



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

DI-ARDAOIN, 16 LATHA DE'N CHEITEIN 1968 THURSDAY, 16th MAY 1968

6d

No. 30

17 MAY 1968
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SCOTLAND'S BI-LINGUAL NEWSPAPER

Reconsider Housing Plans

THURSO COUNCILLORS TOLD

Thurso Town Council's plan to site an 11-acre industrial and housing estate in Ormlie has been rejected by the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr William Ross, who returned it and asked that the council reconsider the matter.

It seems that since the council had already agreed to buy 100 houses from the Atomic Energy Authority, the Secretary of State feels the need for more houses is unjustified. Secondly, officials at St Andrew's House are not keen on the idea of creating a site which is partly industrial and partly residential. Some councillors claim that the same officials raised no objections to the plan at an earlier stage.

First Priority

This plan has been discussed for nearly seven years now and Bailie Donald Dyer says that the council's main concern is not housing but the obtaining of an industrial site, as an industrial year is being mounted and a site must be available to show prospective industrialists.

The council agreed at a meeting on Monday, that if their planning consultant sees no objection and if there are no objections from interested parties, to divide the Ormlie site — zoning the five acres furthest away from existing houses for industry, and the remainder for housing if needs be.

Feis Comunn An Drama Ghaidhlig An Glaschu

Air an t-seachdhuinn so chaidh chum Comunn Drama Ghaidhlig Glaschu an dara feis deug ann an Aithreamh nan Gaidheil an Glaschu.

Bha ochd buidheannan a' gabhail pairt-tri air oidhche Di-cjadain, trì air oidhche Di-haoine. Thanaig iad a cearan-cho fad o cheile ri Leodhas agus baile Ghlaschu fhein.

Fhuair buidheann Comunn Leodhas agus an Hearradh a Glaschu am prìomh dhuais agus an duais airson a chluich a b'fhearr a chaidh a ceadh. Chaidh an duais airson a chluich ur a b'fhearr gu Domhnall MacIlleathain a sgrìobh "Eisd" agus fhuair buidheann Inbhir-Nis an duais airson am "production" a b'fhearr. Agus gu dearb rinn na Leodhasaich air leth math oir fhuair M. MacDomhnaigh a buidheann nam Bacaich, A. NicLeoid as na h' Eileanaich agus M. Macdomhnaill, Comunn Leodhas agus na Hearradh uile duaisèan.

PROBHOST AN OBAIN

'Se Leodhasach tha 'n deidh faig air 40 bhjadna chuir seacnae 'sa bhaile am 'Probnost ur a tn air an Oban. Kugadn Mgr Domhnall MacThomais an nis acn tna e'n deidh bhith teagasg Gaidhlig an Ard-Sgoil an Obain bno 1931.

Chuireadh an t-ard urram so air mu tnratn 's bna e iia 'Probnost bno 1959-62.

Ina cetrin biadna deug bho chaidh Domhnall MacThomais an toiseach air Comhairle Bail an Obain acn cna b'ann a mhaid do chomhairle a bnaile thug e tride.

Bho chionn 36 biadna tha e na bnaid de Ard Chomhairle a' Comuinn Gnaidhealach Anns na bhaidheachan-tin, a tuilleadh air na rinn e a teagasg tna Domhnall MacThomais air moran a dheanann airson na Gaidhlig. Raognaich buill a'Comuinn e mar Cheann-suidhe agus stiur e an obair bho 1962-1965. 'Sann 'na latha thug An Comunn an ceum a b'adhar- taich a thug iad o chionn iomadh latha nuair a shuidh- hich iad Fear Stiuridh.

'S ann o chionn ghoird a chaidh urram sonruichte eile chuir air Mgr MacThomais nuair a thaghadh e mar Fhear Cathrach air Urras Mhic-Caoig.



Mr Donald Thomson, M.A., F.E.I.S., a Lewisian, who has for the second time been made Provost of Oban. Mr Thomson is Depute Rector and Gaelic Master of Oban High School.

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1970 Mod for Oban?

It was unanimously agreed at the Annual General Meeting of Oban branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach that the 1970 National Mod be invited to Oban.

Skye Association Band Success

At the Pipe Band Competition held at Grangemouth, Stirlingshire, on Saturday, 4th May, the City of Edinburgh Pipe Band won the Grade I contest with 92½ points.

Highlanders should be especially pleased with the placing of the new Skye Association Pipe Band in third place in the grade II contest, only 1½ points below the winner.

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BIRTHS

FRASER — At Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow, on 5th May 1968, to Alistair and Peggy (nee MacInnes), Lilac Cottage, South Lagan, by Spear Bridge—3 sons.

DEATHS

MACKAY—Passed peacefully away, after a lingering illness, at the Lewis Hospital, on Saturday, 4th May 1968, Donald Mackay, aged 5 years, beloved twin son of Mr and Mrs D. J. Mackay, 5b Achmore.

MACKINNON — Peacefully at her home, 4 Sasaig, Sleat, Isle of Skye, Christina MacPherson, widow of Donald MacKinnon, on 28th April 1968, in her 90th year.

McLULLICH—At 1 Kennoy Cottages, Tayvallich, Lochghead, on 4th May 1968, Johan MacLeod, wife of the late Peter MacLulich, and daughter of the late Donald and Isabella MacLeod, 27 Fivenny, Ness, Lewis.

PROVERB

Foadaih fearg sealltainn a stigh air crìdh an duine ghlic, Ach còmhnaichidh i an crìdh an amadain.

Anger may look in on a wise man's heart. But it abides in the heart of a fool.

Text for the Times

Bithheadh bhur n-uile nìthan air an deanamh le gradh. 1 Corintianach xvi, r. 14. Let all your things be done with charity. 1 Corintians xvi, v. 14.

The Highlands & Islands Film Guild can arrange Private or sponsored shows anywhere in the Crofting Counties. Projectionists and mobile cinemas available. Contact 22 High Street, Inverness. Telephone 3132.

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MURDER BY ORDER

During the ten-year period, 1956-1966, it is estimated from Irish census returns that approximately 36,000 girls and 44,000 boys between the ages of 15-19 years emigrated from Eire. Figures for the 20-24 years age-group are equally startling—56,000 females, and 64,000 males. It is worth noting that the next highest age-group was the 25-29 years one. Numerous studies and surveys have disclosed that most of this emigration, particularly in the 15-19 years sector, is irresponsible emigration. Without any doubt all sectors of the community must bear a large portion of the blame for this chilling draining of the very life-blood of the nation. Most of these young people were allowed to grow up with a cynical outlook on the future... nurtured in an atmosphere of despair, in a leadership vacuum, in which the prevalent advice was to 'get

out to get on.' They are the unwitting victims of the breakdown in community, the result of cultural apostasy by previous generations. The language barrier ensures that our minds are continuously fed on a flood of Anglo-American matter, conditioning us to accept the materialistic standards and values of the mass-culture as those which are normal and to be sought after. It is of course much easier to review the causes and effect of this terrible cancer called emigration than to set out a remedy. On various occasions suggestions were made that emigration by those under 13 should be banned by law but this alone, if attempted would be ridiculous, and at best would only provide a bigger slave market for exploiters of 'child labour.' This latter is a huge problem throughout the nation. There are thousands of our young being blatantly exploited

as cheap-labour by unscrupulous business concerns. One wonders just how many of these young people were among the 80,000 mentioned in the opening paragraph above? The new educational opportunities will have far-reaching beneficial results and of all the new proposals the Colleges of Higher Technical Education which are to be built in nine centres, may prove to be among which are to be built in nine centres, may prove to be among the most important ideas ever put forward in the educational field. Even if the school-leaving age was to be raised to 17 or 18 years, thus making it compulsory for everyone in this age-group to specialise in one or other type of education, and if enough new jobs were created to absorb the thousands becoming available for employment, the basic sociological problems affecting the morale of the nation would not be rectified.

"Am Fasach Mu Dheireadh Air Fhagail's An Roinn Eorpa"

Cluinnidh sinn pàilteas mu dheidhinn Ard an Iar na Gaidhealachd agus mar a tha e air a chluais, ach 's e gle bheag a chluinnear mu dheidhinn nan aite a tha na fasach o'chionn bhliadhnaean. Dh'fhàs sinn cho cleachdte ri na fasach seo fhainn 's gu bheil sinn de'n bhàraill nist nach robh sluaigh riann a fuireach anna ach corra gneamar no ciobar. Rud eile chionn 's nach eil Gaidhlig, mar as tric, aig na coigrich a tha fuireach sud 's a seo 's na h-aiteachan sud 's an aitha an duigh tha sinn de'n bheachd nach robh i riann ann. Ach dh'aindeoin de chreideas sinn agus staid mindurra mi-thathnach nan aite sin an duigh bha latha eile ann gun teagamh.

na Fearn (sic) agus an Crodh Chlach aite a bha annieul measg nan seann daoine agus iur an b'abhaist iad a bhith dol as 't-samhraidh dh'an airigh. Is cinnteach gu robh feadhainn a Gleann Masarainn a' dol ann cuideachd, combla ri muinntir Srath Narainn is Srath Eirinn agus Bhaideanach. Codhuibh bha riatnach dhròbh airèach a Srath Naruinn a' dol tarsuinn Gleann Nasaruinn gu ruig Coig na Fearn. Cha deach faid riann ann an cò mu dheidhinn muinntir a' ghlinne seo ach le Dot-air Carruthers as deidh a bhith air thurus 's an duthach seo uaireigin roimh a' bhliadhna 1843. Thubhairt e gur e taigh-eann phloc dhubha gun uineag cheart no sìmilèir a bha aca. Thubhairt e gu robh iad a' cumail gobhair is crodh agus a' dol dh'an airigh leò. Gur e daoine cruaidh foighdeanach a bha anna, daoine a bha gle bhòch ach anabarrach usaal nan doigh, daoine a rinn feusl mhòr dh'an Rìoghachd ann an Airm an Rìgh. Thubhairt e mar an ceudna nach robh aca ach faid no dha dhe'n Bheurla. Tha ainnean an aite ag innse dhuisinn beagan mu dheidhinn. Bha Caochan na Cailliche ann is Carn Ghriogair agus Creag Ruairidh. Chanell fhios againn co bha 's na creutairean bòchd seo ach feumaidh gu robh iad sonruichte ann an doigh air choirèighinn. Bha cnuic ris an abairte Sgarann Liath, Sguabhaich is Ruigh Mhùlach agus sruthain ris an canadh iad Caochan a' Phòta, an Eiginn agus Allt Coilleargaig.

daoine air falbh roimh an am seo a reir chòltais. Chanell fhios de thachair dhaibh ach is docha gun gabh a cheisd fhuasgladh fhathast. Ach tha fhuasgail againn gun deach an Crodh Chlach a thoirt air falbh o na daime agus gun deach e to chaoarach mhòra nan Gall mun air a bha am Dr Carruthers air a thurus. Chanell amhras sam bith nach do chuir seo am sluaigh nan eiginn cruaidh. Gun mhòndaidh is stoc cha robh beòshlaichte aca idir air gu bh' fheudair dhaibh an gleann fhagail airson a bhaile mhòr. Chanell e gu buileach ceart chantail gur e Dr Carruthers an t-aon duine a thubhairt ruideiginn mu dheadhunn na duthcha seo. Bha fear eile ann Domhnall Frisèal a Srath Narainn. Rinn e oran air a chial a bha aca dar a chaidh an Crodh Chlach a thoirt uapa agus air an droch bheachd a bha aca air an duine "an Ceannaich Ruadh" a ghabh an t-aite air mhal. "Cha bheinn an iongnadh dhuisinn bhith fo bhron Nuair a thigeadh am dhuisin a dhol do'n Chrodh Gach caileag ghuanaich a falbh le buarach An droch mu'n cuairt di 's na laoiagh sa chrodh. "Sann am Baideanach urad, shuas Tha a thamh aig a Cheannaich Ruadh Fras luaidhe na sgaoth mu chluasan 'S mur toir e buaidh air gum faigh e 'm bas."

Sin mar a bha an gleann 's an letham a dh' eudh. Far an robh ceag ba is sìrth eich chaneil ach meilich chaoarach is durrghail creic fraoich. Far an robh guig ceolmior na Gaidhlig tha corra uir sgreaidh an Bheurla. Mo chreach mhòr. Bu mhòr am chreach

Measg iomadhach aite dhe 'n t-seorsa seo tha fear ris an canadh iad Gleann Masarainn, fìoig beag gorm 's a Minnadh Ruadh' (sin am monadh eadar Srath Eirinn is Srath Narainn). Chanell taigheadas ann an duigh ach ann an taigh an uachdarain agus taighean gheamhair is dorlach shearbhanta. Ach mu mheadhainn na linn seo chaidh bha ochd bailtean ann. Is cinnteach nach robh iad cho mòr ri bailtean Inne Ghalbh chionn 's gur e aite fhu cruaidh ard a tha 's a ghleann seo. Is docha nach robh as gach baile ach da is tri taighean. Aig beul a ghlinne bha Dal Tomach is Lagan is Cul Reithinn Sin far a bheil na taighean fhathast is an taigh mòr fhein mar an ceudna Shuas an Gleann bha Cul Lagain, Blar nan Sleuchdan shìos is Blar nan Sleuchdan shuas, Bun Caochan na Cailliche agus Druin Riabhach. Bha mu dhruan acair do thalamh treabhadh aig gach baile agus gearraidh is monadh mar an ceudna. Shuas Srath Eirinn tha Coig

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Schools Exploration Society

A new voluntary society, The Scottish Schools Exploration Society, is holding its inaugural meeting at the Aviemore Centre, Inverness-shire, on Saturday, April 20th.

Now in the process of being formed, the society intends to provide opportunities for Scottish schoolboys and schoolgirls to undertake purposeful exploration both at home and abroad. Expeditions arranged or sponsored by the society will involve work in fields such as geography, geology, ornithology, botany and physiology.

In its programmes, the Society will have adventurous and worthwhile projects, and proposals for this summer are for a Land Use Survey in the Hebrides involving mountain walking and an expedition by canoe off the West Coast of Scotland. Plans for 1969 include full scale expeditions to Northern Norway and to Turkey.

Membership of the society is to open to educationists, youth leaders and individuals in Scotland interested in such opportunities, and they are invited to contact as soon as possible Mr Nicholas Thomas, F.R.G.S., acting Secretary, The Scottish

Schools Exploration Society, The Old Schoolhouse, Ullapool, Ross-shire. Schools can affiliate to the society. Already, only a few weeks after initiating the idea, Mr Thomas has received from all parts of Scotland over 20 school affiliations and 8 individual applications for membership.

The meeting at Aviemore on April 20th will include the election of officials, the formulation of projects for 1968/69, a demonstration of canoe rolling and capsiz drills, arranged by Gordonston School and the showing of films relating to exploration to include the Antarctic Crossing.

The 2nd British Land Use Survey being organised in Scotland by staff of the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh, is in need of competent surveying parties. The aim is to plot, according to a set colour scheme, on 6 in. maps land use and function. The area to be covered (if possible) is equal to one 24-in. to mile O.S. sheet.

The society hopes to organise and arrange such a scheme in Skye (possibly in the Loch Ewnort region) and to undertake some climbing in the process.

EUROPEAN CIVICS CAMPAIGN

This campaign was recently held in Edinburgh. It was organised with the co-operation of the Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association, under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the European Cultural Foundation and the Scottish Department of Education.

While recognising that the campaign was necessarily somewhat general, being a first contact between the European Civics Campaign and Scottish teachers, the participants suggested that a greater impact could be made by the examination of more clearly defined themes, such as the problems or presenting Europe in specific disciplines or to specific age-groups or levels of ability.

In particular, more should be done to examine the problem of presenting Europe to the less able pupil. The academic pupil had more opportunity and capacity for learning for himself, whereas there is a real danger in democratic states in letting the majority of the future population remain in ignorance of European problems by the time they leave school.

It was noted with satisfaction the retention in Scotland of history and geography as individual disciplines and the belief that prior schooling in these disciplines is necessary as a preparation for the integrated subject at leaving certificate level.

It was clear from the discussions that nations, as well as individuals, are not always aware of their prejudices. A valuable feature of European studies, whether they may be economic, social, geographical, historical or linguistic — is that they provide a point of comparison permitting greater objectivity and mutual understanding.

Similarly, traditional ways of presentation may unconsciously produce stereotypes and misconceptions. An example of this may be seen in the preoccupation with national frontiers in history and geography teaching. Regional studies of border areas are a useful corrective to this tendency.

As for the study of the movement towards European integration, it was strongly felt that such institutions as the EEC, OECD or the Council of Europe should not be studied in isolation but integrated in broader themes of contemporary significance.

It was brought home to participants in their discussions with colleagues of different disciplines that all the school subjects under review could be used to inculcate a sense

Cluas Ri Claisneachd BEACHDAN AIR PROGRAMAN GAIDHEALACH

Toiseachadh Fabharach

Chualas a' cheud chraobh-sgaoileadh de'n phrogram ur, "Ceann-labhairt", anns am bu suil air a thoirt air cuspair ean a tha air a' t-sluaigh ann an "saoghal na Gaidhlig". Ma bhios an corra cho hor mhilis ris a' cheud bhlasad b'ian an luchd-eisdeachd riann riachraichte. Cha robh agam a' aon adhbhar gearain — gu robh cus de bhlas Ghlasnu air a' phrogram. Tha mi'n dochas nach diochuimhinn muinntir roinn na Gaidhlig gu bheil Gaidheil ann an ceann-naidhean eile de'n Iuthaich a bharrachd air baile nan stioptail!

Co-fharpais ur

Tha program ur eile a' toiseachadh a dh'athghearr anns am bu uidh aig na Gaidheil. Bidh baltean na h-Albann a' stri ri cheile air an telebhisean ann an co-fharpais cheist, agus air an t-16mh latha de'n mhios seo bidh Steornabhagh agus Dumtris in an sàs ann a' chuiart a bhios air a riocordadh an oidhche sin.

Tomhais Ghann

Anns an aireamh mu dheireadh thubhairt mi gum b'e call mor a bh' ann gu robh "Deanamaid Aoradh" air a ghiorraicadh 'sa Ghiblean. Ach air a' mhios seo a rithist chan eil ach carteral na h-uarachd air a' phrogram seo a tha 'na thlachd do mhoran. Chan 'eil e furasda a chreidsinn gu bheil na mionaidean cho gann sin — am feasgar mus tainig a' cheud seirbhis a mach air a' mhios seo, bha aite falamh eadar 3:50 agus ceithir uairean a chaidh a lionadh le clair de cheol. 'Se urachadh a th'anns an t-seinn — anns an t-seann doigh — air "Deanamaid Aoradh" an turus seo.

Oraid Intinneach

Tha am BBC air oraidèan taitneach a thaghadh airson feasgar Diar-daoin mus toisich "Deanamaid Aoradh". Cha robh an oraid aig Iain Mac Leoid air "Ola" iuir air deireadh air an fheadhainn eile — thug e seachd iomradh a bha an da chuid simplidh agus fiosrach. Tha Mgr. Mac Leoid air dearbhadh mu thrath gun teid aig na Gaidheil air bruidhinn gu nadurra 'nan canan fein air cuspair

of European fellowship. In the teaching of the mother tongue, for instance, importance should be attached to the many translations of foreign literary works available in cheap editions and more stress could be laid on the debt of national authors to predecessors in other countries.

ean a bhineas do'n linn ad-hartaich anns a bheil sinn beud, agus is mor am beud nach 'eil a leithid ach tearc.

Faclan Ura

'Se na Naidheachdan Gaidhlig aon de na meadhanan troimh an tig faclan ur a steach dh'an chanan — agus tha iad air obair mhath a dheanann anns an oidhrip seo. Ach saoilidh mi gun deanadh iad barrachd fèum nan cumadh iad is an eadar-theangachadh air faclan a tha tric air bilean an t-sluaigh. A' bruidhinn air na "United Nations", canaidh fear de na leughadairean "Na Rìochdhan Aonaichte", ach gheibh sinn "Na Staitèan Aonaichte" aig an fhear eile. Bha mise riann an duil gur e Ameireaga a tha air a chiallachadh leis Na Staitèan Aonaichte — ach a' reir coltais tha beachd eile aig na Sgiathanach. Cluinidh sinn "Bord Leasachaidh na Gaidhealtachd" aig fear de luchd nan naidheachd — agus nach 'eil a' chuid as motha de na Gaidheil air gabhail ris an eadar-theangachadh sin? — ach 'se "Bord Adhartais na Gaidhealtachd" a chanas am fear eile fhathast. Tha lan am aig an fheadhainn a tha a' craobh-sgaoileadh agus a' clo-bhualladh na Gaidhlig air tighinn gu cordadh mu fhac-lan mar sin.

Cleachdadh Feumail

Uaireannan aig deireadh nan programan aig meadhon-latha cuiridh am fear-labhairt 'nar cuimhne gum bu tilleadh Gaidhlig craobh-sgaoite feasgar no air an oidhche. B' fhearr leam gun deanadh iad sin gu cunbhalach — gu h-àraid air Diar-daoin — oir tha e cho furasda diochuimhneachadh cuin' a tha na programan ann. Tha mi a' creidsinn gun can balaich a' Bh. B. C. gum bu choir dhomh an "Radio Times" a cheannach!

Gaidhlig Chanada!

Is ann inneamh a chluinneas sinn programan eibhinn ann an Gaidhlig, ach an drasda is a rithist tha cuid de na rudan a thug a mach air na Naidheachdan a' lionadh na bearna. Nuair a bha Enoch Powell thall ann an Canada bho chionn chòirid rinn buidheann de dhaoine duibha gearan 'na arbhaid air bu'laibh an taigh-òsda far an robh e a' fuireach. A reir nan Naidheachdan Gaidhlig bha seo sgrìobhte air na clair a bha iad a' giùlan: "Thalla dhachaidh, a bheisid leit-eachas-sluaiph!" Is fhada bho'n chuala mi gu bheil moran de Gaidheil Chanada dileas do'n t-seann chanan, ach cha robh sin a dh'fhios aig gu bheil Gaidhlig cho sgoilearach aig na daoine dubha!

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(Continued at foot of next column)

SRUTH

Di-ardaoin, 16 Iatha de'n Cheitein 1968
Thursday, 16th May 1968

The Language Question

At the present time, when Welsh has now equal status with English, Gaelic seems to be in slack water. The impetus which it received about two years ago seems to have lost its pace and one now has the feeling of sitting around waiting for the next move in the history of the language.

Certainly, the time is now past when one looked to sympathisers, well-meaners, cultural promoters and the like for the necessary support. It is the politicians who are in 'the' position to do something for Gaelic, to raise its present status and to give it equality with English.

Gaelic speakers probably realise that, as Gaelic-speakers, they are second-class citizens in this country (whereas the Welsh are not). Yet, the pity of it is that Gaels are either reluctant or incapable of agitating for the recognition of their language. One recalls the agitation of the Gaelic Society of Inverness at periods during its near-century of existence to promote the interests of the language. Who nowadays roots for Gaelic? Particularly on the political front?

While readers may search the present scene for a likely candidate, it is worthwhile to mention that the end of this month sees history created. We may be wrong but for the first time ever, Gaelic is the subject of a Resolution to be placed before the Annual Conference of the Scottish National Party in Aberdeen.

It is probably the first time that an important Resolution on Gaelic has ever been placed before the Annual Conference of any political party, particularly one which, unlike Plaid Cymru, has no definite association with a Celtic language. While recognising that the majority of Scotland is English-speaking, the SNP must be given credit for doing something to encourage Gaelic-speakers to help themselves to promote their language.

It should now, after the eighty years of the existence of An Comunn, be obvious that unless a language is associated with politics it cannot make the necessary progress towards official recognition by the State. An Comunn is, of course, non-political by the terms of its Constitution. Which may well be its strength, or failure. If failure, it need not be complete failure, however. For though An Comunn must be bound by its Constitution, its members are quite untrammelled. Each individual could therefore see to it that their Members of Parliament are pushed to see a Gaelic Bill through the House. As it is, it looks likely that the Member for Hamilton (a Constituency not known for its Gaelic speakers) will be promoting the most effective instrument for Gaelic recognition — which the Gaels, on their showing to date, hardly deserve.

An Taghadh Ionadail . . .

Tha fhios ag a h-uile duine a nis mar a chaidh leis a' Bhuidhinn Naiseanta ann an taghadh ionadail. Tha e coltach gur i a' bhuidheann seo a thagh aon duine as a h-uile trì an Alba (dh'e'n fheadhainn a ghabh uibhir a dhragh agus gun d'rinn iad taghadh idir).

Tha Uilleam Ros fhèin air teannadh air na Naiseantaich a mholadh a nis. Docha gu bheil duil aige gun toir seo a cheart uibhir a bhoiteachan bhuaitha agus a thug an caineadh aise dhaibh roinne.

Chan eil teagamh nach do thagh torr dhaoine a' Bhuidheann Naiseanta an duil gun bitheadh barracd cothrom aig Iarratasan an t-sluaigh eiseachd fhaighinn nan faigheadh a' bhuidheann seo a stigh. Co-dhiù cha mhise an da bhuidhinn mhoir buille fhaighinn an drasda 's a rithis. Rinn iad de cheile othall gu leor roimhe seo nach bitheadh ann ach cèll bh'ot a thoirt dha na Naiseantaich na bit riaghladh greis thè. An uair a tha buidheann air a bhith riaghladh greis thè an fheadhainn a tha air a ceann buailteach air smaointeachadh gu bheil seorsa de choir dh'iadhadh no 'd'vineight' aca-san air riaghladh agus gur e seorsa de thoibheum a tha ann a dhol 'nan aghaidh. Is math an rud e a thoirt 'nan cumhne gur e seirbhìs a phoibail agus nach e am maighstirean a tha ann an luchd-riaghlaidh.

. . . Agus An Oigridh

Tha e 'na abhar-ionnadh agus 'na abhar toileachais an tart a tha ann an cridhe an duine airson saorsa agus ceartais. Ann an Czecho-Slovakia agus ann an Russia tha daoine oga nach d'fhuair teagasg sam bith ach teagasg nan Co-mhaoinach ag eirich suas agus ag aigair an coir an rud a thogras iad a radh agus a sgrìobhadh. Cha bu choir dhuinn iad-san a mholadh agus, aig an aon am a bhith caineadh an fheadhainn oga anns an duthaich againn fhèin a tha deannamh a' bhrèith mu rudan nach eil iad 'a' saoilinn ceart.

Faicinn Bhuam

IOMAIN ANN AN GLASCHU

Bu mhath a chluinntinn gu robh barrachd a' coimhead Earraghaidhealach Glaschu agus Ionaraora na bha aig geama Jeireannach A' Chomunn Cheiltich o chionn bhliadhnaich. Thug Ionaraora leotha grunnan chàirdean agus bha sin feumail, oir chaneil Gàidhail Glaschu fhèin a' cumail suas cluch an iomain (camaich) nia: a dh' fhadhadh iad.

Thoisich cluch iomain an Glaschu roimh t'uisreach na lina seo agus cha b' ann gum duitheadh a chumadh a' dol e r'è nam bliadhnaich. Tha cumhann agam air iomain raon cluiche a bha againn anns a' bhaile, an ceannaidheach a tha an diugh còmhdaichte le sràidean is taighnean.

O am gu àm bha comhairleir a' bhaile a' deanamh oidhirp air linaig fhàgail falamh an siud san seo ach, leis an eighceach a bha ann, is a tha ann fhathast, airson tuilleadh thaghaichean, chaneil na roinnean cluiche ach ainneamh. Far a bheil iad idir tha iad an làmh nan buidheann mòra a bhithes ris a' chluich ud eile, am ball-coise, no soccer.

Rinneadh tagradh barrachd is aon uair aon fhaiche co dhiu a chur air leth airson iomain. An seomair a' bhaile bha iad deònach eiseachd agus deiseil gu gealltainn gun deantadh rudeigin, ach cha fheadhaidh gnothaichean na b' fhaiche sin. Mur a b'e cothrom a bhith ann air pàircean nan àrd sgoil agus an oilthigh cha ghabhadh geama mu cumail idir an Glaschu.

Chaneil e soirbh coire a chur air mathan a' bhaile airson an t-suidheachaidh seo. Feumar a ràdh faicinn a' mheas a tha air cluich ball-coise, gu bheil e nas fhèarr gillean oga a bhith a' cluich iad fhèin na a bhith a' coimhead air d'fhuair eile a' cluich. Tha fhios ag a h-uile dè a' thachair air cluithachean nan pàircean mòra nuair a tha na treudan a' crunneachadh, agus an airmheir san droch nàdur a tha ag eirigh.

Bhithheadh e na b'fhearr mar sin nan bitheadh na bu lugha ag amharc agus tuilleadh a' cluich. Bhithheadh e na b'fhearr, nar sùilbhe-n, nan bitheadh cuid de na tha ceangailte ris a' bhall-coise, a' tionndadh ris an iomain. Tha a h-uile duine gun teagamh a' tighinn gu 'n' latha nuair a dh' fheumas e a' chluich a leigeil seachadh agus a bhith fhàrachite le bhith ag amharc. Mas e soccer, agus soccer, is fearr leis faodaidh e cuid co dhiu de a chuid amharc a dèanamh taobh an teine mu choinneamh an teleisèin.

Tha uread de othall air a dèanamh an diugh le na pàipearan is le craobh-sgoilteach mu shocair nacheil e furasda tagradh a dèanamh as leth seann chleas an iomain. Tha seòbhan is cluich-a'rdairèan àraidh a' faotainn a lethidhe de aròradh s gu feum thu, a bhith faiceallach de a

their thu mu 'n' dèidhinn, air eagal gu fuiling thu air a shon.

Thàinig mi fhìn aon uair gu math faisg air fulang anns an dòigh seo. Fhuair mi an latha seo cothrom iongantach, na sgiobachan ainmeil ud, Rangers agus Seltic, fhàicinn a' cluich, agus cha b'ann an aghaidh a' chéile. A' bhliadhna 1936 a bh' ann, nuair a bha an dùthaich ri gairdeachas is a Rìgh Seòras V air a bhith 25 bliadhna air a' chrùn. Mar chuid de na ho ro gheallai a bh' ann, bha gearmahan soccer as t-samhradh.

Aig trì uairean chunnainn mi na Rangers air am beataidh. Chòrd sin riom gu mòr ach bha tuilleadh ri tighinn. An latha sin fhèin aig seachd uairean feagar chunnainn mi na Seltics air am beataidh cuid-each. Na buidheann beaga a' toirt buaidh, mar a bu mhath leam. S fheadar gun de nochd mi mo thoilintinn aig an dara geama an doigh ro fhòlaiseach, oir bhruidhinn global faisg orm riom ann an doigh nach robh idir coibhneil agus le faclan nach fhaic thu ann an Struth, co-dhiù nach fhaic mi ann fhathast. Cha d' thuir mise an còrr. Tha na fin-eachan ud mòran nas mìosa an diugh: theagam gun b'e botull ann an toll na cluaise an peanas an diugh airson mearachd de 'n' t-seòrsa.

A dh'aindeoin sin cha do ghabh mi riann grunn buileach air an t-socair. Cha toig leam an comhaidh na chi mi d'heir air an teleisèan, gu b' àraidh an ire gu 'n' téid na cluicheadairèan a' danna s a' clumbhadh a' chéile nuair a gheibh iad gò. Na tigeadh an latha a chi sinn na h-iomain a' call an riap san dòigh seo.

Tha abharr eile ag obrachadh an aghaidh an iomain ann a' chosgais. Chuireadh sgoilearan Pròrthrig ri mo chumhnesa trì sgillinn a fear comhla agus bheireadh iad e do fear anns an robh earbsa agus a bha comasach air litir a sgrìobhadh gu deas a dh' iarraidh bull. Mun d'fhàg mise an sgoil bha an iomain air t'òiseachadh. Cha deanadh trì sgillinn a fear an gnothach tuilleadh. A bhar-

rachd air ball dh' fheumadh balach caman. Fear as a' choille, bha sin math gu leòr aig aois deic bliadhna, ach aig aois a sia diag cha deand adn feum ach fear gleansach a' Inbhrinis. Bha iad a' cosg 7/6 an uair ud. An diugh tha iad a dha no trì notaichean, agus chan fhad a mhaireas feadhainn dhia.

Tha na buidheann a tha a' cumail an iomain air adhart, a dh' aindeoin gach deuchainn ri am moladh. Tha Earraghaidhealach Glaschu treun nuair a tha iad a' cumail orra is buidheann eile air a dhol as. Chaneil àite cluiche ach anns a' bhaile idir an diugh: feumaidh iad a dhol gu pàirce shìos taobh Loch Laomhainn.

'Biad Ionaraora a fhuair a' Chuach Chèitreach am bliadhna, an duais as sine gu léir am farpaisèan an iomain. Cha d'fhuair iad latha ro mhath no talamh ro lom, ach b' mhadh a b'fhaich a' chluich a dhol ga faicinn. Gu mi-shealbhadh chaidh dìth a ghoirteachadh. Their mi nach ann tric a chithear a lethid sin. Nuair a their daoine riumsa gur e cluich fhàidhach mhi riaghalteach a th' anns an iomain ta s'ris an t-socair tha mi ag innse dhaibh gu robh mi aig geama ball-coise eile far an d'fhuair cluicheadair leòn leis an d'ug e roimh dheireadh an latha.

Ach chaneil an còrr rùm a seo airson nan ramannas. Bithidh luchd-leannain ann an comain air an t-seachdain seo a' feitheamh ris a' gheama mòr anns a' Ghearsda Disatharna, nuair a bhithes Caolas Bhòid agus Ceann a' ghiusa' a' gleachd airson Cuach na Camanachd.

Dearbhadh an àireamh a bhithes an làthair gu bheil uidh tuath is deas anns an iomain fhathast agus, nuair a tha an riaghaltais a' cur aig air mu seach airson chleas an gach seòrsa, gun bu chòir cuid d'heir tighinn an rathad a' chluich èasgaidh inn-tinnich seo.

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woman to woman

Review Order

SIRICILY FOR NON-BREAKFASTERS

Which is the most important meal of the day? The one you shouldn't miss? Is it one you won't say "Breakfast" with much enthusiasm. But food is indispensable — most of all first thing in the morning. Recent facts and figures about suicides in America show that most of them happen in the early morning before breakfast. Moral? Never make really important decisions till after breakfast!

We British have a reputation for large breakfasts — platefuls of bacon and eggs with maybe tomatoes, sausages, mushrooms and kidney thrown in too, but it's difficult to find more than a few people enthusiastic enough to get up in time to have more than a cuppa. Why?

It makes sense, doesn't it, to eat meals in a pattern that's the same as the way you live? You're active all day — at least more active than at night — and that's just when you need energy and sustenance from food. It's much better to eat the food before you do all the work instead of after — it helps you work more efficiently.

This is terribly important for the children at school. They can't concentrate on their lessons if they don't have something solid inside them first. It's amazing how many children are sent to school breakfastless. And now that free school milk is going to be stopped — at least

for the teenagers — it's unfair to the kids to expect them to go till lunch time with an empty stomach.

No breakfast, not much lunch, and a vast meal in the evening, which knocks you out so that all you want to do is, to sit and watch the "tele" — is this you? This makes the body work very hard storing all the calories you eat in the evening and don't use, and in the morning you feel lethargic because there is no food inside you to give you the energy to keep going. Well, I don't expect you feel even now like having a hearty steak and eggs for breakfast — can't expect you to change your breakfast habits that drastically! Can't you compromise and try to make breakfast that little bit more important in your day? Oh come on, a cuppa's not good enough, but food doesn't have to be solid to be nutritious. Why not try this idea just for a week and see what a different person you can be, not only first thing in the morning but all day!

HOT COFFEE EGG NOG

2 eggs; Sugar to taste, if liked; 1 pint milk; 2 teasp. Nescafe.

Beat the eggs with the sugar; Heat the milk to just below boiling point; Remove from the heat; Add the Nescafe and dissolve; Pour over the eggs, stirring well; Pour into cups or mugs and drink at once. Serves 3.

Now you can't complain that this takes any more time to make than the ordinary

cuppa — whether it's tea or coffee — in the morning. It's much more use to you than no breakfast, stops you feeling like lunch at 10.30 a.m. and really keeps you going.

Grants for Tourist Associations

The Highlands and Islands Development Board have allocated over £14,000 to 23 local tourist associations throughout the seven crofting counties this year to help them improve their service to visitors. The associations have already received most of the amount they will be getting, and will receive the rest during the summer.

Among those receiving grants, the Western Isles Tourist Association, with offices at Stornoway, Tarbert, Lochboisdale, Lochmaddy and Barra, has been allocated over £1,500, and the Skye Tourist Association has been allocated over £1,000. The National Trust, with six centres involved has been allocated over £2,000.

This move is intended as an interim measure until the tourism organisation in the crofting counties comes into effect.

UBRAID MU SPEULCLAIREAN BHARRAIGH

Aig coinnneach a chum Buidheann Laborach nan Eileanan air ra rinnadh gearran gu robh cuideachd nan speulclairean ann am Barraigh air sinn Wmifred Ewing, am ball-Parlamaid Naiseantach, a chur air scòrsa àraidh de na frèimeachan a tha iad a' dèanamh. Bha iad gu làidir de'n bharail nach bu chòir do bhuidhinn sam bith a tha a' faighinn cuideachaidh o'n Rìghalhtas gnòthach a ghabhail ri poilitics.

Cha robh a' chuideachd a tha a' dèanamh nan speulclairean—Afocal Optics—idir 'nan nosd mu ghearan an luchd-càinidh. Thubhairt Mgr. Gordon Kean, fear-stiùraidh na cuideachd, gu bheil a' bhuidheann neo-ciseamalach, agus mar sin gu faod iad ainm sam bith a thogras iad a chur air na frèimeachan. (Bith ainm Iain Rollo air scòrsa eile.) Chuir Mgr. Kean as àicheadh gu bheil a' chuideachd a' faighinn co-bhair o'n Rìghalhtas—gun teagamh, 'se Bord Leasachaidh na Gàidhealtachd a' cheannachd a' dèanamh an sgoil 'sa Bhàgh-a-Tuath far a bheil factòraidh nan speulclairean, ach 's am teò fhéin a tha gach inneal agus uidheam a tha iad a' cur an sàs.

Bho chionn ghoirid fhuair a' chuideachd adhartach seo ann am Barraigh òrdan á Ameiraga a bheir £12,000 a stigh. Tha 14 ag obair anns an fhactòraidh.

BIOGRAPHY OF A SEA

Most histories tend to concentrate on land masses. It is therefore a welcome change to be able to read about the history of a sea: the North Sea. At long last, the part played by the seas on the earth seems to be occupying the writers' minds and one hopes that further similar books will be appearing soon.

The present book under review is by Dr George Morey. He tells of the circumstances which have brought the people on both sides of the North Sea into contact with each other since the earliest times.

The North Sea lies at the heart of 'the golden triangle' — the great concentration of industrial power situated between the Midlands, North-Eastern England and Northern Germany. The influence which these waters have had on history is considerable and is part of the story which the author tells effectively.

Starting with the evolution of the North Sea, Dr Morey traces the early trading links, smuggling, the coasting trade, the ships that plied to and fro, battles and peaceful shipping routes. Both the English and European coastlines are dealt with, in particular that peculiarly English institution 'the seaside.'

Dr Morey brings his story right up to date by discussing the recent discovery of North Sea gas, the Dutch Delta Plan, the construction of the Europort and the projected plans for the Humber and the North-east.

One sets down the book with a feeling of satisfaction at having in the space of an evening traversed two thousand years of history recorded on a wide canvas that is full of interesting detail—and feel, not exhaustion, but a hunger for more. Such is the excellent manner of Dr Morey's writing.

Dr Morey's North Sea is anything but a 'dry' subject. Dare we expect him to turn his interest to other areas of water round our coasts?

'The North Sea,' by George Morey; Frederick Muller, London, 1967; 40s.

English with a Gaelic Background

Iain Crichton Smith is a name which is familiar to SRUTH readers. His name is also familiar to those who are interested in the Scottish literary scene. For Mr Smith has carved for himself a well-deserved place under the sun of the Scottish Muses.

His work has been growing in stature for some years and is now justly considered worthy of inclusion in the major Scottish, and British, literati of today. Most of his work has been in the poetry form. Though he has written a number of well-thought out short stories with definite literary status.

Now comes his first novel:

'Consider the Lilies.' As one might expect, it is a poet's novel. This makes the prose richer and adds a new dimension for the reader to appreciate.

The theme is an old woman due to be evicted by Patrick Sellar. But it is not an historical novel. It is, as the author says, 'a fictional record.' This gives the author scope to analyse the various mental levels of the characters he depicts. And he does the analyses successfully.

The result is not a mere cataloguing of events related to humans, but of reactions by humans to events and other humans, both friend and antagonist.

As belted a poet's novel, the book contains snippets of words and phrases which add lustre to the prose. The dialogue, too, is exactly what one might expect from a writer in English with a Gaelic background. To the professional English writer, the dialogue may look strange. To the Highlander, it is natural, for it is truly spoken dialogue, set down uncorrected to conform with grammatical rules.

The novel has been described as 'a profoundly human document,' made all the more relevant to our day and age by the use of the old woman, Mrs Scott, and her thoughts as events and historical characters move around her.

Iain Smith is not the first novelist which Lewis has produced. Other natives have written the novel: Agnes Mure MacKenzie and W. C. MacKenzie have contributed to the form. But it can be said that 'Consider the Lilies' is the most significant literary product of a Lewis-born author. One looks forward to his next work in prose with impatience.

'Consider the Lilies,' by Iain Crichton Smith; Gollancz, London, 21s.

Scottish Gaelic Proverbs

The eleventh in a series of booklets produced by the Gaelic Information Centres Committee of an Comunn Gàidhealach deals with Gaelic proverbs. The text is by the well known Gaelic Scholar, Dr John Lorne Campbell.

Dr Campbell's text makes excellent reading and it is thus a pity that the presentation of the text causes some confusion to the reader. Which may be the fault of the printer.

But the reader who stays with Dr Campbell will be well rewarded, for here is a useful insight into every aspect of Highland life and feeling.

The booklet costs 9d plus postage and is available from the Gaelic Information Centre, Abertarff House, Inverness. The text is largely in English. The Gaelic proverbs are given Dr Campbell's translations. The extensive bibliography provided makes the booklet an excellent reference on the subject.

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CO E PADRUIG BARDAN?

Tha fios ri leughadh anns na paipearan - naigheachd gum bheil fear de'n ainm Padruig Bardan a cur air chois seirbheis anns an Eilean Sgiathanach nach fhacas riamh roimhe anns an Eilean ged a tha a cheart seirbheis ann an eileanan eile air iomall an iar Alba. Is e sin Aite Alachas Chruidh, no mar a their iad an an canain eile "A. I. Centre." (Artificial Insemination Centre). "Co esan Padruig Bardan?" bi' cuide a foighneachd. Le cead fear deasachaidh na "Struth" tha mi a dol a thoirt beagan freagairt air a cheist. Anns a cheud aite, is e Sasunnach a h'ann, Sasunnach a fhuair fearann beag agus cha 'n ann gun dragh) agus a tha air tighinn a dh'fhuarach agus a dh'obairachadh dh'ann an Eilean. "S docha gun can thu gum bheil cus a Shasunnach agus a choigrich eile a faighinn chroitean anns an Eilean, croitear fan am bh'fhearr leat a bh' fainn Ghaidheil a deanamh an dachaidhean agus a toirt asda teachd an t-àg oibreachadh an fhearainn, an aite bhi g'a leigeil air ais gu fasach. Tha mi leat mu tha thu de'n bharail sin, ach cha'n ann idir dhe'n seorsa sin a ta Padruig Bardan. "S docha gun can tu gum bh' fhearr leat a bh' fainn neach a thighid le beachdan ur agus obair ur agus a chuidicheadh agus a dheanadh feum, chan ann a mhaid na fhein ach dh'an Eilean gu leir. Ma ta! is e sin a cheart ni a ta na bheachd a dheanamh, agus is e sin a cheart ni a ta e dol a chuir air chois. Ma theid leis, agus 's bochd an gnothaich mur a teid, chan fhad an uin agus am faicear atharrachadh mor agus leasachadh mor ann an

coltas crodh an Eilean Sgiathanach. "S docha gum bh' fhearr leat a bh' fainn fìor Ghaidheil aig an robh Gaidhlig agus aig an robh lan thuigs agus solas, air daoine agus fearainn agus doighean na Gaidhealtachd! Thuairt mi cheana gur h'e Sasunnach a ta ann, ach is e Sasunnach e a chuireadh gu naire iomadh Gaidheil ann an doigh no dha.

Is e mac an deagh athair a th'ann am Padruig athair a bha na shaoighdeir comasach agus gaisgeach, agus fear ged bu Shasunnach a bh'ann roghnaich e a bhoinneid 's am feilidh ann an reimsid Gaidhealtach agus gillean Gaidhealtach air gach taobh deth. Bruidnigh e Gaidhlig, leubhaidh e Gaidhlig, sgrìobhaidh e a Ghaidhlig, a bharrachd air a sin is e duine e aig am bheil meas agus luach mor air a Ghaidhealtachd agus gach ni a bhineas da a maith. Tha e eolach air an Eilean Sgiathanach, agus cha bheag an uine a chuir e seachd anns-an Eilean bho'n bha e na ghille agus. Is ann air sgath a shlainte a thainig e an toiseach, oir bhrist air a shlaint nuar bha e na oileanach agus b'eiginn dha an oileanach a chuir an dala taobh airmson tacan. Is e an rud a rinn e tighinn dh'ann an Eilean Sgiathanach agus oibreachadh air tuarasdal beag, ma bha tuarasdal idir ann, oir bha deigh aige riamh a bhi am measg bheathaichean agus am measg obair fearann. Nuair a cheadach a shlainte e agus a thill e ris an oileanach, chum e air a h-uile samhraidh a tighinn air ais am measg Ghaidheil agus Ghaidheal, agus rinn e agus inntinn gun tilleadh e agus gun toirheadh e a shlainte a shaothair, agus inntinn, a cuideachadh cor chroitearan agus fhuathanaich anns an

Eilean Sgiathanach. Is e ligheachd chruidh a th'ann an diugh, thug e mach an mbhe B. Sc./Ph.D. agus F.R.C.V.S. Tha an nis a chionn bliadhnaichean na fhear teagass ann an Colaisd a Chruidh ann Duneidinn, obair a tha e a fagal cuide ris an tuarasdal air sgath tighinn dh'an Eilean. Tha mor eolais agus mor fhiosrachadh aige air moran nithean a bhineas do fhearann agus do bheathaichean. Bha e mach air easad uair no dha, le cead na Colaisd, a cuideachadh luchd riaghlaidh 'an duthchann ura sin, Kenya agus Ghana, air dhaibh a bh' air an leigeil saor bho riaghladh Bhreatain. Chan e idir balach og gun eolas a ta tighinn 'nar meas, cha mhotha is e duine aig nach eil fhios de tha fa chomhair da, no gun fhios air an iomadh cnap-starra a dh'fhaodadh tachairt ris, ach chan eil sin a cuir tilleadh ann no cuir lughdachadh air a m'bisneachd ann a bh' idir air adhart anns an rud a chuir e romh.

Is cinnteach nach eil croitear no tuathanach nach aontaich leam nuair a their mi gu bheil lan fheum ann an Eilean Sgiathanach air a cheart ni a ta an Doctair Bardan a tairgse dhaibh. Tha an seann chrodh Gaidhealtach, bho'n thainig moran dheth na seor-shealainn eile a ta agann an diugh, agus a bha cho freagarrach air an fhearann agus air an aimsir anns na h-eileanan an iar, tha iad gu beag air a dhòlas, agus 'nan aite tha miosgachadh de bheathaichean de gach seorsa. Tha feum air fuil ur agus air seorsa nach eil an diugh ann. Tha cheart ni sin a nis air a thairgse dhuin anns an Eilean, siol nan tarbh is fhearr tha anns an duthaich seo, no ann an duthaicheil eil air thalamh.

* Chan e so an aon chusbar a ta ann am beachd an duine seo. Chunnac e tuilleadh is tric bheathaichean maith na croitearan gan reic aig feiltein anns an Eilean air prìsean a bha mi choltach, an a thachair gu'n robh droch fheill ann agus na drobhair-eann gann. Bha na ceart bheathaichean sin a deanamh prìsean maith air feiltean air Tìr-mor. Tha e am beachd an Doctair Bardan, le cuideachadh agus aon nan croitearan, a chuis sin atharrachadh gu tur agus doigh marachadh obrachadh a mach leis am faigh reic chruidh aig roid feudaona air son an cuid stoc. Feudaidh mi a radh nach e aon Doctair a tha anns an teaghlach seo, is i ban-lighiche a tha anns a bhean aig Padruig, Ealasaid is ainm dhith agus tha an inbhe M.B. Ch.B. D.Obst. agus R.C.O. G. aice. Tha mac ag a dan ainm Alasdair.

Tha Padruig Bardan lan araidh air a h-uile cuideachadh anns an obair cheudach a ta na bheachd, air a sgath fhein ach gu h-araidh air sgath

croitreachd agus tuathanachd chruidh anns an Eilean Sgiathanach. Is ar dochas gun soirbhech gun mor le Ionad Alachas Chruidh an Eilean Sgiathanach, fòdh laimh chothromaich an duine so-raichte seo.

DOMHNALL BUDGE
Dunbheagan.

A' GHAIHDHLIG GUN DOCHAS?

A Charaid,—Mas fìor am bàrd, is e a' bhruidhean mu'n Ghaidhlig—

"Is i labhair Adhamh,
An'n phàrras fèin,"

agus mar sin churr e iongnadh mor orm gur ann sa' Bheurla chruaidh a a tha am fear-sgrìobhaidh a chuir litir thu-aibh fo'n ainm, "Adamh" a' toirt a bheachdan am follais! Tha an suidheachadh na 's neòpaiche nuair a leughas sinn na faclan sgeaicheach le bheil e a' gearrain air meuran a' Chomunn, ceannardan Comunn na h-Oigridh agus luchd-deasachaidh "Struth" a chionn nach 'eil iad a' toirt còthrom na corach dh'ann Ghaidhlig. Tha mi'n dochas gun do leugh Adhamh an seanfhacl air t.d. 2.—"Feuch gu bheil do thealach fhèin sgeaibte mus tog thu luath do choimhearsnach."

Ged a tha iomadh rud anns an litir leise a bheil mi ag aontachadh, saoidh mi gu robh Adhamh air a smuaintean a chur an cèill gun a bhith a' cur cùil ris an fhìrinn. Tha e ag innse dhuinn nach 'eil fìlù's 8000 a leughas a' Ghaidhlig—bheil e air rannachadh mion-aideach a dhèanamh air a' chuspair seo? Bheil e a' cumail a mach gu bheil na mìltean a tha a' frithealadh seirbheisan Gaidhlig a h-uile Sàbaid tur aineolach air a' chànan a tha sgrìobhte anns na Biobuill! Tha fòsgailte air am beulaidh? Tha Adhamh a' sgrìobhadh gu bheil 90 per cent de na tha "Struth" a' cur a mach ann am Beurla—ach anns an àir-cham mu dheireadh, ged nach robh e a' Ghaidhlig ach gunn, bha eadar trì agus ceithir daillean ann dè na dà dheug ann an cainnt Tìr nan Beann. Chan 'eil àireamh nan daoine a tha gun obair air a' Ghaidhealtachd cho mòr 's a tha esan ag ràdh

—sa Mhàrt, bha 8.7 as a' cheud diomhain, agus ged a tha sin ro àrd, chan 'eil e cho àrd 's a tha Adhamh g'a dhèanamh. Agus a dh'aindeoin magaireachd Adhamh, chan ann a chionn 's gu bheil iad leig a tha na h-ubhair de Ghaidheil 'nan tàmh, ach do bhriugh nach 'eil obair ann dhaibh.

'Se gnòthach maslach a th'ann gu bheil An Comunn Gaidhealtach a' toirt àite cho mòr do'n Bheurla anns na coimheannach. Chan 'eil feum sam bith aig a Bheurla bhith air a brosnachadh—'So a' Ghaidhlig a tha ri uchd bàis. 'Se suidheachadh na' a th'ann cuideachd nach 'eil "Struth" gu leir ann a Ghaidhlig—chan 'eil feum sam bith air paipèar Beurla a' dèiligeadh ri naidheachdan agus beachdan Gaidhealtach; tha fichead dùibh sin air a' Ghaidhealtachd mar tha. Ach tha feum air paipèar Ghaidhlig, seadh paipèar seachdaicheach, a dhearbhas gun tèid aig a' Ghaidhlig air cuspairean a bhineas do'n latha anns a bheil sinn be' a chur an cèill. 'Nam bharail-sa, dhèanadh paipèar mar sin feum anna-barrach agus dh'fhaodadh e bhith 'na mheadhon air ath-bheathaichd mòr.

Ach mus tigeadh sin gu bheil dh'fheumadh An Comunn cuideigin a shuidheachadh aig nach biodh rud sam bith air a' chùram ach obair a' phàipear agus dò-bhuaildean eile. Chosgadh e aig roid smuaintean-ach—ach ma theid aig meuran a' Chomunn air na mìltean a chruinneachadh gach bliadhna airson a' Mhòid, carson nach deànadh iad an dearbh ni airson paipèar Gaidhlig? Ach a rèir coltais, gu ruige seo còr dùibh, cha dh'fhuair "Struth" mòran cuideachaidh bhuaipa a thaobh aigead no sgrìobhaidhean.

Nam biodh meuran agus buill a' Chomunn cho dileas do'n chànan agus a tha iad do'n Mhòd agus do na "cèilidhean" gun stà anns a bheil iad a' gabhail tlachd, mach dh'fhaoidhte nach biodh cor na Gaidhlig cho truagh.

Le meas,
DIARMAD.

Innse Gall.

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Taslaich nan Daoine Beo

Ach gu bhith ghealladh a dh'ionnsuidh ar sgeoil.

"Chunnaic mi sealladh air feannag sonraichte, bho chionn airmeach bhliadhachan air ais," a' seasann bhean rium fein, "nach fèid mi air diochiumhn cho làig 's is beo mi." 'S e feannag cùinn, briaghna samhraidh a bhà ann. Bha an duine agam air turas anns a' bhaile-mhor agus bha mi gu trang ag ullachadh nìthean air feadh an taighe a' feitheamh air a' theachd.

Bha na dorsan fosgaillte

gan ag obair. Dh'iarr mi air falbh gu grad air toir fear an taighe, gun robh mi ann an eagal gun do d'heirich tubaist air choreigin dha air a' thurus. Am fear feadh 's a bha ann feallsach ag ullachadh airson falbh, de a chunnach sinn a' dlùthachadh do'n taigh ach an cheile. "Is mi tha faingheil" arsa mise, "gun taing thu dhachaidh bhe, slan. Bha mi ann an trom iomagain nu do dheidhinn bho chionn greis." "Chaidh agam air an taigh

le Tormod Donnallach

agus thachair dhomh seasamh fa chomhair aon duibh aig an robh 'aghaidh ann an aird an iar. Ag amharc a mach, chunnaic mi badan de cheo neonach ag eirigh a mach as an talamh beagan shlatan bho 'n taigh agus am feadh 's a bha e ag eirigh, chaidh e ann an riochd ceann agus com fir. Dhirich e mar sin gu foill, mall, agus an deach e as an t-sealladh.

Anns an t-seasamh bonn dh'aitheinn mi nach e ni nadurra a bha ann agus bha mi air mo ghradh cho-èigheachadh tagradh ris an Uile Chumhachdach ma's e 's gun robh neach 's am bith ann an dlùth chunnart no gabhadh, E 'ga theasraing, no ma bha aon a' teit suas an spiorad, gum fagadh 'anam ann am fois.

Cho luath 's a dh'fhoisgail mi mo shùilean, 's a sheall mi anns a' bhad cheudna, chunnaic mi a neul iongantach seo a' rithidh a' tighinn an airde mean air mhean, anns an aon chruth, agus a' dol a' fànaus anns an adhar.

An dara-huir bha mi air mo cho-èigheachadh guidhe as leth an neach a bha ann an cas. Cho luath 's a sheall mi an treas uair, bha an ceo a' tighinn an aird' anns an aon riochd, ach an uair seo fhuair mi aithne fhollaiseach a' gur e spiorad mo chompanaich a bha ann.

Choisich mi 'na no chabhlag sios gu bonn an fhearainn far an robh aon de na sgala-

a ruigheachd ceart gu leoir," arsa' esan, "ach bha duil agam nach faicinn e a chaidh. Air an t-slighe dhachaidh, thainig cuairt de laigse orm. Dh'fhaic mi mar gum biodh mo neart agus m' anail gam fhagail.

"Thainig teannachadh 'n am bhroilleach agus luchd 'n am amhaich a bha an impis mo thachdadh. Thug mi grad leum a mach as an uidheam-ghuailan an duil gu faghinn faochadh 'c' coiseachd ceum no dha. Ach is ann a' dh' fhas mi na bu laige agus bha mi a' faireachadh mar gum b'e a' chrioch a bha tighinn. Chaidh agam air sreup air ais do'n aite suidhe oir mhòthaich mi na m' b'e an bas a bha ann gur e sin beart a' bh'fhear dhomh a dheamain' chionn bhetradh an each dhachaidh mi fein agus an uidheam. Thug mi dha cothrom na sreing. An ceann beagan uine, fhuair mi as an fhaillinn agus tha mi nis ceart gu leoir."

"Se na dearbh mhionaidean a bha e anns an trioblaid air an t-slighe, a chunnaic mise an sealladh agus a bha mi air mo chuir thuinge gu guidhe gum biodh a naon a bha ann air a' chaomhnadh, agus an treas uair, mar a' thubhairt mi, dh'aitheinn mi gur e spiorad mo cheile a bha ann. Bliadhna bho'n cheart am sin feid, dh'fhas e gu tinn agus choachail e."

Ra leantuinne

Maid, Wife, Widow, All In One Day

In the year 1872 Alexander Carmichael collected in the island of Barra an interesting tradition concerning a crier of Clan MacIntosh. Our piper friends seized on it as inspiration of that fine piobaireachd "Macintosh's Lament" which can be found in various collections of pipe music. I do not know if the collector published it in his "Carmina Gadelica" as I have not seen all the volumes of that work. I know it is not in the first two. As the tale may not easily be available to readers I give it at length.

It seems there was a prediction that the MacIntosh of that day was destined to die through the instrumentality of his beautiful black steed. Whatever he felt, the chief determined to show his people that he treated the prediction lightly, and so he continued to ride his favourite, notwithstanding the entreaties of his friends to the contrary. On the day of his marriage the chief rode his black horse, which became more than usually restive. The mount became so restive that the chief losing control over himself and his horse, drew his pistol and shot it dead. Another horse was at once procured for him, and he proceeded to the church. After the ceremony was over, the bridal party set out on their homeward journey. The bride and her maids, upon white palfreys, preceded, and the bridegroom and his friends followed. In passing, the chief's roan horse snied at the dead body of the black horse, and the rider was thrown to the ground and killed on the spot. A turn on the road hid the accident from those in front, and thus the bride, unconscious of the fatal fall of her husband, continued on her way home the happiest of brides. The tradition relates that she not only composed the beautiful and wondrous air of the lament, but emerged at the head of the bier at her husband's funeral, and marked the time by tapping with her fingers on the lid of the coffin. This, it is said, she continued to do for several miles from the family castle at Dalrosch to the burying ground at Petty, and ceased not until she was torn away from the coffin when it was about to be lowered into the grave.

Such is the story told with all the marks of truth about it, yet no such accident happened to any chief of the MacIntosh clan. More than one chief died a violent death but not one of them died in the manner related in the tradition. Furthermore, the story is unknown in the clan country, or even anywhere else on the mainland.

There would appear to be a mistake somewhere for the tradition has a base of truth, only it was not a chief of the MacIntosh clan who suffered

this fate but an Irish chieftain at the siege of Londonderry in 1689. It is easy to see how the story became nationalised to Scotland. In the olden time there was much coming and going between the Western Isles and the north of Ireland, and when this died away the origin of the story was forgotten.

There is a Gaelic song by some unknown Irish bard in commemoration of this fatal accident, which was collected in Barra early in the last century. We give the song as we have it. We are informed that it will present no difficulty in reading to Gaelic speakers.

The incident which gave rise to the song happened at the siege of Londonderry. A Jacobite officer who commanded a section of the besieging forces took time off to get married. Immediately after the ceremony he had to return to duty. By this time the garrison had become somewhat lively, and as the officer was riding round his section a ball fired from the town struck him on the head and killed him instantly. Thus his bride was a maid, wife, and widow, all in one day.

The translation is by James Mangan, the Irish poet, who was born at Dublin in 1803 and died at Meath in 1849. Mangan did not know one word of Gaelic and depended on translations done for him by Eugene O'Curry and John Daly in prose which he then versified.

The air of the song is "The Humours of Glyn" which can be found in most collections of Irish music. Glyn is sometimes spelled Glan, Glen, and Clin. Burn's song "Their groves of sweet myrtle let foreign lands reckon" is set to this tune.

Glyn is on the river Shannon in County Limerick, from it a branch of the great family of the FitzGeralds derives the title "Knight of Glyn."

J. E. S.

*Is mhaighdean 's is bain-treabhach do rin Diago diom;
Ni bhinn liom an chreidheil, si gabhail timcheall mo mhadheair,
Ba bain-phosda ar maden me o'n Eaglais chomhachadh;
'S is bain-treabhach m' ainm ar theacht do'n thachnna.*

*Ta smùt ar mo croidhe-si na sgaoilfeadh gu h-eag de,
Feadh bheidheadh druckit ar na gleannmhad na ceo ar na sleibhe;*

*Ta comradh da sniomh dhuit go ceoin deas de'n caol dair,
Is e mo bròn an chreidheil, si da imsinj gur eagais!*

Is deas do tìocfadh cloidheamh dhuit ar marcaigheacht caoil each,

*No ag, seide na h-adhairce do ghaidhair-bhinn air saothar;
Thoghadh an ceo dhe 'm intinn 's tu ar bheim-mhaol an sleibhe;*

Agua a'breachamoid uain tu la bualte Rìgh Seamas.

*Is mor mor é m' eagla go bhail do mhuintir a bh-fuillann liom,
Mar nar lughas 's nar sgreadas nuair chunarc an bh'fhuall;
D' fheach tu tar as orm, a dhian ghradh! le truagh dhom,
Ach D' imirheag an feall ar mo ansachd an uair ud.*

*Mo mheallachd bhearainm D' aoin bhean na m'beidheach beirt
fhear da h-irradh,*

*Nach deanfadh a ditcholl an aon aca irradh;
Mar is alleam far calice ar chail me mo chiall leis,
'S is fear breghe, deas na grama, m' ghràifead ad dhiaidh-si.*

Virgin, Wife, and Widow.

*A virgin . . . and widow . . . I mourn lone and lonely,
This morn saw me wedded in God's temple holy,
And noontide beholds me a widow weeping,
For my spouse in the dark tomb for ever lies sleeping.*

*On my heart lies a cloud, and will lie there for ever.
Hark! hark to that death knell that dooms us to sever.
Oh! well may my eyes pour forth tears as a fountain,
While dew gems the valley or mist dims the mountain.*

*King James mourns a halcyon as brave as ever breathed—
O! to see him, when mounted, with bright blade unsheathed,
Or high on the hillside, with bugles and beagles,
Where his foot was a deer's and his eye was an eagle's.*

*I shrieked and I cried when his blood gushed like water,
But treachery and baseness had doomed him to slaughter.
He glanced at me fondly, to comfort and cheer me;
Yet his friends love me not, and they never come near me.*

*Accused be the maid who can smile on two lovers!
Around me the shade of my lost husband hovers,
And oh! never more can I think of another,
Or feel for a lover save as a brother.*

400 Would-Be 'Settlers' For Arran

Nearly 400 people have told Arran District Council that they would like to live and work on the island. This is revealed in preliminary results of "Project Beacon," a survey carried out by the council to determine how many people would be prepared to move to Arran if jobs and houses were available.

The council advertised in several newspapers for would-be settlers and by the end of March they had received 609 inquiries, mainly from the Glasgow area, but also from Canada and America. Each person received a question-

naire, and by the end of last month 379 completed forms had been returned.

These replies covered 1,365 people, of whom 765 were adults, 376 children of school age and 226 children under school age.

These results will probably be sent to the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr William Ross, to strengthen the island's claim for inclusion in the area covered by the Highlands and Islands Development Board, and also to the Development Commissioners, who visited Arran this week, the Board of Trade, and Bute County Council.

ENGLAND — MY ENGLAND

PART 2

“... not all alive or dead,
Nor all asleep.”

The English landscape is always green except in autumn for purposes of atmosphere. Huge red people ride on horses in pursuit of foxes. Breakfasts are enormous. Strange characters like Henry James visit these houses and are ignored. They come downstairs in the early morning and help themselves to masses of kidney, bacon and eggs. At dinner parties they listen to the conversation around them and later write novels sparked off by a stray remark.

Diamonds are in evidence at these parties and are likely to be stolen. Love affairs are conducted in a strange sterile fashion. All women who hunt foxes are masculine and are to be avoided. The best women are those who have run away and married Italians or Greeks and are heard of in nightclubs. The women most to be admired are the rosy-cheeked ones who are faithful unto death and live in huge houses immune to politics, literature or anything except their husbands.

The typical Englishman is an ex-Colonel. He barks out short, trampled words in conversation. He stands in front of his fireplace with a riding crop in his hand looking down at a suitor who is kneeling to plead for his daughter's hand. He hates the City, is easily deceived and his bark is worse than his bite. He dislikes politicians intensely and thinks he is always being got at. He has been a hunter and his rugs are usually skins of tigers or lions. He likes nothing better than to talk about safaris and though he hasn't been in the Foreign Legion he has been in the East. He plays a little whist and knows that you're a bounder if you don't pay up the thousand pounds you've lost to him in half an hour.

If you have a moustache you're also likely to be a bounder and you're certainly a bounder if you don't have

a good seat. His house is full of priceless paintings but he never looks at them. He treats his servants as if they were dogs but they adore him, as do his daughters and his wife. He wears the most atrocious clothes, especially knickerbockers, and carries a big stick with which he will whack any bounder he can find.

Also in this England there is a place hidden on the most isolated moors. It is usually

by I. G. SMITH

a manse. In this manse lives a disappointed artist who becomes a clergyman and who has a great number of daughters. These daughters spend their adolescence inventing esoteric plays and games. They have no connection with the outside world at all except for a brutal servant who kicks the dog away from the fireplace and says “Argh” when spoken to. Their father is usually locked away in his study and goes slowly mad composing terrifying sermons. Sometimes he emerges in bursts of temper and locks his daughters in their rooms. On good days however they wander the moors admiring the flowers and composing little dramas. They prefer animals to people but are afraid to bring any into the house.

One of them broods continually and will speak to no-one. She walks in a sloping style and has straight black hair. Eventually she emerges with a book she has been working on for ten years, all about families which rob, kill, and flay each other, but who nevertheless have faithful servants who keep diaries. In this novel, the floors of all houses are made of stone, and stables are more important than drawing rooms. She is prevailed on to post this novel under an assumed man's name. The novel becomes famous. But she dies in obscurity, none, apart from her family, knowing that she wrote it.

And, finally, and very important, there are the cricket commentators. Some of them write on music as well as on cricket and find analogies between the two. They talk about an individual called Verity and say that no-one was as good as he was. Their voices are those of vicars; rich, ripe, ecclesiastical. They tell of men who stand at silly point while others stand at cover. No runs are scored in three hours but this is all right as there is a tense struggle going on between bowler and batsman. During the stoppages for rain and also during the playing time they discuss what a great batsman W. G. Grace was. They expatiate on his advantages as a cricketer because he had a beard. For this reason he was never leg before. They talk about little boys who run about the pitch picking up labels of lemonade bottles. This becomes an earth-shaking event, good for at least half an hour of rich conversation. To listen to them is a good way of finding out the history of cricket. They are never bored and if it is pouring with rain and there is no-one on the pitch they will tell you about Tump's run-up when there was a gale blowing and he had a nail in the sole of his foot or the witty remark made by a Yorkshireman when just going to bat. This remark appears to have been “Watch out, lad,” or words to that effect which appear uproarious and so true in context. They tell of Marples who at the age of ninety bowled Bradman for a hundred and who contented himself with saying: “Ay, A'm no over the hill yet.”

These commentators are the most extraordinary people — always cheerful, always alert, never bored. They make England what she is: Cheerful. Alert. Never bored. External — Like cricket.

(concluded)

Title quotation from
Wordsworth

MINERALS — THE IRISH EXAMPLE

The development of mining has been one of Eire's most dramatic expansions in recent years. Forecasts indicate that within the next ten to twenty years recently discovered mines will be producing many millions of pounds worth of ore concentrates annually.

It was for centuries believed that there were no minerals of significance beneath Eire's green

by F. G. Thompson

fields. But new ore strikes have included silver, lead, zinc, barites and pyrites. One mine in County Galway is producing at such a rate that its first year of operation shows figures which make it the biggest producer of silver in Europe and the biggest producer of lead and zinc in Western Europe.

Ireland's debut into mining began in 1960 when four of her sons returned from Canada with £300,000 to invest. They started to look for ore in the west of Ireland. They made a fabulous strike at Tynagh.

The mining world thought the new claims were a hoax, mainly because of Ireland's poor mining history. Then the rush started. But the original Company, Northgate Exploration, was well ahead of any rivals. In July last year the new mine of Gortdrum, on the borders of Tipperary and Limerick, started production yielding copper, silver, lead and zinc.

The main point about this mine is that the deposits are estimated to last less than ten years. Yet, it has been worth an investment of some £2 millions of capital to yield ultimately between £6m and £10m.

Another new mine started at the beginning of this year, the Silvermines, County Tipperary, owned by Consolidated Mogul of Canada. Its concentrator handles some 3000 tons of ore each day. In one zone of this mine it is estimated that there are 11 millions tons of ore with about 11 per cent combined lead, zinc and silver content.

There are now some 60 mining concerns operating in the Irish Republic from Britain, Canada, the U.S.A., Australia, France and Belgium. There are 478 valid prospecting licences in operation. About one-third of the total land space is now under prospective licence or under application for such. There are 35 state mining leases.

Experts say that the fresh discovery of base metals is a certainty. For instance, it is known that there are more deposits of ore beside those at Tynagh. These will be developed with money obtained from the sales of concentrates from present workings. In this way fresh foreign capital will not be needed.

The Government of Eire have taken a very enlightened

view of Eire's new-discovered resources.

Generous tax concessions have been provided by the Ministry of Finance as incentives. Originally there was a tax exemption during the first four years of production and a 50 per cent tax during the following four years.

This has now been replaced by the Government with a complete exemption for a 20-year period. The period during which a mine must begin working to gain these reliefs has been extended from 1976 to 1986.

These are the best tax concessions in the world of mining. The Irish Government reckons it will be on a good thing if more mineral wealth is discovered to help with the country's balance of payments and provide much needed employment.

Smelting is done for the Irish mines on the Continent at present. But plans are afoot to build a smelter worth some £15 millions in Ireland.

Sutherland Gold

Two years ago the Atomic Energy Division of the Institute of Geological Sciences made a brief examination of the north-eastern tributaries of the Helmsdale River.

They confirmed that appreciable amounts of gold were still to be found in the stream alluvium. The Report said: “The encouraging values obtained indicate that at least as much gold exists in Strath Kildonan as was won by the 400 or more gold diggers operating during the years 1868 and 1869.”

There is much on record to indicate that the Highlands are rich in minerals.

Must it always be left to the Irish to show how things can be done to make a country important in the world of economics?

DEOCH SLAINTE NÁN GILLEAN

A number of readers have asked about the source of some of the songs we printed recently in the series ‘Songs of the Gael.’ They came from ‘Deoch Slainte nan Gillean,’ collected by Colm O Lochlainn, and available from him at the Sign of the Three Candles, Fleet Street, Dublin. Price 4s plus postage.

The collection of songs from Barra was first printed in 1948. It contains the words of some 40 songs and the music of 15 of them.

Colm O Lochlainn, though an Irishman, has shown how easy it is to produce paperbacks containing Scots Gaelic songs, and at a cheap price. It should not be left to our friends from Eire to show us the way. We should be producing these books ourselves.

WHEN IN DUNOON VISIT

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Gheibh Thu Faighte Chridheil

* * *

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News Bits

NORTH WEST

Strontian to have an electricity supply by the end of the year—that is the hope of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board.

Progress on the board's Ardnamurchan scheme is detailed in a letter from Mr J. C. N. Baillie, chief commercial officer, to Mr Michael Noble, M.P.

Colonel Colin Mitchell of the 1st Bn. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and his Aden heroes, currently on a recruiting campaign in Scotland, paid their first visit to Argyll since returning from the Middle East when a contingent from the regiment paraded in Lochgilphead.

Before a crowd several hundred strong, the Pipes and Drums of the battalion and the Argyll's brass band played and marched for over an hour.

Ballic Kenneth Milton, as senior magistrate, took the salute at the beating retreat ceremony as a crowd of about 400 looked on.

Colonel Mitchell was expect-

ted to land in Lochgilphead by helicopter, but it developed engine trouble and he had to make the journey from Garelochhead by staff car.

A native of Mid Argyll, Chief Inspector Alisdair MacKellar, has been promoted to the rank of superintendent and appointed officer in charge of the Traffic and Communications Department in Dunbartonshire Police.

He started his police career at Clydebank in 1946 and was promoted to sergeant in 1957; inspector in charge of training in 1964 and chief inspector of traffic in 1965.

Superintendent MacKellar served with distinction in the 8th Bn. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders during the last war and maintains a close association with the county of Argyll.

He was personally responsible for many of the complex innovations connected with the new police headquarters, at Dunbarton which was officially opened last August by Mr William Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland.

THE ISLANDS

This year Skye Week '68 says "Ceud Mile Fàilte" for the 19th time and promises to live up to its reputation with a programme full of appeal.

If the weather is good this should prove another memorable event.

The Ceilidh of Welcome, arranged by the Skye Week Committee, will take place in the Skye Gathering Hall on Friday, 24th May. A dance will follow.

Repeating last year's success, a Grand Concert will be staged in Kyleakin Village Hall when Kenneth Ross (Mod Goid Medallist) will be the guest artist.

The official opening of Skye Week will take place on Saturday when at 1.45 p.m. Sir James Mackay will declare the events of the week open.

Scottish mountaineering clubs, rambling clubs and rescue teams are up in arms against a new scheme to provide a rescue route in the Coruisk area of the Skye Cuillins.

They claim that it will cause

more accidents by encouraging inexperienced climbers, at the same time detracting from Coruisk's main attraction, remoteness.

The scheme, to construct a vehicle track from Elgot to Coruisk, bridge two rivers, blast a famous rock-face called the "Bad Step," and cut out a footpath for stretcher-bearers, is due to start next month.

A Manchester Army Volunteer Reserve unit of the Royal Engineers expect to spend three weeks on the project as part of their annual training.

The scheme, which is believed to cost in the region of £10,000, is to be financed by the Highlands and Islands Development Board, the army, and Skye District Council, but the Highland Board have delayed a final decision on the matter pending further discussion.

Inverness-shire County Police Planning Committee will hear objections at a meeting this week.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH NATIONAL MOD DUNOON 1968 8th - 11th October

Final Entries

Intending competitors in all sections, Junior and Adult, are reminded that entries must be despatched to arrive not later than Friday, 24th May.

Nova Scotia Gold Medal

Those who qualify and wish to compete this year in the Nova Scotia Vocal Solo Competition must submit their names and the appropriate entry fee, 2/6 or 1/-, immediately after their local or provincial Mod is over.

Local and Provincial Mod Prize-winners

Entries from first prize-winners at local and provincial Mods held after the closing date will be accepted if forwarded within three days of the Mod concerned taking place.

Conditions for Entry

Unless otherwise stated, all entrants in the Senior Section (Orals, Vocal Solos, Duets, Instrumental and Art and Industry) must be or become Branch Members, or Life Members. Subscriptions of Branch and Ordinary Members, already on the roll must be paid for the current year, 1968-69, not later than the closing date.

The age group of Junior entrants will be determined in relation to their age on 24th May 1968. Dates of birth of all Junior entrants, individuals and duetists, must be submitted along with their entries.

Copies of the Syllabus, price 2/-, the 1968 Supplement of prescribed pieces, price 6d, Art and Industry Syllabus, Entry Forms and prescribed songs are available from An Comunn Gàidhealach, Abertarf House, Inverness, and 65 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2.

TIGH-OSDA PHENTLAND

INBHIR-TEORSA

Air leth freagarrach airson

gaidhealachan air thurus is

iasgairnean nan lochan 's nan

albhnichian 's na Taobh-Tuath.

Am biadh as fearr,

Gabhar gu math ruibh

le

Fear an Tighe 'sa Bhean

SEORAS IS FREDA SUTHERLAND

TRANSPORT OF WINDBLOWN TIMBER

In the House of Commons last week the Secretary of State for Scotland announced that an allowance will be available to assist in the removal of trees blown down in the January gale in Scotland. This will help to ensure that there is no glut in local markets which might result in valuable timber being allowed to rot. The scheme will be administered by the Forestry Commission who state that the allowance will be paid to those who bear the transport charge on sawlogs from windblown trees. Application forms for the allowance may be obtained from the appropriate Commission Conservancy offices.

adh ann an Dùn-eideann ach 's ann an Glaschu a bhios an Seannadh Bliadhnaig sìg an Eaglais Shaoir Cheilich air a chumail am bliadhna. Tha e 'a' toiseachadh air Di-mairt an t-21mh latha de'n Cheitean. FEAR-FAIRE

Naidheachdan Mu Na h-Eaglaisean Air A' Ghaidhealtachd

Le "FEAR-FAIRE"

EAGLAIS NA H-ALBA

Ministear Ur ann an Uibhist

Ann an Iuchar bidh Mgr. Ruairidh MacFhionngain, a tha 'a' crìochnachadh cursa na diadhairesch ann an Colaisde na Trianaid ann an Glaschu, air a phosadh ri coimhthional Dhalabrag ann an Uibhist-a-Deas. Is ann do na Hearadh a bhineas Mgr. MacFhionngain, agus nuair a bhios e air a shuidheachadh ann an Uibhist cha bhì coimhthional 'sa Cheilch gun ministear air an ceann. Ann an Cleir Uibhist, nuair a thig am ministear ur a Dhalabrag, bidh siathnar a Eilean Leodhais, dithis as na Hearadh, agus an dithis eile as an Eilean Sgiathnach agus a Uibhist-a-Tuath.

Eaglais na Pairec

Tha an eaglais anns a' Phairc ann an Leodhas a nis ullamh, agus dh'fhosgladh an togalach ur air an 8mh latha de'n Cheitean. Tha an coimhthional ann an Leumrabhagh air a bhith ban bho'n chaochail an t-Urr. Uilleam MacCoinnich an uiridh.

A' Choinneamh Ghaidhealach

Bidh an t-Ard Sheanadh 'a' toiseachadh air Di-mairt, an t-21mh de'n mìos seo, agus mar is abhaist bidh coimhthional Ghaidhealach air a chumail air Di-h-aoin. Am bliadhna 'se an t-Ollamh Urramach Murchadh Eoghainn Domhnallach, a' oil-

thaigh Ghlaschu, a bhios 'a' bruidhinn.

Tiodhlac-Speis

Tha an t-Ollamh Urramach Iain Mac 'a' Phearsain air a bhith coig bliadhna fichead mar mhinistear ann an Deimhidh ann an Cleir Iubhirmis. Air an t-seachdain seo chaidh thig an coimhthional dha tiodhlac-speis.

AN EAGLAIS SHAOIR

Seanadh Ghleann-eilge

Ann an iomradh a chuir-eadh a mach le Seanadh Ghleann-eilge tha rabhadh air a thoirt do'n oigridh a tha 'a' fagail na Gaidhealtachd an t-uiridh air an cosnadh no a chur crìch air am foghlum ann an oil-thigh no colaisde. Tha e 'na chunntar dhaibh gum bi droch bhuaidh sìg luchd-aicheidh ora. Thug iad rabhadh cuideachd mu'n adhartas a tha Eaglais na Roimhe 'a' deanamh 'san taobh tuath. Thubhairt iad gu bheil an t-Urr. D. A. MacRath ri mholadh airson nan oidhirpean a tha e 'a' deanamh ann a bhith 'a' dìon na Sabaid — tha Mgr. MacRath 'na ministear ann an Eaglais na H-Alba air Tairbeart na Hearadh.

Ministear 'a' Fagail an Eilean

Tha an t-Urr. Aonghas Mac 'a' Ghobhainn air gabhail ri gairm o coimhthional Nis ann an Leodhas. Tha e air a bhith naodh bliadhna gu leth



AIR TUR NA FAIRE

AN EAGLAIS SHAOIR

CHLEIREACH

Coimhthional ann an Obair-dheadhain

Gu ruige seo cha robh coimhthional suidhichte ann an obair-dheadhain, ach o 1963 bha seirbhis air an cumail o am gu am. O'n Ghearran, 1966, bha fear de na h-oileanaich a bha ag ionnsachadh 'sa bhaile air ceann seirbhis air an t-Sabaid. Am bliadhna tha da seirbhis air an t-Sabaid agus coimheamh airson rannsachadh 'a' Bho-buill oidhche Shathurne. Nuair a thoisich na seirbhis-ean bho chionn coig bliadhna cha robh ach triur oileanach ann an Obair-dheadhain a bhineadh do'n Eaglais Shaoir Cheilich; an duigh tha corr is fichead ann, agus a bharach orrasan na grunn eile 'sa choimheamhachd a tha ceangailte ris an Eaglais. Mar a tha an obair 'a' dol air adhart tha a-huile coltas gum bi coimhthional air a shuidheachadh 'sa bhaile le togalach dhaibh fein.

An Seanadh Bliadhna

Bidh Ard-Sheanadh nan Eaglaisean eile 'a' coimheamh (Continued at foot of next column)

Eaglaisean Ura

Annas 'a' Mhart chaidh an t-Urr. Fearghas Domhnallach a shuidheachadh mar ministear ann an Cumbernauld, agus bidh eaglais air a togail 'sa bhaile a dh'athgearr. Tha an Eaglais Shaoir 'a' cur roimpe eaglaisean a steidheachadh ann am Peairt agus Inbhir Theorsa cuideachd, agus chaidh iarach fhaotainn anns an da daite.

BRUSH UP YOUR GAELIC

with TORMOD

(A series of lessons on basic Gaelic)

Under each Gaelic sentence or phrase you will find an English translation and a guide to pronunciation.

This = singular or familiar form. Sibh = plural or polite form.

Lesson 26

COMHRADH

"Nach cuais tu fhacast, a Dhug-hail, cùin a bhith nas laith-eann-sraora againn am bliadhna?"
"Have you not heard yet, Dugald, when we will get our holidays this year?"
"Nach koo-sla too ha-üst, a Gho-ill, koo-eenn a ve-u's leih-un soo-ra am blee-a-na?"

"Chuala mi an diugh, Anna, ach dhi-chuimhich mi innshe dhut. Bithidh iad 'a' toiseachadh air 'a' cheur latha de'n luchar, airson rì seachdainnean mar is abhaist."

"I heard today, Anna, but I forgot to tell you. They will be beginning on the first day of July for three weeks as usual."

"Choo-sla mee an joo, Anna, agh-ee-choon-each mee een-shu ghoot. Bee-ee ee-at a-tooh-ach-ugh air a cheur-t leish jeen Yoo-chur air-ion tree shack-unnan mar s a-vehst."

"Innis dhomh, am bu toigh leat a dhol don 'n' Fhrang? Bithidh cothrom aig 'a' chloinn a bithidh bruidhinn Fraingeach agus mar a sheen fhios agad, bithidh na deuchainnean aig Sine anns an Damhair."

"Tell me, would you like to go to France? The children will have the opportunity to speak French and, you know, Jean will have exams in October."

"Een-eeh ghomh, am bu tuh latt a ghòl don Ryn? Bee-ee co-rom eck a' chloyn a' vee bhe-een Frang-ach agus, mar a hee-es ack-at, bee-ee na jaach-ee-inn eck Shee-na awns an Dav-er."

"The sin ceart, a Dhughail, agus tha mi lan chinnseach gun bithidh is Calum toillecht."

"That's right, Dugald, and I'm very sure that Jean and Donald will be pleased."

"Ha sheen kee-erst, a Gho-ill, agus he mi lan cheen-tchach gun bee Shee-na is Calum toillecht-uchu."

"STANDARD" GAELIC AND PHONETIC SPELLING

A "Sruth" correspondent, writing from New Zealand, has repeated two of the commonest pleas that are made, so frequently and so needlessly, by English-speakers who seek to learn Gaelic. It is asked that a

J. Harvey Macpherson

"correct" pronunciation of Gaelic be taught in the schools and, at the same time, a plea is made that a phonetic spelling be adopted and that Gaelic grammar be simplified.

These suggestions come strangely, when they are expressed by people whose language is very far from possessing a standard of "correct" pronunciation and who, moreover, find no difficulty in reading literature which is far from being phonetic in its spelling. Where "ough" demands at least seven pronunciations, all completely different from each other, and where the simple word "read" can be pronounced either to rhyme with "seed" (present tense) or with "bed" (past tense), Gaelic spelling should present no difficulties whatsoever!

A standard of "correct" pronunciation is neither practical nor desirable in the speech of any nation. An English North-countryman would be justifiably indignant if it was suggested that his slow, clear speech was in any way inferior to the nasal twang of the Cockney or to the clipped sharpness of an Australian. None of these is "correct," any more than is the potato-in-the-mouth bleat of the "Oxbridge" accent or the gentle burr of Wexsex.

We must ask our critics to be fair. If they allow variations in the speaking of English, they must also, equally, allow the Gaelic-speakers of Barra, Argyll and the Lews each to speak with their own, individual bias.

In contrast to English, the spelling of Gaelic is almost completely phonetic. This is a demonstrable fact. But it is made difficult of comprehension because of the various attempts that are made to provide English-speaking learners with an approximate "rendering" of Gaelic words. These approximations can never be exact, because English is a tongue which is pronounced broadly and takes no account of individual vowels, which it runs together into a single sound.

Thus, the English pronounce "at" in one, single syllable as "ay" (you could also spell it as "eh"). Gaelic, however, gives value to both vowels, pronouncing them separately, but with such delicacy that no "English" spelling can possibly provide an exact equivalent.

Many learners of Gaelic give themselves quite unnecessary difficulty by failing to appreciate the fact that the letter "h" has no place in the Gaelic

alphabet. It occurs in the written language, but it is used merely as a conventional sign. It modifies the consonant which it follows and, in this respect, English usage provides an exact parallel in its use of the aspirate to soften the letter "t" (as in "this"), or "p" (as in "physic"), or "s" (as in "shut"). The Irish use a dot above the consonant; we use an "h" after it, to achieve the same purpose of softening and modification.

There are indeed only two rules to learn in the spelling of Gaelic. The first is comprehended in the conventional use of the letter "h" which, as we have said, has no place in the actual alphabet. The second rule lies in the simple sequence of vowels, "broad to broad, and narrow to narrow."

There is nothing more to it, really there isn't! How very much simpler it is than English, in which almost every single word must be learned separately, in which the same sound may be spelled in many different ways (as, "say," "ch," "nigh," "grey"), and in which an identical spelling may be pronounced in completely different ways (as, "cough," "enough," "though," "bough," "through," and "thorough").

The suggestion that Gaelic grammar should be reformed is completely impracticable in our language, as it would be in any language. The production of an artificially contrived, "text-book" grammar would have one result only. Native-speakers would not be using their own tongue correctly, and "grammatical" speech would be confined to alien learners. This, of course, makes nonsense!

Finally, anyone who seeks to learn Gaelic must apply the same standards to his learning it as he applies to his learning of any other language. Nobody could expect to be able to speak Parisian French merely from the reading of a text-book. Why should he expect to become fluent in Gaelic, when limiting himself to no more than a written page?

Gaelic is not a difficult language to learn, in comparison with many others. Its grammar is straightforward. Its spelling is logical. Its genders are too only and its tenses are uncomplicated. It is indeed not a difficult language to acquire, *experto crede*. I have, myself, the learning of eight languages with which to compare the learning of Gaelic — and, amongst the eight, only one was easier than Gaelic.

Speaking with no accent is something quite different to speaking understandably. But no-one expects a Frenchman to speak English, without his speech betraying his country of origin. Why, then, should anyone who is learning Gaelic expect to be able immediately to pronounce the language as though it was his native tongue? He can, however, go far towards this end.

An Comunn Gàidhealach's

series of Gaelic lessons on gramophone records will give anyone a good start towards achieving a good accent, whilst a close attention to singers of Gaelic — and there is a long list of Gaelic songs on records — will give enormous additional help.

Gaelic needs to be learned — no more and no less than any other language requires learning. So few people seem to appreciate this very simple fact. What needs reforming is not the grammar, the pronunciation nor the spelling of Gaelic. Reformation is needed in the attitude of those who seek to learn Gaelic, who would realise that Gaelic is "foreign" to them and who should, accordingly, refrain from seeking to approximate it to their native English. Gaelic is worth learning. It will remain worth learning, however, only for so long as it remains Gaelic.

An artificially imposed alteration of the language will result only in Gaelic ceasing to be Gaelic — just as "pidgin" English is no longer English. Let's keep the language as it is!

BAINNE GORT?

Anns na seann laithean, an ceannbha iomallach na dùthach, 's e drobhairann, mar bu tric, a bhiodh ceannach croitich is caorach anns gach aite, agus cha b'è mhaoin ceannach a' reic cuideachd ma bha beachd a' lathair bha airson beathach a' reic agus teile a cheannach na h-aite. Bha aitean fa leth beagan mhiltean o cheile, ann am biodh an slugh a' tionnail le cuid spreidh a' feitheamh teachd an drobhair. Bha aon duine o toibh Loch Bhraoin-ais a' reic drobhair Cam, mar thearta riaghinn timcheall Duthach '93. Aoidh uair na dha 's a bhliadhna na' agus bha e sin colach aig gach car is cleas a bha feumail airson a phocaid! An de n h-uairean so chuir seann duine a mhac òig le gamhann trì bliadhna dh'aois gu a reic, agus bu a cheannach na h-aite air an robh bainne. "G'mhath," arsa an Drobhair, "s' agad bu a fhreagras tu anns a h-uile doigh, agus aig a' bheil pailteas bainne, agus bheir mi seachad i air sia notachean. "S cinnteach," arsa am balach, "gu bheil an gamhainn brìgh òg agam-sa airidh air pris fa' na's fhearr na an t-seann mhaoin agaih-se, 's i cho cruaid' boghd leis an aois." "Chan ann mar sin idir tha 'chuis," fhreagair an Drobhair, "s' nach 'eil fhios agad gu bheil am beathach bainne a' ghatam ag giulan no a' chorr, ach in tha coig notachean ro bheag, leasta airson do gamhainn abair, thusa sin notachean, a' braidh mhe seachd."

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Criomagan De Bharachd Iapan

(Air an taghadh agus an athar rachadh an stud 'sa seòl le Uisdean Laing agus Harold Mac Eanruig)

De'n gnothach tha aice Bhiath sin? A bheil miann orra a seice Chur dhi?

Mo nabaidh aosda a sias a crom-ach sios 'S a' gleachd le speal ri oorn' buidh' an Fhoghair An duil ri duais an deidh dha buinn nan dia. De gheibh am Muillear nuair a sgaras e an siol Bho'n rus? Min phrìseil mhin No deannan mill gun bhrigh 'S gun chobhair?

Tha'n uile-beist gun upraid, gun sgioghairail, A'mhuc-mhàra, a' cluich mar is ming dhi. Ann an glaic 'a' Chuan Sgr. Mar as doimhne theit, 'S ann as airde a' dh'èreas a h-iorbail.

Ged their cuid gun deach i air iomall Troimh dh'fhàis eolais air ealainnean caehainn. Bho'dh i' porsail gu leor Aig comunn a' Mhoide Le pop-songs is dramalaigean Limerick.

An e do thoil a bhih leth thein 'N a' do aonar 'na do dhachaidh? Mas e, faic bìlag mheanbh le gaoh 'ga crathadh. A dh'fhag fras chlàcha—meallan Air a chraobh—gun aire.

Uiseig bheag dhichioilach ghlais, Le d' phuir-t-aigal 's air sgiath gun stad, Nach ioma car sagd ri dheanann Bho Mhoil Chinntr gu Braighe Liannai.

Gun chamaid bho lamhan lioimthe cailleig, Gun ghealaigh-ghnuis gealaich ghlain 'na shealladh, A nochd tha lionn gearr Aig a phoitear leis Tha ann an cuil a tha aon'ranach falamb.

Cha toigh learn oin a' caoineadh air an teig. A bheil 's an armait cuideachd cridhean briste Is gaol gun ùre 'a' basachadh gun fhios dhine?

An fheannag pheallaigh dhubbh 'Na seasamh an dùgh. Air blar geala—bhuidhe Le sneachda,

FAILTE GU MOD LUNNAINN

The 1st LONDON MOD

is to be held in the ROYAL SCOTTISH CORPORATION HALLS, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4

On SATURDAY, 25th MAY 1968, commencing 10 a.m.

GRAND CONCERT

In the CAMDEN TOWN HALL, Euston Rd., N.W.1 at 7.30 p.m.

Doors open 7 p.m.

Chairman — Lord Bannerman of Kildonan

Artists: Alasdair Gillies (The Swinging Gae) Evelyn Campbell, L.R.A.M., Distinguished Scottish Soprano Joan Mackenzie, Nat. Mod Gold Medalist Norman Maclean, Nat. Mod Gold Medalist 1967 Pipers and Ceilidh Band

Tickets (7/6 and 5/-) available from Mrs D. Bristow-Stagg Tel. GUL 7881, 29 Mackeson Road, Hampstead, N.W.3

over to you: ●●●●● CONTINUED FROM PAGE SIX ●●●●●

OVERSTATED CASE ?

Sir,—George Hay in his letter of 2nd May thinks I have overstated my case, but there is nothing in his letter to weaken it.

He gave due praise to "Gairm" and "Sluth," but let us not forget the "Stornoway Gazette," Donnhall Donn in the "Gazette," does admirable work for the Gaelic, and I can strongly recommend learners to get this paper for no nothing else.

Thinly disguised English expressions, though not to be encouraged, are to be expected from learners, and also from "native" speakers who have been thinking in English since they first went to school. Even Gaelic writers seem to think in English and translate as they write, and when stuck for a Gaelic word give us some mongrel substitute. Why else, for instance, does Maoldonaich (page 3) write "nòbhal" for "ursgeul"? The trouble is there is no dictionary to refresh the memory. There has not been an English-Gaelic or a Gaelic-

English dictionary published this century. If I am wrong will somebody please tell me?

What is really needed is an up-to-date Gaelic Dictionary, *wholly in Gaelic*, giving Gaelic meanings for Gaelic words; pronouncing; explanatory; etymological; and with illustrations where necessary. This is a job for the experts in the Celtic Departments of our Schools and Universities, and should be done quickly. The Historical Dictionary can wait, but a Modern Dictionary is urgent.

Mrs Budden's outburst is only to be expected. To her, probably, Lochaber is just another English conquest. The natives and their language customs and habits to be destroyed. To her a smattering of French is better than a knowledge of the native tongue. Scotland is the new colonising area, meaning profits and work for the English; while Gaels, their language and way of life are to be utterly destroyed.

And why French? If we are to be really up-to-the-minute in this Modern World, let our

children be taught Russian and Chinese and not a dying foreign language like French.

Let me conclude with thanks to Bard Clach na h-Aire and also to Abel for their doggerel.

ADAMH.

TRANSLATING HOMER

Sir — In your last issue of SRUTH you were kind enough to give space to the paper I recently had delivered to the Gaelic Society. I should be very obliged if you would correct some misapprehensions that arose from your notice.

I did not refer to any translations in English or other languages as 'effeminate' nor did I characterise these languages as 'recent.' Again I did not say "English, as with other European languages, suffered overmuch from its various derivations." Indeed, the status had now been reached with English where the language was now finding difficulty in expressing the full meaning and intent of ad-

vanced thought," a statement which is very contrary to what I believe.

What I did try to convey was that in my voice the hexameter suited Gaelic better than English or German, or that I thought Gaelic, because of its greater power of emphasis and nuance as well as its music, was better than English for translating poetry, though I should make no such claim for Gaelic, if I were translating Plata or Aristotle.

JOHN MACLEAN

Cabarfeidh, Oban.

Sir — Belated congratulations to SRUTH on its first birthday! During the year, your paper has become a first-rate forum of discussion for all people interested in Scotland and its Gaelic heritage.

During the year, the contents have become ever more articulate and generally thoroughly readable.

Gu ma fada beo sibh, agus seo as 'ur tigh. Le meas,

DAIBHIDH

MacLAGHMANN
78 Freiburgh 1, BR.,
Rotteckring 4,
Germany.

"NO" TO INDUSTRY

A charaid — My full support to the letter of ADAMH stating that the Highlands want work not industry. Apart from his arguments I may add that the word industry reminds one of dust and noise, fumes and water pollution. Has it occurred to these factory-minded industrialists that we are not anxious to have these river and loch pollution problems that are such a headache in the United States and Canada? Where would be our fishing industry, our tourist industry and shooting, not to mention our wild life on land and sea with poisonous chemicals to be got rid of with even the spectre of radio active not only pollution but DEATH.

Money can do a lot of things including poisoning minds and twisting consciences, not that I am suggesting that industrialists are morally inferior to others. I am merely pointing out the disastrous possibilities both utilitarian and aesthetic. After all the beauty of the countryside is not only for tourists but even for natives! This is not sentimentalism but a real question of health and culture.

Unfortunately Utopians abound who always see a millenium round the corner and who naively dream of a paradise on earth. Even if material progress could really provide us with all kinds of physical comforts without the above mentioned drawbacks, we would be missing the purpose

of Creation which is to prepare us for a better life not of this world which will come to an end someday (perhaps with our increase in progress rather quicker than was otherwise intended!)

Are we sentimentalists and romantic in putting happiness first? Was the detail of our birth into this world a result of better industrial technique I wonder? You who want to industrialise the Highlands and take away everything that is typical of the Highlands in language, customs and character are just on the wrong track with your cocksure faith in the power of money. Is inflation an indication of real progress? Does the raising of the standard of living mean really rising prices? Prices go up steadily yet Utopians still say we are progressing — upwards in what? No Sir (as Johnson would say) we need to be more realistic and look first to the purpose of money and see how far we can bypass this obnoxious medium of exchange. I am not suggesting primitive barter, but at least the substituting of human values both moral and social in its stead as far as possible to improve human relations. Is mis

IAN G. MACNAIR-SMITH
Conde de Penalver,
68-1 deha
Madrid 6.

Shorter Route To Kyle

A Glasgow firm, R. J. McLeod (Contractors) Ltd., have been awarded a contract to build 3.25 miles of new road which will open up a shorter coastal route to Kyle of Lochalsh.

The new road is a 3.25 miles diversion of the Invergarry-Kyle of Lochalsh trunk road starting about half-a-mile south of Balmacara Bridge to Station Road, Kyle. There will be an 18 feet wide carriage-way within an overall width of 30 feet. The road which follows the northern shore of Loch Alsh replaces about 5.25 miles of narrow and sub-standard road.

Mr William Ross, MP, Secretary of State for Scotland has authorised acceptance of a tender by Messrs McLeod of £455,826 for the work which is expected to take about two years to finish at an estimated total cost of £567,500. The scheme which forms part of a continuing programme for the improvement of the road to Kyle, will be supervised on behalf of the Secretary of State by Ross and Cromarty County Council.

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

Editorial Offices, to which all correspondence and advertising matter should be sent: 92 Academy Street, Inverness. Phone INS 31226, Ext. 6.

New BR Timetable

BIG BENEFITS TO NORTH

British Rail's new inter-city timetable came into effect on May 6. In many parts of Scotland journey times between principal centres of population are being cut in one of the most sweeping reviews ever undertaken of Scottish train timings and services.

Perth benefits from the changes and is little more than one hour from Glasgow (63 miles) under the new arrangements. The 12.05 Euston-Perth and the 09.40 Perth-Euston trains have been chosen to demonstrate a new prototype catering vehicle designed to give a quick and continuous service of food in a variety to suit a wide range of tastes and pockets. The new vehicle—a lounge buffet—is completely different from existing catering cars and is a combination of coffee bar, saloon bar and snack bar.

The biggest reductions of all are in the timings of trains from Inverness to Glasgow and Edinburgh, with some trains having their schedules cut by nearly an hour. The express time from Glasgow is down to 4 hours and from Edinburgh to 3 hours 55 minutes.

A spokesman for Inverness Chamber of Commerce said: "This speed-up in the services is very much welcomed in this area. We need fast communications to serve industry in the Highlands."

More powerful locomotives, some of them rating up to

A Circus Geal Am Measy Nan Daoine Dubha

le Uisdean Laing, Astrailja-an-Iar

(Na smuaintean diomhaire aig fear de sheanainn na treubh Comadu ann an eilean Phapua an deigh dha a circus fhàicinn.)

Dh' itealaich na cleasaichean

Gu òr nan Comaidinn.

'S le'n cluichean neònach spòrsail

'S math a chòrd iad ruinn.

Fhuair sinn paisdean eibhinn

bhuap'.

Gun fheum air cìoch no gluin,

Le cluasan ceir nach eisd rinn

'S beoil a dh' eighas "bu."

Thug iad bogha 's targaid dhunn.

'S gar brosnachadh gu buaidh

Gheall iad rudan mìlis dhunn,

'S griogagan mar dhuais,

Cha deach casg no bacadh

Air na gearrainn reamhar fhiodha

A mharcach sinn gu farumach

Air cuairtear luath na mire

Thainig oirnn stad anail

Ann an trean nan glèann 's nam

brìach.

'S bhodhair iad sinn le sgeigeir-

eachd.

'S le s'greadan orghain chruaidh.

A nis tha fasgair fann, tha'n fheill

a call a sgoinn.

Tìllibh, a chlann mo ghraidh, gu

fàsghadh cluin na coill,

'S 's ann aig an dùine gheal tha

ghloicas, ceartas, loinn.

Saoileam—am bhith riomnag ann

an duibhre thiugh na h-oidhch.

(Cuairtear na mire — merry-go-

round.)

(Trian nan glèann 's nam brìach

— scenic Railway).

2750 h.p., have been put into service to maintain the faster runs.

The following table illustrates the general speed-up and increase in the number of train services between the principal centres:—

| | No. of Trains | Fastest Time | Hr. Min. | |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|------|
| | | | Trains | Time |
| Glasgow-Perth ... | 16 | 1 07 | | |
| Perth-Glasgow ... | 16 | 1 09 | | |
| Edinburgh-Perth ... | 10 | 1 07 | | |
| Perth-Edinburgh ... | 10 | 1 14 | | |
| Edinburgh-Inverness | 3 | 3 55 | | |
| Inverness-Edinburgh | 3 | 4 — | | |
| Glasgow-Inverness | 3 | 4 — | | |
| Inverness-Glasgow | 3 | 4 — | | |

First Project For Young Explorers

The first project of the Scottish Schools Exploratory Society, inaugurated at a recent meeting in the Avicmore Centre, is to be a land-use survey on Raasay, in the Inner Hebrides, in July. Twelve school children will take part under the supervision of three adults.

The society's main aim is to provide opportunities for boys and girls over 13 to take part in full-scale, self-supporting expeditions at home and abroad under the guidance of specialists.

Besides a few other schemes at home this summer overseas projects were discussed, among them a ski-traverse of Lapland next year.

Mr John W. Henderson, of Edinburgh, presided at the meeting, at which a committee of six were appointed, including one woman, Miss Morag Boyd, of Montrose. Schools from all parts of Scotland were represented.

Initial planning for the formation of the society was undertaken by Mr Nicholas Thomas, of Ullapool, physical training instructor of schools in Wester Ross.

Do You Know?

1. What is the motto of Stornoway?
2. What are the broad vowels in Gaelic and what are the slender?
3. To whom did Alexander MacBain, M.A., LL.D., dedicate the Etymological Dictionary of the Gaelic language?
4. What does the Gaelic, Gille-Annndras, MacAndreas, and sometimes Mac-C'annndras stand for?
5. De bheurla tha air "bealch"?
6. De cho fad 's thug an Comunn Gàidhealach a' deasachadh Faclair Gàidhlig 1828?

ANSWERS

1. "God's providence is our inheritance."
2. A, O, U are broad, E, I slender.
3. To the memory of Rev. Alexander Cameron, LL.D.
4. Any of the following surnames: Gillanders, MacAndrew and Anderson.
5. A pass or passage.
6. Ceithear bliadhna deug.

Gaelic Broadcasts

Thursday, 16th May

- 12 noon News in Gaelic.
- 12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus)
- 3.00 p.m. Bha Da Chaisteal Dheug aig Fionn." Gaelic Talk by Dr Anne Ross (recorded).
- 3.15 p.m. Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by the Rev. David MacInnes, Glasgow (recorded).
- 7.00 p.m. "In the Highlands": An all sorts magazine — comment, interview, music and song from Gaidem (recorded).

Friday, 17th May

- 12 noon News in Gaelic.
- 6.35 p.m. Chief's Night at The Gaelic Society of London. Comper, Donald Smith (recorded).

Monday, 20th May

- 12 noon News in Gaelic.
- 12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus)

Tuesday, 21st May

- 12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
- 12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.

Wednesday, 22nd May

- 6.35 p.m. "Chanter," a magazine programme for the piping world compiled and introduced by Seumas MacNeill (recorded).

Thursday, 23rd May

- 12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
- 12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn.
- 3.00 p.m. "Bogha nan Bodach (The old man's reef)." An account by John MacArthur of a mutiny off the Lewis coast one hundred and fifty years ago (recorded).
- 3.15 p.m. Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by the Rev. David MacInnes, Glasgow (recorded).

7.00 p.m. "In the Highlands": An all sorts magazine — comment, interview, music and song from Gaidem (recorded).

VHF

Friday, 24th May

- 12.00 p.m. News in Gaelic.
- 12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus)
- 6.35 p.m. "Ceann - Labhairt" (Topic): A look at current events in the Gaelic world. With Neil Brown. Edited by Martin Macdonald (recorded).



Tha mi chluinntinn gu bheil "Bunny Clubs" a' Lunnain Saoibh nach tainig ann "Hyc" fhathast