board and began work in their new premises in February, 1969.

They are establishing overseas contacts and believe their range, which costs from £1,800 to £3,000, has a large export potential. The machines have a wide application in the electrical, radio, electronics and tele-communications industries.

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Di-ardaoin, 10 latha de'n Iuchar

Thursday, 10th July 1969

## An Sgeadachadh

Ma bha duine anns an rìoghachd ag nach robh fiosaigh robh ann Prionnsa Tearlach gu bhith air a sgeadachadh mar Phrionnsa na Cuimrigh air an t-seachdain seo chaidh cha b' e coire nam paipearan-naidheachd agus Buidheann a'Chraobh-sgoilidh a bha ann.

Nis, chan eil cail agam-sa an aghaidh an teaghlach rìoghail. A reir a h-uile coltais 's e daoine mhothail, stolda a tha anna, ach feumaidh gur ann le 'n cead a chuir an Riaghaltas air adhart a leithid a bhrosnachadh, agus chan eil teagamh nach robh iad a'fhachainn ri dilseachd dh'a'n Chrun a chur gu feum an aghaidh naiseantachd.

A bharrachd air a'chunnart gum bi daoine air an searbhadh, tha cunnart mòr ann, mar a thuit ann paipear naidheachd co-dhiubh, ann a bhith troist an teaghlach rìoghail a stigh ann an gnothaichean poiliticeach. 'S e gun do chum iad a mach as na gnothaichean seo a bu chòireach gun mhair Beatainn 'na rìoghachd. Agus cha b' e seo a'cheud uair a chaidh feum a dheanadh dhiubh mar seo. Air aon rud bha iomradh ann an oraid na Ban-rìghinn aig an Nollaig air 'dhae-aontachd ag eirigh eadar-ann' nach b'urrainn do 'eunice eadar-mhineachadh ach mar ionnsaigh air naiseantachd.

Fhuair sinn ar suilean fhosgladh cuideachd mu'n doigh anns a bheil na m'odhanan craobh-sgoilidh a'gab-hall comhairle an Riaghaltas. Cha leig iad a leas an deidh seo ubhira a dh'othail a bhith orra air mar a tha reidid is telebhisean ann an duthchannan eile mar a tha an Fhrainc fo spogan an riaghaltas aca-san.

Chualas sinn gu leor cuideachd mu dheidhinn 'extremists' a bha an aghaidh an sgeadachadh, ach chan eil dol as ann 'o'n fhìrinn gur ann air gnìomh a'cheud Rìgh Iomhair a'glaochadh a m'bhith 'na Phrionnsa air Cuimrigh an deidh lamh-an-uachdar fhaighinn air na Cuimrigh a bha sgeadachadh na seachdain seo chaidh air a stèidheachadh.

## A Glean in the North

What must be the quietest Press Conference on record was staged in Inverness at the presentation of the Third Annual Report of the Highlands and Islands Development Board. Complacency? Disinterest? Nine-days' wonder finally fizzled out? Intransigence with the Press? Or is the Board now part of the establishment and is therefore not news?

On the basis of what is contained in the Third Report, it may well be that the early hungry years of the HIDD are now over and that it is being allowed to settle down to perform its task on behalf of the Highlands and Islands. Certainly there is, for the first time, a feeling of general satisfaction all round, both on the Board's part and on the part of those who are affected, directly and indirectly, by the Board's activity among them. This is not to say that there is nothing new to do. There will always be challenges and there will always be failures. But on balance a level of thinking has been achieved which must now act as a base from which a fully-integrated plan must rise, with all its various elements working to create a new Highland whole.

Professor Sir Robert Grieve has spoken of the need to preserve the 'texture of Highland life'. This is somehow much better than saying that the Highland way of life must be preserved. The latter implies stagnation. Sir Robert's term implies that no forward step must be taken without a long, cool and dispassionate look at the past. And when the step is taken, the Highland community will pace out its future with a confidence that springs from knowing that it is participating in the general—and one hopes humane—progress of society.

From its initial concern with economics, the Board now seems to be more and more concerned with problems which have socio-economic bases. There is a great deal of work yet to be done on the social problems which exist and those which will arise as development techniques are applied. One of the difficulties is the rapidity with which the mutations of the 'Highlands problem' both appear and disappear to give place to others. This is particularly so in the three areas designated as major growth areas: Lochaber, Moray Firth and Wick-Thurso. Inevitably people are affected by these mutations and the result may well be that whatever the Board does successfully will be cancelled out by effects which have not been foreseen.

So far as the Hebrides are concerned, we hope that those who handle the purse-strings in Edinburgh will realise that the bulb-scheme in North Uist will allow these islands to be designated a major growth area. If the scheme goes forward and the necessary cash is provided the Government may well win all seven Highland seats at the next election. That's the way it goes. On the other hand, if no financial incentive is provided . . .

# FAIGINN BHUAM

Cumaidh na h-eileanan, mòr is beag, ruinn, agus cò a dh'fhàsadh sgìth de bhith nam measg. Air an t-seachdain sa chaidh bha mi an Eilean Leòdhais. Ghabh mi an triall farsada gach rathad, air a' phleuna.

Tha rathad ùr a dh'ionnsaidh nam eilean ann a mise, cuimseach ur co-dhiù. Tréin no rathad mòr gu Malaig. B' aiseig, le càr ma thogras tu (agus mureil am faradh ro dhaor leat) gu Aramadann ann an Eilean Sgiathachan. An càr a rithist, no baos, gu Uige agus an sin b' aiseig eile gu Teirbeart na Hearadh. Ni thu Stairnabhagh deith sa sin, no fhadhaid tu cum air a bhàta Lochanmadaid.

Chaidh tu chun an t-slighe seo chun nam eilean fhatasg agus mun cuir mi duine sa bhith air seacharan, bu chòir dhomh a ràdh gu feum fiosaichadh cinnteach fhaoitainn 'o'n bhuidhinn ainmeil ud, Mac Breen. Bha mi an dùil an toiseach an doigh ud a ghabhail air Leòdhais a ruigheachd, ach air a' cheann thall ghabh mi an doigh farsada, mar a thuir mi.

Bha dùil gun dèanadh an t-slighe ùr feum mòr nuair a chuireadh mi ar comhairt 'a' toiseach, ach cha do mheasadh i cho fhearrach sa bha san ainm. Tha an sealladh gu dearbh bho 'n trèin eadar an Gearasdan agus Malaig cho àlainn 'nam bheachd—sa sa chithear an àite sa bhith. Ach chan e sealladh a h-uile rud. Do luchd nam caraichean chaneil an rathad ach caol cuagach. Tha an dàil agus am faradh a' Malaig 'na chuis gheairnais. Saoidh na Sgiathachain nach urrainn nach bi an urus a' Aramadag gu Uige na thoil lantinn ach their na Leòdhaisach 's theagam' le tomhas de fhealladh, gun cuireadh seo iad an aghaidh an turuis air fad.

Mu ochd mìle a' Aramadag tha rathad a' gearradh sìos air do làimh dheis gu Eilean Iarmain. Co dhìu a ghabhas tu seachad gu cabagach no thèid thu tacan gu robh thu seo, cha shèachainn thu sealladh air àite cho maiseach sa chì thu air do chur air. Gun teagamh cha bhì dùil an còmhnaidh ri breth earbsail bho neach air an àite air an eòlaiche e fhéin. Bith-eachd sin mar sin, a thaobh Eilean Iarmain, gu h-àraidh is an làn a staigh, bheirinn dubhlan, ged a shiubhladh neach fad is farsainn, nach fhaicear oisean a bh'air bàrr air ann am maisie.

Chan e eilean a tha an Eilean Iarmain idir, ach tha e air lamheachadh, mar as tric a thachras, air eilean choarach a tha thall mu acarsaid air an toabh as fhaigse do'n Linne Shléitich. Tha an t-ainm beurla a th'air eilean seo, 'Isleorsay,' ga chur am measg an airmh aig an robh ceangal air choireigin ris an Naomh Oran.

Chuala mi beachd no dha mu bh'igh an ainm Ghàidhlig. Bha e dol troimh m' inntinn

gun chuala mi, s dòcha anns an spòil, gum b' "Eilean Dhiamaid" a bu chiall da. Cha chreid mi gun seas am breithneachadh sin. Air mo shon fhéin, gabhaidh mi a rithist beachd Alasdair Mhic Neacail, se sin gur e "Eilean Tioramain" as ciall da, no eilean do'm fad thu cois-eachd aig muir-tràigh, àite nach eil na eilean ach aig pàirt no dreirdh lionaidh.

Tha gu leòr dhe na h-eileanan tioramain sin timcheall nam cladaichean seo. Tha taigh-solais Eilean Iarmain air fear dhiubh. Tha fear eile dhiubh agamsa a nise. Chan eil e ach mu acaire am meudachd, le creagan glasa ag èirigh gu h-àrd na theas, ach bithidh taigh goireasach, seasgair, air a' dh'aithearr, ma chumas Danny MacLeòid agus a' chuideachd a' Portnalong orra.

Chan eil e fada bho 'n rathad mhòr. An àite cumail ort sìos a' dh' Eilean Iarmain, ma thionndaidheas tu gu do làimh dheis air a rathad gu Camaschros, chì thu e mu leth-cheud slat a nunn an tràigh. B' e "Eilean Ealasaid" a bh' aca air ri mo chiad chuimhne, agus "Ailsa" a chum feum oifis a' puist. Chan aithne dhomh cò a thàinig an toiseach. Ealasaid no Ailsa, no cò i Ealasaid.

Sioma uair a chunnaic mi an teaghlach a bh' air a' cur feum air a' gheòla a nunn sa nall. Mar a rinnadh an àite-eachan a b' iomraitiche, thogadh cabhsair coise a nunn ga ionnsaidh o chionn bliadhna no dha. A dh'aindeoin cabhsair bh' fheadur dhunime feith-eam air a thide feagar as t-fhoghar seo chaidh, is rothaid a' cur an làin mhòir thairis air a' cheann a' b' fhaigse.

A' lorg ainm no seòladh puist, on a bha fhios agam glé mhath càit a robh Air-

eamh 2, Camaschros, agus gun sgeul tuilleadh air Aig-eamh 1, dé a b' fhéar na còir iarraidh air an t-seòladh, "A'reamh 1, Camaschros," agus sin mar a bha.

Ged a shaoiltear air a' chaid shealladh am faradh-adhair a' Glaschu gu Steòrnabhagh a bhith daor, tha e soirbh a thuinginn carson a tha daoine a' fas measail air an dòigh shiubhal seo. Tha an dòigh eile thar tìr is muir fadalach is sgìthheil agus tha coisgsean bidh ri chunntas nach eirich idir air a' phleuna. Tha cleachdadh cuideachd a' cur as do'n fhiach a bha nàdarach do dhaoine aon uair ag eirigh os cionn na talmhainn. Tha deagh abharr air an earbsa ùr seo nuair a chithear air an aon làimh cho sabhailte sa tha na pleumachan agus air an làimh eile cho cunnartach sa tha na rathaiden mòra fhéin a' fàs.

Dihaoine a' dol suas cha robh an latha ach ceòthach agus aig an àird aig an robh sinn, còrr is 10,000 troidh, cha robh ach corra shealladh ri fhaoitainn air an duthach gu h-iseal. Cha cheadachadh ach beagan eòlais a chur air còmhndaran Bheinn-a-faoghla nuair a thearnaich sinn. Neartaicheadh sin fhéin dùrachd duine an tuilleadh eòlais a chur air machairne is lochain is cabhsairean nan eilean. Tha am maisie fhéin orra nach ceadaich leth-breas air uachdar an domhain.

Bha Disatharna a' tilleadh na bu shoirleire agus abair gu robh e sgiobalta. Ach cha mhòr gu robh Calum Robasdan is mi fhin sgiobalta gu leòr, ur mhaoidh iad oirmn g'gh port-adhair Steòrnabhagh nach fhaigheamaid àite anns a' phleuna a chionn nach robh sinn a' lathair fichead mionaid roimh am fagail. Ach rinn iad tròcair oirnn; nuair a chunnaic sinn na bha de shuidheachain falalmh anns a' phleuna, cha robh e soirbh abharr na h-othail a thuinginn.

## Cuil nan Ceist-7

### 7 - BEANNTAN NA GAIDHEALTACHD

1. De a' bheinn as àird 's na h-Eileanan-a-Muigh?
2. Ainmich trì àiteachan co dhiùbh anns am bheil beinn ris an canar 'A' Bheinn Mhòr'?
3. Cuir ainm beinne anns gach beinn a chaidh fhagail anns na sreathan bardach a leanas:
  - (a) 'Bha mi'n de m—' 'S na còir cha robh mi aineolach.'
  - (b) 'Chì mi Mar lethginn gu tioma.'
  - (c) 'Soraigh gu — uam, on 'sì fhuair urram nam beann.'
4. Ciamar a fhuair Sgùrr Alasdair 'san Eilean Sgiathachan an t-ainm?
5. Bha Iain MacCodrum, am bàrd, a' fuireach fo sgaile na beinne seo.

Fuasgladh air t. di 11

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# Celtica - today

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

By P. Berresford Ellis

July 1 was a sad day for Wales. I am reminded of the last days of the Roman Empire when the people of Rome were starving and it was debated whether to give the people bread or circuses. The emperor opted for circus—so did the English. "Y Pantomime" or the investiture of Prince Charles was a circus staged to distract the Welsh people from seeking bread.

It is said that, perhaps, some Welsh people might be taken in by it. The investiture was Wales' a *chealg mhor* (great hypocrisy) . . . but sooner or later the Welsh people must choose between circuses or bread.

It was a sad day inasmuch as three people were killed for "y pantomime"—two Welshmen (blown up by their own bomb) and one English soldier. There were explosions and demonstrations (eggs, rotten apples and bananas were thrown at the royal processions and, despite the ban on demonstrations, there were plenty of slogan shouting and placard waving Welsh en-route). As for the reception given by the Welsh people when Charles was brought out on the balcony, even the arch-Tory "Daily Telegraph" had to admit "The cheers were rather ragged and more or less confined to a party of schoolchildren."

"Y pantomime" was a contemptible political move and it seems that the Welsh people have received it as such.

On the same day, the Free Wales Army trial, came to an end. This "mini pantomime" cost £200,000 (as much as the investiture), lasting 53 days, and resulting in three of the accused getting acquittals, three suspended sentences of 3 to 8 months, and three more terms of imprisonment of up to 15 months.

\* \* \*

The Breton political prisoners, now held in Prison de la Sante, have gone on hunger strike "in protest against the oppression of Brittany by French imperialism and against the silence maintained around the Breton claims." The date of the last communication smuggled out of the prison announcing their intention was June 7. Since then nothing has been heard from the prisoned, alleged members of the Front for the Liberation of Brittany.

It is estimated that there are now 16 Breton political prisoners left in prison. Of the 60 alleged FLB members arrested, 53 were charged, 51 imprisoned and the use of torture and drugs to make them talk has been confirmed. Two previous hunger strikes by the prisoners, in February and March resulted in 35 prisoners being released "pending trial," which is expected in September.

Throughout Celtica, committees have been formed to aid the prisoners and their dependents, demonstrations were held outside French Embassies in London, Dublin and Brussels, Gwynfor Evans (Plaid Cymru M.P.) asked, in the House of Commons, that an international commission be set up to investigate alleged torture, and taken hunger strikes have been held throughout Brittany to express solidarity.

Skoazell Vreizh, a committee to aid the prisoners, has been active since the arrests and donations can be sent to it at C.C.P 30 186, 45 Centre de la Source, France.

\* \* \*

Results of the Irish General Election are:—Fianna Fail 75; Fine Gael 50; Pairti an Lucht Oibre 18; and independents 1. Despite the pundits, Jack Lynch is back as Taoiseach and Fianna Fail are firmly in the saddle for another term of office. What does this do for that all important aim, the restoration of the Irish language?

Nothing at all! Lip service will continue to be paid to it while Fianna Fail continue with their policy of making Ireland a reservoir of cheap labour for the English speaking world.

Mind you, at least Fianna Fail pays lip service—if Fine Gael became the government they'd probably legislate against Irish as their recent courting with the English "Language Freedom Movement" showed.

\* \* \*

Another move by Mann for "greater independence." A select committee of the House of Keys has recommended that the island start minting its own coinage. The new money would include a 100 penny decimal coin—the equivalent of the £1—which will probably be the only one in the English Commonwealth. Recommendation is that the coins will bear

Manx symbols. The committee proposes to start with a non-decimal issue of silver crowns next year.

The move to establish a separate currency is yet another move in the gradual progress that the Manx Government has been making, to separate itself from Westminster. The process began four years ago.

\* \* \*

The first Cornish national political party (as opposed to Mebyon Kernow, which is an all embracing national movement) has been launched called Kenehtlek Kyfwevy a Kernow (Cornish National Party). The aims are:—

1. To seek self government for Cornwall and to secure the rightful recognition of Cornwall as a Celtic Nation and not an English county.

2. To re-establish the Cornish Nation, culturally and spiritually.

3. To harness the economy for the benefit of the people of Cornwall.

The General Secretary of the CNP is Mr Leonard C. Trelease (a former national secretary of Mebyon Kernow) of 15 Clinton Road, Redruth, Kernow.

Last week the Cornish M.P., Peter Bessell, laid a wreath at London's Marble Arch in memory of An Gof who led the Cornish national uprising of 1497 and who was defeated and executed at Tyburn. Similarly, another commemoration took place in St Kererne, Cornwall, where An Gof was born.

## North-East by Nor'East

The halting of population decline in the North-East of Scotland, which loses 4500 persons a year, should be the immediate objective for the region, the Gaskin Survey say in their report.

While recommending growth areas based on the Aberdeen city region and Elgin, the survey makes it clear that stopping migration should be the prime aim for the mid 1970's.

Until this happened labour would continue to be used in low productivity occupations, the unduly low activity rates in the area would persist, and the structure of the population would continue to be adversely affected.

The decline in population has two harmful effects, the survey states. It impairs the economic attraction of the area and, falling mainly on the vital 20-40 age group, contains the seeds of even steeper decline.

To stop the drift of population, Professor Maxwell Gaskin, of the chair of economics, Aberdeen University, estimate that 8000 new jobs will have to be provided by 1976, over and above those likely to be created by foreseeable trends. Between 6000 and 7000 of these jobs would have to be imported into the region.

Science-based industries with a biological content, the manufacture by the G.P.O. of its own equipment, and the location of Government offices are given as examples of new industries which could be attracted to the region. Other suggestions for attracting industry include a single North-East tourist board; more publicity; better recreational facilities; improved roads and bus and rail services; better water supplies; and more advance factories.

While recommending a more comprehensive body than the present North-East Development Committee (it covers only

Aberdeen city, Aberdeenshire, and Kincardine) to cover the North-East, Professor Gaskin does not favour the establishment of a statutory board like the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

## Highland Research Agency

The Highlands Area Council of the SNP, whose main function is the generation of specific policy ideas for the Highlands area in general, is now performing a new role as a Highland research and fact-finding agency. This new role is based on the Council's unique fund of factual information on virtually all aspects of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland: social, economic and cultural.

The Council also has available a small team who have the ability to research in depth specific subjects, in particular those relating to development progress in other countries in the world.

### Faced with Problem

This new role of the Council, while mainly for the use of prospective SNP candidates in Highland constituencies, is being placed at the disposal of all SNP prospective candidates throughout Scotland who may be faced with the problem of answering with some reasonable degree of authority questions on Highland matters, yet lack the necessary background information.



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## PLACES OF INTEREST:

## SCONE PALACE

Stone Palace is one of our great open-to-the-public country houses. Though situated about two miles from Perth one feels that it would be much more at home in Surrey or Sussex set in an English park for it is Gothic and English in style and in no way a Scottish mansion.

Built between 1802 and 1812 to William Atkinson's design it

## by Gilbert T. Bell

is none-the-less a fine house, built on the site of an earlier palace. The old gateway seems to be at least remains of the former one. Nearby, where the present chapel sits on Moor Hill, was the site of the Abbey of Scone. The abbey was the crowning place of all the kings, or at least nearly all of them, until 1651 and Charles II and here the Scottish Parliament met. Robert the Bruce was crowned here and it was from Scone that Edward I, the Hammer of the Scots, took our Stone of Destiny (according to legend, Jacob's pillow) and removed it to Westminster. (I always like to think they took the wrong stone and somewhere around Scone is the right one—I do not imagine the Abbot would give up the stone as easily as he seems to have done if he was not up to something.) The Reformation saw John Knox preach in St John's Kirk, Perth and so aroused passion that a mob destroyed the old Abbey. The lands then became Gowrie property but after the Gowrie Conspiracy of 1600 they were given to Sir David Murray whose family later became Earls of Mansfield. The present owner is the 7th Lord Mansfield and he has been twice Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

The rooms of Scone are full of magnificence both in decor-

ation and contents but of particular note are the collections of ivories and the vases and urns, made of papier-mâché with a varnish finish, known as Vernis Martin. There are fine pictures and furniture, in fact everything to please the summer afternoon visitor. It is not a fortified house though it has battlements but a peaceful country house set in a fine estate and a delight to see.

## Gaelic Broadcasts

Thursday 10th July  
12.00 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

Friday, 11th July  
12.00 noon News in G'alic.  
6.30 p.m. A Seotal na Ciste: James MacKenzie selects items from BBC archives.

Sunday, 13th July  
2.30 p.m. Gaelic Service from Church of Scotland. Portree, to mark the Highlands and Islands Home Missions' Annual Conference held in Portree. Conducted by John Morrison, Kyleakin. Precentor: Donald MacLean. Point, Lewis. Readings: John Campbell, Ness, Lewis, and John Shaw, Grosebay, Harris. Prayers: Alistair Macmillan, Amhuinnsuidhe, Harris and Neil Martin, Callanish, Lewis (recorded).

Monday, 14th July  
12.00 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

Tuesday, 15th July  
12.00 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

4.00 p.m. In Conversation with Rev. Norman Macdonald, North Uist (recorded).

4.15 p.m. Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by Rev. John M. Smith, Lochmaddy (recorded).  
6.30 p.m. Eadarinn Phèin: A programme for women prepared by Chrissie Dick (recorded).

Am Bodach 's  
a' Chailleach  
Air An  
Losgadh

Cnaidh am bodach bha sud uair gu lighiche 's gun e faireachdunn gl'e mhath 'na salainte. Chan'n e mhaing gu cobh' chnamhan goirt acu cuidh ris an sin bha broth air briseadh roimh chul amhaich. Cha broth tegamh nach b'e raige na h-aoise mar a theireadh e fhein a bha tighinn ri' chnamhan a bha goirt. Anns an tomas a bu mhòtha dha e smoincachadh gum b'e. Thug an lighiche dha rud a shuathadh e ri' chasan—acuin leighis. Di'riarr an lighiche mar an ceudna e shuathadh spiorad "methalated spirits." air cul amhaich a h-uile oidhche mu deaghadh e chadal.

Cnaidh am bodach dhachaidh. Nuair a thainig an oidhche 's e faisg air am cadail fhuair am bodach sasar anns an do dhòirt e am "methalated spirits." "Facail nach cuala mise riomh roimhe seo," ars' am bodach. "Nis," ars esan ri bhean "suathadh tu an spiorad seo air cul m' amhaich." "Sud e ma tha," ars esan 's e simeadh thuice an t-sasar leis a' "mheth" mar a theireadh an nighean og a bha fuireach an ath dhorus ris a' bhodach.

Suath a bhean deagh chuid air athaich a' bhodaidh dhe 'n "methalated spirits." Chuir i' lamhan a' rithidh dha 'n t-sasar 's shuath i' a lamhan leis a' "meth"—oirre air amhaich a' bhodaich. Thuirt i sin, "Nach e stuth seo tha fuair!" Bhog i' rithidh a lamhan 's an t-sasar. "Nach e tha fuair an stuth seo!" ars i, "nach e tha fuair 's a cur a lamhan ris an teine; ris an lasar, 's an sin gu amhaich a' bhodaich. Ma rinn e a lamhan fuair bha iad a nis a' gabhail mar a bha amhaich a bhodaich.

Badenoch/Strathspey  
Provincial Mod

With entries approaching the 200 mark and a most encouraging standard of performance, the Badenoch-Strathspey Provincial Mod, revived after a lapse of a year, and staged at Aviemore on Friday 20th June, was highly successful—a worthy forerunner to the National Mod to be held in October.

It was opened officially by the president of An Comunn Gàidhealach, Rev. Archie M. Beaton, Dundonald, Ayrshire.

Kay and Fiona MacDonald, daughters of Mr Archie MacDonald, Lossiemouth, joint convener of the local committee for the National Mod, found their journey from the Moray Firth burgh well worth while. They tied for first place in girls' solo singing, under 13; together they won the junior duet, and Kay also took pride of place in her class for piano.

Aviemore policeman Norman McMillan, who belongs to Harris, had a good day, too, winning the Caldwell Cup for men's singing, a first place for oral delivery and a third for a song by local bard.

Other dual first prize-winners were Sandra Cameron, Deshar (Boat of Garten); Jacqueline Sewell, Forres, and Margaret Maclean, Newtonmore.

Top honours in the senior choral section went to Newtonmore. Under their conductor, Miss Margot Campbell, the mixed choir won the Mackintosh Cup and the Cuch Bail a' Ghobainn and the ladies' choir cup.

Mr Calum Macleod, chairman of the Aviemore branch of An Comunn, introduced Mr Beaton at the official opening in the Speyside Theatre prior to the afternoon sessions.

After remarking that those concerned in Badenoch and Strathspey ought to be very proud indeed of the fact that they were staging two mods at Aviemore in one year, Mr Beaton said:

"What I have seen of this provincial mod so far has been excellent. If this is a foretaste of what is to come, I look forward very much indeed to the great mod you are having here in autumn."

He was sure he was echoing the sentiments of all Gaels when he said: "We salute your courage and congratulate you on the splendid work you have done, are doing and propose to do in the months that lie ahead."

"I am delighted to see so many competitors, especially in the junior section, he continued, "and I am pleased that we have a generation coming up that is taking an interest in and supporting our language, culture and music."

After observing that there were some prophets of doom who said Gaelic was on its

dying legs—so why bother trying to keep it alive?—Mr Beaton said that if they attempted a mod they would see enthusiasts were trying to keep alive, but a very life language—more lively, in fact, than it had been when he was a boy.

More interest was being taken in and more support given to the language and its traditions than ever before.

"I congratulate you here for all you are doing to keep our beloved language alive," said Mr Beaton.

"If only we have the wisdom and courage to see and grasp this opportunity, when people are interested in it, then it will once again blossom forth and people will be proud to speak the language that was once spoken in the Royal Court of Scotland."

The competitions were held in the Speyside Theatre, Osprey Room and Ice Rink committee room of the Aviemore Centre and in the Cairngorm Hotel.

The adjudicators were—Music—Messrs James L. McAdam, Glasgow and Curtis Craig, Inverness; Gaelic—Messrs Roderick Morrison, Lewis, and Kenneth D. Smith, Lewis; Piping—Mr William Macdonald, Inverness. The accompanist was Mrs A. Parker, Newtonmore.

The success of the Mod was due in no small measure to the efficiency of the organising committee comprising Mr Macleod (chairman), Mr N. Sherriffs (vice-chairman), Miss Peggy Duff (secretary), Mr T. Forbes (treasurer), Mr J. Maclean (entertainments convener), Mrs J. Lorimer, Mrs M. Fraser, Mrs E. McCook, Mrs M. Cowan, Mr N. McMillan and Dr Neil Macdonald.

Mr Murdo Campbell, Croy, was chairman at the Mod concert in the Speyside Theatre and the entertainment was sustained by principal prize-winners and guest artist, TV and stage personality, Andy Stewart.

Text for  
the Times

Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

Proverbs Ch. 16 v. 8.

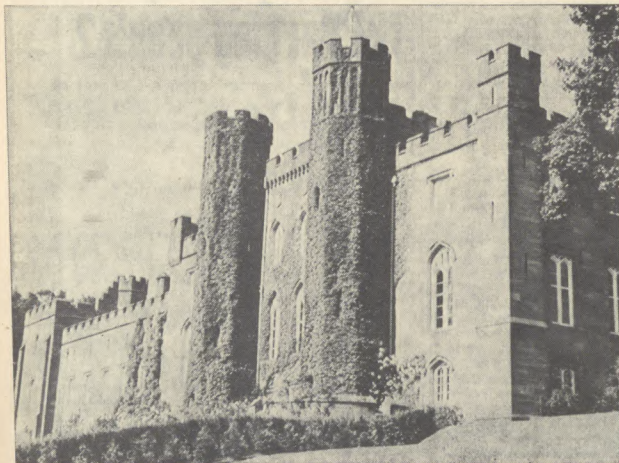
Is fearr beagan le h-ionracas, na teachd-a-stiùgh mòr gun cheartas.

Gnath-Fhoclail c. 16 r. 8.

## PROVERB

B'fhearr a bhi gun bhreid na bhi gun teagasg.

Better be without being than being without instruction.



# Call For A Scottish Language Society

A call for the establishment of a Scottish Language Society, based on the lines of the Welsh Language Society, willing to fight and suffer for the recognition of Scotland's national language was made by Seumas Mac a' Ghobhainn, addressing a recent meeting of the London branch of the League of Celtic Nations.

Mr Mac a' Ghobhainn, addressing the League on the history of the Scottish national language, began: "A chairdean, seo dhuibh seùl canain dhuth-chasach na h-Alba—a Ghaidhlig, Chaidh a' chanain seo a labhairt aig am air feadh Alba uile . . ."

Tracing the history of the Scottish language, Mr Mac a' Ghobhainn showed that Scottish, the correct reference to a Ghaidhlig when speaking English, was once spoken widely in Scotland and even "over the border" in Northumberland. He sketched how the Anglicisation of the lowlands took place and how the ridiculous "Highlander" and "Lowlander" myth sprang up.

Scotland, he pointed out, is a Celtic country and its national language was Gaelic. Even the extensive Anglicisation of Scotland has not been able to destroy An Fhìrinn Mhor.

Coming to the present day, Mr Mac a' Ghobhainn asked: "What then of the future? Is there any hope for this ancient

and beautiful language?" A language which has no official status even in its last remaining territories—far less in its own country! A language which has few real defenders, very many enemies and not a few false friends! A language which even its few native-speakers (down to 80,987 at the last census) do not seem to wish to bequeath to their own children.

"A language to which the nationalist party of its own country pays little respect!

"I agree, to the so-called hard headed realists, the practical men, it must seem an absolutely hopeless case. But, of course, Buidheachas do Dhia, I am neither of these. I see a language that has probably been treated worse than any other language has ever been treated. Every indignity has been afforded it, every barbarity has been inflicted upon it. It has even been denied its proper place in the minds of its own speakers, and those that have lost it from their tongues.

"To most Scots, both Gaelic-speaking and English-speaking, it is not thought of as Canain Dhuthchasach na h-Alba (The National Language of Scotland).

"Yet, is beo i fhathast, is beo i fhathast — she lives! Despite all this, this is a hard fact. Therefore I believe that there is hope!

"What can be done? I would

like to see an equivalent of the Welsh Language Society in Scotland, its members fighting and willing to suffer for the right of their national language, their nationality and their country's freedom. But it does not yet seem possible to even gather 100 for Ghaidheil together who would be willing to join such an organisation.

"I think probably that the only action that can be taken at the moment is to "shout the message from the rooftops"; to never let an opportunity go in which we can get An Fhìrinn Mhor across.

"Most Scots, both Gaidhlig speaking and English speaking, just do not know the facts of the case. They really know nothing about what constitutes their own nationality and culture. For the first time in many years Na Fìor Ghaidheil is Fìor h-Albannaich have, due to the rise of political nationalism, got a large audience.

"If the Crois Tara is kept burning a few sparks might set "the bracken ablaze" yet. This is my hope. I do not think it is a forlorn one.

"A Chairdean Choir bhithinn fada 'nur comain nam bitheadh sibhse a 'toirt dhomh bhur beachdan fhein air a' chuspaid seo. Moran taing, a chairdean. Suas leis a Ghaidhlig, suas Alba, suas Conradh nam Ceilteach!"

Mr Mac a' Ghobhainn would be pleased to hear from any Scot interested in the formation of a Scottish Language Society; letters addressed to 63, Westfield Road, Surbiton, Surrey, S15 2JN.

## CELTIC CONCERN

Copies of a letter were sent by the Celtic League to all candidates in the recent French Presidential elections.

The letter asked the candidates, if they came to power, "to consult fully with the Bretons how the special interests of the Breton people may best be served; and to consider mitigation for the Bretons in jail because of their love for their Breton country.

"The Celtic countries view with concern the fact that these Bretons have felt driven to the use of violence in order, as they think, to strengthen the will of Brittany to survive."

The letter was signed by Mr Gwynfor Evans, MP for Wales and President of Plaid Cymru and of the Celtic League; Maolsheachlainn O'Caollai, President of the Gaelic League; Frank G. Thompson, Vice-President of the Celtic League and Chairman of the SNP Highlands Area Council; Leonard Truran, Chairman of Mebyon Kernow (Cornwall); Robert Dunstone, Vice-President of the Celtic League and Life President of Mebyon Kernow.

# Unemployment and Emigration

Since 1962, the number of farms in Finistère is down by 18 per cent. In 8 years, half of them will have disappeared. Statistics say nothing about what the farmers are now doing.

The 1968 census shows that there is no practical change in the number of employed people in Brittany (less Loire-Atlantique). The number of the unemployed went up from 9700 in 1962 to 15,000, the greatest increase being by 79 per cent. in Cotes-du-Nord. 37.4 per

cent. of those stating they were unemployed are aged less than 25. The decrease in female employment is also considerable.

A study carried out in the Douarnenez-Krozon area (Western Brittany) indicates an accelerated exodus of the young; more than half the young couples leave the country during their first year of married life. The mortality rate is much higher than the birth rate. In Douarnenez, for 290 deaths there were only 142 births last year.

Salaries and wages in Brittany are 25 per cent. lower than the French average, and 45 per cent. lower than the Paris average.

## ACTION FOR THE BRETON LANGUAGE

According to a communique issued recently by the general assembly of Emgleo Breiz, Gwengamp, Brittany, there is now an irresistible current among the Breton people in favour of teaching Breton in schools and using it in radio and TV programmes.

It is reported that the number of applicants to the voluntary Breton classes, oral or by correspondence, has increased two or three fold in recent months, and that this demand can hardly be satisfied because there are not enough qualified teachers.

Early this spring, the teachers and students of "Celtic" at the University of Rennes formed an Action Committee and put forward proposals for a reorganisation of Celtic studies and examinations at the University. They would have enabled students to take the equivalent of BA and MA degrees with Celtic (Breton) as a main subject. They were accepted by the University authorities, and officially transmitted to the French Ministry of Education. But they were rejected.

The Action Committee was disappointed at this denial of University autonomy. It reaffirmed its will to struggle for cultural rights.

## Gaelic Symposium Resolution

The following Resolution was adopted at the Annual Congress (Ardfheis) of the Gaelic League in May:

... "that we ask the French Government to release the Bretons who are in prison because of their fidelity to their culture, to give the children of Brittany every facility to learn their own language and to recognise the fundamental rights of the Breton Nation."

The 1320 Club have announced provisionally that they are to hold a Symposium in Inverness in September.

The subjects to be discussed will include the place of Gaelic in a modern Scottish Society; the problems of developing a bi-lingual society; and 'Development and Culture: A Conflict?'

The Club are also to hold a Symposium covering Banking and Finance during November.



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# AG IONNSACHADH NA BRUIDHNEAMH GAIDHLIG

## Lesson 20 Translation

(Let us speak Gaelic)

1. Here is the Earth, the planet on which we live. We have other names for this planet—the World, the Sphere, the Universe. But the Earth is the name that we use most often.

The surface of the Earth is covered with sea and land, but the surface of the sea is three times bigger than the surface of the land.

Although great oceans divide the continents from each other, almost all the land is on one side of the Earth. On the other side is the Pacific Ocean. This ocean is so great that it would take together Europe, Africa and Asia. As it is, there are no continents in it at all, but there are hundreds of little islands scattered throughout. It is surrounded by the continents: America, Antarctica, Australia and Asia.

High mountains rise from the Earth and great deserts spread out in some of the continents. Only a third part of the land is suitable to support people. The other part of it is too cold or too dry for people to live there.

2. Here is the Moon. The Moon is much smaller than the Earth—about a fifth part of the volume of the Earth—and it is very nearly a quarter of a million miles away.

Scientists tell us that the Moon is only a splinter that broke away from the Earth at some time or other. We say that the Moon is a satellite of the Earth.

The Moon goes round the Earth, making one round every month (four weeks) and in a year they both make a round of the Sun.

In the last days of 1968 (nineteen hundred and sixty-eight) American astronauts went round the Moon. This was the first time that this was done.

Now American spacemen and Russian spacemen are in keen competition to see which of them will be first on the Moon.

It seems that honour is not the only prize in this race. Some of the scientists are of the opinion that there are valuable minerals in the Moon and that the country that reaches them first will be very rich.

Others maintain that the Moon is only rocks of the same kind as the rocks of the Earth and, when astronauts come back with pieces of the rocks of the Moon, that it will be proved to people that the Moon is only a lump of the Earth.

There are high mountains in the Moon and there are great level plains here and there between the mountains. There is water on the Moon. So it is difficult for us to believe that anything can live on it. There is no light in the Moon or in the Earth. They both get their light from the Sun.

3. Here is the Sun. The Earth is only very small in comparison with the Sun. The Sun is about 330,000 times (about three hundred and thirty thousand times) bigger than the Earth, and it is about 93 million miles (ninety-three million miles) away. Thus, light takes (will take) eight minutes to come from the Sun to the Earth.

The Moon and the Earth are planets but the Sun is a star, that is, the sun in the first, and it does not move from one place to another. The planets move in regular order about it. This is the situation that we call the Solar System.

4. Here is an astronaut. The astronaut is trained and taught to be travelling in space.

It is in Russia and in the United States that this work mostly goes on. Millions of pounds are spent every year by those countries in the exploration of space. They have a space-

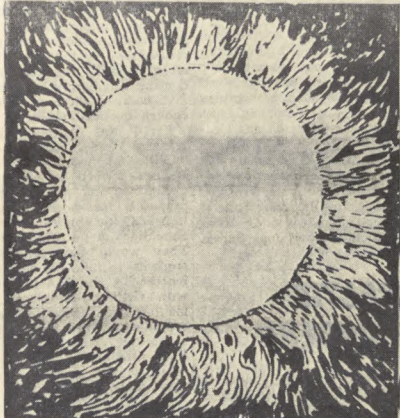
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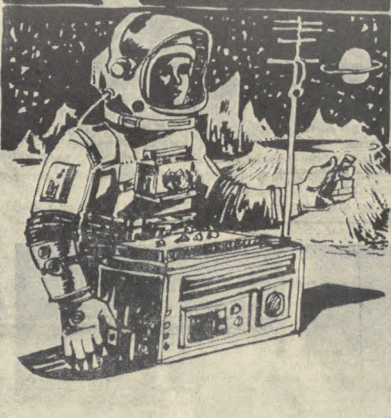
1



2



3



4

1. Seo an Talamh, a' phlanaid air a bheil sinn a' fuireach. Tha ainmean eile againn air a' phlanaid seo—an Saoghal, an Cruinne, no an Cruinne-cé. Ach 's e an Talamh an ainm as tric a bhihas sinn a' cleachdadh.

Tha gach na Talmhainn air a' còmhachadh le muir is fearann, ach tha uachdar na mara trì uairean nas motha na uachdar an fhearainn.

God a tha cianntan mòra a' sgaradh nam mòr-roinnean o chéile, cha mhòr nach eil am fearann gu léir air son taobh dhen Talamh. Air an taobh eile tha an Cuan Sèimh. Tha an cian seo cho mòr 's gun gabhadh e còmhla an Roinn-Eòrpa, Africa agus Asia. Mar a tha e, chan eil mòr-roinnean idir ann, ach that ceudan de eileanan beaga air an sgathadh air fheadh. Tha e air a chuartachadh leis na mòr-roinnean: Amaraicaga, Antartaica, Astràlasia agus Asia.

Tha beanntan àrda ag èirigh o'n Talamh agus tha fasaichean mòra a' sgaoileadh a mach ann an feadhainn de na mòr-roinnean. Chan eil ach an treas cuid dhen fhearann fearragach airson slughadh a bheathachadh. Tha a' chuid eile dhen ro fhuar na ro thiorann airson daoine a bhith beò ann.

2. Seo a' Ghealach. Tha a' Ghealach mòran nas lugha na an Talamh—mu leth-cheudamh cuid de thomad na Talmhainn—agus tha i glé fhaisg air cairteal a mhùilean mìle air falbh.

Bidh luchd-ealain ag innse dhuinn nach eil anns a' Ghealach ach sgòb a bhrist air falbh o'n Talamh uaireigin. Bidh sinn ag ràdh gu bheil a' Ghealach 'na saidaid dhen Talamh.

Tha a' Ghealach a' dol mu thimcheall na Talmhainn. a' deannam ann chuartair a h-uile mìos (ceithir seachdainean), agus ann am bliadhna tha iad le chéile a' cur cuairt mu thimcheall na Gréine.

Anns na laithean mu dheireadh de 1968 (naoi ceud deug trì fichead 's a h-ochd) chaidh astronaich Amaraicaganach mu thimcheall na Gealaiche. B'e seo a' cheud uair a chaidh seo a dheannam. Tha a nise speurachian Amaraicaganach agus speurachian Ruiseanach ann an co-fharpais dhian fìach cò ach bhios air thoiseach anns a' Ghealach.

Tha e coltach nach e urram a mhàin duais na rèise seo. Tha feadhainn de na h-ealanaich am beachd gu bheil mìotaltean luchd-

Tha na leasan seo air an ullachadh gu cuideachadh le luchd-teagaisg is luchd-ionnsachaidh.

mhor anns a' Ghealach agus gum bi an dùthach a ruigeas iad an toiseach glé bheathach.

Tha feadhainn eile a' deannam dhen nach eil anns a' Ghealach ach creagan dhen aon seòrsa ri creagan na Talmhainn agus, nuair a thig astronaich air ais le pìosan de chreagan na Gealaiche, gum bi e air a dhearbhadh do dhaoine nach eil anns a' Ghealach ach cnap dhen Talamh.

Tha beanntan àrda anns a' Ghealach agus tha raoinnean mòra còmharrd an sud 's an seo eadar na beanntan. Chan eil adhar no uisge air a' Ghealach. Mar sin, tha e doirbh dhuinn a chreidsinn gu bheil e comasach do rud sam bith a bhith beò air. Chan eil solus anns a' Ghealach no anns an Talamh. Tha iad le chéile a' faighinn an soluis o'n Ghràin.

3. Seo a' Ghrian. Chan eil an Talamh ach glé bheag an tacar ris a' Ghràin. Tha a' Ghrian mu 330,000 uair (mu thrì cheud 's deich air fhichead mìle uair) nas motha na an Talamh, agus tha i mu 93 mùilean mìle (ceithir fichead 's a trì deug mùilean mìle) air falbh. Mar sin, bheir solus ochd mìonaidean air tighinn o'n Ghràin chun na Talmhainn.

'Se planaidean a th'anns a' Ghealach agus anns an Talamh, ach 's e reul a th'anns a' Ghràin, sin r'adha, tha a' Ghrian 'na teine, agus chan eil i a' carachadh as an aon àite. Tha na planaidean a' gluasad gu riaghailteach m'a thimcheall. Seo an suidheachadh ris an can sinn Rian na Gréine.

4. Seo astronaich. Tha an t-astronaich air uallachadh 's air ionnsachadh gu bhith a' suibhal nan speur.

'S ann an Ruisia agus ann an Stàitean Naoinichte as motha a tha an obair seo a' dol air adhart. Tha mùileanan net air an coss a h-uile bliadhna leis na dùthchannan sin ann an rannsachaidh nan speur. Tha prògram-speura aca a tha a' ruigheachadh a mach o'n Talamh, chan ann a mhàin chun na Gealaiche, ach chun nam planaidean eile a tha fada bhuaill ann an doimhneach ghorra nan speur—planaidean air nach d'fhuair daoine fhasthad eòlas.

Feumaidh na h-astronaich a bhith làidir am bodhag 's an



# Bruidhneamaid Gaidhlig

(Continued from page seven)

speuraidhe, (a) specimen  
speuraidhean, specimen  
Rùiseanach, Russian  
co-òrpaais, (a) competition  
clon, keen  
fiach co aca, to see which of them  
air thoiseach, first  
tha e coltach, it seems  
urram, honour  
a mhàin, only, alone  
duais, (a) prize, (a) reward  
duais na rèise seo, the prize for this race  
rèis, (a) race  
calanach (calanach), (a) scientist (scientists)  
an beachd, of opinion  
miotail, (a) metal, (a) mineral  
miotaillean, metals, minerals  
luachmhor, valuable  
dùthaich, (a) country  
a ruigeas iad, that will reach them  
an toiseach, first  
beartach, rich  
a' deanamh dheth, maintain, conclude  
creag (creagan), (a) rock, rocks  
dhe'n aon seòrsa ri, of the same kind as  
pìos (pìosan), (a) piece, (pieces)  
air a dhearbhadh, proved  
cnap, (a) lump  
raon (raoinnean), (a) plain (plains)  
còmharr, level, smooth  
an sud 's an seo, here and there  
adhar, air  
mar sin, thus  
doirbh, difficult  
a chreidinn, to believe  
comasach, capable  
solus, (a) light  
a' faighinn, getting  
a' Ghrian, the Sun  
an taca ris a' Ghèrinn, by comparison with the Sun  
uir, times  
bheir, will take  
chun na Talmhainn, to the Earth  
reul, (a) star  
sin 'r a ràdh, that is to say  
'na teine, on fire  
a' carachadh, moving  
g' glusad, moving  
g' riaghalteach, regularly, in regular order  
Riann na Grèine, The Solar System  
air ullachadh, prepared, trained  
air ionnsachadh, taught  
a' sibhal, traversing  
an Ruisia, in Russia  
'Na Stàitean Aonaichte, the United States  
mìleannan no, millions of pounds  
air an cog, spent  
rannasachadh, exploring, searching  
program-speura, space programme  
a' ruigsheachd a mach, reaching out  
chun, to  
doimhneachd, depths  
bòidag, body  
inntinn, mind  
mion-eòlach, thoroughly familiar  
ionnsramaid, instrument  
innleachdach, ingenious  
solbheach-speura, space-craft  
annasach, unusual, strange  
far nach fhaighear, where there will not be found  
riaghaltean nàdúra, natural laws  
cuidem, weight  
fuaim, noise  
far nach eil faireachadh, where there is no sensation ... (feeling)  
astar, speed  
air a' fhuiginn, understood  
cuibhrig, cover, blanket (of air)  
tigh, thick  
miann, desire, wish  
ruighe, will reach  
còrr is, more than  
bhon, since  
oidhirp, attempt  
gu' cas, to an end (crioch, end)  
còsgaidh, will cost  
ma theid cùisean, if things go  
mar a bu mhiann le daoine, (as people would desire  
air a' char as luatha, at least  
dollour, dollar (dollairean, dollars)  
sùim, sum  
uamhasach, frightened, terrible  
airgead, money (airgid, of money)  
air chùimhne, in memory, in mind  
gur, that  
curamach, careful  
a cheana, already  
gabhal ris to receive, acknowledge  
nuair a thilleas iad, when they (will) return  
air leth, apart  
galair, disease  
a dh' fhaodas iad, that they may  
cho fad 's as aithne dhùinn, as far as we know  
a' ciallachadh, meaning  
gineag nìmhèil, poisonous germ, virus  
gineag germ  
gu tur, totally, completely  
eòlas, knowledge  
gu as, destroying, putting out  
dh' fhaodadh iad, they might  
call, damage, loss  
màs faighthead dòigh, before a method is found  
cur a bhith, putting out of existence, killing off

(Continued at foot of next column)

# Gaelic Lesson

## LESSON 20

ADJECTIVE AND NOUN (continued)

In an earlier lesson we dealt with the adjective and the noun in the nominative case. Here now in full are the singular forms of the adjective *beag*:

	Masculine	Feminine
Nominative ...	beag	bheag
Genitive ...	bhig	bhige
Dative ...	beag	bhig
Vocative ...	oh	bheag

These forms apply with or without the Definite Article (which of course cannot be used with the Vocative Case), except that with the Article the Dative Singular Masculine is aspirated; e.g. leis a' bhalach *bheag*.

As noted earlier, the adjective is aspirated in the Plural if the last vowel in the noun is *i* (as well as adding *a* or *e* if monosyllabic); e.g. daoine ghaic, caoraich mhaola, còin shalach; clòimh nan caoraich dubha.

In the old days *ni* prevented aspiration of a following dental; and we're all familiar with this rule, e.g. in songs like *Ho-rò mo nìgean donn bhoideach* and *Mo chailin dileas domh*. Those aware of this usage would say "earball a' choin *duibh*."

A few adjectives precede the noun and generally cause aspiration e.g. deagh (good), droch (bad), sàr (excellent), seann or seana (old), etc. Note that *seann* does not aspirate *d*, *t*, or *s* (e.g. seann duine) and that *droch* does not aspirate *c* (e.g. droch cainnt). These adjectives are indeclinable. The adjective *sean* (old) does not precede its noun; e.g. *th' seann*.

### Examples

1. A dhroch bhalach, car son nach do chuidich thu mo sheann charaid?
2. 'Se fìor Ghàidheil a' th' ann — mac an deagh athar.
3. 'S iomadh sàr dhùin-ùasal a chaidh a thogail anns na seann tìghean dubha.
4. Tha làn fhoghadh agad eil ann ach an deagh mèirich.
5. An car a bh' anns an t-seana mhaide 's duilich a thoirft as.

### LEUGHADH

#### Daig 's na Balach

Am measg sgìobearan ainmeil eile an Nis air an robh far-seannan, mar a bha Ceardaidh 's an Didan 's Nos, bha fear a' Dall Bho Thuath air an robh Daig. An uair a ghas iasgach na langainn 's a bha an teathar mòr aige fhéin air sreubhadh anns a' Phort, bhiodh e uaireanann a' dol a mach le sgòth a bha aig muintir Chrois shuas air an traigh ach fhéin.

Latha bha so dh' fhalbh e le sgìoba de ghillean agha nach robh g'eòlach aig leuir, agus cò bha air an ceann ach An Gadhaidh, fear a bha air mèir, eirmiseach agus sgìealach air a' theangaidh.

'Se na dùrgh a' bha aca; agus ged a bha an aimsir gu math bha an logar abhacach anns a' Chuan-a-Siar a mach air Rudha Rodhanais, agus cha b'fhada gun an robh gach mac màthar aca gu bhith marbh le cur na mara.

Nuair thàinig am bèasgar 's a bha thidhe an t'òdach a chur rihte dhachaidh bha iad tuath air a' nigh-shluais, 's bha e cheart cho furasda seòladh dha 'n Phort ri tilleadh gu Traigh Chrois. Dh' èigh Daig, "Càit, a bhalach, an téid sinn leatha?" Thog An Gadhaidh a cheann 's thug e sùil mun cuairt air na bha 'nan sleibhrich timcheall air, 's dath 'a' bhais air a chùile duine mar a bha air fhéin. "Théig leatha," ars ean, "chon a' chlaidh!"

### ORAN

#### Balach An Iasgaich

(Sung by Donald Ross and William Burnett on Waverley Record ZLP 2005)

#### Séist —

Fàilte gu fearann air balach an iasgaich,  
'G' iomradh 's a' tarraing 's a' gearradh 's bhiaithaidh:  
Coma lean leabaidh no cadal no biadh  
Gu'm faigh mi mo lìon an òrdugh.

Sud agaih na balach a sheasadh an cruadal,  
Sint' air a' bhalaist gun pheallaig mu'n uachdar;  
Còigear no seisear 's an lethceann air cluasaig  
Ulpsagan cruaidh 'A' Chéasain'.

Bàtaichean Gallach a' gearradh an t-siaban,  
Beastadh gu cala an aghaidh sruth-ìonaidh,  
Bàtaichean biorach aig Nisich is Siarach  
Fada mu'n iar air Rònaidh.

Nam faighinn Cairstiona chan iarrainn a chòidh  
Ach bhothan beag riabhach is sioman mu dhruim,  
Sobhal is bàthach is aite chrodh-loaigh,  
Gearran beag dom is òigean.

\*An Cèosan: cladh ann am Bradhagar.

seomar àraidh, a special room  
'nan còir, near them  
lighiche, (a) doctor (fìghiche, doctors)  
chan fhad iad sin fhéin, those (people) themselves are not allowed  
teaghlach, family  
teaghlachlean, families  
chan fhad iad nasgadh anna, they are not allowed to touch them  
gu faighhear, that there will be found  
marbhadh, deadly  
do'm bheil daoire bailteach, to which people are subject (liable)  
reul, (a) star (reultan, stars)  
chun, to  
to buill, bodies, members (ball, (a) member, (a) ball)  
a leanas, that follow, that follows  
càit an tig iad a nua, where will they come down?  
ainmich, name  
an faod iad, are they allowed?  
an aithne do na h-astronaich, do the astronauts know?  
man rachadh na h-astronaich, if the astronauts would go  
an dèidh dhaibh tilleadh, after they had returned  
ged dh' fhaodadh tachairt, what might happen?  
barail, (an) opinion

# AN CRUINNE

Tha An Cruinne air a steidheachadh gu bh' a' brosnachadh dhaoine a chum is gun cleachd iad a' Ghaidhlig cho tric is a bheith iad an còrth. Tha—agus is math gu bheil — ceannan 'nar trì fhathast far a bheil a' Ghaidhlig air a' labhairt leis an t-sluagh fad na h-uine ach ann an iomadan sgìreach 'sa Ghaidhealtachd agus eadhon ann an corra aite na h-eileanan an Iar, chaneil 's nìs a' Ghaidhlig air a' labhairt ann am bitheantas. Tha so far gu tric mu thimchìoll feadhainn aig a' bheil lan an cinn de Ghaidhlig. Tha leithid so a' shuidheachadh duilich a' dèarbheith ach an ainm a' ghìrlich-eamaid bho'n beachd nach eil leasachadh sam bith air a' chuis.

Far a bheil a' Bheurla gu cunbhalach air a' bruidhinn, tha e ro-fhurasda do fhear Ghaidhlig tighinn gu bh' cleachdadh Beurla eadhon ann an comhradh ri Gaidheil eil agus am bheil am pàltais Gaidhlig. 'Nuair a' tha sinn dearmadach mar so ann a' bhi labhairt 'nan ceannan fhéin faodar de-fhèrr, neo-dhèil, seachd a' chuir as ar leth. Mar an ceudna tha e dearbheith gun dean cion cleachdadh sinn meirgeooh 'nan ceann. Stuarach an uine gun a' cail sin fileantach, eirmiseach is gnathosan-cainnte, a' bha gu sibhlach air air bilean a' cheana. 'S ao-choltach na plogasg ris a' bhìadh a' bha anna. Tha ar dearmad 's docha gu tric a' mi-mhiseachadh muinntir eile, 'tha sinn gu cinnteach a' luathachadh an ama anns nach cluinnear a' Ghaidhlig ach ann am fìor chorra aite.

Tha a' searmh mhòr do Ghaidheil a' cur seachd am beatha ann an aitean far am bheil a' Bheurla chruaidh na prìomh chanan. Saoillidh mise gum bu chòir do gach neach do bheil a' Ghaidhlig muirneach a' bhi 'na bhall de'n Cruinne. Tha An Cruinne fòidh sgìath 'A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach agus anns a' cheud aite thatar a' cur mar fhaicheadh air na buill iad a' bhì dealasach ann a' bhì cleachdadh na Gaidhlig. 'Nuair a' tha aon a' fòill-seachadh bràisde 'oir 'A' Cruinne 'na bhòileach, tha e a' nochdadh gu bheil Gaidhlig aige, gu bhèil seo na aobhar uailh dha agus gu bheil fìor thlachd aige ann a' bhì cleachdadh cainnt am'athar. Tha bhuaninn uile, gach tacsa tha 'nur comas a' chumail ris a' Ghaidhlig. 'Nar latha 's cinnteach gur fhearrid e a' leithid seo de chuideachadh.

A' charaid, or na sean, g'e b'e aite 's' bheil thu, 's' e mo ghuidhe is mo dhurachd gun cur thu romhad a' bhi a' dh' aithgear 'nad bhall de'n Cruinne. Roimh dhèireadh an Fhoghair so, tha mi'n dòchas gum bi a' searmh mhòr de bhunll againn anns gach cearnaidh.

Na cuirbh maille 's' ghnòthuich. Moran taing!

Murchadh Caimeub, Ceann Suidhe, "An Cruinne"



# Naidheachdan Mu Na h-Eaglaisean

## Air A' Ghaidhealtachd

Le "FEAR-FAIRE"

EAGLAIS NA H-ALBA

Gaidhlig.

### Comanachadh

Aig na h-Orduighean ann am Baile na Cille (Leodhas) bha ministear a' choinneadh a' t-Urr. Aonghas MacPharlain, air a chuideachadh leis na h-Urr. Aanghas MacCumhais (Stearnabhagh) agus Niall M. Dòmhnallach (Lìurbost). Air Di-h-aoin a' Chomanachaidh chuir Mgr. Calum Iain MacAmhlaigh Nahum 1:7 a-mach mar bhonn co-labhairt aig a' Choinneimh Cheist. An diugh bidh seirbheasan a' Chomanachaidh a' toiseachadh ann am Bearnaigh na Hearadh. Bidh an t-Urr. Tormod MacSuaib (Sagarasta) agus an t-Urr. Ruairidh MacFhionnghain (Dalabrog) air ceann na seirbheasan.

### Miosachan

Ann am mìosachan na h-Eaglais tha an t-Urr. Ruairidh MacFhionnghain a' sgrìobhadh air na thachair fad seachdain an Ard Sheanaidh. Tha an searmag Gaidhlig a thug am Moderator seachad air Sabaid an Ard Sheanaidh air a thoirt am follais, agus an oraid a liubh- air e aig dunnadh an Ard Sheanaidh air a giorrachadh agus air a tionndadh gu

### Craobhan

Rinn Comhairle a' Bhaile ann an Steornabhagh gearan a chionn gun do gearradh meanglain nan craobh a tha faisg air an Ard Eaglais. Rinneadh seo le ordan Cuirt nan Diacon oir bha iad a' cur dubhair air an eaglais.

### Posadh

An diugh bidh an t-Urr. Coinneach MacLeod air a phosadh ri Eaglais Chalum Chille ann an Steornabhagh. Buinidh Mgr. MacLeod do dh'Uig ann an Leodhas agus bha e 'na mhinistear ann an Dairsie (Fìobha) o 1964. Fhuair e cead searmachaidh ann an 1955, agus an deidh sin bha e 'na mhinistear anns a' Chaol agus ann an Gleann-eilge. Tha an coimhthional air a bhith ban bho'n a chaidh an t-Urr. Ruairidh Dòmhnallach gu Sgìre nan Innis ann a 1967.

### Orduighean

Ann am Far bha an t-Urr. A. MacGill Fhionndaig (Tunnag) agus an t-Urr. Herbert Neil (Cill-mo-Naomhaig) a' searmachadh aig am nan Orduighean. Ann an Loch nam Madadh bha an t-Urr. Iain M. Mac a' Ghobhainn air a chuideachadh leis na



## AIR TUR NA FAIRE

h-Urr. Dòmhnall I. MacFhionnghain (Stafainn) agus Uilleam Dòmhnallach (An Rudha).

shide bacadh air cloinn a' Chaol, agus chriochnaich iad u' chuart anns an talla na Doirnidh.

### Leabhar Ur

Ni moran air a Ghaidhealtachd agus ann an cearnaidhean eile toileachadh ris an leabhar ur aig an Urr. U. B. MacNeacail, "A Defence of Evangelical Theology." Tha seachd caibideilean 'san leabhar, a' buntainn ris na cuspairean seo: Dia, A' Duine, Pearsa agus Obar Chrìosd, Oibre Gràis, Na Nithean Deireannach, An Eaglais agus Na Sacramaidean. Tha na cinn sin a' leigil ris dhùinn cho farsaing is a tha teagasg an leabhair seo. Tha e soilleir gun bheil an t-ughdar air rannsachadh domhainn a dheanadh air na puingeann ris am bheil e a' deligeadh. Tha barantas a' Bhiobhail aige airson nam beachdan a tha e a' cur an ceill, agus tha e gu tric a' tarrainn a sgrìobhadh-

### AN EAGLAIS SHAOR

#### Comanachadh

Aig na h-Orduighean ann am Far bha an t-Urr. Daibhidh Peardarsan (Brura) agus am Prof. Urr. Ruairidh Fionnlaghastan (Dun-eideann) a' searmachadh. Air a' cheud Sabaid de'n Lunasdal bidh an t-Sacramaid air a frithealadh ann an Aird nam Murchan, Eadardun, Na Hearadh, Cille Mhoire agus ann an Cille Taraghlan.

#### Cuairtean Samhraidh

Aig an am seo de'n bhliadhna bidh clann nan sgoiltean Sabaid a' dol air cuairt bhliadhna. Chaidh clann Bhruara gu Euraboll agus bha na sgoiltearan a Aird-eilbh air turus ann an Gleann-eilge. Chuir an droch

### AN EAGLAIS SHAOR CHLEIREIL

#### Briseadh na Sabaid

Bho chionn sia seachdainean air ais choinnich Paireidh Naiseanta na h-Alba ann an Oban aig a' chochruinneachadh bhliadhna. Thoisich na coimèdhan Di-h-aoin agus bha iad cruinn air an t-Sabaid cuid-eachd. Tha fear-deasachaidh a' mhiosachain a' gearrain gun do bhris iad an t-Sabaid 'san doigh seo.

#### Sacramaid

Air an t-Sabaid seo bidh na h-Orduighean air an cumail ann an Stafainn, Tom Aitèinn agus Baile Dhubbthaich. Tha an t-Urr. Alasdair mac a' Phearsain 'na mhinistear ann an Tom Aitèinn, a tha ceangailte ri Deimhidh agus Foithir.

### AN EAGLAIS EASBUIGEACH

#### Air Chuairt

Air turus ann an Leodhas bho chionn ghoidir bha an Fior Urr. Ruiseart Wimbush, Easbaig Earra-Ghaidheal agus nan Eilean. Chum e seirbheasan ann an Eaglais an (Continued on Page Twelve)



YOU PROBABLY KNOW THAT THE 1969 MOD WILL BE HELD IN BADENOCH/STRATHSPEY AND AT

# The AVIEMORE CENTRE

*but did you realise just how much more there is, to this....*

### AWARD-WINNING HOLIDAY AND SPORTS CENTRE

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Further details from The Manager, The Aviemore Centre, Aviemore, Inverness-shire. Telephone Aviemore 624

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- AMUSEMENTS
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# THE MYSTERY OF THE ISLE OF SKYE

## A CHILD HELD THE KEY

A Scottish gale can tear the seat out of a man's pants. And when a big wind whips o'er the Isles of the Hebrides, you'd best be holding er-thin' down what's not hinged, else 'twill be up for sure.

The first time the mystery of the vanished Duirinish tokens of Dunvegan was solved was while the winds were high and hammered open the old church doors.

A hearty gale left the main doors ajar, inviting two boys to

### by EDWIN A. BOOK

take a look inside. There, behind the small, low desk of the presenter, they came upon a little door.

One put his hand inside and drew out a fistful of pewter tokens, tokens collected from the faithful many years before this day by John Shaw, pastor of Duirinish Church from 1811 to 1813.

He took them from the communicants who carried them to signify they were prepared for the sacrament.

And they rested behind the obscure little door for nearly a hundred years, until they de-lighted and confounded the two boys in the early years of 1900.

Who would have guessed that the wonder of a man in California would travel across the seas to the Hebrides of Scotland and to that church on the Isle of Skye, seeking after these very tokens in 1968.

It was 158 years since "J.S.," the initials of Rev. John Shaw, were cast on the tokens that even an oldtimer at the church couldn't remember having seen or heard of before.

A coincidental series of events beginning when Rev. John MacKenzie of Barbecue Church read a book by another Presbyterian minister in Scotland brought new wonder about the mystery of the vanished tokens of the Isle of Skye.

MacKenzie, eager for more information about names like Clark, Buie, McArtan, McDougald, Darroch, Shaw and Black, wrote to Donald Budge, author of "Jura—An Island of Argyle."

All these were names of early settlers from Jura who came to the Western fringe of Harnett County and helped cut the timber for Barbecue Church in 1757.

There were others who came, too, from Skye. They had surnames like McDonald, McQueen and McGilvray.

A letter friendship between the two ministers flourished and when Harnett historian Malcolm Fowler visited Scotland last September, he spent an evening with Budge, who gave him a rare old Jura communion token for MacKenzie.

The token was about 238

years old and an article about it appeared in "The Sanford Herald" October 10, 1968.

Then a national coin collector's magazine, "The Nummatist," somehow got hold of the story and carried it in an issue which a Presbyterian elder in California read.

The elder wrote to Budge enquiring about tokens from the historic Duirinish Church on Skye.

But as far as Budge knew the tokens had vanished. These tokens crossed the hands of Scotsmen whose descendants bear surnames like MacLeod, McClure, MacAskill, MacCallit, MacCrimmon, MacSweens and MacSwan. The old community of Swanns gets its name from the last.

Budge had already asked about the tokens of the church beadle.

But the beadle told him, "he had not in his many years seen or heard of them."

"No one knew anything as to what happened to them," Budge said, "They ceased to be used quite a long time ago."

They were irrevocably lost. Then the dint of a memory in Budge's mind stirred. "Something came to my memory which I had not thought of since the thing happened over sixty years ago.

"After a severe gale, another boy and I found the main door of the Duirinish Church blown wide open by the storm. We went in as boys would do and looked around. My companion looked into a little low closet next to the ground below the presentors box, put his hand into a box which was there and drew out what he thought was a handful of money.

"When we looked closely, we decided that they must be communion tokens. Neither of us had seen or handled such before. We put them back and

## Forestry Schools To Close

As part of its programme for transferring its responsibility for further education for forestry to the public education system, the Forestry Commission has now to close its school at Capel Curig, Betws-y-Coed, N. Wales. By 1972 the other two Forester Training Schools, one in the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire and the other at Faskally in Perthshire, will also be closed.

A decision on where future forester training is to take place is still to be announced by the Education Departments; in the meantime the Commission will continue to turn out about 35 trained men each year for employment in its own woodlands and on privately owned estates.

closed the door of the musty place. And that was that.

"We did not think of mentioning the matter again."

When Budge, accompanied by his wife Eleanor, went to the church this past Christmas he "took the opportunity of looking around," and "... found them where they had lain throughout all these years," still in that musty place, untouched since a curious lad fingered them and put them back, and now rediscovered by the man six decades later, where, perhaps, they would have slept still, were it not for the power of childhood memories whose spoons of imagination can stir a man's mind long after his hands have ceased and time has whitened his hair.

Rev. MacKenzie has now received one of the valuable tokens from Budge of the church in the small town of Dunvegan on Skye and it can be seen on display in the Heritage Room of Barbecue Church, along with the still older token from Jura.

## Island Cure-All

The Highlands and Islands Development Board are to sponsor a training scheme for skin curing in the Outer Hebrides with the aim of establishing a sheepskin curing industry in the Islands.

The scheme was launched during the first part of this month through a series of public meetings in the Outer Isles, when lectures and demonstrations were presented by Mr D. H. Tuck, Vice-Principal and Head of the Light Leather Department of the National Leather Sellers College, London. Assistance with the administration of the scheme is being given by the Scottish Council of Social Service and Ross and Cromarty County Council.

Mr William Scholes of the Board said "For some time now there has been a general interest in the possibility of encouraging craft their in others to augment their incomes by curing and selling sheepskin. The growth of a curing industry will help meet the increasing demand for quality sheepskins and, together with the eventual manufacture of a range of leather products, give a considerable economic and social stimulus to the various communities."

## LOVE IN ann no LOVE IN as



Chan fhaigh sibh ach Bed an' Bristack seo.

## Grants to Communes

Income from tax is low in certain communes and the County Advisory Board distributes grants obtained from the Ministry without strings — the amount varies with the population and the financial position.

Migration from the less populated areas and the transfer from agriculture and fishing have been slowed down by subsidies to these industries, by import controls, and grants to cover transport costs. Fish prices have also been stabilised by grants. The state provides incentives and participates in establishing industries and has established iron and steel works and some mining in north Norway. In west Norway two large aluminium plants and in other parts of the country "key" industries have been established in various under-developed parts.

The Regional Development Fund 1960 was established to encourage industry, increase economic activity and income levels, provide employment and conditions similar to those in the country by providing finance for establishing new activities which would increase employment and utilise labour efficiently.

"The Board and the Secretariat—initiate, organise, plan and co-ordinate..."

The Fund has a Secretariat, a Board and a Council and they do not confine themselves to processing applications. They examine industrial possibilities, and point out to other bodies problems that have to be solved before industrial development can take place. They give loans and guarantees, subscribe share capital and, initiate investigations and planning for industry.

Loans are mainly for long and medium terms and are given for working capital. Guarantees are made so that loans can be obtained from banks or credit institutions. They are secured by mortgage or the personal liability of the person having the major shareholding. Generally repayment should not exceed 20 years, and loans are at normal rates. Interest repayment may be deferred for 3 years—as for factories under public management, but it accrues to principal and is repaid with it. The government undertakes the liabilities of guarantor. When the Fund grants loans o-

## INSPECTION OF SEED POTATO CROPS

Seed potato inspections by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland will begin on Monday, July 14, 1969.

Due to weather conditions and late planting some crops may not be fit for inspection immediately. Growers are reminded, however, that in order to have crops ready for inspection, roguing should be carried out as soon as growth permits.

Growers will be notified in advance of the date of inspection.

guarantees of up to £75,000 the commune of the county guarantees 25% of it. If it exceeds £75,000 the board will decide how much, if any, is required for the county. If the project is sufficiently important and it appears that the required share capital will not be taken up, the Fund will itself take up the shares.

In recent years expansion of existing businesses has created most of the new jobs and some direction has been necessary to ensure that it goes to under-developed areas where this is necessary and desirable, particularly if there is unemployment.

Compensation may be paid to the new industry if any extra expenditure is involved in moving into the development areas.

## RAILWAY NOTES

The Railway Inigation Society has recently issued its 79th Progress Report. Among other interesting snippets of Railway information, the Society reports:

### Cowdenbeath-Perth

British Rail claims that costs are £138,490 per annum and that receipts are £55,300 per annum. Our costs, based on information supplied by the National Council on Inland Transport and checked by expert consultants, amount to £60,000. However, from this figure must be deducted the extra movement costs which the closure would cause. These would amount to £34,500, because the inter-city journey between Edinburgh and Perth would be increased by about 25 miles. Thus, net costs are only £25,500 per year. The alleged receipts exclude contributory revenue, i.e., that between Perth, Inverness and the North, etc., and between Cowdenbeath and the South, etc.

We believe that this proposal if carried out would prove to be one of the most financially disastrous ever conceived in Scotland and that on the line's existence depends the future of the railway network in the north of Scotland.

British Rail has started to run down services on the Inverness-Wick/Thurso line. Timings of trains were extended by about 30 minutes under the new timetable which commenced on 5th May.

The Border Union Railway Company has been formed with the object of running a daily commuter service and special summer excursions on the Edinburgh-Hawick-Carlisle line.

Following the decision of Tynwald (the Manx parliament) to grant a subsidy of £7,500 a year for three years towards the running of steam trains on the Isle of Man a company has been formed to operate a service between Douglas and Port Erin. This opened to the public on Whit Sunday, 25th May, and the new company intends to restrict its operations to this line.

# Review Order

over to you:

## HEBRIDEAN FOLKSONGS by FRANG MacThomais

For many decades now the body of Gaelic culture, in its various forms, has been widely acknowledged as being one of the best and most significant in Europe. In particular the traditional folk-song surviving in the walking song or *oran luadhaidh*, is of a type which is almost unique and it is with this in mind that one welcomes the publication of a book dealing with the walking song.

The basis of the book is the Collection of Walking Songs of Donald MacCormick of Kilphedir, in South Uist (1893). He, with Father Allan MacDonald, who translated some of the songs, did a great deal of work, most of it unsung, to preserve what was, at the turn of the century, in the 'dying heritage' bracket. The installation of the first machinery in Stornoway and in Harris to stimulate the production of *clor*, or Harris Tweed, as it was later to become, indicated that the matter was urgent. We are grateful, posthumously, to these collectors for their foresight. And we are grateful, too, to that scholar Dr J. L. Campbell of Cannha, who, with much effort and, one suspects, with many great and small inconveniences, has left us a corpus of work of which we Highlanders can be justly proud.

The first part of the book deals with Hebridean Walking Songs. The activity of fulfilling the cloth is described as it was seen and written about by the many observers who travelled through the Highlands and Islands up to three hundred years ago. Pennant, Martin, Shan, de Saussure, Lockhart and others all supply the evidence of walking activity.

To help the work along, songs were sung. The subjects of the songs included the praise of great men, of the chiefs; the hunt; love; and laments. The language used was pure, simple and effective. The imagery used was often of a high order which, as Dr Campbell says, was 'as might be expected from a people whose everyday life was permeated with an oral literature of poetry, song and story, with which the professional poet-historians were held in high honour.'

The walking song and its place and influence in and on the 18th century printed Gaelic literature is dealt with in a short section.

Dr Campbell has, rightly, something to say about what he calls the 'Art versions of walking songs', these being the products of Mrs Kennedy Fraser in particular, and Dr Kenneth MacLeod. They used the airs and textual motifs of walking songs as a basis for the construction of the art songs we find in 'Songs of the Hebrides.' While it

can be accepted that these 'Songs' resulted in making the Hebrides better known, too much emphases were placed on the 'Celtic Twilight' atmospheres that were said to obtain in the islands, and too little on the depressed social and economic conditions which it would have been better to publicise, using the 'songs' as a lever to gain public and political sympathy of a practical sort.

As it was, these islands were the subject of countless visitations from people who wished to catch a flavour of the Hebrides and who probably did great damage in propagating the 'Songs' myths. 'Songs' are songs they can be accepted for what they are; but they prevented the real songs from being rescued from oblivion. By delaying the active collection of oral tradition by some three and four decades, the 'Songs' did the Hebrides a great disservice.

The bulk of the book is devoted to the McCormick Collection, which is given in Gaelic, in English translation with notes, and in musical transcriptions, and in musical being dealt with most effectively by Francis Collinson.

The Collection's text and music confirm the worth of Gaelic folksong as a genre. All the purity, the simplicity and the creative gift of the Gael is in evidence here. Full references are made to variants, similarities and the like which appear in other Collections.

In the third section of the book, Dr Frances Collinson treats us to the expert's view of the 'Musicology of Walking Songs.' One expects here the results of years of association with both music as a subject and with Gaelic song as a characteristic type. An impressive technique is used which, in part might be lost on the lay reader, confirms that the evolution of Gaelic folksong was no haphazard thing, but was in fact a steady formalised and controlled growth to maturity which went hand in hand with the growth of the special type of environment characterised by his Celtic roots.

Dr Collinson deals first with the scales of the tunes of walking songs. Though this aspect has been dealt with many times before, it is good to have a final definition. The form of the tunes is then examined, with particular reference to the McCormick Collection; Dr Collinson discusses the relationship between chorus and refrain, between the starting and ending points of the tunes.

The 'walking pulse', the musical variation in the tunes, characteristic rhythms and the 'meaningless refrain syllables and their significance' are dealt with in exhaustive detail. On the

latter both Drs Campbell and Collinson say:

'What distinguishes the refrains of Scottish Gaelic walking songs sharply from those of most Western European folk-songs is their special phonetic structure, which makes their singing in a complete legato of uninterrupted tone easier than anything short of a *solfeggio* exercise; their numerous and intricate forms; and they play an important part in the very carrying the main melodies of the songs... If, as seems likely, many of the tunes of these songs are much older than the words which are now sung to them, the meaningless syllables associated with their refrains may possibly be a very remarkable antiquity.'

This book goes a considerable way towards a long-felt need to put Gaelic folksong alongside similar folk-culture products for comparative study. This, of course, has yet to be done as a whole; to have both textual and musical elements subjected to expert analyses and the results published between two covers. The whole of Gaelic folksong still awaits the treatment which has been given to the folktales by people like Anti Aarne and Sitt-Thompson.

Only in this way will the respect and recognition be given to Gaelic culture which it so richly deserves on an international scale. At present, much propaganda work still remains to be done.

There is another aspect which relates more to the common acceptance of Gaelic song than to the more professional acceptance of the body as an excellent subject for study. This is the need for the Highlands to produce a composer who can translate the sum total of his heritage into an art form with its roots deep in the past. Other cultures have produced their 'national' composers: Sibelius, Vaughan Williams, Kodaly, Bartok, Guy, Ropartz and Paul Le Flem.

One looks annually to the National Mod of An Comunn to hear the essence of folksong in small grouped voices and in choirs. But one is always disappointed. The choral pieces in particular are anything but characteristic of the Gaelic roots of the melodies from which they are derived; they pay too much tribute to the classical tradition elevated in western Europe and too little to the Western Isles' tradition which is equally 'classical'.

But a start has been made to organise Gaelic folksong into a recognisable corpus from which it can derive nothing but credit. Both Dr Campbell and Dr Collinson are to be congratulated on the work their labours have produced. But it is up to the Highland book-buying public to do more

(Continued on next column)

A Thaird, An Chaunn Gaidhealach, Bòrd Leasachaidh na Gaidhealtach agus Comunn nan Croitearan a' cur a deanamh oidhirpean dicheallach airson oidhirpean chumail anns a' Ghaidhealtach le duil gun cum iad a' Ghaidheal beo agus ar doigh fallain.

Chanell seo furasda a' dheanamh, agus co dhìu, 's truaigh an duine nach d'rinn siubhal air choireigin na latha.

Bha e riann na chleachdadh aig gillean oig na Gaidhealtach an dachaidh fhagal, uairean gun math trath 'nam beatha, agus mar as tric cha d'è coire ach feum a rinn seo do'n Gaidhealtach a thaobh 's cho measaill 'a bha daoine orra anns gach ceann 's an do thadhail iad.

Chan e 'm fagail ach an tilleadh a bha na aobhar iomagain, sig aon ann an deidh dhàibh bliadhna no dhà a chuir seachad a siubhal, thill iad dhachaidh ach an dugh the car air cùisean—tha iad a dol do'n bhaile mhòr a gabhail obair ann sin, agus ann an ghe bheag tim the iad ceangailte ris a thaibh peannais agus gnòthuichean de'n t-seorsa sin, Mar sin chan eil e furasda an obair fhagail ns aonais call mor agus tha iad a leantainn ris gun an toir iad am peannais a mach.

De tha thachairt an sin? Chan urrainn dhàibh thigh fhaorainn air mal, agus chan eil e furasda thigh a cheannach e chionn gun bheil na Goill agus na Sasunach a tairgse prìsean gorach airson botan sam bith a thig air a mbarghadh 'sa Ghaidhealtach agus an sin a faotainn 'grant' bho'n Bhòrd Leasachaidh airson tighèan math a dheanamh dhuibh. Tha dean e deifir co tha reic an tighè, theid e reic airson a phrìs as airde, co dhìu 's ann do Ghaidheil, do Ghòill no do Bhlec, agus mar as tric bithidh na tighèan seo falann dh' a Gheamhradh. A bheil iognadh ann gheid a tha muinntir na Gaidhealtach a fas gheid e ghoinne cùideach a mhor chuid de'n bliadhna, 'se seo aobhar gearrainn as motha 's th'ig na Gaidheil 'sa Ghaidhealtach.

Nach coir de'n Chomunn smachd a chumail air an fonnasaidh seo agus cothrom a thoirt do na seann Ghaidheil a' bheil Gaidheil tilleadh do'n dùthaich fein ged a' sheum-adh iad a cùideachadh le cùd de'n airgid a tha air a thoirt seachad do'n h-uile seorsa nan

than offer congratulations. Only in the purchase of the book will authors and publishers realise that the contemporary Gael is fully aware of the work which is being done on his behalf and is willing to acknowledge such in one of the more practical ways open to him.

'Hebridean Folksons: A Collection of Walking Songs' by J. L. Campbell and Francis Collinson; 70s; Published by the Clarendon Press: Oxford University Press, Ely House, Dover Street, London, W.1.

'grants,' mar seo bhiodh a bharrachd Gaidheil anns a' Ghaidhealtach agus bhiodh cùideach an t-seorsa fein aig muinntir na Gaidhealtach fad na bliadhna.

'S iomadh Gaidheil gasda tha cur seachad an laithean deireannach ann an 'renewment' ann an Glaschu agus bailtean duinnt eile feadh na Rìoghachd agus an cridhe ag caoidh airson balgam de bhrigh na Gaidhealtach. Nach fhearr seann Ghaidheil le Gaidheil na oidhirpean a' Ghalh.

Tha e furasda fhàicinn de tha dol a thachairt. 'Nuair a gheibh na croitèaran na croitèaran dhàibh fein theid an roinn nan suidheachaidh tighèan agus bithidh iad air an reic chun an fhear a their a phrìs as airde, agus ann an ghe bheag tim bithidh Gall air a h-uile croit air a' Ghaidhealtach agus nas lagha cothrom sig an fhior Ghaidheil air tilleadh dhachaidh. Faoadail mar seo gum bi na croitèaran nas beartaiche ach gheibh Gaidheil na h-Alba leithid de bhùille bais agus nach dean pòg na beatha fein eum dhiht.

Tha tilleadh 's a chòir de bhuid againn co dhìu 's coir do na h-uile ni a bhi fo smachd a' Chomunn agus fo'n Fhear Stiùirdh comasach a tha cheana a laimheachadh na cùible. Mar a tha gnòthuichean a dol an drasda cha bhi e idir fada gus an bi Rio Stakis e fhein a riaghaild 'sa Ghaidhealtach, mar eil e cheanna ris.

D. MAC-AN-T-SAOIR  
Bun a Mhaoil,  
Bail'-Chaolais.

## Cuil nan Ceist—7

### FUAISGLADH

1. An Cliseam (2622 troigh).
2. Uibhridh - a Deas, Muile, Cataibh agus siorrachd Pheairt.
3. (a) Beinn Dobhrain.  
(b) An Cuilionn.  
(c) Beinn Allair.
4. Tha ainm na beinne seo a' sealltainn air an t-Siorram Alasdair MacNeacal. Bha an Sgiathnach iomraitheach ann a bhàrd, agus chuir e amach co-chruinneachadh luachmhor de sheanfhaclan Gaidhealtach.
5. Eubhal. Chanadh e fhéin, "Eubhal Mhór a chéò" ris a' bheinn seo.

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## AIR TUR NA FAIRE

(Continued from page 9)

Naoimh Pheadair ann an Steornabhagh agus ann an seann Eaglais Eorrabhaidh.

**Searbhais Fhada**  
Chaochail an Can. Urr. Alasdair MacCoinnich a bha 31 bliadhna 'na Phrobhst ann an Eaglais Mhoir Aindreann ann an Inbhirnis. Leig e dheth an dreuchd ann an 1949, ach ghabh e co-pairt ann an seirbhisean gus an robh e corr is ceithir fichead agus deich.

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**GUTH O NA LINNTEAN A DH'FHALBH:** "Is i crìoch araidh an duine Dia a ghorachadh agus a mhealtainn gu siorruidh;" — Leabhar Aithghearr nan Ceist .

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## ALUMINIUM PROJECT REPORT

British Aluminium's decision to invest £37m, in an aluminium reduction plant in the Invergordon area and the Government's plans for a new statutory Scottish Tourist Board, are two of the projects highlighted in the Scottish Development Department's report for 1968, published by H.M.S.O. (price 12s 6d).

"The announcement of the British Aluminium Company's decision to be the greatest significance to the Highlands and to Scotland generally, the report states, 'in that it promised the establishment of a large manufacturing industry far away from the traditional industrial belt of central Scotland.'"

More than 2,000 men are expected to be employed at the peak of construction, the report adds, and the plant itself is expected to provide about 650 jobs.

"As well as helping to redress the under-representation of manufacturing industry outside central Scotland the aluminium reduction plant confirms in the most modern guise and on a scale three times greater than hitherto, the presence of an industry which has been in Scotland for many years," the report states.

Dealing with the new Scottish Tourist Board, the report says this will "have wide powers to encourage the promotion and development of tourism in Scotland and will be responsible both for the research which will guide the policy and for the publicity through which the image of Scotland will be

projected in the future."

The new Board will also administer in Scotland the hotel development incentive scheme, any selective financial aid to particular projects and, when introduced, the registration and classification of tourist accommodation.

The establishment of the new Board is described as marking "the beginning of a new era" for Scottish tourism.

## Births

**McNIE** — At the Western General Hospital on 23rd June 1969, to William and Mary (nee Moroney) 5 Columbia Road, Edinburgh, 4, a son (Mark Edward).

## Marriages

**MORGAN-MACLEOD** — The marriage took place very quietly on 30th June 1969, at All Saints Church, Nunney, between Gregory Morgan, and Dauvergne Campbell MacLeod, widow of Jersey MacLeod.

## Deaths

**MacCOLL** — Died 23rd June 1969, at Mansfield General Hospital, North, as the result of a road accident, Joan, beloved wife of Kenzie and dear mother of Paul, Graham and Suzette, and devoted daughter-in-law of Mr and Mrs K. MacColl, 8 Appin Road, Kinlochleven.

**SMITH** — At the Lewish Hospital, on the 21st June 1969, Donald John Smith (Dan), 2 Ballalan, Lochs, aged 73 years. Deeply mourned. (Australian papers please copy).

## Situations

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The Gaelic Books Council offers an award of £200 for a biography or autobiography. This should be an original work, written in Gaelic. The final date for submission of entries is 30th June, 1970.

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SRUTH — Printed by The Highland Herald Ltd., Inverness, and published by An Comunn Gaidhealach, Abertarff House, Inverness.

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