

## FOYERS EMPLOYMENT BOOSTER

### Hydro Board Scheme

The North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board published yesterday details of their project for a hydro-electric and pump-storage development at Foyers. Production will depend on the requirements of the system, but is expected to be in the region of 400 million units of electricity each year.

The scheme, which will provide work for a labour force of some 500 during construction, provides for a redevelopment of the catchment area of Loch Mhor which was used as a storage reservoir for the British Aluminium Company which closed down their foyers factory last year.

To utilise the difference of 589 feet between the levels of Loch Ness and Loch Mhor a tunnel will be driven from an intake on Loch Mhor which, at its lower end, would branch into two smaller tunnels to serve the machines.

It is intended to equip a power station east of Foyers with two reversible pump/turbines so that water can be pumped from Loch Ness to Loch Mhor at night and weekends by using the

Board's off-peak grid system.

It is planned to have the scheme come into operation in 1974.

### SNP CONGRATULATES COUNCIL AND ALCAN

At the recent meeting of the Highlands Area Council of the Scottish National Party, it was decided to record publicly the Council's support of the efforts of the Ross and Cromarty County Council in bringing Invergordon into focus as a site suitable for an aluminium smelter.

Also due for congratulations were the Alcan Company for having taken social and cultural factors into consideration alongside the economic aspects of siting a smelter at Invergordon.

On aspects of the Birsay Report, the Council advocated the principle of providing local clinics and the greater dispersion of consulting facilities to cater for the needs of viable communities with numerically small populations.

### Plea For Industry

#### By Isles Deputation

There were signs that exports from Scotland were increasing as a result of devaluation, Mr William Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, told a deputation from Lewis and Harris at the Commons recently. This would help the Harris tweed industry.

The deputation, who also met Mr George Darling, Minister of State at the Board of Trade, stressed the need to develop local industry and to introduce new industries. Additional public expenditure, including the building of a new road from Ness to Tolsta, and further tourist promotion were suggested.

Mr Darling said the possibility of locating an advance factory at Stornoway would be looked at again.

Mr Ross said he had been pleased to hear of the success of the Outer Isles fisheries scheme, which included nine Lewis crews. The Highlands and Islands Development Board's scheme was already showing good results, and the Board were pursuing the possibility of local fish processing development.

#### BzH PLAQUE — BRETONS FINED

Breton nationalists and others have been using a car plaque consisting of the letters BzH (for BriezH, i.e. Brittany) with the coat of arms of Rennes, one of the two capital cities of the country. It is in black and white, which are the national colours and the colour of the Breton Flag. However, the use of this plaque has been forbidden by the Prefects of three of the five departments of Brittany.

The police have now the power to impose a fine on anyone using the 'BzH'. Many people have been stopped and warned by the police and their names and addresses taken, some as many as sixteen times. There have been no reports of people being actually fined. Bretons deduce that this is only another method to prosecute people who work for Breton freedom.



Remains of the old church and grave-stones on North Rona. This island once supported a small community, admittedly living the simple life. But the tragedy of Scotland's island communities is a shameful confession of neglect by successive Governments. In the 18th century some 8 per cent. of Scots lived on islands. The figure today is less than 2 per cent. More important — island communities today account for one-third of the Highland region under the HDB care and maintenance policy. For it seems that large-scale development is available only for the mainland.

## Drama Ghaidhlig A Tighinn Gu Inbhe A' PHRIOMH DHUAIS GU INBHIR NIS

Airson a' cheud uair bhuanach dealbh-cluich Ghaidhlig an prìomh dhuais aig cuirm an SCDa an Inbhir-Nis. Is iad Comunn Drama Ghaidhlig Inbhir-Nis a choisinn an urram so airson an canain leis a' chluich, "Buntata na Sgeire Duibhe," a' dh' eadar theangachadh, le Alasdair Frisail bho 'n Bheurla "Stranger in Skerrydu," le Seumas Grandd, Ceann Suidhe Coimisean nan Croitearan. Ged is e thoirt bho 'n Bheurla rinneadh tha a'

chluich gu h-iomlan Gaidhealach air nach Leodhasach Mgr. Grandd fheinn.

Chan annas do 'n bhuidheann so a bhi togail dhuiscean. An uiridh 's iad a fhuair a cheud duais aig Feis na Drama Ghaidhlig an Glaschu agus a reir coltais 'sann a' tighinn tha 'm piseach. Tha an fear stiùiridh Mgr. S. L. Hamilton ri mhòd airson an obair a tha e a deanamh.

'S e dealbh cluich abhachdadh tha am "Buntata na Sgeire Duibhe" anns am bheil oitigeach am Bord an Fhearian mu 1930 air a shuidheachadh am meas dhaoine bha beo timchioll air 1760.

Chanail ach ceithreair actaircan 'san dealbh cluiche agus thaitinn A. I. Mac Illeathain, Seonaid Camshorn, Cairtonna Nic Leoid agus Iain Mac Leoid ris an luchd eisdich agus gu h-àraidh ris a bhrithheamh Nan Scott. Chuidich Mgr. Hume MacDhonnachaidh i a thaobh na Gaidhlig agus b' e beachd aig deireadh na cuirme gu robh am buidheann so comasach a' dhol gu fìor mhullach na faire.

Bidh an ath chuairt 'sa Ghearsadan aig deireadh na Màirt sa chuairt dheireannach an Inbhir-Nis 'sa Ghibleinn.

### CROFT INDUSTRY IN DISUSED CHURCH

Caitheas is soon to get a new croft industry — the making of hand-woven rugs and stag-horn jewellery. It is to be started in a disused church at Shebest, eight miles from Thurso.

Behind the venture is a young Irish woman, Mrs Dorothea Gaunt, who is the wife of a scientist at Dounreay.

Yesterday, Mrs Gaunt said she had the tourist industry very much in mind, and she hoped eventually to set up a crafts centre there. Production is likely to start early next month.

## Wm. Grigor & Son Limited

20 HAMILTON STREET  
INVERNESS. TEL. 34343



**Inverness Cream  
SCOTCH WHISKY**



## BIRTH

MACAULAY—At the Lewis Hospital on 2nd February 1968, to Kenny and Chrissie M. Macaulay, 10 Keose—a son. Both well.

## DEATHS

CAMPBELL—On 6th February 1968, Johanna Campbell, widow of Thomas Reid, 20 Windsor Crescent, Portree, died at Portree Hospital after a short illness. Sadly missed. (Inserted by her niece, Mrs Peggy MacDougall, 11 Mill Street, Dingwall.)

MACDONALD—On 25th January 1968, in her 89th year, Marion Macdonald, of Balard, Knockintorran, North Uist, last surviving member of the family of the late Ewen and Jessie Macdonald.

MACKINNON—At the West Highland Hospital, Oban, on 11th February 1968, in her 85th year, Catriona, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs John MacKinnon, Rhum View, Vaul, Isle of Tiree.

PARK—Passed away peacefully at Falkland Terrace, Scalpay, on 5th February 1968, James Park, Building Contractor, aged 83 years, beloved husband of the late Effie Morrison. Very deeply mourned.

## SEAN-THACAL

Cha mhíde seúl mhaith sírthí du uair.

A good tale is not the worse of being twice told.

## Text for the Times

Agus tha toradh na fireantachd air a chur ann an sìth do luchd-deanaimh na sìthe—Seumas IV, r. 18.

And the fruit of righteousness is seen in place of them that made peace—James IV, r. 18.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

Gaelic Male Trainee or Partner for youth work and office, overseas wanted. Apply Box 33 Sruth.

## Sruth

## Scottland's

bi-lingual newspaper published fortnightly by An Comunn Gaidhealach

Order from your local newspaper or by Subscription to:  
The General Editor,  
92 Academy Street,  
Inverness.

Name .....

Address .....

I enclose P.O./M.O./Cheque for ..... for quarter/half/year/one year subscription to SRUTH.

13/- plus 6/6 p. & p.—1 year  
6/6 plus 3/3 p. & p.—6 months  
3/3 plus 1/9 p. & p.—3 months

## Auctioneer and Appraiser

W. Cunningham

48 John Street

DUNOON

Telephone 102

REMOVER STORER

PACKER SHIPPER

## THE HIGHLANDS IN 2068

This article is by Gordon Campbell, Member of Parliament for Moray and Nairn. He takes an unusual look at the Highlands in 2068. Though the picture is fictional today, it might well be fact. Certainly, nothing Mr Campbell says is impossible to bring about with far-sighted, enlightened planning ideas grasped with the courage of conviction.

The rocket-plane eased itself down vertically on to the special platform at Prestwick. Stepping out of it with the other passengers were Duncan and Fiona MacKenzie, who had been spending a long week-end visiting friends in Australia. They were quickly transported to their own small rocket-plane parked nearby.

Duncan is 20 years old and his sister Fiona is a year younger. As he strapped himself in he was getting the latest flight information on his television receiver. Bad weather would not worry him, because every rocket-plane has a built-in radar and computer system which automatically steers round obstacles and avoids collisions with other craft.

They would be home in Sutherland within an hour. They were soon over the Clyde and the Highlands lay spread out below them on a fine cloudless day.

"That looks like another factory being built at Newtownmore," said Duncan. "It seems strange that a hundred years ago, people were still leaving the Highlands. But that was before personal transport had been made so easy."

## Rocket-Planes

Now that everyone has a rocket-plane, people want to get away from the congested areas and to be able to enjoy their leisure hours. They do not miss anything, because sport, music and the theatre are now seen on television by almost everyone and very few of these events are attended by many spectators or an audience.

They were passing over Badenoch and Strathspey. In the last 50 years a lot of private houses had been built by people wanting to get away from the congested

South. At first these had been in the nature of second houses or "holiday" cottages, but the revolution in transport had resulted in most of these now being permanent residences. Each had its rocket pad beside it, often with more than one rocket-car upon it.

The same pattern has developed in many other areas of the Highlands, especially along the West Coast. The vertical take-off family rocket-plane, safe and unaffected by weather conditions, has revolutionised personal transport. People have been able to live in what were previously remote areas without impairing their daily work.

As they crossed in Ross-shire, Fiona pointed to the latest wide roadway, disappearing to the West.

"I wonder for how long the heavy loads will still move by wheel or hovercraft," she thought. "Still, with such roads, it is a very cheap form of transport."

All types of industry, except the heaviest, moved into the Highlands when the transport problems had been overcome. The tourist trade expanded also. Nowadays it caters largely for short visits and week-enders from the congested areas. Amphibious hovercraft and vertical take-off jets opened up the West Coast and the Islands. Fortunately development was tempered in most cases by imaginative planning, so that the scenery and amenities have been marred only in a few places.

"It is an interesting thought," said Duncan looking down at a holiday-village hotel by a loch, "that the tourist industry here was almost strangled beyond redemption a century ago. If the Conservative Government had not immediately abolished the Selective Employment Tax on coming into office it would have taken many years to recover."

"The Highlands had to pay more per job with this tax than anywhere else in the country, my teacher told us," said Fiona "but fortunately that is only history now." In the distance to their

right, large factory buildings and a centre of roads and converging rocket craft marked the industrial area of Invergordon. As they moved further North the sleek white buildings of the Dounreay-Thurso industrial complex came into view. Much of the land which they were passing over was covered by trees. These forests had been planted increasingly as timber came more into use and demand for building and pulp. Below the forest belts were farms where almost every function is carried out by radio-controlled machinery.

Nearly all the power needed for the machinery used so much in daily life in Scotland now comes from nuclear installations. The early reactor establishment at Dounreay was used for research and development and that area has remained a centre for this work. The consequent expansion could now be clearly seen from Duncan and Fiona's rocket-plane. Neat groups of houses and modern villages, which have all come into existence during the past 70 years, lay ahead spreading from Caithness well into Sutherland.

## Fuels for Spaceships

One of the most imposing factories in sight was for processing and insulating the nuclear fuel used for the jet motors of large space-ships. Manufacture of these fuels began at Dounreay many years ago and the associated industries and services started up or settled in the area. Many of the best brains in Europe are to be found here, since there is complete interchange within the Common Market, which comprises the whole of Europe including the Soviet Union (now a country with several political parties and free elections).

Duncan brought the craft down beside his home. He had spoken by radio to his father on the way, so that he was at the door to meet them. Their house is situated on the fairly steep side of a hill with no road or track within two miles. But of course these ceased to be necessary when vertical take-off craft became universally used as family cars.

While Fiona chattered to her father about their week-end in Australia, Duncan gazed out of the window over the large sea loch which spread below. It was here that Mr Mackenzie's livelihood lay. This is one of many such lochs which have been turned into fish farms. Following experiments and pilot schemes in the 1980s, methods were developed of breeding and raising sea fish in concentrations.

The problem of providing the extra food for so many fish was one of the most difficult but is now completely mastered. Duncan's father is the manager of this loch and his staff include a marine biologist and several technicians. The fish are monitored and watched by underwater radar and television and can be segregated into types and sizes and finally killed by electricity operated from the shore.

"I like travel," said Duncan, "and I'm hoping to go on to the University Geology Society's visit to the moon next year. But this is where I want to live."

"Aye," agreed his father "and your grandfather also said he would never live anywhere else. The three of us have been lucky, though, because in the days before that it was not easy to stay here and many had to seek their fortunes elsewhere."

## GLASGOW GAELIC DRAMA ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL FESTIVAL

of

## ONE ACT GAELIC PLAYS

To be held in THE HIGHLANDERS' INSTITUTE, GLASGOW

On 8th, 9th and 10th MAY 1968

Entries are invited from groups, etc., to compete for a variety of Trophies awarded for acting, production, etc., in the above Festival. Further information may be obtained from the Hon. Secy., Mr D. Nicholson, 97 Westerton Avenue, Bearsden, Glasgow, in whose hands entries should be not later than Saturday, 30th March, 1968.

## NATIONAL MOD—DUNOON 1968

## Art and Industry Section

SCHOOLS, YOUTH CLUBS, W.R.I. and OPEN COMPETITION

Crafts ★ Painting ★ Photography

Record Sleeve, Greetings Card and Poster Designs

For Syllabus and details write D. MacLeod, An Comunn Gaidhealach,

Abertarff House, Inverness

## Highland Book Club

Please fill in the following if you are interested :

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

I wish to become a reader member of Club Leabhar and elect to either

\* pay for each book received on receipt

\* or I enclose 30/- to cover the cost of four books, on the understanding that any balance of this sum which remains outstanding will be placed to my credit as a refund or towards next year's subscription.

\* Please indicate the method of payment you wish.

Forward to:

Club Leabhar, Abertarff House, Inverness.



# Na Sithichean

## part 4

### NA BODAICH CHROTACH

O chionn fada an t-saoghal mhór, bha dithis bhodach a' comhnuinn anns an eigrichad gnaidh ris an abradh iad Calum agus Donnchadh. Mar a chunnac an freasdal iomchuidh, thachair gun robh còir air gach fear dhubh.

Bha Calum gu nadurra 'na dhuine sunndach, cridheil. Cha bhiodh e uair 'sam bith de'n latha 'a' toirt lamh air gnìomh no car obrach gun a bhì gabhail port no duanag shunndach, aigneach, ged nach biodh 'ga eisdeachd ach na cnoic agus n-'aiseagan.

Bha Donnchadh, air an laimh eile, 'na dhuine gramaich, a dh'èasbhuidh fona no sunnd gach latha de'n bhliadhna agus gach bliadhna de a bheatha.

Air an latha seo, co-dhiù, bha Calum 'a' dol a mach leis 'a' chrochd thum 'a' chul-cinn agus port aighreach 'na bheul mar a' b'èbhaist an feadh 's a bha e 'nais saoda-

chadh a mach taobh 'a' Chnoic Phreasaich. 'A' dol seachd claidhach 'a' chnoic, bha e 'seinn ris leas gun binn toigearach, mar a feinns:

"Di-luain, Di-mairt,  
Di-luain, Di-mairt."

Ann am prìoba na sula, dh'fhoisgal an cnoic agus thainig bodach beag, aoibheil a mach air an robh falt fada liath agus feusag fhada bhiorach, 'a' giulan claidheamh na laimh. "Se do phort sunndach, toilichte, arsa esan, 'a' rinn am feum dhomh an diugh. Innis dhomh de bu mhat leat mi dheanamh air do shon agus mi sin." "Se an eon na 'b'fhearr leasna thu dheanamh air mo shon," fhuirgair am fear eile, gun toir-eachd thu dhomh 'a' chroit seo de'n bheil mi cho sgith bho dh'ionn iomadh bliadhna."

Le aon seach de'n chlaideamh, sgath an sìtiche dheth 'a' chroit agus ghìulan e leis i a seachd do'n chnoc.

Ach ma bha Calum cridheil roimhe, cha bu chridheach-

las riamh gu seo. Chaidh e dhachaidh a cheart cho dìreach ri saighdear agus cho aotrom 's gur gann a bha cas 'a' bualadh air laige aige.

Nuair a mhothaich Donnchadh gun do chail a nabadh 'a' chroit agus 'a' chroit fein cho mòr agus cho daingean 's a bha i riamh, is ann a dh'fhas na bu chrosda.

Nuair a mheannraich e mar a thainig am fortan an car Chalam, is ann a smaoineach e gun rachadh e fein an ath latha a mach leis 'a' chroit, seachad air 'a' Chnoc Phreasaich agus gun gabhadh e luineag cho math 's a b'urrainn dha.

Cha luath 's a rainig e an cnoic theann e gu diombach, fhuirgair e seinn le guth cruaidh, ard:

"Di-ciadain, Diar-daoin,  
Di-ciadain, Diar-daoin!"

Ach ma theann, dh'fhoisgail an cnoic agus a mach thainig am bodach sìthe agus cotas a chuthachail. "Rinn do mhi-ghean agus do ghreann," ars e esan, "mo

shith agus m'fhois a mhill-leadh air an latha an diugh. Tharruing thu doile agus tugh dh'orchadach air m'inn-tinn!"

Leis na facail sin, thionn-aigh e air a shail a staigh do'n chnoic agus mun canadh tu tri, thainig e mach a rithidh 'a' giulan croit Chalam 'na laimh agus sparr e gu teann i air muin croit Dhonchaidh agus bho na latha sin a mach, bha Donnchadh truaigh air taillbh a ghruamachd, 'a' giula d' chroit!

### LARGS CEILIDH

The Largs Branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach had a large attendance at their ceilidh on Thursday, 8th February, when Mr Duncan Brown gave his unique talk on Largs in Picture, Poetry and Song. The poems were Mr Brown's own work as was the song 'Memories of Largs.' Mrs Norma McDougall was accompanist and 11-year-old Jim Renfrew made his debut as piper.

## "Goldfinger" Firm For Dingwall

### THIRTY NEW JOBS

The H.I.D.B., after several months of stiff competition with the Greater London Council, has attracted a Balm firm north to Dingwall. The company, C.M.R. Findings, Ltd., is the biggest manufacturer in Britain of precision parts in precious metals for the jewellery trade. Its products go into the making of such things as rings, ear-rings and brooches.

The Managing Director of C.M.R. Findings, Mr M. R. Turner, said in Inverness after the announcement that the company had set up in London eight years ago, and expanded very fast. And it's this expansion that has made the move necessary. Mr Turner stressed that it was a business move and that the firm has very good reasons for going to Dingwall.

"We are already exporting 40 per cent. of our total production to 20 countries," he continued, "and we want to boost our export drive to 75 per cent. of total production. We reckon that we'll be able to do that at Dingwall, and anticipate that in two years we'll have doubled our turnover."

Many sites up and down the country were considered for the new factory—Devon, Cornwall, and Central Scotland. The greater London Council tried hard to persuade C.M.R. to stay put, but the firm was more impressed by what the Highland Board and Dingwall had to offer. The speed with which arrangements were made always impressed a businessman and in this case there were no red tape hold-ups.

The new factory will provide up to 30 jobs, most of them for men.

C.M.R. Findings are moving into temporary premises at Dingwall in April, while a six-and-a-half thousand square foot factory is being built for them. It should be ready for occupation in October.

### A MACH LE RIOGHALACHO

Chuir meur Quebec de na Libèraichean an Canada run air adhart ag iarraidh air riaghalas crìoch a chuir air a cheangal a bha eadar Canada agus crùn Breatainn agus cuir as do riaghachadh. 'Se President a bha duit a bhi aca an aite na riaghalas, rachadh a thaghadh gach coig bliadhna. A' Ghabhaidh ris an run le 135 bhòtaichean an aghaidh 33. Bha iad cuideachd deonach gun d' rachadh innbe na Frangais a thogail anns gach ionad agus Bhòtaichean riaghaidh air feadh Canada. Cha chuidich seo leis a phàirtidh a' cha riaghaidh, na Libèraichean, gu Mgr. L. Pearson. Tha fo 40 per cent. a dhaoine an dùig air feadh Canada a thainig a Breatainn.

## 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.

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

### Lesson 21

Examples were given in the last lesson of the nominative and genitive cases of the feminine noun "caileag", qualified by the adjective "ban", viz. 'a' chailleag bhan na caileage baine.

The comparative form of the adjective (the form used when two things are being compared) is the same as its singular genitive form. Thus 'ban'—fair 'baine'—fairer.

The verbal forms 'Tha' or 'Is' can be used with this form of the adjective as in

Tha Aoghnas nas baine na Fear-ch.  
Angus is fairer (haired) than Farquhar.

Bha Oo-nas na banye na Ferra-ch. (ch as in 'loch').  
or

Is baine Aoghnas na Fear-ch.  
Angus is fairer (haired) than Farquhar.

Is banye Oo-nas na Ferra-ch. The comparative form is often irregular, as in:

mor—mòtha  
big—bigger  
more—maw-  
math—fhearr  
good—better  
ma—eas-ear  
mills—milse  
sweet—sweeter  
meal-eish—meal-shuh  
dona—miosa  
bad—worse  
dawn-na—mee-sa

e.g. Tha seo mills, ach tha sin nas milse.  
This is sweet, but that is sweeter.  
Ha sho meal-eish, ach ha sheen nas meal-shuh.

The following Gaelic proverb illustrates some of the above points, and perhaps provide food for thought:

Is fhearr bean ghlic na crann is fearann.  
A wise wife is better than a tree-ear-ben gheileach na kraw-on is ferr-ann.  
Am fear a phòsas bean, posaidh e dragh.  
The man who marries a wife marries trouble.  
Am fer a fòsas ben, pose e dragh.  
Far am bi bi bithidh bean, is far am bi bean bithidh buaidh.  
Where there's a cow there will be a woman, and where there's a woman there will be trouble.  
Far am bee bu-bee-bee, is far am bee ben-bee-bee boo-irgh.

### SEIRBHS A PHOBUIL

The dull airneach Seirbhis a Phobuill a chumail mar a tha e an ceart uair ged a bha duit a thogail 11,000 air a bhliadhna. Tha moran a bha cur am beachd an ceill ri Coimisean Fulton a deannadh dheth gu robh mi fheum 'ga dheanamh air talantan agus sgilean eadhaidh eadar an riaghailteas agus na stiuramachdan. Bha fir o' each buidheann a deannamh an son obait agus cha robh cumhachd air coisgais a dhalachadh na h-obrachach ach feumaidh an obair a bhi air a rian ceart. Tha feum mhòr air coisgais air gach rud an obair laghanan is riaghailtean a rann-sachadh—agus coisgais gach roinn obreach a lughdachadh. Mas urrainn tionnsan na leithid a dheanamh 's urrainn don riaghailteas. Ach tha sin air a chluinntinn gun do chuir iad 5,000 seirbheach dheth-bhiorionnach glan-aidh 'na leithid. Chuir iad an obair an sin a mach air taigse agus bithidh e air feadhainn eile na dheanamh air chumhachdan. Cha teid a chosgais da nas lugha. Chan e manaidsearachd no glòias a tha so.

## Islanders Start Crab Plant

Islanders on Westray, in the Orkneys, have set up a co-operative to process crabs by blast freezing. The chairman of the new concern, Westray Processors, Ltd., is the island's Church of Scotland minister, the Rev. Arthur MacEwen, who spent ten years in business before entering the Ministry.

Westray's 950 people have promised £5000 out of the total £12,000 capital needed. "We hope to be in operation this season, which starts in May and goes on until August or early September," Mr MacEwen said recently.

### Source of Income

"We aim at processing something like 80,000 lb. of crabs in the season. We feel this can be a new source of income to Westray and could probably bring about £15,000 into the pockets of the people each year."

The co-operative, now negotiating for a site near the pier at Pierowall, expect to provide work for 30 to 40 fishermen, two process workers permanently and part-time jobs for about eighteen others during the season.

The crabs will be boiled and blast-frozen, and then packaged. Marketing will be handled by the Orkney Fishermen's Society at Stromness.

## BALLACHULISH—ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

Fairhurst's, who provided the Scottish Council (Development and Industry) with an estimate of the construction costs of a bridge at Ballachulish, and the leading consulting engineers for bridge works in Scotland (the Tay Bridge was one of their projects) have been asked by the government to look further into the Council's Ballachulish Report.

Now that the Report's suggestion of a more detailed study of construction costs and traffic flows has been adopted, the Council is keen to promote discussion about the merits of using tolls as a means of getting cracking with the road programme. The idea of introducing private capital to the Highlands, to supplement (but not replace) available government funds is an attractive one. If Ballachulish can be taken out of the Government programme, there will be more money left over for other urgent Highland road works.

A spokesman for the Scottish Council said last week: "Although the Scottish Council's detailed Feasibility Study applies only to Ballachulish, there are clearly a number of other sites in the Highlands and in Scotland where the same system could be adopted, enabling work to proceed without waiting for Government funds. In some cases a degree of Government grant could be incorporated."



SRUTH

Diardaoin, 22mh An Gearran 1968

Thursday, 22nd February 1968

## "Far am bi mi fhin Is ann a bhitheas mo dhocas."

Leugh sinn na faclan a leanas ann an 'Sgian Dubh', paipear a tha air a chur a mach leis a' Bhuidhinn Naiseanta: "Seachdain no dhà air ais thuair mair greim air leth-breac no dhà de 'Deo-Greine' irisleabhar a bha aig A' Chomunn mus robh 'An Gaidheal' no 'Sruth' a' tighinn as an ubh.

Bha na cuspairean aca 'sna laithean sin dìreach mar a tha iad ann diugh fhéin. Carson nach eil an Rìghaltas a' toirt aite dhà'n Gaidhlig? Carson nach eil deagh chothrom aig a' Ghaidhlig 'sna sgòilean? Nach bu choir dhaibh a' bheir a' thoirt air ais do na Gaidheil 's na cisean aca airson an canain fhéin a theagasg 'nan duthaich fhéin?

Tri fichead bleadhna air ais, is nas fhaide. Agus de thachair a' dh'indeoin gach ceist . . .

Tha sinn a' faighneachd nan dearbhadh ceistean ann diugh. Cha do thachair dad gun an robh Unifred Eoghann air faighinn a steach do Thigh na Parlaimaid . . . Agus an uair a chaid iad gu bheil sinn airson Parlaimaid a chur air chois an Alba tha gach Soisreach is Tòraidh a' deannam othail mhoir mu na Gaidheil 'sna paipearan . . .

Tha torr dhe n' fhéin anns na tha air caraid a' radh. Chan urrainn do dhùine sinn bith a' dhol as aiceidh sin. Ach tha e cearr ann an aon rud. Tha cothrom aig a' Ghaidhlig ann an sgòilean na Gaidhealtachd a nis nach robh aice an uair thagh 'Deo-Greine' agus 'An Gaidheal' a' mach an toiseach. De a' abhar dha seo? Chan eil ann ach an t-aon abhar. Is e Gaidheil a bha ann an cuid mhoir dha'n fheadhainn a bha os cionn gnothaichean an fhoghlaim air a' Gaidhealtachd. Tha leasan an cuid dha. Ge brìg de an soirbheachadh a thig dha'n Gaidhealtachd ri linn a' Bhuird Leasachaidh no buidhinn eamh eile cha bith gun a' Gaidhlig mur a' bi Gaidheil an sas ann an gnothaichean.

## Moral Fibres

Quite often the pronouncements of the Free Church are subjected by certain sections of the Press to analyses which do little credit to the authors of the pronouncements. Perhaps, occasionally, there is reason to criticise and ridicule what the Free Kirk says, though surely anything any Church says should be treated with respect. Thus, one hopes that the recent Report on Religion and Morals issued by the Free Church Presbytery of Lewis will receive the serious consideration it deserves. The Report, in one particular part, indicates a refreshing attitude to certain aspects of life and living in Lewis: on the subject of bothans and licensed premises.

The Celt has ever had the facility of operation on a high mental plane, as have his kindred races. This plane offers one the opportunity of participating in aspects which affect directly the physical existence of the body and often dictates its course. The Celt, too, recognises that there are psychological influences at work in sleep and dream which extend far beyond the reach of the ordinary waking mind. To take account of these things adds a richness to life and leads to a harmonious state of co-existence between the secular and the spiritual.

One hears much of the "Backing Britain" campaign. This indicates that the nation has been so much vitiated in the recent past that it requires support—of an economic nature. Yet one would imagine that another form of support is urgently needed: that of moral support to stiffen the backbone of a nation which is yielding *nemine contradicte* to influences which in the long term may do harm to our children and to unborn generations.

The present leadership of the nation lacks a direct association with the moderating influences which one supposes should be provided by our Lords Spiritual. Perhaps it is because they are in the wrong house that they have no power to arrest the moral deterioration of our nation. It is surely time for the Church to get into politics.

Just as worker priests and industrial chaplains infiltrate with intent into employment areas, so should the Church now encourage its ministers to become Members of Parliament, to add the necessary moral atmosphere to the deliberations so that the legislature once more, as it once did, reflects a healthy attitude to life on two planes.

## Faicinn Bhuam

# MOLADH RAIBEIRT BURNS

Tha an t-am aig am bi daoine a' moladh Raibeirt Burns a nise seachad uair eile agus chan urrainn dune gun bheachdachadh air na cleachdaidhean a chuireadh air bonn airson a bhitheas gu chumhachadh, agus a' rainig a leithid a' d'heir anns na naoi fichead bliadhna no mar sin on a bha e air thall-thu. Tha mise cho measail air a' bhàrdachd aige ris an dara duine. Bithidh mi aig an àm iomchaidh a' gabhail cothrom coltach ri daoine eile air a' bhàrdachd iomraidh a' dh'fhàg e agann ri a' laithean goirid air an talamh.

Gu dearbh tha mise na chomain air doigh àraidh, air thachair gu bheil an aon àbheith agam sa bh' aige fhéin. Chan eil a' chomain seo a' tighinn an dòigh dhionhair sa bith o chomas bàrdachd a shaoilinn agam fhin, ged a bhitheas mi corra uair ri rannagadh. Seo an ni a' chur mi cho mòr na chomain. Ged a tha mise buailteach air làithean-breithe na feadhainn as fhaighe dhomh a' dholchumhachadh (co-dhiù is ann le teutemas no an dà rìreadh), chan urrainn dhuine sa bith a leithid eile a' dhanamh ormsa.

A' réis mórán tha tomhas de luach obair Raibeirt Burns an crochadh air a' t-seòrsa canain anns a' robh e a' sgrìobhadh, an t-seann chaint Albannach a bha meag an t-sluaigh ri a linn. Bithidh cuid a' caoidh gun do chailleadh mórán dha 'n chaint seo agus gu bheil faclan am Burns nach tuig muintir an là an diugh. Bha gun teagamh faclan aig Burns agus aig ughdarran Albannach eile nacheil anns a' Bheurla chumanta. A' dh'aindeoin sin chaneil an "Scots" no "Lallans" gu leir bhitheas ach seòrsa de Bheurla.

Tha feadhainn an dràsta a' sìreadh dhoighean anns a' bheil Alba eadar dhealaichte o dhùthchannan eile. Tha iad an dail gun dearbhadh na dhoighean sin gun bheil Alba,

chan e mhaigh feumach, ach comasach air seasamh air a' casan fhéin. A nise mas e fearth cho làidir ri canain naiseanta a tha a' dhiùt orra, si a' Ghaidhlig as fhearr a' fheargas an iarratas na Alba.

Tha an smuaint sin ag aobhachadh mar tha gu bheil iad aig mórán dha na Naiseantain anns a' Ghaidhlig (ged a tha e air aithris nach d' aithnich Una i air teileagram!) Co-dhiù a' dh' aontaicheas gu nach aontich duine le prìomh argumaid nan Naiseantach, chaneil sin na aobhar air teagamh no cag a' chur air an oidhirpean as leth na Gaidhlig. Si mo bheachd-sa gun coir dhuinn gabhail gu tingeal agus gu modhail ri coibhair laghail, ge b'e àite as an tig i.

Thog mise ainm Raibeirt Burns an seo a' chum gun tugainn mo bharail air iomradh a' chum mi mu chomhlann ghaidhealach, agus feadhainn dhiubh a' tha a' gabhail orra fhéin a' bith nam meuran dha na Chomunn, a' tha a' cumail "Burns Suppers" aig deiridh an Fhaoillich. Chan eil mise a' faicinn aobhar an t-saoghail airson seo.

Tha fhios gu bheil e an comhnaidh duilich do rùnairean a' bhithe a' lònadh sìobalais nam buidhean eca. Tha daoine a' fàs sgith dha na cuairtean chairt (cuist,

drochaid, beir-ajr-an-deich is eile) agus de shealbhanan, toisheadh is gluasachd, plein is daite. Dè as fhearr na feasgar a' lìonadh le "suipear a' bhàird I."

Chan eil na nas lugha feum, air chaneil an seo ach ceum eile an iomadh ceum air falbh bho phrìomh rùntean A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach. Chan eil mise, thair mi a' ritheist, g'un tlachd an duain Raibeirt Burns, bithheadh iad beag no mòr. Chan eil mi a' togail mar chasaid na agaidh gun d' thuir e mu àiteigin:

"There's naethin here but  
Hielan scab an hunger."

oir nacheil e air aithris gun d' thuir e uair eile:

"When Death's dark stream  
the ferry o'er,

A time that surely shall  
come,

In Heaven itself I'll ask no  
more

Than just a Highland wel-  
come."

Tha a' h-uile coir aig Gaidheil cho mhaile ri Goill air a' bhithe a' moladh a' bhàird seo agus gach cothrom iomchaidh a' gabhail airson sin a' dhanamh. Ach chan e coimeamhan nan comunn ghaidhealach an t-àite. Tha gu leòr de dhealasanan eile a' feitheamh orra.

*Donald MacDonald*

## MODERNISATION OF TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Mr Russell Johnston, Liberal M.P. for Inverness-shire, has been in correspondence with Mr Edward Short, the Postmaster General about his plans for improving the telephone system in the North.

Mr Short has indicated to Mr Johnston that the plans for modernising the telephone system in the north of Scotland and the crofting counties are well advanced. An automatic exchange will be opened at Fort William this summer and will provide facilities for the dialling of most trunk calls without the help of the operator. All manually operated exchanges should be replaced by auto-

matic exchanges by 1970 and some existing automatic exchanges will be replaced to give better facilities.

He also said that subscriber trunk dialling would be introduced as quickly as possible but this work cannot be fully completed before 1973 as it involves the provision of many new underground cables, radio systems, and exchanges costing a total of at least £63 million.

Finally, the Postmaster General expressed the hope that improved communications would contribute to the economic development of the North of Scotland.

## C R A N N

Aberdeen University Celtic Society's

ALL GAELIC MAGAZINE

Available from The Secretary,  
University Union, Aberdeen.  
2/6 post paid

## FRIENDS IN SCOTLAND ?

. . . or in BRITAIN ?

Then take advantage of Bernards Direct Despatch Service whenever you wish to send them Gifts or Flowers.

The GIFTS INTERNATIONAL Catalogue covers gifts for all the family and a copy, together with full details of Bernards Service whereby your choice of gifts or flowers may be delivered on the day desired accompanied by personal messages or greeting cards, will be gladly sent on request.

Remember — GIFTS INTERNATIONAL may make a World of difference to YOUR Gift Giving.

C. H. BERNARD & SONS LTD., Dept. SR.  
Anglia House, Harwich, Essex.

## SEED OATS AND BARLEY INSPECTION

Full particulars, including application forms, both for the inspection of crops and for the examination of seed harvested from crops certified as "Growing Crops" under the 1967 arrangements, may be obtained from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, Agricultural Scientific Services, East Craigs, Edinburgh, 12.



## CAUSE AND EFFECT

To:

Russell Johnston, M.P. for Inverness  
Major G. T. C. Campbell, M.C., M.P. for Moray and Nairn

Sir, — When Conservatives were returned to power in the autumn of 1951, the late Sir Winston Churchill told the story of a train running downhill in the wrong direction. He pointed out that before anything could be done, it would be necessary to bring the train slowly to a halt then reverse the train to the junction when it would be possible to get the train going in the right direction which, in Winston Churchill's view, was uphill all the way. Ever since the railways were nationalised the train has been rushing downhill in the wrong direction! But how is it going to be possible to get the train going in the right direction when the line has been closed and the track removed? That is my reaction to the Transport Bill presented to the House of Commons by Barbara

Castle. I do not think the Bill will be any use to Scotland — still less the Highlands.

It is unfortunate that a Committee to discuss a Bill of this nature must reflect the position of the Parties in the House of Commons. What we want to know is how the Bill is going to affect the Highlands, not how it is going to help the Conservatives win the next General Election! As Scotland has only seven M.P.s on the Committee, one must assume that three will be Conservatives and four Labour, whilst Highland interests are hardly considered at all. The important thing is to examine the Bill on its merits, and Party considerations are relatively unimportant. The People should have a chance of reading it, and a chance of forming their own opinions. Would I support the Bill if I was a member of the Labour Party? Even if I was a Tory there are many instances when I would have supported Labour against the Conservatives, and I do not think I could have supported this Bill if I was a member of the Labour Party.

If this Bill is intended to cover the whole of the United Kingdom one should very carefully examine how each area

is affected. This the Bill singularly fails to do. Barbara Castle has expressed her object to get traffic off the roads and back on to the railways, and here I agree with her wholeheartedly. But how is it going to be possible to get traffic off the roads and on to the railways when a large area of the Highlands is not served by a railway? Added to this we find the Minister of Transport pursuing contradictory policies when she tries to get traffic off the roads and on to the railways, and at the same time gives her consent to the closing of railways, thus forcing traffic on to the roads. In this respect the Conservatives are as much to blame as the Socialists!

The policy of the Labour Party clearly aims at the complete integration of all forms of transport. In this respect Labour has a convincing case, but how is transport to be integrated? In the Highlands there is an overwhelming, convincing case for the integration of road, rail and sea transport. But what form of integration should there be? In the years following the First World War, when it was clear that the Highland Railway would not compete against road transport, the Highland Railway should have been in-

tegrated into a Highland Transport Board to co-ordinate road and rail transport in the Highlands and far north; but the Highland Railway was absorbed into the L.M.S. It would have been better policy to have amalgamated the Highland Railway and the Great North of Scotland Railway instead of perpetuating the rivalry between those two companies by making the G.N.S.R. part of the L.N.E.R., which monopolised the east coast from the Thames Estuary to the Moray Firth. Twenty-five years later the Labour Government nationalised the railways, and the Scottish sections of the L.M.S. and the L.N.E.R. became "Scottish Region of British Railways." The railways continued to lose a whole volume of traffic to the roads and much of this was due to the fact that bus fares were infinitely cheaper than train fares.

About 1920 the Caledonian Railway planned to electrify the suburban system of Glasgow, starting with the Cathcart Circle. This scheme could have eventually led to main line electrification. Before work was started the Caledonian Railway was absorbed into the L.M.S. It was nearly forty years before any attempt was

made to electrify the suburban services of Glasgow. Yet within ten years of the end of the Second World War it was possible to travel from Paris to the South of Italy — more than twice the distance from London to Inverness — in an electric train. If we let other countries get ahead of us — and all the evidence indicates that that is precisely what is happening — and have to digest a Bill of 259 pages and 169 clauses giving no clear indication how our transport services can be brought up to date, then this country is politically sick. Even Norway has been able to electrify the main line from Oslo to Bergen.

When Sir Brian Robertson was Chairman of British Railways an attempt was made to modernise and re-equip the railways. Unfortunately financial difficulties and continual rising costs made modernisation slow. The most humiliating blow came at the end of 1960, when a series of explosions resulted in the newly electrified train services of Glasgow being withdrawn for nine months. In the Highlands it is not unusual for services to be disrupted by snow. Then surely the railways should be provided with snow-fighting equipment to keep the lines open during heavy snowstorms? I have heard it suggested that the Highland railways should be electrified. This may

(Continued on Page Twelve)

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

# CAIRNGORM DEVELOPMENT

## Debate in the House of Lords

The Earl of Selkirk recently initiated a debate in the House of Lords on winter sports in the Cairngorms and asked the government whether any decisions had been taken following a report on the area to assist and encourage the development of winter sports.

The Cairngorms report had recommended a number of steps which could be taken but which would cost £35 million.

The Earl said that he had no doubt the government would boggle at that figure, but he hoped that boggling would not be the only response from the Government.

He referred to the increasing congestion in large towns and the need for young people to be able to take part in outdoor activities, such as those provided in the Cairngorms and pointed out that S.E.T. had brought the whole activity in the Glencoe area very nearly to a standstill.

Help was also needed with such things as roads providing access to the tourist areas, and he hoped the government would be prepared to encourage development in a practical way.

Lord Bannerman said he thought it would not be very much good if the government with one hand sponsored the report, and with the other crippled the whole area with the imposition of the S.E.T.

and by closing down railway lines and stations.

"It would be a knockout blow for the Cairngorms and the rest of the Highlands if that happened," he said.

There were thousands of acres of pastoral land which were now bog — waterlogged by the overflowing of the River Spey and as a life-long sheep farmer Lord Bannerman objected strongly to land being replanted and this caused considerable feeling between farmer and forester.

He called for more grouse in the sheep areas and for the feeding of deer in winter but he also stressed that agriculture and sheep should not be penalised to provide new areas for deer.

In conclusion Lord Bannerman said: "And, very important, let there be tourists in the hotels — give the Cairngorms the human as well as the scenic beauty and tourism will be attractive to it as an additional dividend."

Lord Bannerman remarked that the government had given two thirds of the construction cost for youth hostels, but as these were costly to maintain, he wondered if they would give a grant towards their maintenance.

Lord Wakefield of Kendal, who is president of the Ski Club of Great Britain, told the House that one thing

that helped Austria to get on her feet after the war was the granting of Marshall aid to build approach roads for skiing.

He urged the same thing for the Cairngorms.

Lord Shackleton, Leader of the House, replying to the debate, said he had "found it a really exciting subject."

He thought the report was outstanding and although he would not dwell on the subject of S.E.T., he emphasised that upwards of 500 new jobs had been created in the Aviemore area, brought about by a great deal of private initiative and enterprise and with a good deal of encouragement from the Scottish Office.

The Aviemore Centre, in addition to attracting more visitors, had won the "Come to Britain" trophy and had given "a really new and exciting look to Scottish tourism."

He found "an extraordinary range of beauty in Scotland," which he wished more people would see.

But so far as a new main road was concerned, he did not think it would have a very high priority in the roads programme, although the Highlands and Islands Development Board had been asked for views on it.

The withdrawal of the air-

lift service at Aviemore resulted from the persistence at times of very high winds, and he could offer no answer at present.

Further developments, including a hill top restaurant are being actively considered at the moment and Lord Shackleton concluded by say-

ing that no other area in Britain could offer more opportunities for all the year round outdoor activity than the Cairngorms.

Note: The Cairngorms report pointed out the directions development might take.

How soon they were achieved, would depend on the availability of money.

GET YOUR  
HIGHLAND DRESS  
from  
The Capital of  
The Highlands

ESTIMATES GIVEN  
FOR ALL TYPES OF  
HIGHLAND WEAR

Brochure Sent on Request.  
Call and see our large stock  
of Gent's and Boys' Kilts  
and Kilt Jackets.

Suppliers of Pipe Band Uniforms and Equipment

**DUNCAN CHISHOLM & SONS LTD**  
Tailors and Kiltmakers  
47-53 CASTLE STREET, INVERNESS  
Telephone 34599





## As Na Sgoiltean

# Sgoil an Iochdair, Uibhist-a-Deas

AN RUD A BHIOS RI  
TACHAIRT

Nuair a chaidh Peighinn an Aoirean a ghearradh na chrìocean ann an 1907 ghabh duine araid te dhe na h-ochd crìocean a chaidh a ghearradh a mach. Thog e tigh air a' chroit ach cha robh e faighinn fois ach a cluinntinn bragadaich is fuaim, agus na bu mhiosa na sin a' faicinn nan cisteachan — laighe a' tighinn a mach air an dorus tè as deaghaidh tè.

A nis leis an uamhas a ghabh an duine 's ann a' thuir e nach robh esan a dol a dh' fhuireach idir ann an tigh far a robh air reir chòlais a theaghlach uile gu léir a dol a bhàsachadh agus chuir e bhuaidhe a' chroit.

'S ann an uair sin a ghabh mo shì-seannair a' chroit. Bha a mhac, bràthair mo sheannar, 'na shaor agus 's ann an ceann an tighe a bhiodh e dèanamh nan cisteachan laighe agus bha iad a' tighinn a mach air an dorus dìreach mar a chunnac am fear cile idir. Agus an tigh ann an robh na cisteachan — laighe 'gan dèanamh 's e a tha 'na

bhàthaich aig m' athair an duigh.

MAIREAD NIC  
DHOMHNAILL,  
(Peighinn an Aoirean)  
Sgoil an Iochdair,  
Uibhist a Deas),

### SPIORAD AN IASGAIR

Aon latha bha mi fhéin agus bodach cile a muigh ag-iasgach rionnach aig tigh solus Uisinis. Bha am bàta a' dol gu math agus bha an t-iasgach a' dol gu math cuideachadh. Bha sinn a' dol a dh' fhaicinn ann muigh ag-iasgach fad an latha agus thug sinn leinn biadh. Bha leth botail uisge beatha aig a' bhodach agus bha e gabhail balgum an drasda agus a rithis.

Feasgar an uair a bha sinn a' dol dhachaidh thòisich an t-einsean air leumadach agus stad e. Bha spànairan gu leòr aig ach cha robh sian ceàrr air an einsean. Thuir mi fhéin ris coimhead fìach an robh petrol ann. Cha robh deur ann agus thuir mi ris "Nach cuir sibh

an t-uisge beatha ann agus bheir e dhachaidh sinn."

"An dà, ille," ars esan, "sin far am biodh am peacadh," agus e a toirt uige na raimh.

NIALL MOIREADAN  
(Géirinis)

Sgoil an Iochdair,  
Uibhist-a-Deas.

### MURAG FAR A' PHOLI

'Nuair a chaidh am Politician air na creagan, ann an Caolas Eiriseigh, b'niòdh bocsaichean de'n h-uile seorsa a' faibh dith. Bha an bodach nach deach leis co' nath. Thug e 'm bocsa bha seo far a' bhata. 'Se bha sona dol dhachaidh chun na mnatha leis. 'Nuair a raing e an tigh dh'innis e do'n bhean mh' bhosha fhuair e air a' bhata. Bha esan a' smaoin-



Chan éil mi ach a' tighinn a chomhead air mo chairdean ann am Beinn a' Bhaighla.

teachadh gur e plaideachan a bha ann. Bha ceud mìle fad-achd air a' bhean airson fhàicinn dé bha 'na bhroinn. Thòisich iad air fhosgladh ach 'se bun a' bhànn de bha sa' bhocsa 'nuair a dh'fhoisgail e ach aodach-mairbh. Thig am bodach air ais do'n bhocsa a h-uile sian agus a mach gun tigh e chun a' bhàta leis a' bhocsa cho luath 'sa dhanéadh e.

CLAIRE NIC ILIP  
Sgoil an Iochdair  
Uibhist-a-Deas.

## Transport Bill

A meeting of the Inverness-shire Constituency Association of the S.N.P. recently condemned the proposed Transport Bill on the grounds that it would have an adverse effect on all transport and communications in the Highlands, principally as a result of the distances involved and the inadequate rail system.

Since road transport became mainly privately owned again, many firms have been operating an efficient economical service, in spite of the increases in taxation and fuel duty.

The Association suggested that the proposals in the Bill were only a "back door" form of nationalisation, without compensation, and they believe that many small firms will be forced out of business. It was pointed out that this, in turn, would affect production because of difficulties in maintaining delivery dates, and in the west and north this could be detrimental to the fishing industry, which in recent years has been built up in places like Mallaig and Kinlochbervie, but which is totally dependent upon reliable road transport to carry catches to the markets when still fresh.

It was also pointed out that fishing ports which have railways still prefer road haulage because of the high rail freight charges.

Bha sud ann bodach a bha fuireach ann an tigh beag leis fhéin. Cha robh uinneagan sam bith air an tigh a leigeadh a stigh solus agus aon latha smaoinich e gun deannadh e toll ann an oisein an tigh airson 's gum biodh e na bu shoilleire.

Aon latha thainig duine uasal agus chaidh e a chomhead air a' bhodach. Thòisich e air magadh air a' bhodach agus ag cur cheist air.

Mu dheireadh thubhairt an duine uasal "O nach tu tha 'san dorachadas."

"Nam biodh tu air m' fhàicinn mu'n do rinn mi an toll san oisein," fhreagair an bodach.

KATHLEEN MOHAMMED  
Sgoil an Iochdair  
Uibhist-a-Deas.

## Scots Youth Eligible For Photography Contest

Young Scots aged 25 or under are eligible to enter for a "World Show of Youth Photography" which is to be staged during the International Photo and Cine Exhibition in Cologne from September 28 to October 6, 1968, announces the Scottish Education Department.

The show is being organised by the German Commission for U.N.E.S.C.O. in connection with the International Year for Human Rights.

The commission has requested National Commissions of the Member States of U.N.E.S.C.O. to support the project, and to bring it to the attention of associations, institutions and groups which feel bound to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, inviting them to submit photographs for the World Show.

Pictures must have been

## Do You Know?

1. What occurred in the Highlands on August 16th, 1934?
2. Which village-name in Caithness gives the peerage title of Baron to a well-known Highland Clan?
3. Who was the Highland General that built Fort William?
4. Name the hero traditionally known as "the Great Poet of the Gaels"?
5. Clait an d'rugadh am Bard Donnachadh Ban Mac-an-t-Shaol?
6. Co rìs a chanadh na bodach: "A chuisgead a dh'fhasas an oirach si is aird a thogas a ceann?"

### ANSWERS

1. An Earthquake Tremor.
2. Reay, Caithness. The Chief of Clan Mackay is known as Lord Reay.
3. Hugh MacKay of Scourie, who rebuilt the town in 1690.
4. Ossian.
5. An Gleann Urchaidh an Siòrachd Earra-Gaidheal ann a' 1724.
6. Sin air am bochd 'n uair a gheibh e beagan air adhart anns an t-saoghal seo.



Tha àile na toite as a' phìob gaibh, a phapai.

## HIDB Backs Shetland Firm

The Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Charterhouse Group are backing a Shetland fish processing firm, leatantific (Frozen Seafoods) Ltd., of Scaloway, to the tune of £96,000. A further £15,000 has also been raised by local businessmen.

The new investment, which represents the largest loan made by the Board to date, will mean that the Company, whose turnover has risen steadily since it was set up eight years ago, will be able to expand its fish freezing and processing facilities at Blackness Pier and boost its capacity to process white fish from 50 to at least 120 tons a week.

Besides supplying leading

British fish processing companies, leatantific also exports a considerable percentage of its output, notably to America, and is intending to extend the company's production lines to herring and kippers during the summer season.

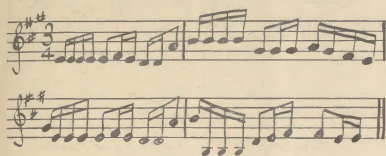
The chairman of the company, Mr Neil Ross, said last week that the firm was "delighted about the whole thing."

Mr Ross continued by saying: "To have the backing of the Highland Board and big City interests means a lot. Our turnover has more than trebled since 1965, and we are hoping that this is just the first stage in a fuller plan for expansion."

The Highland Board member for fisheries, Mr Prophet Smith, commented in Inverness last Wednesday: "We are pleased we have been able to help in this case. Our main aim is to provide employment and generally raise peoples' income and standard of living in the sevencrofting counties. Helping the fishing industry as a whole is part of that. One of our main considerations here has been that shore facilities should match up to catching capacity. This is particularly necessary in an economy like that of Shetland, which is so heavily involved in the fishing industry that jobs on the shore side are vital."

# 11. — Songs of the Gael

## Am Breacan Uallach



Fonn :

Ni mi'm breacan uallach, a-dhiu-bhi  
A' chur air mo ghualainn, ho-ro-am-bo  
A' dhreadh ris na cruachan, a dhiu-bhi  
A' shealltainn air a' ghruagaich mu bheil an fhodhail.

Is eibhinn leam an nì mar a chi mi nis e.  
Mar tha nìghean Sìne ann an Lag a' Mhìlthidh.  
O'n a fhuair 'n dìleab tha moran mìos oirr.  
'Tha gach fear an geall oirre anns a' mhìonaid.

Chan eil fear 'san aite nach bi 'ga tathalach  
's ordan aig o' m'athair a bhi 'ga leanntainn;  
Uilleam aig Cairton' agus Peadar Fleming  
's Eachunn againn-fhìn bidh e dol 'n rathaid.

Na caillichan air cheilidh 's an taobh an teallaich,  
Togsaidh iad a beusan gu ruig a' ghealach,  
Leis na fhuair 's sheudan nuair dh'fhalbh a seanasir:  
"Is i cho math gu fuaitheal! 's i fuathasach banail."

'Tha seachd-bliadh' deug is corr bho'n bha i 'fichead  
's cha robh fear an toir oirre' chunnaic mise,  
Gus an d'fhuair i 'n torr a bh' aig fear Sgrìodhaig  
Noigeanann de'n oir a bh' aig anns a' chiste.

'S iomadh rud a fhuair i nuair dh'fhalbh am bodach,  
Colg mairt laigh, gum bu mhat an tochair,  
Ged tha te dhiubh gamhnach 's i ris a' m'haigh  
'Thatar dol 'ga reamhrachadh chon na Nollaig.

'S ann tha moran seilbh aic is aigriod-tioram,  
Caoirich agus usin aice ris an a'fhreachd,  
Tunnagan is geoidh agus cearcan riobach  
'S searrach agus seann-lair cho math ri biorach.

'S math an t-urfar buailidh a ch'anns an t-sabhall,  
Soc ann agus urchar a chum an Earrach  
Amull is cleith-cliaithaidh is paidhir dhreilag,  
Agus furm smiaraidh, is tuba tearraidh.

Am press a bh'anns an t-seomair gu lionmhòr 'ulaidh,  
Cùimhneachain bh'aig Domhnall air iomadh curaidh,  
Sporan agus cunnadha a bh'aig Rìgh Uilleam  
'S botul 'san robh unghad o'n Ollamh Mhùileach.

Sglan-dubh agus tuagh bh' aig Rob Ruadh MacGriogair  
Claidheamh a bh' aig Diarmad 's gu'n robh e biorach,  
Clogad a bh'aig Fionn aic' ann agus biodag,  
Agus currachd-oidche bh'aig Calum Cille.

Fhuair mise na dh'fhoghnadh dhomh, b'e sin 'n sealladh,  
Thug mi A'ridh 'n Loin orm 's chaidh mi dhachaidh;  
Ged a bh'Beinn Mhor aice 's Torr a' Mhnaich  
B' fhearr leam bhith le m' Mhorag a' dol do'n chladach.

('Deoch-slaime nan Gilleann,' Colm O. Lochlainn a dheasachaidh)

COMUNN GAIDHLIG INBHIR NIS  
Gaelic Society of Inverness

## Annual Dinner

In the Caledonian Hotel, Inverness  
On FRIDAY, 8th MARCH 1968

Rev. William Matheson, M.A., Chief of the Society,  
will preside

Tickets, 35/-, available from Gaelic Information Centre, Abertarf  
House, Inverness (personal callers); 92 Academy Street, Inverness  
(postal requests).

## Gaelic Broadcasts

Thursday, 22nd February

12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus)  
3.30 p.m. Letter from New Zealand from Donald F. MacKenzie who belongs to the Gairloch district (recorded).  
3.45 p.m. Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by Rev. Murdo Macdonald, Edinburgh (recorded).  
7.00 p.m. "In the Highlands": An all sorts magazine — comment, interview, music and song from Gaeldom (recorded).

Friday, 23rd February

12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus)  
6.35 p.m. Kathleen and her Friends: Kathleen MacDonald welcomes you to twenty-five minutes of song and music with her guests — Calum Cameron, Archie MacTaggart, Louis Stewart and The Albanachs (recorded).

Monday, 26th February

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

Tuesday, 27th February

12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus).  
6.35 p.m. Choral Gael: Stornoway Gaelic Choir present a selection of favourite choral items from their repertoire (recorded).

Wednesday, 28th February

12 noon News in Gaelic.  
6.35 p.m. "Chanter": A magazine programme for the piping world compiled and introduced by Seumas MacNeill (rec'd.).

Thursday, 29th February

12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus).  
3.30 p.m. "An Drochaid" (The Bridge): Short story by Helen Watt (rec'd.).  
3.45 p.m. Gaelic Midweek Service conducted by Rev. Murdo Macdonald, Edinburgh (recorded).  
7.00 p.m. "In the Highlands": An all sorts magazine — comment, interview, music and song from Gaeldom (recorded).

Friday, 1st March

12 noon News in Gaelic.  
12.05 p.m. Da Cheathramh agus Fonn (Verse & Chorus).  
6.35 p.m. "Mor Aonghais 'ic Each-ainn": Donald Archie Macdonald talks to centenarian Marion Campbell from Frobbort, Sh. Uist. She belongs to a family of renowned tradition bearers (recorded).

Saturday, 2nd March

10.50 p.m. TV. 'Se Ur Beatha: A Gaelic Welcome by The Edin Singers and The Albanachs, with John M. Morrison as guest artist (recorded).

NEWSAGENT . STATIONER

**Murdoch**

Cards Gifts Tobaccos

Tel. 638

HILLFOOT STREET, DUNOON

# faisg air an t-sruthan



## BLACKTHORN or SLOE

(*Prunus spinosa*)

Gaelic: Preas nan airneag (the sloe bush)

The flowers appear in early spring before the leaves, singly or in pairs on blackish, spiny branches. The fruit, which has a bluish bloom, has so sharp a taste that it dries up the inside of the mouth when eaten. Jam or sloe gin can be made from the fruit. The cultivated plum, damson and greengage are closely related to the Blackthorn, which is a common shrub throughout the British Isles.

A superstition, common among the Gaelic races, was that for every tree cut down in any district one of the inhabitants in that district would die that year. Many ancient forts, and the thorns which surrounded them, were thus preserved by the dread with which the thorns were held.

MAIREAD.

## HIGHLAND REFRIGERATION SALES 19 Grant Street :: Inverness

In association with FROZEN FOODS (Inverness) Ltd.  
(an all Highland firm)

Offer you DEEP FREEZE CABINETS and REFRIGERATORS — including Second-hand CABINETS — at keenest prices

OWN A "FREEZER" AND CUT FAMILY BUDGET BY HALF

- Call, write or Phone Inverness 34020 for full details and Price List of all FROZEN FOODS
- Deliveries promptly executed Free of Charge

EASY TERMS AVAILABLE

Agents for

Sternette Prestcold Kelvinator Lec Etc.

"Tadhail 's Gheibh thu Bargan"



# Review Order

## The MacAulay World

by IAIN CRICHTON SMITH

(A critique of "Seobhrach as a' Chaich," a book of poems, by Donald Macaulay)

### THE AUSTERE VISIONARY

If I were asked who is the most serious artist now writing in Gaelic, I would have to say Donald Macaulay. This is not to say he is the best poet, though he has claims to be that as well. If I were asked for his characteristics I would say that he is extremely intelligent, wise, realistic and immune to most illusions.

I propose to treat him as a very serious writer and therefore I will criticise him and not praise him mindlessly. He is worthy of respect.

His poetry is difficult to write about, as it cannot easily be classified. I know of no other writer in Gaelic even remotely like him. There are some in English like him, but this does not mean that he is not a Gaelic writer, or that his preoccupations are not those of Gaelic writers in general. Some of these are: Calvinism, "the two worlds" of our inheritance; love, "the cause," landscape (though hardly ever for its own sake), and death. Many of his images are drawn from the sea-

sons and from the sea, and in this, too, he is like Gaelic writers. But the quality of his mind is more subtle than is usual in Gaelic writers. It is more questioning and more unfrightened. But, like many Gaelic writers, he moralises, and this would be my first criticism of him.

My point of criticism would be that some of his poems lead too obviously to a moral, and that the whole poem is not given enough local detail to make it, in the last analysis, a given thing. I think of a poem like "Amasra, 1957." Everything in this poem leads to the last line. A believer in Allah is shown to be very like a believer in a Highland God. The Lewisman would laugh at this heathen, not realising that each is the mirror image of the other.

True, but this is an idea, not a poem. I find this same moralising in a poem like "Dun-Eideann." A set of statements does not make a poem. A poem that ends in a moral often had its origin in it, and however unfair this may appear to the

writer, it looks to the reader as if the poem began with the moral and worked back and then forward from it.

My second criticism is that, strangely enough, Macaulay writes once or twice in a romantic way, for example, in the short poem, "Anòlaas." I find this romanticism also in a poem like "Mic-Shrothail nan Dan." In the one case he refers to "S' their iad gun tig the eadar ni gaus saothair." I don't believe this. I think it is rhetoric. In the other he says: "S e a chanas na fir colach gun bheil searg air mo bhualadh." One wants to know who these people are. They represent a rhetorical flourish. It is fair to say that these romantic poems are early ones. However, it is important to notice that there can be a rhetoric of austerity as well as of luxury. It is the other coin of Calvinism.

One final point. I do not think that the English translations are adequate for what he says in the originals. They read more loosely because they lack the echoing systems of vowel and consonant which the Gaelic language confers and which he uses, though not by means of direct rhyme.

In general, Macaulay is very austere, both in thought and in language. Hardy was austere but austere because of his philosophy. There is no articulate philosophy here. What we have is the austerity of vision. This is how the world is. To show it as being anything else would be a lie. Macaulay never lies about his feelings in his best poems, and he nearly always teases out carefully all the possibilities of his axioms. He is not a lazy poet as so many of us are. He must say what he wants to say.

There are a number of poems which show this clearly. There is one poem of his which struck me particularly, though he himself may not think it of importance. It is called "Do Luchd nan Duan - Atharrais - Duan Atharrais." There is a lot of dynamism in this poem because he is saying very seriously what some have noticed but few remarked on. He is, I think, writing about the treason of the clerks: often the enemies of the arts are not the barbarians but the scholars and the "smart." The enemy of the creative is not necessarily the philistine but the barren. Who are the bitterest enemies of the Wilson regime for instance? Not the lower classes who are freezing from lack of wages, but the leader writers of the *New Statesman*. There are in existence the barren satirists who destroy the good with the bad.

In the hour of battle it may be that the creative original writer looks around to see who is standing beside him. It is easy enough to find those who are on the opposite side, barren mirror images of himself.

Another of the poems where he teases out a dynamic mean-

ing is "Nato 1960," where he writes about a Sunday and relates it to the atomic bomb. Is this Sunday of deadness, of silence? What we are defending? In this poem, however, he does not lead into the moral too barely. There is enough local detail to make the ending a genuine surprise, a genuine paradox of dizzy implications. Especially, however, do I find this probing, teasing mind present in his poems about his attitude to his island home, as, for example, in his poem "Soraidh" where he recognises that leaving home is not his fault — in a way.

The world of home has become too small. But at the same time it is not on himself alone that the change has come. There is a sad justice in a poem of this kind. Another of these poems of parting is the one "Coharra Stiuraidh," where he recognises that the island he is leaving is no longer his. Two typical Macaulay lines are: "mar a chunnam iomadh bàrd e eadar luinn is iargain."

where the tears of the departing are recognised as being

both genuine and maudlin.

There are many of these poems (the bulk of the book, in fact), where this patient unravelling goes on, arriving in the end at a truth which is exact and surprising. I would add to the previous ones a poem like "Do Phasternak mar Eiscampair." It was out of love for his people that Pasternak spoke; but it received love, but hate, that he wrote. Nevertheless his work was the real seedling. But the Communists, typically, grind everything in the mill. One is reminded of Socrates' speech to the Athenians. By putting him to death they would suffer more than he, for he had criticised them out of love. Others would arise who would do so out of hate.

A very fine poem, too, is "Eadar an Caol is Inbhir-Nis," especially the last verse which is a miracle of concision. I am not sure, however, of a poem like "Aonaranas," which seems to me to depend too obviously on a pun as between "grey" and "lock," if I am reading it correctly.

To be Continued

## "FOR THE POT"

Today I bought venison from the butcher. It made me feel inferior, because I've always had it straight off the hill. Sometimes it would be a haunch found hanging above thecroft door in the morning, where dogs

Says Wendy Wood

could not reach it: a gift from cleverer folk than I, and very welcome indeed in a "butcherless" area. Thank goodness I've never lived in a place which had organised shooting parties (except after foxes) though we did once have a foreign laird who shot hinds in milk, leaving their calves to die of hunger in the hills.

The best poacher in our district was the doctor, whose car had convenient excuse to be abroad at all hours, and who would leave venison or fish at a patient's with the label, "Just what the doctor ordered." When later he rented a shooting, his prescriptions declined — "Not so much fun on the hill," he said.

How different venison tastes from hormone impregnated, artificially fed meat. Venison is the result of the sweet succulent grass of the corries, and water that turns silver over clean rocks; mixed from a creature well exercised, knowing no byre but the harsh heather, and breathing the champagne air on the unsullied hill tops. The best thing I ever made from the skin was a pair of shoes copied from a museum exhibit. I intended them only for indoors, but they were

too warm, and I extended their use outside and ultimately on the hill. They fitted like gloves and refused to wear out.

A crofter is allowed to shoot whatever threatens his crops, and for this a pair of disconnected hoofs is useful for implants.

"Just look at all those marks among my cabbages — the

The safest way to poach for food for personal needs (which is the only legitimate reason) is from a boat, where you can put the length of the water between you and any objectors before he can follow up the direction of the shots. I hate to see a deer slain, but if the blighters have blatantly stood on the skyline in the evening like a company of commandos surveying for a raid, and then descended at the most awkward hour to consume cabbages and leave the potato plot looking like a bomb-site, you do not feel like going into mourning for a single casualty. But I have known a farmer, gun in hand, watch a roe deer daintily tracking towards his standing corn, and shoot only to frighten, because it was "such a bonnie wee beast."

A benevolent landlord sent some venison to our glen to help during the war, and named Seumas to divide and disperse it. His verdict was, "Never saw the like of such a beast in all my life! Dhia! If you saw it on the hill it's a terrible fright you would get. Three front legs on it, one back leg and three necks!"

## BLACK HEART- THE WARM HEARTED RUM WITH THE SMOOTH DARK TASTE



AN RUMA BLATH-CHRIDHEACH  
AS TAITNICHE BLAS



# News Bits

## THE ISLANDS

### Fast Ferry Link

Stornoway Town Council is seeking a top level meeting to find out the reason there are no advanced plans for the introduction of a fast ferry link with Ullapool. They want a senior representative of MacBrayne's, the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Scottish Office to attend the talks.

### Seafood Plant

A seafood plant is likely to be situated between Benbecula and Grimsby or Scottish Lobsters Ltd., in the near future. It would employ about three or four people a year, building up to about twelve.

### A Popular Evening

A full house heard Mrs Winifred Ewing, M.P., in Stornoway Town Hall last Saturday night. Referring to the island problem of freight costs she stressed the SNP policy of a flat freight rate similar to that operated

by the Post Office, would be given top priority by a Scottish government. Mrs Ewing spent four days in the Western Isles.

## NORTH-EAST

### New Headmaster

Before leaving Contin School to take up his new post as headmaster of Invergordon Primary School, Mr Donald MacLeod and his wife, who have both taught at the school over the past 18 years were presented with a silver tea service.

### Aviemore Mod — 1969

Kingsussie Town Council are to give full support to An Comunn Gaidhealach who are to be hosts to the 1969 National Mod at Aviemore. Fund-raising was discussed at a meeting of the Kingsussie branch last Friday and the Town Council was represented.

### Ski Conditions

Nearly 3,000 skiers were out on the Cairngorms last weekend during 48 hours of perfect skiing conditions

and warm sunshine. The numbers included several busloads of skiers from south of the border.

### Sand Yacht Development

The Covesea Development Company is interested in forming a sand yachting club to encourage the development of the sport at Lossiemouth. The first county sand and land yacht club was launched in Caithness two years ago.

## INVERNESS

### S.C.D.A. Festival

Plans are well in hand for the Scottish Community Drama Association's final one-act play festival to be held in the Empire Theatre, Inverness at the end of April. Mr Stanley Hildebrandt of London will be the adjudicator.

## NORTH-WEST

### Promotion for Corpach Man

A Kingsussie policeman, Sergeant Duncan MacIntyre has been promoted to inspector at Portree, succeed-

ing Inspector Roderick MacLeod who retires next month after 30 years service. Sergeant MacIntyre was born in Corpach and is married with three children.

## ARGYLL

### Highland Board Grant

The total value of applications for grant and loan received by the HIBD since its formation in 1965 has this month reached the £5 million mark.

This figure was given by Mr R. A. Fasken, the Board's secretary, when he addressed members and guests of the Oban centre of Institute of Bankers in Scotland last week. Just under 50 per cent. of this total figure has already been approved and estimates of the jobs made available by the Board's help is 2,190.

### Pulling the Strings

Mr Donald Smart, sub-postmaster at Taynuilt and his wife, are hoping to start a puppet theatre to tour the Highland schools and villages.

## De Tha Thu Ag Radh?

le D. R. Moiréasdan

Bha Domhnall a' comhnuidh le theaghlach ann an eilean aonaichte ri taobh a' Chlainn Spith. Cha'n eil duine a' comhnuidh 's an eilean an duigh. Bha'n bha 'n t-eilean ri fànaidh a' chlainn cha robh bata a' sheoladh latha sìos no suas air a' chuan nach toir-eadh Domhnall an airt dhi. Cha bhiòid e sìugh cho fada eadhon ag a' bhiadh 's gu seoladh bata anns an eilean sìos no suas an cuan an an-thìos da.

An latha bha seo 's an latha freagrach gu seoladh leis a' bhatas bhaag aig thein di' bhaile e leatha fo sheol gu eilean eile anns an robh moran sluagh agus a' bha na bu ghiorraiche na'n t-eilean 's robh esan 's far bu mhinic a' bhiòid e faghinn na bha e feumachdinn de ghiorra-san bhatan.

Raining Domhnall an t-eilean so leis a' bhatas fo sheol. Chuir e mhatas air doigh an sin an airt a' leagail 's gach ni mar is corr dha 's an t-eilean an nis ceangailte ri lamraig. Rinn Domhnall airt dachaidh a charaid Iain. Bha Iain 's sìugh na aonar. "Suidh" ars Iain. Shuidh Domhnall a' toirt suil ma thimchioll an t-seomair. Thug e'n airt 'n sin do dhealbh croichte aig Iain ris an tallan. "De an dealbh soithich tha sud agad Iain croichte ris an tallan? Cha n' fhaic sin riann i chun a seo. "Tha," ars Iain. "dealbh Long-An-t-Soisgeil" — "Long-An-t-Soisgeil, Long-an-t-Soisgeil," ars Domhnall. "Nach b'iontach," ars esan, "nach fhaic mi riann i dol suas am 'Minch'."

## Seobhrach As A' Chlaich

### le Domhnall MacAmhlaigh

Seo an t-sìthamh leabhar de chlo-bhualaidh Gairm a tha air tighinn air bardachd nan Gaidheal ann an cruth agus an gnathas-smuain, cha bhi teaghamh san bith a' gu bheil MacAmhlaigh a' cur deachd is cumadh a tha sonraichte dha fhein air na tha e a' toirt gu cinneas is blath mar thoradh a' shaothrach.

Tha cuspairean an seo a tha nochdadh farsaingeachd oillean is leughaidh is siubhail agus tha leirsinn gheur a' bhairead gun soillseachadh le cosalachdan anns am bheil brìgh agus doimhne. 'S iomadh dealbh a tha e toirt fa' cur comhair gu solleir ann an ainnt an fhior eileanaich, a' dugsadh air cuimhne agus a' toirt faileadh mara is moitich gu h-ealainn gu ar cuinneanan. Seo oitrag dheth.

Annas an eadar-sholus bhiodh an taigh air ghluasad le botannan is le lamhan fuaimeirrean a' starachd air a' bhall.

bhiodh e blath le aran-coirce 'ne taobh on teine

cuibhraidh le drip na mara.

'S iomadh earrann a dh'

fhadamaid a thogail as an t-saibheas leis am bheil an leabhar ciatach seo a' cur thairis, a nochdadh mar tha am bard a' dealbhadh taisbeanaidh shonraichte no a' leudachadh leirsinn is a' brosnachadh smuain, ach foghnaidh na dha a leanas, a' cheud earrann bho'n dan "Reiteach a' Chomraidh"

Ma bhùneas tu do dh' eilean lom mara

's gun gleidh thu luime an eilein annad

cothaichidh e doille sir amharc

air or medall' is cnamhan geala.

agus an darna fear bho "Do Phasternak mar Eiscampair."

Tha thu a' fasnadh an aghaidh na gaoithe

sìd b'righe a' càig is nasg, bho'n theig thu nach b'athne dhaibhan

o'n d'fhuair thu fuath do ghradh;

tha thu a' deasachadh sìol cura

a' chionn gun thug thu an eu-comas —

gun chuir iad an sìol uile gu muilinn.

Tha an dhan seo le corr is ficeadh eile air an eadar-theangachadh gu Beurla aig deireadh an leabhair agus ged tha sin a' meatachadh snas na bardachd tha brìgh nan smuain follaiseach gu leoir.

Chan e mhaoin gun bu chòir dhuinn a leithid seo de bhar-dach a' mholadh ach tha e mar fhiaichaidh oirnn an leabhar a cheannach agus a leughadh.

## IMPERIAL HOTEL

### Bowmore, Islay

Enjoy the friendship and hospitality of the islands at the Imperial

Fully Licensed

Tel. Bowmore 330

## SANDEMAN SCOTCH



The King of Whiskies

Par Uisge beatha de chliu sonraichte

"Rìgh nan Uisge Beatha"

SANDEMAN & SONS LTD., 25 & 27 FORTH ST., EDINBURGH

## BOWMORE HOTEL

### Bowmore, Islay

A Highland welcome awaits you at the

Bowmore when you visit Islay

1 hour from Glasgow

Telephone  
Bowmore 218

Fully  
Licensed





## CALEDONIAN HOTEL INVERNESS

*for wedding receptions*

For Full details of menus, tariffs and facilities contact the Resident Manager, the Caledonian Hotel Church Street, Inverness Telephone 35181

**FRASER & McCOLL FRASER & McCOLL**



If you love beautiful tableware don't miss our displays of fine bone china by all the leading names in our new ground floor china department, recently expanded to provide an even better and bigger selection than before.

**FRASER & McCOLL  
EASTGATE · INVERNESS**

## MIRTLE'S BAKERY of Inverness

9 DRUMMOND STREET INVERNESS

Specialists in  
WEDDING, BIRTHDAY  
and  
CELEBRATION CAKES

ENQUIRIES WELCOMED

HIGH-CLASS BAKERY GOODS TO SUIT  
ALL OCCASIONS

Telephone Inverness 33692

# Getting In The

Easter is coming — with the end of another tax year — it's a leap year and most of those born in the 'bulge' (that awful word again) years have reached the average age for marriage in Scotland. In fact, we're all set to make this a record year for weddings. Whether you're to be a spring, summer or autumn bride or whether you're not sure yet (the 29th is drawing nigh!) your preparations have to be made well in advance.

The first person to see, of course is your minister, and once he has agreed to perform the ceremony itself you can set yourself to the making of all the other many preparations. These days most hotels are booked for receptions months ahead and if you haven't already done so, choose the hotel to best suit your arrangements and the planned number of guests. Normally hotel managers are most helpful with every aspect of the reception and don't be afraid to let him know roughly what you or your parents are prepared to

spend. This will help him and his staff a great deal.

Stationery is another big item to be budgeted for: invitations, hymn sheets, napkins, menus, etc., can be chosen from the extensive ranges available at most printers and stationers. But, if you are too remote from a large stationer, at least one of the Inverness shops is willing to send you their catalogues so that you can choose at home. A nice idea is to have a little memento for the guests to keep, and a charitable organisation in Glasgow produces delightful gifts such as books of matches inscribed with the names of the bride and groom (anyone wishing details of this service can write to the Editor).

### The Cake

The wedding cake is an easier matter. Perhaps you have a favourite baker or you might be making it yourself. The main thing to re-

member here is not to order too small a cake for the number of guests — and not too large a one either, or you'll be eating it well beyond your first anniversary! But the baker will advise you on this.

No matter what season you have decided to marry many varieties of flowers can be had. Spring brides are particularly lucky, being able to pick the best of the first blooms of the year. You probably have your favourite flowers which you would like in your bouquet, but remember they have to last the day — and more if you have to obtain them from a distance. Most florists now can transport cut flowers to the islands and elsewhere and they do arrive beautifully fresh. Your florist is the best person to discuss your choice of flowers with as she knows which varieties will not wilt

(Continued Opposite)

## DECORA

1968 Wallpaper patterns now in stock

Wide range of

Do-it-yourself materials

Vinyl Floor Covering and Tiles

**36 EASTGATE INVERNESS**

Telephone 30270

## Wedding Stationery Service

See our selection of Wedding Sample Books  
Hymn Sheets . . . Cake Boxes . . . Cards

Fast Printing Service from

**MELVEN'S BOOKSHOP**

29 UNION STREET

Tel. 33500

INVERNESS

## THE INVERNESS FRUIT SHOP

I NEW MARKET INVERNESS



## FLOWERS

FOR ALL OCCASIONS



Telephone Inverness 33719

## Tower Hotel

INVERNESS

Phone 32765

This hotel is ideally situated overlooking the River Ness

**WEDDING RECEPTIONS**

Our Speciality

Open to Non-Residents

Cocktail Bar

Car Park

Props: Mr & Mrs K. ROSS

## HEATHERBRAE HOTEL

small hotel situated in  
NETHYBRIDGE

Hot and Cold in all Bedrooms  
Central Heating

Telephone Nethybridge 257

## Marie Gordon

Model Coats

Suits, Hats, etc.

Jaeger Skirts

Knitwear

and Slacks

at

46 UNION STREET  
INVERNESS

Telephone 33359



# Marriage Mood

in the heat on a journey and so on. Roses, lilies of the valley and stephanotis all make lovely bouquets—and remember to order button-holes for the wedding party, that is, the groom, best man, both sets of parents and the ushers.

In the more remote areas a photographer can be a problem. If you haven't a friend who can take professional photographs, try ringing up your nearest local paper. For a fairly small fee their photographer is usually

willing and very able to take the photographs you will



want to remember your wedding day.

That seems to cover all the points of the reception, and your minister and church officer will keep you right

on points to be noted for the ceremony.

## House and Home

But that is only the one day taken care of — you are bound to have numerous other plans and problems to take care of before the actual day. You will have your house and home to plan and many items to strain those purse strings to their utmost. If you live far from a city, you would be well advised to take a trip (or a short holiday) in your nearest city to buy the larger items. Most of the larger stores offer favourable terms for cash payment for furniture and the new unit furniture which can be added to through the years, is ideal for starting out. Their are several ranges, some expensive and some very reasonable indeed, and if you keep your eye on magazines such as *House Beautiful* and the *Practical Homemaker*, you will notice quite a few firms who specialise in mail order for little extra cost.

Wedding arrangements can be fun and with a little forethought and planning need cause no tears. So if this is to be your year start now and avoid that mad last minute rush.

You'll find a bit of fiddling going on at

## THE ROWANLEA Carrbridge

It's himself, JIMMY ROSS, the Proprietor, playing a welcome to you. A sweet tune that says 'Come in and enjoy the ceilidh.' Sample real Highland hospitality — the kind you pay for! But not that much. Besides, you'll eat of the best and sleep like there's no tomorrow.

Licensed Terms 14 gns. weekly  
A.A. R.A.C. R.S.A.C. Recommended  
Telephone Carrbridge 212

## TIGH-OSDA PHENTLAND INBHIR-THEORSA

Air leth freagarrach airson teaghlaichean air thurus is iasgairean nan lochan 's nan aibhnichean 's an Taobh-Thuath.

Am biadh as fearr.

Gabhar gu maith ruibh le

Fear an Tighe 'sa Bhean

SEORAS IS FRED A SUTHERLAN

## Faillte Do Lybster

## THE PORTLAND ARMS

extends a warm welcome

Salmon Fishing Trout Fishing  
Sea Angling

Good Fare and a Fine Cellar

# Police Helicopters In North-East

The use of helicopters as an aid to police work is being examined during a four-week exercise being staged in the North-East of Scotland from now until March 20. Three Army Scout helicopters piloted by officers of the Army Air Corps are based at and operated from the Royal Air Force Station at Kinloss for the experiment and police observers from four participating police forces are taking part.

The police areas covered are the Scottish North-Eastern counties, Inverness County, Inverness Burgh and Ross and Sutherland.

Some of the more important tasks in which the helicopter can be useful are — searches for suspected/ wanted persons or escaped prisoners; observing premises and suspects; tackling major disasters or abnormal weather conditions; looking for missing persons and for carrying specialist loads.

As such events do not occur daily, the experiment will also cover certain prearranged exercises such as patrolling the route of bullion or cash movement, traffic observation and public order and crowd control.

In large geographical expanses such as those covered by the four police forces taking part in the experiment, the helicopter will be of tremendous value in conveying police personnel and saving time and manpower, but in order to make an objective assessment of the benefit of a helicopter facility to the police forces, prescribed records will be analysed by the Home Office Police Research and Planning Branch.

The total size of area covered is 8,250,000 acres and the total population is 500,000.

## THE STATION HOTEL INVERNESS

Restaurant

Cocktail Bar

Magnificent Ballroom and Banqueting Room  
for Wedding Receptions, Dances  
and all forms of entertaining

Telex 7575

Telephone 31926

## A' Posadh

★ ★ ★

Order your Invitations, Hymn Sheets  
and all other needs for the BIG DAY

★ ★ ★

From **JOHN MENZIES BOOKSELLERS, STATIONERS**  
**27 HIGH STREET, INVERNESS**

Sample books of wedding stationery sent on approval

# PALACE HOTEL

NESS WALK

INVERNESS

WE SPECIALISE IN  
WEDDING PARTIES  
OF  
UP TO 140 GUESTS

44 Bedrooms, all with Hot and cold  
Centrally Heated Fully Licensed

Telephone  
3088

Enquiries to Resident Manager:  
Mr A. SUTHERLAND

We specialise in bridal bouquets and Flowers for every occasion, including funeral wreaths, sprays, etc.

**A. M. PATERSON**  
Florist and Fruiterer  
44 EASTGATE Tel. 31286 INVERNESS  
Teleflower Service Available  
Make close contact with friends and relations in any part of the world  
Personal Supervision Given to All Orders

## HAYS of INVERNESS

(Locally Termed 'Honesty House')

300 Bedroom, Dining and Chesterfield Suites  
at Best Value in Britain

200 Carpets, made in Scotland Laid Free

and in our Sleep Shop in Baron Taylor's St. —  
Locally Made Bedding with Hays' Five Years  
guarantee label attached.

HAYS, 81 - 91 Church Street Inverness 33443

HAYS, 36 Baron Taylor's Street Inverness 32227

HAVE YOUR RECEPTION  
LARGE OR SMALL  
WITH COMPLETE CONFIDENCE  
AT

## CUMMING'S HOTEL INVERNESS

★ Specialists in Wedding Receptions.

★ Function room for up to 100 guests.

★ Arrangements for Cake, Music, Bridal Car, Florist, &c.  
willingly made for out of town brides.

Telephone 32531/2

## MacLeod's Electric Printing Co. Ltd.

Est. 1860

★ ★

WEDDING STATIONERY  
PRINTING STATIONERY  
DIESTAMPING

★ ★

47 HIGH STREET

Tel. 33470

INVERNESS



# over to you: —

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

be sound in theory, but from what I learn, electrification involves heavy capital expenditure which is only justified on those lines on which there is a dense volume of traffic. Railway electrification should start with the electrification of the main line from Edinburgh to Glasgow, and then extended southwards to Carlisle, the Borders and the South-west, and northwards to Aberdeen and the Highlands. To compare Scotland with Switzerland could be misleading; many of the main lines of Europe pass through Switzerland, but Scotland is isolated from the European network. A far better example for Scotland would be Norway. However desirable it may be to travel from Inverness to Paris in a wagon-lit, as far as international transport is concerned Scotland's future lies in the development of air services.

Dr Beeching's policy was to concentrate on the profit-making services and close all the unremunerative lines. This is far too drastic to be acceptable. A sparsely populated area cannot support a train service run on a profit-making basis. To close a line because the services do not pay would merely transfer traffic from the railways to the over-congested roads, which can hardly cope with the existing volume of traffic. When the Beeching Report was presented to Parliament, the Minister of Transport, Mr Marples, pointed out that one-third of the railways carried one per cent. of the traffic. But the high cost of transport was crippling the Highland economy, whilst the railways were pricing themselves out of existence. If we want the services the railways provide — and transport is a

service to the public — then we must be prepared to subsidise them. The best policy would be to devise a system of cross-subsidisation so that the profit-making services subsidise the unremunerative services. If the welfare and prosperity of our country depend on the services the roads and railways provide, then money spent on the transport services is money invested.

It would not be fair to blame the Labour Party for the present transport muddle. Much of it is due to rising costs, the need for heavy capital expenditure, inflationary prices and changing economic conditions. Moreover, the growing tendency towards over-centralisation of power and authority in the south-east corner of England has had a detrimental effect on the Shetlands and the north-west Highlands and Islands, which are further away from the seat of government. Shetland and the Faroes are stepping stones between Scandinavia and Iceland, so as far as air and sea transport are concerned Shetland occupies a strategic position in an international sphere. A Tory Government was responsible for the appointment of Dr Beeching as Chairman of the British Railways Board; a Tory Government was responsible for having the Beeching Report accepted by Parliament, whilst strong opposition came from the Labour Party, though credit should be given to many individual Tories who were outspoken critics of the Beeching Report, and were even willing to support the Labour Party on this issue. With a change of Government in the autumn of 1964 the roles were reversed. We

now find the Conservative Party criticising the Labour Government for implementing policies the Conservatives would have carried out if a Conservative Government was in office. It is a clear example of playing the game of "Party Politics," with the transport services and the country's welfare at stake!

Neither the Conservative nor Socialist Parties have faced up to the fact that Scotland should have complete autonomy in the management of her own transport. In addition there should be the greatest practical degree of decentralisation within Scotland. Transport authorities in Edinburgh, Glasgow or Inverness, could hardly be expected to run bus services in the Outer Hebrides. Some of the railways could be transferred to local control and management; this could apply with specific reference to Deeside, the Borders, the South-West, the North-East corner and the line from Aviemore to Forres, whilst some of the branch lines, which have been closed, could be converted into tramlines.

All railways north of Berwick and Carlisle should be integrated into the Scottish Transport Group. In view of Scotland's proximity to the Scandinavian countries there should be a regular passenger service between Aberdeen and Norway. The service between Stranraer and Larne should be the joint responsibility of the Scottish Transport Group and the Ulster Transport Authority. Steamer services to the Western Isles are dependent on connected train services at Oban, Mallaig and Kyle of Lochalsh. This would stress the need for proper co-ordination of road,

rail and sea transport in the Highlands and Islands. Yet, on the West Highland Line we find that the afternoon train from Mallaig to Glasgow, leaves Mallaig at 1300 and arrives at Fort William at 1437; the train leaves Fort William for Glasgow at 1615; time spent travelling from Mallaig to Fort William, one hour thirty-seven minutes; time spent waiting at Fort William, one hour thirty-eight minutes.

My own personal view is that the present Transport Bill should be rejected. All the 71 M.P.s, irrespective of Party, representing Scottish constituencies in the House of Commons, should then draft a more intelligent and more understandable Bill giving Scotland complete autonomy in the management of her own transport and the greatest practical degree of decentralisation within Scotland. Yours etc.,

H. R. BAILLIE,  
12 Saxe Coburg Place,  
Edinburgh, 3.

## CRANN

Sir,—The Celtic Society of Aberdeen University was instituted, as far as I can gather, away back in 1854. That's some time ago. 114 years in fact if you care for calculations. It is still thriving.

In that time it has never produced any literary effort of its own although its many members did contribute to the current Gaelic periodicals of the time—like "Gairm." This is, in the least, surprising. And this University has had a good share of Gaelic students over that period.

This year members of the Society have held small, regular, and enthusiastic meetings, in which each member present brought his or her own literary effort(s), to be read and enjoyed by the others. No, there was no dissection, ridicule, censorship or unfair criticism of the material volunteered — none of that. These meetings were really healthy, the response was good

and the outcome pleasing. The Society was pregnant once more, and 114 years old.

From such a short and modest courtship arose the legitimate birth of a real bouncer — CRANN, 1st Edition — the Society's own magazine conceived as a joint effort by its members. The first, we hope, of a long lineage. It is all Gaelic.

Within the next week or two CRANN will be available at a price of 2/- to an avid reader-skipper.

Be warned: If you have preconceived notions of a magazine, or yearnings for a magazine, containing: adverts, articles by well known writers like Derick Thomson, Crichton Smith, or expensive photographs on top quality paper of such men... if you expect articles from the Highlands and Islands Development Board, on mundane matters... interviews with the head of the Gaelic Department at Queen Margaret Drive or with this year's medalist, or more adverts on glossy paper... you, reader, had better drop them and forget them, for you will be disappointed, and very disappointed. You really will. So don't let CRANN let you down, or you let CRANN down.

We hope this will not just be another magazine. There is no point in producing a magazine or periodical for the sake of producing one. It should not be a torture to those who produce it but a pleasure: to those who read it, it can be either or both. We can't guarantee anything to a readership and don't specially wish to. We can guarantee that we enjoyed — expressing ourselves through it, the work (and the sacrifices) associated with it, and to be associated with it as a Society.

It can be obtained from: The Secretary, Gaelic Society, University of Aberdeen. (Price 2/-, plus 6d postage). Over to you. READ IT. —

Yours etc.

RODERICK MACLEOD

## See For Safety—'Poor Vision A Killer'

Vision — or lack of it — can be a bigger killer on the roads than either speed or drinks, Mr Pat Gregory, Home Services Executive of the RAC, said this month.

Speaking in Belfast, where he was visiting the RAC's Ulster offices and personnel, Mr Gregory declared: "See and Be Seen" should be the cardinal rule of the road. Proof of the importance of this lies in the fact that 47 per cent. of road deaths occur at night when visibility is not so good. This is a

terrible figure when one realises that night-time traffic is probably less than a third of that in daylight, apart from the fact that there are fewer cyclists and pedestrians about after dark.

"The RAC is taking positive steps to make its own vehicles more visible at night. We have already introduced larger areas of white into the blue-and-white colour scheme and this week we began equipping our fleet with the new reflective number plates which are now legal in Great Britain and make a vehicle much more easily seen in the dark.

"It is within the scope of every motorist to play a part in drastically reducing the night-time accident record by adopting a four-point Safety Plan."

The four points were outlined as follows:  
**Point One** — Make sure your own standard of vision is adequate. The eyesight check in the official driving test is a very simple one and the onus is on the driver to make sure that he wears spectacles if needed.

**Point Two** — Make sure that

you have maximum visibility as far as the car is concerned. Keep the windscreen and windows clean and have adequate driving mirrors fitted.

**Point Three** — Check the lighting equipment regularly. There are too many cars on the roads with stop and parking lights not working. And don't be afraid to use headlamps if the street lighting is inadequate.

**Point Four** — Carry a red triangle to place behind the car in the event of breakdown or accident.

Mr Gregory concluded by saying that the authorities often came under attack — not least from the RAC — but it had to be said that in all fairness at the present time they are working hard on this problem of night-time safety: efforts are being made to obtain more uniform lighting from area to area; to improve and extend the cats-eye system; and to use reflective material on kerb-stones, etc. But motorists do not have to wait for these things to materialise. We can help ourselves now.

Glasgow Gaelic Drama Association

ONE ACT GAELIC  
PLAY WRITING COMPETITION

Competitors are reminded that entries for the above should be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary, Mr D. Nicholson, 97 Westerton Avenue, Bearsden, Glasgow, not later than Saturday, 30th March 1968.

Entry Forms are still available on application to the Hon. Secretary.



PARTS and  
ACCESSORIES  
you can safely  
RELY ON

View the Whole Range at YOUR DISTRIBUTOR  
where you can also View a comprehensive range of  
current TRIUMPH Models.

**J. Ferries & Co. Ltd**  
EASTGATE & MILLBURN RD.  
Phone 31536 **INVERNESS**

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

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