

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

incorporating

THE LOCHABER DIARY

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THURSDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER 1967

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SCOTLAND'S BI-LINGUAL NEWSPAPER

Unemployment In the Western Isles

This statement was issued after a meeting of An Comunn's Executive Council this week.

An Comunn Gaidhealach is becoming increasingly worried about the high unemployment level of 25.6 per cent. in the islands of Lewis and Harris. The decline in the Harris tweed industry and the closing of the anorthosite quarry in Harris emphasise the need for urgent action, and they are to ask the Highlands and Islands Development Board to initiate a crash programme to stimulate and diversify the economy in the islands.

It was suggested that market research facilities would help in finding new, and developing existing, outlets for traditional products while a programme was being prepared. Further capital investment in a Stornoway-based fishing fleet would increase the possibility of employment in fish processing.

The present situation amply demonstrated the fear expressed in the Ross-shire Development Plan that the population in the land-

ward areas of Lewis would decrease to 11,700 by 1981 if there was no increase in economic activity. If such a situation arose it would hardly be in keeping with the hopes associated with the establishment of the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

An Comunn feels that continuing depopulation in the west and the islands would cause irreparable damage to the language and culture and the maintenance of a viable population in these areas is an immediate priority. They are to ask M.P.s to obtain statistics of changes in levels of the insured population over an 18-month period.

Unemployment Figures

The following figures were released last week:—

Lewis and Harris	25.6%
Inverness	4.3%
Oban	5.4%
Lerwick	7.6%
Scotland	3.8%
Great Britain	2.4%

Lewis and Harris must be wondering whether it is



The TSMV 'Hebrides' at Tarbert, Harris. Before 1964, passengers travelling to the Outer Isles and between the islands were largely dependent on three mail steamers, sailing from railheads at Oban, Mallaig, and Kyle of Lochalsh, while a small number crossed on cargo boats. In 1964 the ferry service was completely reorganised, and the impact on Harris is still not quite clear. Statistics show a marked increase in cars and in goods tonnage at Tarbert and its Skye counterpart, Uig. In fact the 'Hebrides' is attracting traffic away from Stornoway to Tarbert. The number of passengers carried by the 'Hebrides' already exceeds that carried by the Stornoway boat, 'Loch Seafarbh', while seven times more cars use Uig than Stornoway. Tarbert is also becoming a substitute for goods distribution. There is a point of view that the tourist trade has been put too much in front of the commercial and economic needs of Lewis and Harris in the proposal of the vehicle ferry. Photo by Angus MacArthur, Stornoway

worth while remaining a part of Britain.

Viewing with the greatest concern the rise in unemployment, increased air fares and other factors which affect island life, a delegation from Lewis District Council is to take the road to Westminster to state a case for the island.

It is possible that representatives from other local authorities will accompany the Lewis delegation. The decision to make the journey was taken at a meeting between the Lewis District Council and Mr M. K. MacMillan, Labour Member for the Western Isles. Stornoway Town Council and Ross and Cromarty are being asked to send delegates. Mr MacMillan has promised to arrange a meeting as "high up" as possible.

Aspects on the agenda for discussion will include tourism, roads, transport and communications, fishing and industrial development. In particular the unemployment problem has already resulted in some Lewis families leaving the island. The recession in the Harris tweed industry is being felt by weaver-crofters who are classed as self-employed workers and are not eligible for unemployment benefit.

AN COMUNN'S NEW EXECUTIVE

The members of the Executive Council for 1967/68 are—
Mr Donald Grant, M.A., M.Ed., B.A., Glasgow

Mr I. R. Mackay, M.A., LL.B., 19 Union Street, Inverness

Rev. A. Beaton, M.A., The Manse, Dundonald, Kilmarnock

Mr Calum Robertson, 23 Woodlands Drive, Glasgow, C3

Mr D. Thomson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Atholl Villa, Oban

Miss K. Matheson, Firemore, Inverasdale, Ross-shire

Mr Tom MacIver, M.A., Further Education Officer, County Buildings, Dingwall

Miss Lucy Cameron, 42 Kilmallie Road, Caol, Fort William

Mr D. J. MacCaish, M.A., LL.B., Moorlands, 11 Drummond Rd., Inverness

Mr R. Mackinnon, M.A., Corarder, 129 Glasgow Road, Perth

Mrs R. Bannerman, The Old Manse, Balmaha, by Glasgow

The Nominated Members are—
Dr J. A. Maclean, Director of Education, Inverness-shire

Mr T. B. Duncan, Glasgow, representing Glasgow Corporation

Mr Ronald Macdonald, Director of Education, Ross-shire

Professor R. Thomson, Glasgow University, representing the Celtic Departments of the three universities

Provost A. R. MacLeod, Mull Centre, Argyll County Council

Mr J. A. Smith, Vice Principal, Jordanhill College, representing Joint Committee of Colleges of Education

Mr D. Kennedy, District Clerk, Stornoway, representing Lewis and Harris

Mr J. MacInnes, District Clerk, Daliburgh, representing Uists and Barra

GLE BHEAG DE THIGHEAN-OSDA MI-FHREAGARRACH ANN AN SIORRACHD INBHIR NIS

'S e gle bheag de na tighean-
osda agus narg tighian comhainidh
a tha a' tighinn airson na
luchd-turais nach eil a' deanamh
ullachaidh freagarrach air an son.
'S e seo a thairt an Coirneal Uisdean
MacIleithair a rinn sgrudadh o chionn
ghoirid air da dheid tigh-osda agus tigh
comhainidh ann an Siorrachd Inbhir Nis
as leth Bòrd an Luchd-Turais.

Thairt e nach robhadh eòig as
an da dheid air an d' rinn e
sgrudhadh nach robh freagarrach
airson luchd-turais. Thairt an
Coirneal nach robh freagarrach
airson luchd-turais—'s e sin
a' sealltainn air a' h-uile da fheadh.

Tha Bòrd an Luchd-Turais am
luchd-turais a' chur a' mach anns
am bi ainmean nan tighian-
osda agus nan tighian comhainidh
a' tad-san a' meas freagarrach
airson luchd-turais. Thairt an
Coirneal nach fhaigeadh an
fheadhann nach do shaoil ean
freagarrach an ainmean anns an
luchd-turais seo ach gu fadaidh iad
airraidh air a' Bhòrd sgrudaidh
eile a' deanamh orra agus gu
fhaigeadh iad ainmean anns an
luchd-turais seo ach gu fadaidh iad
bitheadh iad air teasachadh gu
leor a' dhanamh air an tighian.

Thairt e cuideachd gun tug am
Bòrd comhairle agus cuideachd
do chòig air fheadhach as a' h-uile
ceud dhe 'n fheadhainn air an d' rinn
iad d' sgrudaidh agus dh' innis
iad do dh' fheadhainn eile ciamaid
a' gheibheadh iad cuideachd
airgid bhò Bòrd Leasachaidh na
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BIRTHS

HALL—At Dulwich Hospital, London on 8th September 1967, Gregor and Sheila, (née Murchison) 30 Dukas Court, Peckham Rye West, London, S.E.22—a son.

MACINTYRE—At Sacred Heart Hospital, Dalburgh, on 1st September 1967, to Ian and Margaret (MacIsaac), 16 Lismore Crescent, Oban—a daughter.

MACDONALD—At Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, on the 7th September 1967, to Pat and Donella (née Grant), Pier House, Invermoriston—twin sons. (All well).

NICOL—At Isle of Arran Memorial Hospital, on 8th September 1967, to Hamish and Margaret (née Davison), Bonnington, Brodick—a son. (Both well). Thanking doctors and nursing staff in attendance.

MARRIAGES

KENNEDY—MACKINNON—At St Charles Church, Glasgow, on 31st August 1967, by Rev. John McCormick, John Kennedy, son of Mr and Mrs David Kennedy, 19 Cardigan Drive, Belfast, to Kathleen Lamont, only daughter of Captain and Mrs J. C. MacKinnon, Calana-na-Sithe, Oban.

MORGANS—COUPER—At Las Palmas, on the 11th September 1967, Christopher Humphrey, younger son of Mr and Mrs Brian H. Morgans, Wallington, Surrey, to Christine Margaret Mary, younger daughter of the late Mr George Couper, and of Mrs Army Couper, The Haven, Inverness.

DEATHS

MACDONNACHAIDH—Mar Chaimneachan air Cairistiona, deagh Bhean, Chompanach agus Caraib dhìleas. S. agus A. an t-Oban Lathais.

MACKENZIE—At Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, on the 12th September 1967, Catherine Ann MacKenzie, youngest daughter of the late Mr and Mrs William MacKenzie, Alture, Beaulieu.

MACIVER—At the Belford Hospital, Fort William, on 3rd September 1967, Johanna Macleod, 116 Glenkingie Street, Caol, wife of the late Duncan Maciver, Laxdale, Isle of Lewis and dear mother of Christine.

STEWART—At Forester Hill Hospital, Aberdeen, on 11th September 1967, Archie Angus, aged 23 years, dearly beloved son of Mrs Stewart and Mrs W. Stewart, Aird, Bernisdale, Portree, Skye.

Gus am bris an latha.

Text for the Times

Oir ge 'b' e neach a ghaimeas air ainm an Tighearna, tearnar e. Romanach C. 10 r. 13.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans Ch. 10 v. 13.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Na abair ach beagan is abair gu math e.
Say but little and say it well.

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On the other hand . . .
GO TO EGG ON AN EGG

The Scottish Tourist Board, the Black Isle and Mid Ross Tourist Association, the Lochaber Tourist Association and the Sutherland Tourist Advisory Board are just some of the organisations which have not asked for our views on boosting the tourist trade in the Highlands. We are nevertheless prepared to overlook this slight, review the tourist situation and offer a few suggestions.

Firstly, a much more imaginative and aggressive approach must be taken to the whole business of tourism. The Highland Development Board should insist on George Brown holidaying in the Highlands, possibly having his own chalet in the Shiant Islands. Publicity wise,

Minority Languages

Lapp.

In Norway for a Lapp population of 20,000 out of 3.6 million, the language has equal validity with Norwegian in Lapp districts. All teachers have to know both languages and both are taught in schools. Local judges who do not know the Lapp language must use interpreters and the use of Lapp language is encouraged in courts.

Laws and regulations are published in both languages. Financial assistance is made available for Lapp publications and text books. There is a general tendency to try and revive the Lapp language and tradition in areas where they have dwindled.

Minority Languages in Communist Countries

The communist or near communist countries have a policy generally similar to East Germany. Thus in Yugoslavia, while the state language Serbo-croat is taught everywhere, the national minorities have regional autonomy in cultural matters. Slovenes, Macedonians, Albanians, Turks, Hungarians, Italians, may use their language officially in their respective regions where all administration is conducted in the local language. There is a daily press in all these languages.

A similar policy is pursued in the U.S.S.R.

GAELIC

Spoken by 807,978 out of a population of 4,892 million.

In the Outer Isles over 90 per cent of their population speak Gaelic.

It has no official status in the administration of justice or public administration. Witnesses in court may request the services of an interpreter and this may be granted at the discretion of the court.

There is no financial assistance from public funds for Gaelic publications, and there is no legal definition of what a Gaelic-speaking area is.

Gaelic is taught in some schools in Scotland and is used as a teaching medium in primary schools in the Highlands and Islands.

Voluntary efforts and support are, at the moment, the means for promoting and encouraging Gaelic, and its culture outside the educational field, but it is hoped that the increasing goodwill and sympathy towards the language will eventually bring a measure of official assistance to retain and develop what is largely a Scottish heritage.

This should do for the Western Isles what Harold Wilson has done for the Scillies. Furthermore, it would be an assurance of speedy action should the West Coast ever be menaced by oil from an off-shore tanker nucleus or should there be another seaman's strike.

In the advertising field one seldom sees Scotland promoted in any medium. The British Travel Association's efforts however should not be entirely ignored; they issued a splendid series of sponsored posters in America describing a tour of pipers and regimental bandmen from a famous Scottish regiment. "The pageantry of England comes to America for the first time," was the title on the posters. Still, the B.T.A. may draw the odd tourist to Eilean Donan or Dunvegan to see the Beefeaters. "Bord Faighte Eireann" the Irish Tourist Board, can afford double page colour spreads in all the best glossies and it seems incredible but we read recently that even North Vietnam spends more on tourism than Scotland.

If Scotland, far less our Highland Tourist associations can not afford to go it alone, let us consider joint advertising with some of the large national advertisers. Perhaps some form of co-operation can be worked out between say, The Western Isles Tourist Association and a few of the big spenders.

Several campaigns spring to mind; the Egg Marketing Board would probably go along with "Go to Egg on an Egg" then similarly there might be "Drink a Canna Milk a Day" or "Jura Cadbury's Fruit and Nut Case." Or then again, "Join the Three Set" To follow the idea up English motorists on crossing the Highland line might be given car stickers with a Scottish flavour "I've got a bagpipe in my boot," or alternatively "Get-away people go Scottish National."

In a recent survey in a motoring magazine the question was posed to readers: "Which area in Britain would you choose for a holiday?" Scotland came out a clear first choice with 33 per

cent of the vote. One simple method of boosting tourism would be to reduce petrol taxation in the Highlands by 2/6 per gallon, a relatively small gesture when one considers the taxation revenue on Highland produced whisky. To digress a little, such a move would have far-reaching effects in fields other than tourism—it would reduce transport costs generally; encourage new industry in terms of both product and worker, and help the whole economy and spirit of the Highlands. It would also be a measure which would bring direct benefits to the individual in a more tangible sense than anything else that is being done or is proposed to be done. The young Highlander sincerely rejoices at the thought of a spectacular factory in Barra or a petrochemical complex at Invergordon. But only a small percentage of the population is involved in all the proposed projects, and in addition to basic employment is there not a call for positive incentives to offset the attractions of better paid employment in the South?

Visitors often complain about seeing so few kilts in the Highlands. It was recently suggested by a writer in *Sruith* that "all shopkeepers in Inverness should wear the kilt." A natural development of this idea would be for all official and quasi-official bodies, such as the police, traffic wardens, the A.A. Highland Patrol and the Salvation Army to wear kilts as part of their official uniforms. An exception, however, might be made in the case of the Fire Service on account of all their ladder climbing.

R. M. M.

To Be Continued

M.P. IN ACTION

Members of the Royal Commission on Local Government in Scotland assembled in Glasgow on Monday to fly to Barra at the end of their summer break. This body whose members are, of course, unpaid, is likely to complete at least another year to complete its examinations, investigations and discussions, and those who are also Members of Parliament have to sacrifice their voting records in order to play their full part in shaping the Scotland that is to be.

Miss Betty Harvey Anderson (Con., East Renfrewshire) and Russell Johnston (Lib., Inverness-shire), the only two concerned, noted that Mr Tom Fraser has resigned from Parliament on his appointment as Chairman of the Hydro-Electric Board, therefore welcome the fact that at meeting each week for the remainder of the Parliamentary recess instead of the usual alternative weeks.

From Barra they flew to South Uist, where they spent the night before leaving for Eilgin to meet the Moray and Nairn County Council on Tuesday. Then it was the turn of Inverness County Council—in Inverness on Wednesday and Fort William to-day (Thursday). There Mr Johnston will also see the members of the Lochaber Licensed Trade Association, who have asked to meet him on Monday (Friday). Then it is Inverness, interviewing and dealing with correspondence.

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CUCCU LOCHABER TO LAY COUNTERDRIFT

This week we have all read about the Highland Board's Counterdrift Scheme, and on the face of it, it is a good thing, but there are many things to be considered and rectified before this scheme is put into operation.

Firstly, it is all very well asking for the 1,400 people who like to come north to live and work in the Highlands. It is quite another thing getting them to stay there.

Of the 1,400 people from London or the 1,700 people from the Midlands of England ever lived in the Highlands? If a high percentage of those recorded as wanting to live and work here are of Highland origin, knowing the area and experienced in the conditions of living and working here, then there is a chance of this register being useful having and expanding.

If these people have no more than a tourist's knowledge of the Highlands, then they should be discouraged from moving north until they have looked into the matter. It is a pity that the Counterdrift scheme has been in operation for two years, namely, the manning of the Pup Mill at Annat, and the manning of the Pup Mill in the United Kingdom have come here to live and work, and people from all parts of the United Kingdom have been accepted for various reasons. At the time of writing there are approaching a dozen empty houses in Corpach which are being occupied by these people. In at least one case the house has now its third tenant, and several have had two tenants.

This is housing that was constructed for workers families coming into the area. (Some have invested in private housing and moved out of Council houses.)

I interviewed one family on the day they were moving south to the Midlands of England. The husband was brought up in Glasgow, his parents were Highland, and he spoke with a definite Highland accent. His wife was brought up in the Highlands, and she spoke with a definite Highland accent. She was a housewife and a mother of three children, a girl of six, a boy of five, and a baby four months coming here. The husband is an engineering fitter, a skilled craftsman. They owned their own home in a good locality of Glasgow, but sold it when they moved here.

Here are some of the questions and answers from the interview:—
"Why did you come to live here?"
Husband—We have always fancied living here. We liked the area, having come through here hundreds of times. Secondly, I had been travelling for years, and at this time was a free lance, and at home every night. Thirdly, this is situated half-way between Glasgow and Perth, where my wife's parents live, Lewis.

Why are you leaving?
Husband—I left because I did not like the life in the mill. It was a mistake in the very first place my coming up here. I don't feel that the promises made to me were kept. My wife's parents helped to keep me here; a wider variety of work. The work I was doing was becoming far too repetitive and boring, and I was at all. I like a variety of work.

Did you like it here?
Wife—Yes! I liked here; it's a nice place, and I like this country and with lovely scenery. If the conditions at my husband's work had been better we would have stuck it out. When I was working they came bang, banging the door in the middle of the night to call him out. It was terrible. I was a housewife.

Would you not like to live in Lewis?
Wife—Well, first of all, you come to live in Lewis, and secondly, I'll never live in another Council house. "You must do this, you must do that." This surcharge

(thing; you have to tell how much you earn. It's too bad when someone lazy neighbour won't work overtime, and you work overtime, and the Council take it out of you. The small ailments everybody, and we thought they were going to do something about it.

Did you participate in any of the village activities?
Wife—Well, I could not very well. We were expecting a baby when we came, and he is still very young.

What about the W.R.I.?
Wife—I did not know where it was held or what night it was on. Anyway, the older people in Corpach don't want you; they don't want this scheme at all.

Even with an accent like yours?
Wife—They look down on you. The only time they speak in when they want to find out something. Some are very, very good.

Anything else that disturbed you?
Wife—I don't like the school buses so far. I did not like standing down at the bus stop waiting for the bus getting soaked, and being like that all the time.

Did you expect a different way of life here to that in the industrial belt?
Husband and wife—There has been no real difference, except that coming here was a waste of good money.

How about where you are going to?
Husband and wife—Well, we have bought our own house in Glasgow, very nice, a semi-detached, across the road from a new comprehensive school that has acres and acres of playing fields. London, Birmingham, all these places I will be working at, are within easy travelling distance.

These are some of the questions and answers. Some are important, others are not. They all represent the problem of how to keep people here after you have them. There has been a great deal said about the cost of living in Lochaber. Some say it is higher than it should be; others say it is no dearer to live here than anywhere else. Who is right? Well, the best folk to ask could possibly be those who have left.

Housing is one problem in this area, and has much to do with people leaving. Some have carried on a continuous battle for improvements and given up. Many would have liked their own house. They feel the housing is naturally costly, capable of being purchased only by retired civil servants (Grade A). Those who have gone after land to build on have run up against barriers here that have been reduced elsewhere centuries ago.

Some of our work activities have been a worry to many, especially those with young teen-age families. Improvement here, however, has been made in many places, but the vital question in this field is: "Will they be attractive enough to enlist the older teen-agers and those in the 20-30 age bracket."
Finally the Mill! Can there be any improvements there that can reduce this drift? Scottish Pulp and Paper Mills must have

SHINTY CLUB A.G.M.

Fort William Shinty Club A.G.M. was held on Monday, 11th September, when the following office-bearers were elected:—
Chief — Mr. Wm. MacLeod; chairman — Mr. Tom Wilson; secretary — Mr. Geo. MacMillan; treasurer — Mr. Wm. MacMillan; assistant secretary — Mr. M. D. Cameron.

Mr. H. MacRae intimated that there could not continue as secretary/treasurer owing to other commitments, but that he would still be available for Committee work.

handed out a considerable amount of capital bringing these people here, and the recruitment of the personnel must have been a heavy item.

In one section of the maintenance department 32 per cent of the total skilled labour force recruited have left (this figure includes staff and non-staff employees).

The Mill Social and Recreation Club opening before the end of the year might be of some help in raising the morale, and the situation will be worse watching if the percentage of those leaving decreases, then it will be a lead for future reference.

So back to Operation Counterdrift, H. and I.D.B. style. Will it work, or in years to come will it simply add to the Highland depopulation figures if they are related solely to those who leave?

First let us all find a way of making life in the Highlands more attractive to those already living here.

All's try to generate some life in the place. Let the Government and the Highland Board regard the neglect of amenities. Let us see the Departments that are solely their responsibility come up to the recognised standards of 1967. If need be they could leave the other areas of the U.K. to their own devices for a year or two.

Helping Hands

An here's a hand my trusty fierie (friend)

An gif's a hand my trusty fierie. If this old world of ours, you'd fill With peace and concord's honest will, One little item fills the bill . . . That's Shake, Brother, Shake.

If one another's pain we'd bear, If one another's joy we'd share, What finer than to 'put it there', And Shake, Brother, Shake.

Let's air our views — if that we must With confidence, and not mistrust, To give and take is surely just So, Shake, Brother, Shake.

What tho' we see not eye to eye, Tooth for tooth will not comply With right, which tells us to rely On Shake, Brother, Shake.

Let Jew and Gentile black and white Keep separate, but yet unite. In justice, honesty and right With Shake, Brother, Shake.

If ye but love those that love thee, What better than the Pharisee? Are ye who'd hedge your harmony Best, Shake, Brother, Shake.

It temper breaks and o'er us sway His ugly power to mar our day, Let's kill that de'il in common. And Shake, Brother, Shake.

Why nurse your wrath to keep it hot? And harbour hopeful slanders rot, 'True character resents the lot, So, Shake, Brother, Shake.

Easier said, I know, than done, We trust yet help, both bomb and gun. No greater helping hand has won Like Shake, Brother, Shake.

You think 'F's castles in the air? Pipe dreams, lazing in a chair, My dreams come true if you but share With Shake, Brother, Shake.

WALTER CAMERON RETIRES FROM SCOUTING

Over a 100 persons representing members past and present of the Kilmalvie Scout Troop and their friends gathered in the Masonic Hall, Banavie, on Friday last, to pay tribute to Walter Cameron on his retirement as Scoutmaster after 30 years. Surprise followed for Walter, as speaker followed speaker to pay their own tribute to this man who was rightly described as the "lone wolf of Lochaber." A scroll was presented to Mr. Cameron by a member of the Troop, on behalf of the Danish, Soborg, 1st Scout and Rover Troop. Active and retired members of this Troop sent this scroll as acknowledgment of his services to international Scouting, and in particular to the link established between the Soborg Troop and the Kilmalvie Troop.

Miss E. Cameron, Telford, on behalf of the Scout Committee, spoke of having worked with Mr. Cameron for 15 summer years, but would not say how many especially during the war years.

As everyone knows, the headmaster of a country school is expected to take part in all the activities of the village, and Mr. Cameron certainly did that. He never spared himself where the Troop and his family were concerned, but would not say how many especially during the war years.

The Scouts visit to Denmark was made possible by parents and friends of the Kilmalvie Troop; his enthusiasm was quite catching, and everyone worked with a will. "Wally," as they affectionately called him, was himself, was certainly well-loved. I know that Mr. Cameron really desired to give up the Scout work in the thirty years of it over to a younger man, but no one came forward, but now that we have such a willing and capable Scoutmaster, we can wish Mr. Cameron many a leisure hour sitting listening to his favourite records.

Mr. Sandy Cameron, a former Assistant Scoutmaster, presented the retiring Scoutmaster with a Stereophonic Record Player and a selection of classical records on behalf of his friends.

Walter Cameron was noticeably moved at this generosity, and spoke of many gifts he received during the past thirty years of friendship and of circumstances which aroused extremely happy memories. "I think the cleverest thing I ever did in Scouting was to resign and hand over to Mr. Alexander."

"It is wonderful to think that in thirty years we never had any real trouble or accidents, but we nearly did here. I was lying in the Drill Hall. I was lying in the Drill Hall, and I was lying beside with a rifle, and he had fired off one or two shots; suddenly a door opened behind us and there was an shower of miraculous things. There was my dear old friend Lachie Wynn and his face was purple with fury, talking about my murder. When he saw me he quietened down a little. 'What had happened was this. Dony had been shooting away, and he had been getting on the mark. The protective device behind the target had fallen forward, so that just opposite the 'hull' a hole had been drilled right through the wall. 'What was about to fire his second' or third shot, Lachie Wynn looked through the hole, and found himself looking into the barrel of a rifle, and he drew back just in time to hear a bullet whizzing past, and was struck in the face by a bullet from the rifle. So Walter Cameron went on with his memories of those in the company who were his companions over the years, and he had the audience in fits of laughter.

The Cubs and Scouts put on a show in eight parts, each with a

theme, representing a letter as follows:—C, A, M, E, R, O, N. The evening came to a close with a Scout Camp Fire, and so ended Walter Cameron's thirty years of Scouting, but a life-time of service to the youth of Kilmalvie.

Corpach and Banavie

Village Council Report

A meeting of the Village Council took place on Wednesday, 6th September.

The Committee are very perturbed about the smelt run counting from the Pup Mill, and are awaiting a report from the Air Pollution Research Laboratory. It was explained that recent noises from the Pup Mill were due to a broken silencer. This has been repaired.

It was decided to continue pressing for the 'bus shelter to be sited nearer to the Drumfada houses.

A complaint was received about open sewers still discharging on the shore at Corpach. It is understood that the connections to the main sewer left by the County Council were not provided with markers. The County Council have been asked to find the connections and mark them.

All the documents dealing with the new hall have gone to Edinburgh, along with the application for a grant of a sum of £10,000.

Representation is to be made to the Aluminium Company about the method of unloading a recent cargo of alumina at Corpach Basin. There were complaints about the alumina dust creating a nuisance to householders in the area.

There will be another meeting next month.

MIXED UP

The folk in Lochaber are bound to be a bit mixed up after reading some of the letters sent to the Press by people who have been touring the Highlands. Letters complaining about the cost of food and other items have been numerous lately. Folk up here on holiday from the south, i.e., London, are finding things rather costly. After one official cost of living survey, and two unofficial surveys, all proclaimed that it was no dearer to live in Lochaber than any other place. Lochaberites will be wondering just who is right. Contradictions are always difficult to sort out, especially when it's mixed up.

FOOTBALL

Greenhill MacLeod Cup—Semi-final—August 29—Cameron 3; St Mary's 2.
Greenhill MacLeod Cup—Final—September 9—Kinlochewe 4; Cameron 6.

Depending on weather, it is hoped to play the 1st round official and semi-final of the C.O.P. Cup, so as to have the final in King George V Park on Saturday, September 2. Kick-off 3 p.m.

A Fort William Select will play a team from Rothes. Linwood on Saturday, September 23. Cups and medals will be presented in Speanridge Hotel.

The Dynamo v. Kilmalvie game last week had to be abandoned owing to poor light.

(Continued on Page Twelve)

J. WILSON

GLASGOW 1967

The big question is will the "64th" set new records? The following are the "basic ingredients."

Sunday, 1st October
Gaelic Service (recorded for broadcast) - St Columba Gaelic Church, St Vincent Street, 11 a.m. Service will be conducted by Rev. Angus F. MacKinnon. Mr. A. Munro, minister of the Church, and he will be assisted by Rev. Dr T. M. Murchison, M.A., minister of Columbia Summertown Church, Glasgow. Readers, Mr. Donald Grant, M.A., M.Ed., B.A., President, an Comunn Gaidhealach, and Mr. Donald W. MacKitchie, Vice-Convenor of the Mod Mod Local Committee. Precentor, Mr. Peter MacLeod, Glasgow. Senior Gaelic Choirs in Glasgow - Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association, Govan Gaelic and Glasgow Islay - will assist the praise.

Monday, 2nd October
Official Opening of the Mod in the Highlands - The Herkley Street, Glasgow. Mr Grant, President, will preside. The following delegates will be present:-

Estidheffod - Professor Idris Foster, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford; Mr E. D. Jones, B.A., National Librarian of Wales.

Oireachtas - Michael Usal MacCarthy, O.S., Uachtaran an Oireachtas, Seosamh Usal O'Hoegaigh.

Schools' Gaelic Quiz Competition - Final will follow the formal opening and a Ceilidh rounds off the evening.

Tuesday, 3rd October

Oral, Vocal and Instrumental Competitions, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. **Choral Competitions**, 2.15 - 4.30 p.m.

Children's First Prize-winners' Concert - Glasgow Concert Hall, at 7.30 p.m. Presiding, Rev. Dr T. M. Murchison. Prizes presented by Mrs Murchison.

Late night Ceilidh in Albert Ballroom - Midnight till 3 a.m.

Wednesday, 4th October

Senior Vocal Competitions (Fluent speakers and Learners), 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 2.15 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. **Silver Medal Final Competition** (Solo Singing - Learners of Gaelic), 3.40 p.m.

Gaelic Drama - Under the auspices of the Glasgow

Gaelic Drama Association, three one-act plays will be staged in the Highlanders Institute, at 7 p.m.

Ceilidh in Glasgow Concert Hall, at 9 p.m.

Gaelic Revue - Highlanders Institute, 11.15 p.m.

Thursday, 5th October

Oral and Vocal Solo Competitions 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Gold Medal Finals - Glasgow Concert Hall, 1.30 p.m. (Solo Singing, Fluent Speakers).

Rural Choir Competitions, 2.15-4.30 p.m.

Clàrsach Competitions, 2.15 p.m.

Rural Choirs' Concert - Glasgow Concert Hall, at 7.30 p.m.

Presiding Mr John A. Smith, M.A., Mrs Smith will present the prizes.

Folk Song Competition and Ceilidh of Traditional Songs - Albert Ballroom commencing 11 p.m.

Friday, 6th October

Duets, Quartets, Male Voices, Ladies' Voices, Puirteach and Instrumental Competitions

New Trophies - (1) Cup presented by the Cardonal Highlanders' Association for the highest marks in all Competitions, Fluent Speakers.

Lovat and Tullibardine (Premier Choral Competition) - Glasgow Concert Hall, 2 p.m.

Margaret Duncan Choral Competition - The Highlanders' Institute, 2 p.m.

Grand Concerts (two house) - Glasgow Concert Hall, 6.30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Presiding (1st concert) - Lord Birsay, Lady Birsay will present the prizes.

2nd concert - Dr John M. Bannerman, Mrs Edgar will present the prizes.

Late Night Ceilidh - Albert Ballroom - Midnight till 3 a.m.

Dances - (1) The Highlanders' Institute, 8.30 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. (2) Majestic Ballroom, midnight - 3 a.m.

Art and Industry Exhibition - McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall Street - all week.

(2) Rev. William MacDonald Memorial Trophy, presented by Oban Gaelic Choir, for the highest marks in Gaelic in the Lovat and Tullibardine, Ladies' Voices, Male Voice, and Puirteach Competitions.

(3) J. Norman McConochie Trophy, presented by the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association and Friends in tribute to his outstanding work as Conductor (1919-67), for the highest marks in Gaelic in the four Choral Competitions.

Mod Entries

Junior - Literary, 85; Oral, 293; Solo and Duet Singing, 242; Choral, 55; Instrumental, 68; Art and Industry, 19.

Senior - Literary, 29; Oral, 80; Solo and Duet Singing, 426; Choral, 95; Instrumental, 22; Arrangement, 2; Composition of Melody, 8; Arts and Industry, 50; Clàrsach, 23 - 1,497.

THE CAMPBELTOWN GAELIC CHOIR



The Campbeltown Gaelic Choir was founded in 1927 by a group of fervent Gaels, among them the late Sheriff Macmaster Campbell a founder of An Comunn Gaidhealach. The first conductor was Mr James MacGargart, the blind organist, who is happily still with us and retired in Campbeltown. His early training paved the way for the choir's first victory in 1930 in the Tullibardine Shield Competition under Miss Jeni Brown. Miss Brown led the choir and pupil of his own Mrs James McWhirter who was Miss

G. McCallum, who had previously conducted the Greenock Gaelic Choir with conspicuous success. The stage was now set for a run of successes which, although not uninterrupted, made Campbeltown the most formidable choir in the major competition at the Mod. Under McCallum's baton the choir won the Tullibardine Shield no fewer than 11 times and actually held the shield at the time of his death in 1961. His mantle fell upon a choir member and pupil of his own Mrs James McWhirter who was Miss

Rose McConnachie won the Gold Medal at Aberdeen in 1946. Mrs McWhirter kept the standard of the choir at a high pitch until 1964 when the Tullibardine Shield was gained; and although for a number of reasons it was not possible for Campbeltown to compete at Largs in 1965, the inveterate Mod of 1966 provided another triumph and both the Tullibardine Shield and the Greenock Gaelic Choir Cup for Puirteach took the familiar route down the west coast of Kintyre.

Disean na Cloinne

A' MHAIGHDEAN

ALUINN AGUS AN

GILLE OG

O chionn fàda bha ag conluinnn ann an Ard Luinne gille òg-buachaille. A bh-uile madduin fad an t-samhradh bhiodh e 'd' dol do mach a bh-uilleilachadh chruith an deigh daibh a' bhì air am bheagann.

Air madduin ardaidh chaidh e a mach mar a b' abharr agus rairnig e na macraichean a' ghrinn feurach, agus an uair a bha an crodh ag ithead gu toiliche shin e e fein fo dhubhar craobh agus thuit e 'na chadal. Dh'èig e gun dàil agus chuala e an t-seinn a bu bhinne ris an d' eisd nach.

Shuidh e suas gu grad, agus sheall e air a' chraobh, agus rinn Chunnac e 'na suidhe air toman faisg air a' mhaighdeann a b' aluimne air an do lag e stùil. Bha i ag cireadh a fuil òr-bhuidhe, a bha slobhadh an lair.

Chaidh am buachaille air a' robh i ach cha 'n fhaca i e agus an do bhruithinn e. "C'èis gl' agus dhith orrasa ise agus i fo eagal mor. Bu mhaith leam," fhreagar esan. "An t-oran grinn sin ionnachadh" rinn i dha so ach l'ug b'air gaeiltainn nach seinnidh e do neach air thalamh. 'Falbh bhuan a nis' ar ise "agus na coimhead air t-ris agus an ruig t'ur am baidan Dalaichrach ud. Kinn e so agus air sealltainn air ais cha robh i ri faicinn.

Bha an t-oran a' iuth troimh chann agus sa mhaduinn ag am bheagann bha e ga sheinn ris fhinn.Chuala a' bhanarach e Thug i gu 'm b'òr ean ur a bha ann. Dh' iarr air a sheinn. Cha d' rinn e so ach chum i air leth an deidh latha agus i an geall air an-oran ghrinn ur a sheinn ag a' cheidh. Mu dheireadh gheill e.

An a' bh' mhòrinn chaidh e mach agus shuidh e na craobhan dubharach agus chaidh e. Cha mhòr nach deach e a coc-

(Continued at foot of next column)

TUITEAM ADHAMH

Tha iomadh bliadhna air diòl seachd an bha am bodach ris an canadh iad Adhamh. Mor a' comhunnidh le a' bhnaoi, Ealasaid, ann an aon de Eileanan beaga na Gaidhealachd. Bha iad fhèin agus trì no ceithi de theaghlachan eile a fuireach ann an Gleann-mhàrnaidh, gleann uaigneach, aon-rannach. Cha robh eaglais anns a' choimhearsnachd idir, ach bhiodh ministèir na sgrìre air uairean a' tighinn a chumail sheirbheas ann na tighèan.

Air fèasgar grianaich Samhraidh, thainig fios do Ghleann-mhàrnaidh gu' m' biodh seirbheas ann an tigh Adhamh Mhoir air an latha màrnach Dh' eirich Adhamh is Ealasaid glè mhòch 'sa mhaduinn, agus 'nuair a fhuair iad gach ni a chuir an ordugh, chuir Adhamh air deise ur ghorm - an t-òr deise bha aige.

"An nach fhearr?" ar Ealasaid. "An ordugh a shòdachadh a mach do m' mhòinich mu tòisich an t-seirbhis." "S' cinnteach gur e sin 'le gl'ice," fhreagar adhamh. "ma dh' fhàgas mi air a' chroid iad bhithidh eadh orm gu'm fadail a' dhol do m' bhùnaidh."

"Thog am buidhe a' bhàta darach, agus thug e leis an crodh do m' mhòinich. Ach, gu m' fhòrtanach, cha robh am mart ochar deònan falbh, agus cha rachadh i ach an taobh a' bhòrach ri dèan. Co dh' iu, bh' deir-eadh na cùise - le bh' ga ruith 's ga ruagadh - le' gun' do bhuail Adhamh a chas air cloich, agus

hall a chridhe a nuair a dh'èig e leis a' bhuille chruaidh a fhuair e agus an a' chas a' chas a' chumtaic e a' mhaighdean ag i' rinn. "Bhrath thu mise," ar ise. "Agus a nis theid thu do 'n uagh leis an leon sin air d' ghnais." Leis an t-òr chaidh ise chum a' chhàidhach agus cha'n fhaca an gille òg i tuille, ach gu lutha a bhàis bha larach a' boise agus a' coig corragan air a leth cheam.

thuit e air a' bheul 's air a' shroin an an clais a bha l'ama-l'ama de phòil 's de eabh'.

Le cumt' bhan th' dhachaidh, fluch, salach. "Tha mise ullach co-dhù," thuir e ri Ealsaid, "cha chluinn mi am ministèir an dugh."

"Carson?" dh' fheic Ealasaid. "Nach eil thu faicinn gu'n do shaidh mi mo dheise, 's gun agam ach i' fhèin. Ciamar a nochdas mi ann am fianus dhaoine?" "Na cuireadh sin cùram ort," fhreagar Ealasaid. "Fàilbh feusa, agus cuir ort do sheann bhrìogais, agus cota, agus falach thu fhèin shios air cùl dors 'eam-shios-an-tuine.' 's mar sin cluinnidh tu a' bhuile facl' gun thu bh' riad' fhaicinn idir."

"Ghabhadh am ministèir 's na coimhearsnachd iongantas nach bi mi luthach."

"Ma' ars Ealasaid "Canaidh mise ruith air d' bheudh dh'air falbh 'òr t'gh'."

Is ann mar sin a bha. Dh'fhalbh e Adhamh e fhèin air cùl dors eam-shios-an-tuine, thuing am ministèir 's na nabadhean agus thòisich an t-seirbhis. 'B'e an ceann-teagaisg a' ghabh e: "Tuit am Adhamh air a' Garadh Eden," agus, ann a' bhì fòsgladh an t-searmoin, bhual e a dhòrn air a' bhòrd a' bhàir a' bheul-thoach, agus thuir e ann an guth laidir:

"Cha leig sinn a leas mòran ùine chall a' beachdachadh a' chann teagaisg, oir chan 'eill d'uinge.' 's so cho aineolach 's nach eill fhios aige gun do thuit Adhamh. Oh, chaneil!' - a' toirt sgaile eile do'n bhòrd - "Tha fhios aig an t-SAOGHAL gun do thuit Adhamh."

Bha Ealasaid bhòchd a' sìor fhàs m'chomharralt, agus mu dheireadh an d' eirich i sìos, dh' fhosgl i dors eam-shios-an-tuine agus ghlaich i ris a' bhòchadh:

"Faodaidh tu tighinn a mach. Tha fhios aig an t-SAOGHAL gun do thuit thu co-dhùil!"

BETTER OFF UNDER DENMARK ?

Sir,-I saw from your Gaelic editorial that Denmark had granted £40,000,000 to Greenland for a ten-year development programme. This grant applies in the period to 1964. In 1965 a ten-year industrial and fishing development programme was announced, and the Danish Government are giving £200,000,000 to this for a population of 250,000. Greenland. You may well say Dr. Dickson Mabon's £1,000,000 is a fleabite. The Orkney Islands might benefit to a similar extent if they were under Danish rule. If Highlanders are to be excluded from Board membership, what about bringing in democratic Scandinavians? - Yours etc.

LOCHLAINN.

by NORMAN MACDONALD

FARMING ON BOG

by Our Eire Correspondent

An Foras Talantais (The Agricultural Institute) are carrying out an interesting experiment at Lullymore, Co. Kildare. That is where Bord na Manu manufacture their famous bricquets.

The Institute have started a 40-acre farm in a desert of peat and bog which has been left by Bord na Manu. So far cabbages, sugar beet, potatoes and other farm crops have been grown successfully with yields equal to those from good mineral soils. There have been first-class crops of onions, cabbots, cauliflower, peas, beans and red beet.

This shows that such bog land can be used, but management and farming techniques would have to be altered from those practised by farmers on mineral soils.

Cattle could graze on this land from April to November. They would be fed during winter from the exceptionally good yields of hay and silage harvested during the summer months.

Next year the farm will be expanded by 100 acres and 150 acres will be developed for horticultural purposes.

The Institute are also trying new crops and crops which are not so popular with the normal farmer. Among these are flax, rape, poppies, rye and crenble. These could prove suitable for peat land and could lead to a new industry being established. There would be a limitless number of acres for them.

One seventh of the total land area of Ireland is under bog. Within 35 years Bord na Manu will have finished working another 135,000 acres of bog.

CUIDEACHAD AIRSON A' KHORAN

Tha Rìghalhas Ruissa a' dol a thoirt cuideachadh seachad air a' Khoran, Biobuil nan Mohamadhan, a chlo-bhualladh. 'S e an t-àite seo clo-bhualladh de 'n leabhar so dha 'n tug idis cuideachadh dhe 'n t-seorsa ged nach tug iad cuideachadh sam bith airson a' chlo-bhuill Eaglais Ruissa a chur a mach.

Air a shon sin tha Rìghalhas Ruissa an deaghaidh thoir cuideachadh a thoirt seachad do cheannardan de 'n t-àite dhubhach a bha ag iarraidh leabhrachnan a chur a mach 'nan canain them.

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past was fifty cents, equivalent to half-a-crown in our money, and the proceeds went to augment the funds of the local church. Like everything else, I suppose the charge has doubled, or trebled, since then.

Another feature of Canadian church life which commends itself to all, irrespective of creed, is the exemplary friendship between Protestants and Catholics everywhere. This laudable Christian spirit was not engendered by any modern change of heart between the two religions, which are large, but has actually prevailed since pioneer days.

The early emigrants, realising that co-operation in any sphere of activity was essential to survival in a land where unrelieved hardship was their daily lot, forever banished from their memories the religious prejudices of the past, and so Protestant helped Catholic and Catholic Protestant, thereby benefiting their memories as precedent for future generations to follow.

In February of 1931, I received an invitation from Sydney, Cape Breton, to go there for the rest of the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. Being keen to see the scenery of Canada as possible, before final settlement down in a charge of my own, I gladly accepted the invitation, so took the train to remote Cape Breton. After travelling through and a night through Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and stopping at several stations bearing names of our Irish emigrants, I arrived at Sydney when the city was in the near chaos of a sudden thaw.

On the map, Cape Breton looks like a tiny promontory jutting out from Nova Scotia into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In reality it is a vast and fertile country, with wide and large industrial towns. There, at last, I saw a country whose picturesque landscape very much reminded me of Scotland. Some of the best scenery in North America is here.

The highway meanders along the shores of large, sky-blue lakes, in beautiful valleys, and descends sharp turn or bend presents new vistas to delight the tourist. The hills, which are almost everywhere, are clothed by the ubiquitous forest of evergreens, maple, cedar, oak, birch, elm.

This, too, is a land of wonderful beauty, some of which, like the Mira river, for instance, bear more resemblance to long lakes. No wonder that Cape Breton is known as the Fisherman's Mecca, for by standing on a bridge or any stream you can fill a basket with trout in no time.

For beauty, the Lakes of Law, Bras d'or Lakes, Lake Ainslie, Loch Lomond, Catalone Lake, and Blacket's Lake are among the loveliest in the world. In the bosom of most of these is dotted here and there with small densely-wooded islands. Being a hilly country, Cape Breton, too, is famous for the grandeur of its waterfalls.

The Bras d'or Lake is unique

INDUSTRIAL FISHING GROWTH

The development of industrial fisheries and the problems of fish farming are two of the items featured in the current issue of the Scottish Fisheries Bulletin published by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland.

Other subjects dealt with include fish measuring on the market, shrimps around Scotland, and the Danish seine net. As usual the Bulletin contains a number of news items dealing with subjects of general interest. These include, recapture of Greenland salmon, scavenged on mussel beds and sharks with tags.

Copies of the Bulletin may be obtained free of charge from any Fishery Officer or from the Marine Laboratory in Aberdeen.

blue and swelled out enormously.

Being very small, the mosquito fly can hardly be noticed until it alights on the skin and bites, but, fortunately for us, nature has furnished it with a sort of delicate mechanism which, by means of its unmistakable alarm, a low whistling sound, when in flight, and, provided its intended victim is not stone-deaf, the fly she duly warned of the invader's proximity and takes the usual steps to destroy it. In my third summer, when climatic influences had somewhat changed my blood, mosquitoes hardly paid any attention to me. By this I was to know that I had become well and truly, and to all intents and purposes, a full-fledged naturalised citizen!

The services in Catholic, Presbyterian and United Churches are exceedingly well attended by young and old, many of whom travel long distances by car, in summer, and in winter by a motor car, over a road of from four to five feet of frozen snow. It is not at all a rare sight to see a mother in church with her baby, a small child in her arms.

Most congregations have a Sunday School for the very young, and a Bible Class for older pupils, ranging from the youngest to the parents and grand-children. The minister, as a rule, conducts the latter.

As the Scottish church has her Women's Guild, the Canadian church has her Ladies' Aid, who are tireless in their work to maintain the cause at home and in the far-flung mission fields.

Every autumn, after the harvest is secured, each congregation enjoys its time-honoured institution known as a chieftain's dinner, which is attended by everyone from the four corners of the parish and often my many from neighbouring parishes, over my home charge per head for this reason.

LOANS TO NEW TENANTS OF CROFTS

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland remind prospective tenants of crofts that loans are available to help them to pay the compensation for improvements which is due to the outgoing tenant.

These loans can, however, be given only to those (i) the previous tenant has renounced the tenancy, or been removed from it, and (ii) the landlord is reletting the croft to a tenant selected by himself and approved by the Crofters Commission.

The Department receive many enquiries from people who say they have sought, or are interested in buying, a croft, and are seeking some form of financial assistance. Often in these cases the change of tenancy of the croft by assignment; that is, the present tenant nominates the person to whom he wishes to hand over the tenancy and seeks a private agreement with him as to the amount to be paid for the permanent improvements. (Assignations are also subject to the approval of the Crofters' Commission, who give the landlord an opportunity of expressing his views). In these cases, no loan can be made by the Department.

The amount of loan which may be advanced in eligible cases depends on the Department's valuation of the improvements to be taken over. Independent valuations, including awards by the Land Court, are given due consideration. The maximum amount of loan, including any loan which the new tenant may receive under the Crofters Building Grants and the rate of interest is 50p. The rate of interest is 3 1/2 per cent., and repayment can be over a period agreed between the applicant and the Department, provided it is not longer than the estimated life of the improvements.

Enquiries about these loans should be addressed to the Department, at 20a Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, 3.

Part 2

Before I left Scotland, I had an idea that although there were still stretches of forest in Canada, mostly cleared of trees, but forest seems to be indigenous to every acre of Canadian soil east of the prairies. It is everywhere and an enemy.

What would the rural areas do without this God-given provision which protects them from the weather, blowing snow that in the densest blizzards in sub zero weather, public rooms and bedrooms enjoy almost tropical heat, and it makes no difference whether you sit at the main entrance, or in the centre of the room, you enjoy the same comfort.

To keep out the piercing, snow-laden blasts, each house has its double doors and windows, and in summer the doors and windows are shut to keep it and the mosquitoes out. The latter insects betray an insidious, but deadly anatomy which is not to be despised. In Scotland, during the first two summers, they seemed to sense that I was a newcomer, right off from the best to so intense that they were particularly vicious. In any company, or out of it, I soon became the cynosure of mosquito attention, and the best to so intense that they were particularly vicious, and ankles and wrists turned black and red.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT

All of the provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, 1967, which apply to Scotland will be brought into force on various dates between October 1, 1967 and May 1, 1968. The Criminal Justice Order which has been made by Mr William Ross, M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

Much of the Act applies to England and Wales only, but there are a number of provisions which amend the law of Scotland relating to the prevention of offences and the treatment of offenders.

Among the more important provisions brought into force by the Order are:

Release of fines (section 92) will come into force on January 1, 1968. This section makes provision for an increase in maximum fines to a wide range of statutory offences.

Release on licence of persons serving fixed sentences of imprisonment, and of persons serving life sentences (sections 60-64) will come into force on April 1, 1968. These sections bring into operation the scheme for release on licence, designed to enable selected prisoners who are unlikely to be a risk to the public to be released when they have reached a peak in their prison training. (The provisions for the establishment of a Parole Board for Scotland and local review committees (sections 65-69) will come into force when the scheme are being brought into operation earlier - on October 1, 1967.)

Earnings provisions (sections 65-88) will come into force on May 1, 1968. These sections make provision for the licensing of shotguns.

SGOILTEAN A' DUNADH

Tha e coltach gu bheil sia sgoiltean beaga ann an Sealtainn, agus tha iad air a' bhith ann an luchd na luigha na coig deug, a' dol a dhunadh cho luath agus is urrainn Comhairle Foghlum na siorrachd sin a dhèanamh. Thairg Comhairle Foghlum na Siorrachd agus luchd dreuchd o Bord an Fhoghlum ann an Alba comhla o chomhla gun sgoiltean air a' bhith ann gu bh' fhearr aon bith-sgoil, a ghabhadh a h-uile seorsa sgoilear, a thoigil ann an Lerwick, agus seachad a' salmuidh a' ghabhaidh sgoilearan gu in cheathrann bliadhna, a thoigil cuideachd. Thairg dhùbhr air an eilean Mor Shealtainn agus trì ann an Cìranan gu tuath.

SRUTH
DI-ARDAOIN, 21mh AN T-SULTUIN 1967
THURSDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER 1967

IOMA GHNEITHAECHD

Bha naidheach againn ann 'n Sruth' co-la-deug air ais mu dheichinn na coimeinn ag an robh ceithir riochdairean deug bhò canainean beaga na Roinn Eorp'a ' foillseachadh mar a bha iad 'n sireadh dhoighean a bheireadh dhaibh co-inbhe ris na canainean mora. Chunnac sinn gu robh feadhainn dhiubh a' faighinn cothrom nas fhearr na cheile airson an canain a chur air adhart agus nach robh a' Ghaidhlig Albannach a' faighinn cothrom cho math ri torr dhe na canainean eile.

Tha daoine a' tuigsinn a nis gun teid na canainean beaga fodha mear dèanadh airson an cumail beo, ach cha leig canainean mar a' Fhraincis agus a' Ghearmailt a leas cus moit a bhith orra, oir ma chumas a' Bheurla Shassannach oirre mar a tha i a' deannamh na drasda, cait an bh iadsan an ceann beagan cheudan bhliadhnaichean?

A nis chan e canainean leò feinn ann am feum daoine a bhi nas airson seorsach eadar-dhealichte a chumail beo. Tha beathaichean fadaich an t-saoghail an impis a dhòl as le foirmeir ag an-iodhmhorachd a' chinne-daonna agus tha dh'oidhrpean 'gan deannamh a nis airson seorsach eadar-dhealichte a chumail beo. Tha greis a nis bho 'n dh' aithneachadh againn ag an robh uidh ann an obair naduir gu robh cumart ann gum bithheadh mara na dùthcha seo agus duthchannan eile air an milladh mar cumadh daoine rian air doigh ann an robh iad a' togail bhailethan agus a h-uile innleachd eile a tha ceangailte ri beatha an duine an diugh. Mar as motha tha lamh-an-uchdair ag an duine air obair naduir, agus mar as motha tha an saoghal ag aonadh, is ann as motha tha feum againn air maise agus ioma-ghneithaechd.

Faoaidh duine suibhal o cheann gu ceann dhe 'n t-saoghail ann an itealan a nis agus an t-aon seorsa biadh iule agus an t-aon seorsa togalachain faicinn. Mar a thuir fear-sgrìobhaich ainmeil o chionn ghoidris, is e duine as a rian a chanach nach e rud math a tha ann gu bheil an duine a' faighinn a leithid a bhuaidh air obair naduir agus gu bheil an saoghal ag aonadh, ach mar as motha chumbhachd a tha aige is ann as motha dh' fheumas e beachdachadh air de an seorsa saoghal a tha e a' deannamh dha feinn agus dha na ginealach a tha a' tighinn as a dheaghaidh, agus a cheist a chur air feinn 'an e seo an seorsa saoghal a tha mi ag iarraidh?

An e saoghal coltach ri garraidh sòg anns am bi iomachd seorsa fhlucaichean a' fas ri taobh a cheile, no saoghal coltach ri garraidh anns nach eil ach aon chraobh ghailbheach a tha an deaghaidh a' gharraidh a chur foille fhein?

... THINGS OF GOOD REPORT

There has never been anything like it. It heralds a new era for Gaelic. And it will create new and ever-increasing horizons for the language in the future of our time and of those who come after us. It has indicated a Wanderjahr in Gaeldom which is now completed; new years of new work are now being ushered in.

"It" is the annual Report of An Comunn Gaidhealach. Presentation apart, the Report, which is now being circulated, shows the amount of hard work and success of the year 1966-67. One recalls the time—it seems long ago now—when the decision of An Comunn to bring into its ranks a full-time professional element caused no small furor. But the appointment of a director was surely the only step that could be taken; and the appointment has surely paid off. It was a decision perhaps taken a little late in the history of Gaelic. But it was, fortunately, not too late, as events and results have shown.

The years ahead for Gaelic are largely those of consolidation. New ideas will still have to be generated and realised into positive action. The result must surely be the acceptance of Gaelic by national recognition, the maintenance and improvement of the language as a living part of Scotland, and a renewed pride in Gaelic by the Gael.

The Report, apart from relating the usual stuff of Annual Reports, contains much thought-provoking information, particularly the position of minority languages in other countries. It is, perhaps, not often realised that much of Europe is bilingual—and this includes Britain. The British attitude to its minority language groups (Manx, Cornish, Welsh and Gaelic, with Northern Ireland) is shown up in its shabby treatment to its own, compared with the support which minority languages get from the national Governments of other countries.

One significant point among many is the proof that Gaelic is commercial and requires only to be developed to the extent that An Comunn Gaidhealach need not depend so much on an annual Mod surplus for its continuing activities. This is the way to tackle things. If there's a profit to be made, then investment of capital will attract the attention of those with a professional interest in money-making. This perhaps is pulling down a few ideals to the level of the gutter. But to-day's society is a materialistic one.

THA SEARADH AG A BHEO
AIR A "MARBH"

Le TORMOD DOMHNALLACH

Anns na laithean bho shean, bhiodh cuid a' faicinn tannas seann chaillich a' bha air an t-saoghal a' araidh roimhe ach ann am baile beag ann an Uibhist. Is ann doannan mu airid' fheasgar a bhiodh a' coimeachadh ri daoine air àite ionmhalach de 'n rathad mhòr.

A h-uile h-uair a chille, i bhiodh cleoca dhraice a' boineid orra mar is bhàns ann an tannas an rathad. Mu dheireadh thall, chuir duine òg a bh' ann an sgrìor roimhe gun coimeachadh e a' chaillich agus gunn bruidhneach e rìthe.

Dh' fhalbh e ann feasgar seo leis feinn, sras an rathad, thug an ionaid anns am biodh g'a faicinn. Cha robh e air ach air nochdadh ris an àite cheudna' nuair a chunnac e a' chaillich air fàire, a' coiseach na choinneamh. Bha ise air a' comhdach ann an trusan abhastach, is dh' aithneich e i g' math.

Cho luath 's a choinnich iad, sheas an duine agus bruidhinn e ris an rathad. Dh' anns ann an dith de an t-saoghal a bha aice airson tighinn air aice a chum an t-saoghal 's a bhi cho tric 'a falbh an rathad ud.

Fhreagar an t-seann t'g agus thubhairt i ris gu'n e an t-saoghal gu'n robh i air an siod, gu'n robh i airson a' bhruidhinn ri naeachan agus ri sraichean 'na bha a' cur dragh orra innse. An sin mhinich i gun robh i anns a' chuid mu dheireadh o' beatha bha i air a' seòsan nach robh dhò dhò chàirdaine aice, agus an deidh a' bàis nach deach coisdais a cur fo 'n talamh a phàidheadh a' chaidh a' tagais i air an t-saoghal fein airson gu'n dioladh e na fàchadh ud a bha 'g'a fàgail chum m'fhoisail. Gheall ceann gu'n deannadh e sud 'Choinneim e a' ghalachadh, phàid e a' bheile seinn a chos an tiodhachaid, agus chann fhaças a' chaillich tuisleach.

Bha doirionnach Gaidhealach air an robh mi eòlach, ga Sasunnich an an taigh mor ann an Sasunn. Bha feadhainn de na nigheanan a bha air muinntinn m'le rìthe gu tric a' faicinn tannas caillich nach robh iad ag aithneachadh, a' falbh air feadh an tairne. Bhiodh iad doannan mu bruidhinn air a' siod catora fein, ach cha robh mu bhana-charaid a' cur suim 'san bith 'nà comhradh.

Oidhche de na h-oidhecheannan, bha na carraigean uile cruinn 'n an suidhe ann an t'g teine ann an t'alla. Thug iad tarraing air an an tannas, is bho sin gu airnean eile agus an robh e dlùth dh' i' meadhan. Ann an robh mòr éirich an bhàn-Ghaidheal 'na seasamh airson gabhail mu thamh, is thubhairt i air am gabhail a' ri c'ach. 'Bh' e dh'inn fhailb a chadal, air neo gu cinnteach chi sinn a' chaillich! "

'Leis na facail ud a' radh, chaidh i suas an staidhir gu a' comar 'n amh 'na bha mu luath e dh' fhoisgal i doras an t-seòmar na chunnac i ann an sin seann bhean liath le tomag gheal mu m'fhoisgal. Bha e dhaibh mu iochdrach na leabaidh. 'Leis an uamhas a ghabh am borionnach, chaidh i mach gu grad an t-saoghal ann an t'g chaidh i anns an robh i dol sios an staidhir, thair i na meadhan is chaidh i fuir a na gualainn.

Anns an t-saoghal a' b' aithne dhomh, facal air an fhacl mar a leanas, mu thannas a chunnac e fein 'na seòmar cadal, ann am baile Ghlaschu.

Bha e fada de 'n oidhche, is bha esan trom 'na shuain is 'aebhaidh ris a' bhalla. An sin dhùise e a' m'othachadh gu'n robh, n'eigin mu chreids ann an t-seòmar. 'Cha b' fhadha eus an do dh' fhaic e rud 'g'a phutadh o' chùilthachaid, ach cha tu e g'eill, 'na ceann t'g'ach 'na dh'obh dh' fhaic e an ath phutag is bha e t' seo na bu mhòtha. An dara h-uair cha do leig e dad air. 'An t-seann t'g'ach e te' g'eill laidh mar gum biodh an rud a bha ann a' c'ail fhoighdinn ris. Le sin, dh' éirich mu charaid 'n shuidhe

is bha ann an siod, aig ceann eile na leabaidh, seain duine liath is feusg fhadha air 'na sheasamh 'n an t-saoghal.

Dorchais mar a bha an (Continued on Page Ten)

Celtic Advance
in Atomic Age

With this rather stimulating title to the Celtic League has produced an annual volume for 1967. It is 121' pages packed to the full with information, opinions, and ideas. There are many controversial things here: bilingualism, political opinions, economic trends. All are related to the member countries of the Celtic League: Scotland, Ireland, Brittany, Man, Cornwall and Wales.

The leading article by Prof. Jas. L. Williams, Dean of the Faculty of Education, University College of Wales, is important reading for all in Scotland who are even the least bit interested in the Scottish character. He says: "The achievement of a linguistic equilibrium in bilingualism is coming to be regarded in many parts of the world as a political, cultural, and economic necessity, especially in a context of living a satisfactory national life by the end of the twentieth century. Nationalism and internationalism are the two great political factors of the century."

Contributors to the Volume include Prof. Derick Thomson, D. MacKay, Director of An Comunn, who speak of Gaelic and Gaelic publications. Other articles are: 'Bilingualism in Practice,' 'The Welsh Language Society,' and 'The Lessons of the Irish Question' to mention only a few.

One short article in particular is of interest to those working in the Gaelic field. It is by Tomas Ó Canainn: 'B'U'AI'C - An Exciting Prospect.'

It deals with the formation of Irish-speaking suburbs, a recombe done in Scotland. The recommendation of the Report of the Commission on the Restoration of Irish (1964). A limited Company is being formed with a nominal share capital of £20,000. of 5s shares. The capital is used to buy land for development and help in settling families in the new areas. Excellent Irish has been done at Glenties, Maigh, on the outskirts of Cork City. The site here caters for nine families who are Irish-speaking. This will be established a definite Irish-speaking community a gínger group, outside an urban area in which English is taking too much hold. Can this be done in Scotland? Why not? It only needs a few people to get such a company going, to establish a thin edge of a thin wedge. The grip which the Welsh language has over most of Scotland's urban communities today, Scotland should take this leaf at least out of Ireland's book and apply it.

The annual Volume of the Celtic League is available to members of the Lenaeu Annual Sub which includes the annual volume and a Quarterly publication Celtic News.

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Letters to the Editor

over to you:

WEARING THE KILT

Sir, — That's the trouble with trying to write in a light vein — someone is always bound to take you seriously.

When I wrote that my little daughter looks at least as 'cute' in her 'kiltie skirt' as does the Editor of *Sruth* in his, I was, in addition to a bit of good-natured leg-pulling, for 'Bhaile Ur Mhor' to grasp at one word and deliberately quote it out of context to make me say that "the foreigner is being misled by the kilt because, in Mr MacKenzie's own words, he thinks it looks cute," is to say the very least, hardly honest. I neither said nor implied this! Nor do I believe it! I did say, and I quote, "The American tourist who wears the kilt in Scotland does so because he is proud of his Scottish heritage and feels a warm regard for all things Scottish. He wears it as a gesture of friendship for you..." I submit I am in a better position to know American motives than is 'Bhaile Ur Mhor.'

Perhaps the key to his concern is his feeling that my ancestors "rejected Scottish nationality." He needs to read the history of his country! The Highland Scots who early emigrated to North Carolina and Eastern Canada were forced out, some by starvation, others at gunpoint, their humble homes burned to the ground by greedy landowners who wished to settle English and lowland sheep herds on land they and their fathers had worked from time beyond memory. The descendants of these shepherds, no doubt, still live in Scotland, and wear the kilt because it looks cute and quaint, with 'Bhaile Ur Mhor's' smile of approval. I am proud to be an American. I am also proud of my Scottish background, and the Scottish culture that is, legitimately, a part of our culture as well. My ancestors, as 'Bhaile Ur Mhor's' made their contribution to Scottish history and culture — and wore the kilt, not as a "costume" certainly not as a 'fancy dress', but as their everyday garb. I feel I have as much right to wear it even in Scotland, as, say, the Scot of lowland descent who will wear it if it is offensive to you — but I find it difficult to believe that most Scots subscribe to 'Bhaile Ur Mhor's' artificial and arbitrary regulations.

Your correspondent likens an American wearing the kilt in Scotland to himself ('Bhaile Ur Mhor') wearing our "national dress" (which he correctly identifies as 'warpaint and feathers') while strutting down Broadway. (Though on some of the things that go on up there, I would advise him to take along a bow and some arrows as well!). Indeed, sad to say, fewer and fewer Ame-

ricans seem to take pride in our national costume as time goes on. Perhaps it is because "fat little Americans" look even worse in warpaint and feathers than they do in the kilt. Would you believe it, the last time I was on Broadway, less than 50 p.c. of the people there were strutting about in warpaint and feathers! And I am told the figure is even lower in cold weather. With abject shame I must confess that even I seldom wear it anymore except on special occasions; weddings, funerals, meetings of the Presbytery, receptions for visiting Scots, and when a band of hostile Indians is rumoured to be in the vicinity.

I do appreciate his gracious permission to wear the kilt in the U.S. at formal and fancy dress occasions. I reciprocate by extending to him my permission to wear warpaint and feathers at similar occasions in Scotland. 'Bhaile Ur Mhor' goes on to write that the American who wears the kilt in Scotland says, in effect, "I am ashamed to appear in public as an American citizen, and am therefore trying to get people to think I am Scottish." By this same line of reasoning, the Scot who does not wear the kilt while visiting America says, in effect, I am ashamed to appear in public as a Scot, and am therefore trying to get people to think I am an American. I cannot accept this, and I doubt that he will. But let us face it, 'Bhaile Ur Mhor, you cannot have it both ways!

In closing may I remind 'Bhaile Ur Mhor, and any other Scots who may feel as he does, of the greatest Scottish traditions of all: the traditions of courtesy, charity and hospitality.

Please forgive me if I use my real name instead of a Gaelic nom-de-plume.

(REV.) JAMES MACKENZIE
Post Office Box 28
Barbecue Presbyterian Church
Olivia, North Carolina.

Sir,— I have to take issue with 'Bhaile ur Mhor' in the 27th July issue of *SRUTH*. As a child, as a boy and on this day I have always believed that the kilt and the tartan were not Scottish but Highland.

I have never heard or seen an 'ad' for Scottish Dress but always Highland Dress. As a child my father had a kilt maker make me a full "Breacan Feilidh" or Feilidh Mhor. It was a beautiful costume although a bit "bunchy" to wear. I had to wear a corbuit with Inverness pleats as a jacket would pull up due to the upper part being prilled to the left shoulder. I was taught that the tartan would be worn only by r.n.e.e, bear the name of a Clan or Sept having a tartan gave you the right to wear that tartan. All

Clanless persons should wear the Jacobite, California or Dorich tartans as no Clan relationship was declared. I don't think that the Greeks, Albanians or others wore a costume related to the Breacan Feilidh but rather wore a short tunic falling to the knee. To an unpracticed eye they might seem similar but to a Gael — not the same thing at all. Is mise
CHARLES P. MAC EWEIN
28 New Street
Catskill, New York 12414

Fhìr-deasachaidh — Tha sinn an deidh tìleadh dhachaidh do'n Eilean Mhuanach an deidh cho la-leugh a chuir seachad air thuras sa Gaidhealtachd 's na h-Eileanan.
Luigeadh sinn leigeadh fhàinidh do na daoine a thachair ruim cho fada 'sa tha sinn nan còmhla airson an còmhnaidh 'sna fàlaidheachd anns gach aite 'sna thadhail sin bh' Ardrossan gu Leodhas.

Gu sronaiche luigeadh in taing a thoirt do na daoine thachair cho cairdeil ruim anns na dachaidhean sibh thoir diùna fàlaidh is bhuidh maidne.
Sonas bhuidh uile.
Mr and Mrs QUIRK
Port Eoin, L.O.M.

"IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS"
A Charaid Choir, — We heard recently that a certain authority described the Highland temperament as standing in the way of progress. He admits that Scots have a deep sense of an "universal image" but what does all this mean? In my crude stumbling way, I interpret it as meaning that we are quite in sympathy with us as long as we are not ourselves call of Highland character, then we are less welcome.

Could some enlightened person just tell me how a cocktail is to be compounded without several diverse ingredients, each having its own characteristics unmixed with others at the start? Can he tell me what he means by progress, whether this just means material improvement without any bearing on human happiness or the aim of life to seek God's glory? If progress is quite alien to these matters it is but a puff of empty smoke that leaves no impression on the soul, just as in the book of *Wisdom* we are told that the fool leaves no more impression than the furrow a ship makes in the water that afterwards leaves no trace.

Can he tell us what he means by remoteness? Does it mean that aesthetic values are of nothing worth? Let's be realistic.

JAN G. MACNAIR
c/o Madame Cheshelung
Le Mole par AGDE 34
France

ENTERPRISE Feadhainn IN GAELIC The Dol A Chur Comunn

A sign that Gaelic is being accepted and recognised as a useful medium for publicity is seen in the recent decision of the British Farm Produce Council to participate in the National Mod peripheral activities.

The Council has approached several firms to promote an entirely new form of entertainment during Mod Week. — Mr John Leese, a Cete from Cornwall, and the BFPCE Area Officer in Scotland and Northern Ireland, has produced a Feisd Albannach — Scottish Feist.

This will be held in the Albert Ballroom, Glasgow, on 2nd October at 10.30 p.m. The menu will be:—

- BILL OF FARE
- FÀILTE AGUS FURAN
- Hansel
- NA PÌOBÀIREAN
- The Pipers
- MARAG AGUS UISE BEATHA
- Haggis and Whisky
- MUC SHAILTE IS GRUTH
- Gammon and Crowdie
- SEINNEADAIREAN
- The Singers
- BUNTATA IS SGADAN LE BAINNE
- Potatoes and herring with milk

- CEOL IS DANNSA
- Music and dancing
- UACHDAR AIR MEASAN
- Fruit and cream
- SEINNEADAIREAN
- The Singers
- CAISE — FION
- Cheese — Wine
- COFADH AGUS DRAMA
- Coffee and a Drama
- BROT
- Soup or Departure

The Sunday Times this weekend also carries an advertisement headed in Gaelic 'Fospaidhlan an Alba'. — New opportunities in Scotland. This is eye-catching and encouraging. If you want more information look at the business section of the Sunday Times next Sunday.

Feadhainn The Dol A Chur Comunn

LEASACHAIDH AIR CHOIS DHAIBH FHEIN

Ged a tha 'a' Chumhrih nas fhearr dhan ann tomadach doigh na Gaidhealtachd n h-Alba, the airmach a t-sluagh a' sior dhòs ann an aiteachadh duth chail na Cuingh cuideachd. Tha muinntir na Cumhrih ag iarraidh air an Rìghalltas cuideachadh, a thoirt dhaibh airson stad a chur air an t-suidheachadh seo, ach the feadhainn nach oil riarachaidheach gar n-ionnsachd an latha coimhe gur robh muinntir Tregoran, baile beag anns a' Chumhrih, a' dol a chur comunn Leasachaidh air chois dhaibh thein airson feuchainn ri obrachaidh a thoirt n' bhaile a chumas an oidridh aig an tigh.

Thuir Mgr. Glyn Evans, prìomh-mhaighistean Ard-Sgoile Tregoran, gur robh muinntir a' bhaile a' fairceachadh o chionn greg gur feumaidh iad rud-eigin a dhèanamh airson na leigeadh oidridh a' bhaile a leas an tigh fhagail a lorg obrach. Tha Mgr. Evans 'na Rùnaire air a' Chomunn ur.

Bha muinntir a' bhaile a' gabhail dragh, thoirt e, leis mar bha airmach sluaigh a' bhaile a' dol a' fàilteachadh. Bha an lughdachadh follaiseach ann, agus a' còmhla ri sgoilearan. Bha airmach nan sgoilearan air a' dhòs a' tinn an treud de na sgoilearan beaga agus bha an sgoil bhàg ann an a' nabhach a' dol a' dhunadh a' dh' aithearr. Bha airmach nan sgoilearan anns an Ard-Sgoil ceud — na lughd na bha, i o chionn ceud bliadhna air ais.

Thuir Mgr. Evans gu bh' fhiach an doigh-beatha, aig muinntir Tregoran ann an lughdachadh agus bha i a' dol mhaistris dh' fheumaidh iad obair fhaighinn dha na daoine.

Chomhnaice cuideachd, thuir e, re nan bliadhnaichean, thuir e na feadhna a bha ag obair air an fhearnan a' dol nas lugha leis mar a bha bailtean-fearannan 'gan aonachadh a' cheil agus innellan a' deanamh tor dh' e 'nabair a' bh' abhaist do dhaoina bhith deanamh.

Bithidh rìghachaidh bhò Chomhrih ann an Sgrìobhail a' fàilidh a' Foghlum Tregoran agus bhò Luch-stuirdidh Ard-Sgoile Tregoran, anns a' Chomunn. Agus thein ann an a' Chomunn a' fàilidh a' thoirt do fhear-nigromhachais sin bith a' bheir obair dha n' bhaile. Thuir Mgr. D. P. Garbteir, Edwards, Rùnaire a' Chomunn a' chur an Rìghalltas air chois airson nigromhachais a thoiseachadh ann an ceannardaidh meadhanach na Cumhrih, gur e nigromhachais leth a bhitheadh ann an Sgrìobhail a' Chomunn a staidheadh. Air a shon sin, thuir e, cha robh coltas air nigromhachais an dràsda gum bhitheadh e soirbh obair fhaidh dha n' bhaile, ach bhitheadh cuisèan a' tighinn air adhart a reir mar a rachadh muinntir an aite fàidh air a' ghnothach. Bu choir cumail ri obrachaidh a bhitheadh freagrach airson an aite.

SUMMER TO HIGHLAND AUTUMN

Rain turned by sun: cloud to sharp mountain clarity. Trees shimmer, not sodden. In completed cycle of autumn. Red and blue mountains glow; Flowers and berries show, Summer has ended.

August grey makes way For brilliant autumn, Crystal season Of bright mature colour. Dams desperate for climax of fruiting, banished. Hot sun, to winter air crisp; The death holds a sharpness Of promised life to come.

Keith Murdoch,



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(Potentilla tormentilla)

Gaelic — Leamhach (tormenting)

Its leaves are divided into three-toothed leaflets with two basal leaf-like stipules, which give a springer effect. Tormentilla has a prostrate growth, but its slender stems never form roots. It is abundant on acid soils, on moors and grassy places.

The roots used to be boiled in milk to treat diarrhoea in children and calves. They were also used by fishermen as a substitute for oak bark for tanning the nets, and a red dye was obtained from them.

Review Order

What can one say in a hundred words or so in a review column of a man who has written his life's story in almost 300 pages. Had it been a life of ease, of little ambition, of small achievement, then the reviewer's task would be an easy one. But when the man was Captain E. E. Fresson, who has given us the book 'Air Road to the Isles,' the problem is tackled best by, perhaps, covering the book's subject generally — and thoroughly recommending it to anyone who is even slightly interested in the way in which the air services in the Highlands and Islands were developed.

When Fresson came to the North of Scotland he already had a literal world of experience behind him, and was ready to add to his store of knowledge which he knew most grow if he were to perform a real service to the north. Flying today has become so sophisticated, like many another profession, that to 'rough it' with often primitive equipment in equally primitive conditions would be out of the question. Not in the early Thirties, when Captain Fresson began his services to the northern isles. It is to his credit that the islefolk responded to what he did for them in such a way as to ensure success, and enable him to leave his ideas further.

For 17 years, from 1930 to 1947, consolidating the air services in the Highlands and Islands and maintained them during the second German war in difficult conditions. One wonders what would be the state of inter-island and inter-mainland air communications today had Captain Fresson not laid the foundations in those early years. Knowing the British Government for what it has always been, there would be one, maybe two, routes today . . . and Fresson had many.

In 1947 B.E.A. took over. Fresson's air fleet was dispersed, and the Captain himself dismissed, without any compensation, under circumstances. Instead of building on what was already there, the nationalised airline cut and chopped away at the north isles and the North of Scotland are worse off than they were thirty years ago. Even attempts to show a profit, and thus show to B.E.A. and Government 'interests' are stamped on, as witness the recent interference by the Ministry of Aviation into the Loganair proposed service in the north isles.

Apart from being 'communications history,' the book reads like the adventure story it is. Captain Fresson was in remarkable man. Though there are a few visible

and tangible remembrances of him and his work in the Highlands and Islands, perhaps the best memorial would be a frank move — in the part of the British Government to allow private air operators to provide the air service needed by the North of Scotland and thus acknowledge the pioneering spirit of Captain E. E. Fresson.

('Air Road to the Isles,' by Captain E. E. Fresson, David Rendell Ltd, 36s.)

In 'Portrait of Sky and the Outer Hebrides,' W. Douglas Simpson has crammed a lot of interesting facts into less than 200 pages. The result is a very broad picture; an occasional vignette here and there; and a reader left with a desire to seek further information about Sky and the Outer Hebrides. Anyone who has attempted to paint a broad-brush picture of this area will realise the great difficulties which present themselves. For the islands have enough material associated with them to fill a library. But Dr Simpson has done a good job, a skillful job of painting his portrait. The ideas of the artist are well developed in the descriptions of archaeology, geology and history. Perhaps one might query his picture of the islanders and their characteristics. Rather sweeping statements tend to mar the book on intemperance, indolence. Dr Simpson's descriptions would have been better left out of his portrait. For even the subject of intemperance alone requires more explanation than a couple of paragraphs. This is not to say that intemperance does not exist, but to ask for the subject to be treated either fully or not at all.

To anyone familiar with writings on the Hebrides, much of Dr Simpson's book will be repetitive in what has been said before. But as mentioned, there are often these small valuable glimpses of personal experience which make the book worth reading. The approach to the subject is at once scholarly and sympathetic. Dr Simpson shows an optimism about the future of the islands which makes a valid point that Scotland owes much more than she has often been willing to admit to the Gael.

C'MITE

Chan sin a' cluinninn am bi an a' factaraidh alantinn air a' Ghaidhealtachd ach tha duine no dha air a' radha gun cus dochas a' bh' againn. Tha e coltach u' bhèil lan dhuill ag truingean Angleser gun ann aca fein a' bhios i.

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.

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

Lesson 11

In Gaelic, changes sometimes occur in article, noun or adjective in the genitive (possessive) and dative cases.

This article and noun remain unchanged in:

An duine leabhar an duine leis an duine

Doonyeh l'yoar in doonyeh laish in doonyeh

The man he man's book with the man or belonging to but change in:

Am balach sinn a' bhalaich leis

Am balach a' bhalach a' chailleg leis

Im balach enyem ul vallich laish ul vallich ul challek

The boy the boy's name with the boy the girl

dreas na caileig(e) leis a' chailleg dreas nuh kallick laish ul challek

the girl d'ress with the girl

Faclan u'ra athair mathair brathair piuthar

mac nighean

al-her math-h' brah-h'ir pew-h'ir

mackh knee-un

Father mother brother sister

son daughter

Alb Sasainn Gall Gaidheal

A' Ghaidhealtachd a' Gaidheal

Allaba Sassin Gowl Gale

Galeatach

Scotland England Lowlands High-lander (Gael) The Highlands

THE STRUCTURAL PARTS OF A HIGHLAND HOUSE (2)

ROOF

upper—tobhan ard

lower—maide-feannaig or iochdrach (colloq. iorach)

ridge—dronn; drum

beam—maide-droma; cabar—droma

common rafter—cabar

ridge finial — (plural cabair)

hinge—bann; udagan

WINDOW—uinneag

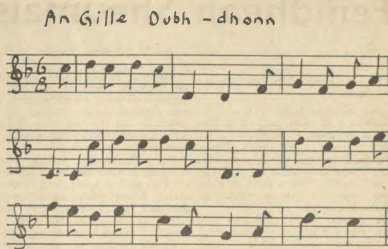
jamb—taobh-thaic

lintel—ard-uinneag

sill (outside)—clach na h-uinneige

(From "Thatched Houses," by Colin Sinclair, Oliver & Boyd, 10/6)

3. — Songs of the Gael



Gur h-e mo ghille dubh-dhonn,
Gur tu mo chullean runach,
Gur h-e mo ghille dubh-dhonn.

'S e 'na dh'fhalbh air bhat' an t-sil,
Is tha mi fhin ag ionndrainn.

Och nan och mar tha mi 'nochd,
Trom-onaich 's mi 'gad ionndrainn.

A Dhomhnaill dhuinm, na rinn thu m'fhagail,
Fios mo chraidh g'ad ionnsaidh.

Chuala mi gun d'rinn thu posadh,
A Dhomhnaill, ann an Iubhraidh.

Mc cheist oigear donn na Beurla,
'S aotrom ceum an fhuairin.

B'fhearr leam fhin bh' mar riut posda,
Na cuid oir 'a' phrionnsa.

B'fhearr leam do dhreach 's do phearsa,
Na Sasunn le na h-ionntas.

Mo cheist fear e t-siubhal aotrom,
'S aotrom ceum an fhuairin.

('Deoch-slaime nan Gillean', bho Colm O Lochlann)

PILLICHEAN SEASGAICH

Cha bh' i sean an ugh calannan ma theid le comhairle b'ale Birmingham. Tha id a dol a chuir pillichean seasgach am measg an t-sil agus tha id a smaoinichadh gun th na cal-mair, e. Thubhairt fear gairme Comhairle Slaime a bhaile mach riud doane a tuig-sinn cho cunnartach sa bha an culman le bu bha e sgapadh de thinneas am measg air t-sil. 'S fhearr dh'abh an sire thoirt-chail fhios de na tinnsean neonach a dh' fhadhaidh t'iphina oimn na ghabhas an culman so da-rirebh. 'S docha gun faigh thu pille na do th'ha de na laith-ean 's bi thu cho seag ri bu roadh na segeiran buidhe! De a thachras dhuit ma dh'ithas thu fear de na calannan?

Do you know?

1. What is the important vowel rule of Gaelic?
2. Where was Dr Norman MacLeod, the renowned Scottish Divine born?
3. What does the name "ANN" mean?
4. Give three Gaelic words for "local."
5. Co b' ughdar do 'n toran "Fhill faili ho ro'?"
6. Ma thubhairt mise, "Tha rud a dh'ith an tsaidin ort" 'de bhios mi a' ciallachadh?

Answers

1. Broad to broad and slender to slender.
2. At Campbelltown, Argyllshire, on June 3rd, 1812.
3. Gaelic Anna. It is from Hebrew and means GRACE.
4. Duthchail, Sgìreil, Ionadail.
5. Mgr Murchadh MacPharlain, Bard Mhealabois' (Leodhas).
6. Gu bhèil rud-eigin a dh'ith ort; gu h-raid thabgach tuirt.

CIDHE NO CROCHADH?

Dh'fhuil Roinn an Shearainn san Iasgach cuideachadh airgid a thoirt do Chomhairle sìorrachd A'Archie airson cidhe strom nis a chreachd. Tha spoid Tigh Mòr Chill Ribhinn Lag cumid a mach neach iasgach; gearr leach a mach a phoar. Tha a chomhairle is gach comhairle eile an A'Archie a dol a chasad ri Mgr. Uilleam Ros-Runnair na Sìlte nniar a thadh-alas e an A'Archie leiraidh a mhios. Chunnac sinn an aon phaispeir naidheachd gu robh te de bhàil na sìorrachd ag iarraidh an Runnair a chrochadh.

Rainn le Dombhann R. Moireasdan

Thug am has thu chum na h-urach
Och a snairt fo m' d'ruichdan;
Och a ghraidh! mar tha mi 'gad ionndrainn
'S cianail mi an tus a' bhrona so.

Bhdh mi 'g' aisling anns an oidheh' ort
faincinn far u' laigh, thu m'haighdinn;
'S nniann leam aithris no bh' seinn ort
gu robh m' aire raor iad chomhdhail.

Gu robh m' air' ort far is tric i
's tu air 'do charadh anns a' chridh;
Tha mo snaintean ort an triobhlaid
's thusa far chann rug m' beo ort.

Tha cuimh' agad 'nuair a bha sinn
an a' cuideachd a' cheil' ri mannan;
Ach mo chreach' gun d' dhuin na sgaillean
thinnaig sgaraid a bh'ann na d' choir-sa.

Bidh mi an dealbh fhad's is dual dhomh
a bhich cuimhneachadh gach uair ort;
Soraidd i' ghaol leat, Soraidd bhuamsa-
Soraidd slan gu d' u'agh le dooin riut.

Och nan och' och mar a tha mi
Tha mi trom fo sproe air m' fhasgadh
Och na och, och mar a tha mi
Nach bochd mar a chail m' ghraidh mo choir ort.

CAMANACHD DRAWS

At a Camanachd Association meeting on Friday, 15th September, in Fort William, the Council made the following draws:—

CAMANACHD CUP

North

Beaulu v. Kingussie—W. Macintosh
Glenurquhart v. Caberfeidh—
J. Chisholm
Inverness v. Newtonmore —
E. Campbell
Kilmallie v. Lovat—W. Batchen
To be played on 17th February.
Lovat or Kilmallie v. Beaulu or
Kingussie—W. Batchen
Caberfeidh or Glenurquhart v. In-
verness or Newtonmore — J.
Chisholm.
Both on 16th March.

West—Round 1

Bye—Oban Celtic, Inverary
Kyles Athletic v. Oban Lorn —
W. Blake
Oban Camanachd v. Strachur —
L. Forgiveve
To be played on 27th January.

Round 2

Kyles Athletic or Oban Lorn v.
Oban Celtic — W. Blake
Inverary v. Oban Camanachd or
Strachur — E. Cooper
To be played on 17th February.

Round 3

Kyles or Oban Lorn or Oban Celtic
v. Inverary or Oban Camanachd
or Strachur — G. Slater

South — Round 1

Bye—Mid Argyll
Bute v. Glasgow Inverness —
C. Paterson
Glasgow Police v. Edinburgh Uni-
versity — Dr Murchison
Glasgow University v. Kelvin —
Wm. Turner
To be played on 27th January.

Round 2

Glasgow Police or Edinburgh U. v.
Mid Argyll — Dr Murchison
Bute or Glasgow Inverness v. Glas-
gow U. or Kelvin—A. Chalmers
To be played on 17th February.

Round 3

Glasgow Police or Edinburgh U. or
Mid Argyll v. Bute or Glasgow
Inverness or Glasgow U. or
Kelvin — J. M. Asher
To be played on 16th March.

SUTHERLAND CUP

Section 1 — Round 1

Lochcarron v. Lovat
Inverness v. Glenurquhart
Strathglass v. Kinlochsheil
Caberfeidh v. Beaulu

Round 2

Caberfeidh or Beuly v. Strathglass
or Kinlochsheil
Lovat or Lochcarron v. Inverness or
Glenurquhart

Round 3

Caberfeidh or Beuly or Strathglass
or Kinlochsheil v. Lovat or
Lochcarron or Inverness or
Glenurquhart

Section 2 — Round 1

Kingussie v. Fort Augustus
Aberdeen University v. Kilmallie
Caol v. Newtonmore
Ft. William v. Lochaber Camanachd

Round 2

Caol or Newtonmore v. Aberdeen
University or Kilmallie
Kingussie or Fort Augustus v. Fort
William or Lochaber Caman.

Round 3

Caol or Newtonmore or Aberdeen
U. or Kilmallie v. Kingussie or
Ft. Augustus or Ft. William or
Lochaber Camanachd.

GRAMPIAN CUP

It was decided that this competi-
tion between representative teams
from the four districts should be
played if possible at Fort William
on the 1st June 1968. At 2.30 p.m.
the North team would play the
West, and at 4 p.m. the South
district would play the Central (the
holders drawn from teams in Bad-
enoch and Lochaber).

Suil Air Caraichean

VANDEN PLAS PRINCESS 1100

Ged a tha am Princess
1100 air aireamh a measg
fear de na carabadan beaga
tha e gu dearbh mór agus
farsuinn air an taobh a
staigh.

Tha co-fhurtachd gu leor
ann agus shaoileadh duine
gur ann an carbadan na
bu daoire a bha e. Tha
na suidheachain air an com-
hadh le seiche bhreagha
agus gabhaidh na feadhainn
aghaidh am putadh air n' ais
agus air n' aghart a' reir de
cho fada 'sa tha na casan.

Tha an carabad seo euid-
headh math ann an sneachd
no air deigh oir is iad na
rothan aghaidh a tha putadh,
agus dh'fheumadh an sneachd
a bhi gu dearbh domhain na
bha e dol a chumail a chara-
bad seo air n' ais.

Tha aite air son trealach
gu leor ann an cùl a charabad
oir tha am "boot" mór, fars-
suinn agus sàbhailte Gab-
haidh an doras glasadh air-
son nach faigh meirleach air
an t-saoghal a' stiù ann.

"Se ceithir" cylinders" a
tha de phutadh san einnsin
1,098 c.c.

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throughout the North will be in-
creased if the Traffic Commis-
sioners accept an application by
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sound deadening, fold-out picnic
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