

# SRUTH

SCOTLAND'S BI-LINGUAL NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER OF CURRENT EVENTS IN THE HIGHLANDS, THE ISLANDS, AND IN SCOTLAND

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## Gaelic To Be Given Prominence

### LOCAL RADIO STATIONS FOR HIGHLANDS

Celtic countries must regain their freedom as soon as possible, because if they don't the process of driving our people into industrial complexes will just go on until we are literally ruined. This was said last weekend in Edinburgh at the second Celtic Youth Congress. The speaker was Mr Douglas Drysdale, an executive vice-chairman of the Scottish National Party. "It was a completely wrong philosophy to drive people out of the countryside into factories," he added. Included in the week-end activities at the Congress was a ceilidh, and a forum on nationalism and international understanding. The feeling of the SRUTH observer at the Congress was that the youth of Celtic countries had to strive hard to maintain their identities against the much wider background imposed on them by

larger cultural and social influences which tended to introduce an element of monotony. The main resolution at the Congress was aimed at the Postmaster General, urging the setting up of a local radio station in the Highlands. The programmes should be largely in Gaelic. In the meantime, it was urged there should be much more time given over to Gaelic in programmes on the existing network. Commenting on the Congress and its resolutions, a spokesman for the political organisation — the Celtic League — said in Inverness last night, in an exclusive SRUTH interview: "It is good to see that young people are identifying themselves with their Celtic heritage and points to a future of enhanced national status. The solution to the problems of all Celtic countries is largely political. "Although Ireland, Scot-

land, Wales and Britany are subject to very different conditions, they face similar difficulties. To achieve anything at all they must stand together. The League acts as a common platform. "To preserve a national identity should not involve politics. But the events of history have forced us to work along a political front-line of action."

### TRANSPORTERS COMPLAIN

Road hauliers are sounding complaints about the long delays experienced by drivers of heavy transport at the Kyle-Kyleakin ferry. Difficulties are especially hard in boarding the new ferry boat, especially by the longer vehicles. On one occasion, a large tanker had to be turned back to Inverness, and the load then brought to Kyle by three smaller vehicles.

### UPS AND DOWNS IN JANUARY FISHING

During January, fish (excluding shell fish) landed at Scottish ports by British vessels amounted to 735,841 cwts., valued at £1,603,440. These figures are compared with 837,158 cwts. and £1,586,157 for January 1966. The total shell fish landed amounted to 6,885 cwts., valued at £66,144, compared with 8,060 cwts. and £91,532 for January 1966.

### NORTH M.P. FOR E.E.C. TALKS

Caithness and Sutherland M.P., Mr Robert MacLennan, is expected to go to four European capitals towards the end of April to discuss the possible effect of British Membership of the Common Market on British agriculture and regional development. Mr MacLennan hopes to meet leading members of the European Economic Commission at the Brussels H.Q.

Mar ubhlan air ann an dealbhan a'airgid, tha focal a'labhairt gu h-ionchuidh. Gnath-Fhocail 25, 11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Proverbs 25, 11

## Moladh Airson A' Bhuid

Fhuair Bord Leasachaidh na Gaidhealtachd agus nan Eilean a' mholadh Diar-daoin seo chaidh le Mgr. Seumas Taylor fear cathrach Comunn Leasachaidh Siorramachd Ghallaibh. Thuir Mgr. Taylor a tha a' fuireach ann an Inbhir-Theorsa gun do rinn iad toil-cachadh an uair a chaidh ann Bord a chuir air bonn agus gu robh iad cinnteach nach b'urrainn deanamh as aonais a' Bhuidr ma bha leasachadh sam bith a dol 'ga dheanamh air cor na Gaidhealtachd agus nan Eilean. Bha e follaiseach, thuir e, gu robh ann Bord a' deanamh spairn chruaidh airson beo-shlaint na Gaidhealtachd a thogail gu inbhe co-ionann ri cuid eile na Rìoghachd agus b' iad a bu chòireach gun deachaidh an Reactor Atomach ur a shuidheachadh ann an Dumnath. Cha robh iad a' faicinn aobhar sam bith, thuir e, airson a' chumhachd a bha feadhainn a' deanamh air a' Bhord, caineadh nach robh a' deanamh ach mi-fheum. B' e seo an t-am airson smaoinreach air na thug am Bord gu buil mar tha, agus airson taic a chumail ris a' Bhord anns a h-uile oidhirp a bha fa bheir dhaibh. Cha bhithheadh adhartas idir anns a' chuid seo d'heil Rìoghachd as aonais a' Bhuidr. Dh' fhaodadh gun bhithheadh a' Ghaidhealtachd ann as aonais — ach cha bhithheadh soirbhe-

eachadh sam bith ann. Chaidh a radh ann an Lerwick air an t-seachdainn seo chaidh nach robh cor aig Mgr. Uilleam Ros a dheanadh follaiseach gu robh airgid aig Mgr. Prophet Mac a' Ghobhainn ann am buidheann a' bhuidr a' chuid-cachadh bho'n Bhord. Aig coinneamh a chaidh a cumail le Comunn Luchd Figheadaireach Shealtainn thuir Mgr. Eideard MacThomais gu robh a coltach gun do rinn Mgr. Ros follaiseach gu robh deach cuid airgid aig Mgr. Mac a' Ghobhainn an uair a bha e 'buidheann air an tasad de £4,000 a fhuair a' bhuidheann bho'n Bhord. Bu toigh leud a thoirt gu aire Mgr. Ros, rud air an robh fios aig a h-uile duine ann an Sealtainn, gur ann airson cuid-cachaidh a dheanadh agus nach ann airson buannachd a bha daoine a' fillleadh airgid anns a' Chomunn.

### THURSO APPOINTMENT

Appointed to the Standing Advisory Committee of the Health Services in the Highlands and Islands, Mr J. Glasgow, Thurso, adds another aspect to his record of community service. He is Secretary of the local Trades Council. His most recent appointment, which was made by the Secretary of State for Scotland, runs until the end of 1970.

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## Highland Topics

The April number of THE SCOTS MAGAZINE contains articles of strong Highland interest.

### THE SEVEN MEN

The true story of the famous Seven Men of Glenmoriston who succoured Prince Charlie after Culloden. Told by Mairi A. MacDonald, a direct descendant of one of the men.

### OLDEST INHABITANTS

Generations of wild goats have roamed the cliffs and beaches of a wild corner of the Isle of Mull. Roy Douglas tells how the herd survives today.

### ABOVE THE DEVIL'S ELBOW

Hamish M. Brown describes a fine hill walk amongst the high tops above Glenleshe.

And many other well illustrated articles and features.

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# These Highland Landmarks are being ruined by Tourists

This summer, as in previous years, hundreds of visitors to the Highlands will travel by car from Inverness to Skye, and in doing so, will pass through some of the loveliest countryside in the whole of the Highland area.

For many years it has been a favourite drive of mine, passing along Loch Ness-side, through Glenmoriston, Glen Shiel, by Loch Duich to Dornie, and from there to Kyle of Lochalsh.

The Glen Shiel road from Cluanie has undergone considerable reconstruction in recent years, and in many stretches is comparable with the average trunk road.

Plans are afoot to build an entirely new road along the edge of Loch Duich, so eliminating the winding slopes which have become a menace to motorists in the peak of the summer season.

We welcome the summer tourist. They provide much of our bread and butter. So it is fitting that we should accommodate them by providing better roads. But I deplore the damage they can do.

Two favourite places of interest on the stretch of road between Invermoriston and Cluanie, in the last year have been desecrated, no doubt through over indulgence of popularity. They are the famous footprints of Glenmoriston and the Roderick MacKenzie Cairn.

The path leading to the footprints originates from an incident which occurred during an outside religious service held in 1827. The itinerant evangelist, it is said, was interrupted in his sermon by two young men, who disapproved of his teachings, and started to throw mud at him, calling him a cheat and a liar. The preacher closed his Holy Book, and turning to his assailants, declared that what he said was right, and to prove it, he declared the ground on which he stood would bear witness to the final day of Judgment.

For 150 years his footprints

### A H-AITE FHEIN DHA'N CHAIDHLIG

Tha Comhairle na Gaidhealtachd de Bhuidhinn raiseanta na h-Alba an deaghaidh an lan sònta a chuir ri tagradh a rinn Mear Leodhais. Tha a' Bhuidheann a' rathadh gum bi choir dha'n Rìaghaltais cuideachadh a thoirt dha'r Ghaidhlig gun dàil Bu choir a h-aite fhein a thoirt dha'n Chaidhlig agus an aon inbhe a bhith aice agus a tha aig a' Channain Chumriche.

A' bruidhinn air an tagradh, thuir Mgr. F. MacThomais, Bunraite na Comhairle, gum bi fhiach an t-sòthair a bhà a' Bhuidheann seo a' deamh as leth canain na Gaidhealtachd. Thuir e gu robh buaidh aig a' Ghaidhlig air nìthan poilitic each agus gur e an-aite a tha a' Bhuidheann a' toirt dha'n Chaidhlig a bu chuireach gu robh sibhir a' Ghaidheil a' dol a stigh riite.

remained intact, even though attempts have been made to resow them with grass seed.

Roderick MacKenzie's Cairn stands on a promontory on the left hand side of this road, further west, near a spot where the River Muiston winds closest to the road.

It marks the spot where one of Scotland's less-known heroes

by Kenneth A. Macrae

died for the cause of his Prince.

History records that after the Battle of Culloden, Prince Charles fled to the hills, and for a time was hiding in the area of Glenmoriston.

Roderick MacKenzie was a loyal and trusted officer in the Jacobite army, and bore a distinct resemblance to the Prince.

On this occasion the Red-coats were gradually surrounding the cave in which the Prince was hiding, and realising the position, Roderick crept up to the sleeping Prince, grabbed his plaid and bonnet, and ran down the hillside into the bullet range of the Hanoverian troops. At once he was spotted, and he made an easy target. A bullet hit him, and he fell to the ground shouting "You've killed your Prince!"

Thinking they had caught the Prince at last, the soldiers cut off his head, and carried it in triumph to Fort Augustus, only to learn that the Prince was very much at large.

Some years ago the County

Council laid cement steps leading up to the Cairn, but when I stopped there recently they had become overgrown with weeds, and the Cairn itself in a broken down state. Many of the stones had been removed and probably taken away as souvenirs.

What visitors probably miss, however, is Roderick MacKenzie's grave, which may be found on the other side of the road, down a slope and near the water's edge.

Mercifully it has been well preserved, carefully marked with stones, and often tended with a bunch of heather.

These may be two of the less known landmarks in Highland history, but that is no reason why they should not be treated with the same respect and care as other national landmarks.

### SEALLADH AIR UILEBHEIST LOCH NIS

Phuaire Mgr. Iain Camshron (69) a tha ag obair air amar-uisge a' Ghlinn A' Mhoir sealladh air uilebheist Loch Nis an uair a bha e ag iasgach air an loch a' fa' roimhe. Thuir e gu robh da through deug de fhad anns an uilebheist agus gu robh i coltach ri bata air chuir air a bheul fotha.

"Sòoil e gur e beathach glae laidir a bha innte an uair a bha i a' snarh troimh an uisge agus gun i ach 25 slat air falbh. Chunnac e muing ghoirid air a' chuid as tiugta de' ambaich na h-uilebheist ach cha robh a' ceann ri' fhaicinn.

Bha an crìceanan dorcha donn agus righinn a' comheadh.

B' e seo an treas uair a chunnac Mgr. Camshron an uilebheist agus gu bhuidhnaichean a tha e air a' bhith ag iasgach an locha.

### "GU TIR MO LUAIHD"

Dain eadar theangaichte agus seualchdan

le

UISDEAN LAING, M.A., Dip.Ed.

"Anns a leabhar bheag gheibh sibh, ann an Gaidhlig lean, barrachd de dheagh bhardachd as gach tìr na chi sibh ann a leabhar Gaidhlig sam bith a chaidh a chur ann mach 's an linn so."

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# THE HIGHLAND DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S EDUCATIONAL PLAN

Whatever, the merits or demerits of the Board's plan, criticism of its proposed Senior Secondary School for the Southern Isles is revealing. The Chairman of the Inverness-shire Education Committee believes that such a provision would create a "Hebridean Curtain"—denying the children the "richer education available to them at mainland schools."

The question could be one of only availability. In fact the establishing of a modern secondary school in the Isles should provide an education just as "rich" as that of Fort William, Portree or Inverness. There seems to be more to the matter, however. The Chairman believes that such a provision would be "the very negation of opportunity for these children" who must, "as always," continue to get the fullest opportunity for social usefulness and personal advancement "in the system, which "has been built up carefully and thoughtfully over the years to meet changing needs."

The inference is that education and opportunity must, in all circumstances, be richer on the mainland. But it could be equally well agreed against this that there are greater opportunities in Edinburgh, Glasgow or at Eton. There are many, too, in the south who are convinced that education and culture cease, if not at the Scottish border, then certainly at the Highland Line. It should not be forgotten that some opposed the idea of an Inverness University because it would cause loss of opportunity for mind-broadening to Highland students.

### Children Sent from Home

It is delusional to believe that the "system" was built up with any thought or care for the people of the South Hebrides, who must at present send their children hundreds of miles away from home at a young age if they are to get a secondary education.

What has been overlooked

### BAHA'I FAITH

"The Baha'i message is a call to religious Unity and not an invitation to a new Religion, not a new path to immortality. God forbid! It is the ancient path cleared of the debris of imaginations and superstitions of men, of the debris of strife and misunderstanding, and is again made a clear path to the sincere seeker, that he may enter therein in assurance and find that the word of God is one, though the speakers were many."

A Gaelic pamphlet is available free on application to the local secretary, 42 Island Bank Road Inverness

is that in Lewis there is a really first-class secondary school. Can it be said that the Lewis parents care less for their children or that their education is any less "rich" for being in Stornoway? Are the Lewis university students more backward and ill-equipped than those from the Inverness-shire islands?

### "Catch 'em Young"

This "catch 'em young" idea has been a recurring theme since James the Sixth, the Wisest Fool in Christendom, who legislated for the education of the sons of Highland gentry to be in the Lowlands.

The Director of Education for Inverness-shire put his finger on the very same attitude, in the Board, in their recommendation that young teachers should spend two years in some urban school or other part of the Commonwealth before getting a post in their home area.

How flattering it must be to the folk of the Hebrides to think that their children's education will be enriched by two years on Merseyside — or in Botswana. R

### Over to You

#### NOTHING FOR GAELIC A Charaid,

It is depressing still to hear the fatalistic acceptance by Gaelic speakers of the argument that the spread of English is an inexorable law or a natural phenomenon.

In this context it is interesting to note the following points made in the British Council's annual report. Not content with the fact that more than half the world's broadcasts and seven-tenths of the world's letters are expressed in English, the British Council spent £4m. with the aim of "spreading the English language and knowledge about Britain."

This means that Scottish taxpayers paid something in the region of £400,000 to subsidise propaganda in favour of English. This is a point which must be stressed to support An Comunn's claim for a much larger amount to be spent on Gaelic. It is only just that a major part of this £400,000 should be diverted away from propagating the use of English in the direction of spreading the use of Gaelic. The people of Scotland would undoubtedly support such a move. What are our Scottish M.P.s going to do about it? — Gu dileas.

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## Comhradh

Le Iain Mac a' Ghobhainn

(Tha iad ag radh gu bheil na h-Ameireaganalach airson sgathan mor a chrochadh ams an adhar gur ann fàic na daoine aig an tigh cogadh Vietnam a' dol air adhart air TV).

"An e Homer a' tha sin? Shìos ris an abhainn sin? Tha mi cinnteach gur e Homer a' th'ann. Nach e an dèise a' tha tighinn dha! Nach bochd nach b'urrainn dha air faicinn. Chan eil càil a' dh'fhios aige gu bheil e air a' phrogram su. Cò smaoinich gun bhiodh e air TV dìreach mar Gary Cooper. A bheil cuimhn' agad air an dealbh ud a chumna sinn air, na h-Imseanchadh Dèarga ann? Uill, bha Gary Cooper air eadh . . . Seall thusa, ta, tha e 'na amar ris an abhainn. A bheil cuimhn' agad air an drama a chuir iad air anns an sgoil? Oh, tha dà bhliadhna bhuaite co-dhiubh. Chan eil cuimhn' agad air càil.

Tha e ag eigh a nis ri taobh na h-àibhne. Smaoinich, tha Ameireaga gu leir'ga fhaicinn. Saoitlth mi nach eil bliadhna bho bha e na bhriogais ghorid.

Dè tha tachairt? Tha e tuiteam. Tha spot dearg air a' dhròim. Dè tha tachairt? Deau rudeiginn. Cur fòn gu cuideiginn. Tha iad a' foirt an dealbh dheth. Dè tha sin? WRIGLEY'S CHEWING GUM? Cur fòn gu cuideiginn. 'S cinnteach gu bheil fhios aca cò a' th'ann. 'S cinnteach gun urrainn dhaibh rudeiginn a dhanamh. Dè tha thu 'g radh 2'S ann a' tha an dealbh a' tighinn thugainn bho satellite? Chan eil dragh agam. Cur fòn thuca. Tha a 'na laighe air an talamh. 'S cinnteach gun urrainn dhaibh rudeiginn a dhanamhged is ann bho satellite a' tha e tighinn. Siuthad. Deau rudeiginn. Deau rudeiginn . . ."

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The end of a bed where a gate should be."

Chan eil moran bhliadnaichean bho'n chuala mi na sreathan sin ann an duan eirmseach a rinn te a bhitheadh a' tadhal air fear de na h-Eileanan as t-samhradh. Tha seo 'na chomharradh air mar a bha daoine a'coimhead air na h-Eileanan gu o' chionn ghoirid. 'S e aitheach na bha anna far an feumadh daoin e gnòthach d'heanadh le rud nach cuireadh feadhainn a cuid eile na duthcha suas. Bha na h-Eileanan agus a'chuid eile dhe'n Ghaidhealtach cuideachd air am meas 'nan aitheach fad air ais nach robh fhathast air an Fheachdhan Linn a ruigeadh 'nan doigh beatha.

Ach chan fhaic thu uisgean dhe'n t-seorsa geata sin an duigh agus tha seo 'na chomharradh, cuide ri iomadach rud eile air an atharrachadh a tha a'ghnath air a'Ghaidhealtachd. Cha dhean "Ni e an gnòthach" a'chuis tuilleadh. Tha suil ag na Gaidheal a nis ris a' uile soirbheachadh fhaighinn na tha a'chuid eile dhe'n duthach a'mealltainn. Dh'fhalbh an t-slabharr agus an t-urair creadha Thainn an cuair dealain an telebhisean agus Am Bord.

Chan e nach robh buidh againn roimhe. Cha robh sinn cho fada air ais sin idir ach bha duil againn ri barrachd bho'n fhear seo air tha cumhachd agus nach robh aig each. Anns na bliadnaichean a chaidh seachad an uair a bhitheadh daoine a'bruidhin air a'Ghaidhealtachd chluinneadh tu iad a'radh "Cui-lodair" no 'na Sgrùdaichean an drasda 's a rithist, agus a nis tha facal ur aig daoine an uair a bhitheas iad a'bruidhin air a'Ghaidhealtachd, 'Am Bord.'

Bithidh Am Bord a dh'aithearr a'toir seachad cunntais air 'obair agus mar sin a fhear fuireach samhach agus am faic sinn de tha faner dha a dh'aindeoin air teagmhach ma dheidhinn an obair oile. Tha feadhainn a'smaoin-teachadh gu bheil cuid a'deanamh cns cainidh air a'Bhord agus tha fhios againn gu bheil cuid de bhuilt a'Bhuid mar a tha Iain Rollo an deaghaidh torra d'heanaim airson na Gaidhealtachd mar tha.

Ach feumar aon rud a radh gu ruige seo bha Am Bord uaireannan ga ghluhan fhein coltach ri dotair a tha saoilinn an fheadhainn a tha e a' frithealadh cho aincolach 's cho ainm nach b'fhaich dha innse dhaibh de tha e a'doi a dheanadh airson an leaghas.

Cha dean seo an gnòthach idir agus tha sinn an dochas nach saol daoine gu bheil sinn sìochdach no strachdach ma chanas sinn gur i' an duthach againne anna a bheil Am Bord air obair agus nach cuir sinn suas tuilleadh le, "The fhios againne de tha a chum ur math." Feumaidh sinn fhein suil a chumail air a h-uile rud aig am bi buaidh air a beatha agus air canain.

## SRUTH — A NEW VOICE FOR GAELIC

THE RIGHT to be correctly informed on the vital issues of one's time and community is one of the most important rights there is. It is almost one of the fundamental rights of man. With this first and subsequent issues of SRUTH, we hope we shall be able to fulfill the need for the Highlands and Islands of Scotland to have a voice of their own which will be strong enough and loud enough to place the affairs of the area on a national level, so that the eyes of influence can indeed be raised to the hills. A newspaper has a great moral responsibility. Its search should be for truth.

But this does not at all mean that different newspapers should not have different points of view, or approach news stories from different angles. There is nothing wrong with sincere conviction, which is something to be admired. Every nation, or part nation, with its individual characteristics, is worthy of a good press which will perform the type of communications function needed to ensure that the freedom of the area is not impaired.

It is an expression of faith that SRUTH is being published by An Comunn Gaidhealach. For too long now An Comunn has been looked on as a charitable organisation, whose *raison d'être* is the preservation of the Gaelic language. This image is now changing. While still maintaining, indeed consolidating, the language as the basis of all its activities, An Comunn has now a social and economic remit.

Bad history is history which has not found its roots in the events associated with the gradual development of an area, a community, a society or a nation, to reach its own levels of social, cultural and economic achievement. The Highlands and Islands have had their share of this imposed history. Despite this, however, the area has shown its resilience to the point where its people still make contributions to many fields of human activity quite out of all proportion to size. Bad history is still in the making. The point of interest today is just how far the Highland people are going to be allowed to make their own history. So far this remains to be seen.

With all due respect to Statutory bodies with declared interest in the Highlands, there should be some method by means of which Highland voices can be heard and to which attention can be paid. The most recently appointed Statutory body, the Highlands and Islands Development Board, has still to place a Highland bi-lingual member on its policy-making level.

## Good Wishes

\* \* \*

From The Right Honourable William Ross, P.C.,  
M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland:—

Gaelic is part of every Scotsman's heritage, whether he can speak it or not. Our arts have for centuries been enriched by the culture of the Celt. Thanks largely to the untiring efforts of an Comunn we have all taken pleasure in the music and songs of the Gael. But if Gaelic is to survive it must not be a subject for looking back, for sentiment or putting in a cultural museum. It must be a part of the every day life of the people.

By its nature there is nothing quite so contemporary as a newspaper — it cannot afford to dwell on the past. I am sure the Editor and staff of SRUTH will look to the present and future challenges of the Highlands; and there has surely never been a time when so much real news has come from this area.

With the work of the Crofters' Commission and of the Highlands and Islands Development Board backed up by central Government, we can safely say that at last the problems of the Highlands and Islands are being tackled in realistic and energetic fashion, and, in the main, by people who know from first-hand experience the nature of the task.

In spite of mass media, Gaelic has still a great hold in many areas of the north and west. It seems that Gaelic is a

definite factor in binding a community together, and keeping a sizeable population intact. Stornoway is not only a great centre of Gaeldom — it is the biggest burgh in Rossshire.

Yet although many in the Highlands and Islands can still speak Gaelic not all of these can read or write it. I am sure that a bi-lingual publication will stimulate the pursuit of greater knowledge of the tongue.

In the past Gaeldom has preserved its own identity, and indirectly has helped to preserve what we know as the Highland way of life; long may it continue to do so. But I hope also that Gaelic can play its part in an expanding Highland economy where Gaelic may be as popular in new factories as it has been in the kirk or croft.

The tide is with the Highlands — of this I am sure. I am well aware of the part Gaelic can play in fostering pride in the future, as much as in the past. In my meetings with An Comunn I have asserted my belief in the place of Gaelic in public life and the schools.

But the final test of a language is its use by the people. I commend SRUTH for helping to give this ancient language an ever wider usage.

WILLIAM ROSS.

From Lord Thomson of Fleet:—

Though I have never had the time or opportunity to learn Gaelic, which is spoken by people of Highland descent in parts of Canada, I wish the ancient language well and extend my best wishes to the enthusiasts who are trying to revive it. They have, I know, an uphill job. The story of Gaelic is one of decline. Each Census figure shows fewer Gaelic speakers than the preceding one. Does it matter? Is there any future for Gaelic? It is not needed for commercial purposes. English or American English is quite adequate for the conduct of business over a large part of the earth and where it fails Gaelic would not help. Nor am I among those who believe that learning one language like Gaelic is a great help for tackling another language such as Spanish or German. The time spent in learning Latin or Gaelic could be better spent on the second language which the student wants to acquire.

A man, Dr Johnson said, is never more innocently employed than in making money. I agree with him and have acted on that faith. But everyone fortunately is not alike. If they were, it would be harder still to make money. Many prefer to be entertained or to spend time in the quest

for knowledge. They are the kind of people who may be persuaded to take up Gaelic, while I should hope that a newspaper will also make native Gaelic speakers keener on their tongue.



Compulsory teaching of Gaelic, I am told, has not been a success in the Republic of Ireland. Voluntary methods are preferable, and indeed the only practicable ones in Scotland. There is much goodwill even among those who are not at home in the language, but enjoy hearing it sung. But the future of Gaelic really depends on the Highlanders themselves. There is less prejudice against the tongue, less fear among

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parents that they would handicap their children by teaching them to speak Gaelic. An Comunn Gaidhealach seems to have taken on a new lease of life, to be more enterprising and aggressive in defence of the old language. The newspaper illustrates this fresh vitality. Of course there must be a future for the Highlands before there can be any for Gaelic. I admire the devoted work of Professor Grievie's Highland Board, and hope that it will at last bring prosperity to the northern counties. There will be many incomers if the region is to thrive, but a vigorous Gaelic language may appeal to them, too. It is not dead and its defenders are rightly showing that it can cope with modern life with its football pools, employment benefit and so on, as well as with songs and legends of bygone days.

I hope that the Highlands and Gaelic will both have a renaissance. A language with so much homely wisdom should not be allowed to die. May I end by mentioning an admirable proverb which I have had quoted to me? "Mo chuid fhein, 's mo bhean fhein," agus "theid sinn dhachaibh," na tria ficlan as grinne anns a' Ghaidhidh — "My own goods," "my own wife," and "we will go home," the three finest sayings in Gaelic.

THOMSON OF FLEET.

# 'We won't take this lying down'

## Ministeir 'ga ghairm gu Inbhir-Nis

Fhuair ant-Urramach Iain Ros MacGillEathain a tha an dràsda na ministeir ann an Eadar da Chaolas ann an Cataibh gairm bho choithionail Cnoc na h-Eaglais ann an Siorramachd Inbhir-Nis. Tha e coltach gum bi Cleir Chataibh a' coimeadh a' dì' aithghearr airson cead a thoirt do Mhgr. MacGillEathain gabhail ris a' ghairm.

S' ann do sgrì Chille Mhoire 'nns ann an Eilean Sgitheanach a bhùineas Mgr. MacGillEathain agus tha e fileanta anns a' Ghaidhlig. An deaghaidh dha a chur a fòghaim a chionnadh ann an oitlighth Airdeadhain bhà e 'na ministeir ann an Srath Fhaoilain. Tha e air a bhith ann an Eadar da Chaolas bho 1959.

## ROSS-SHIRE'S FLOOD FUND

The Fund set up to aid the flood damage to parts of Ross-shire has now passed the £7000 mark. Comments have been made to the effect that it was significant that the Government can expect to spend some £500,000 to help South coast holiday resorts from oil pollution, while damage, of a greater social significance, affecting as it does viable communities in the Highlands area, is virtually left to repair itself.

## AIREAMH AN FHEADHAINN A THA GUN OBAIR A'DOL SIOS

Bha mu 509,000 dhaoine gun obair ann am Breatainn anns a' Mhart a reir Cunnata a thairig a mach o chionn ghoirid. Tha sin 34,000 nas lugha na an aireamh a bha gun obair anns a' Ghearran. Bha 87,000 gun obair ann an Alba — 2,500 nas lugha na an aireamh anns a' Ghearran.

## APPOINTMENTS

Mr P. B. MacIntyre, Finton, Conon Bridge, and Mr N. Robertson, Linkwood, Elgin, have both been appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland to be members of the Highland Agricultural Executive Committee.

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## —Stornoway Provost

Commenting on the possible closures of the rail lines to both Mallaig and Kyle of Lochalsh, Mrs Ann Urquhart, Provost of Stornoway, said that she was distressed to hear of the cloud of doubt now hanging over these lines.

"We on the western seaboard and the Islands put up a tremendous fight to retain the railway at Kyle. I don't think we should take this lying down.

"We are pushing just now for a fast ferry service to the mainland end to my mind the logical point on the mainland is Kyle with the railroad there."

Commenting in the same vein, a spokesman of the Executive Committee of the Western Isles Crofters Union said:

"No matter how much roads on the mainland are improved, they will not be an adequate alternative to the railways in a normal winter."

It was also said that the Union are to press the Minister of Transport and the Secretary of State for Scotland for an immediate assurance that these lines will be retained.

## RIS AN OL

A reir Mgr. Frederick Peart, Ministeir an Aiteachais, tha muinntir Bheatainn ag oil a' trèas chuid de an tea a thathas a' reic anns an t-saoghal — mu choig cupanman gu leth an urra anns an latha.

Thairt Mgr. Peart cuideachd gu bheil cumnart ann gun teid barrachd tea a bhuan in 's urrainn dha'n gheadhainn a tha 'ga ceannach a chair gu buil.

## CHANGE IN BULL LICENSING

From April 1, there will be a change in the procedure for re-licensing English bulls brought into Scotland. Announcing this, Mr William Ross, Scottish Secretary of State, said that these bulls will continue to need a Scottish License if they are to be retained in Scotland. But this will be re-issued free of charge on surrender of the English licence, and without re-inspection.

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## Oisean na Cloinne



## FEASGAR SONA 'N TAIC AN TEINE

A Nead Na h-Iolaire (pen name of co-authors)

Bha Tomas an cat 'na shuidhe air a' mhàr ri taobh an teine. B' e fhein an cat breagha, le chota sleabhain dubh, a spogan geala, agus earball fada biorach. Bha Cailean Cuilean 'na shuidhe air stol aig ceann eile a' mhàr agus smuid aige a' smocadh pioba. Bha leabhar beag dearg aig Tomas air a ghluinean agus chuireadh e car de na duilleagan an dràsda 's a rithis le barr earbail.

"Nach e tha math an tigh a bhith againn dhùinn fein," arsa Cailean. "Cha do rinn Tomas ach cumail air a' leughadh."

"Thuir mi riut gur e tha math an tigh a bhith againn dhùinn fein," arsa Cailean a rithis. Cha tuirt am fear eile guth."

"An ann bodhar a tha thu?" dh' eigh Cailean.

Thog Tomas a cheann air a shocair, chuir e a speuc-

lairean sios gu barr a shroine, agus sheall e air Cailean.

"An robh thu bruidhinn riom?" arsa ean.

"Bha mi bruidhinn riut," arsa Cailean, 's e 'g eighceach aird a chinn, "bha mi ag radh riut gu bheil e math . . ."

"Cha ruig thu leas a bhith ag eighceach mar sin rium, mata," arsa Tomas, "chan eil mise bodhar idir."

Thoisich Cailean an sin a' bruidhinn cho socair 's gur gann gu 'n cluinneachd am fear eile faclan de na bha e ag radh, "Nach math gu bheil sinn a stigh . . ."

Chuir Tomas casg a rithis air. "Cha ruig thu leas a bhith caga-saich mar sin," arsa ean, "chan eil duine stigh ach sinn feine."

Leig Cailean osna throm.

"Sin dìreach an rind a tha mi feuchainn ri innse dhut," arsa ean.

"Ach tha sibh cearr le

cheile," arsa an guth beag biorach caol a bha sud an ceann shuas an tìghe. Co bha so ach Lachlan Luch.

"Saoil am faod mi tighinn a nuas greiseag?" arsa ean, "tha mi dìreach gus mo lathadh. Tha a' chuil bheag anns a bheil mise a' fuireach cho fuar ris an t-sneachda an nochd."

"An tu fhein a th' ann, a Lachlain, a laochainn?" arsa Cailean, "thig thusa nuas, a bhalach, agus blathaich thu fhein aig an teine fhad's a bhitheas an cothrom agad."

Shuidh Lachlan air beulaibh an teine agus shin e a spogan beaga biorach a mach ris a' bhlaiths.

"Nach ann agaibh fhein a tha an saoghal dheth le cheile," arsa ean, "tha biadh is blathas agaibh 's gun moran sam bith ri dhanann. Tha thu fhein 'r cur seachd do shaoghail a' leughadh paipèaran agus leabhraichean a' bhodaich, a Thomas, agus t'husa, a Chailleain, a' smocadh an tobacaca aige."

"Is tric sin, ean a' smocadh tobacaca Mhgr. Mhic-an-Abas," arsa Tomas, "agus is tric mise ag radh ris gu bheil an t-ann aige sgar dheth."

"An ann eil e dad nas miosa na bhith leughadh nam paipèaran aige," arsa Cailean 's e cur ean air aodann 's a' toirt toir eile as a' phìob.

"Na bi 'g innse sin dhomha idir," arsa Tomas, "saoil nach fhàod mise na paipèaran a chuir air ais 'nan aite fhein aon uair 's gu leugh mi iad? Ach feuch thusa ris an tobacaca a chuir thu air an spìuchan aige an deidh dhut a smocadh! Chan urrainn nach toir e 'n aire dha latha de na laithean."

"Tud!' arsa Cailean.

"Agus a barrachd air sin," arsa Tomas, "tha an rum so lan de fhaileadh an tobacaca. Tha mise 'g innse dhutsa gu'n toir e an aire dha, 's b'ìdh rud thugad'sa an uair sin."

Anns na faclan chualas car a' stad air beulaibh an tìghe.

"Sud an car aige fhein," arsa Lachlan Luch, "leigibh a mach as a' so mi!"

Thug e chasan leis cho luath 's a bh'aige. Thoisich Tomas a' leum bho thaobh gu taobh de'n tigh 's 'g eighceach aird a chinn, "Co as a thug mi 'n leabhar so, co as a thug mi 'n leabhar so?"

Chaidh Cailean 'na chabhaig cuideachd, a' bualadh na pioba air oir na cagailt 's e seideadh na toite suas an simleair. An sin leig an dithis 'nan sineadh air a' mhàr a rithis 's iad a' cur an fire gu robh iad 'nan cadal. Bha iad dìreach ann an am, oir dh'fhogail an doras sa' mhionaid agus thainig Mgr. Mac-an-Abas fhein a stèach le ceum aorom sunnach.

Thug e suil air an dithis a bh'air a' mhàr.

"Tha sibhsè 'nur cadal mar is abhast," arsa ean leis fhein ann an dol-seachd, 's e gabhail a stèach do'n chidsin. Sheall Tomas air Cailean. Phrìob Cailean air. Rinn an dithis gaire beag.

# TREND

## Am Boutique

Ma tha sgòd aodaich a dhìth ort agus ma tha thu airson a bhì ann an fhasan, dean do rathad suas Sraid a' Chaitheil gu ruig thu a' ceud 's a h-aon. Sin agad am Boutique ùr a chaidh fhoghladh ann an Inbhirnis an uridh, agus ged tha an t-aite beag, is ead an tathach a tha air eadar oigridh an aite fhein agus luchd turais.

"Se Honey Boutique a tha so agus tha e a thaobh sin annasach oir chan eil ach beagan diubh so an Albainn: thatar a reic ann cuid mhath de'n aodach a th'air a sheall-trainn anns a' "Honey," paipèar airson oigridh aig am bheil ùidh ann am fasain ùra.

Tha taobh a stigh na butha air a dhanann suas gu ealanta le Cailean Deans, dealbhadair agus sculptair og a tha aig an aon am na fhear teagais ann an spoiltean anns a' bhàile. Glacar do shuil air ball le na cumaidhean a tha e deulbh a mach a cloid 's a iannan, oir tha iad, chan e mhàin annasach, ach mar an ceudna iongantach.

Chan eil uair a theid thu stèach nach eil ceol a' cluich, agus tha sin mar gum biodh a' deanamh an aite nas blaithe is na's cardeile na moran de na buthain mora. Tha lan chothrom agad aodach a' laimhsachadh no fheuchainn ort, is ma tha ceist air bith agad ri chuir bithidh an luchd frithealaich ro-thoilichte air do chuid-deachadh.

Nach beag an t-iongnadh ge bhiodh an t-aodach a thatar a' reic an so fasanta, agus e tighinn dìreach a Lunnainn. Gheibh thu sgiorraichean beaga bideach ann sia oirleach os cionn na glùine, 's geibh thu sgiorraichean mara fada ann sìos gu d' shìnean mar e bh' air mo sheamharr nuair bha i 'na boireannach og; geibh thu cotacachan beime de gach clath, cotacachan leathrach, is cotacachan oisgein breac le dithèanan is le patairìn de gach seorsa.

Chan eil gainne dheiseachan ann a mhàin, a' chuid as motha le seachdaidean fada is briogaisean le osain leathain mar a chithear air cuid de sheòladairean. Tha an t-eileach beag air a bhith anabarrach fasanta bho chionn ghoidh, ach chan eil a dhith air caileagan a' bhàile so an drasd' ach dreasachan paipèar, co dhìubh tha iad na 's saoire, no nach eil ann ach b'og eile tha air am buaidh!

Co bhithidh tha do shuil an deidh cloimh no cotan, cloth no canabhas, creid thusa mise gum faigh thu ri d'

laimh e anns a' Bhoutique. Ma dh'fhaoiteidh nach tig cuid de na prìsean ri d' chail: ach nach fhearr a bhì dhith a chinn na bhith dhith an fhasain?

## An Club

Ach gu de is fheaird thu bhith air do thughadh leis an aodach is uasaila tha 's a' Bhoutique mura tig thu dh' aite far am faicheadh thu? Is ma tha dannsa gu h-àraid fànearn dhuit, gabh sios pìos an rathad, suas na staidhreanach an casa an uair sin, agus ruigidh tu an t-aite ris an abrar an "club" aig Dotair Hay.

Chan e mhàin gum bi dannsaichean cunbhalach ag an aon air feadh na seachduinn agus a h-ùile dara Di-Sathairn, ach tha cleasan eile dol air adhart ann mar an ceudna. A bharrachd air an sin, geibh thu biadh agus deoch nach ead nach eil na 's treise na "coke" a' dol, agus faodaidh tu suil a thoirt air an telebhisean aig an aon am. Tha cead agad a bhith ann 'bhall de'n chomunn fhad's nach eil thu corr is fichead bliadhna a dh' aois: aon uair is gun cuir thu sìos do 'choig tasdain, geibh thu 'na dheidh sin a stèach a h-ùile oidhche air sia sgìllin, ach feumaidh tu iri sia sgìllin a phaigheadh air oidhche Shathairn.

Mar is trice, bi buidheann no dha de ghillean oga a Inbhirnis fhein ag cluich, is docha "Na tri luchainn dhalla" 'ar no am "Flock." "Se na drumacich an a gaitar as fhearr leis a chuid as motha agus ged tha cuid aca nach d' fhaic eisdeachd riutha, tha feadhainn ann a ni ceol cuimseach math.

Ach tha thu fad air do mbealladh ma tha dhìdag suidhe sìos agus fuireach gun an iarr fear air choirveigin a dhannas thu. Feumaidh tu gluasad a mach a mheadhan an urlair comhla ris a' chlànn nìgean eile agus thu fhein a chrathadh bho thaobh gu taobh ann a sin: aig an aon am, seasaidh na fir chòire mun cuairt nam ballachan, cuid ag cagnadh 's cuid eile a' smocdhadh, dìreach mar gum biodh iad aig feil ag coimhead chroch is chaorch. Gu math tric chì thu iad a' fas dana nuair bhios an dannsa gu bhith seachad ach tha cuid mhòr aca nach toir ceum air urlar fad na h-oidhche. Ach 'se deagh aite th' ann na dheidh sin airson an uine chuir seachad: geibh thu biadh 's danns 's ceol is do leòir fo-thail ma tha e dhìth ort, is mar a sàssach sin thu, is mor m' eagal gum bheil thu cionntach de pheacadh na sannt!

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# Bas Fir As An Rudha

Chaochail Mgr Iain MacDhomhnuill as an Rudha ann an Leodhus an deaghaidh dha tuiteam a mach as a' bhata-faire i a s g a c h "Minna" air an t-slighe a Steornabhagh gu Grianaig. Thainig faileingeadh cridhe air Mgr MacDhomhnuill agus chaidh e mach air a beul.

Thachair an tubaist an uair a bha am bata mu choig mìle deug a deas air Steornabhagh.

Chaidh bata theasraiginn Steornabhagh a ghairm a mach an deaghaidh do Mgr MhacDhomhnuill, a bha 'na bhosun air a' bhata faire, a thoir as an uisge.

Ghreas an bata teasraiginn, le dotair air bord, gu an aite far an do thachair an tubaist ach chaochail Mgr. MacDhomhnuill m u s d o rainig a "Minna" Steornabhagh.

## RED DEER TO BE COUNTED—AND KILLED

The House of Lords has given an unopposed third reading to the Duke of Atholl's Deer (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, and passed it.

The Bill permits the Red Deer Commission to take a red deer census, and authorises the killing of deer in certain circumstances by officials of the Commission.

# Frank Speaking

WHATEVER NAME is given to this our present age — atomic, space, electronic, computer — it is definitely a bi-lingual age. English may well be the universal language of communication, but nationals are still required to be fully conversant with their own language, using English only when it is necessary to communicate with another national on a common level. In Scotland the desire to be bi-lingual is seen in the considerable numbers of those who wish to learn Gaelic. Adding point to this, in spite of a declared lack of interest in Gaelic in Caithness made by the County Council, no less than 200 pupils from three primary schools in Thurso applied for tuition in Gaelic as a result of a circular sent out by the Thurso branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach.

This is significant, for the desire mirrors what is being repeated in many parts of Scotland: the feeling that to be a Scot is to be associated in some way, however small, with the Gaelic or Celtic-based culture which is part of Scotland's roots. It is a renaissance which augurs well for Scotland; and once it becomes established, as it will, the Scot, man, woman and child, will cease to be that pale shadow which enforced anglicisation has created and become a full national with equal status with the other nationals of the world.

WHAT CAN the Common Market offer Scotland? Always assuming, of course, that our Premier, MacUilleam, four-tenths of that ilk, gets us in. On the language front there is nothing to fear. Gaelic will, I predict, be encouraged as a recognised part of bi-lingual Scotland. This viewpoint is taken from the fact that the European Economic Community has decided to award fellowships for writers in the Irish language. And it is to hold a competition for a written study in Irish on the activities of the E.E.C. This is enlightenment *par excellence*, and underlines the attitude of the E.E.C., that no national need feel that his identity will be submerged in a sea of common language and culture.

On the contrary, the greater prosperity created by the E.E.C. has enabled the countries of Europe to foster their native cultural activities and to develop more fully those aspects of national life which emphasise the individuality of each of the members. The Irish are happy. Their entry into the Common Market makes another factor to be added to those making for the maintenance of Erse.

HAVE THE tourist pundits ever thought that Scotland is quite different from England? I ask this because in tourist advertising, nothing is made of these differences which are scenic, historical and linguistic. Why tell the Americans to visit Britain, which has the same language? Why not stress the fact that Scotland can speak their language and that, if they venture to the Highland area, they will find something which South Britain has not got — the Gaelic language. Surely cultural differences, too, deserve plugging?

Tourists visit a country because it has something different to offer. Scotland, with its bi-lingual aspect, can offer just this. So, let's make less of Britain and more of the United Kingdoms of the British Isles.

Fath-sgrìobhadh:

CHA'N EIL FEALLADH ANN CHO MOR RIS AN GEALLADH GUN CHOIMHLIONADH.

There is no deceit so great as a promise unfulfilled.

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Le Aonghus Mor

(Marbhrann dha 'n Dotair Padraig MacLabhrainn nach maireann)

Thainig naidheachd bha tursach dha 'n tir, Dh'fhag m' inntinn fo mhulad 's fo bhron, Gu bheil taigh a bha mireanach riannh A miste gun sunnd is gun cheol.

A Phadraig, mo charaid nach maireann, B' mo thaing-sa dhuit domhain gu brath. Bu tu 'hein is do chete rinn dachaidh Dhomhs' an am dhomh' bhith 'm chaitein air ba'. Ach rud bhith's toirt comhshriachd dhuinne, Aig ' robh muirn ri ar caraid a bh' ann, Nach eil t' eile seach ise a mhaireas Aig ' bheil sùrad de fhor chardean teann.

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# Tuilleadh Thighead SUIL AIR CARAICHEAN — An Cortina

Tha barrachd thighean a' dol 'gan togail ann an Dùn Bheagan ann an 1968-69 agus tha Comhairle Siarannach Inbhir Nis a' dol a thogail coitir thighean ur ann an Stafaim grotseag an deaghaidh seo. Chaidh an naidheachd thighean seo innse leis a' bhall chomhairle I Caimbeul a Carboid aig coimeimh Comhairle Mor Roinn an Eilean Sgitheach ann an tigh na curte an Pòrigh a chionn ghoirid. Bhruidh Mgr. Caimbeul cuideachd air cho feumail 's a bha e gun deamadh cabla le toiseachaidh air na thighean a bha iad a' dol a thogail ann an Carboid. Tha a' Chomhairle an dochas gum bi iad sin deiseil trath ann an 1968.

Dh' iarr Mgr. Alasdair Sutharlan tuilleadh thighean airson an Ath Leathan. Bha cion thighean, thoir e a' cur beathaich air feadhainn a bha aig iarraidh luchd tuarasdail fhasad, oir chan fhaighadh iad doimean mar a bhitheadh thighean ann air an son.

Chaidh innse cuideachd gur robh Caol Acainn a' dol a dh' fhaighinn coitir thighean ura an taobh a' stiùir de cheithir bliadhna. Thoir an fear comhairle Sutharlan gum bu chòir a' bhall ann thighean a bha iad

a' dol a thogail anns an Ath Leathan a chuir gu 12. Dh' innis Mgr. J. Philip Cheirach na Mor-Roinn gun deachaidh thighean a thoir do cheithir teaghlaichean bho 'n choimeamh nu dheireadh aig a' Chomhairle. B' e Mgr. Iain Urrchadan a tha na bhall de Chomhairle Siarannach Inbhir Nis a bha 'na fhear càidreach aig a' choimeimh.

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Un air a tha an t-site chuil tur a pasgadh sios tha 6 troighean 4 oirleach de dh' fhaide agus 4 troighean 5 oirleach de leud ann an cul a' chàir.

Cheibh thu a stigh gu cul a' chàir le doras a tha a' fosgladh suas. Cha leig thu leas moran neirt a chur a mach airson an doras seo a thogail agus an uair a tha e air a thogail cumaidh e fassgadh ort an uair a bhitheas droch thide ann. Tha na càraichean 1 oirleach na 's fhaide agus 2 oirleach gu leth na 's leatha na na càraichean dhe 'n aon seorsa a thainig a mach roimhe; tha a' chuibhle a tha bharrachd, air a cumail fo 'n urrainn anns a' chàir.

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Tha siteachan gu math comhartaill anns an da chàr. Anns an aghaidh tha site an urra aig an fhear-stiùirdh



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agus aig an fhear a tha ri a' thaobh; anns an Super theid cul nan siteachan aghaidh air ais ma tha am fear stiùirdh aig iarraidh norraig chadail a dheanamh. Tuigidh sibh gum feum e an càr a stad an toiseach!

Tha a h-uile rud a tha anns na Cortina saloons eile airson stiùirdheachd a dheanamh sabhaichte ann an fheadhainn seo cuideachd. Tha na h-innealan-grudaidh air an cur far am bi e soirbh dha 'n fhear-stiùirdh am faicinn. An uair a bhitheas a lamh air a' chuibhle 's urrainn dha a chorrach a chur air bior a chuireas na soluis aig aghaidh a' chàir sios is suas agus a bharrachd air sin a chuireas air na soluis a tha a' sealltainn gum bheil e dol a thionndadh, agus a dh' fhuaimnicheas an tùtan.

Cuide ri seo tha rudan ann airson na h-uineig aghaidh

a nìghe, glasan air na dorsan aghaidh nach leig leis na dorsan fosgladh gun fhiosda, agus glasan air na dorsan cuil nach urrainn clann fhosgladh.

Seo gaibh na prisean: Cortina de Luxe £816 3t 4sg —tha seo ag gabhail a stigh na cis agus cha leig sibh a leas cail a phaigneachd airson a' chàir a chur da ur n-ionnsaigh; Cortina Estate: £889 18t 4sg, ag gabhail a stigh na cis agus a' phaigneachd airson a' chur da ur n-ionnsaigh.

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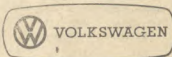
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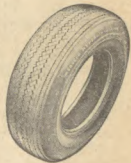
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