



SCOTLAND'S BI-LINGUAL NEWSPAPER

Newspaper of current Events in the Highlands,
the Islands and in Scotland

DI-ARDAOIN, 8 LATHA DE'N LUNASDAL 1968
THURSDAY, 8th AUGUST 1968

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HYDRO BOARD'S 25th ANNIVERSARY

On 5th August 1943, the Act of Parliament bringing the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board into existence was passed. Last Monday, August 5th, the present chairman, Mr Tom Fraser, accompanied by Mrs Fraser, welcomed about 130 people to the Board's 25th Anniversary celebrations at Port-na-Craig House, Pitlochry — the Board's "nerve centre."

Among the guests was Mrs Johnston, widow of Mr Tom Johnston, the Secretary of State for Scotland during the war years, who had nursed the scheme and guided it through Parliament.

Sir Charles Cunningham, deputy chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority who had been closely associated with the work of the Hydro Board during his years at St Andrew's House, wished them continued success and prosperity.

A Nuclear Power Station

Pointing out that the Board used not only water power, but also dealt in thermal, diesel, pumped storage, and nuclear power from Dounreay, Sir Charles suggested that they might build their own nuclear power station.

Taking up the theme Mr Tom Fraser said that the steam-generated heavy water reactor of the type running at Winfrith might well solve the Board's problem. "We

are planning to meet the needs of the late 1970's and by then we shall require a new station, probably between Inverness and Aberdeen and the coast."

Last month Mr Fraser had indicated that a power station of approximately 600 megawatts capacity would be required within the next 10 years. The establishment of such a nuclear station for base load located to minimise transmission costs could mean cheaper electricity within the Board's area covering 21,630 sq. miles to the north and west of a line from the Clyde to the Tay.

In its 25 years existence the Board has made a tremendous contribution to the economy of the North of Scotland. Capital investment amounts to a staggering £173 million and stations have been completed at the rate of 4 a year since work started on the site at Loch Slov. Wages to construction workers alone averaging 5,000 over the period have amounted to £50 million.

Gross revenue for the last year was £28 million and sales of domestic appliances passed the £2 million mark for the first time.

The Future

The exploitation of this very considerable investment is now a primary aim of the Board's. The emphasis is now

(Continued on next column)

on load-building and industrial development will fill the gap.

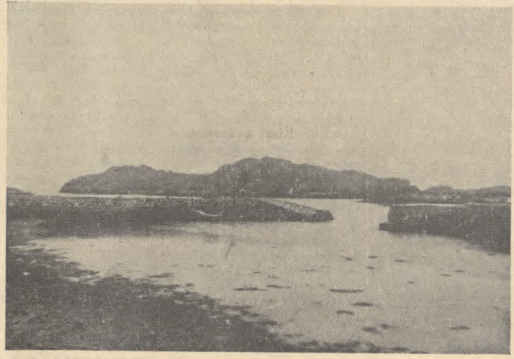
British Aluminium's smelter at Invergordon will provide the Board with a challenge but, said Mr Fraser, it is with the development of enterprises of small or moderate size that the lasting prosperity of the North of Scotland lies. Encouraging industries into the North of Scotland has always been considered by the Board a matter of vital importance and they are continuing with their efforts in this field.

Over the last quarter century the Hydro Board have brought electricity to 96 per cent. of its potential custom — a total number of 444,000 consumers.

The work started by Tom Johnston has been continued in a manner of which he would have been proud. Development of the Board's activities to encourage the maximum use of their service, as envisaged by the present chairman will perhaps meet with occasional antagonism as did their earlier pioneering but no doubt they will succeed as before using the "Strength of the Glens."

MAIGHSTIR-SGOILE A' FAGAIL UIBHIST

Tha Mgr. Alasdair I. Blance, a tha os cionn Sgoil Phabail ann an Uibhist-a-tuath gu bhith air a shuidheachadh mar ar-mhaighstir ann am Bun-lìdh ann an cataibh. Bha Mgr. Blance trì bliadhna a' teagaisg ann am Brùra mus tàinig e a dh' Uibhist.



The pier at Rodel. The harbour here is deep and sheltered and forms perhaps one of the most pleasant places in Harris. It has a great tourist potential. The unfortunate aspect of Rodel is the derelict R.A.F. camp. If landscaped, this area could be developed as an unobtrusive site for caravans and chalets. St Clements Church is a well-known feature of Hebridean architecture which is well-restored and maintained.

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BIRTHS

MACLEAN—On the 29th July 1968, to Pamela and Randal MacLean, 12, Chalmers' Crescent, Edinburgh, 9 — a son.

MACAULAY — At Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, on 26th July 1968, to Dr and Mrs M. Macaulay, Seabank, Invergordon — a son, John Murdoch. Both well.

MARRIAGES

KENSIT—AITCHISON—In Calgary, Alberta, on 18th July 1968, Wm. George, son of Mr and Mrs Cyril Kensit, London, Ontario, to Jean Harrie, daughter of W. F. B. Aitchison, Caladh, Lower Ardentalen, Oban, Argyll.

MACLEOD—HEWITT—At Loudoun Old Parish Church, Newmilns, on 20th July 1968, by the father of the bride, Colneish, second son of Dr and Mrs A. J. Macleod, Lochmaddy, and Lisbeth, youngest daughter of the Rev. and Mrs Edward T. Hewitt, Manse of Loudoun, Newmilns, Ayrshire.

DEATHS

MACLAREN — At Calduthel Hospital, Inverness, on the 28th July 1968, Catherine MacLaren (retired Matron), eldest daughter of the late Mr and Mrs MacLaren, 16 Bellfield Park, Inverness. Interred Tomnahurich Cemetery.

ANDERSON — At 'Sibmister', 89 Barn Hill, Wemyss Park, Middlesex (the home of her daughter, Mrs John Green), on 30th July 1968, Mary A. Mackay, aged 80 years, beloved wife of the late John Anderson, 3 Castle Street, Thurso, and formerly of Broomthor.

PROVERBS

Bialaid saothair ainiach.
Industry pays debt.

Text for
the Times

Ni cridhe an duine ghàid a bheul
tuigseach agus air a bhlith cuiridh
e foghlum.

Gnath-fhocail 16 r. 23.

The heart of the wise teacheth
his mouth and addeth learning to
his lips.

Proverbs ch. 16 v. 23.

Sruth

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bi-lingual newspaper
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by
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REVIEW ORDER

HOW TO KILL OFF A TOWN

In 'The Death of an Irish Town,' author Jack Healy tells the story of the rise and fall of Charlestown. It was a typical Irish rural town. It was born in anger during the great famine. And it died during our day, during the most affluent time in the long and ancient history of Ireland.

The book shows how layers of indifference, apathy and cynicism were laid down by Church, State and the people themselves. The author demonstrates the interplay and external forces which today has left the vest of Éire a wasteland. The book is a social document of rare significance.

Having read thus far, the reader might well say: 'So what? How does the book fit in with the Highland scheme of things?'

The answer is in the reading of the book. There are a number of Charlestown in Scotland — and the Highlands. Towns which were founded as part of an anger (military suppression of the population), on a hope (introduction of an industry which has gone since) or were merely a function of inevitable growth as rurals left their countryside to form an urban scrub with no economic hub apart from, say, a country market facility once a week.

Jack Healy's book should be compulsory reading for those who hold the power of YEA and NAY over us. For it serves as a salutary warning to what could well happen (indeed, is happening) in many parts of the Highlands and Islands today.

A reader might say that the death of Charlestown was the result of the inevitable East-West tug-of-war: between Anglicised Dublin and the Gaelic west. Well, so it was — but only in part. The important point to remember in this book is that we have exactly the same tug-of-war in Scotland and in the Highlands.

In Scotland generally there is the confrontation between rural and urban areas. Modern planners in St Andrew's House fail to appreciate that Scotland has ever been a rural country, with the moral strength lying in the rural parts. In a sense the Scots today are still

rural-minded, though they might now live, by force of economic circumstances, in the industrial messes in the North/Clyde Valley. And now, God help us, the planners are going to develop another industrial eyecore known as the Tay Plan.

In the Highlands, the confrontation is between east and west. One sees this in the favours being bestowed, in the form of financial largesse, on the east side of the Highlands area. This is done seemingly without appreciation that it is the west of the Highlands which requires the massive aid.

The instrument which is, perhaps unbeknown to itself, fostering the east-west difference is the Highland Board. Though it claims to be off-setting east advantages with west ones, the truth is easily

seen even with a cursory glance at to what is happening. For how can a button-sized spectacle-frame factory on Barra ever hope to compete with a £37m aluminium smelter? Who does the Board think it is kidding? Perhaps itself?

An east-west confrontation in miniature is seen also in Lewis and between Harris/Skye.

In Lewis the push-pull is between urban Stornoway and rural Lewis, with the latter coming off the worse, for development on the island is concentrated in Stornoway. Even the large tweed factory in Shawbost, on the west of Lewis, is only an alleviating, not obviating factor. Surely Lewis is worthy of another £50,000 being spent by the H.L.D.B. on the Jack Holmes Planning Group to see what are the development potentials there and how they can be realised. It would be a better planning challenge than the all-too-easy 11-plus stage Moray Fifth exercise.

The Harris/Skye tug-of-war is just as serious as anywhere in the Highlands (e.g. both sides of Sutherland where a conflict exists). The stupid and crassly ignorant method of having Harris and Skye as part of Invernessshire is seen today in the rundown of Harris in favour of Skye. The latter island, being nearer the mainland and therefore more accessible, gains the favour of attention more than does Harris. Harris children, to serve the God of centralisation, must go across the Minch to Skye to complete their higher education. Harris thus loses in the long term.

One could write many thousands of words on this aspect of false differences being used by politicians, administrators and others of the same species to create circumstances to fit economic and political slots. The fact that the glass slipper will only fit one kind of foot does not seem to concern them: planning for an area must suit that area and it does not follow that the same plan will fit another area.

Though Jack Healy's book is concerned with a town, the warning message it contains applies to rural areas also.

Any reader who fails to buy, beg, or borrow this book (it's only 8/6) and who professes concern for Scotland and the Highlands and Islands is a charlatan. And once having read the book, is still unwilling to voice protest at what is happening to our country today, he is equally an imposter.

With planners to the front, left and right of us: 'Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?'

The Death of an Irish Town, by John Healy, 8/6. Mercier Press, 4 Bridge Street, Cork, Ireland.

GAELIC AND
THE
FESTIVAL

The Saltire Society is to be congratulated in the forthright recognition that Gaelic is part and parcel of Scotland's cultural heritage.

During the three weeks of the Edinburgh Festival Gaelic is playing a prominent part in the presentations sponsored by the Society. Well-known Gaelic singers and story-tellers are taking on a role as ambassadors for Gaelic. If the successes of previous years is anything to go by, the 1968 productions in Gladstone's Land, Edinburgh, will certainly give Gaelic a boost—and a place in the hearts and minds of visitors.

Gaelic evenings are being held on Monday to Friday of each week of the Festival, beginning Monday, August 19 at 8.30 p.m. The artists taking part include Alasdair Gillies, Flora MacNeill, Norman MacLean, Donald MacRae, George Clayvey, The MacDonald Sisters and the Edin Singers.

On Thursday 29th August and Wednesday, 4th September, John MacInnes of the School of Scottish Studies, will be introducing the 'Song Poetry of the Gael.'

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Famhair Chamusladail

le IAIN MACAONGHUIS

Cha robh fhios co as a thainig iad agus cna dubhairt a 'h-on aca "le'r cead" no 'gabhaibh ar lethsgul.' Thainig e fein agus a bhan-chompanach, málaiden agus eallaich eile air an druim. Le ceum socair cinnteach, lean iad an frith-rathad gu beul na lì-uamha. Aig bonn na beinne agus ri oir a' chladaich. Bha i farsuinn seagar agus an làr comhnard, agus ann meadhoin an lair bha trì no ceithir de leacan cloiche air a rèiteachadh air son aite teine. "Dh'fhaodadh e a bhi na bu mhiosa," arsa a' bhean. Chaith iad an cuid trulleil air an làr, poit mhòr iarunn, mias fhiodha, cuman air son uisge, comhdach-oidheach agus pocan de mhin choirce. Thog a bhean oirre a chruinneachadh connaidh, fraoch seargta, bioreann, malden as a' chladaich, agus ann an tìonan bha teine a' dol gu gasda. "Feumaidh mi falbh agus rud fhaighinn a dh'itheas sinn," arsa a' bhean, agus i thein a' togail rùp agus a deanamh air a mhonadh a bhuain fraoich air son na leabaidhean. Cha robh an ceatharnach air falbh ach mu leth-uair a thide. Thill e agus do bhlaidhnach riabhach air a ghualainn. Thilg e am beathrac air an làr ag radh, "Dh'fhaodadh e bhi na bu reamhre ach nì e an gnothach an diugh." Cha robh e fada ris an fhean-

nadh, agus an uine ghearr, thilg e sgonn mor feola, mu sheachd puinnid, do'n bhean. "Bruich sud agus bi sgìobalta," arsa' e. Chuir e spic iarunn ann a sgoltadh an aodann na creige agus chroch e closach a bheathaich air. Thug a bhean cuman uisge as an allt bheag a bha a' ruith sios do'n tràigh. Dh'oirt i anns a phoit an t-uisge comhla ri smaglach no dha de mhin choirce agus an sgonn mor feola. Shuidh i air leac ri taobh an teine. Thug i pioch chreadha as a pòcain, ghearr agus phronn i carrann chuimis-each de thombaca dubh, agus las i suas, a' feitheamh gu foighnidheach agus am bitheadh an dinear deiseil. Cha robh a' h-on aca aigheasach mu bhiaidh agus air do'n bhodhad aig gach reighlach. Air an talamh-aithich bha iad a' togail coirce is eòrna is seagal, a' leantainn cleachdadh an sinnsirean. Ach aig an dearbhadh ann, mu dha cheud bliadhna air ais, thoisich daoine crionna tuigs-each air cur luibhe ur nodha ris an abradh iad buntata. Bha cuid amharusach, a' diùltadh an luibhe nodha a laimhseachadh. "Cha chuireadh m'athair-a' leithid a luibhe coimheach anns an talamh. Bha barrachd meas aige air feith na gun deandh e a leithid sin." Ach bhuaidhach blas milis a' bhuntata air claon-bharailean sean-fhasanta agus aig a' cheart am seo, cha robh croit ann an Camusladail nach robh a' cur aca beag buntata. Bha an talamh freagarrach, ch' tainig gaisleadh no trioblaid eile na rathad, agus ann am bliadhna no dha, bu thrìc a' chluicheadh tu a cheist: "Ciamar idir a rinn sinn an gnothach m' nì tainig am buntata?"

sàsaichte. "Nì sud an gnothach gun am faigh sinn greim a dh-itheas sinn," arsa' e. Laig an dithis an sin air an leabaidh fhràoch a dh-ullaich a' bhean. Gu goirid chluicheadh sibh an srann aca cairteal a mhile air falbh.

A nisde bhuineadh monadh an aite seo do mhuinntir a bhaile bhig mu dha mhìle air falbh. Aig an am seo, o'e Camusladail a b'ainm do'n bhaile, ach chaidh an t-ainm bhoideach sin buileach as cuimhe. Eadhon ann an seann leabhraichean chan fhaigh sibh lorg air, ach 'ha an t-aite fhein air siar oirthir Earraighdhal agus chan 'eil e lethcheud mìle o' n Oban. Bha mu dheich teaghlachan a' fuireach ann, agus carann de thalamh àitich aig gach reighlach. Air an talamh-aithich bha iad a' togail coirce is eòrna is seagal, a' leantainn cleachdadh an sinnsirean. Ach aig an dearbhadh ann, mu dha cheud bliadhna air ais, thoisich daoine crionna tuigs-each air cur luibhe ur nodha ris an abradh iad buntata. Bha cuid amharusach, a' diùltadh an luibhe nodha a laimhseachadh. "Cha chuireadh m'athair-a' leithid a luibhe coimheach anns an talamh. Bha barrachd meas aige air feith na gun deandh e a leithid sin." Ach bhuaidhach blas milis a' bhuntata air claon-bharailean sean-fhasanta agus aig a' cheart am seo, cha robh croit ann an Camusladail nach robh a' cur aca beag buntata. Bha an talamh freagarrach, ch' tainig gaisleadh no trioblaid eile na rathad, agus ann am bliadhna no dha, bu thrìc a' chluicheadh tu a cheist: "Ciamar idir a rinn sinn an gnothach m' nì tainig am buntata?"

B'e cleachdadh a' bhaile an crodh-iaigh agus na larigh bheaga a chumail faisg air an tigh, agus aig am an eadradh bha iad 'gan toirt dhachaigh air son am bleoghainn. Ach an crodh seag agus na gamhna, bha iadsan ag ionaltradh air an ard mhonadh a latha 's dh-oidheach. Bha ainm math air stoc a' bhaile, agus bha na drobhairan a' tairginn deagh phris air na beath-aichean. B'ann le pris nam beathaichean a bha iad a' paigheadh a' mhàil. Cha robh guth no iomradh air creach no goid. Bha an t-aite iomallach agus bha na nàbaidh-ean onarach.

Sin a bhi mar sin, chuir e iongantais agus iomagain air muinntir a bhaile nuair a thoisich fear agus fear air gearrain gun deachaidh gamhainn no bo sheasg air iomall. Shuibhlaidh iad am monadh, ach cha robh lorg orra beo no marbh. Seachduin an deidh seachduin, mheudaich an call agus a nuair a thainig na drobhairan, cha robh a leth uiread aca 'sa b'abhaist. Bha cuisean a' bhaile a' dol a dholaigh. B'e dithis bhalach a bha a' rannsachadh a' chlaidhaich air son feusgaidh agus bairnich

a chuir a' cheud shùil air a' choigreach a rinn a dhachaigh anns an uaimhe. Bha am fear mòr sin a' deanamh air beul na uaimhe agus mart dubh aig air a ghualainn agus slachdan trom daraich aige anns an laimh chli. Dh'aithnich iad am mart, oir bha blàr bàn aice air a h-aodann. "Sud' gamnachd Dhomhnuill Ruaidh" arsa Coineach agus an dithis aca a' lùghadh air cul sgonn creige. "Tha thu ceart," arsa Murdoch. "Tha e cho math dhuiinn deanamh air a' bhaile." Cha d'rinn iad dàil air an t-slighe, agus bha an anail 'nan uchd mu d'fhuir iad dhachaigh. Dh'innis iad na chumnaic iad, agus cheasnach na caileachan agus dh'athcheasnach na bod-aich. "Chan fhasa sinne dhuibhe riàm uiread ris. Bha e seachd troideach a dh-airde ma bha oirleach ann. Falt ruadh air a' tuitean 'na chhiabhagan sios air a ghualainn. Is iomadh bliadhna o'n dh-fhairich am falt ud siosar no deamhais. Bha feusag air sios gu iochdar a bhoirleil, agus bha coltas air a aodann agus air a chrogan nach deachaidh uisge no siaban faisg orra o'n latha a nigh a mhathair e. Thainig a' bhean gu beul na h-uaimhe nuair a chual a' ceum a' fr. Agus dlùch ri a sàil chumnaic sinn c'f mor seang riabhach, coltach ri cu-seilg." Chuir an droch naidheachd sin uamhas air muinntir a bhaile. Bha na fir calma curanta gu leor, ach cumh-nichibh gun do thachair seo mu fhichead bliadhna an deidh latha truagha Chuil-lodair. Thrus na saighdearan Sasunach agus na moair shìobhalta gach claidheamh is biodag is daga a bha anns an aite. Bha aon chlaidheamh meirgeach aig Ruairidh Bàn a fhuair a mhac anns a pholl-mhòna. Bha bearn mor anns an fhaobhar, agus cha robh na bha ir fhàgail de'n fhaobhar ach maol.

Gaelic Broadcasts

Thursday, 8th August	12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m.	Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
3.00 p.m.	Iain Beag Domhnaillach (The Lochaber storyteller): An account by John MacInnes of the man and some of his folk-tales (recorded).
3.15 p.m.	Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by Rev. Norman MacDonald, Aberdeen (recorded).
7.00 p.m. VHF	"In the Highlands": An all sorts magazine - comment, interview, music and song from Gaeldom (recorded).
Friday, 9th August	12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m.	Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
6.35 p.m.	Ceilidh from Paible, North Uist, with Donald MacRae as your host, and with him Alasdair MacDonald, Cionna Campbell, Hugh Matheson, Effie MacDougall, John Morrison and Iain MacDonald (recorded).
Monday, 12th August	12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m.	Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
Tuesday, 13th August	12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m.	Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
Wednesday, 14th August	12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
6.35 p.m.	Pipes and Drums: 1968 World Championship Runners-up and winners of top award for drumming - Edinburgh City Police Pipe Band - Pipe-Major Iain MacLeod (recorded).
Thursday, 15th August	12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
12.05 p.m.	Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
3.00 p.m.	Uppsala - 1968: The World Council of Churches met in Sweden last month. Today the Rev. Roderick Smith, one of the delegates, describes his visit to Uppsala (recorded).
3.15 p.m.	Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by Rev. Norman MacDonald, Aberdeen (recorded).
7.00 p.m. VHF	"In the Highlands": An all sorts magazine - comment, interview, music and song from Gaeldom (recorded).



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Thursday, 8th August 1968

Aonachd Gun Aonadh

Ann an iomadh cearn de'n dùthaich tha e soilleir nach 'eil an Eaglais cho laidir an diugh agus a bha i ri linn ar n-aithrichean. Air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus gu sonraichte 's na h-Eileanan, tha an sluagh fhathast fritheil-teach air na seirbhisen, agus falaith ann a bhith a' cumail teais ris an adhbhar. Ach bidh aise an luchd-turais air a ghlaicadh le suidheachadh eile co-cheangailte ris an Eaglais nach 'eil idir cho ionmholta — na roinnean a tha 's garadh nan Crìosdaidhean o cheile. Ann am baile beag mar a tha Port-rìgh tha aiteachan-adhradh aig coig meuran de'n Eaglais.

Ann an doigh no dha 'se call mor a th' ann nach 'eil na Gaidheil 's na h-Eaglaisean "ri guailibh a cheile." Tha na roinnean, mar gum b'eadh, aig aitheachd na reite a tha an Eaglais a' searmonachadh, agus gu minig tha iad a' dusgadh spiorad granda a' chaimidh. Nuair a tha ministearan Gaidheil cho gann 'se rud duilich a th'ann a bhith a' faicinn math dh'fhaoidte riutha teachdairean a' saothrachadh far an deanadh ann duine a chuis. Tha obair ann a dh' fhaodadh na buidhnean a ghabhail os lamh ann an co-bhionn — can, aig a' chruinneachadh airson gorta an t-saoghail a leasachadh.

Ach chan 'eil sinn cinnteach gu bheil an t-aonadh a th' aig moran 's an amharc 'ar latha feumail. Bhiodh e 'na bhuanachd do na meuran a bhith 'gam meas fean agus Eaglaisean eile mar reiseamaidean 's an arm. Tha a h-eachdraidh fhein 's a cleachdaidhean fhein aig a' h-uile reiseamaid. Ach is ann fo'n aon bhraicteach a tha iad a' marsail, tha iad air an uidheamachadh leis an aon armachd spioradail. Agus is ann do'n aon Cheannard a tha iad dìleas. Chan 'eil teagamh nach deanadh e feum nam biodh spiorad caileidil an t-salmadair ri fhaicinn na bu trice ann am beatha na h-Eaglais air a Ghaidhealtachd.

O feuch cia meud am maith a nis, cia meud an t-clachd farao, braithearan a bhith 'n an comhnuidh ghnath an sìth 's an ceangal caoin.

The Fun Is Just Beginning

Many hats were no doubt flung high in the air at the recent announcement by the Government that Invergordon was to be graced with an aluminium smelter after a long time awaiting. Perhaps congratulations are in order for the east of the Highlands area being favoured in such a way. One feels, however, on careful consideration of this project (and others which the H.I.D.B. promises will follow hot-foot) that praise for this smelter must be tinged with some condemnatory words.

First, one-industry towns are as bad as one-horse towns. Look at Fort William, Kinlochleven ("industrial slum" as a sociologist has called it), Dounreay, Stornoway — These places are chock full of symptoms of the kind which make one fear for their future.

Again, in the cold light of day, the industrialisation of Invergordon is in fact a single employer of a primary industry. There are no ancillary industrial activities of the kind which really spell development and prosperity. No alumina plant. No large-scale development of Invergordon as a major European and North American port. No secondary industries allied to the smelter's primary production.

The smelter, with all due respect to the Highland Board, looks too much like a vineyard sop, or a non-descript bone thrown to these damned Highlanders to keep them quiet — to take a few hundred of them off the dole queue and make them less of a social charge on the nation.

It seems to us that many questions must now be asked and replies forced out of the short-term thinkers of the H.I.D.B. Why is there such a concentration of development on the Eastern Highlands and no similar counteracting facility on the West? Why is the H.I.D.B. now going all out for development in the Thurso/Wick area, which already has an employment facility? Where are the skills coming from to cater for the requirements of industrialists: Highlanders or people from the South? Have the long-term requirements of the Counterdrift applicants been considered in a family-unit context?

Perhaps we are wrong. But the experience of those concerned with the development of communities of the right kind in other countries shows that the Highlands are in for a tough time in a decade or so, which is when the problems really start. Then, of course, we shall see the setting up of a Highlands and Islands Social Development Board, whose raison d'être will be to put right the social wrongs needlessly initiated and implemented by the present economically-minded H.I.D.B.

Faicinn Bhuam

Gleanndail Is Na Glinn Ud Thall

"Cuime mholadu Glenn Urrcha

Glenna Caomhann s Glenn Si?

De na mholad seo cumsu trin dheth

Ddo Ghlenndail ora chi."

ANON.

Bithidh Goill uaireannan a' crathadh an cinn gu brònach mu 'n aimsir anns na glinn agus ag ràdh, "Tha an sealaidh breagha, ach a buroineim an side!" O chionn sheachdainean s'ann a bha an samhradh na b'fhearr air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus gu h-àraidh air an taobh sin, a bha e mu dheas. Chanell sin a' tachairt cho ainneamh sa shaoileadh tu.

Tha feadhainn faig oirn an seo air tilleadh as a' Fhraing, far na chuir iad seachd ce la deug le teant. Fhuair iad laithean breagha ghuairich gum teagamh, nì a bha ri fhaicinn air an tuar, ach aon oidche, bha iad ag ràdh, thàinig a leithid de dhòrthadh uisge s gum b' fneudair dhaibh clais a chladhach timcheall an teant.

Bha sinn dona gu lèor ach an latha an deidh dhaibh tilleadh dhachaigh bha fear an taighe greis na shuidhe muigh anns a' ghreina. Bha robh dad air a cheann is dùil aige gum do chruadhachd teas na Fraince e. Bha e cearr. Bhuail a' ghrian e agus chuir e seachad dà latha anns a' leabaidh. Sin agaidh 'teas!

Chuir sinne laithean dhe 'n t-side mhath ud seachad ann an Eilean Sgiathanach. Bha an t-uisge ro iséal airson laigearan nan abhainn ach fhuair e gaidheadh an t-eagal leotha gearan. Latha is mi nas Ath Leathann thuit Lachlan rium nach robh a leithid de shamhradh sin eilean o 1955, agus s mi a tha creidsinn.

Bha tiorai aig Haig a chual e, gu bheil an sruth feumail ud, an Gulf Stream, ag atharrachadh a chùrsa agus, an àite a bhith ach gann a' beantainn ri taobh tuath an eilein san dol seachad, gu bheil e a nise a' ruith nas fhaide deas, air a leithid de dhòigh s gu bheil e air a roinn, leth dheth a' gabhail tuath agus leth deas, air an eilean. S' fheàrr dhomh an tiorai seo fhàigal aig speuradair an tubh sear.

Cha bu mhaith leam co-dhiu a bhith a' cur imogain air muinntir nan eileanan eile, air eagal gu saoil iad gu bheil anacartas ann an roinn blàths an t-srutha seo. Ach dè am math a bhith brùinn! Cò their nach cuir fuachd is gaillinn ri teachd,

tiorai Haig a thaigh Ean Ghrota!

Co dhìu an déidh cuairt a chur air Camaschros agus air aiteachan eile an lìos an eilein, chuir sinn Diluan (seachdain Diluan seo chaidh) air leth airson turas do Ghleanndail. Air mo shonsa, bhitheinn ag ùrachadh eòlais, an deidh dà fhichead bliadhna, air a' chearmachd seo; bha càch gum fhaicinn thuige seo.

Bha ciucharan uisge ann a' cheud uisge a' cumnais sinn) nuair a dh'fhàg sinn sa' mhadainn. Cha do mhair e fada agus nuair a thàinig am bidh, bha maise da thaobh Loch Duinnbheagan mu 'r cionneimh is sinn nar suidhe astar beag o' n' rathad aig an diot cnuic.

Bha corra chàir air a' rathad chumhang seo agus, nuair a dh' fhoighnich mi airson taigh araidh an Sgiathanach, chuireadh an ceill dhùinn gum b' i seo seachdain mhòr Pàrlamaid nan Leodach. Chum sinn oirn sios am fianais an locha seachad air Caileabost, far na thagail mi tric uair dhe robh an saoghal, agus seachad air Boirreig, far a bheil carragh cumhuch Chloinn Cr Cruimein. Sgoiltean Chaileabost is Bhoirreig le chèile dèist a nise.

Bha cabhag oirn gu faic-eamaid an gleann. Thill sinn agus thionndaidh sinn ri gaidheadh a' bhrathaidh. Thàinig sinn, gum rabhadh mar gum b' eadh, air a' gheallan uaine sìnte shios romhainn, Abhainn Hamara sa' mheadhon a' suaineadh gu Loch Putiel. Cho tric s gam faic thu e, bithidh an aon ioghadh ort gum tig an t-atharrachadh cho luath.

Sios gu ùrlar a' ghlinne agus seachad air taigh-sgoile Bhorothadail, a b' aithne dhomh gu math aon uair cuideachd; tha i seo, tha mi toichte a ràdh, fosgailte. Chumhich mi air Belle Nic Aoidh, a chaochail o chionn beagan sheachdainean. Goirid mu 'n do chaochail i thug i dhomh "An Gaidheal," coipi dhe 'n fhear a thàinig am mach san Fhaoilleach, 1929. B'e an t-aobhar gu robh sinn air a bhith bruidhinn air maighstirean sgoile Gallda ann an sgoiltean Gaidhealach.

Annas A' Gaidheal seo tha cumntas air athair Belle — Iain Mac Aoidh (e deaibh) a bha na mhaighistir sgoile am Bhorothadail, bu 'n àm a dh' fhoigail i, fad còrr is dà fhichead bliadhna.

Tha sgeul an seo mu na cuirreann ainmeil a thàinig a' sgoil Bhorothadail ri dà

fhichead bliadhna ud, ach s e a bu mhaith le Belle a leigil fhaicinn, ged nach robh facal Gaidheil aig a' h-athair nuair a thàinig e do Ghleanndail, gu robh e fileanta innte a' ceann a dha no trì bliadhna-nàichean. Tha a mhac Dàbhaich an Glaschu na dhearbhadh gu robh Iain Mac Aoidh cheile e mhaighist air ionn-sachadh na Gaidheil, ach b'ann air a teagasg cuideachd, oir tha a chinn aig Dàbhaich dhith cuideachd.

A rithist chunna mi gum b' e fear-deasachaidh A' Ghaidheil ann an 1929, Niall Ross, Daileach e fhein agus sgoilear comasach. Chanell ainm ris an earrann mu Iain Mac Aoidh, ach faodaidh sinn a bhith cinnteach gum b' e am fear-deasachaidh fhéin a sgrìobh e. Agus nuair a tha e air innse am measg a' chorr gum b' fhuair aon de sgoilearan Bhorothadail a' cheud duais airson rannachais is deas labhairt aig a' cheud Ja Mhòr Nàiseanta, faodaidh fhuas a bhith againn carson a tha ainm a' bhalach air a chleith; cha b'e balach eile a bh' ann ach Niall Ross fhéin.

Seachad air Bhorothadail ma ta, agus air Mialavaig, air Uaiterstein, agus cho fada an iar san eilean sa gheibh thu. Cha robh dìt againn tearnachd gu taigh-sòlais na h-Eisde, ach b' òirdheir an sealladh an seo fhéin am mach bho bhiodh Dhùirinis thairis eir a' Chuan Sìgh gus na h-eileanan an iar.

Bha sinn uile s a' chàir a' fhaicinn gu falbh nuair a thàinig tè a dh' innse, o siud gu seo, gum b' ann an Caileabost a bha ise san sgoil an toiseach. Thug i a nall an duin aice agus an sin a h-antai is i aig an taigh 3 California a' cheud uair ann an '55 bliadhna, is i aig innse gum b' i té de bhan-sgoilearan Mhic Aoidh am Bhorothadail.

Cha robh cèildh a' mhul-lach seachad fhathast. Seo agad còmhlan eile ann an càr agus cò m'ann measg ach Iain Mac Leòid. B' e seo an còthrom foighneachd mu Pharlamaid nan Leodach. Thuit Iain le gàire gum b' esan Seansalair an Eiseiceir. Bha sinn toichte ach robh an dreuchd, a réir coltais, ga chur na bhoil. Bha e a' coimhead moran na bu toichte na Mgr. Jenkins, ach thog sinn oirn mu d'fhuair e còthrom cisean iarraidh.

Donna MacLeòid

AN COMUNN GAIÐHEALACH (Inverness Branch)

GRAND CEILIDH featuring Alasdair Gillies

In the CALEDONIAN HOTEL, INVERNESS, on THURSDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER 1968

Further details later

Am Piobaire Mor

'Sann an aite ris an can sinn Sgaothaigh bhiodh na Mucanach a' baladh tìr 's an uair a b'ia iad gu bhi aig clachan a' chladach leum an seann ghaisgeach air a charraig 's' rugadh 'na 'lannir liath' dh'eibh e — "Ma chuireas sibh cas air tur an diugh chan thag mi ceann air amhaich agaibh. Tilleadh dhachaidh cho luath 'sa rinn sibh' riamh 'sna faiceann sibh' an turas ciadna." Theich na Mucanach le 'm beatha' 's' cha ann roimh 'n am, 's' cha do chuir iad dragh air a' phio-baire

mach cu' an Sgurr agus chaidh iad a falach 'san fhròach air gach taobh de'n cheum a bhith-eadh e a' cleachdadh a gabhall. Cha robh iad fada fèitheamh 'nuair chuala iad e tighinn agus cronan oran aige ris fhein. 'Nuair a bha e gu bhith air am bial-thaobh dh'eirich iad nan seasamh agus ghabh e eagal a bhaib. Dh'fhiaich e ri dhò seachad air an lamh dheas 'san sin air an lamh chli ach leumadh spiorad roimhe thall 'sa bhos. Gheith iad ann am pein e agus an do chail e luths, 'san sin sheol na spioradan air

an diugh agus 'se "Carn a' Phio-baire" bheir sinn ris.

Tha e air a radh cho luath 'sa chuir Ragnall cas air tìr 'san Chille gun do thog e phio-bair a ghuailinn agus gun Jo chluich e h-uile cum a dh'ionnsaidh a Ghairbhealach agus cha b'e sin an t-astar beag.

Sin agibh nighneachd a' Phio-baire Mhoir bho bhreith gu bhas mar a chuala mise i. Tha dhualach na laighe 'a Gill Donnain comhla ri aireimh mhoir de na thanaig a nuas air.

Tha mi toilichte ri radh gu bheil beagan do shìol a phio-baire againne an Rìge fhathast. Tha seann bhoireannach againn a tha ciad bliadhna 'sa h-aon agus 'se ise an t-siathamh gluin a nuas bho'n phio-baire agus mi fein an t-seachdamh gluin. Tha moran dha shìol sgaipne an iomadh cearn de'n t-saoghal tha iad feadh na rìoghachd seo fein 'san Amerige a Tuath an Australia 'san New Zealand.

Fhuair 'mi seul an uridh thar chuain a Alba Nuadh ag innseadh dhomh gu robh iad thall an sin cuideachd gun a latha 'n diugh agus roinn dhiubh 'nan deagh phio-bairean agus 'nan dainsairean Gaidhealach a tha ainneil, 'S bheir mise am facal — "Nach be cheannach a rinn iad."

Ra leantainn

MR ROSS FAVOURS MACBRAYNE SERVICE

After full consideration of proposals by Western Ferries Limited for services to Islay and the neighbouring islands, Mr William Ross, M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland, has decided he would not be justified in authorising any assistance from public funds to the company.

He states in a letter to Mr Michael Noble, M.P., that his 'main concern is that all four islands should have a reliable and efficient service with a reasonable standard of passenger comfort; this will undoubtedly be achieved by MacBrayne's proposals, but I am not convinced that the smaller vessels and simpler terminals proposed by Western Ferries would be able to offer the same standard of service.'

The Secretary of State announces that MacBrayne's will shortly be inviting tenders for a new drive-through vehicle ferry to serve Islay which should be ready for service in the summer of 1969.

Eilthireach Air Chuairt A Canada



A Bhean Uasal Nic Neacail ('na suidhe) comhla ri Mgr. T. Mac 'Illeathain 'sa Bhean, agus a h-ogha Mhgn. Uas. Marina Shoemaker.

Air cho fada 's gum bi an t-astar agus an ùine a bhios an Gaidheal air falbh o thìr a bhreith bidh miann aige bhith a' tilleadh a dh' fhaicinn nan seallaidhean air an robh e eòlach ann an lathaichean oige. Tha corr is dà fhichead bhliadhna bho'n a chuir a' Bhean-phòda Morag Nic Neacail cùl ris na h-Eileanan an Iar agus a chaidh i a null a Chanada, ach bho chionn ghoidh bha i air chuairt 's an dùthaich seo.

Rugadh am boireannach tapaidh seo—Morag Sheonaidh Uilleim — ann am Beàrnaraigh na Hearadh bho chionn trì fichead bliadhna agus seachd deug. Ged nach 'eil i gu math 'na slàinte — dh' fheumadh ogha dhith, Marina Shoemaker a bhith

comhla riithe air a cuairt— 'se seo na sin an ceathramh turas a tha i air a bhith sgrìob ann an Albainn bho 'n dh' fhalbh i an toiseach. Bha i pòda aig Frisael Mac Neacail, nach maireann, agus bha ceathrar de theaghlach aca — dhithis nighean agus dhithis ghlèan a tha an diugh air pòsadh.

Dh' fhan a' Bhean-phòda Nic Neacail ceithir — là — deug ann an Inbhirnis far a bheil a piuthar, Màiri, pòda aig Mgr. Tòmas Màir Chilleathain a bha air ceann Sgoil na Leacainn. Chuir i oidhche seachad ann an Roghadal comhla ri nighean a peathar, agus thainig a piuthar, Cairistiona, agus a bràthair, Murchadh, a choimhead oirre an sin. Tha iadsan a' fuireach ann am Beàrnaraigh.

(le EOGHAINN MACFHIONGHUINN)

's air Caitriona riamh tuil leachd.

Chaidh na bliadhnaichean seachad agus bha an teaghlach a'fas suas gu rìr bhith 'nam fìr 's 'nam boireannach. Aig an am bha tigh-òsda beag shìos an Cill Donnainn. Bha e far a' bheil tobhata an t-seann mhuc-leann ri faicinn an diugh.

Mo thuaghe, bha am pìobaire gle mhiosal air an dram agus bhiodh e gu tric a'dol do'n tigh-òsda. Dh'eadh e mach Bealach Chul an Sgurr agus bhiodh a cheann an sin le bruthach a'chuid mhor de'r t-slighe gu ruigeadh e Cille. 'Sann na bu mhiosa a bha cuisean a'dol gus ma dheireadh gur gann a bhiodh e oidhche gu dhrum taighe ach 'san tigh-òsda.

Bha sin a'cur trobaid mhoir air a bhean 's air an teaghlach. Aon oidhche 'sann a smaoinich a bhean agus dhithis de 'na h-igheannan gu fìadhadh iad ri eagal a chur air. Chomhdaich an dhithis nighean iad fhein ann an annart geal, coltach ri leinne-bais. Dh'irich iad am

falbh air gach taobh. Sin fhuair e seachad air agus ruith e h-uile cum dhachaidh agus 'nuair nochd e stigh an doras bha tuar a bhaib air adomh. Chaidh e laighe 's cha do dh'eirich e riamh tuilleadh; agus chaochail e ann an uine gle ghoidir. Mar a chanadh seann duine — chaidh e a cochlach a chridhe le sarachadh agus le eagal.

Chaidh seula a bhaib fada is farsuinn. Chuala Ragnall Mac Ailein Oig i, 'se na sheann duine fùireach air an Traigh ann an Arasaig. 'Bh'ann gun deaghadh e an null gu bhi aig an tiòdhachd. Chruinnich an sluagh a Grulainn thogadh an guilan agus an uair a thainig iad am fianais a'chaoil cadar Eige agus Arasaig aig aite ris an can sinn an "Gairbhealach" bha bhirilinn aig Ragnall a' tighinn a stigh gu cladach na Cille.

Leig iad an guilan gu lar a'fèitheamh gu'n tìgeadh Ragnall agus thoisich iad a' trusadh chlach agus air roigal carn. Tha an carn sin ri fhaicinn aig a "Ghairbhealach" gus an latha

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IRISH FIGHT FOR FREEDOM — IN LITERATURE

Part 4

History

Finally I should mention histories of the period. The first is *Tús agus Fás Oglach na hEireann* by Colonel Maurice Moore, published in 1936 by Oifig Dlíola Foillseacháin Rialtais. Moore is quite an interesting figure. His father George Henry Moore was a prominent mid-19th century politician with considerable Fenian sym-

Cló Uí Mhéara in 1955. Although this covers ground already dealt with by Dan Breen in *My Fight For Irish Freedom* and Desmond Ryan in *Sean Treacy and The Third Tipperary Brigade*, it is in many ways better than both of these, dealing at greater length with many of the interesting episodes in the sector of the Anglo Irish War. It is the only one of all the books mentioned here that deals with the terrible tragedy that was the Civil War

general, not only in terms of the occasional lines and phrases similes and metaphors taken from the period but also for deeper awareness of many of not having been born under the

Conclusion

(Based on a lecture given to the Celtic League in Aras Thomáis Aghas, Easter Monday, 1966.)

NEVER TOO LATE FOR GAELIC

Highers Pass at 72

Dr Alexander A. Kirkland, physician in charge of Royal Victoria Hospital, Dundee, who is 72, has just passed his "highers in Gaelic.

He began learning the language ten years ago, and has now added Gaelic to the Higher French and Latin and Lower German he passed many years ago. "None of those languages was anything like so hard to learn as Gaelic," he said yesterday.

Dr Kirkland, a native of Glasgow, said: "Every Scot should be able to speak the language of his country, instead of the miserable one-sixth of 1 per cent, which is the present figure. It's a disgrace that Gaelic isn't taught in Dundee schools."

ARTS IN THE NORTH

An excellent taste of ballet is being sponsored for northern appetites by the Scottish Arts Council. The towns scheduled for a visit by the International Ballet Caravan are Brora, Elgin, Portree, Stornoway, Tain and Thurso.

In September the Scottish National Orchestra is playing in Inverness and Oban (19th and 17th respectively).

Mention must also be made of the Mull Little Theatre, Dervaig, which is the smallest professional theatre in Britain. Its payroll for the present season is both ambitious and includes Shakespeare, Strindberg, Chekhov, Coteau and Lewismann Iain Crichton Smith.

Stirling Provincial Mod

In a Mod generally accepted as being of a very high standard, Mrs D. Thomson, Oban, handed over prizes to the following competitors in the various classes: —

Junior Section

Solo Singing (confined). Over 13 and under 16 years — 1 (Girl's Silver Medal) Alison MacLeod, Brightons; 2 Barbara Forsyth, Lauriston; 3 Janet Low. 1st boy (Silver Medal) John Logan.

Duet Singing—own choice (confined)—1 Alison MacLeod, Lorna MacDougall; 2 Sheena Walker, Fiona Heron; 3 Christine Davidson, Angus Davidson.

Solo Singing (open). 13 and under 16 years—Lorna MacDougall, Falkirk.

Choral Singing (confined) under 16 years — 1 Falkirk Junior Gaelic Choir; 2 Stirling Junior Gaelic Choir.

Solo Singing (open) — under 13 years—Ishbel H. Lamont, Glasgow.

Recitation from memory of 'Aoir an Leisgein.' Under 13 years of age (confined) — 1 William H. Kennedy, Stirling; 2 (equal) Janet Anne Kennedy, Stirling, and Michael Fraser Symon, Stirling; 3 (equal) Alistair Shaw, Stirling, and Duncan Reid, Stirling.

Recitation of 'Do Neoinnean.' Over 13 and under 16 years (confined)—Lorna MacDougall, Falkirk.

Solo Singing (confined). 10 and under 13 years — 1 Eileen Docherty, Camelon; 2 Christine MacLeod, Brightons; 3 Lillian Fairley, Falkirk.

Solo Singing (boys and

girls under 10 years) confined—1 (eq.) Fiona MacDonald, Malcolm J. MacLean, Edinburgh.

Senior Section

Male and Female Voices (former prize-winners) — open—1 Morag M. Murray, Dunning; 2 Hugh MacQueen, Luining; 3 Duncan MacPherson, Larbert.

Silver Medal Competition (Female Voices)—1 Morag M. Murray, Dunning; 2 Jean H. MacInnes, Dunblane.

Duet Singing (open) — own choice — 1 Morag M. Murray, Dunning, and Helen Lockhart, Stirling; 2 James C. Sinclair, Falkirk; 3 Peter Soutar, Stirling; 3 Sheena MacKenzie, Larbert, Duncan MacPherson, Larbert.

Unconducted Group Singing — groups not more than 12—1 Stirling Gaelic Choir A; 2 Falkirk Gaelic Choir.

Learners

Learners (Female Voices) — Janet Thomson, Stirling. Learners (Male Voices) — John N. Findlay, Stirling.

Male and Female Voices (Solo Singing of an unpublished song) — Elizabeth Crockett, Dunfermline.

Recitation (learners) — John N. Findlay, Stirling. Quartet Singing—Falkirk Gaelic Choir A.

Male and Female Voices (Solo Singing)—Hugh MacQueen, Luining.

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Forestry Commission Annual Report

In October 1967 the Prime Minister announced that the Commission's planting programme in Scotland would be substantially increased from 1969 onwards. It was announced in January 1966 that the programme was to be increased to 36,000 acres a year from 1969 onwards. The additional increase will be by stages to reach 50,000 acres a year by 1976. This additional planting would be arranged so that neither private afforestation nor the general land of agriculture would be adversely affected.

Whilst the emphasis on increased planting will remain in the crofting counties there will be further expansion in the areas conveniently situated to wood-using industries.

The area planted in 1967 was 33,166 acres, 1,200 acres more than 1966.

44,500 acres of plantable land were acquired in 1967—an increase of over 14,500 in 1966.

The acquisition rate in Scotland, if maintained, is satisfactory to provide adequate reserves for the future increased planting programme.

At the end of the year the Commission's whole estate totalled some 3 million acres of which about 2 million were forest land; the remainder included forest nurseries, agricultural and grazing land, forest workers holdings and unplantable and miscellaneous land such as mountain tops.

The weight of timber produced from Commission forests increased from about 1,000,000 tons in 1966 to 1,120,000 tons in 1967—an increase of 8.4 per cent. (about the same rate as in 1966).

In harvesting there were two major developments which should lead to considerable economies. First, the mileage of forest roads which have to be built for wood extraction purposes is being greatly reduced due to the longer range of modern cable cranes and winches, which enable these to reach further into the forest, and

to other improvements in extraction equipment and techniques. Second, young trees are now being planted at wider spacings; this will do away with the need for the costly, and relatively less profitable, early thinning operations.

It was a difficult year for marketing due to world over-production of pulp, teething troubles in new pulp mills at home (now overcome) and a depression in the chipboard industry. Despite these difficulties the Commission sold its increased production at slightly enhanced prices (0.6 per cent. above 1966).

(Note)—The depression in the chipboard industry had as its main cause an increase in imports at a time when consumer demand was slack. This has now been overcome.)

The Commission estimates that the potential production of softwood from Britain's forests will double by 1980 to reach 4,000,000 tons.

The Commission says there are intangible returns from social services rendered which cannot be regarded as relevant to a commercial undertaking. These social services rendered include provision of work in areas subject to depopulation and diversification of industry in development areas.

The Scottish Countryside Act 1967 gave the Commission specific power to provide facilities for recreation and is an important landmark in progress towards the realisation of the modern concept of the multiple use of forests in Great Britain.

A sub-committee of the Home-Grown Timber Advisory Committee was set up in January 1967 to advise on what should be the scope and nature of investigations into markets and marketing in respect of home-grown hardwoods and softwoods. As a result of these deliberations the committee asked the Commission to set up a project team which would establish with the help of nominees from timber growers' and merchants' organisation and the Forest Products Re-

search Laboratory, the feasibility, nature and scope of a study on this matter to be commissioned from a firm of consultants. The results of this latter study and that of an independent enquiry on softwood sawmilling being carried out in Scotland would be considered together and could enable the committee to decide what further consideration it should give to the organisation of the forestry industry—both grower and trade.

The Committee's major concerns were the depression in the chipboard industry and what effective recommendations could be made to Ministers about low-priced imports from certain eastern European countries.

The report also records that the committee were considering further representation to Ministers on the exclusion of timber extraction from eligibility for investment grants under this Industrial Development Bill. The committee emphasised that felling and extraction operations can be said to make an immediate and direct contribution to the saving of imports to the balance of payment in the short term.

Although the wind blow in Scotland occurred outside the year under review, the damage caused by the great gales in Scotland on the night of 14/15 January 1968 must be mentioned. An estimated 1½ million tons of timber were uprooted or broken of which about three or four million tons were in Commission forests. This tonnage was equivalent to about 4 per cent. of the timber standing before the gale and to about two years normal production in Scotland.

To deal with the immense problems of rapidly harvesting and marketing this amount of timber a joint Action Group consisting of two representatives each from the Commission, the Scottish Woodland Owners Association and the Home Timber Merchants Association of Scotland was set up.

Forty-eighth Annual Report of the Forestry Commission, for the year ending 30th Sept., 1967. H.M. Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London W.C.1. Price 10/- (10/8 post free), or through any bookseller.

Crofting Assessors Praised

A tribute to the local Assessors who advise the Crofters Commission was paid by Lord Hughes speaking in the House of Lords recently.

The Assessors, he said, undoubtedly now provide the most democratic method of sounding crofter opinion which has ever existed in the crofting areas.

Referring to the new pro-

cedure introduced by the Crofters Commission for the selection of Assessors, Lord Hughes said, "Nominations were asked for from more than 700 grazings committees which are themselves elected direct by the crofters in the townships. Where more than one name was suggested by the grazings committee in an area the committee were asked to put the nominees into an order of priority. The only difficulty arose in areas where there are no grazings committees, and in these cases crofters were invited through the Press to submit nominations direct. In every instance the Commission appointed as the Assessor the person preferred by the majority of the grazings committees who replied to their inquiry."

In addition to all this, the Commission have appointed to the panel a nominee of each of the crofters' unions which may wish to be represented, and it must be borne in mind that many of the nominees of the grazings committees are also members of the unions. I know of no body which has gone to such lengths in the Highlands and Islands or elsewhere to establish such good lines of democratic communication."

Do You Know?

1. Where did the Stone of Destiny first lie?
2. To whom does the Monument of Glenfinnan belong?
3. What is meant by Rodel?
4. How is the name Erskine said to be derived?
5. "Bha e pàisèil rium." De bha e?
6. Cò an bàrd a mhol "Gleann Diobadal" an Nis, Leodhas?

ANSWERS

1. Dunstaffnage Castle, Argyll.
2. It is the property of the National Trust.
3. Rogha-dail, the choice dale.
4. From the barony of Erskine in Renfrewshire.
5. Bha foighidneach.
6. Aonghus Caimbeul.



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- Scotland of Old—Map. Showing Clan, Family Areas and Coats of Arms, etc., 1/6, postage 1/-. Historical Map of Scotland. Showing Battlefields, Castles and other points of interest. 6/6, postage 1/-. Highlands and Islands. Fraser Darling and Morton Boyd. Natural History. 30/-, postage 1/-. Highlands and Their Legends. Otta Swire. 30/-, postage 3/-. Gaelic Ghosts. Tales of the Supernatural. 21/-, postage 2/-. Ancient Stories of Scotland. 30/-, postage 2/6. The Regiments of Scotland. 7/6, postage 2/6.

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GAELIC SLOGAN IN SAVINGS DRIVE Highlands Campaign

'Leanaibh gu dluth ri cluì bhur sinnir' — these are the words of a Gaelic proverb that will be used to encourage National Savings in the Highlands. They mean: 'Follow in the footsteps of your forebears.'

The phrase has been chosen by the National Savings Highland Area Committee, and will appear on posters and other promotional material throughout the Gaelteachd.

over to you:

STARTING UP A GAELIC CHOIR

By LEE COLLIN

I have been asked by the Conductor and my fellow-members of the Manchester Gaelic Choir to reply to Mr. Fiona M. Orr of Darlington who requests advice on the formation of a Gaelic choir in the North Eastern area of England.

Firstly, we admire her enterprise and wish her every success; we likewise appreciate the compliment that she and her friends have paid us, inasmuch as they consider that we are in a position to offer useful advice. We will try to justify that confidence, but would remind them that there is another Gaelic choir in England whose record of achievement to date is somewhat greater than that of Manchester, the London Gaelic Choir. Perhaps the same ingredients have gone into the making of both the London and the Manchester Gaelic Choirs; if what follows is read by any of our London friends, we would be most interested to have their comments.

It would seem that three really important "musts" are, (1) a basic supply of reasonably capable singers of the four ranges (2) a competent conductor (3) a good Gaelic speaker, preferably one who can convey the spirit of a song to people whose knowledge of the language is very limited. The first of these has always been a cause of anxiety to us, for the potential sources of our membership are very limited and quite recently we have lost some most valued voices, especially tenors, through illness and removal from the Manchester area.

We are very fortunate in having as our Conductor Mr. G. R. Hoyle, L.R.A.M., who is not only an extremely able musician but also a great enthusiast for Gaelic song and who can transmit both these gifts to the choir. In Miss Flora MacFarlan we have a Gaelic instructor whom we value immensely; she is a native of Mull and goes to great pains to improve our "blas", and anyone who can drive a Lancashire accent underground deserves praise.

The members themselves must be possessed of determination to succeed; they must be able to see a long way ahead and they must never doubt that they as a choir and they as individuals can be capable of singing Gaelic songs well and of improving their standards. Perhaps the Manchester Gaelic Choir is best known as the choir that practised with tape; about nine or ten months ago six new songs were chosen and were recorded as follows: the title of the song and its place in "Coisir a' Mhoide" are announced and this is followed by a slow and distinct recitation of the words by Miss MacFarlan. Then the song is played on the piano in four-

part harmony and finally the particular part is played for the voice for whom that tape is intended.

This involved a great deal of work for Mr. Hoyle, Miss MacFarlan and for Mr. A. K. MacCallum (who actually prepared the tapes) but the results have been most encouraging; songs have been learned from scratch in about half the time previously expended, songs have been mastered that had in the past been abandoned as too difficult and several members who had been somewhat below acceptable choir standards or whose mistakes seemed well-nigh incurable have improved their contribution to the general effect out of all recognition.

Even the smallest battery-operated recorders have proved satisfactory for this purpose, one choir member practices in the back kitchen while washing dishes and another takes his tiny recorder with him in his car during his daily business journeys. The knowledge that a member can master his or her part of a song without imposing on the time of anyone else is a morale-booster of great value and prevents anyone feeling that he will quietly drop out of things; a choir which has such difficulty in attracting members as we have can hardly afford to lose anyone through being disheartened with their own progress. We would be very happy to lend copies of our papers to Mrs Orr and anyone else interested in beginning a Gaelic choir.

If the Manchester Gaelic Choir can boast of anything it is that it has continued to exist for a number of years, that it is making progress, that it has brought a great deal of satisfaction and happiness to its members and that from time to time it has pleased small but enthusiastic audiences. We have not yet reached the stage where we can enter for competitions, although we aim to do that eventually despite formidable obstacles; we may, however, not reach that goal for a long time. One of the hardest things has been to say "No, not yet" to those optimists who have urged somewhat ambitious projects; fortunately it has always been possible to convince them of the wisdom of not overreaching ourselves.

We wish the Darlington Gaelic Choir every success. It is hard work at first and the results may be very slow to show themselves, but we have found it very rewarding and are quite sure that the best is yet to come. If any of our Darlington friends, or indeed anyone else who enjoys Gaelic singing and is within reach of Manchester, feels like attending any of our rehearsals we will be very pleased to see them. Our Hon. Secretary is Mr. W. J. Brigham, 17 South Meade, Timperley, Cheshire.

Perhaps we may conclude by passing on the advice which was given to us by the conductor of a well known choir.

"What you want," he said, "is a good basis o' sweet young soprano voices and a few cailleachan and bodachan who can pass a Gaelic test." To date, we are still looking for them.

Sir, — I see from a letter (Sruth 17/6/68) that Wendy Wood found it easier to understand the farmers in Ireland than her own crofter neighbours. That does not surprise me. The Irish take a pride in their language; the Gaels do not. The Irish are taught to read, write and speak Irish; Gaelic in Scotland is a local, family or sometimes personal gibberish. Very few Gaels are educated in Gaelic, and could not explain the words they use. They depend mostly on English when speaking Gaelic and are not sure of the right pronunciation, they slur and slide.

They do not know any better. Dictionaries are at a premium and out-of-date. They have nothing to refer to, and do not care much anyway; they always have the English in which they have been educated. As I have said already the Gaels themselves are to blame for this.

I am not anxious to see foreign words like "laboratory" in Gaelic writings, even in italics. Still less do I want to see them in so-called Gaelic spelling. If Gaelic is to be revived, then we must use Gaelic words. Certainly let us go to Irish (which is the mother tongue) if need be. One thing that must be avoided is a rivalry among new Gaelic writers in the invention of new words.

Adhamh.

Fhir Dheasachaidh,

Anns an àireamh mu dheireadh (35, aig t.d.2) sgrìobh Ewen Sorley mar a leanas.

"The modern Gaelic word *sasunnach* (sic) meaning a Saxon or Englishman and sometimes a Lowlander, is of comparatively recent adoption from English, and does not appear in Dwelly's dictionary."

Tha rud-eigin air iomadan. 'S a' chiad àite chan flior ann beachd aig Ewen Sorley nach eil am facal ri fhòtadh ann an fhacail air Englishman.

'S an dara àite, ciod e a bha Ewen Sorley a' ciallachadh le "modern" agus le "comparatively recent"!

Aig na sgrìobh e (mar a shuas) 's ann a dh'fhaodadh duine a bhith a' creidsinn gu robh e de'n bheachd, a chionn 's nach d'fhuair e *sasunnach* ann an Dwelly, am facal sin a bhith "modern" anns an t-seòl gun d'fhaodadh e a stigh do'n chàin air aig air chòr-sig, an dèidh do'm duine sin am facail aige a chur a-mach (1901-1911). Ach is dòcha nach

robh sin 'na rùn-san idir, agus gu robh ean, cleas eachdraich-an litreachais Ghàidhlig; a' cleachdadh "modern" ann a seadh tòrr na b'fharuinge, ri riadh air von nan linntean bho mu'n bhliadhna 1700 gus an là an diugh.

Bha am facal aig an sàr Ghaidheal còrr is trì cheud bliadhna air as co-dhiùh 's a' bhliadhna 1650 rinn am bàr Iain Lom a "Chumha Mhiontois" (Orain Iain Lom, S.G.T.S., 1964). 'S e so an seòladh de'n cheathramh ràin, "Tha Sasannaich (sic) 'gar faireineadh, 'Gar creach' 'gar murt' 's 'gar marbhadh."

Chan eil mi air son a' bha bhoil duine ann a bha air a mhi-threòrachd leis na briathran "comparatively recent."

Is misle, le meas,

W. W. SHAW

The Mill, Shepreth, Cambs.

26 Latha de'n Iuchar, 1968.

"SCOTLAND—YOUR GAELS"

Sir,—In the issue of "Sruth" dated 11/7/68 you printed an article under the ambiguous title of "Scotland Your Gaels or Wind of Change Among the Heather," by 'Daibhidh Mac-laghmainn (Frieberg). No "letter to the editor" this, but a full page article of abuse, innuendo, slander, and pedantic nonsense.

He begins by referring to "one 'Adhamh' who for reasons best known to himself, chose to remain anonymous." Next he writes that my first letter to "Sruth" "contained many half-truths and some downright untruths." So it would seem, I am a coward and a liar.

Let me tell 'Daibhidh' that 'Adhamh' is no more anonymous than 'Daibhidh Mac-laghmainn (Frieberg), and perhaps less so. There were no lies or half lies in my letter 18/4/68. Every word written is the truth.

If he will re-read my leader of 4/4/68 "What Now?" which is the start of this correspondence he may get some understanding. Do we want the migration of people from the already-depopulated areas of the Highlands and Islands to continue? Do we want the Gaelic

language and the Highland way of life to die out? Do we want the Highlands industrialised like the Forth and Clyde valley, the English midlands? Do we want our Celtic people to drift out, and a counterdrift from Asia, Africa, the Mediterranean and England?

Even the Clydeside are now asking: how much of our natural attractions do we sacrifice for the sake of our economic future! Is the choice only between natural amenities, and pulp mills, smelters, steel complexes, oil refineries, fish factories? Much of the beautiful Clyde estuary has been earmarked for industrial development; and ordinary people are practically excluded from getting even a breath of fresh air. Look at Glasgow NOW, and think of the Highlands fifty years hence.

To these questions some answer yes, some no: others don't know or don't care. Mrs Budden wants to abolish Gaelic from schools. 88 per cent of parents want Gaelic taught in schools. Whose side are you on? What is to be done about all this? Not next year, not ten years after this; but NOW.

Are you "with it" Daibhidh?

ADHAMH

A Charaid,

I was very much interested in some of the views put forward by Nancy C. Dorian in her article "Standard Gaelic" (SRUTH 11th July). Her plea for short summer courses in the Outer Isles again, seems to fit in very well with the findings of the Director of An Comunn Gaidhealach in Eire and reported earlier this year: that language tuition was now becoming a worth-while addition to tourism in that country.

Is there not another example we can borrow from abroad? I refer to "au pair" exchanges. It might make a good holiday for a youngster from the Long Island to spend two or three weeks at Christmas with a family on the mainland, in return for a visit by a young Gaelic learner in this family the following Easter or Summer.

Perhaps An Comunn could investigate this idea and see if

(Continued on Page Twelve)

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Ministear Ur

Tha an dà chomhthional ann an Gleann Eilig agus ann an Gleann Seile a nis air tighinn còmhla leis an Urr. A. D. MacRath air an ceann. Nuair a chaidh a phòsadh r' a' chomhthional ur bha an t-Urr. Aonghas I. Dòmhnallach air ceann na seirbhis. Tha Gleann Seile air a bhiù bhò'n leig an t-Urr. Niall Mac-Aonghas dheth uallach a' chomhthional.

A' Tional Aigid

Bha fèiltean aig grunn eaglaisean ann an sìorrachd Ròis bho chionn ghoidrid airson a' chruinneachadh. Seo an t-sùim a chaidh a thoirt a steach—Crombagh: £206, A' Chomhair: £110, agus Ullaput: £170.

Orduighean

Ann an Cille-mhoire agus Paibil (Uibhist-a-Tuath) bha an t-Urr. Uilleam Dòmhnallach air a chuideachadh leis na h-Urr. Ruairidh MacFhionghain (Dalabrog), Iain M. Mac a' Ghobhainn (Loch nan Madadh) agus Ruairidh MacLeòid, (Bèarnaraigh na Hearadh).

AN EAGLAIS SHAOR

Ministear Ghrabhair

An dèidh bhith sòn-bliadhna-deug 'san Allt-bheith' the an t-Urr. Iain Dòmhnallach air gabhail ri gairm o Eaglais

Ghrabhair ann an Leòdhas Mus do dh'fhàg e tìr-mòr thuair Mgr. Dòmhnallach £320 mar thiodhlac-spéis o'n t-seann chomhthional.

A' Dol gu Peru

Bho chionn ghoidrid phòs Morag NicRath a' Ploc Loch Aille agus Raghall Chrestie a bhuineas do Shaltcoats far a bheil athair 'na mhinistear. Tha iad a' cur rompa a' dhol gu ruige Peru far a bheil an Eaglais a' teagasg agus a' craobh-sgaolleadh an t-Soisgeil.

Comanachadh

Ann an Uibhist-a-Tuath bha an t-Urr. Seumas Moireasdan air a chuideachadh aig na h-Orduighean leis an Urr. Coimeach Mac an Léigh o'n Mhanachainn agus leis an Urr. Aonghas Fionnlagh a' Tolastagh. Ann an Cill-tarlachain chumadh an Comanachadh a' a' cheud Sàbaid de'n Lùnasdal agus air ceann nan seirbhis an t-Urr. Raymond Moir-each, a' Astrailia, agus an t-Urr. Edwin Lee, a' tha 'na mhinistear ann an Dùn-dè. Ann an Bèarnaraigh na Hearadh shearmonach an t-Urr. Dòmhnall MacLeòid-Iosa.

AN EAGLAIS SHAOR CHLEIREACH

Mios 'san Eadailt

Bho chionn ghoidrid thuair Mgr. Calum MacAonghas, M.A., cead-searmonachaidh. Air a' cheud latha de'n Lùnasdal



AIR TUR NA FAIRE

Inbhe Ur

dh'fhàg e Alba agus bidh e fad mios a' saoitheachadh 'san Eadailt.

Orduighean

Ann am Faibil (Uibhist-a-tuath) bha an t-Urr. Alasdair Moireasdan, ministear a' chomhthional, air a chuideachadh leis an Urr. Frisael Talloch, agus an Urr. Alasdair MacAsgail (Loch an Inbhir). Air an dara Sàbaid de'n Lùnasdal bidh na h-Orduighean ann am Port-rìgh agus ann an Srath-earragair agus air an treas Sàbaid ann an Drochaid a' Bhanna, air an Leathad agus ann am Fionnabagh 's na Hearadh. Ann am Ploch Loch Aille bha an t-Urr. Mgr. Cattanach (Fionnabagh) agus an t-Urr. A. Moir-each, o'n Chomhair air ceann nan seirbhis.

A' Fàgail Steòrnabhaigh

Air an ath mhios bidh an t-Urr Dòmhnall M. MacLeòid a' dol amach gu New Zealand far am bi e air ceann comhthional. Buinidh Mgr. MacLeòid do Ratharsaigh agus tha seachd bliadhna bho'n thàinig e gu Steòrnabhaigh.

AN EAGLAIS CHAITLIGEACH

Bha Comunn nan Ban o'n Mhanachainn air chuairt bho chionn ghoidrid. Air an rathad dhachaidh thadhail iad aig an Abaid ann an Cille Chuimein.

Duaisean

Bha latha mòr aig sgòil na h-Abaid ann an Cille Chuimein nuair a thugadh duaisean seachad do na sgoilearan a' b'fheàrr. Chual an luchd-èisdeachd òraid o'n Athair Urramach Augustine Greene. Fhuair na sgoilearan na duaisean O'n Fhior Urramach Nicholas Holman.

Ancient Recipes For The Modern Market

A six year old dream has come true for former dairy farmer Mr Reggie Stone and his wife Susan. Last week their modern new cheese factory was opened at Blarliath Farm, Tain, by Ross and Cromarty County Councillor, Mr Eric Linklater.

At a cost of £20,000 the old steading of Blarliath once used as a brewery, has been converted into a gleaming modern cheese factory.

Mr Stone's success story started in 1962 when one day he found he had 10 gallons of milk to spare. Although quite inexperienced in the art of cheese-making Mr Stone converted the lot into crowdie—and found herself with much more than she could use!

A local Tain grocer, Mr Hector Ross sold the surplus and found the demand much more than he and the Stone's could cope with.

The result was that Mr Stone gave up farming to concentrate on cheese-making and a new company, Highland Fine Cheeses Ltd., was formed.

Already famous is their 4 oz. caboc cream cheese rolled in pinhead oatmeal and packed in little hexagonal boxes with a Black Watch tartan. The recipe used is an ancient Highland one passed down through the family for generations.

The new premises will enable an increase in production from 7,000 to 50,000 cheeses a week. At present the factory provides employment for one man and eight girls but it is anticipated that 12 more will be required in the near future. Highland Fine Cheeses cater not only for a growing home market but are already exporting to Europe and North America.

FISH MEAL PLANT FOR MALLAIG?

Mr George Middleton, chairman of the Herring Industry Board, accompanied by board officials and Inverness-shire county councillors inspected a site on the south side of Loch Nevis, believed to be suitable for a fish meal plant to be built near Mallaig.

Balnafettack Fresh Farm Produce

We are pleased to announce that we have commenced our Twice Weekly Sale of TATTIES, VEGETABLES, Etc. Some of our prices for Saturday: Lovely Duke of Yorks 4/- stone, 14/- per 4 cwt. Freshly picked Purple Turnips 4d each. Onions 8d lb. Carrots 9d lb. Oven Ready Chickens 3/- lb. Shoulder Mince 4/6 lb.

Every Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wednesdays - 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Please Bring Own Containers. Please Order for any week day. Best Buy in Large Cuts of Top Quality Meat. Shoulder of Beef 2/5 lb. Flank of Beef 1/10 lb. Half or Whole Sheep 2/3 lb. Lamb Fore 1/10 lb. ALISTAIR MACDONALD BALNAFETTACK, INVERNESS Phone Inverness: 30473

Boating Centre Gets Underway

A new amenity for the Highlands which is proving an immediate success is the Black Isle Boating Centre a few miles west of North Kessock on the Beaully Firth.

There is nothing to match it in the North nearer than Findhorn. Not only do they hire boats, dinghies and canoes but they have a caravan park, restaurant and boutique. Moorings for private boats are also provided.

The 'skipper' is retired army major, Iain MacKay Scobie! He is not new to promoting tourist amenities and has already made his mark with the Rhiddorach Estate, Ullapool. The disadvantages of the tidal Beaully Firth have been overcome by renovating and lengthening the existing jetty

so that boats can be floated at high or low tide.

Major Scobie has a fleet of two 16 ft. Wayfarers and two 12 ft. Gulls, fast speedboats for water ski-ing, a launch for five passengers and a variety of canoes and dinghies with outboard engines.

There is an increasing demand for this type of amenity. Even if you're a complete land-lubber the Black Isle Boating Centre will instruct you in boat and canoe handling and water ski-ing.

With its secluded modern caravan park, and the Anchor and Chain Restaurant this is an ideal holiday site for the caravaner where the exquisite sea-side view can be thoroughly enjoyed.

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SERIOUS BILINGUAL PROBLEM IN CANADA

by PADRAIG O FEARGHAIL

A Canadian Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism in a report published last October, said that Canada, without being conscious of the fact, is passing through the greatest crisis in its history.

The census of 1961 in Canada reveals the cause of the crisis. It showed that over ten-and-a-half million Canadians spoke English, over five million spoke French and the remaining two-and-a-half million spoke German, Italian, Ukrainian, Dutch, Polish, Scandinavian Yiddish, Indian and Eskimo.

When the English won Canada 200 years ago the French population numbered 65,000. Since then the French have multiplied, filled Quebec province and spilled over into neighbouring provinces. After the English conquest attempts were made to suppress the French language, but it was not long until bilingualism was accepted in courts and public life in the French-speaking areas.

However, up to the present day there have been many instances of discrimination against French particularly in areas where French speakers have less than a majority. This is the direct cause of the present crisis.

Two School Systems

It is only in Quebec Province that the language of instruction in the schools coincides with the mother tongue of the children. Two separate school systems have been built up, for Catholic (French) and Protestant (English) children. Outside Quebec, Manitoba is the sole province where French may be used as a language of instruction. There, specific permission must be obtained and instruction in French is limited to half the school day.

The vitality of the French-speaking community in Canada is apparent from the fact that it has maintained its position at about 30 per cent. of the population for the past eighty years. This has been so despite the heavy immigration into English-speaking Canada and the absence of transfusions into French Quebec.

The Canadian language situation can best be described by an account of the work and conclusions of the Royal Commission. Growth of the Quebec Separatist movement led to the setting up of the Commission in 1963. It immediately set about a task for which there were few precedents—acquiring factual information on the problems of language and culture.

Studies in Depth

The members of the Commission met many thousands of Canadians at regional meetings in fourteen public sessions each lasting up to four days. Four hundred submissions were received from organisations and individuals. University professors and special experts were employed to supply 150 research reports. These included

detailed studies of the language situations in Finland, Switzerland, land, Belgium and South Africa.

A study was carried out among seven large firms and 794 small firms divided between the English and French-speaking communities in Quebec and Montreal. It showed, the report said, that "the difference in viewpoint between the two language groups were significant."

Eleven research reports on Canadian press and television included a content analysis and comparison of the handling of news by English and French language newspapers.

Referring to the present crisis the Commission's report said: "It is a time when decisions must be taken and developments must occur leading either to Canada's breaking up or to a new set of conditions for future existence."

The Commission inquired in depth into the connection between language and culture and said: "The life of the two cultures (English and French) implies in principle the life of the two languages. Later when we deal with the idea of equality we shall see that at the practical level an attempt to make every possible provision for cultural equality is primarily an attempt to make every provision for linguistic equality."

Viable Minority

On the question of the country's economic life the report says that not only must individual English speakers and French speakers feel that there are no linguistic or cultural barriers to their progress in commerce or industry, but they must also feel that as a linguistic and cultural group they share in the direction of economic life.

"Language is the main instrument of social consciousness," it said. "It is chiefly because they don't share the same language that they don't belong to the same cultural group."

The Commission said that its survey of language rights in Canada revealed "the wholly inadequate way in which present laws give effect to the concept of the country as an equal partnership between two linguistic communities."

It decided to take as a guiding principle the recognition of both official languages in law and in practice, wherever the minority is numerous enough to be viable as a group. It suggested the minority was viable when it reached ten per cent. of the population of a particular district. It said: "Living in French must be made possible in every part of Canada where there are enough French-speaking people."

The Commission recommended that English and French be

education the Commission's report says the real stumbling block has been the unwillingness of the English-speaking majority to recognize the right of French-speaking parents to educate their children in French. It recommends that the right of Canadians to have their children educated in the official language of their choice be recognised. In the officially bilingual provinces there would be parallel school systems for English and French-speaking children.

In an obvious reference to the maintenance of Canadian unity the report concluded with this remark: "We are convinced that it is important for Canada to maintain strong and vigorous links in the Chain of French language and culture across the whole country."

(Reprinted by courtesy of "Rose")

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

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Gaelic In The Edinburgh Festival

For the first time in its history Gaelic will be featured nightly for the three weeks of the 1968 Edinburgh Festival.

An Comunn Gaidhealach in conjunction with the Saltire Society are staging Ceilidhs in Gladstone's Land, Monday to Friday, starting on Monday, 19th August.

Miss Joan MacKenzie, Mod Gold Medalist, known throughout Scotland as a brilliant traditional singer and through her T.V. appearances, is responsible for the production. During the three weeks she will present a galaxy of Gaelic singers ranging in style and presentation from the purely traditional of Flora MacNeil to the updated Alasdair Gillies performance.

The Edin Singers (Joan MacKenzie, Mary Sandeman, Evelyn Campbell, and Iona Macdonald) and The Macdonald Sisters will appear supported by the Gold Medalist Bard Norman MacLean, George Clavey and Donald MacRae.

Altogether these ceilidhs promise to provide excellent entertainment for Festival visitors.

woman to woman

Today's Suffragette

Although women were officially emancipated some 50 years ago it is about time that those of us with modern day "suffragette" sympathies revived the equal rights struggle. It seems too obvious that the literal meaning of emancipate has been taken up until now—it means to set free—but in this day and age a little more than just being set free is necessary. We have come a long way since the beginning of the century, admittedly, when women were really dominated by and slaves to the opposite sex, but we need more than the right to vote and the right to state our opinion.

It was easy to condemn the women who recently walked out of the motor factory at Dagenham, but on analysing the matter they really had, to be logical, an open and shut case. Why should a man be paid more for doing the same job as a woman—or in realistic terms: why should a woman be paid less than a man for doing the same job of work?

This, unfortunately, is only one case among many. It just so happens that these technological age suffragettes have been the only ones brave enough to make a stand against the fallacy that a woman requires less money than a man! It is not uncommon to hear industrialists and politicians talk about equal rights as if they were already a fact. But this is not so. One of the few organisations to actually put the theory into practice is the National Union of Journalists. Many women office workers, factory workers, teachers and social workers to name only a few are working the same hours and doing the exact same job as their male equivalent, but do they enjoy the same salaries and privileges? Certainly not.

There are still places of entertainment where an unaccompanied female is not permitted to venture; there are documents which must be signed by a *Male* householder; some people still frown upon "women who wear trousers" (in the literal sense!) and there is a definite lack of women in politics and business—particularly in Scotland.

But with all these complaints it is still quite easy to quote a

few cases where few women would wish to be treated as equals: it would be sad to see the disappearance of the "ladies first" tradition; and there is still something not quite right about seeing females alone in a public bar. Would you really like your husband to do his half of the housework and you your half of the heavier jobs? I doubt it very much. And so long as we hang on to these rather unimportant but "nice" traditions, there is probably little hope of convincing the men in our lives that we really want to be equal at all. It is no good whatsoever to say, "We want to be equal as far as pay is concerned but not in x, y z." I'm afraid we would have to adopt the all or nothing principle and that may hurt our pride a little!

★ ★ ★

Two in One

A product which has just come on to the market, Clean-O-Pine, is one that the housewife has been looking for for a long time—it cleans and disinfects at the same time, leaving a fresh pine smell. It is really very effective and economical and doesn't seem to streak like the ammonia based cleansers or ordinary disinfectant. It is ideal for cleaning working surfaces and sinks and also makes a first class job of the floor too. Most of the good grocers and hardware shops have this new name in stock now. Price about 2/9.

★ ★ ★

Fruit in Season

Now that we're well through the soft fruit season we shall have to start looking for something to replace all the tasty strawberry and raspberry desserts we've been enjoying these last few weeks. Gooseberries are good at the moment and are really quite versatile for cold or hot sweets, jam or preserves. A favourite with any family is gooseberry fool, but for the chiller days why not substitute gooseberries for the usual apples and make a crumble pudding? Apart from being tasty, topping and tailing the gooseberries on a wet boring day is a grand task to keep the children out of mischief.

"The Breakdown Of Nations"

The futility of union as a solution to war and poverty is the theme of a conference—"The Breakdown of Nations"—which is being held at St Mark's Hall, Abercorn Place, St John's Wood, London, this week. The conference is being sponsored by the magazine "Resurgence."

Economists, M.P.s, political thinkers, representatives of the United Nations, Council of Europe and the Federal Union of European Nationalities, are presenting a case, over the five days of the conference, that all unions, such as the *United States, United Kingdom and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*, have brought in bigger wars, bigger weapons, greater fear and an expanding gulf between rich and poor.

The idea that diversity and not unity is the key to world peace and prosperity is presented. The speakers will envisage a world where there is self sufficient independence where no peoples are dominated by powerful neighbours or by distant imperial powers.

Speakers at the conference include Professor Leopold Kohr, economist and author of "The Breakdown of Nations" and "The Overdeveloped Nations"; Gwynfor Evans, the *Plaid Cymru* (Wales Party) M.P.; Dr E. F. Schumacher, founder of the Intermediate Technology Development Group; Ronald Webster, head of state of Anguilla, the second smallest independent nation; Donald Groom, General Secretary of the National Peace Council; Professor Batista i Roca, General Secretary of the Catalan National Council; Cosmo Russell of the Council of Europe; George Ivan-Smith of the United Nations; and P. Berresford Ellis, author and member of the Federal Union of European Nationalities.

Scotland, Cornwall, Biafra, Euzkadi (the Basque Country), Tyrol, Nagaland, and other small nations at present incorporated in larger states are also represented.

CLUAS RI CLAISNEACHD

Beachdan air Programan Gaidhealach

An Toir air a'Mhuic

Bhiodh uidh ag luchd amhair air a Gnaidhealtachd ann am program a thainn amach air an telebhisean air an t-seachdain-sa chaidh. Bha e a' deliegadh ris na daoine a bha an toir air a' mhuic-mhara agus ris an obair chunntach anns an robh iad an sas. Is iomadh Gaidheal a bha eolach air an obair seo — bha an darna leth de na h-iasgairean anns na sgìobaidhean Breatainnach as na h-Eileanan an Iar agus a Sealtainn. Chualas guth Leodhasach ag innse mu'n latha mhor nuair a bha bagna Steorn-naibhaigh lan de mhucan-mhara. Dh'usg a m'athair e leis a' ghlaodh seo — agus labhair e na facal 'sa Ghaidhlig — "Eirich as a sin. Tha an baile air a ghlaicadh leis na mucan."

Cuin a chi sinn program Gaidhlig mar sin air an telebhisean? Dh' fhaodadh dealbha bhith air a dheanamh, can, air obair na feamann ann a' Ubhish agus Leodhas, no air iasgach an sgadain agus nan giomach.

Uile-Bheisd Loch Nis

Tha creutair eile ann nach 'eil 'ga nochdadh thein cho tric ris a' mhuic-mhara — uile-bheisd Loch Nis — ach bha program aice dhith thein bho chionn ghoidir. Anns a' phrogram "Your Witness" bha an sgrìobhaiche Gavin Maxwell air fear de na fànisean a bha a' cumail amach gu bheil rud-eigin mi-nadurra "san locha. Air a' cheann mu dheireadh thubhairt coige duine deug de na breitheamhan a bha an lathair gu bheil iad a' creidsinn gu bheil uile-bheisd ann an Loch Nis agus chuir ceithir deug an aghaidh na beachd seo. Math dh' fhaoidte gun dean

am BBC an rannsachadh ceudna air an each-uigse a dh'aitheghearr.

Gobha na Hearadh

Cha chluinnear na laoidhean ach Iain Gobha ach ainneamh an diugh ged a bha iad ann miadh ag aon am. Tha an Roinn Ghaidhlig ri am moladh airson bardachd a' Ghobha a thaghadh mar chuspaig ann am program telebhisein — tha moran dhaoine an diugh a tha tur aineolach mun bhard iongantach sin. Thubhairt an t-Urr. Ruairidh Mac a' Ghobhainn gun biodh an Gobha ann an Eaglais na h-Alba nam biodh e beo 'nar latha-e. Ach mar a thubhairt fear-eachdradh araidh mu na daoine a bhios a' fìachainn ri sgrudadh a dheanamh ri intinnn Luther: "It is dangerous to psycho-analyse the dead." Chualas programan goirid de laoidhean air an reidio bho chionn ghoidir. Tha mi a' creidsinn gun cordadh program de laoidhean Iain Gobha ri moran — tha an cumant air gu bheil na seann fhuinn a' dol air diochumhne.

Guth Eile

Tha sinn cleachda ri bhith a' eiseachd ri Cailean MacCoinnich agus Seumas Ros, agus o am gu am, Coinneach Domhnallach, a chluinntinn a' leughadh nan Naidheachdan Gaidhlig. Ach a nis tha guth ur comhla riutha — an guth glachdmhor air Fionnlagh MacNeill. Tha sinn a' cur fàilte air, agus a' toirt taing dha thein 's do'n fheadhainn eile airson an saothair ann a' bhith a' deasachadh agus a' leughadh nan naidheachdan.

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Folk Song Competition

Entries are invited for the Gaelic Folk Song Competition to be held on **THURSDAY, 10th OCTOBER 1968**, at 4.15 p.m., in the **QUEENS HALL, DUNGOON**.

Groups, with or without instrumental accompaniment, will consist of not fewer than three and not more than six members.

Groups will sing **Two Songs of their own choice**.

No Gaelic Test. Closing date for entries 27th September 1968.

Entries to: The Public Relations Officer, An Comunn Gaidhealach, Abertart House, Inverness.

over to you

(Continued from page 8)

there are sufficient Gaelic-speaking families in the Isles willing to co-operate? I am sure that a well-run scheme would be strongly supported from the mainland by parents who want to give their children the opportunities they themselves were denied, of learning Gaelic—or at least, getting acquainted with it.

Is mise,
IAIN CAMERON TAYLOR
Hamilton House,
Prestonpans,
East Lothian 3/8/68

THE ANGLESEY SMELTERS

The Anglesey Residents Association has fought steadfastly against the smelter proposal for Anglesey because we are convinced that the siting of the smelter only half a mile from Holyhead and four and a half miles from the county reservoir, in the context of the atmospheric pollution involved, will constitute a grave hazard to health.

Our conviction has been justified by the evidence produced at a public inquiry last January by some of the foremost scientific experts in Wales. Furthermore, we reject the concept of an industry, alien to this country and its natural resources, which by its establishment in Anglesey will irrevocably damage, if not destroy, a stable multi-million pound agricultural industry, and inhibit a rapidly growing tourist industry before it can fulfil its promising potential.

The smelter proposal is an economic anachronism and as outmoded in principle and intention as the excesses of the Industrial Revolution.

We have found, however, that fighting the Rio Tinto-Zinc project was a far cry from a fair, democratic process. We were warned, nine months ago, that the result was a foregone conclusion and were advised that the most we could hope to achieve by our objection was some reasonable measure of environmental safeguard. The planning authority incorporated such safeguards in its resolution of recommendation of the project last December. Today we face the future with Rio Tinto-Zinc, and not the planning authority, in control of the situation.

My association informed the Secretary of State for Wales of this deviation before he made his planning decision, but he chose to ignore the implications.

It must be rare indeed for a company to have its planning application so facilitated and to receive such a large measure of Government aid. Rio Tinto-Zinc's project is obviously much-favoured, and our experience indicates that the fight will have to be fought in order to be deflected from its intended course.

N. CEEN,
Hon. Sec. Anglesey
Residents Association.
Holyhead.

Schoolchildren To Improve Village Amenities

Between ten and a dozen secondary schools are undertaking ambitious projects over the next two years to improve the appearance of crofting villages in their neighbourhood.

The schoolchildren plan, among other things, to clear away derelict cars, tins and bottles, plant trees and shrubs, establish playing fields, set up a folk museum, make seats and erect them overlooking local viewpoints, and help elderly people with their gardens and the painting of their houses.

The schools are taking part in a scheme "Highland Village 1970" devised and sponsored by the Crofters Commission. The scheme is financed by a gift of £5,000 by Lord Dufferin and each school will receive £400 to finance its project. The Civic Trust are backing the scheme and will present a plaque to each school which completes its project successfully. All the entries have been vetted by the Highland Directors of Education.

"This is very much a combined effort," states the chairman of the Crofters Commission. "It shows that in the crofting areas we are looking to the future rather than the past and we believe that community development is something in which we should all be involved from the oldest to the youngest. The initiative which has been displayed by these small and often isolated schools is truly remarkable. We are not trying to test what they can do by their own unaided efforts but to get them to provide real leadership in their communities and this is just what they are doing."

Seven of the entries are from island schools. One of the first came from the tiny school of Happyhansel in Shetland—a name of good omen!

The Happyhansel children—there are only 16 in the secondary dept.—have proposals for forming a football pitch and play area for small children, providing seats and planting trees and shrubs, and for help to old people with their gardens

and house exteriors. They also hope to have a hand in establishing other amenities such as a small car park. They have already secured the support of their local district council and others.

The children from Dunvegan in Skye have illustrated their plans with a large-scale three-dimensional model of the village. Thirty-six numbered flags pinpoint spots that in the children's opinion need attention and thirty-six photographs numbered to correspond show the present state of these areas with a note of what the children propose to do. Every child in the secondary department has already had a hand in the planning. Local support has been enlisted and the children have carefully costed the requirement in trees and shrubs.

A small folk museum in the old crofting village of Aulicraich is planned by Inverness High School. The High School also propose to establish a model croft in the village, plant ornamental trees and shrubs and carry out various other improvements which should make it an attractive centre for visitors.

Other schools whose plans have been approved are Portree in Skye, Paible in North Uist, Shawbost and Back both in Lewis, Achtercairn, Gairloch in Wester Ross-shire, Bowmore in Islay and Oban.

Ullapool Junior Secondary School and Brora High are also expected to take part. Ullapool was specially in-

MARY SANDEMAN ENGAGED

Mary Sandeman, gold medalist at the 1966 Mod in Inverness, has to thank the Islanders for finding romance.

Two summers ago she went to live in South Uist to brush-up on her Gaelic. There she met Dr Angus MacKinnon, of Northron in Harris.

Mary and Angus have just announced their engagement. It was a double celebration, for Mary also celebrated her 21st birthday.

vited to participate by the Commission in acknowledgment of their outstanding success in being the first Highland school to win the Salsire Society premier award for school projects. Their Salsire project was on the proposed Stornoway / Ullapool Ferry.

"We feel that if they apply the same energy and imagination to the 'Highland Village 1970' project the result will be really outstanding," said the Commission chairman, "and we have given them until the end of the year to produce proposals."

"The Commission are very deeply indebted to Lord Dufferin for his gift," said Mr Grant. "We have, of course, no official funds for projects of this sort, but with Lord Dufferin's help we have been able to launch a scheme which may have quite far-reaching results."

HAMILTON HOUSE CEILIDH

Last year's highly successful Highland Musical evening in Hamilton House is being repeated and again the programme has been arranged by Joan MacKenzie.

On the evening of Friday, 23rd August the 350 year old Hamilton House will once again echo to the sound of Gaelic singing. The home of Lt. Col. I. B. Cameron Taylor, Historian to the National Trust for Scotland, Hamilton House is said to have been used for the Highland wounded after the Battle of Prestonpans. The house has been retired by the Trust and An Comunn are indebted to them for allowing them its use for the Highland Evening.

The ceilidh will be recorded and broadcast on the B.B.C. Scottish Home Service (Radio 4) the following week.

Tickets for this function are

INTERNATIONAL CELTIC CONGRESS

The International Celtic Congress will be held in Fougères, NE of Rennes, from August 20th to August 25th. The themes of lectures and discussions, extending over 4 days, are: "Recent Developments in the Celtic countries," and "History and Nation." There will be concerts: "Breton Folk Music," "Celtic Life in Word and Song," "Celtic Religious Song and Music," "Celtic Folk Song and Music." Breton pipe-bands will take part in the concerts and festivities. There will be excursions to places of interest in the districts of Rennes, Saint-Malo, Dol and Mount St-Michael. On Sunday 25th, there will be a festival of Celtic Song, traditional and modern, to which young singers from all over Celtia are expected, and the Congress will close in the evening with a popular Fest-Noz. Further information from Per Denez, Le Ris, Plouez, 29 S., Douarnenez, Brittany.

one guinea each (including refreshments) and are available from the Salsire Society, Gladstone's Land, 483 Lawnmarket or from the Trust Offices, 5 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh. For the Ceilidhs in Gladstone's Land tickets for 9/6 are available from the Salsire Society and the Edinburgh Bookshop, 57 George Street, Edinburgh, 2.

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