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SCOTLAND'S BI-LINGUAL NEWSPAPER

## Na Cananan Beaga

Mar a tha an saoghal ag aonadh  
tha barrachd rioghadh ag gabhail  
uallach mun carnan dheidh-  
chasanach, tha eagal orra ma thig  
rioghadhan an Roinn Eorpa  
comha gur e Beurla Frangais is  
Gearmailt na cananan a thig an  
uachdar.

Bha coineamh ann an Oslo  
air an t-seachdainn a chaidh aig  
an robh riochdairean dho 14 uc  
na canan bheaga — E.C.O.L.M.,  
European Conference of Lingual  
Minorities. So a cheud uair a  
chumadh a leithid. Bha Prof.  
Richards, is Dr I. Peate ann as a  
Chuimrigh, Domhnall Iain Mac-  
Aidh, Festr Stiùiridh a Chomun  
a Alba is an Col. Eoghain O'  
Neill a Eirinn a bha air ceann  
saighdearan na rioghadhan Aon-  
aichte sa Chongò 'sa a tha nis na  
Fhear Stiùiridh air obair Comh-  
choiste na Gàidhlig am Baile Ath  
Chliath.

Chualas creint na Faroe na  
Frìsian, na Breatainn Bhig, nan  
Catalan, nan Sama (Lapp), Mac-  
donian, Nyorsk, Suainich a Fin-  
land, muinntir Ghrihalnd agus  
iomadh canan eile.

Dr' fhoghladh a choinneamh le  
Mgr. Kjell Bondevik, Prìomhairle  
is Ministear an Fhoghlum 's nan  
Eaglais an Nirribhidh. Thubhairt  
e ann an dòighean a bha aig na  
cananan beaga co-inbhe fhaighna  
ri canan a mhòr shluaigh, gum  
feumadh na coirichean sin a  
chomhlionadh agus urrain a thoirt  
dhaibh.

Mun robh a choinneamh seachd  
bha e gle fhollaiseach gu robh  
Gaidhlig Alba air te de na canan  
air nach robhar a dèidh coirichean  
sam bith ach cothrom a l-  
ionnsachadh 'na sgòiltear. Bha  
so air leth tamarltaich nuair a  
chualar na bha muinntir na Cuim-

righ air fhaighinn mar tha, is a  
dol a da' fhaighinn nuair a  
gheibh Cuimrigh co-inbhe ri  
Beurla. 'Se da chanan eile a bha  
fhaighinn droch ceartas na bu  
mhoosa-Catalan agus Breton-agus  
chaneil iad sin a fhaighinn aithneachadh  
sam bith. Bha e na  
chairs toghnaidh cho mòr 'se bha  
cuid a fhaighinn de chuddeachadh  
a thaobh airgid airson canan a  
chuir air adhart, airson gnothui-  
chean dualchais 's clo-bhuailadh. Tha  
Nirribhidh feinn a toirt  
£25,000 sa bhliadhna airson leath-  
rìchean an Nyorsk is Lapp,  
rioghadhan eile mìltean not is  
mar tha fhios againn tha na  
Cuimrigh a fhaighinn £7,000 sa  
bhliadhna. Chaneil gin de na riog-  
hadhan, ged a tha an slugh nas  
lugh a airteamh na slugh  
Bhreatainn, a gearran gum feinn  
iad riaghaltean, nasanan, cuirtean  
is gach gnothui cheit a dèan-  
amh ann a dhu, no trì, ri ehnain.  
Cumaidh iad a mch nacheil  
daoine co-ionann ma tha eadar  
dhealachadh sam bith air a  
dheanamh nach toir dhaibh na h-  
aon cheithrom an an cle-  
udh canain, an obair, an ratha-  
id, no an ni sam bith a thig a  
mhòr shluaigh a fhaighinn. So far  
an fàic thu, o na rioghadhan a  
tha na "democracies" chearta.

So run E.C.O.L.M. 1967 a  
chaidh a chur gu na rioghadhan  
Aonachta (U.N.) agus gu gach  
rioghadh san Roinn Eorpa 'om  
l'heil slugh a bhineas don riog-  
hadh sin a tha cleachdadh an  
canan feinn.

The E.C.O.L.M. 67 welcomes  
the statement of the Acting Prime  
Minister of Norway, Mr Kjell  
Bondevik, at the opening of this  
(Continued at foot of next column)



At Horgabost, Harris. This part of the west coast of Harris has been proposed as a tourist development area—for a carefully-sited caravan facility supervised by a warden. Good sea-angling is available off the shore; bonito, tuna, porbeagle and shark. There are eight crofts at Horgabost, each with about 4½ acres of machair, which is used for sheep-grazing. The average age of the present crofters at Horgabost is 47 years — the youngest in Harris. The solum is at present 24 cattle and 264 sheep; the stock is 36 cattle and 420 sheep.

(Photo by Angus MacArthur, Stornoway)

## HIGHLAND BOARD — ROLE IN DOUBT

At a time when the Highlands and Highlands Development Board is recovering from the turbulent months of its birth, it has been dealt a blow from an unexpected

(Continued from previous column)  
conference: "... lingual minorities must have their legal rights, they must have their rights implemented, they must be respected."

The conference recognises the similarity between the problems affecting lingual minorities in different countries and those affecting the languages of small states in a rapidly integrating Europe.

It is the right of all these languages to be protected and actively helped by European organisations and governments to promote their survival and development as living languages and as integrated parts of our common heritage.

The conference agrees on the necessity for a permanent organisation for the collection and distribution of information on problems affecting small European language groups. This should include not merely information concerning the statistics, status, literature and development of these languages, but also the results of special research into sociological, psychological, and economic factors affecting lingual minorities.

source. Dr J. Dickson Mabon, Minister of State for Scotland, has told the Board, in effect, that it must keep its hands off major enterprises and leave them to Government Departments. In a written reply to Mr Russell Johnston, Liberal M.P. for Inverness-shire Dr Mabon indicates what he really meant—

"I gather from the Press this morning that you are going to seek clarification of the remarks attributed to me when I addressed the International Summer School discussing economic aspects of world stability at Edinburgh University yesterday morning.

"For your information, I enclose a copy of the speech I delivered. I hope that this will be of interest. I imagine, however, that you are primarily interested in the discussion during Question Time when I was asked for my views on the role of the Highlands and Islands Development Board in promoting large-scale industry. I enclose Press cuttings from the Scotsman and the Daily Mail of to-day's date, and these include verbatim reports of what I said. You will see from them that there is no question of there having been any change in the Government's view about the role of the Highlands and Islands Development Board. We are all convinced of its vital importance

for the development of the Highlands, and what I said yesterday is fully in line with previous statements by the Secretary of State.

"In view of the Press interest both in my statements and your wish to seek clarification, I am releasing this letter to them tonight."

But a question mark now hangs over the Board's role in the Highland area. That the matter is serious is underlined by a statement issued by the General Council of the Scottish Liberal Party, which met in Inverness last week-end. The Council say that if the Board is to accomplish the economic regeneration of the Highlands its remit must include, not only the promotion of small industrial concerns, vital in many areas in the west, but also the encouragement of major growth areas. The Council said it was significant that Dr Mabon has overall responsibility for Highland affairs.

### Labour Concern

Mr Allan Campbell MacLean, author and Labour candidate for Inverness-shire at the Last General Election, and who is also a member of the Party's Scottish Executive, has promoted a resolution saying that if the Board is not given the powers to involve itself in multi-million pound projects, it will be reduced to the level of a "minor charitable concern."

(Continued on Page Twelve)

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## BIRTH

**MACINTOSH**—At Mayday Hospital, Croydun, Surrey, on the 26th August 1967, to Sandy and Rita (née King), 48 Wentworth Road, Croydun—son. (Both well).

## MARRIAGE

**MILROY—MACKENZIE**—At Dalmluir Parish Church on 11th August 1967, by the Rev. Peter Donohue, Alexander James Milroy, B.Sc., son of Mr and Mrs Alexander T. Milroy, Craigleith, Cardross, to Milroy Mackenzie, C.S.M., elder, daughter of Mr and Mrs Murdo Mackenzie, 29 Graham Avenue, Radnor Park, Clydebank.

## DEATHS

**MACLEOD**—Suddenly, at the Southern General Hospital, on 16th August 1967, Malcolm Macleod, beloved husband of Catherine Macleod, 17 Kirkwood Street, Glasgow, and formerly of Knock, Clackway, Lewis.

**CADELL**—At Craig Dunlop Hospital, Inveross, on the 20th August 1967, Margaret Dalziel MacKay, aged 82 years, beloved wife of the late James Caddell. Funeral private.

**MACKENZIE**—Passed away very suddenly at Leurbost, Lochs, John Mackenzie, 4 Cameron Terrace, and formerly of Westend, Calshot, aged 63 years. Very sorely missed. (Canadian and U.S.A. papers please copy).

## Text for the Times

Ach na nì a thuit 's an talamh mhaith is iad sin iadsan, air dhoibh an foca eiseachadh, a' bheith a' chomhead ann cridhe treibh-dheireach agus maith, agus a' toirt turais uatha le foighidinn.

Lucas C. 8, r. 15

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Luke Ch. 8, v. 15.

## BAHA' FAITH

## Oneness of Religion

Know thou assuredly that the essence of all the Prophets of God is one and the same. Their unity is absolute. God, the Creator, saith: there is no distinction whatsoever among the Bearers of My Message. The measure of the revelation of the Prophets of God in this world, however, must differ. Each and every one of them hath been the Bearer of a distinct Message, and hath been commissioned to reveal Himself through specific acts. It is for this reason that they appear to vary in their greatness. From the writings of Baha'ullah, the Prophet of God for this age.

## AONADH NAM FEACHDAN POILIS

Thuit Comhairle Phoilis Ar-bhòid, a' fhoillseachadh gur robh iad dìomach gun bhrìgh ann (feachd phoilis ann an Arcaibh air a' h-aonadh air an fheadhainn ann an Callaibh agus Sealltainn ann an feachd phoilis). Th'ann nam ri an cainnteach Feachd Phoilis an Taobh Tuath.

Thuit Mgr. Douglas Wood, Cleirich na Siarachaidh, an dèidh iad dìomach seo a' dèanamh fhad 's a' chumhadh na siarachaidh eile ris an seim. Nam bithheadh na siarachaidh eile ag iarraidh aith bharachadh sam bith a' dèanamh anns an seim dh' fheadhaidh Siarachaidh Arcaibh comhead ann a' stigh anns a' ghnothach. Tha dèidh na siarachaidh eile an dèidh na haith bhith fhadann ri atharrachadh a' dèanamh anns an doigh anns am bi na siarachaidh air a' Chomhairle Phoilis air.

## Trade-Beads for Totems

A Scottish television critic recently condemned the "parish-pump conservatism" by which was meant the assumption that what is of interest to the Home Counties must be of overwhelming interest to everyone else. It is a just criticism of a state of mind which causes those who are afflicted by it to yell "parochialism" whenever anything is mentioned which is unfamiliar or outlandish to their way of thinking.

The idea that what is good for Wiltshire is more than good for

(By WILLIAM NEILL)

Ploekton is an attitude which goads the honest Scot into frustrated rage. A still greater, and more exasperating, evil is that many Scots accept this viewpoint without protest. Indeed, many seem almost to be proud of it.

The general result of this attitude is that Scots children are given an education which is divorced from their own historical and social background. Dunbar, it is assumed, is of less value than Chaucer.

There can be little doubt that, in the present, the ordinary Scot had a better chance of education than his English counterpart. Most Scottish educational institutions were democratic to a degree. We had four universities catering for all Scots when England had only two, which reserved their function to the privileged classes. It is only in the present century that there have been murmurs that Scottish education is less satisfactory than that to be obtained in England.

The reason is obvious, for it can be assumed that English-type education will be meted out to English children better by Englishmen, than an English-type education for Scottish children against the tradition of the country. The process continues, nevertheless, and the Scots, with the assistance of a southward-looking body within their own nation, continue to be given the trade-beads of anglicisation in exchange for the valuable totems of national self-respect and integrity.

One result of the tragic assumption that only English attitudes are of value is that, in an island once totally populated by Celtic and Gaelic peoples and in which "P" and "Q" Celtic are still spoken as everyday languages, these ancient cultures have become a subject for journalistic and political writing rather than a matter for serious study by the children to whom they are relevant.

The lack of knowledge on the Celt and his background, demonstrated by those who write for the mass media, has become an often appalling, quite apart from the fact that such people are incapable of understanding a word of either language. In a quality London newspaper a few months back, an article appeared in which the writer pool-pooed the suggestion that the construction of Stonehenge might have an astronomical purpose as well as a religious one.

His attitude seemed to be that the wood-carved Celts could not have done such a thing. One had, presumably, to await the arrival of his own horny-hatted ancestors, well noted for their admiration of things of the kind. He had no doubt, taken the Roman view of the British Celt, without making allowances for the fact that the Romans, who were hailed by a non-Roman populace which demonstrated a military astuteness at least equal to their own, by remaining, in part, unconquered.

Nor would he know one assumes, that besides painting themselves with the alleged wood, the Celts were producing complicated designs of great beauty in an art when most of the other nations

in Europe were in an abyss of ignorance.

We are told that it is better for our children to learn "British" history in preference to Scottish. I would have no objection to this provided it was the truth of the matter, but, unfortunately, it is not. If children were to be given the chance to study English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish history, and the interaction of these on each other, this would be "British" history. But this is not the case. Ask any Scottish child if he knows who Owen Glyndwr was. It is unlikely that he will be able to tell you, although he will probably know all about Francis Drake.

Welsh Glyndwr is just as relevant to "British" history as the English Drake. Whereas Scottish children are, in fact, obliged to learn English history disguised as "British," the ignorance of even educated Englishmen on Scottish history remains evident, thus accounting for the view that the Scots were heathens before the Union. One "British" history used in Scottish schools describes William Wallace as a rebel against the authority of Edward the First.

One can hardly blame graduates when historians of repute make such statements as "the fifteenth century Scot was in the Lowlands, consciously Anglo-Saxon" in the teeth of evidence to the contrary, for any reader of Blin'd Harry's *Wallace*, must take the view that he did not consider himself as Saxon, nor indeed did Walter Kennedy, another "Lowlander."

You may think my condemnations are a little strong. If so, I suggest a trip to St Margaret's Chapel in Edinburgh Castle, where a plaque announces that civilisation only reached Scotland when Margaret came there from England. There is no thought apparently for Columba, Mungo, Ringan, and the host of other ecclesiastics who civilised not only Scotland, but large chunks of England and the Continent centuries before Margaret was born. Whilst a man may be laughed at if he pretends to be an expert on Greek mythology without knowing a word of Greek, the Scots apparently do not see the joke of experts in Scottish history and literature who know no Gaelic. Yet this is even more absurd than the Greek claimant.

Scottish schoolmasters may well find themselves pontificating at length on the word "snell" in Burns poetry, since they have studied German or Anglo-Saxon, and then be made to look ridiculous when asked by some eager scholar the origin of such words as "speuchan," "kebar,"

## HIPPIES THAL 'S A BHOIS



Cha robh fhios 'ann gur e Paisan nam Flurachain a' bhua ann an Mairsidh Dinnmachaidh Eòhan.

"ged" and "cranreuch," if they are incapable of understanding a word of what was the language of their own ancestors.

This severance of the Scots, through an increasingly anglicised educational system, is probably the main cause of Scotland's decline in status as a nation. The imposition on Scots of "southern parish-pumpery" is a one-way process which works to Scotland's spiritual detriment.

The solution, of course, is for Scots to do something about it; to insist that Scottish mass communication media are run by Scots who will cater for Scottish tastes and attitudes to a far greater degree than at present, and to insist that educators do their duty in catering for Scottish minds. It must be done now, of course, for if the present chipping away of the Scottish background continues, there will soon be no Scots left.

## September Stock

WESTERN AREA STUDY GROUP

*Braxy*—This disease of young sheep in good condition may occur as soon as frost starts, but is seen mainly from October to March. Affected sheep are usually found dead. Hoggs should be vaccinated against braxy now.

*Blackleg (Blackquarter)*—Is common on some farms, and may occur shortly after lambing, castration, docking or shearing. Symptoms are not defined, but the sheep dies within a day or two. Vaccination prevents blackleg and can be done now. A multiple vaccine against braxy, blackleg and pulpy kidney disease may be used.

*Black Disease*—Vaccinate ewes and gimmers this month. Gimmers should have had their first dose in early August—six weeks before the September vaccination.

A 7 in 1 multiple vaccine protects against seven diseases, including those mentioned. Your veterinary surgeon will advise whether this should be used. The first inoculation with this vaccine should be given now.

*Louping Ill (tremlings)*—Is caused by a germ spread by ticks. Though it occurs mainly in Spring, this disease causes losses in hogs in the autumn on many farms. On these farms home wintering hogs should be vaccinated in September and again in March. It may be worthwhile to get a definite diagnosis of this disease. Multiple vaccines do not protect sheep against louping ill.

*Fluke and Worms*—Hogs get fluke away for wintering will get full benefit if they are dosed for liver fluke and worms now.

## CATTLE

*Brucellosis*—Farmers using the Free Calf Vaccination Service should remember that their calves must be vaccinated between three and six months of age. March calves should be vaccinated now before they are too old.

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# Life In Canada —

by NORMAN MACDONALD

# COMUNN NA CLARSACH

Canada has held a strong fascination for me ever since I attended primary school in my native Isle. ("One of my first essays had as its subject — "An Imaginary Trip Down the St Lawrence River.") A fascination which grew in intensity as I grew up, until ultimately, I completely succumbed to the lure of the far west and one golden day, I found myself standing on one of the Montreal great piers, the threshold of the wonderful land which was to be my home for nine happy years.

Although I did not know a soul among the multitude which swarmed around me, I did not feel homesick.

Wherever I looked, above or around, I beheld a new heaven and a new earth, so, as yet, I was far too excited to yearn for the homeland. The date was Saturday the 8th of November, 1930.

Instead of the cloud laden, overcast November skies, with the characteristic drizzle of rain which I left behind and which is so much a feature of that time of year in Britain, the brilliant sun shone from cloudless blue heavens on the vast sky-scraper city, and its suburbs as far as the eye could travel across river, were basking in the splendour of an Indian summer. Those ideal weather conditions lasted until the snow came in mid December.

I did not stay more than ten days in Montreal. Before leaving Scotland, an appointment for the winter was offered to me at a town called Lake Megantic, in the Eastern Townships of Quebec Province.

The Eastern Townships (Gaelic An Talamh Fuar) comprise some six large settlements of Gaelic speaking Highlanders, mainly of Lewis extraction, although there is a small minority of Harris and Uist people. The same communities are situated right in the heart of the Province.

The railway from Montreal to Saint John, New Brunswick, skirts the whole territory, so, getting to or from the Eastern Townships, to any other part of Canada or the United States, is no problem. From the verandah of my lodgings, I could see the blue hills of the American state of Maine, on the eastern horizon.

There, as a rule, snow and frost commence earlier than in Montreal and come to stay in the end of November.

The Canadian winters are extremely cold, but it is a dry cold, which never makes one shiver, and provided one is appropriately dressed in fur coat, cap and felt over-boots, a person does not feel it too much.

There, my services were mainly conducted in Gaelic, especially in the Marsboro part of the wide parish, which is farming country.

Preaching in peripheral stations, some eight to ten miles distant, took me out in the worst blizzards when one could not see his own hand held up before his eyes, and the horse

which pulled the sleigh, at times sinking in snow-wreaths almost to its backbone. This happened not in Quebec, but in my first charge in Western Ontario. I discovered that in Canada the further west one went, the colder the winter became.

In such Arctic conditions it is prudent to give the wise animal free rain and let it choose its own way home, which it never fails to do.

Arriving at my destination, eyebrows hung with icicles, and the tears which the sub-zero cold brought forth copiously from the eyes, were frozen cataracts on my cheeks. When driving for an hour in such weather, the severe frost affects one as if a thousand needles were penetrating the skin and it invariably took half to three quarters of an hour for me to thaw out beside a powerful furnace or stove. Through it all, as I have already indicated, I never once shivered.

An exposed part of the face can readily freeze without one ever knowing it. The symptoms, however, are easy to detect, the affected area becomes white like wax. The remedy for defrosting is simple, you take two clumps of frozen snow and sandwich the frost bitten part, ear or nose, as the case may be, in between and leave it like that for fifteen to twenty minutes, when circulation commences and the organ is restored to normal. On no account must ear or nose be vigorously handled as there is a danger of it breaking off in the process.

On the north western prairies frost and snow storms are still more severe than they are in central Ontario. In a raging snow blizzard people could soon lose the way between their homes, barns and byres, nearby, so guiding ropes are fixed which lead from the various doors of outhouses to their residences.

In the olden days, I have heard that travellers caught in such adverse circumstances, far from home were forced to take recourse to the desperate expedient of killing, disembowelling their horses, and taking shelter in the animal's warm carcass to save their lives. I was told that in a few places, mourners attending a funeral, could not wait long enough at the open grave, for it to be filled in. Standing still for the requisite space of time, they would run the risk of being frozen to death.

With the coming of the new season, the whole population, men and women of all ages get their skates out and pass the nights skirting to music on spacious ice rinks.

Notwithstanding the extreme rigours of a Canadian winter, it is very healthy. It was the only time of the year when I could eat my food with relish and put on weight, alas, to lose it too readily in the overpowering Summer heat which kept me in a perpetual bath of sweat day and night and yielded

havoc with my normal digestion and appetite. Once June arrived, I could thrive well, all day long, on one meal, my breakfast.

The advent of Spring is considerably retarded by the lingering iron grip of the preceding months, but at last the heat of mid April loosens winter's grim sway over earth and river. The frost, penetrating the land for many feet, takes two to three weeks to thaw out completely, leaving the ground everywhere a sea of mud. During the interval, cars, of course, are useless, only a horse and buggy can be used for travelling and even this vehicle sinks axel deep in mire and slush.

In a few days, the strengthening sun dries up every place, liquid earth becomes terra firma again, and four to six months of incessant Arctic weather, are forgotten. Trees, everywhere, almost overnight (for once it comes in earnest Spring acts suddenly and does not waste a minute) break out into foliage.

How hard it was to realize that only a few weeks earlier, the benighted wayfarer, passing by a forest flanked by highways, listened all the way to the most too cheerful cacophony of Jack Frost splintering millions of trees in branch and trunk. A discordant noise which rather reminds of that of the explosive reports of fireworks, grating on his ears from all directions.

Just as the cuckoo, in popular fancy, must ever remain Britain's harbinger of Spring, so will the robin be regarded in Canada, and, like the cuckoo, this is a migratory bird, but its sojourn in the summer-land lasts longer and usually extends from March until October.

Although designated robin, on account of its full red breast, the latter really belongs to the thrush family. In size, the Canadian robin is larger than its British cousin, and its notes, though different, are equally musical.

The dawn chorus of robins, once heard, can never be forgotten. Like that of the thrush, the robin's song has a delightful variety of notes, and like the thrush, he repeats them for hours on end.

It has often been my happy experience while staying in farmhouses in sylvan surroundings, to have been awakened at daybreak by countless thousands of these and other songsters until the mighty forest rang with such melody and harmony as excelled in sublime artistry anything that man-designed instrument, no matter how numerous or well tuned, could render.

Each farm has its grove of majestic maple trees. In the month of February, while the snow is still on the ground, every one of these trees is tapped, a spout inserted and the crystalline juice collected in large pails, which when full are poured into huge tanks where the liquid is boiled until it becomes thick and changes

colour to amber brown. An excellent tonic, this delicious Canadian maple syrup they serve in glass dishes at all meals through Spring and early Summer until the new fruit takes its place.

Canada is rightly famed for its endless variety of fruit, a new fruit each month, berries of every size and colour. Grapes and apples are so plentiful that one can only make use of a mere tiny fraction.

Many homes are surrounded by apple trees, which after years of growth, eventually soar above them and when in September and October the apples fall ripe and blood red on the building, you would vow that a man with a wooden leg was dancing on top of the roof, as we well known Canadian author humorously puts it

(To be continued)

## Na Geimichean

Thug e toileachadh dhuan uile gur e Uilleam Donnhalach Beinn na Faogha a thug leis am bonn air aig Crinnachaidh mor Earra Ghaidheil, san Oban. Se nua a thann an Uilleam an Crainn Ghaidheil an Inbhirnis.

Chluich e Moladh Mairi's thubhairt na briathrean gu robh am port anabrach fonn-bhòidheach air leth math. Choisinn Uilleam am bonn air an Inbhir Nis cho chionn da bhliadhna 'S e Donnhalach Bain a' dhan eadh an t-thair an dara duais is Seoras Lumsdon Polais Dhun Eideann an tras duais.

Thog E a' hann MacFàidrean a Pheighinn a Ghaidheil a Muile an sinneis airgid ann an ceist-le Dhubhrheagan aig farpais phoibearaidh air eumhine Mhic Cromain an choisinn Iain MacFàidrean a' dhan an dara duais. Gu dearbh tha Dame Floraich Nicleoid ri moladh as gluasaid Mhic Cruinein 'si thein na neart aig a' chur a' dhan eadh an t-thair an dara duais.

Cha mhòr pàipeir seachdain a thogas thu faid an t-samhradh nach fhaic thu duilleag lan d'heabh de mhuintir nan geimichean a' dhan eadh an t-thair an dara duais. Tha thu nad dhùinn usal nad shuil thein san sùileach chlach. Sann a' dhan fàrmad aig na Gollidh.

The stand is usually full of sophisticated painted, ungainly women with their husbands masquerading in their kilts and plaids, their young sons home on vacation from schools in England replete with impeccable non-Scottish accents and kilts and sheep-herds croak twice their own size.

Ma theid thu gu geimichean nan eilean is Ghleann Ghuighuinn cluinnidh thu Ghaidheil air gach taobh an t-saig leig thu a' dhan pheileadh. Tha thu nad dhùinn usal nad shuil thein san sùileach chlach. Sann a' dhan fàrmad aig na Gollidh.

## FEAR A FHU' AIR AM PRÌOSAN AIRSON NACH FHAGADH E AN TIGHE AIG E

Chaidh Nana Sita, Innsenach a tha a' fuireach ann an Afraca a dhan a' chur dha an phrìosan airson nach fhagadh e an tigh ann a bheil e an deaghadh bhith fuirach airson 37 bliadhna.

Tha an t-àite anns a bheil e fuirtech a nis air a chumail air leth airson daoine geala.

The Annual Report of the Clarsach Society for the year ended 1967 reveals a membership of 430, of whom 138 are clarsach-playing members.

This report confirms the growing popularity of the clarsach, since the Society was founded in 1931. It has been a long uphill fight to gain recognition for the instrument. Now are being seen the results of this struggle when the clarsach is accepted as a national instrument of Scotland and in frequent demand for all kinds of social functions.

The Report reveals that the members of the Society are not merely content to pay an annual subscription. More than that, they work hard to increase the knowledge and use of the instrument of their choice. The result is that the clarsach is known abroad in New Zealand, Holland, France, South Africa.

The Music Committee has this year seen the completion of Four Folios of Clarsach music, giving in all fifty separate items. Each is priced and is available from the Secretary. Mention is made in the report of a grant of £100 made to the Society by the Arts Council of Great Britain for the purchase of two instruments.

Details of the Society can be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Florence Wilson, 30 Dirlon North Berwick, East Lothian.

## Unemployment In Scotland

The number of wholly unemployed persons (excluding school leavers) registered with Exchanges and Youth Employment Offices in Scotland on August 14, 1967, was 78,464 (56,728 men, 21,736 women and 14,527 girls). Seasonally adjusted, the figure was about 86,900 or 4.0 per cent. of the estimated number of employees. Four weeks previous to July 10, 1967 the percentage was 3.8 and in August, 1966 it was 2.7.

The number of registered unemployed leavers on August 14, 1967 was 3,182.

The number of temporarily stopped workers registered on August 14 was 2,469 (1,340 men, 51 boys, 1,025 women and 53 girls). This was 66 more than on July 10.

The total number of persons registered as unemployed on August 14 was 84,115 (83,068 men, 4,490 women and 557 boys) and of the estimated total of employees, 10,767,274 girls) or 3.3 per cent. of the estimated total of employees. On August 10 the percentage was 3.7 and on August 14, 1967 it was 3.7.

The number wholly unemployed (excluding school leavers) increased in the five weeks between the July and August counts by 3,697, the seasonal adjustment figure increased by about 700. Over the last three months the actual figures increased by 1,200 and the seasonally adjusted figures increased by 950 or an average by about 2,500 per month.

The largest increases in unemployment since the July count occurred in Glasgow City (plus 1,322), Lanarkshire (plus 631), Renfrewshire (plus 521) and Fife and Kinross-shire (plus 327).

The percentage rates in the main industrial areas were:

Aberdeen — 2.0; Dundee/Broughty Ferry — 3.2; Edinburgh — 3.6; Glasgow — 3.6; Greenock/Port Glasgow — 4.6; North Lanarkshire — 5.5.

The percentage rate for Scotland as represented by the total number of persons unemployed was 3.8 and for Great Britain 2.4



SRUTH

DI-ARDAINN, 7mh AN T-SULTUIN 1967  
THURSDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER 1967

# Gaelic Society of Inverness

## Bas a Bhuird?

An uair a chaidh Bord Leasachaidh na Gaidhealtachd a steidheachadh an toiseach thuit fear as aithne dhomh gur e steidheachadh a' Bhuird a' cheud rud a thachair ann a' Ghaidhealtachd bh an nam Srudaidhean agus gur e seo a bu choinneach gu robh uibhidh a dh' eadhail nu dheidhinn. A nis tha e mar gum bitheadh an Riaghallas a' feuchainn ri thoirt a chreidsinn oirnn nach do thachair cail idir.

A dh' aindeoin na thuit an Dotair Dickson Mabon an latha roimhe chan eil teagmh nach do dh' athraich an Riaghallas an doigh ann a bheil iad a' coimhead air a' Bhorh. Ach dh' fhaodadh duine sam bith a thuigsinn de bha faineair dhaibh an uair a chuir iad dithis mar a tha Tomas Frisgal agus Sir Seumas MacAoidh air a' Bhorh. Chan eil na thuit an Dotair Dickson Mabon aich a' dearbhadh dhoinn gu robh sinn ceart amharus a bhith oirnn mu 'n ghnathach.

Cha bhi duine nas toilichte leis mar a tha cusiean a' dol na na h-uachdarain. Nach e Micheil Noble a thuit an uair a chaidh am Bord a chur air bonn an toiseach gur e 'Marxism' a bha ann a leithid a chumhachadh a thoirt do bhorh sam bith. Cha robh e air sin a' radh mur a' gabhail eagail air gum b' urrainn dha 'n Bhorh atharraichean mora a dheanamh na togradh an Riaghallas, atharraichean nach cordadh ris na h-uachdarain. Faoaidh iad a bhith toilichte a nis.

Mas ann a feitheamh leisgeul a bha Profasair Grievemun d' thoirheadh e duil thairis na bhrod a nis agad. Is a dhaintheoin cion faicill is mearachdan do da bhliadhna a chaidh seachad chaneil moran feadh na Gaidhealtachd aig nach bi co-fhaireachdadh ris fheadh is ri luchd obreach an ceart uair. Na a' chomhachadh a dol chaneil teagmh nach biad muinntir n eilean na b' fhearr fo riaghailth te de na rioghachdan Lochannach. Nacheil riaghailth air £40,000,000 a ghealltainn do Chrìnanlad an uair leasachadh ann an deich bliadhna. Tha an Dotair Mabon a' faicinn £1,000,000 mor an aon bhliadhna air a Ghaidhealtachd.

## "Of Making Many Books . . ."

It is doubtful whether there is another area in the world which has a literature so extensive as that of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. And in the matter of island literature, it would be true to say that only the Greek islands run neck and neck with the Hebrides. To bear witness to this literary activity, both past and present, the Scottish Committee of the National Book League, in association with the Highlands and Islands Development Board, have mounted a Highland Book Exhibition in Inverness, to end on Saturday, 16th September. These two bodies are to be congratulated in this effort to present the Highlands area to the public, to show the area as portrayed by the written word. But perhaps too much emphasis has been placed on books which are, generally, currently available. By far the most important books about the Highlands are those written some decades ago, and though some of the books exhibited do deal with some past-rooted Highland problems, they possess an inherent time factor which reduces their value. In a foreword to the exhibition catalogue, Professor Robert Grieve says: "Through books currently in print and other written material, an attempt has been made to cover every aspect of the life of this region—social, economic, and recreational. We can look back through the years to discover some of the sources of present-day conditions; and we can read about the Highlands to-day; and we can glimpse, through to-day's plans and recommendations, what the future can hold for this vast area of nine million acres."

Well, what of the future? A flourishing fishing industry based on the Minch? A flourishing exploitation of the peat resources in Lewis? A fully-integrated communications service provided to meet the social and economic needs of the Highlands? A picture of island repopulation on the lines of the island communities in Scandinavia? The widespread location of small flourishing industries acting as anchors to hold and maintain community populations?

Ah, well! If the exhibition had indicated even some of these things, the future would be bright indeed. Not that the impossible has been mentioned above. It's just that with the present climate surrounding Highland development it seems doubtful that they will ever come to pass—unless perhaps the area goes for UDI.

But the very exhibition is a step in the right direction, and if at the least it reduces much of the crass ignorance which exists at the present about the area, it will have done more than many another agency in this past fifty years

It is satisfying to see that the Gaelic Society of Inverness are able to produce regularly their Volumes of Inverness. In spite of the heavy burden of printing costs. The most recent Volume XLIV covers a selection of papers delivered to the Society from 1962 to 1966. The selection covers a wide and varied field of subjects, all handled with expertise by their authors.

The medical resources of the Forty-five (Dr M. M. Whittet) are closely scrutinised and give us a glimpse of an aspect of the times which often fails to be overlooked. Dr Whittet covers the resources available to both sides of the Culloden conflict.

In 'Gunpowder and Sealing Wax' and Jean Dunlop (Mrs W. Munro), deals with examples of the kind of documents found in Highland charter chests. This is an interesting paper for not only for its subject, but for the way the professional historian fills gaps in existing sources to make a final and acceptable picture.

Iain Mackay's contribution deals with some of Clanranald's tacksmen in the late 18th century. This gives useful and informative insights into the life of the tacksman and the background (historical and economic) against which life was lived out. Though many tacksmen tended to be exploiters of their own kind, at least there were bonds which were strong enough to lend some characteristics to the relationships between tacksman and tenant—witness appeared when things were no longer favourable for the tacksman. What replaced them was worse, and the woe of the Highlanders did not know what a burden that broke many a crofter's back. The days of the tacksman might well be termed 'the good old days.'

Father Mark Dilworth O.S.B. contributes a short but interesting paper on Highland emigres who were associated with the breweries at Ratisbon (in the Dnubio) and Wurzburg (near Frankfurt). This paper is an excellent insight on Highland religious history and indicates that the 18th century Catholicism was strong in many areas not now associated with it: Stornoway, Tain, East Ross and Inveray.

Twenty-five years (1724-50) in the history of the Parish of Gairloch is the period covered by the Rev. T. M. Murchison. This is a natural follow-on from Father Dilworth's paper and shows how a Presbyterian Parish was managed and nurtured by its ministers and elders.

The story of Connall Gulbann, son of the King of Ireland, is the subject of a paper by John Iornc Campbell. With transcripts from records by Neil MacNa (Barra) and Angus MacCallen (South Uist) the story is told of the subject of one of the best romantic characters in Celtic tradition.

James Scott's paper on the forts of Knappdale is a good example of how the dry-stone ruins of history can be clothed with a wonderful garment full of incident and the characters who lived in the buildings and in the surrounding countryside. This excellent material for inclusion in local guide books. With the present high tide of tourist interest in the Highlands, there would be no doubt that a cold winter's day hot cakes on a cold winter's day.

A paper by F. G. Thomson throws an interesting light on an aspect of the collection 'Crimina Medevalia'. The author tells us that the collection yields many folklore elements which were part and parcel of the life of the Gael and were not so much the property of the observers which observers of the Gaelic scene were often wont to describe. The general classification of the items found in 'Crimina Medevalia' covers a very wide field of human activity and

belief. So wide in fact that the author's work is a pointer to what remains to be done in the way of analysis of many another collection of stories, songs, poetry and the like.

Perhaps the most significant paper in the volume is that by Professor Derick Thomson: 'The role of the writer in a minority culture.' At this time when there promises to be a flood of good Gaelic books through the medium of the Highland Book Club (due to start operations soon) it is important for all interested in the language to read Thomson's thoughts on the subject.

The success of the Welsh in promoting literacy of their language is mentioned as a pointer to the way in which the Gael (and An Comunn) must tackle the problems of Gaelic in Scotland. The present authors of Gaelic Scotland have a long hard road to travel if they are to be successful. But so far the authors are few, almost a literal handful. Perhaps the reason for this is that would-be authors with significant things to say are discouraged from writing by the fact that if native Scottish talent (writing in English) finds it rare to get a Scottish publisher, how much harder it is for the Gaelic writer. It is to be hoped that this Highland Book Club will remedy this latter aspect at least of Gaelic literature at present.

Space does not permit any more but a mention to the other papers in the Transactions: 'The Kenpoch Murder,' by Iain Mackay; 'Some Gaelic Verse from the Ards,' by Hugh Barron; 'Da Bhard a Gearrloch le Fhachann Mac Coinnich; and 'The Controversial Papers' by Alick Morrison.

All in all this new volume does credit to the Inverness Gaelic Society. Anyone interested in both the volume and membership of the Society should contact Mr. Hugh Barron, Secretary, 92 Academy Street, Inverness.

## SCOTTISH AIR TRAFFIC IN MARCH

Scotland's civil airports handled 222,479 passengers during March, 1967, an increase of 17.7 per cent compared with March, 1966, states the Board of Trade.

Increases were shown at all airports. At Aberdeen (Dyce) Airport there was a 38 per cent increase to 8,501 passengers and the total of 121,245 passengers at Glasgow. Aberdeen was 19 per cent more than at Renfrew in the corresponding month last year. Edinburgh (Turnhouse) showed an increase of 12 per cent.

At the eight Highlands and Islands Aerodromes showed increases of over 20 per cent, the biggest increase occurring at Sumburgh, Aberdeen, which saw an increase of 175 short tons compared with the corresponding month in 1966.

At Prestwick Airport freight handled totalled 925 short tons in an increase of 177 short tons compared with the corresponding month in 1966.

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# Chuir an Dotair an Cool air Feadh na Fidhle

Chaidh an ceol air feadh na fidhle an deaghadh dha 'n Dotair Dickson Mabon a radh air an t-seòchdan sin chaidh nach robh gnòthach aig Bòrd Leasachaidh na Gàidhealtachd ri seimeachan a chosgadh muilleanan no.

Thuir Mgr. Russell Mac-Iain, Ball-Parlamaid Siorrachd Inbhirris, gur ann michteach a bha an rud a thuir an Dotair Mabon agus nach robh teagamh sam bith ann gun do dh'atharraich an Rialthas am beachdan mu 'n Bhòrd. Thuir e cuideachd gun toireadh esan cuideachadh do Phrofeasar Grieve nan bitheadh aige ri sabaid an aghaidh an Rialthais air sgàth 's Bhuidh.

Thuir Mgr. Iain Rollo, a tha e fhein 'na bhall dhe 'n Bhòrd, gum bu choir choitroan a bhith aig 's Bhòrd gnòthach a ghabhail ri seime sam bith, mor no beag. An uir a chaidh faighn- nachedh d'hean an robh an aim- reit a bha air a bhith ann 'n Bhòrd 'dol a chuir crìoch air eirth e nach robh, nach bitheadh gnòthach aige-san ris 's Bhòrd nan bitheadh e a' smoinneachadh sin, agus gum faicheadh daoine an ceann bliadhna eile de bha am Bòrd comasach air a dheanadh.

Thuir am Profeasar Grieve, Ceann-suidhe a' Bhuidh, ann am Berlin, far a bh' e aig coinneamhnan cengailte ri obair an drasda, gu robh e 'na beachdan nan Ruinar na Staithe fhainic airson soilleireach fhluighinn mu 'n t-seòrsa obrach a bha an Rialthas ag iarraidh a chur fa chomhair a' Bhuidh. Chuir luchd-obrach a' Bhuidh tele-agram a dh' ionnsaigh a' Phro- feseair ag iarrai' air a shòil a

chumail air obrachnan mora agus a' radh gu robh iad-san air a chul.

Tha Libearataich Siorrachd Rois a' dol a dh' iarraidh air an Rialthas a dheanadh soilleir de an seòrsa obrach a chuidh am Bòrd a steidheachadh airson a dhean mh. Thuir Mgr. Jo Grimmond, a b' abhaist a bhith 'na cheannard air na Libearalach gu robh e soilleir, leis an t-seòrsa dhaoine a bha Ruinar na Staithe 's cur air 's Bhòrd, nach robh ann Bòrd a' dol a dh' fhaighinn daoine air a robh eòlas farsainn air gnòthachan cengailte ri a'rgiod. A bharrachd air seo, thuir e nach robh an Rialthas a' mìnigh gun feumadh buill a' Bhuidh saorsa a bhith ag obair as an laimh fhein ma bha iad a' dol a dheanadh feum sam bith.

'S e daoine oga a bu choir a bhith air 's Bhòrd, thuir Mgr. Grimmond, feadhainn a b' urrainn ainm a dheanadh dhaibh fhein air 's Ghaidhealtachd.

Bha Buidhean Naisiente na h-Alba cuideachd a' caineadh an Dotair Mabon

## £5,000 RO DHÀOR

Chaidh £5,000 a thairgsge air am Margaret Sinclair, bata lasgach Barrach aig rup ann a Siorrachd bhàgh Diadaidh a chuid, ach tharraing Mgr. Uilleam Martain air ais nuair a dh'annas e an dh' fheumadh i de charachd. Tha 52 tr, a dh' fhaid sa Mhàiread Sinclair agus is i an dara bata Barrach a chaidh a phundhadh seach nach robh a' pògachadh riabh air an tasad a cheannach i. Bha i den da bhata dheug a chaidh a cheannach fo spein. Treinneadh lasgaine Inne Gall. Cha teid am Margaret Sinclair a' ruip a' rithist ach gabhar tairge oim- chuidh air a son. Thatar ga meas aig 18,000 fhathast.

# Cuimris

San aithne a chuireadh a mach mu 'n Cuimrigh. "Wales The Way Ahead" 's aithe air leth g'hoirt do'n chanain. Tha an aithne ag radh gu bh' eil each- draidh is dualchas cengailte ri canain agus ma chailleadh daoine an canain gun caill iad iad fhein. A thuilleadh air sin tha moran a bhruidhinn Cuimris mun bhruidhinn iad Beurla. Tha an Rialthas, Cuimhairle, Siorrachd is Comhairle Ionaid 's deannach moran gun an canan a chuideachadh. Ach mar a tha Comhairle na Cuimrigh a cumail a mach san aithne air parantan is luchd teagasg a cuideachadh bidh-beo canain, air an ceannach le deagh ghean an t-siagh. Tha dheannach fhein aig a' buile d'ine a thaobh a dualchais.

Tha comhairle foghlum 's feuchainn ri Cuimris a chleachdadh agus a chuideachadh 'sna scoil- tan agus fo' fòids a tha e 'n ann comas geibh neach sam bith a' airson Cuimris ionnsachadh còthrom sin a dheanadh. 'S e choimhearsnachd Ghall- lach da 42 spòilean far am faighte foghlum troimh'n da chanain is 's Ard Seòlane a tha ann an 5 'sna chomhairle. Comhairle nan Siorrachd leis a'chanain cuideachidh an Rialthas iad. Tha a'rgio- chd math ga' d'hoiread do'hoil- theann airson uideachd teagasg (cluas-shluinn-uidhe) urra a dheanadh agus a chur gu feum gu h-araidh airson na canain a theagasg mar an dara canain do'hoil-theann.

Tha Urd Gobhath Cyrum-Communn na h-Oigridh 's faighinn deagh a'rgioid airson obair a' rairidh mu h-òigridh gu h- araidh. Bristedofdan Cam- paichean agus spòilean samh raidh agus tha Ard Oifis agus luchd-obrach aca ann an A'ery- stwyth. Tha Bristedofd Naisiente a' fàginn £25,000 gach bliadhna bho Shiorrachdan agus Comhairlean Ionaid.

A thaobh bh'òrdh airson inbheach the Press Bòrd Oil- then na Cuimrigh 's faighinn £7,500 's bliadhna agus tha Panal Leabhar na Wels Joint Education Committee a' leasachadh gu mor na tha tighinn an follais de leabhrachain choitroan. Thatar an deochas a dh'òighearr gum bi corr air 200 leabhar Cuimris gan clo-bhualladh a h-uile bliadhna. Tha gach leabhar Cuimre- ach gu bh' 's h-uile leabhar lann ann an Rialthas a' comhairle an Librery Advisory Council.

Chaidh an WELSH LANG- GUAGE BILL a thogail sam Oe Mhuir agus abhaist an Rialthas ri comhairle aithne. Tha The Legal Status of the Welsh Lan- guage. Leis an so feumar Cuimris a bhruidhinn 'sna cuirtrean, an ceathachaidh a' phòbail ann an oifisean, agus a bhith seòbhte air forman agus mu choinneimh dhaoine. Tha panal a nis air a shuidheachadh airson stiùradh le eadar theangachadh an Ard Oifis na Cuimrigh. A thuilleadh air sin feumaidh seirbhìsich a' Chruin- ne beannaich a bh' comasach air Cuimris a labhairt ri sprabhaidh.

Am fear is motha beil 's e 'smoitha' a dh'itheas.

**Pitman Beag,**  
Kingussie,  
Inverness-shire,  
Scotland.  
**ROWAN**  
Squirrel-colour to red against quiet leaves, divided, finerlike: generous hands offer the fat bunches to redwings, our autumn birds, and little boys with pea-shooters too narrow for the rounded fruit! This mountain ash grows single in a tiny cleft near tea-coloured burns or large and bushy in half-wild gardens where leaves will initiate the red ripeness of the berries.

Keith Murdoch.

# Gaels from Canada

In August Inverness has been three Gaels from Nova Scotia. Miss M. B. Cameron of Marrae, Inverness County Cape Breton, visited this country for the first time. Her Cameron ancestors originated in Lochaber but went to Barra, finally settling in Canada by way of the Fraser Highlands. She is descended, too, from Maclellans from Morar and whilst in the Highlands she visited that district. Stratghlass people will be interested to know that she is also descended from Donald Chisholm the Stratghlass bard who died during his family in 1802 during one of the clearances. He denounced the Chisholm in

strong terms for his heartlessness. In Stratghlass he was usually known as Domhnall Gobha or Domhnall Dubh a bheoil bhinn. Miss Cameron speaks perfect Gaelic and from her 'blas' one would believe she had been born and brought up in Midtair or Arisgill.

Sister Margaret Macdonell, also a native of Inverness, County Cape Breton is on her second visit to this country. She too is a perfect Gaelic speaker and is full of information and knowledge of the Gael in Scotland and New Scotland. Whilst over here she is planning to visit Eigg from where some of her people came. Sister Margaret's Macdonell ancestors originated in Glangery but moved to Stratghlass. She is descended from a sister of the two Bishops Chisholm, sons of Valentine Chisholm of Shehully, Stratghlass. The bishops, still remembered as ne h-Easpaignean Bana, are buried on Lismore. Valentine Chisholm had numerous descendants and Sister Margaret has therefore many far out relatives in and about Stratghlass.

# Restoration of Flood Banks

Good progress has been made with the restoration of flood banks and other works following the flooding in Inverness-shire and Ross and Cromarty last December. Mr William Ross, M.P., the Secretary of State for Scotland, announced on January 12 that the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries would be responsible for carrying out repair works to flood banks and to other damage at Government expense. The expenditure for which the Government would be responsible under these arrangements is now estimated to be £400,000; the first preliminary estimate made in the conditions that obtained in January was £250,000.

Works requiring the highest priority have been tackled first, and to date, some 7,400 yards of damaged or breached flood banks have been restored, together with associated river works, on the rivers Conon, Beauly, Spey, Broom and their tributaries. Many other restoration works are now in hand or are being prepared or, examined by the Department. The work still to be done will be carried out by arrangement with the owners and occupiers as circumstances permit. The Department will not now enter into any further commitments under these emergency arrangements.

The third visitor, Major Calum Iain Macleod, was born in the Highlands but for many years has lived in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, where he is Professor of Gaelic at the Francis Xavier's College. Calum Iain was crowned bard at the Mod before the last war. After war service he was at Balma- cers for a few years before emigrating. He is, of course, the son of the late John N. Macleod or "Alasdair Mor" of the Stormo- way Gazette. Calum Iain is married to Iona Macdonald daughter of the late Donald Macdonald, well known in his day in An Comrag as indeed were his sisters Miss Peggy and Miss Ness Murr Macdonald.

It is always a great pleasure to meet Canadian Gaels with whom we share so much in common but their visits are all too short and the parting is painful. May they long be spared to return again and again and likewise may the language which unites us continue to flourish on both sides of the Atlantic.

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# faisg air an t-sruthan



## LING HEATHER

(Calluna Vulgaris)

GAELIC — Fraoch Langa (Heather Ling)

A small shrub, usually less than two feet high with branched stems rooting at the base. Ling, in contrast to other heathers, has sepals that look like petals and are larger than the true petals.

Heather had many uses: tatching houses, tanning leather, dyeing yarn, and even a kind of ale was made from its tender tops. It was frequently used by Highlanders for making their beds, the roots down and the tops upwards.

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## 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.

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

### Lesson 10

Examples of regular verbs have been given up to now.  
e.g., seinn—sing, a' seinn, sheinn mi, seinnidh mi.

Learners of other languages have the chore of learning many irregular verbs. Fortunately Gaelic has relatively few, and these just have to be learned as they crop up.

dean—do a' deanamh—doing  
dean dean a' deanu  
rinn mi—I did ni mi—I will do  
ryn mee nee mee  
fàic—see a' fàicinn—seeing  
fyc fyc a' fycin  
chunnaic mi—I saw chi mi—I will see  
choinic chee  
cluinn—hear cluinntinn—hearing  
clöyn clöynte  
chuala mi—I heard cluinntinn mi—I  
chuala clöyne I will hear  
Seinn oran! Tha Mairi a' seinn a nis  
Sheyn Ha M. a sheyn a neesh  
Sing a song! Mary is singing now.  
Sheinn mi oran Gaidhlig.  
Heyn mee a' fàicinn  
I sang a Gaelic song.  
Seinn mi anns a' Gaidhlig.  
Sheynnee mee auns  
I will sing in Gaelic.

Dean so. De tha thu a' deanamh?  
Day ha co a'

Do this. What are you doing.  
Rinn mi e. Ni sinn an dinnear.  
Nee sheen an deener.

We will make dinner.

Faic-seòl a' bhèill thu a' fàicinn sin.  
Fyc sho. A vel oot a fycin sheen.  
See this! Do you see this.

Chunnaic mi Aonghas an Lunain.  
Choonic mi Aonghas an Lunain.  
I saw Angus in London.

Chi mi Ealstad am maireach.  
Chee mee Yalaset um maarach.  
I will see Elizabeth to-morrow.

Cluinn e! Chan eil mi a' cluinntinn  
gu soilleir.  
Clöyn e. Chan eel mee a' clöyntinn  
gu soyleir.

Cloyn e. Chan eel mee a' clöyntinn  
gu soyleir.  
Hear him! I cannot hear clearly.  
Chuala mi clar ur air an radio an  
noohd.  
Choola mi claar oor ayr an radeeo an  
nacht.

I heard a new record on the wire-  
less this evening.

Cluinn e! Chan eil mi a' cluinntinn  
gu soilleir.  
Clöyn e. Chan eel mee a' clöyntinn  
gu soyleir.

We will hear another singer on  
Monday.

## THE STRUCTURAL PARTS OF A HIGHLAND HOUSE (1)

HOUSE—Taigh or tigh.  
Foundation—bonn, bunait, bunn-  
tair, steidh.

Wall—balla (plur. ballachan).  
Wallhead inside—amainn (some-  
times applied to eaves).  
Exposed outside—tobhta (local-  
ised application).

Earth core—glut, glutaranadh,  
uadach.  
Gable—stuaadh, tulchan.

ROOF—mullach an taighe (i.e.,  
roof of the house).  
Couple—ceangal, lanan, cupall.

Principal rafter or couple—cas-  
heangal, cuaille.  
Tie or collar beam (in general)—  
maide tarsuinn.

Collar beam or balk—sparr-  
gaothie.  
Short cross-tie beneath ridge  
beam—ad.

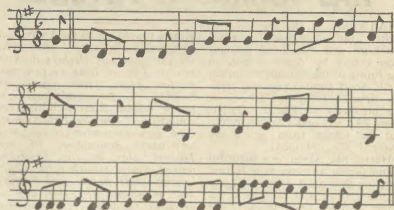
Lower end of principal rafter—  
bun-cheangal.  
Post supporting couple (built into  
wall when used)—cup, sporn, sgoman.

Piend or hip rafter—roinn-oisinn.  
Central rafter at end wall—corr.  
Purlin—taobhan, cleith (plural  
cleithan, baicean).

(From: "Tatched Houses" by  
Colin Sinclair. Oliver Boyd. 10/6).

## 2. — Songs of the Gael

Gilleon Mo Ruin



'S e gillean mo ruin a thogadh oirnn stönd.  
'S e so a Bhàdhn' Ur thug solas dhùinn,  
'S e gillean mo ruin a thogadh oirnn stönd

Air m'ùilinn 'sa leapaidh an am dol a chadal,  
Gùn'n cuala mi'n caismeachd 's gun chòrd e riium.

'S e gillean mo chomain a thairig air Chollaig,  
Do Ghoirtein a' Chromaidh 's mi m'onrachd ann.

Bha fear dhiubh 'san Spairn 'sam batal' s am blar  
Bho'n tainig e sabhailh 's bu neonach e.

Bha fear dhiubh 'san Fhraing 's gun tainig e 'nall,  
'S gun d'ol sinn an dram so comhla ris.

Bha fear dha na gillean a sheinneadh an fhìdhil  
Bu mhianh na clann nighean bhì 'n seomair leis.

(‘Docsh-slainte nan Gillean’, bho Colm O Lochlòinn)

## Ag Ionnsachadh Do You Know? Na Gaidhlig

(The Learners Lament)  
Ie MacFulaidh

(Seist)

Obair Là Toiseachadh!  
That's what it seems to be  
Obair Là Toiseachadh  
Aig Ionnsachadh Na Gaidhlig.

Tha Mi, Tha Thu, is fun it's true.  
Ach, Dè About "Is Iden at-  
tachd?"

"Ciamar a tha am brot?"  
Is easy on the throat,  
Ach! 'Cuin o tha Domhnull a  
tighinn dhachadh?"

Drives Na Sgoilearan! Almost  
Whacky!  
Seist: Obair Là etc.

Agam! Agad! Aca! Aice!  
Balachan no Ballachan!  
O! Mercy! Mercy!

Brochan, Brogan, it never ends  
Tha Mìn Dochas! I'll find the  
tense.

Seist: Obair Là etc.  
Aon, Da, Tri, Freagair Mi!  
O! How I'd like a cupan Ti!  
Fosgail, Dh'fhosgail, Dhùin is  
Dh'ol

Thugainn Leam! Let's have a  
ball!  
Seist: Obair Là etc.

Sasair, Truinnsair, Forc is Sgian  
Caite A Bho! Mo Bhrathair Iain?  
Anns A' Chidsin, Aig A' Bhorid,  
Gredy Pig! Another Gorge!

Seist: Obair Là etc.  
Cladhach, Gleadhraich, Glaga-  
dair, Hard? "

No! I'm as fluent as a Bard!  
Ceann Mòr! You Say, Uill! Dig  
this, eh?

Abair ach Beag is Àbair Gu  
Math E!  
Seist: Obair Là etc.

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## Do You Know?

1. Why was "An Comunn Gaidhealach" established?
2. Who is the great Poet we associate with Eriskey Isle and what was his profession?
3. What does the place-name Edderton in Ross-shire mean?
4. Where did Fiann, the Celtic war hero, meet his end?
5. Gu de a chall Bheurha tha aig "Gheibh foighdinn fathach?"
6. Co ris a thairiedh na bodaich "An Eilean Fada?"

### Answers

1. To promote and preserve the language, culture, music and history of the Gael
2. A Priest, Rev. Fr. Allan Macdonald, (1859-1905) the composer of "Eilean na h-oige."
3. Gaelic EADARDAN. The meaning is Eadar-dun, between forts.
4. He was slain in the great defeat of the Fiann at Gabra, probably in 283.
5. Patience will obtain relief.
6. Ri Leodhas agus Na Hearradh.

### GUN USGE

Several years ago the folk of Kyles Sealay in Harris petitioned Inverness County Council for a water scheme. They were told that their population numbers did not justify it. Now the village has a population of more than 100; some 24 children are under 16 years of age.

At present, water must be brought home in buckets from wells and burns, sometimes over a distance of half a mile.

Recognising the need for a scheme, to include water supply and drainage, Inverness County Council Water Department has revealed that a plan for a scheme is in existence, but no date can be given when it will begin.

In the meantime, it is claimed that delay will cause considerable hardship. And two homes have already been destroyed by fire which had to be fought by using buckets of water.



# AS NA SGOLTEAN HAS HARRIS A FUTURE

(An article in the Scotsman of March 18th compiled by Dary MacLure and based on extracts from essays by Arran pupils on the future of their island prompted Sir E. Scott pupils to look at teenage opinion from this school on the prospects for Harris. Pupils from 2A, 3A, and Class 4 provided the essays from which the material was obtained.)

The Harris is a beautiful island facing an uncertain future, a future that must depend largely on the attitude and energies of its young people. Our essays reveal that all of us have enjoyed our childhood here; some complain of lack of entertainment—"The Highlands and Islands of Great Britain tonight show is almost the only regular form of entertain-

ment"—but most agree with the writers who said, "There is much to be said for a community where entertainment is still provided by the people themselves, where traditional customs and old time dances with local bands, where badminton clubs and drama groups still flourish." But do they flourish? "The television has seriously affected the social life of our community. We hesitate now to visit our neighbours in a wild, open area, for fear we interrupt their viewing; people no longer take such an active part in village affairs, and when the informality and friendliness of the old days are gone, what have we left?" But to many, television means a richer and fuller life—"I wish people once devoted any form of entertainment can enjoy the programmes and to the young a new world is opened up, of music, drama and films which would be impossible in villages fifty years ago." This was an individual comment, but typical of the many with more popular tastes. "We can see and hear the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, the Seekers and Sandie Shaw, and feel that we are part of the 20th Century age."

But does this make Harris teenagers more content to stay in Harris or simply more anxious to leave the 19th Century on the mainland? For many, there is no choice. At present there is no provision for Senior Secondary education. County boundaries are jealously guarded still, and Harris pupils wishing to take a full Higher Leaving Certificate have to leave the island. At the moment the alternatives are Portree or Inverness, and although tradition favours the former—nearily all Harris boys go to the "Portree"—lack of hostel accommodation in Skye, the convenience of air travel to Inverness and the fact of the spring tides swing the balance now in favour of the mainland centre. Does this early uprooting tend to wean people away from the island permanently? "Once we get used to life on the mainland, I don't suppose we'll want to go back and live on the island." This was after 1970 academic pupils from

Harris should go to the Uiconlon Institute, Stormoray. "After 1970 we can take our Highers in Stormoray. Then at least we can stay a few more years near our homes." To many this means a happy release from a chilling recollection—"On the 29th August, 1966, I can remember the cold and unpleasant atmosphere of the Harbour pier as the Hebrides moved away, crowded by pupils leaving their homes and friends and relatives. On this day a dreadful thought crept into my mind; my friends were leaving the island that day, but next year it would be my turn. Except for brief holiday periods I would be separated from my lovely homeland, its rocks, its white sandy beaches, its green machair lands." Will Higher education in the Long Islands mean an end to the frightening unfamiliarity and loneliness—"The place (school at Inverness) was so huge, it was so different, there were so many pupils being herded around together; the only thing it reminded me of was a funk"—or does it mean a less broadening experience, a loss of opportunity to explore wider horizons? "For myself, I would rather go to the mainland and meet more people and new ways of life."

The general feeling is that the new proposal is a good one, but at best only a partial solution to the exodus of the young people as long as the present employment situation remains unchanged. "Time and opportunities for people here. Some doctors, teachers and ministers can find work on the island, but many well educated local people could not come back even if they wanted to, as many of them do." There is a general awareness of the desperate need for employment for school leavers from the practical classes alike. "Mothers and fathers try to persuade their children to stay in Harris and find a local job, but usually there just are no jobs." Opinion is divided on whether the situation will ever alter, let alone alter in time. Some are convinced that even in the next generation Harris will only be a holiday haven, a home for seasonal English visitors, retired pensioners, or "America-sit-stioners." A holiday haven for the work weary of the cities, the nostalgia of its own people and the ancestor-seekers of America—is that what the future holds for Harris. Though most contemplate it, few really seem to accept it. The more naive think that the community efforts could revitalise the island's economy almost overnight—they propose holding concerts and dances to build up a "flag-day" and provide hospitals! The more realistic, one of whom took the trouble to find out that one mile of new road could be built, would like to realise that the problem is greater, but remain optimistic that new industries will come and solve the problem. "Flag-day is a good idea. Committees are sometimes formed and too much talking done without any action, but the Harris Council of Social Service has done already a lot of good work,

especially in connection with tourism." Tourism—to some, this is the answer to all our problems. "Some people say that tourism will spoil the island. But Skye has flourished on tourism, the villages there look prosperous and thriving, and Harris has just as much to offer." The introduction of the car ferry to Skye and Uist seems to most of us a promising start and we hope that "this year with no Seaman's Strike, Harris will achieve a record tourist season, for even last year, Stockinish Youth Hostel alone accommodated 1,500 people." But is tourism enough? "I do not believe that a prosperous future lies in tourism alone. The tourist trade is good for shopkeepers, hotels, guest houses, bus operators and such people directly involved, but unless new industries are attracted that will provide all-the-year round employment, this island is doomed."

There are abundant suggestions for the new industries, suggestions whose merits unfortunately we lack the knowledge or experience to assess. An obvious need is to develop the locally based industries—tweed-making and fishing—and to develop the Islands Development Board, the main centre of Harris Tweed making. It seems strange to see notices in Glasgow shop, "Genuine Harris Tweed—Made in Lewis! We should have a modern mill at Tarbert and concentrate on the European and American markets." In my opinion, Harris should be a successful and thriving fishing trade. A fishing fleet could be based on Bunavoneer, and perhaps in time a fishing ship could be brought to store frozen fish and allow the fleet to stay at sea for longer periods. "Fishing is the popular choice for the siting of a new town in a developed Harris. Some would want to see Lord Leverhulme's projects carried out and a packing station or tanning factory or kippers business established there. "It is flat and sheltered and would make an attractive site for a new town." Another see Northton "as an agricultural village that might supply the new Leverhulm with wool products." Fortunately, no one yet envisages dormitory towns or commuters, for this would be more drastic than even hri Levehulm has planned. Other proposals include a modern bakery, development of the feldspar mining at Lingerbay, a seaweed processing factory like the one at Keose, a knitwear factory, soft drinks production and boat-building. With regard to developing tourism, there is a call for

another hotel in South Harris, more accommodation of the chalet type, and development of local craft-work. "Some people around Scarista and Borve, where shells abound on the beaches, have made pretty trinket boxes and ashtrays, lamps and ornaments, and there will always be a market for really good work. Empty sea-urchin shells could be made into attractive paper weights—these shells can be found on the shores after a spring tide, and are widely varied in colours, ranging from brown to pale orange." In particular, there is a call for better roads and some concern over transport. "There used to be more bus services, but now many people have their own cars and vans and buses are often rarely used. "Some people like Lewis where hardly any rural areas are served by public transport. But what about the people who cannot afford cars or cannot drive?" One writer sees subsidising of rural transport as the only answer—"They subsidise sheep and cattle. What about people?" What, indeed, Mrs Castle?

Many seecrofting as an outmoded, demanding and unrewarding way of life, but there are few suggestions as to what should take its place or how it should be revolutionised. Hope for the future, generally strong, is firmly based on faith in the Highlands and Islands Development Board, a faith quite unshaken by the recent adverse publicity and general furor in the popular press. "The new Highlands and Islands Development Board are alive to the needs of the island. Unlike other people in authority, they are men who have visited us and understand our way of life. Professor Grieve wrote an article for last year's Brochan and is obviously interested in Harris." In conclusion, I think we would all agree with the two who write, "Harris is too beautiful an island, with too rich a heritage, to be allowed to turn into a depopulated desert," and "The future of Harris lies in the hands of its young people, and they must work hard on its behalf. Harris is one of the areas on the list of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, and therefore it has a good future."

Extract from—John Munro, Clifford Morrison, Chrissy Kay, Finlay MacSween, Marianne Morrison, Norman MacDonald, Joan MacLeod, Catherine Coles, Calum R. MacSween, Danny Mearns, Calum MacLeod, John A. Morrison, Katie MacLeod, John A. MacDonald, Nellie MacLeod, Christine MacLennan.

## ANOTHER INDUSTRY CLOSES DOWN

We have just heard that the anorthosite quarry in Harris has had to close down due to lack of orders. Employees directly concerned number 14, but in the services sector such as lorry drivers, etc., up to 20 employees may be involved. With the present decline in the Harris Tweed industry lack of employment in the Western Isles is becoming increasingly serious and there is a steady stream of people leaving for employment on the mainland.

It will be remembered that the Lochport tweed mill closed last year putting 18 employees out of work.

## Back To Work FIRST ENGAGEMENT FOR M.P.'S WIFE

The honeymoon in Italy over, Russell Johnston, M.P., has, for the past few days, been dealing with constituents problems, the question of the future of the Highland Development Board, and with settling into his new home at 2 Hillside Villas, Inverness. From now on he is fully active politically, and to-day is in London, returning this evening. On Tuesday and Wednesday he was in Badenoch, with two "clinics" each night, giving constituents in Newtonmore, Kingussie, Boat-of-Garten and Aviemore a chance to discuss their problems with him. To-day he will be in Inverness with a meeting of the Inverness-shire Liberal Executive Committee in the evening, and on Friday he will again be in town, coping with constituency problems and correspondence. Saturday sees Mrs Johnston's first public engagement, when she is due to open a Ross-shire Liberal Association Fair at Tain, accompanied by her husband—a trial run for when she opens a similar Fair in Inverness on October 7th.



The North Harris Hills from Ardhaisaig

(Photo by A. MacArthur, Stormoray)

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# On the other hand . . .

## EXPO '67 Or What's In It For Me?

We never really expected to be sent by *Strath* to cover expo '67—it was beyond our wildest dreams—so it was no great disappointment when we weren't. After all, the Editor hasn't even managed a trip to Canada, or has he? Who has seen Frank F. Thompson in the last few years?

However, we have still our holidays to come, and can still make the Italian Grand Prix at Monza as the *Strath* Motoring correspondent. It could be done pretty, inexpensively travelling by car, and in this matter we could draw the Editor's attention to the car-sharing business. One continually reads in other newspapers "during my year's extended road test of the Rover T.C. I found the vehicle excellent in every way." Looking through an old *Strath* we have come across a piece headed "Sui Air Carachean—Am Mì Mòke," followed by two columns of Gaelic, the only words of which we understand are car and contractor, and the only other word we can guess at is engine, because it is followed by 848 C.C.:

We might make the rather snide observation in passing that *Strath* does not even in straight copy advert from B.H.M. out of it. However, in fairness, we see that a piece in another issue, headed "Sui Air Carachean—Am Wilkswagen 200" did pull in a good W.V. advert. Glancing through this one we recognise only the words basic, pillars and beams. But with a certain satisfaction we also note the word "einnsein," which we know means "engine." Sensing that we are almost getting to the Gaelic and picking it up fast, we then come across "an-einnsein gu snog," which brings us to a sudden halt. We ask you, "a good jogging engine" and a "doll of an engine"—it is little wonder we are not getting any cars to test, writing a drive like that! We are more than willing to carry out exhaustive and prolonged road tests and report on same in straightforward English. We drool at the thought of getting our hands on a Lotus Europa, but Colin Chapman is entitled to expect more than twenty-six lines of Gaelic frivolity before that happens.

Then, again, there are all the car accessories that are handed out for testing. We haven't seen any, but we are keeping a sharp lookout for the Editorial V.W. sprouting auxiliary spot lamps, safety belts and leopard skin seat covers.

To return to travel, *Strath* also missed out on trips to the Ark Royal when it was in the Mersey. Firih recently. Everybody else seems to have been there, and we have always fancied a trip on a "ship." It is interesting to be vividious that only the English-speaking Press was invited, but, on the other hand, it would probably be embarrassing to have seen and exposed their ignorance if we asked to see the "einnseins." They just wouldn't understand us Gaelic speakers.

*Strath* must, however, take a less parochial view of travel and look at the wider issues, say, through the eyes of a Glasgow City Councillor. They really made the big

league until Willie Ross put a stop to it. Even the Moderator of the Kirk was made to look like a "stay at home."

The July issue of *Which* featured an article by Mr. Clement Freud, the writer, comedian and born vivreur on "Going through the Customs." His investigation of the 1966 magazine involved the trips Cherbourg Southampton on the Queen Mary, Rotterdam Gatwick by B.U.A., Paris London on the *Strath* magazine, and the Le Bourget Birmingham by B.E.A.

A friend of his also did the same journeys to find out if a non-celebrity received the same treatment by the Customs. The investigation revealed "no shattering conclusions." It is doubtful if this was one of

Which's best buys, but—step to the top of the class, Mr. Freud. *Strath's* readers deserve somebody to carry out similar investigations on their behalf, and for a long time we have felt there is a crying need for the *Strath* Good Food Guide. We would be prepared to get down to it at once, and let our readers know if the porridge is lumpy or not at all. We would be glad to help.

We were deliberating if this piece was perhaps taking on a rather mercenary air when we came across a Scotsman's *Log in the Scotsman*, found the writer on a similar topic and received moral uplift. He was commenting on an article in the *Sunday Times* in which a Mrs. Blandford carried out a survey to find out how well four luxury London hotels lived up to their letters of intent. He commented that he never seemed to qualify for such delectable assignments; the nearest he had come to doing an empirical job might have been when he has once been invited to join in a four-day tour of distilleries, shortly after he had stopped drinking.

With no implication that Sineag is living it up at the Dell, the Ferry Park and Balgate, we would comment that when sports writers manage to get in quite a bit of travel, and we are prepared to do our bit, and would suggest that the Editor give thought now to the coverage of the Commonwealth Games, Wimbledon and the British Skiing Championships.

Edinburgh has been labelled a "highly interesting" place. It has once been invited to join in a four-day tour of distilleries, shortly after he had stopped drinking. With no implication that Sineag is living it up at the Dell, the Ferry Park and Balgate, we would comment that when sports writers manage to get in quite a bit of travel, and we are prepared to do our bit, and would suggest that the Editor give thought now to the coverage of the Commonwealth Games, Wimbledon and the British Skiing Championships. Edinburgh has been labelled a "highly interesting" place. It has once been invited to join in a four-day tour of distilleries, shortly after he had stopped drinking.

We are still not definite if the Editor has any plans for a media trip, so pending further notice, all matters relating to extended car testing, sponsored tours, visits to distilleries, and books for review. Orders should be sent to *Strath*, c/o R. W. M.

### MOD FUND RAISING

The secretary of the Dundoon Mod Committee, Mr. A. P. Shaw has just released details of a draw to be launched next month in an effort to raise funds for the 1968 National Mod.

Prizes in the draw are very attractive and will include two Minor Saloon Cars to be won, one after six months and the other after twelve months. The monthly payout from the draw will consist of one prize of £20 and one of £5.

As the number of participants is limited to 200 the scheme offers very reasonable odds for an outlay of 5/- per week.

Dunoon in its Centenary year is looking forward to playing host to the National Mod in 1968. It is described as an enterprising local committee prospects are indeed bright for a memorable week in Cowal.

### TULTEAN ANN AN SEAPAN

Chaidh 21 duine a mharbhadh agus 84 air chall an deaghaidh tultean ann an taobh tuath Seapan. Tha 87,000 air air fagail 24 pair tighdean agus bhà 1,000 pair air squabh air falbh no air a milledh leis na tultean. Tha 2000 luchd stubhalnach bh'arrainn na treichnach ann an tultean airson còr is 20 uair a thidhe agus a bh' eilidhchopairann a chaidh iann a thoirt gun ionnsaigh.

### Letters to the Editor

## over to you:

### BADENOCH BEATNIKS

Sir, Beatniks in Badenoch? Far from it. The Highland climate, social and physical, does little to encourage them. With the development of Aviemore and the whisky generally, a fresher, more alive attitude is emerging in Badenoch. Newcomers, while still appreciating the true values of Highland life, cannot help bringing different ideas to residents that enhance and broaden the average outlook. Accustomed to only the summer visitors, the area now caters for the activities of the skier with its attendant need for entertainment. The Aviemore centre caters for the pop trend but from there matters are not so simple.

Aware that there is an interest in the Arts in Badenoch, a club has been formed to further this interest. The Badenoch Arts Club through the auspices of the Scottish Arts Council, is bringing live performances of music, opera, ballet and drama, once a month throughout the winter. It is aimed to draw a large audience as far afield as Laggan and Grantown, and welcome visitors as well as residents. If any one is interested in joining, please contact Mr. William Wordsworth, Ard Inis, Kinraig, Inverness-shire, for further details. Yours etc.

### BARBARA PROCHAZKA

Greystones, Kinross

Inverness-shire.

### LONG GHAIÑNEAMH

A charaid, — Nach e Beinn na Faoghla a air togail air le luingeas shoel is para tait. Nach Gura math a theid leotha. Nach

e na balach a bhithes stubhalach air an fhaoghal a tuath a chaidh a shuidhe le luingeas roir a chidhe ghealach no seoladh ann na speuran gu machaire Hoan. Cha bh' na buidhsich air a doigh! Le speis.

### UBHISTEACH

### OLD PAPERS, ETC.

Sir,— Many people who happen to be clearing out cupboards and drawers, perhaps after a death in the family or just before a fitting, come across quantities of old papers. These may be in old handwriting difficult or impossible to read, and, seeming to be of no interest, may go into the dustbin or on the bonfire.

But such papers, to those who can understand them, are often of great interest, giving information on the history of the family, the parish, or the county. To destroy them may be to destroy knowledge of which there is no other record. The value of such papers is greater than their interest; and the harder they are to read the more likely they are to be really old. But more recent papers are also often of interest— estate and business account books, maps and plans.

In the Scottish Record Office we are always ready to give advice on how best to dispose of such old papers. I therefore ask anyone finding such collections not to destroy them without first writing to the Keeper of the Records of Scotland, Register House, Edinburgh. Yours etc.

### JAMES FERGUSON

(Keeper of the Records of Scotland)  
Edinburgh 2.

## CAPITAL SALES

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## A LOOK AT CELTIC CO-OPERATION

The Celtic League was founded at the Rhos Eisteddfod in North Wales in August 1961. In a tent allocated to Plaid Cymru, a dozen Welshmen, Bretons and Cornishmen gathered to discuss a proposal for regular co-operation between the national movements of the Celtic countries.

Links between Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, Wales, Cornwall and Brittany have existed intermittently throughout the centuries, surviving the differences in religion and political systems. The sense of kinship is not limited to those who know the history of these countries or their languages. The Johnny Onions who come over from Brittany to work in the fishing industry in Britain have made their Welsh customers aware, if need there was, that Welsh and Breton are almost the same language.

A close relationship exists between Scottish Gaelic and Irish, particularly in its Ulster dialect. But this sense of kinship between our peoples matters little for those who are trying to strengthen our national characteristics. Its warmth arises perhaps from the realisation that the Celtic countries, with a temperate, oceanic climate, they developed similar ways of life. Nowadays, the languages which were once flourishing in the British Isles from the English and the French are gravely threatened but we consider our languages as the most obvious mark of our nationalities and are united in our struggle to save them. Most of us accept that in order to survive as distinct entities, Ireland, Wales, Brittany and the other three countries must preserve and therefore restore these languages.

During the 19th and the first quarter of the 20th century, the lovers of the Celtic language appear all too often to have thought they could perpetuate them by exhorting the native speakers to remain faithful to them while they themselves congregated in associations with little concern for the problems of modern life and no particular zeal for transmitting the "ancient tongue" to their children. The desire for regular inter-celtic relations manifested itself prominently in 1838 at Abergavenny, Wales, and in 1867 at Saint-Brieux, Brittany. The effort remained in the cultural sphere with the foundation of the Celtic Association in London in 1911. This association succeeded in 1917 by the Celtic Congress which was to hold meetings henceforth nearly every year, with participants from all six countries. I translate its aims from the Irish: "To ensure the permanence of the ideals and languages of the Celtic peoples, to develop intellectual relations and close co-operation between them and to preserve their customs and traditions."

At the head of the organisation is an international committee to which two delegates are appointed by each national committee. The Celtic Congress meets, as far as possible in each of the six countries in turn. It is an occasion for folklore groups to compete in singing, dancing, and for all participants to establish or renew links of personal friendship.

The Celtic Congress does not exhaust all the possibilities of inter-celtic co-operation. It is bound by its statutes to remain non-political. To the nationalists who see

their languages threatened with extinction as a result of political and economic conditions, it is evident that the movement is necessary even though it may not be sufficient to redress the linguistic balance. We must create our own institutions, our own states and help one another to do so when opportunities arise. When we meet opposition and repression in this struggle our solidarity should come into play immediately and effectively. This happened after the war when the Breton nationalists were persecuted. In Scotland, Ireland and Scotland could have been organised more thoroughly and quickly, it might have been possible to save good lives of more Bretons, but thanks to pressures from these countries on the French authorities a number of them escaped heavy sentences.

**Self Government**  
The aim of the Celtic League, as stated in the Rhos declaration is to foster our national rights, political (including our right to self-government), cultural and economic.

For co-operation to last, we have to take account of our differences. We are not all at the same stage in our movement towards freedom, nor are we all prepared to reach complete self-government necessarily equal.

Ireland, to begin with, is in a different category altogether from Wales, Scotland and Brittany. There is a strong percentage of the population of the 6-Counties which is in the same position as Welsh, Scottish and Bretons, but it is an Irish state recognised internationally. Ireland can very well defend its interests without the help of other Celtic nations. Our ambition is to develop the sense of inter-Celtic solidarity among the Irish, to win their sympathy for our aspirations. Some prominent Irishmen have taken their voice on behalf of the other Celtic nations, even without going as far as to actively support their freedom movements, as related to the world naturally do for one another. I am thinking for example of the Welsh language broadcaster on Radio Éireann during World War II. There are no longer necessary since the Welsh have secured a place for their language in B.C. and T.V. programmes in Ireland. Such a political and diplomatic aspects to such a question but it should be possible for a state concerned with the development of Celtic culture in all its forms to set up a small broadcasting service in Breton, directed towards Brittany, which might include the complex of radio and television service allows only about one hour a week of programmes in Breton and a half on television. To give an idea of the inadequacy of this service, let it be remembered that there are about 200,000 Breton speakers and that a petition in favour of more extensive programmes in Breton has been signed by 130,000 people.

We consider Scotland as one of the Celtic countries although some Scottish nationalists would profess little interest in the Gaelic language and culture of their country. We put it to them that the Scottish population is largely Celtic, either Gaelic or British (meaning here akin to Welsh) in its ancestry. Wales is a standard by which to approach to the other national movements. In Plaid Cymru aims, language and freedom are intimately linked. The leadership of the party stands for inter-celtic co-operation. Mr Gwynfor Evans referred to Scotland and Brittany in his inaugural speech in the House of Commons last year. As regards Brittany, her nationalism is strongly inspired by the Irish and Welsh struggles. In our attempts to counteract French cultural influences, we look across the Channel to those who are culturally and ethnically closest to us. Here is of course a language difficulty, and our differences arise in the relations between other Celts although English is widely taught in Brittany's secondary schools, and Bretons have a good oral command of it. English has been accepted as our lingua franca. The only way to avoid its use is for our members to learn other Celtic languages. Not many of us have enough leisure to do this properly. Here is the paradox of inter-celtic co-operation. To stress the importance of English in our internal affairs but we have to use it for our communications. Some of us are toying with the idea of Esperanto, but it is not practical. Personally, I think Esperanto would be more practicable in the near future. The Celtic League would like to see Esperanto help the revolution of the Bretonic languages along converging lines. The same gradual process would be relatively easy in the case of the Gaelic languages. In the meantime, the benefits we derive from co-operation through English outweigh the damage to our Celtic languages that could result from it.

### No Duplication

The populations of the four countries I have mentioned range from 2,650,000 and 3,000,000 for Wales and Brittany respectively to 4,260,000 for Ireland and 5,200,000 for Scotland compared to 1,200,000 for Cornwall and especially the Isle of Man are quite small. Yet a sense of nationality subsists in each of these countries, about 50 per cent high a proportion of the people as in wide areas of the other four. Since we are thinking of a Celtic confraternity or cultural congress, we find no justification for leaving out Cornwall and Mannin. They fit naturally into the picture. Size should not be a criterion for exclusion, especially in Europe and have put this principle into application by inviting the Manx and the Cornish to join our association. Their political claims are perhaps very modest compared to the Welsh and the Scottish ones. It is for their branches to define their extent.

We may aim at different degrees of political freedom—parity with other small nations, commonwealth status, autonomy within a European federation or special rights—and we may favour different methods to reach them. For this reason we are organised on a territorial basis, one branch per country with a minimum of interference in its management on the part of the Celtic League's European council. We decide by adoption by our Council would require unanimity among the delegates of the country or countries concerned.

We could have set up the Celtic League on an individual basis and constituted the different national branches as autonomous units in our country by country. This would have enabled us to adopt a more radical policy or a greater flexibility in deciding our course of action. But it would have meant

duplicating the work of the existing national bodies. Being an international organisation it was more appropriate for us to concentrate on creating strong links between ourselves and to link our national aspirations known to the outside world.

The presence of the two Plaid Cymru leaders, Mr Gwynfor Evans and Mr F. Jones, together with Mr Yann Foure, one of the founders of the M.O.B. (Movement for the Organisation of Brittany, equivalent of a National Party) at our first meeting contributed to steer the League on a moderate course. Not only did Plaid Cymru and the M.O.B. give their support to it, also the Scottish National Party accepted our invitation to do so and links were established with Mevbon Kercnow and the Yamm. The organisations which have been active in the defence of Cornish and Manx interests in recent years.

It could not expect the parties to devote some of their resources to the running of this outwardly directed organisation. We had to build it up with the help of individuals and donations. Greater representativeness and authority was sought by inviting the presidents of the national parties to join our council. Mr Stewart Evans, president of Plaid Cymru and M.P. for Carmarthenshire, has in fact been president of the Celtic League since its inception in 1961. Mr F. Jones, Mr Robert MacIntyre and Mr Robert Dunstone represent respectively the M.O.B., the Scottish National Party and the Yamm. Mr and Mrs vice-presidents of the organisation.

Apart from these, the Central Council is composed of the Secretary General and the Treasurer, the Editors of the Celtic League "Newspaper" and the six National Secretaries. The latter act as links between the Council and the national branches. The proposals for action to the Council and see to it that League policy remains in harmony with that of the national parties.

Their main function is proposed — and any member is welcome to put his suggestions to that effect — the secretary general consults the national secretaries. In certain cases all the members are consulted by correspondence. When the Celtic League held a general assembly in Dublin in 1966, some 100 members put forward resolutions criticising the attitude of the Irish television Service towards their national language and urging a more extensive use of the Irish and Breton languages in Catholic liturgy. They also had a resolution asking for the release of political prisoners from Belfast and Dublin jails. Prior to the meetings members who could not attend were requested to express their views by writing. The two resolutions were adopted. The one concerning television may have helped to secure the subsequent grant of better television programmes. The third resolution was ruled out however because it would have involved the Celtic League in opposition to the Irish government and might have been construed as an approval of unconstitutional activities, contrary to the statutes of the Scottish National Party policies.

Once a year the Central Council of the League meets to review the work done and to discuss plans for the following year. The session of the congress in Dublin, these meetings have all been held so far in Wales, the most central of the Celtic countries. It is the Welsh branch which has the largest membership.

The quarterly "Celtic News" maintains contact between our members and informs them of developments in the national struggles and of the League's ac-

(Continued on Page Twelve)

## Close Look Needed into The E.C.

Britain is going into the Common Market. She would be in now were it not for de Gaulle. Our major Parties are almost unanimously; the Trade Unions are resigned; and British Industry is raring to go.

If, for sake of argument, Scotland and Wales had their own Parliaments they would still be rushing to join the queue. The invariable reason for this common purpose is economic common sense and nothing more or less and whether we like it or not we are going in and there is little point in discussing it. Emotional arguments, fears of foreign domination, racial and cultural decline and other normally valid considerations will be brutally asserted and nothing more. Anyone who opposed entry on those grounds should know beforehand that he is backing a certain loser. Nevertheless we are entitled to consider the effects of entry to the effect of entry on the Highlands and Islands. Our politicians are either passing over the subject or, if they do not, it is not possible to forecast. Yet it would seem almost certain that the effects will be radical as far as our Highlands are concerned and with them all the others connected with agriculture, livestock suppliers, shop keepers and other rural trades. It is the end of hill and margin. The Hon. One Highland M.P. recognises this and was honest enough to oppose his party line. But this is a lone gesture. It is true that they should speak out and tell the truth, painful as it may be. As it is, Highland people are being left to their own devices. Those who support Common Market must believe that it will entail the end of much of Highland life. There is no doubt that they should be forced to make a hopeless but gallant stand like our forefathers who took on the world centuries ago. It is not a matter. In fact neither course is necessary if only our leaders would cease their ridiculous lecturing about us having to be good Europeans and apply themselves to what is happening in similar regions in the community and to what is being done to revitalise them and to put their own economy. It would be right that we, a tiny minority must make great sacrifices for the economic good of the majority but this does not entitle the majority to the whole benefits nor allow them sit back and watch us go out of existence. They in turn must make sufficient sacrifices in order to repay us and revitalise our economy. The Common Market programme in the mountainous areas of France is not one of establishing a few big enterprises round which new economic development is being built. It is not transparent because of the lack of quick access caused by mountain barriers. In our case access is made more difficult because of the moles and islands. Rather the French policy is to establish a multiplicity of small works to be set up by national and local bodies and state enterprises. Positive action is taken to prevent all development going to the traditional industrial areas. In the main, it is to be done by means of T.V. not one word has been said of this and if they don't start soon in contemplation of the inevitable it will be late.

If we find after entry, large areas of the Highlands and Islands go into a serious decline do not let us blame the Continentals but rather our own "Europeans" who failed to reorientate our economy, always providing that they ever had serious intentions on the matter.



# THE CELTIC LEAGUE

(Continued from page 11)

tivities. But our main publication is a substantial annual volume to which writers and leaders of associations in the six countries are invited to contribute. It is through the yearbook that members can get detailed documentation on the various aspects of our national life. The two periodicals are sent to every member in exchange for his annual 10s 0d fee.

The theme of the 1965 book of the Celtic League was "Self Government for the Celtic Countries." It contained detailed statements of the historical, cultural and economic arguments in support of the Breton, Welsh and Scottish claims to control their own affairs. This material was used in the memorandum which we sent in November 1965 to the Secretary General of the United Nations and to the permanent representatives of the member-countries of the world organisation. The book showed also the achievements of forty years of Irish freedom and stated the case for the recognition of special rights to Cornwall and more effective contributions to the Manx Assembly (Tynwald).

The 1966 Book was titled "Recent Developments in the Celtic Countries." Of its nineteen contributors, five were Welsh; four Breton, four Scottish, three Irish, two Manx and one Cornish.

This year we shall feature particular achievements on the linguistic front and study bilingualism as it is practiced in other European countries.

## Human Rights

This lecture illustrated how useful the exchange of ideas and the sharing of experience could be for the solution of our problems. Professor Williams is a recognised authority on bilingual education and he is extremely well-qualified to advise his fellow-Celts on the best way to safeguard the existence of their national languages and retain sufficient command of a major one for international communications. Appreciation for this contribution was shown by the attendance of about a thousand people at the meeting, an impressive figure for a cultural lecture.

I have mentioned our Memorandum to the United Nations as an example showing that our activity is also directed towards making our case for political freedom known to the outside world. In June 1963 we had addressed a memorandum concerning French discrimination against the Breton speakers to the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg. In May 1964, one thousand copies of a pamphlet called "A Case of Discrimination in Brittany: The Struggle of the Etienne Family" were distributed to the press and to influential peoples throughout the world. It may be recognised that in their present state of impotence neither the U.N. nor the Council of Europe can take any action against the infringement of human rights on the territory of any one of their more powerful members. France, which is, together with Spain, the only country to deny its ethical grounds the right

to develop their own language and culture, happens to be one of the States which has done most to hinder the development of political international organisations.

We should like to foster more frequent contacts between our peoples. We have been asked to investigate the possibility of increasing tourism between our countries; of organising sports events between teams from different Celtic countries; of staging an inter-Celtic arts exhibition. Some of the proposals are not practical or their realisation is beyond our present means, financial and staff-wise. But by airing our views and discussing suggestions, we may stimulate others to put them into effect. The Celtic League has given an impetus to social gatherings in London and Liverpool in which people from our different countries take part. A proposal to create a League branch in New York is being considered at the moment; its particular job would be to make 'over aspirations better known in the U.S.A. and Canada.

The Celtic League is not a party. It should avoid duplicating the work of the national organisations. It does not need to yield results continuously in order to justify its existence. It should be an instrument at the service of the national movements, to help them to share their experience and to co-ordinate their moves in the international field. We are on the look-out for opportunities to show the outside world that there are still a few subject nations in Western Europe which are as entitled to self-government as the many new "nations" which joined the U.N.O. in the past fifteen or twenty years. We did not get the same chance because we were in the camp of the victors of World War II. It may be pointed out however that ours are old nations and that there are thirty-odd U.N.O. member-States with a smaller population than Wales.

Only sinologists will say that we are trying to cut ourselves off from contacts with other people. Ireland has shown that political freedom can enable us to fulfil a useful international role particularly in the service of peace. Plaid Cymru states expressly that it does not want any "customs barriers" around Wales. The M.O.B. calls itself "Breton nationalist and European federalists." It is possible to be oneself and to have friendly relations with one's neighbours; to uphold one's own cultural heritage and to take part in international exchanges. To be a nationalist and an internationalist. "This and that," not this or that" would sum up our attitude to the problem of our nation's renaissance in this technological age.

Mr Iain Neil MacInnes, Kirkton of Glenelg, Inverness-shire, Scotland's longest-serving Registrar, died at the Royal Northern Infirmary, Inverness, Saturday. He was 78 years of age and had served for 49 years after succeeding his father as District Registrar.

# Suil Air Carichean

Tha an Triumph 2000 na carbad a tha na 's luaghaig na na 's fearr air cumail an rathaid na carbadan a tha de 'n aon scorsa.

Gabhadh e coig inbhidh gu furasda agus tha na daoine a tha ga chuir ri cheil de 'n bheachd nach eil aobhar air, bith a bhi feuchainn ri siannar a bhruthadh ann. Ma tha seo air a dheanamh, tha iad ag radh nach eil an carbad a coimhionadh feum idir.

Tha an carbad seo cuideachd gu math freagarrach air son duine aig an bheil teaghlach no gur gabhadh na dorsan gladsadh ann an leithid de dhoigh agus nach fosgail clann og iad o an taobh a stigh.

'Se leathar a tha air na suidheachain agus gu dearbh cha gabhadh a bhi na b' fear. Cha mhòr nach fhadadh duine cadal math a dheanamh anns a carbad seo gur gabhadh cùl nan suidheachain toisich ann putach air ais agus an bith iad coltach ri leabaidh. 'Se cur math a tha seo gu a' dhuine m' tha asdar fada air dèidh ri dheanamh—fhad 's nach dean e snuachdan nuair a bhios an an carbad a dol.

Tha an carbad seo cuideachd troidh na 's giorra na carbadan coltach ris. Tha seo air leth math gu h-arraidh a tha tìgan agad air a shon.

Tha sia "cylinders" anns an einnis agus an comar putaidh 1998 c.c.

## Role In Doubt

(Continued from Page One)

### S.N.P. Statement

In a statement issued last night, Mr F. G. Thompson, secretary of the S.N.P. Highlands Area Council, said:—"This new development will be viewed with the greatest concern by the Highland people. In fact, it underlines history, in that the troubles and the problems of the Highlands have their origins in external influences and are not native-born. This, coupled with the fact that attempts at solving Highland needs are being hampered by external influences, indicates that London and indeed Edinburgh, Government has absolutely no interest in the area except to catch votes at Election times by offering a vinegared sponge, too often accepted by the Highland people in good faith. The time of reckoning has surely come."

### LEABHRAICHEAN

**GAI'DHEALACH**  
Dh' fhoasgladh foillsachadh leabhraichean Gaidhealach an Gaidhich sam Beurla an leabhar lann a bhaile an Imbhr Nis Dihaoine. Chaidh so a chur air bhonn leis An National Book League is Bord Leasachaidh na Gaidhealtachd. Bha còrr is 350 leabhar ann follais is gheibh sibh satalag bhon National Book League, 1121 Paisley Road, West Glasgow.

### DINGWALL EX-RECTOR

**DIES**  
Former rector of Dingwall Academy, Ross-shire, Mr Alex W. Mackay, who retired prematurely owing to ill-health after holding the post for 20 years, died on Sunday at his home, Kildonan, Castle Gardens, Dingwall. He was in his early sixties.  
Mr Mackay, who belonged to Golspie, went to Dingwall shortly after World War II, after being headmaster at Helmsdale School.



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## Folk Song Competition

NATIONAL MOD, 1967 (GLASGOW)

Entries are invited for the Gaelic Folk Song Competition to be held on Thursday, 5th October 1967, at 11 p.m. in the Albert Ballroom.

Groups, with or without instrumental accompaniment, will consist of not fewer than 3 and not more than 6 members. Two songs to be sung. NO GAELIC TEST. Closing date for entries 22nd September, 1967.

Cash Prizes and Thistle Records Medals

Entries to:—The Director, An Comunn Gaidhealach, Abertarff House, Inverness.