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With Rash Behind Ears, Very Restless, Cuticura Heals.

"When my child was six months old she had a nasty rash come behind her ears. At times I had to muffle her hands to stop her scratching. It caused her to be very fretful and very restless at night, sometimes she would cry all night. I was advised to try Cuticura. After the first box of Ointment with the Soap she began to get well. After using another box of Ointment she was healed after nearly three years of suffering." (Signed) Mrs. Ada Emma Pitson, 67, Woodside Rd., Tonbridge, Kent, England.

Cuticura Soap to cleanse, Cuticura Ointment to soothe and heal.

Soap 1s., Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Sold throughout the Empire. For sample each free. Address: 2, Newbury St., London, E.C. 4.

Nutrona. The Ideal Tonic for Old and Young. "Meat and Malt." There is no better tonic for the convalescent, the anemic, the undernourished, and the weak and weary. A short spell of Nutrona—three times a day—leads to perfect health. One 4/6 Price. All Leading Chemists.

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SUFFERERS FROM Eczema, Blisters, Pimples, Boils, Eruptions, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Rheumatism, Gout, should realize that lotions, ointments, etc., can only give temporary benefit. To be sure of complete and lasting relief you MUST thoroughly cleanse the blood of the poisonous waste matter, the one cause of such troubles. Clarke's Blood Mixture contains ingredients which quickly overcome and expel the impurities; that's why so many lasting recoveries stand to its credit. Pleasant to take and free from anything injurious.

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Note the Address—T. M. HUNTER, Ltd., SUTHERLAND WOOL MILLS, BRORA.

KILMORACK—M.I.A.—There was a large turnout of members on Wednesday evening to hear Mr. H. Chisholm lecture for his undoubted gifts in the realm of ancient history. The lecturer's method was quite unique, and in imagination he took his audience back to the stone and bronze age, and became a leader of a personally conducted party, describing most vividly the customs and habits in the Highlands, the originality of which is shrouded in the mists of antiquity. Mr. B. Cameron presided as excellent chairman, securing the maximum of criticism and the elucidation of supplementary information by the wise handling of the Society's potential resources.

KAY'S "MINNERD COMPOUND" the oldest and best remedy for Coughs and Colds. Is 3s. 2d. 4s. 6d.

THE LATE REV. ALEXANDER CONNELL CONGREGATION'S BEAUTIFUL TRIBUTE.

After a long and painful illness, Rev. Alexander Connell, minister of Sefton Park English Presbyterian Church, Liverpool, passed away on Wednesday at his residence 4 Alexandra Drive, Liverpool.

A native of Port Appin, near Oban, where he was born 54 years ago, Mr. Connell, after his University and Divinity courses, early gave evidence of rare ministerial graces and gifts, and when well under thirty years of age was appointed minister of the historic church in Regent Square, London, to which congregation he ministered, until on the death of Rev. Dr. John Watson (Ian Maclellan) he was transferred to Sefton Park Church, Liverpool. As that congregation were said to be more "Watsonians" than "Maclellanians," it was feared that the appointment of Mr. Connell, a solid Scottish divine, would make a difference in the personnel of the congregation, but admirers of Dr. Watson very quickly found the magnetic, intense, and reliable quality of the new minister, and rallied round him in the most loyal manner. Sefton Park is one of the foremost half dozen of Presbyterian Churches in England, and its minister occupied a prominent position in the life of the city, and identified himself with every movement for the social and spiritual betterment of its inhabitants, in many of which movements he and Dr. Chavasse, Bishop of Liverpool, were closely associated and worked hand in hand.

A WONDERFUL TRIBUTE.

Along with a cheque for £1205, to their beloved pastor, and a beautiful pendant to Mrs. Connell, the Sefton Park congregation recently presented an address, written by Sir Alfred Dale, alluding to the deep sorrow of the congregation at Mr. Connell's illness. The address includes these sentences:—"Of your ministry, and all that it has been to us, it is not easy to speak. We remember with admiration the quiet strength with which you met and mastered the difficulties that confronted you at the outset of your work; the devotion with which you led and served your people; your wisdom, your sympathy and your faith. You have given your whole self to us, and you had much to give; you have kept back nothing. In the services of the Church, your prayers have carried us very close to the Divine Presence; they have helped to renew our loyalty, and re-kindle our love. You have been faithful with us, not fearing to deal with problems that perplexed the mind and heart, or to enforce duties that were hard. You have not spoken for our pleasure, rather than for our profit; you have never tampered with life or with law. While profoundly grateful for all you have done for us, and for all that you have been to us since you became our pastor, we would make special mention of the power of your ministrations during the years of war. But for you, we might have lost faith, not only in the ultimate triumph of righteousness, but in the very existence of God Himself. We leaned on you, as you leaned on Him, and such strength as we had came to us through you. In our desolate and darkened homes your coming brought consolation and hope. In this time of weakness and pain it is only by our affection and our prayers that we can help you. But we remember you always, and those who are dearest to you. May even the darkness be light about you; and under the shadow may you have untroubled peace and unbroken vision, while the light is growing unto the perfect day."

Mr. Connell, replying in a letter to Alderman Lea, the Session Clerk, said:—"It seems to me incredible that I should merit such a tribute. I am too conscious of work left undone, and of many opportunities lost, not to make some discount from such generous praise. But that does not alter the fact that, while humbled by such wonderful words of appreciation my heart goes out to you in a great rush of love, because you have judged me thus indulgently. More certain than ever am I now that our friendship is for ever; and amid all mortal changes, God is only drawing us the closer to one another, and to Himself."

Mr. Connell was well known to Inverness, for almost every summer, when visiting his brother and sister, Rev. D. Connell and Miss Connell, he occupied for one or two Sundays the pulpit of the West United Free Church, the announcement that he was to preach there, never failing to draw large congregations. To his bereaved widow (only daughter of the late Sir Henry Robson, Hampstead), his family, brother, and sister and other relatives, very sincere sympathy will be extended.

MEMORIAL SERVICE IN WEST U.F. CHURCH.

A memorial service with appropriate music was held in the West U.F. Church, Inverness, on Sunday evening, Rev. John Ross, M.A., Queen Street, Church, conducting. After an appropriate sermon based on the words "David after he had served his own generation, by the will of God, fell on sleep," Mr. Ross, referring to the deceased pastor of Sefton Park said:—"The late Rev. Alexander Connell was from the very beginning an outstanding man. He distinguished himself as collector, and although his ministerial life was, comparatively speaking, a short one, there was so much brilliant work crowded into it that one is surprised to learn that he lived but 54 years. Both in London and in Liverpool his personality and his preaching made a profound impression, and his influence for good extended from these centres throughout England and Scotland. When he preached from the leading pulpits of our own Church in Scotland men felt what a pity it was that England secured his services, but as Alexander Connell was bigger than church, so he was bigger than kingdom, and both England and Scotland today mourn his loss, whilst they give thanks to God for the gift of such a man. Whilst the Church of Christ at large feels his loss to-night, how much more must they who have been connected with him by ties of love and kinship? Over that sacred threshold I would not venture to step, yet I could assure them that you and I tried our best to follow them with our prayers and our sympathy in their time of love and deep anxiety. I could assure them that many hearts in Inverness, and all the hearts in the West Church, beat in sympathy with them when the message came—"Passed quietly away at one o'clock to-day." It was from full hearts that felt every word of the message your telegram went on Thursday morning to Mr. Connell as follows:—"As you have thought of us in our hour of trial and sorrow, so do we of you and yours now. From the office-bearers and congregation of the West United Free Church." It was to represent you all, and to show that you would all be there if you could, that your beautiful wreath was sent, with the following words:—"In sincere sympathy from the congregation of the West U.F. Church." I feel it a privilege to-night to be allowed to join with you in the name of my own

congregation, and the other congregations in the Presbytery, in extending to the widow and family, and to the brother and sister, our sincere sympathy in their hour of sore bereavement. For them it is hard, but "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO LATE MRS GAVIN LANG.

An appropriate and well-arranged service was held in the West Parish Church on Sunday morning, as a memorial to the late Mrs. Gavin Lang, whose funeral took place to Tomnahurich last week. Rev. Neil Maclellan, minister of the Church, and successor to the late Rev. Gavin Lang, officiated, and there was a large congregation. The service was held in the afternoon, as well as the lessons, prayers, and sermon were in keeping with the occasion. The 130th Psalm was sung by the congregation, as well as the hymns "Nearer my God to Thee" and "For Ever with the Lord," while the choir rendered the well known anthem "White Robes" and "O Rest in the Lord" from the "Elijah" which was played on the organ. Rev. Mr. Maclellan, taking as his text, St. John xiv, 2—"In my Father's House are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you—dwell on our Lord's certainty of immortal life, and its guarantee, as given in the latter half of the text. "Earth," said the preacher, "is one of the mansions in our Father's House, and can only be opened by the key of Death. Heaven is not like the Sheol of the ancient Hebrews, a vast partitionless chamber, but a Home of many rooms. Referring more particularly to the late Mrs. Lang, Mr. Maclellan said:—"About 18 months ago, the late pastor of this church and congregation, I had the opportunity of being present at the funeral of his wife, and the large place he occupied in the life of this community. On that occasion, as a congregation, we extended our sympathy to the bereaved. We sorrowed with them in their sorrow. * You will remember that at that time one member of the bereaved family was uppermost in our thoughts, the companion of his life's journey, who despite the devoted care of those who loved her was a lonely and pathetic figure. To-day I am addressing many who knew the late Mrs. Lang much better and more intimately than myself. I was privileged to know her only during her years of waning strength and power, but even during these latter years she was conscious that she was a lady of more than ordinary gifts—one whom it was good to know. Her manifold activities in this church and congregation are so well known to all of you that I need not refer to them here—activities that were continuous till increasing age and infirmities made their continuance impossible. Nor was she remiss in answering the calls and claims of every worthy cause in the Inverness community in which her lot was cast. Her wisdom, her strong common-sense, her warm-heartedness made her the friend and confidant of many, especially the sons and daughters of affliction. My brethren—life has many ministries. There is the ministry of the strong and strenuous and it is needed, but there is also the ministry of passivity, and this ministry of passivity was beautifully illustrated during the last few years of her whose loss we are mourning to-day. One could not enter that room in Mayfield without being conscious that here was indeed a Bethel, and one walked the streets better and stronger man because of the quiet patient endurance and resignation exemplified there."

THE H.R. LOCO. WORKS. COUNCILLOR D. MACLENNAN TAKEN TO TASK.

Sir,—I supported Councillor Donald Maclellan ever since he became a member of the Inverness Town Council, although I did not at all times approve of the stand taken up by him in matters municipal—notably his attitude on the wages question. I felt awfully sorry that instead of backing him up I did not get someone to take Socialist Fraser's place as an opponent at the last municipal election. One could have imagined Councillor Maclellan opposing the Council, yet I am glad he didn't, but it was only natural to expect that Councillor Maclellan, who—although not like his pal in the fish trade—always stood up for "oor ain fish guts for oor ain sea maws," would take a genuinely patriotic stand. Instead of doing so, he favours the removal from our midst of an industry which is the support of at least—including workers and their dependants—about 6000 of the inhabitants of the Highland Capital, not to speak of the source of revenue which its wage bill is to merchants of the town. I trust the worthy Councillor will give this matter a second thought ere he again speaks in public on the question.—I am, Sir, yours, etc., RATEPAYER.

THE GREAT SKIN CURE. BUDDEN'S S.E. SKIN OINTMENT.

It will cure Itching after any application; it cures every form of Eczema; heals old Wounds and Sores; sets like a Charm on Bad Legs; is infallible for Piles; prevents Cuts from festering; will cure Ringworm in a few days; removes the most obstinate eruptions and Scurs; cures Itch post 2d extra. Agents for Inverness—Mackenzie and Co., Chemists; W. J. B. Burns, and Mayor, Chemists; Rosslyn—Mr. Lewis, Bootmaker.

WAR MEMORIAL FUND.—Mr. James Maxwell, Town House, acknowledges the following towards the Inverness War Memorial Fund.—To amount already acknowledged, £2155 9s. 6d.; anonymous, £3 3s.; Balfie Duncan Dufty, Lombard Street, 42 2s.—total, £2160 14s. 6d.

In the task of industrial recovery in northern France, in the devastated districts, where enormous sums are being expended, the trade unions report a shortage of masons, stonecutters, carpenters, paviors, plasterers, plumbers, painters, and other classes of workmen.

"PREPS INTO THE KIRK." (By LUKE WISE.)

"THE POWER-HOUSE." Who cares? Only when a break-down occurs, does anyone give the slightest thought to the workers in the "Power-House," upon whom depend so much for locomotion and progress. Where the Kirk has become established in an unscriptural and unspiritual rite, the explanation may usually be found in the fact that the "power-house" is in a state of disrepair, the machinery out of order, and the word "Ishabod" written up, to the Kirk's disgrace.

The state of affairs has become so common that it is taken as matter of course, and there is an inglorious contentment with this sub-normal experience that permits within its borders such a policy of "nothing doing." Yet there is no dissonant voice when it is asserted that the "power-house" is the secret of the strength and staying-force of the Kirk, and its faithful people, who still remember something of the vanished glory, and sigh for the restoration. "More things are wrought through prayer than the world dreams of," sounds well in quotation, and is, withal, a simple statement of fact; but, since this is undisputed, the mystery deepens as to the tragic wreck of the "power-house." Does the Scottish Kirk realise the potentiality of the "power-house," and the unlimited possibilities that lie within the grasp of those who venture to experiment with its adaptable machinery, and experience its working worth? I doubt it! Does the average Kirk attendee know anything of the sheer attractiveness of the prayer-hour, the surpassing pleasure of the mid-week service, and the exhilarating and stimulating efforts of fellowship in the prayer-life? I doubt it! Do the ministers of the Kirk appraise aright the value of the prayer-meeting in the Kirk's organisation, its particular place as a "well of salvation," its peculiar power of "controlling the situation" in conformity with the hardening tendencies of everyday life, and gauging the rise and fall of the spiritual temperature within the Kirk? I doubt it! Do the Kirk Authorities at headquarters, over-anxious about ways and means, and secondary things like statistics and finance, perceive that the primary reason for Kirk depression, deficiency, and disorganisation, is the closing down of the "power-house," and the refusal to experiment with "the dynamic of all-prayer"? I doubt it!

There must be something radically wrong in the constitution of a Kirk which presumes that successful Christian enterprise is within the realm of possibility without recourse to the "power-house" for the supply of the necessary spiritual reinforcement which undoubtedly it can furnish; why, even a novice in things spiritual might discern that. What shall be said of the Minister of the Kirk, whose training and temperament are so faulty that he has no "power-house" in his provision of ordinances, who never has been seen in this direction himself, and, consequently, cannot give a lead to his people in this, the thing that really matters. There is the worthy Elder, an eminently respectable member of society, in business capacity second to none, whose deep interest in his Kirk is beyond dispute; yet, in the "power-house" stands in unknown territory, and in his programme of activities is quite out of bounds. Because he considers it an unpractical proposition from the business standpoint, and is not prepared to waste an hour on an exercise which apparently yields such poor returns, even though he admits that it is not at all a bad thing for the pious old women and the men who have leisure for contemplation. The Deacon frankly confesses that the question of the "power-house" has never applied to him; his realm is that of finance and administration, and questions relative to devotional practice are too much "in the air" for one who doesn't claim to be an expert in this particular aspect of Kirk life. Of course, he doesn't want to be misunderstood; the "power-house" has its place, and he would be sorry to see it expurgated from the calendar, for, as he says, it gives tone, and lends respectability to the Kirk and its affairs. Our friend, the President, is found in attendance at the "power-house," sometimes from choice, sometimes from the pressure of necessity, and is gradually getting transformed into a capable, if candid, critic of the operations and procedure. His musical soul laments the dullness, and hazards the opinion that, if the Superintendent knew his business better, the "power-house" might become a place of supreme attraction, where attendance would be reckoned as really good form, and absence unpardonable ignorance and rudeness. We are inclined to agree with the President's verdict, for on no other question is there so much palpable ignorance as there is on the "power-house," its sterling working worth, and its promise of delights. Pulpit and Pew are noted sinners in this matter, and there is urgent need for a readjustment of the mental and spiritual focus of all Kirk-goers, in order that, with a clearer perspective, they may appreciate aright the comparative value of things, and place "first things first."

The ultimate authority of the "power-house," its place, its operations, and possibilities, is the "Mind of the Master" for, in the frequenting of its precincts, the exercise of its privileges, and the proclaiming of its utility and energy, there is no other such outstanding figure as He; and the ordinary man runs no risk in taking his stand with Him, as opposed to other authorities, social, ecclesiastical, and material. On the portals of the "power-house," "Privilege," not "Duty," is inscribed, and only those who avail themselves of its blessings, for to the utterance and the alien it does not unlock its secrets, nor furnish its pleasures. Let no one suppose that the "power-house" is something apart from the life of the individual, the Kirk, the nation, or the universe, the "power-house" is the Divine order, as Granger Fleming aptly puts it, "an integral part of the Cosmos."

Next week—"The Kirk that Sings."

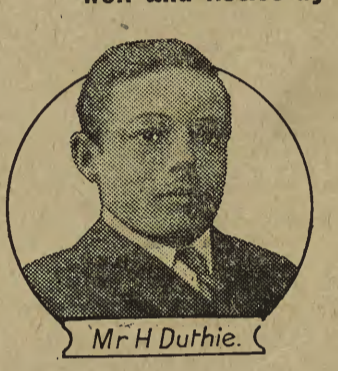
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Nerve Power Quite Gone Helpless for Two Years Despite Treatment. Then Made Well and Active by Dr Cassell's Tablets.



Mr. H. Duthie.

Mr. H. Duthie, 39 Queen Street, West Hartlepool, says:—"I was paralysed for two years, and Dr Cassell's Tablets have cured me completely. That is the plain, straight-forward truth, and I think it is marvellous. One morning while dressing, the power went out of my legs quite suddenly, and I collapsed on the floor. I was helpless, and so I remained for two years. The pain I endured at times was awful. I couldn't sleep for it. So complete was the paralysis that I had to be lifted in and out of bed; I couldn't even turn over. Sometimes I was taken out in a bath chair, and I had to be carried into that. I didn't eat well at this time, and food often caused pain at my chest, but it was the terrible pain in my legs and the absolute helplessness that troubled me. The opinion was that I could never walk again, and even my life was despaired of. Very soon I felt they were doing me good, in a few weeks I was able to get up. Then I went about on crutches, but only for three weeks; by the end of that time I was cured, and could go about as freely and easily as anybody."

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A DOSE A DAY Whenever you find yourself getting out of sorts, you will be wise to make a practice of taking a dose of Beecham's Pills every day until your health is perfectly satisfactory again. In this way you may often save yourself from a more or less serious breakdown involving a great deal of discomfort and expense. Beecham's Pills are recognised all the World over as a splendid preventive of, and remedy for, the common disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. They also have an excellent tonic effect and bring about a delightful sensation of energy and fitness. There's nothing to equal Beecham's Pills as a means of maintaining health and vigour. Sold everywhere. 1s. boxes, labelled 1s-3d and 3s-0d.

MOTHER SEEDS SYRUP

FOR PAINS AFTER EATING, FLATULENCE, ACIDITY, HEADACHES, BILIOUSNESS, CONSTIPATION & OTHER STOMACH & LIVER TROUBLES.

PROVOST MACDONALD AND THE "HIGHLAND NEWS."

Wait-and-See Policy Regarding Railway Grouping. SPECIAL MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL.

A Nice Compliment.

In our Saturday's publication, the writer of "Under the Town Clock" strongly advocated the calling of an emergency meeting of Inverness Town Council for the express purpose of discussing the grouping of railways under the new scheme of transport. The destiny of the Highland Railway is bound up with this scheme, the details of which may be expected at any moment.

The subject, which is of the utmost importance to the whole North of Scotland, was under review at a special meeting of the Council held on Monday night, when Mr Wm. Fraser opened the debate in a general statement, which is given below. From the outset, however, Provost Macdonald was opposed to the suggestion made by the "Highland News" last Saturday, and approved by several members of Council, that immediate joint action should be taken with northern and Eastern public bodies. On his own confession, the Chief Magistrate of Inverness is an advocate of the fatal policy of wait-and-see. Unfortunately, on Monday night, the division showed that a majority favoured this policy. The decision arrived at is that in the meantime the Town Clerk write the Lord Advocate for the purpose of ascertaining the exact policy of the Ministry of Transport.

Co-operation with other public bodies is to be left until an official pronouncement is made. But the article in last week's "H.N." has had a beneficial effect—it has aroused the Council to the supreme importance of the question.

Opening the debate on Monday night, Mr William Fraser said:—Mr Provost and gentlemen, you will recollect that some time ago I brought forward a motion in connection with the grouping of railways, and the effect of that policy would be to place upon Inverness. Since then matters have developed, and there have been various meetings held in connection with the grouping of railways at the office of the Ministry of Transport in London. You will recollect that in July we had a meeting with the Lord Advocate (Mr T. B. Morrison), and he assured us that before anything would take place we would be consulted, and that he would look after our interests. We have heard nothing since then, and there have appeared in the public prints many reports of meetings, and we find that matters are now shaping round, so that very soon a Bill will be presented to Parliament with the proposals dealing with the proposals of the Ministry of Transport. I find that other towns are seriously concerned in this matter, and I have here a report of a meeting held in Aberdeen the other day. The report gives an account of an address delivered by Mr George Davidson, the general manager of the Great North of Scotland Railway Company, at the weekly meeting of Aberdeen Rotary Club. Mr Davidson outlined the proposals and the effect they would have on the railways of Scotland, and he advocated that instead of having one railway centre in Scotland, there should be two—one on the West Coast and the other on the East Coast. Mr Davidson was asked if he thought that that was workable, and this was his reply: I quote from the Press report:—"Mr Davidson stated that the Minister of Transport had an open mind on the proposals in his White Paper, and he (Mr Davidson) urged the members of the Rotary Club as public men to give them serious consideration, and not to withhold their views at the present critical juncture in the history of the transport industry. With this object in view, the meeting asked Mr Davidson to prepare a summary of his address for discussion at a future meeting, and he agreed to do so." It would appear, Mr Provost and gentlemen, as if they were seeking to have a group in Aberdeen. The Chamber of Commerce and other bodies in Aberdeen are taking up the matter as one of urgency. I think it is time for us in Inverness to move in the matter, and I would suggest that to-night we should get into communication with the Lord Advocate, and find out from him what he has been doing in the interval on behalf of the interests of our town and the North of Scotland. I would go further, and suggest that we get into communication with all the public bodies—our own County Council and the Town and County Councils of Nairn, Ross and Cromarty, and Sutherland, because we know that this is a matter that appeals not only to our town—we know that it would affect us very seriously, and we cannot afford to lose a single person—but it also affects the whole of the North of Scotland, and we cannot afford to lose any of the industries we have. I feel that the original proposals would not only deplete the workshops but the offices as well. It would affect the town of Inverness and district, and also the working of the system so far as the North of Scotland is concerned. We know that the Minister of Transport has made it quite clear that the object in view is to cut down what he calls unnecessary competition. That is, to get the business community, because competition is a healthy thing. It is, therefore, time for us to move in the matter.

I have the information—I cannot disclose it—that grouping is going to take place, and it will seriously affect Inverness. I hope that as the custodians of the government of this town, we will do everything possible to safeguard our interests.

WAIT AND SEE!

Provost Macdonald—No one will object to free discussion on this matter seeing that we have given Mr Fraser permission to raise it. It is very desirable that this should be so. Now, I would call your attention to the fact that the Member of Parliament for the County (the Lord Advocate) gave us a definite promise that he would keep the interests of the town in this matter in view. My experience of Mr Morrison is that he can be trusted. So far as I know he is a straightforward member, and very keen to do anything that affects our interests.

Personally, I would be inclined to wait and see before we do anything. There is no reason why we should not have an expression of opinion in the matter. Before taking any definite step we might remit the matter to the Lord Advocate again. I have every confidence in Mr Morrison, although we do not go to the same political lines. I shall be glad to hear any other gentleman who wishes to

speak on the matter. What is the precise nature of your motion, Mr Fraser? Mr William Fraser—The precise nature of my motion, Mr Provost, is that we communicate with the Lord Advocate, and find out what he has been doing in our interests, and that we get into touch with other public bodies to co-operate with us.

The Provost—Would you not confine your motion just now to communicating with Mr Morrison before calling the other public bodies together? Mr Fraser—I would be delighted, but I am anxious that this matter should not be delayed.

TO CHECKMATE ABERDEEN.

Mr James Macdonald—I have much pleasure in seconding Mr Fraser's motion. While we can communicate with the Lord Advocate, there is no reason why we should not bring the matter before the attention of public bodies in the North of Scotland. I don't mean that we should go out into the highlands and byways and proclaim what we are doing, so that we may be prepared. Aberdeen is already pulling the strings, and they have their eye on the works being transferred to Inverness. It is time that Inverness was doing something to checkmate that move.

Mr Don Noble—I would move as an amendment that before calling together a conference with the representatives of Northern burghs, we should first ascertain from the Lord Advocate whether he has any further information on this question. If we do call such a conference, I am afraid we will have nothing definite to put before it—the talk would be pretty much in the air. Mr William Fraser has apparently got some information himself, and it might be advisable to include that information, or as much of it as is advisable—in the letter from the Town Clerk to the Lord Advocate. That would enable us to find out whether there is any foundation for the statement. Of course, there might be private information in the Lord Advocate's reply which would preclude discussion at a public meeting.

The Provost (to Mr William Fraser)—Will you accept that motion as sufficient? It is a very reasonable request. There is no use in having such a meeting as you suggest, because the thing is—

DANGER OF DELAY.

Mr Wm. Fraser—I would be delighted to do that, but I am sorry I cannot do it. What I feel is that we cannot delay this matter a moment. That is my feeling. Mr Noble—We can ask the Lord Advocate for a reply in course, and then call another meeting. Baillie Macallan—I have great sympathy for Mr Fraser in the attitude he takes up. We are very much indebted to him for raising the question. His motion is a result of the meeting we had with the Lord Advocate here not very long ago. Speaking for myself, I attach no value to the statement made on that occasion. The second point that occurred to me was when Mr Fraser was drawing attention to the statement made by the manager of the Great North of Scotland Railway Company.

The Provost—Are you seconding? Baillie Macallan—I am not very sure. You opened the meeting for discussion. I am not entirely in agreement with Mr Fraser. The Provost—Then you are seconding Mr Noble's amendment? Baillie Macallan—if you'll allow me— The Provost—Then we'll get someone else to second it. Baillie Macallan—Please yourself! Mr W. G. Sutherland—I second Mr Noble's amendment.

Baillie Macallan (to the Provost)—Apparently you don't want free discussion. The Provost—Yes I do, but I want it in order. Baillie Macallan—Well, I was going to say that so far as I know, the Rotary Club of Aberdeen is not exactly the place where commercial questions should be discussed. I should imagine that the address delivered by Mr Davidson, of the Great North of Scotland Railway, would be more in order if given to the members of Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce. It looks as if he went out of his way to address the Rotary Club on this question. Why should the Rotary Club hear Mr Davidson? This is a matter that affects the whole of Scotland. We might get the General Manager of the Highland Railway to do something similar to what Mr Davidson did in Aberdeen. If you are going to approach the Lord Advocate, you might send him a statement which the General Manager of the Highland Railway might make, and ask him if he knows anything about the proposal of making Aberdeen the centre of the East Coast group.

Baillie W. G. Mackay—That is not a proposal. Baillie Macallan—When it comes to deal with the North of Scotland, the whole of the North will have to move in the matter. We can write to the Lord Advocate and find out how Inverness is going to be affected. I cannot imagine a grouping scheme centralised on the East Coast. Geographically, there could not be a better position than Inverness. If the Lord Advocate has the interests of his constituents at heart he would inquire into the matter, and make a visit to Inverness, if that is possible.

LIKE ABERDEEN!

Mr Gallon—I associate myself with Mr Noble's amendment. We have nothing tangible before us, and it would be well to wait until we hear from the Lord Advocate. My own experience of Mr Morrison is that he is most attentive to all business enquiries. Baillie Mackay—My opinion is that nothing of real moment has transpired since our last meeting, and Mr Fraser is not disclosed to us the exact nature of his information. The best plan is to adopt Councillor Noble's amendment, and get a reply from the Lord Advocate before we take any further steps. As to Mr Davidson's address to the members of Aberdeen Rotary Club, nothing definite is known as to the suggested group for the East Coast of Scotland.

Mr Wm. Fraser—I is definite information. Baillie Macallan—That's quite like the Aberdeenians (laughter). Mr MacVinish—I support Mr Fraser's amendment. According to reports in the newspapers, the Ministry of Transport are making rapid progress with their scheme. By the time you organise the Northern Counties you

will have an opportunity of hearing from the Lord Advocate. That would keep the whole matter in order. Mr Donald MacLennan—We have heard a lot about the railways to-night. The subject on this subject we were told by Councillor William Fraser that the works were going to be situated at Inverness. It is a matter for the railway company themselves; they can carry on their business without the Town Council of Inverness dictating to them. If the Highland Railway Company find that it is not paying, they are entitled to remove to another quarter. There can be no doubt that the Highland Railway Company, like the individual ratepayer, is feeling the burden of local rates. What has the Town Council of Inverness done for the Highland Railway? Nothing but pile on the rates (laughter). Let the railway companies settle their own affairs.

Mr Thomas Macdonald—There is not much difference between the motion and the amendment. Mr Rod Macpherson—We are indebted to Councillor William Fraser for raising this question. It is very important that we should organise the whole of the North of Scotland, as the matter affects the Highlands. It is said that the Lord Advocate should have communicated with the Town Council ere now.

It is common knowledge in Inverness that the clerical staffs of the Highland Railway Company are working overtime making up a statement, or statements, for the Ministry of Transport.

Mr James Sinclair (Labour)—I agree about the necessity of getting the other public bodies together. I recognise that a statement coming from Mr Davidson, general manager of the Great North of Scotland Railway Company, is a statement that implies inspired information. There appears to be a move to create a second railway group on the East Coast, and it is quite evident that Aberdeen will pull all the wires to get that. While we may depend on Mr Morrison interesting himself in the matter, I think we ourselves should act so as to ginger up the Ministry of Transport in the hope of having the second group in Inverness.

Treasurer John Young—I support Mr Noble's amendment. What appears to me is that we have nothing tangible to present to a meeting of public bodies. Everything is in the air. We have nothing but hearsay to go upon up to the present.

Baillie Duffy—A policy of aggressiveness should be pursued at this stage. We all recognise that during the past six years the administrative record of the Government has led to great expenditure, and also for a demand that this expenditure should cease. We should do everything possible to safeguard the industries of this ancient and Royal burgh. For that reason we should not lag behind.

THE PROVOST AND THE "HIGHLAND NEWS."

The Provost—From what I can gather, it seems that there is a majority in favour of Councillor Wm. Fraser's motion.

I think that this meeting is more of a nice compliment to the writer of "Under the Town Clock" in last Saturday's "Highland News." The writer of that column advocated on Saturday last the policy which has been supported here to-night. He thinks that the best plan is to call all the public bodies in the North and East together. This is the matter, without having any definite information to give these bodies. As a matter of fact, we have nothing at all to go upon. The member for the County may be trusted to give us all information on this question.

Baillie Macallan—The Bill has not even been introduced. Baillie Mackay—We are the only town who has moved in the matter.

Mr William Fraser—I am very sorry, Mr Provost, that you should have made these remarks. You say that nothing definite is before the public, but you'll admit that Mr Davidson has got something definite to submit. You will see that he talks about the personnel of the management under the new scheme of grouping. I submit there is something definite to proceed upon. As regards the remarks of Councillor MacLennan, I can only say that he has spoken from the Capitalist's point of view. He is a shareholder of the Highland Railway Company, and he is looking for his dividend. Mr MacLennan—I deny the thing entirely. You have nothing in the Highland Railway, and you talk about putting it in order. You forsooth! (loud laughter).

Mr William Fraser—Before we get in touch with the Lord Advocate, we should co-operate with the public bodies in the East and North of Scotland. After further debate, a division was challenged, with the following result:— For Wm. Fraser and the Provost, Baillie Macallan, Baillie Mackay, Treasurer Young, Messrs MacLennan, Smith, W. G. Sutherland, T. Macdonald, Don Noble, Gallon, and Miss Nancy Mackay 11. For Getting Things Done—Baillie Duffy, Messrs MacVinish, Kennedy, Wm. Fraser, James Macdonald, Rod Macpherson, Alex. Lindsay, and James Sinclair—8.

The Town Clerk was thereupon instructed to write the Lord Advocate, and, if so advised, to call an emergency meeting of Council.

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Table with columns: Stations, Week Days, Sun. Rows include London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Perth, Strathpeffer, Inverness, etc.

Table with columns: Stations, Week Days, Sun. Rows include Lybster, Wick, Thurso, Brora, Elgin, Grantown, Arisaig, Struan, Dundee, Perth, Inverness, etc.

Wednesday and Friday only. C Via Inverness. d Leaves at 12 noon on Saturdays. e Arrives at 8.1 p.m. on Saturdays. f Departure times from London on Saturday nights. g On Sunday nights but not on Saturday nights. h Saturdays only. i Runs via Larbert. j Connection from Lybster on Saturdays only. k Leaves at 2.10 p.m. on Saturdays. o Saturday and Sunday nights excepted. Through carriage and sleeping saloon. Routes to Inverness by the train. Note—First and Third Class Passengers holding Tickets from London on Saturday nights. Passengers are not entitled to break the journey when travelling by the alternative route. r Through Carriage with Sleeping Saloon Inverness to Kuston by this train. Note—First and Third Class Passengers holding Tickets from London on Saturday nights. Passengers are not entitled to break the journey when travelling by the alternative route. s Through Carriage with Sleeping Saloon Inverness to Kuston by this train. Note—First and Third Class Passengers holding Tickets from London on Saturday nights. Passengers are not entitled to break the journey when travelling by the alternative route.

STEAMER SAILINGS For NOVEMBER, or until Further Notice. (Subject to Alteration or Withdrawal without Notice.)

The Public are respectfully informed that for NOVEMBER, or until further notice, the Service will be as follows (weather, etc., permitting):— The Steamers of David Macbrayne, Ltd., will ply as under:— OUTER ISLANDS AND HARRIS MAIL STEAMER (Subject to Alteration or Withdrawal without Notice.) From Kyle of Lochalsh on Mondays (St. Patrick's Day), calling at Mallaig, Elgin, Thurso, Oronsay, Lochbaidale, and Lochmaddy; and on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11.15 a.m. calling at Soolby, Tarrat, Rodal and Lochmaddy. From Lochmaddy on Tuesdays at 5.0 a.m., calling at Rodal, Strathpeffer, Strathgairn, arriving at Kyle of Lochalsh about 3.0 p.m. From Lochmaddy on Wednesdays at 8.30 a.m., calling at Lochbaidale, Soolby, Tarrat, Rodal, Elgin, Mallaig, Arranmore and Glenelg, arriving Kyle of Lochalsh about 3.30 p.m. on Thursdays. Leave Lochmaddy on Fridays at 10.30 a.m., calling at Danneberg, Lochbaidale, Mallaig, Arranmore and Glenelg, arriving Kyle of Lochalsh about 3.30 p.m. on Saturdays. KYLE, PORTER AND STORNOWAY MAIL STEAMERS Mail Steamer will leave Kyle of Lochalsh on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only at 4.0 p.m. for Arranmore and Stornoway; and Stornoway on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays only at 2.30 a.m. for Arranmore and Stornoway; and Stornoway on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7.0 a.m. for Lanesay, Broadford, and Kyle of Lochalsh. KYLE-XYLANTHERRY STEAMERS The Lanesay gives Notice that Xylantherry, carrying Passengers, Mails and Light Trains, will sell every week-day (weather and this permitting) as under:— From Kyle of Lochalsh at 9.45 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.; from Kyleakin (Old Pier) at 10 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Fare for the Single Journey, 6d. Luggage, other than animals, parcels, accompanying passengers, 6d. per package. Special Trips during the day may be arranged with Ferryman at the fare of 6d. per person (including charges for each trip, 2d. from 1st April to 31st March). The Day Service between Kyle of Lochalsh and Kyleakin (Old Pier) on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 8.0 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.; and between Kyle of Lochalsh and Kyleakin (Old Pier) on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7.0 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Trips made outside these hours, whether with cargo or passengers, are subject to an additional charge. The Rates for Goods and Live Stock (including Mails, Carriage, and other charges) can be obtained from the Stationmaster at Kyle of Lochalsh on application. When necessary, calls will be made for Mails, MOUNTAIN AND COAST GUARDS, and other services. THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND AND ORKNEY AND SHET-

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A FINAL WORD ON FUNDAMENTALS.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BURGH OF STORNOWAY.

The root cause of the industrial upheaval during the past few weeks is to be found in the age-long distrust of the classes by the masses.

What influence will the "No-License" Resolution have upon the spirit of revolt which has brought the country to the verge of irretrievable disaster?

If you vote "No-License" every retail licensed business must close, and many thousands of the best type of working men in the district will be compelled in a single night to change the habits of a lifetime.

An ailing mother, wife or child may in urgent cases be ordered a little Brandy or Wine under a medical prescription, and the "No-License" Resolution will make it impossible for you to procure a supply of either.

And, be it remembered, these restrictions will apply to the working classes alone.

The "No-License" Resolution provides your well-to-do neighbours with the opportunity of getting all the liquor they want whenever they like, without let or hindrance.

These are facts, not arguments, and cannot be disputed.

Is it not obvious that the "No-License" Resolution will offer a direct incitement to class feeling and intensify the activities of the preachers of red revolution?

On all counts the "No-License" Resolution stands condemned as a provocative, undemocratic and reactionary measure, which must inevitably accentuate and aggravate existing evils by placing them beyond the reach of all supervision and control.

Every elector must seriously examine the question in the cold light of reason and practical common sense, and away from the glare of passion and prejudice.

The time for sane and cool reflection is now.

Highland News.

INVERNESS, Saturday, November 27, 1920.

NATIONAL ECONOMY.

Nowhere, and least of all in Government circles, will the attention now being directed to matters of national economy be regretted. It is the business of any Government to welcome rational criticism on this score, but very seldom in recent experience have the wild charges circulated throughout the country been substantiated in the House of Commons.

This is not a problem peculiar to the present time to Great Britain. Mr Reginald McKenna, whose financial knowledge is admitted by all political parties, says that Government expenditure in all countries must be reduced. But he recognises the causes following the war, which everywhere have led to an inflated scale of spending.

One or two other items of Government expenditure may be stated and explained in order to put the question—Is the Government at fault? The National Debt charges, which may be otherwise expressed, broadly as the interest payable on the cost of the war, amounts for the current financial year to £345,000,000 as compared with £24,000,000 in the year before the war!

No Government can afford to lay itself open to charges of extravagance, and the type of criticism that the Lloyd George Government has had to meet has not been helpful. Much of it has been contradictory and more of it futile.

At the last meeting of the Edinburgh University Celtic Society a very interesting paper was delivered by Mr Hugh Watson, on Spitzbergen.

E. U. C. S.

LETTERS FROM STORNOWAY TO DURHAM COUNTY.

LETTER 19. Stornoway, Nov. 20, 1920.

Dear A— It is a long time since I wrote you anything about golf, and I think it is time to remind you that Golf Fever is still raging in Stornoway.

It is a long time since I wrote you anything about golf, and I think it is time to remind you that Golf Fever is still raging in Stornoway. It is true that the majority of the players are flagging in their zeal now that November has come with its dreary and dark days, but there is one golfing clique who do not worry about darkness or dreariness, and still manage to take a lot of golf even in these days of gloomy unpropitious weather.

There is the car, there is the leader and his partner and their two opponents and off they go. Perhaps I should not have spoken a leader. When I think it over it seems difficult to specify which one of them is the leader, but I have chosen the man I have mentioned as being the leader partly for his bulk; he looks the most important of them all, whatever he may be in actual fact. I have chosen him, too, as the leader "par excellence" because of his great enthusiasm.

One thing the Government has not been afraid of is the imposition of the heaviest burden of taxation upon the shoulders best able to bear it. Our financial troubles would be on a fair way to solution if industrial men and women would realise the need for industrial production and industrial thrift.

When our golfer has hit his ball and it soars away on happy pinion, he does not take his clubs immediately and walk away. No, he exhibits one of the most characteristic symptoms of that disease which has him in its grip. He stands quite still with the club in the air watching his ball.

One thing the Government has not been afraid of is the imposition of the heaviest burden of taxation upon the shoulders best able to bear it. Our financial troubles would be on a fair way to solution if industrial men and women would realise the need for industrial production and industrial thrift.

However, it is not the drive that leads to the worst symptoms of the golf fever. Driving certainly brings on some curious symptoms, as I have shown, but it is in the sphere of putting that the delirium

reaches a maximum. A very long putt makes everybody in the vicinity go off his head with excitement. The lucky man who performs the feat leads off the festivities by dancing a polka-mazurka on the green sward. His partner honours him by a grave salute, as if he were Field-Marshal Haig. Their opponents neither dance nor salute; their part consists in groans and mutterings of "Dear me!" and "Isn't that perfectly wonderful?" but the saluting partner has not done by any means. The saluting is over and returned by the hero of the hour with solemn formality, but more is yet to come. The gratified partner forthwith calls words to his aid, as, for example "Splendid, my dear sir." "You are a credit to the community," or words to that effect. The hero himself is speechless. Words fail him; he cannot speak for emotion. I cannot help thinking that many of those great "putts" which are the wonder of our golf links are merely due to luck. I certainly cannot see how the great preparations for a putt can do the good they are supposed to do. If you watch a man putting you will see him doing weird and wonderful things which to your mind cannot help him. He will put the club in front of the ball, then put it behind it again. Then he will bend forward and measure with a careful and discriminating eye the distance from ball to hole. If he is a very bad case he will lie on his belly on the green turf and do something very mysterious with his watch. Then he will rise again and put his club before the ball once more, and by and by he will hit it from behind with very loving care and very thoughtful precision. If it goes into the hole from a considerable distance, the performance which I have indicated above will take place but if it does not go into the hole his behaviour will be vastly different. The most dreadful things occur when a ball is missed from a short distance. The golfer who misses a very short putt is a golfer whom it is worth while to watch. In vino veritas is a proverb which means that it is when a man is drunk that you can tell his true character, for the gift will then be off the gingerbread; but I would make a new proverb of my own, which, however, I cannot put in Latin, because I do not know what the Latin for a golfer is. But it will do in English quite as well, and can be expressed thus—"Watch the man who has missed a few inches putt. If you watch such a man at such a point, you will assuredly know his true inward self. That is the acid test of a true golfer's character.

When our golfers have left Stenish behind them, please do not think that their game has gone into the oblivion of dead and forgotten things. Ah! no. You will hear all about it next morning when you visit your barber for your shave. If the barber himself has been there (for he is sometimes one of those who come in that motor car), you will get a shave of great interest. You will be back on that pad which has cushioned so many worthy heads, and you will be entertained with a full history of that game from the very start till the very finish. He will not only tell you every hole he played himself, but also every hole the others played. Because life is short and time is fleeting, he will not have time to relate how many times the ball went into casual water, or how often it got among sand or cow's dung. But he could do it; the same man could tell you which of them sneezed at their third hole, and which of them looked like saving a bad word at the eleventh. If ever I get a hold of that fellow Pelman I will tell him some real hot home truths. "Come hither," I will say; "come hither, you Pelman man. What do you mean by asking folks to waste their money on a course of memory training when there is a game called golf which does more good to the memory than ever your system can do?" "Prove it," he will doubtless say. That is just what I would be waiting for. "Come along with me to a barber's shop not very far from the Quay and I will convince you of the justice of my case." So I will haul him along, being careful to choose a Thursday, for the barber goes to Stenish on Wednesday, and thus Thursday will be the day when his memory will be red-hot. That Pelman fellow will totter from that shop convinced that he has a rival, and that not a system but a game. I think the barber's memory is good in any case, but the golf instinct irradiates it till it shines with scintillating light. If he has not been down himself, he has enough interest in the remaining members of the clique to cloot over their prowess, and as news travels very quickly to that shop, you are safe any day to be fed on golfing news if you patronise his premises. The old days he used to ask the man in the chair, "Am I hurting you?" but now he has no breath left to do it. He needs his breath to detail with loving care all that happens down at Stenish when the clique gets properly to work. It is a grand drama, and the very best people in the land belong to it. They motor down to the Links like princes of the blood, and law and saddle and barrow and ex-builder fraternalise in a beautiful and wonderful manner. After all, golf is a good fever; it does not send you to the hospital, but rather keeps you from it. It is a fever that keeps you well and fit and keeps the doctor away. What a strange fever it must be, unlike all the other fevers that I have heard about! Yet it is a fever, nevertheless. What but a virtuous fever would make man behave as it does! And yet, when I think it over, it looks to me as if it would not be a bad thing if this fever spread and knocked down a few more victims. When all is said and done, you cannot help having respect for a fever that keeps you healthy, gives you memory and cements friendship, yet in barbers' shops in consequence. Long may such a fever be virulent in our land!—Your affectionate friend, J. N. M.

NAIRN NEWS.

APPOINTMENT TO ROSTH—Rev. George Scanlon, at one time minister of Nairn Congregational Church, and afterwards of Falkirk, has been appointed to the charge of the Church of Scotland at Rosth in place of Rev. Webster Neilson. Mrs Scanlon is the only daughter of Provost and Mrs Macrae, Beechwood, Nairn.

NAIRN BRIDE FOR STONEHAVEN.—On Friday King's College Chapel was the scene of the wedding of Mr John Hunter, of Farm of Toncks, about 10 miles from Stonehaven, and Miss Annie F. Wilson, daughter of Mr and Mrs George Wilson, Nairn. Rev. Mr Michie, of the South U.P. Church, Stonehaven officiated. The bridesmaid was Miss I. T. Wilson, and the duties of groomsmen were discharged by Mr R. Mitchell, Stonehaven. The favourite wedding marches, Mendelssohn's, and that from Lohengrin, played by Miss Christie, and a recitation was held in the Grand Hotel. The happy bride goes to a pretty home, the two farms of Toncks and Feathers being well known as beauty spots in the neighbourhood of Stonehaven.

EARLY EDITION.

THURSDAY EVENING.

STORNOWAY.

TIDE TABLE—HIGH WATER.

Table with tide information for November and December, including times for morning and evening high water.

HEERING FISHING.—During the week several excellent shots of herrings were landed at Stornoway from Loch Snizort.

AFTER THE STORM.—The Danish vessel Vega put into Stornoway on Thursday, having experienced the full force of the recent storm.

PATHSCOPE EXHIBITION.—On Friday evening in the Y.M.C.A. Hall the members of the Red Triangle Club were entertained to a Pathscope display operated by Councillor S. B. Fletcher.

HOUSING SCHEME.—In reply to the letter sent by the Stornoway Town Council with reference to the sites for houses to be erected under the Municipal Housing Scheme, a telegram has been received from Lord Leverhulme stating that he is willing to grant the sites asked for on Gothill Road.

CHARLES ORROCK.

An intimate friend of the late Chamberlain of the Lewis writes us:—

Your kindly and interesting paragraph in your last issue on the death of Mr Charles Orrock has given all his friends, and they are indeed many, a deep sense of obligation to you.

In the compass of one short week a fell and insidious disease has removed Mr Orrock and his beloved daughter, the pride and joy of her affectionate family.

No man in public life in the Island of Lewis was of more unassuming style than our friend. As often happens in the case of such men their reserve of sterling qualities of heart and character is only fully known to those with whom they have had long and intimate intercourse.

His life was a very strenuous one, and he faced his many official troubles with quiet and brave firmness. No one need be told that the task of Chamberlain of the Lewis has always been an irksome and onerous one, and every one will agree that Charles Orrock performed his task with great devotion to his provisor and with tact, judgment and good soundness to the tenants and general public.

It is a striking fact that he had a close personal knowledge of every crofting family in the Island. His personal relation was not the outcome of special effort, but had grown up in the course of many years of kindly estate administration, and it was much appreciated.

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DEATH OF MISS MARY ORROCK.

Last week we had to chronicle the sad death of Mr Charles Orrock from typhoid fever, and now it is our mournful duty to record the death of his only daughter, Miss Mary Orrock, from the same foul scourge that has just swept with such malignant results over the burgh.

When her father was taken away, Mary was too ill to be told, and she never knew that the parent she loved so dearly had just preceded her to "that bourne whence no traveller returns." Verily, "In their death they were not divided."

Bright, sunny and cheerful, without affectation, she had a pleasant smile and kindly words for all, and with all who knew her she was a universal favourite.

The bond of affection between her father and herself was something out of the common, they were in fact—"chums," a word which conveys more than a volume can express; and the same holds true of the relationship existing between her mother and herself.

When her father was taken away, Mary was too ill to be told, and she never knew that the parent she loved so dearly had just preceded her to "that bourne whence no traveller returns." Verily, "In their death they were not divided."

Comment on the heavy blow that has fallen on the devoted wife and mother. The hand of God has been laid in great heaviness on the household of Mrs Orrock; and we, as finite mortals, can only bow in adoring and humble submission to the Divine Will, which we can neither comprehend nor understand.

At the Parish Church on Sunday there was a special memorial service in the evening. At the morning service Chopin's Funeral March was played by Master Alex. W. Armstrong, who acted as organist. In the evening Miss Russell took the organ and played the Dead March in Saul, the congregation standing.

The pulpit was occupied by Mr Gellan, who, taking for his text 2 Samuel xii-23—"I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me," delivered an able and eloquent address in which he dwelt on the question of the mutual recognition of friends hereafter. At the close, referring to the tragic death of Miss Orrock he said:—

My brethren, never before has it fallen to my lot to pay a last tribute of respect, on two successive Sundays, to late members of the same family. During the past week, the hand of God has been laid in great heaviness on the household of Mrs Orrock; and we, as finite mortals, can only bow in adoring and humble submission to the Divine Will, which we can neither comprehend nor understand.

And it is so often pray and plead for what the Almighty, in His wisdom, sees fit to withhold. I am sure there scarcely a household connected with this congregation from which a petition for the life of Mary Orrock was not offered—if not in words, certainly in intensity of feeling. The tragic suddenness of Mr Orrock's death, last Sunday morning, created in the community a tense desire that the life of his daughter might be spared.

But it was not to be. On Thursday night at 11 o'clock she fell asleep. Deeply attached to earth, our Christian faith, teaches us to believe that father and daughter are already reunited in glory everlasting. They have gone to be with Christ, which is far better than anything earth can bestow.

As in the case of David, our petition, on our own terms, was refused; but we are sure that the Divine comfort which came to him will not be denied here. In due time the members of this sorrowing household will be enabled to say—"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord."

The late Miss Orrock's life on earth was brief, but I am sure it was happy. She was reared in an ideal home, surrounded by every comfort and surrounded by the love and devotion of most attached parents. Moreover, she, herself, was all sunshine, the very embodiment of a most charming and attracting personality.

There was, perhaps, no greater favourite in the town of Stornoway; and I am sure we shall all miss her winsome presence and pleasing address. Her death was largely the outcome of real goodness of heart and sincerity of purpose. Without ostentation or display, she was truly good and always gracious; and we feel sure that her probation here was such as to fit her for the crown hereafter, which, together with her devoted faith, we fondly believe she now wears in that

"Land of pure delight Where saints immortal reign." I am perfectly certain that every heart here to-night goes out in profound sympathy to the bereaved household; and we all very earnestly pray that Mrs Orrock and family may be mercifully sustained and upheld in their trying hour of bitter bereavement; and so, in due time be enabled to say, "It is the Lord, let Him do what seemeth Him good."

"Peace, perfect peace? with loved ones far away?— In Jesus' keeping we are safe, and they."

THE FUNERAL. The funeral of Miss Orrock which took place on Monday 22nd November, was very largely attended by a gathering of men representative of every rank and condition of the community. As the coffin with its wealth of beautiful wreaths was borne slowly along, many groups of women who had gathered at various points, watched with wistful faces the mournful cortege as it proceeded on its way; and there were not a few who manifested sorrow and sympathy which were unable to conceal.

Can a Highlander be happy out of his native element? was the subject of debate at the Aberdeen University Celtic Society on Thursday evening. Miss Isabel F. Mackenzie (vice-president), was in the chair. Miss Alice Macgregor, leading off for the affirmative, spoke about the Highlander as being happy if his employment is congenial and remunerative. The gloom of the bens and glens is treasured up in his very soul so much that wherever his lot is cast, there he is happy.

The average Highlander parent, she said, was a strict disciplinarian, with the result that the unfortunate progeny feel a heavy and unrestrained when the discipline is removed. Miss Margaret Fraser, for the negative, claimed that the Highlander, away from his native country, cannot possibly become reconciled to the new environment. He is continually thinking of the comforts of the land he left behind, and this upholds him in exile. He likes to keep up the old Highland customs, and by creating an atmosphere, here the Highland element predominates, his new abode becomes an exact replica of the old home. If he did not do this, then he would not be happy. After discussion, the vote resulted in a majority for the affirmative.

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY CELTIC SOCIETY. "Can a Highlander be happy out of his native element? was the subject of debate at the Aberdeen University Celtic Society on Thursday evening. Miss Isabel F. Mackenzie (vice-president), was in the chair. Miss Alice Macgregor, leading off for the affirmative, spoke about the Highlander as being happy if his employment is congenial and remunerative. The gloom of the bens and glens is treasured up in his very soul so much that wherever his lot is cast, there he is happy.

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STORNOWAY MAIL SERVICE. The Chairman moved the suspension of the Standing Orders to call the attention of the Committee to the question of the mail service between Lewis and the Mainland, and to move a resolution. This was unanimously agreed to, and the Chairman proceeded to point out that they were again expected to face a restricted mail and passenger service during the coming winter and spring. It was now evident that the powers that be did not realise the seriousness of the grievance under which they as a community laboured. None of the controlling departments seemed to realise what the restriction meant for Lewis. There were quite a number of

LEWIS DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

A special meeting of the Lewis District Committee of the County Council of Ross and Cromarty was held at Stornoway on the 17th November. There were present—Mr J. M.R. Morrison, chairman; Mrs J. M. Fraser, Messrs J. Macdonald, N. Smith, A. Macfarquhar, R. Macdonald, and A. Maclellan. The minutes of the meeting of the District Committee held on 1st November were read and approved.

PROPOSED SANATORIUM AT MOSSESD HOSPITAL.

There was submitted a letter from Mr Fletcher, chamberlain, intimating that the feu on the common pasture to the east of the Mossed Hospital, applied for by the Committee for a sanatorium for women and children, was not available for feuing purposes, and stating that he would be pleased to receive an application for an alternative site for the consideration of Lord Leverhulme.

The Chairman intimated that on receipt of the letter from Mr Fletcher, the Committee appointed at last meeting had met with Mr Fletcher, Mr Wall, and Major Bostock, resident engineer on the ground, and that they had selected two alternative sites to the west of the hospital feu, but that Lord Leverhulme's decision with regard to these latter sites had not yet been received.

A letter was read from Mr A. Grant, Inverness, intimating the conditions upon which he would be prepared to undertake the architectural work of the proposed sanatorium. The meeting decided not to appoint the architect until the matter of the site was arranged.

COMMITTEE'S HOUSING SCHEME. The Chairman intimated that the Committee appointed to select sites for the houses which they have decided to build under their housing scheme had discussed the matter with Mr Fletcher and Mr Wall when they visited Mossed last week. An Ordnance sheet was submitted showing the sites which they had decided to recommend.

The Committee approved of the sites selected, and decided to apply to Lord Leverhulme for these.

NURSE FOR NESS. A communication was submitted from the Scottish Board of Health approving of the appointment of Miss C. Maciver to the vacancy at Ness upon the terms mentioned by the Committee.

RE-SURFACING STORNOWAY-BARVAS-NESS ROAD. A letter from the Ministry of Transport was submitted in reply to the District Committee's enquiry as to whether the Ministry would be prepared to grant a loan, free of interest, for the balance of the sum required for the re-surfacing of twelve miles of the Stornoway-Barvas-Ness Road, in addition to their grant of £4827, repayment of the loan to be spread over a period of ten years. The Ministry enquire whether the Committee would be prepared to put the work on the road estimated to cost £2654 in hand, in the event of the Minister financing the work as follows:—A grant of £3760 and a loan free of interest repayable by five annual instalments of £194.

A report by Mr Milne, road surveyor, was submitted showing what the probable expenditure on the twelve miles of road would be if the re-surfacing scheme is not carried out, etc.

After considering the letter and the report, Councillor J. Macleod moved that the District Committee accept of the offer now made by the Minister of Transport, subject to the approval of the County Finance Committee and the Council.

This was seconded by Mr Macfarquhar and agreed to. It was arranged that if the approval of the County Council to this proposal was not secured within the next fortnight, the re-surfacing work near the Blackwater quarries should be suspended meantime.

PORTNAMBOTHAG PIER. A letter was submitted from the County Clerk, dated 23rd ult., enclosing a copy of a report by the Inspector of Piers on the pier at Portnambothag, wherein he stated that as the pier is in such inaccessable and exposed a situation, he doubts very much whether it is worth attempting to maintain it, and that to repair the damage done will be very difficult and expensive. The Committee were asked for their observations on the matter. The Chairman, Mr R. Macdonald, Mr J. Macleod, with Mr Milne, road surveyor, were appointed to visit the pier, and to report to an early meeting of the District Committee.

PROPOSED ROAD THROUGH GRAVIER. A letter was submitted from Mr Murdo Matheson, The Schoolhouse, Gravier, intimating that at a recent meeting held at Gravier he had been asked to impress upon the Committee the urgent need for a road through the village.

The Chairman moved that the letter be forwarded to the Board of Agriculture with a request that the work be proceeded with as early as possible.

Mrs J. M. Fraser moved that the Committee also renew their application for a grant for the various roads required throughout the district, a list of which roads had been sent to the Board of Agriculture through the District Committee some time ago.

This was seconded by Mr A. Maclellan and unanimously agreed to.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED EX-SERVICE MEN. There was read a letter from the County Clerk intimating that the County Council had received a letter from the Secretary for Scotland on the subject of the employment of disabled ex-service men, in which he urges that an appeal be made to all local authorities in the county to have their names inscribed in the King's National Roll, showing that they undertake to employ disabled men to the extent of at least 5 per cent. of their staffs. The County Council had remitted this letter to the District Committees with a recommendation that they should do everything in their power to facilitate the employment of disabled ex-service men. The Committee agreed to assist in the matter so far as it was possible for them to do so.

STORNOWAY MAIL SERVICE. The Chairman moved the suspension of the Standing Orders to call the attention of the Committee to the question of the mail service between Lewis and the Mainland, and to move a resolution. This was unanimously agreed to, and the Chairman proceeded to point out that they were again expected to face a restricted mail and passenger service during the coming winter and spring. It was now evident that the powers that be did not realise the seriousness of the grievance under which they as a community laboured. None of the controlling departments seemed to realise what the restriction meant for Lewis. There were quite a number of

controlling departments, comprising the Board of Trade, the Shipping Control, the Board of Agriculture, the Post Office, the Treasury, the Scottish Office, the Ministry of Food; it was the old story of too many cooks spoiling the broth. Strange to say, the Ministry of Transport had no control over the steamer service. During the war, and since the Armistice, they had been promised great things, and many things. High hopes and bright prospects for the future of those who helped to win the war had been held out to them. But by this restriction Lewis was faced with destitution. Their social and commercial life was being strangled and blighted. They were even denied a daily supply of fresh milk, meat, and other vital commodities. Their trials were almost unbearable. What had they done, he asked, to merit such treatment? The Assistant Financial Secretary, in reply to a question by Dr Murray, said that he did not feel justified in asking the Treasury to supply another £7000 to provide a daily service to the Lewis. After five years' war, and the fact that almost every available man and woman in Lewis had done their part freely, and that out of 6000 men 1100 odds had made the supreme sacrifice in defence of King, country, liberty, and the right to live, they were to be treated thus. He sometimes wondered why they were fighting for the Lewis people never had the pleasure of even seeing H.M. the King; many of them never had what might be termed comfortable homes; some of them had not even decent roads to walk on. Again, he asked, what made them rush to the Colours in 1914? What had all the great promises made during the war, and since, come to? A breach of faith on the part of the Government—(applause). They say that the Treasury would not be justified in providing a daily service—they know that the Government had granted thousands to individuals for service in the war, and to say that they would not be justified in spending £7000 as a debt of honour and gratitude for the services rendered by over 6000 Lewismen, of whom more than 1100 died, was not worthy of a British Government. Let them look at the disloyal population of Ireland. The Government were spending millions on these people, who, when their country was in the greatest need, when we were almost with our back to the wall, refused to fight; and yet there were millions ready to be spent on them. It was too much, he continued, for them to bear any longer. It was an insult alike to the spirit of patriotism and to the dead. They had 30,000 people in Lewis, augmented by thousands more in the fishing season. Stornoway was the only port in the Island, and all traffic, goods, or passengers must necessarily pass through it. Their most important seasons were the winter and spring fishing, and to think that they were to be clipped and hindered when a daily service was most needed was absurd. When they thought of the privations and hardships endured by their fishing population when crossing the Minch and landing at midnight on the Stornoway Wharf, cold, and, in many cases, ill, with long distances to travel after landing, the trials thus endured, he said, were too terrible to relate. They had heard of cases where the winter and spring fishing, and to think that they were to be clipped and hindered when a daily service was most needed was absurd. When they thought of the privations and hardships endured by their fishing population when crossing the Minch and landing at midnight on the Stornoway Wharf, cold, and, in many cases, ill, with long distances to travel after landing, the trials thus endured, he said, were too terrible to relate. 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HERE, THERE AND ABOUT.

CHATTY COMMENTS ON MEN, WOMEN, AND AFFAIRS.

(By THE TATLER.)

THE INFIRMARY.

Inverness workers—mental and manual—cannot too soon realise their clear and immediate duty to the Northern Infirmary. Here is a voluntary institution which has largely—if not wholly—supported itself by legacies. This process has its obvious disadvantages, inasmuch as it creates an entirely false impression as to the original objects of the Infirmary. But it is safe to say that without these legacies the important work of bringing relief to thousands of people of all ages would have been very seriously retarded. The financial position of the Infirmary calls for the adoption of a new policy. All over the country similar institutions are passing through a critical time. So far as Inverness is concerned, it is proposed to meet this financial crisis by getting the working classes to agree to the imposition of a new levy from a penny to three pence per week. Already a move has been made in this direction, but it is of the utmost importance that the scheme should be thoroughly comprehensive. We cannot imagine any body of men, whether they work with brain or brawn, veto such a proposal. It is far better that the present financial difficulty should be met by the imposition of a levy on all branches of industry than that Parliament should be compelled to pass legislation throwing the whole burden on the rates. The workers must decide between these two issues. It would be a disastrous thing if so well-equipped and so useful an institution as the Northern Infirmary should be penalised simply on account of the indifference of the people. They cannot afford to take up a callous position, because they do not know the moment when they themselves may be seeking the advantages of this palace of suffering. When people enjoy good health they are disposed to be very indifferent to the claims of our useful organisations, but they must take a larger vision, and realise that the highest form of citizenship consists in bearing one another's burdens. In the scheme relating to Inverness Infirmary, it is not much that is asked of the workers of Inverness; less than the price of a glass of beer. No great sacrifice is involved, but the collective result will remove the cloud of anxiety which has gathered around the institution.

FIRE BRIGADE CRITICS.

A critic is, or at all events ought to be, a man who is capable of giving an expert opinion. To give a criticism is not the same thing as to give an opinion. At the present moment the Capital of the Highlands is chockful of "critics"—men and women who hug the silly delusion that they can do better than the people whom they criticise with all the license of a Billingsgate disturber. This type of "critic" was very active in Queensgate on Saturday night when fire broke out in the oil store of a tinsmith's establishment. It was the stiffest piece of work that our Fire Brigade has been called upon to deal with for many years. Upon entering the premises they were met with dense volumes of smoke, which rendered the task of location extremely difficult. To be candid, the Brigade were baffled; their next work was to break through the prismatic glass. This permitted them to get to the basement. Again the smoke fiend triumphed. A devastating conflagration was prevented by obtaining access to the oil store at the outbreak of the fire. The entrance to this store is in Church Street. During their labours, members of the Brigade were under the necessity of using lamps. And this led to the "critics" in high collars and sixpenny canes to shed the lustre of their appalling levity on the besmoked assembly. "Look at them looking for the fire with a light," was the burden of their song, while members of the Brigade were desperately digging back by the noxious odours of various kinds of oils. The only effective way of dealing with such "critics" is to turn the hose upon them. But, of course, the first duty of a fire brigade is to extinguish a fire. And so in Queensgate on Saturday evening our Brigade carried out its essential duty. It was not exactly for the want of water that they did not give a douche to the "critics" in high collars and sixpenny canes. That they are deserving of it was established by their reprehensible conduct.

OUR ORATORS.

There is no such thing as oratory in our Town Council. The last of the orators was Bailie A. M. Macqueen, who could always invest a debate with dignity. The supreme test of oratory lies in the grip of compelling attention of the particular question under review. Ben Tillet achieved this in connection with the Local Vote issue. In the old days, Sir Henry Macandrew was recognised as Inverness's most accomplished speaker, both in public and at meetings of the Town Council. But the man who made a hobby of public speaking, was Provost William Macbean. He is no longer harnessed to the municipal juggernaut, but in his retirement he still takes a more than passing interest in the movements of the Exchange Merry-go-round. It is said that he could be eloquent while dealing with the most trivial topic. I have had personal proof of this during the closing stages of "Willie's" career. His greatest oratorical achievement was his speech in connection with the unveiling of the Flora Macdonald monument on the Costie Hill. He had a big pheme, and that is always an advantage. The occasion recalls an amusing incident. The great throng on the Costie Hill that day included a fussy Aberdonian, who was busily engaged commenting on the "inefficient" Chief Magistrate of Inverness. But Provost Macbean had not proceeded far with his remarks when the Aberdonian exclaimed: "My God! Isn't yer Provost fairly getting his screw up? He'll beat our ain Provost Fleming." The Dowager Lady Lovat specially invited Provost Macbean to come to Beaufort for the purpose of proposing the toast of the Scots just returned from South Africa. He had had an extremely busy day, but the Provost gladly consented. The function was held in the open air; the adjoining hills were ablaze with bonfires sending up the fiery tongues of jubilation. Provost Macbean gave the toast of the evening, and spoke for about ten minutes. When he asked his listeners to excuse him if he now concluded his remarks, one admirer shouted out: "Go on! You're doing damn fine." And then a hurricane of laughter swept over the Lovat country.

MOMENTOUS!

An Inverness musician has just written a song entitled "Land of Song and Glory." It is specially intended for the people of Lewis. Apparently this song writer has got a firm grip of the lever!

SUNDAY PAPERS AND CRIBBERS.

Inverness is a very good illustration of the popularity of the Sunday newspaper, pictorial and otherwise. The ultra-wise aristocratic would put an end to the Sunday Press so far as country towns are concerned showed that they must have left their wisdom in their attornments, or in their Sunday clothes. The tiniest village covered by the Highland Railway system is as much obsessed by this fetish as the large cities. Sunday papers are as eagerly bought up nowadays as they were during the dark and critical days of war. If you go along the Riverside on an afternoon you will have striking proof of the popularity of the Sunday newspaper. All the "knuts" are thus fortified against ennui—and calf love! But the average reader is astonishingly greedy. He wants a Crippen or a Greenwood case every fortnight! We in Inverness, who are passing through exceptionally "lean" weeks so far as local news is concerned, would be eternally grateful for a meeting of Town Council to which the military were summoned with armoured cars—or perhaps a little less! A great battle is now being waged between the owners of the Sunday productions. And victory will be with the man who has the art of rapid distribution. By the way, some of these newspapers are proving very useful to at least one local pen and paper dispenser. He writes "if he can get it" and why should any man worry him? Eh? What? Why others worry him? He is to fill a column so long as other people go to great pains in the performance of the task? Scissors and paste constitute a serious barrier to originality, and the offence is made all the more heinous when the source of publication is withheld. Stories wearing patriarchal whiskers and other fungus are trotted out on various occasions, only to be declared too awful for tears because of the grim antiquity, and also because of the presumption of the server up, who must think that the people of Inverness cannot judge between what is ORIGINAL and what is cribbed. That is where the joke comes in.

A LEAN FORTNIGHT.

Few people realise the difficulties associated with local journalism, and they care less how local papers are brought out. During the past fortnight there has been a paucity of news. It has been an anxious time. South papers are not circumscribed because of the fact that they are not conducted for the enlightenment of the locality in which they are printed. For fifteen months Inverness has been interested (or amused) in the drink question; it served as a kind of "war" to the local newspapers. Everyone was interested; and everyone was amusingly (or brilliantly) critical. But immediately this "war" concluded, the lean weeks set in. Then came the real difficulty. The New Gang and the Law Courts were non-productive. No one was so considerate as to arrange for a murder or an elopement on publication night! The notion of "making news" is more imaginary than real. But this week the fog has lifted, and municipal babblers are at it again. For which those who are really desirous of maintaining the principles associated with local journalism are extremely grateful. For all that, the cribbers pursue the uneven tenor of their red-ink ways.

BAILIE DUFFY.

The Clerk to Inverness Parish Council has received intimation from Bailie Duncan Duffy that he is to retire from that body. Like the Town Council, the bulk of the work entrusted to those who are responsible for the administration of the Poor Law Act is done in committee, and Bailie Duffy has proved an active and extremely useful member in that domain.

GOOD NEWS.

The long promised and eagerly awaited reduction in prices has taken place, but it will take some time before the full effect is felt in Inverness. However, a real start has been made in regard to leather and tweed, prices in this connection showing a big drop. There is also a reduction in men's hosiery. Messrs A. Fraser and Co., Union Street; Messrs Fraser and Campbell, High Street; Messrs Melville, Bridge Street; Messrs Ross and Sutherland, Inglis Street; Messrs Davidson and Son, 15 Grey Street; and Mr D. Munro, 5 Academy Street, have led the way in the great campaign for reducing the cost of such commodities as quilts, millinery, boots, and men's and boys' clothing. The news from the mercantile front is, therefore, cheery. A reduction in the price of bread and butcher meat before the arrival of Santa Claus would make the festive season a very joyous one for many a struggling family in Inverness and the North.

MR JOHN MACPHERSON.

Mr John Macpherson, who has won fame as the purveyor of sporting requisites, has now removed to his new and commodious premises at 6 Inglis Street. Formerly known as the White House, the building has been entirely renovated at great expense, and the scheme of window decoration is worthy of our leading emporiums in the South. Mr Macpherson has a magnificent stock, which makes a special appeal to athletes. The display has attracted enormous attention. Mr Macpherson is himself an ardent enthusiast of shinty. All will wish him renewed success in this latest example of business enterprise.

HARBOUR FINANCES.

The annual statement of accounts in connection with Inverness Harbour Trust has just been published for the information of members. The total revenue for the year to 30th September last amounts to £1975 13s 3d, which is practically the same as last year. To this there has been added a further sum of £2000 received on account of the Trustees' claim against the Admiralty. This has been a vexed question to the Trustees. Covering a period of four years, the amount received from the Admiralty was £15,000. The total expenditure for the year amounts to £2325. Under the head of harbour dues, the total amount collected by Captain Munro during the year was £1134 15s 6d. The collections show a steady increase, the difference between 1919 and 1920 being £750 7s 1d and £1134 15s 6d respectively. The accounts have been audited by Mr R. F. Cameron, C.A., with his accustomed efficiency.

WOMAN'S UNFAILING FRIEND. TOWLE'S PILLS. Immediately you notice any irregularity of the system, take Towle's Pills. They will quickly remove all suffering. Box, 1s 3d and 2s, of all chemists, or sent anywhere on receipt of P.O. for 1s 3d and 2s 3d by post.

CHIRPINGS OF A BEAUTY GUTTER SPARROW.

War has its humour none the less than peace. In the war between the "Drys" and the "Dampers" we hear that in Canada the electorate to persuade a practical joke of dry Scotland on the parish of Kilmorack, an enthusiastic and zealous lady canvasser entered a house in that parish and endeavoured, but alas, in vain, to enlighten the householder on the beauties of Prohibition. The son of the house was proof against all her persuasive eloquence. "No Licence" he would say. At last the zealous and young lady appealed to the mother, but the mother "had her doubts" about doing away all together with the delectable drop. So the canvasser, loth to give over the battle, addressed the old lady. "Well if you can't see your way to vote 'No Licence' you may depend on you to vote for a reduction of 'Licence' indeed," was the answer. "I am quite willing to vote reduction. It's far too dear just now."

We hear that notwithstanding their general defeat at the polls in trying to force their culture on an unwilling people, the "Dry" Scotchlanders are still unrepentant. They rejoice in the small evils which they have already done, and regret that their enemies have been so few. Like another race who have a culture ready made for their enemies, they hope to make a more successful war as soon as they recover their strength. The "ninety per cent." men are still with us. The teetotal enthusiasts who claim that the "Trade" is responsible for the continuance of ninety per cent. of the crime committed for the continuance of ninety per cent. of our prisons, for a big percentage of our homes for the insane. Whether it is their modesty or conscience that makes the percentage so low as ninety is not clear, nor do they give statistics showing where the remaining ten per cent. of crime comes from. Could not they supply statistics for the other ten per cent. According to statistics supplied by the Prohibition party, Inverness spent about £3000 each week on drink. In 52 weeks this would amount to £156,000. The local Press publishes statistics, said to have been supplied by the Chief Constable, stating that during the past year 40 cases passed through the Police Court, which were due to drink. Only 140 drunks for an expenditure of £156,000? This shows that it takes slightly more than £1114 worth of whisky to make a son of Clachnacuddin break the law, or more than 1800 bottles of whisky to make a candidate for incarceration in the town jail. It is often stated by teetotal lecturers, there is a lurking devil in every bottle of the "Auld Kirk." He must be a very weak devil to show so little crime for so great an expenditure. The little devil must be playing "canny." If the opinions of his employer were known we might hear him abused as being a greater fraud than the Education Act.

Them's statistics for you now, all based on proven figures, and you might as well try to prove that teetotal lecturers are not straight in their attitude. It was further stated by No-Licence lecturers in Kilmorack that ninety per cent. of the poverty of the kingdom is caused by strong drink. Such a statement is both superfluous and dangerous. Superfluous because nobody but a No-Licence fanatic would accept it, and the danger is already being done by the fact that the lecturers are committing a great blunder when they started so early in their attempts to make Scotland dry. They have spoken and written so much and so often about their Temperance Act that the electors began to see through it, and the country as a whole turned it down.

WE HEAR.

That an attempt was made Armistice night to remove the German gun from the bed of the river. That such an attempt might be made was suspected, and a guard was placed over the gun. How to remove him was the question of those who wished the gun out of sight. At last one of the youngsters invited the guardian of the gun to come into the hall and see the decorations which the patriots had put on the gun. The guard suspecting nothing accepted the invitation, and while he was having a cup of tea, the enemy took the chance to move away the gun, and when the guard returned to his post the gun was gone. It was by a mere accident that it was recaptured before going to Davey Jones.

That Jamie Swanson is to hold a great Ploeman's Ball at Daviot. Big Will is to lend his steam band for the dance.

That Kilmorack was dry on Tuesday last. Only those who owned cellars could obtain a drink. For the rest it was almost Prohibition. A foretaste of "No Licence."

That in Carn na Clarshair there is to be no roll under the Passhair Act, as the folk of Urray had more sense than sign the renunciation form in sufficient numbers to add the expense of an election to the parish debt.

That for the benefit of teetotallers in dry areas Carn na Clarshair are to hold a great show next June. Bohan is to have large supplies of nectar and a special licence.

That Joek Gray has bought the two Dornoch hotels. Next May he is to set up in business there as a salt and oyster dealer. The County Council are subsidising him in his venture, as they expect that the traffic between Dornoch and Golspie will be so great that the cost of money thus saved will be used to give the Desborough Scale to the County Police. The strike of County Councilors may thus be avoided.

That a great ball was held in Kirhill last week in the Town Hall. Two hundred couples were present. D. R. Rodes' Pipe Band was in evidence. A full supply of chateaux had been received on the previous day. The piping of D. B. charmed every ear, and his gallant bearing charmed every eye. That several years ago the Beaulieu teetotallers were to have an L.O.G.T. jaunt. On the night before the great event a local publican began to get busy. There was such a run on his "half pints" that he had to rush help to the cellar to bottle more. He asked the serving girls where all the bottles were going to. She told him it was for the teetotallers who were buying them. He was new to the locality and expected that the teetotallers were inviting friends, and he thought them very kind minded to have taken the precaution of bringing refreshments for their non-distinguishing friends. On the morning of the trip he went to see the sumpters of. There were several brakes of them, but all the seats were total abstainers. So the only conclusion the publican could arrive at was that the "half pints" were for the ladies. As to whether his surmise was correct many had their doubts.

SHINTY.

The following paper on shinty was submitted to the Foyers Literary Society in a debate as to which was the more popular game, shinty or football. The paper on football has already been published in these columns:—

Shinty originated from an old Irish game called hurling, but in a different manner to that in which it was played in Ireland. Many, many years ago, teams consisted of eighteen players on each side. When two opposing teams met the captains always walked on the field of play cheering their men on to victory, and directing them what to do. The field of play was quite different from the whole what it is to-day. Play occupied the whole length of a field, and there was no such thing as touch lines or corners. If the ball went out of the field, the player who got it first drew it as near to his opponents' goal as he possibly could. The young men of those days who played shinty always wore beards and kilts. There was no such thing as jerseys and pants, while a referee, goal judge, or linesmen were never to be seen. Shinty was at one time a very rough game. There were no rules of play, and when the ball went by the goalkeeper it was thrown into play again. A player could also kick the ball as often as he wished, and no foul awarded against him. Christmas and New Year's Day were the two principal days of the year for shinty matches. Girls and lads used to gather from all parts, and would engage in dancing, to the music of the bagpipes, while the match was in progress. When the game was finished the losers had to pay for the beer and whisky and biscuits, and these things have changed, however, and the shinty that is played to-day is better conducted.

In 1894, a meeting of the Camanachd Association was held in Inverness to get districts to compete for the Scottish Camanachd Cup, and every year since it has been played for. Lord Lovat is the present Chief of the Camanachd Association, and Colonel A. W. Macdonald president. New rules of play were formed at this meeting to foster and develop the national game of shinty. The annual subscription for each club was 10s. Some of the teams who entered the competition at that time were Kingussie, Beaulieu, Inverness, Kiltarity, Inveraray, and Portree. In 1895-96 (the first year for which the Camanachd Cup was competed for) Kingussie were the winners, while Beaulieu carried away the trophy during the two following years. At that time, the Beaulieu club were recognised as the finest shinty team in the world, and travelled as far as London to give an exhibition game. The following are some of the players who composed that great combination:—R. Forsyth (goalkeeper), J. Macskil (back), and J. Fraser ("Tippie"). The latter was known to take the ball from his own end of the field, pass all opposition, and score a goal.

Later on new rules were brought out, and each team now numbers 12 players, while the field of play shall not be more than 200 yards long by 100 yards broad, and the minimum 140 yards by 70 yards. Halls shall be 12 feet wide and 10 feet high. Seven and a half yards are given for an offside decision in front of goal. The shinty ball consists of cork and worsted, with a covering of leather, and measures 7 1/2 to 8 ins. in circumference, weighing about 3 to 4 ounces. There are too many other rules, but these would take up too much of your time to explain. The Kingussie team has its name engraved six times in succession. Newtonmore has the best record, having won the cup four years running, while in the fifth year they lost it through a very questionable decision.

From 1914-19 there was no competition owing to the great war.



MRS. A. WINFIELD.

"Even to-day (15th April, 1919) I enjoy the lasting health Doan's pills secured me in 1903."

The foregoing message received from Mrs. A. Winfield, 7 St. Aubyn's Road, Upper Norwood, London—confirms her statement (also given here) of nearly sixteen years ago.

On 28th October, 1903, Mrs. Winfield said: "For fully twelve years I had severe rheumatism and lumbago. It meant torture in damp weather—I could not rest in any position—every joint and muscle became affected."

"I had reason to believe that my kidneys were at fault, but not until all prescribed physic and liniments failed did I commence to use Doan's Backache Kidney Pills. They induced prompt relief, which proved my judgment to be right."

"Then, of course, I kept entirely to Doan's Backache Kidney Pills—I persevered until they actually rid me of the kidney weakness, and rheumatism, and the lumbago. There is no shadow of doubt about the value of Doan's Pills—it is, to me, a duty to recommend them—I hope that my experience will help other rheumatic subjects. (Signed) A. Winfield."

Don't ask for kidney pills or backache pills, insist upon DOAN'S BACKACHE KIDNEY PILLS—the kidney medicine Mrs. Winfield recommends. All dealers, or 3s a box from Foster-McClellan Co., 8 Wells Street, Oxford Street, London, W.1. "Recommended by the People for the People."

KAY'S "LINSSED COMPOUND" for Coughs, Colds and Bronchial Troubles. Is 3d, 2s, 4s 6d.

In a recent speech on the question of the nationalisation of German coal, Herr Stinnes said there were many families in the Rhine provinces and Westphalia who had for centuries spent more than they earned on the district entrusted to them by the State for the encouragement of mining.

KAY'S "LINSSED COMPOUND" (Linsseed, Senega, Squill, Tolu, etc.) for Coughs and Colds.

STANDARD VALUE OF "LA FORCE."

To maintain the splendid and reliable quality of the well-known LA FORCE Tonic Wine, we are compelled to advance the price; owing to the ever increasing cost of materials, ingredients, and new taxation, our chief aims in this great strength-giving Tonic are Quality and Good Value.

"LA FORCE."

Large Size ... 6s Small Size ... 3s 3d

Postage extra, carefully packed to any address in the United Kingdom. One dozen large bottles, or two dozen small bottles, carriage paid to any railway station.

COLIN URQUHART

BEAULY

Our celebrated Blends of Whiskies are also advanced to 12s 6d per quart bottle.

THE BEAUTY OF LABOUR.

WHAT I LEARNED IN A SURREY FACTORY.

By ELIZABETH BANKS. (As "Enid" of "The Referee.") Miss Banks was one of the best-known of women journalists in this country. She has a wide knowledge of industrial conditions both here and in the States, and writes with all a woman's intuitive interest.

"Thud! Thud!" I was walking in a Surrey meadow when I heard the sound. "Thud! Thud!" and again "Thud!" The River Wandle flowed past me, and an old grass-grown water-wheel was revolving round and round, making such a gentle splash as was delightfully refreshing on a summer's day. "Thud! Thud!" I crossed the river by a little board bridge, and buildings all bright and light and beautiful came in the sun; grey-coloured paint sparkled round them, and then a mastiff dog bounded up to me and barked me a welcome.

I love to have dogs as guides. Somehow they seem to show me the things I most want to see, and that so often human guides pass by without comment.

The dog led on, then, to some plots of garden where flowers and vegetables grew in the most carefully tended earth; then round to one of the greater buildings whence the sound of the "Thud! Thud!" and I found I was at the door of a block-printing works, and was given permission to go over the place.

THOSE WHO LOVE THEIR WORK.

One dozen men were at long tables, and at first it looked as though they were ironing silk which descended to the tables from rollers. First it came down plain, then moved on to the other side of the room with some green spots upon it as the result of the printers' lead mallets or "blocks." Back and forth it went, taking on more patterns and more colours.

I stood beside one of the mallet men, watching. "Tell me, did you ever see a finer blue than this?" he asked me, as he pressed down his block and then removed it that I might see the result. I told him I had certainly never seen anything so beautiful, and his face shone with pride. His block went down and came up again, and the result of his handiwork sparkled all glorious in the sun. I went from table to table; I visited the "colour-room," where the "colourman" showed me his treasures. There was a smile of satisfaction on every worker's face. Every man loved his work; every man took pride in it; every man handled the piece of silk he was printing tenderly as though he loved it.

Noon-time came, and some of the men remained working a few minutes because they wanted "just to finish this bit." The afternoon passed, and at three o'clock back to "print" in a bit more time, it being so light. They were paid according to the amount of work they did, to be sure, but one saw that "overtime" was a labour of love, and nobody compelled them.

EVERY WORKER AN ARTIST.

I have been among many workers in many countries, and nowhere have I found the idea of the beauty and the dignity of labour more delightfully carried out than at these block-printing works on the Wandle. Every worker was like an artist, seeing the beauty of what his hands wrought, and taking a proper pride in it. I was shown a bit of many coloured silk, and was told how for each of its eight colours the printer must go eight times over the piece. As one colour after another sprang into being, I watched the proud eyes of the block-printer, and heard his little exclamations of ecstasy. Several of the men told me the whole history of block-printing; they showed me rare old blocks that had been used for years, and pointed out the care and skill with which they had been repaired.

I watched one man printing a fascinating combination of brown and blue. "When this gets to Regent Street for sale," he said, "you'll find a blouse off it will just suit you." He merely spoke as an artist who had noted the colour of my eyes and hair, and was giving me of his best advice—advice which, I may say, I followed a few weeks later!

The Beauty of Labour in a Garden? Why is not all labour made to be like this?

Ladies! WOOD'S CHALLENGE REMEDY is a guaranteed and the sum of £100 to cure when others fail. Far superior to pills, pellets, or other Continental treatments. Don't waste time or money experimenting with unknown remedies. Price 3s. 6d. Special 12s. Stamp for pamphlet and particulars. Write to THE LITTLEWOOD DISPENSARY, MR and MRS H. T. WOOD, LADIES' MEDICAL SPECIALISTS, 20 LOUIS STREET, LEEDS.

"Great Britain is bearing a heavy burden to-day, which nothing but joint effort and hard work can remove. But the work must be shared by all; it is not the labourer alone that must toil."—Lady Brittain.

"RODINE" RATS. Its magnitude is incalculable. Rats eat it greedily and die. Poisoning and food. 7 1/2, 13, 2/6, Post 3d; 5/- Post 6d. HARLEY, CHEMIST, PERTH. LOCAL AGENTS: S. HENDRY, Chemist, High Street, Inverness. D. DUNBAR, Chemist, Portree.

KAY'S "LINSSED COMPOUND" for Coughs, Colds and Bronchial Troubles. Is 3d, 2s, 4s 6d.

PRESENTATIONS.

Miss K. MACPHERSON. On the 6th November, Miss K. Macpherson was presented with a beautiful silver fruit stand by the staff of Mr. A. Fraser (Gillanders' Stores, Queensgate) on the occasion of her marriage.

Miss NAN MACLEOD. On the occasion of her leaving Inverness for India to be married, Miss Nan Macleod, one of the members of the East U.F. Church Choir, was, on Tuesday night, in the upper Church Hall, made the recipient of a case of dessert knives and forks, as a token of the esteem in which she was held, and of appreciation of her long and faithful service. The presentation was made by Mr. A. Macgillivray, who referred to Miss Macleod's long connection with the choir, and the ungrudging services rendered by her as a vocalist. Mr. Owen, choirmaster, regretted the loss of so faithful and loyal a member as Miss Macleod, but wished her every happiness and success in her future home. Mr. D. Fraser, in a short and appropriate speech, returned thanks on behalf of Miss Macleod. A few of the gentlemen members also spoke in laudatory terms of Miss Macleod's loyalty to the choir and her musical abilities.

Miss MACKIE.

On Friday afternoon the pupils and staff of the Bishop's Girls' School presented the headmistress, Miss Mackie, with a handsome silver rose bowl on the occasion of her leaving to take up duties in the Merkinch Public School (Special Department). Miss Winchester, on behalf of the pupils and teachers, spoke of their admiration for Miss Mackie and her work, and called upon Betty Shand, one of the oldest pupils, to make the presentation. Miss Mackie, in reply, expressed her indebtedness to the teachers for the loyal support they had given her, and thanked the pupils for their beautiful present. One of the infants, Jessie Smith, presented Miss Mackie with a plant. Miss Mackie was washed all success and happiness in her new post.

Mr THOS. J. STEWART.

A very enjoyable evening was spent on Thursday, when the staff of the Goods Department, Traffic Manager's Office, H.R.E., met to do honour to Mr. Thos. J. Stewart, who has been one of their members for over forty years, and who is now returning to his home in Chili. Mr. Mackay, chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that as the staff were fully acquainted with Mr. Stewart's many good qualities, any eulogising on them from the chair would be a waste of time. Miss Fraser made the presentation, which consisted of a set of brushes and safety razors, and expressed the wish that Mr. Stewart would have every success in his new station. Other members of the staff also spoke in commendation of Mr. Stewart's good qualities, and Mr. Stewart feelingly replied.

Mr JOSEPH M. DICKSON.

On Monday evening, in the Hall, Celt St., a few friends of the Caledonian Football Club met Mr. John M. Dickson to present him with a pocket book of Treasury notes and a purse, on the occasion of his marriage. On the same evening, in the Commercial Hotel, the same gentleman was made the recipient of a beautiful clock, a pair of vases, and many other little gifts, and offerings of a few friends who wish him every happiness in his new venture.

GOOD WORK FOR CINEMA.

RECORDER SAYS REDUCED CRIME IS DUE TO ITS INFLUENCE.

The following is taken from the "Daily News":—Is the cinema responsible for a decrease in crime? It has been so often condemned for its alleged evil influences that it was rather unusual to hear the Newcastle-under-Lyme Recorder, Mr. A. J. Dawd, K.C., defend it this week.

After being presented with white gloves, as there were no prisoners for trial, the Recorder commented on the fact that during the past eight years there had been a vast, a great reduction in crime. Whereas he formerly used to have to try about 35 cases a year in that borough, he said he had now only had one or two cases, hardly worth mentioning, in the past few years.

He had asked the police of Newcastle and the Potteries towns to make inquiries as to the reason for this, and the information he had received was that the cinema was the institution which was responsible for the decrease.

There was now an opportunity for a man to spend a pleasant hour or so in the evening, accompanied by his wife and children, at the pictures instead of resorting to the public-house. There had been a marked change in social life, and he hoped the change would long prevail.

KAY'S "LINSSED COMPOUND" is a reliable old Home remedy for COUGHS, COLDS, Asthma, Bronchitis & 1/3, 2/-, 4/6 of Chemists.

INVERGORDON

Wild fowling is now in full swing all along the shores of the Cromarty Firth? Widgeon and mallard are exceptionally numerous.

Mistletoe is already in evidence—a sure indication that Christmas is within measurable distance.

A number of the employes at Dalmore Mining Depot are, it is stated, to occupy the vacant Admiralty Cottages at Invergordon.

It is expected that a concert will shortly take place under the auspices of the Invergordon Bowling Club.

Mr Clark, the well-known King Street boot-maker, is still disposing of high-class footwear at marvellously low prices.

H.M.S. Commonwealth will go South shortly in order to allow the crew off on relays for the Christmas holidays.

It is understood that a fancy dress ball is likely to take place in the Town Hall on Christmas Eve.

Councillor James Falconer returned to Invergordon on Monday after an absence of several weeks. He is to address a series of political meetings throughout the country shortly.

Work in connection with the electric light contract is being temporarily kept back in consequence of the difficulty experienced in getting forward the necessary material.

Ex-Sergt. Christian, the well-known athlete, has taken over the duties of gamekeeper on the Kinloch estate, the shootings of which are let to Captain Alan Bruce, R.N.

The garden in front of "Sans Souci," Saltburn Road, which was broken up some three years ago, when the branch railway was being constructed along the sea front, has now been restored by the Admiralty to its original state.

Post Office Lane, although not included in the street improvement scheme, has not been forgotten by the Road Surveyor's department, with the result that it is now in a fairly passable state, even in wet weather.

An Invergordon man has invented a self-adjusting wagon coupling, which may yet possibly come into universal use. We hope to be able to give further particulars in a future issue.

Mr Merrens, the well-known King Street jeweller, whose advertisement appears in another column, informs us that owing to his extended business connections in the Second City, it is his intention to dispose of his fine stock here at a sacrifice. The sale will continue till the close of the year, and all desirous of obtaining genuine bargains in this particular line should pay a visit of inspection to his establishment.

QUERIES FROM OUR READERS.

WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW. What Sir Eric Geddes and his colleagues of the Ministry of Transport really know about the North of Scotland and its possibilities?

If it is true that the revenue secured by the railway companies throughout the country from the increased railway fares has been exceedingly disappointing?

If it is the case that the present population of Tophamonesville amounts to about 5000—rats?

If those desirous of securing marriage and Xmas presents would not do well to call at Merrens' jewellery store, Invergordon?

The names of the young "Nightingales" who, in the early hours of Saturday morning, made—to use an Irishism—night hideous by their ribald songs as they passed along High Street, Invergordon?

If they thought such conduct manly? And what they would have had to say for themselves had they appeared before the Magistrate to answer for their conduct?

Who is to become caretaker of Invergordon Town Hall?

Or has the appointment been already made, although not publicly notified?

If there was a belated celebration of Guy Fawkes' day in Polnoch Hall the other night?

If not, what all the illumination and fireworks meant?

Is the camera still intact? How many Invergordon "mariners" will again dare the angry billows of the Western Ocean?

If it is the case that the majority of them would much prefer to cross Balbirnie Ferry on "a perfect day"?

Who said Tain would go "dry"?

Not "one in the know," certainly! What immediate alterations the Admiralty intend to undertake when they find it necessary to press for the immediate removal of those on their property?

If it is the case that Cromarty—despite its obscurity—is likely to "bask in the brilliancy of the electric light" long before Invergordon, after all?

If it is true that there is now a gate—a locked one at that—in Roskeen Church Road?

And that it is only opened at set periods? Who killed the cat?

If the Invergordon footballers who are to visit the Highland Capital to-day will have as good luck as the team of local Girl Guides had a fortnight ago?

How many Tain electors who openly posed as Prohibitionists actually voted No Change?

If the American lady hockey players are to try conclusions with the far-famed Invergordon combination?

If the St Duthus footballers won't get the conceit taken out of them by Balachaul ere the season is out?

If some football referees who could be mentioned would not be well advised to study "The Science of Soccer" ere they next take the field?

And if they think that a man is entitled to hold the presidency of a League, and, at the same time, referee matches connected therewith?

If it is true that "Geordack of Barbaraville" has rejoined the Colours?

If the Kilmuir mystery has yet been solved?

Who said that the 4.5 p.m. train from Tain should, instead of being known as the Easter Ross Greenbound, be named "The Tortoise Express"?

If it is the case that among Northern railway employes there is now a great desire for posts on the Dornoch branch?

If so, the reason?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Jacobite."—The population of Inverness in '45 would have been about 3000.

"Ex-Service Man."—The report of the function to which you refer came to hand too late for publication in last week's issue.

Ratox LURES FATS TO DEATH. EVERY BITE KILLS. THEY MURMUR AND LEAVE NO SMELL. SOLD BY GROCERIES & DEALERS. ALEX. FORBES & SONS, LTD., 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200.

INVERGORDON AS A FISHING CENTRE STILL ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY.

A daily contemporary says:—Moray Firth steam drifters returning from the English herring fishing are finding increasing difficulty in securing accommodation through Buckie Town Council having closed the harbour to all vessels not belonging to the port.

"THE ROARING GAME."

NEW CURLING POND AT SALTBURN.

For several years past the curlers of Invergordon and district have been seriously contemplating the formation of a curling pond. Several meetings were held and estimates—the lowest of which amounted to £300—were submitted for consideration but nothing practical was done until a Saltburn gentleman, through the medium of the columns of the "Highland News," suggested that steps should be taken to utilise part of the huge excavation made by the Admiralty at the west end of the village of Saltburn by damming, and flooding from the neighbouring field drains. Those in authority were accordingly immediately approached, but refused to give the necessary permission.

"SCRAP-IRON MEMORIALS."

Sir,—Kindly grant me just an inch or two of your valuable space to reply to "Another Highlander" regarding above. What I have said, I have said, and I am certain that my fellow countrymen—with but few exceptions—are entirely of my mind with regard to the so-called war trophies, which can be described as bits on the landscape wherever they are exhibited.

THAT AWFUL "HOOCH"

Only this week the anti-dancing element in our Magistracy dealt with a protest by residents in Bank Street against noises emanating from a dancing hall. Now, it is not unnatural that this protest should have been made; men and women are entitled to quietness if they are to go forth of mornings refreshed for toil.

Asthma and Bronchitis.

HUSBAND AND WIFE FIND VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE INVALUABLE.

Mr Robert Getty, 130 Upper Canning Street, Liverpool, says:—"My wife was attacked suddenly by Asthma and Bronchitis, and suffered distressing fits from a racking cough. This deprived her of sleep, and reduced her system to a very low state. She tried Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and the improvement it made was truly astonishing. Soon she was completely cured. Veno's also cured me when suffering from a bad sore throat and pains in the back, the results of a chill. We will never be without Veno's in the house in future."

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

is the world's supreme remedy for Coughs and Colds, Lung Troubles, Asthma, Bronchitis, Nasal Catarrh, Hoarseness, Difficult Breathing, and Influenza. Specially recommended for Whooping Cough and other Bronchial troubles in children. Prices: 1s 3d and 3s, the 3s size being the more economical. Of Chemists and Medicine Vendors everywhere. Insist on having Veno's, and refuse all substitutes.

TERRITORIAL AIR FORCE.

A meeting has this week been held in the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders, Glasgow, under the auspices of the Royal Aeronautical Society, in connection with the formation of a Territorial Royal Air Force for Scotland. The objects of this scheme are to keep in training all pilots, and, as far as possible, to train others. It is understood that the Government are maturing a scheme, and are at present feeling their way; but, in order to give some indication to the Government as to the numbers of those who would be willing to join a Scottish Territorial Air Service, it is requested that all those interested should forward their names at once to the Hon. Secretary for Scotland, Mr J. Batters Black, Royal Aeronautical Society, Blythwood Square, Glasgow. It is hoped to arrange Territorial flying centres at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dundee.

HEATINGS KILLS. Bugs, Fleas, Flies, Beetles, all insects. 2s. 6d. 1/-

UNDER THE TOWN CLOCK. DANCING AGAIN.

The mad hatters belonging to the Inverness Magistracy are at it again. It began with "The Little Grey Home in the West," then, after a short interlude, came the "bruising of the sacred flesh" by pugilism; again a short interlude, only to be broken by the monstrous howlings of Bailie Macallan as to the hour at which dances should commence. It will be recalled that among other things he suggested that dances should begin and end during the natural light!

APPLE CULTURE.

It has often been said that fruit growing in the North of Scotland is a somewhat precarious business, but when we witness in the premises of Mr Charles Mackinnon, High Street, the collections grown by Mr Barron, Cemetery Lodge, and Mr Geo. Batehen, Silverwells, then we must confess we change our mind entirely.

WATER TIGHT!

A good story is going the rounds in Inverness regarding a well-known member of the local Licensed Trade who invited to select party to his house for the purpose of celebrating the victory over Pussfootists. It would appear as if the gentleman in question is determined to set an example to his fellow traders, and that the occasion of the feast should not be marred by anything in the nature of a Balshazzar display.

COALITION CAMPAIGN.

An extensive Coalition platform campaign will open in Scotland on December 7. The Prime Minister himself will speak in Glasgow early in January. The campaign will embrace a series of important meetings in all the principal cities and towns from Dumfries in the South to Inverness in the North.

A PROBLEM.

Noise has been a problem since the creation of the world. Men, women, and children are noise producers, but on the whole they are wonderfully tolerant. The war waged against Germany was a great noise; the Armistice was a great noise; what we eat, drink, smoke, wear, read, and play with cannot be produced without noise.

access to the police. But instead of putting our dancing halls on mountain peaks, it seems that the immediate duty of the electors is to put the mountain peaks on the top of those who see evil where it does not exist. That would end all this nonsense about the alleged immorality of the average dance.

A SERIOUS IMPLICATION.

At Thursday's meeting of the Magistrates, Bailie Macallan held that no respectable girl should be seen on our streets after 10 p.m. He was advancing the old, but exploded theory, that darkness is conducive to immorality. Well, this is the twentieth century, and we are supposed to have thrown off the shackles of an obnoxious prudery. But it is obvious that some people—let us be eternally grateful that they are an insignificant and unimportant minority—will persist in airing a view-point which carries with it a very serious implication. By his declaration on Thursday, Bailie Macallan has "marked" every married and unmarried woman who is seen on our streets after 10 p.m. He has thereby set himself up as a Grand Duke—as a Bureaucracy on Morality. The only consoling thing about it is that he is self-appointed. I have no doubt but that the married and unmarried women of Inverness will hurl back this vile suggestion, and remember its utterance as long as they live.

APPLE CULTURE.

It has often been said that fruit growing in the North of Scotland is a somewhat precarious business, but when we witness in the premises of Mr Charles Mackinnon, High Street, the collections grown by Mr Barron, Cemetery Lodge, and Mr Geo. Batehen, Silverwells, then we must confess we change our mind entirely. We are told that these apples are grown on bush trees. They are a remarkable display, and the varieties are the most popular sorts for our soil and climate and an object lesson to all intending growers. We are also told that very often the trouble is want of knowledge of the proper method of cultivation, but there are many sources nowadays to acquire the information, and the experts in connection with the Board of Agriculture are always willing to advise.

WATER TIGHT!

A good story is going the rounds in Inverness regarding a well-known member of the local Licensed Trade who invited to select party to his house for the purpose of celebrating the victory over Pussfootists. It would appear as if the gentleman in question is determined to set an example to his fellow traders, and that the occasion of the feast should not be marred by anything in the nature of a Balshazzar display. Accordingly the party sat down to an excellent dinner, during which one of the name of W. E. Johnson was, metaphorically at least, destroyed for all time! Victory was everywhere—even on the beautiful gas mantles. At the conclusion of the feast, cigars, cigarettes, and pipes were produced, and the old solace was indulged with homely eloquence. Satisfying as the repast had been, it lacked something very essential. And that something was no other than whisky. But the host was determined that a "wet" victory should not lead to a "dried" one; consequently he withheld all ardent spirits from his guests. I am told it was a sad, sad night, after all momentous an occasion. Truth, after all, is stranger than fiction, but some of the guests declare that their host was more Pussfootist in triumph than he was Mr Bung during the anxious hour of the poll!

COALITION CAMPAIGN.

An extensive Coalition platform campaign will open in Scotland on December 7. The Prime Minister himself will speak in Glasgow early in January. The campaign will embrace a series of important meetings in all the principal cities and towns from Dumfries in the South to Inverness in the North.

SOCIAL MEETING.

A social meeting of the Crown U.F. Church Literary Society was held on Friday night. Rev. Mr Strang presiding over a large attendance. An excellent musical programme was gone through in which Mrs. Petrie, Miss Margaret Macleod, Miss Rhoda Macleod, Miss Smith, and Mr Lee Fraser took part. Tea was served at the end of the first part of the programme, and between the various musical items many amusing competitions were engaged in. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was passed. After the presentation of prizes to the winners of the various competitions, Mr Strang moved a very hearty vote of thanks to all the ladies who had contributed towards making the evening such a success.

BIRD'S Egg Substitute. Delicious Puddings and Cakes are made in a minute with BIRD'S Egg Substitute.

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CLARK'S SALE NOW IN FULL SWING. Great Success. Everybody Satisfied with the Great Reductions. COME AND SECURE SOME OF THE BARGAIN LOTS at this MONEY-SAVING SALE AT THE FOOT OF KING STREET. Repairing. BRING YOUR REPAIRS, and AVOID DAMP FEET. Rubber Sets. PUT ON WHILE YOU WAIT. Foot of King Street, Invergordon.

SUITS. SUITS. SUITS. FOR 14 DAYS ONLY. We are making a Special Offer OF FASHIONABLE CUT, HARD-WEARING READY-TO-WEAR SUITS. Special Price 77/6 For 14 days only. Manclark & Son, Invergordon

Ford A. W. TAYLOR, Authorised Dealer in Ross-shire for Messrs Ford & Coy., Ltd., Manchester, and Henry Ford & Son, Ltd., Manchester. Note Reduced List: PRICES FROM 1st NOVEMBER. Touring Car with Electric Starter and Lighting Equipment...£240. Standard Delivery Van with Electric Starter and Lighting Equipment...£225. Touring Chassis with Electric Starter and Lighting Equipment...£180. Sedan, with Electric Starter, Lighting Equipment, equal size Tyres, Demountable Rims, Spare Rim and Carrier...£425. Ton Truck Chassis, Demountable Rims, and Rubber Non-Skid Pneumatic Tyres all round...£210. ALL PRICES AT WORKS, MANCHESTER. Fordson Tractor, complete with Pulley, price...£272 10s (At Works, Cork).

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W. W. and R. Mackay Auctioneers and Licensed Valuers, TAIN AND INVERGORDON. Live Stock Sales at Tain every Friday at One o'clock. VALUATIONS, ETC. Punctually attended to. P.O. Telephone No. 2.

BREMNER & ROSE, 55 HIGH STREET, INVERGORDON. COAL, CEMENT, MANURE and POTATO MERCHANTS. COMMISSION AGENTS. SHIP OWNERS and SHIP BROKERS. Branch Depots—DELNY AND FEARN.

PRINTING.—All kinds of Printing promptly executed. Highland News Office, Invergordon.

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MISS C. BOYD, SUPPLY STORE, CLYDE STREET, INVERGORDON. STATIONERY, DAILY and WEEKLY PAPERS, CIGARETTES and TOBACCOES, CONFECTIONERY. HAND-BAKED SCONES a Speciality.

MOTORS. CYCLES. CAR HIRING. : : : COVERED CAR COMFORT. Booking Dates Now. Cars Bought, Sold, and Overhauled. CYCLES—NEW and SECOND-HAND. HIRING—4s 6d per Hour, 3s 6d Afternoon. REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS a Speciality. TYRES, TUBES, CHAINS, LAMPS, SADDLES, ETC. Anything in MOTORS and CYCLES, call Here.

NELSON BROS., (ALL-BRITISH FIRM), PARK LANE, INVERGORDON.

Invergordon Aerated Water Works. HIGH-CLASS Mineral Waters. LEMONADE, KOLA, GINGER ALE, STONE GINGER, SODA WATER, DRY GINGER, Etc. Supplied Promptly by Motor Service throughout the District extending from Beauty to Tain and Portmahomack. JOHN JOHNSTONE, Proprietor.

PROVIDE yourselves with comfortable Easy Chairs for the long winter nights. All showing a good range of well-made, reasonably-priced Easy Chairs for next week. Mackie, 122a High Street, Invergordon.

SKYE

SKYTH.—No Change carried as a result of the polling under the Temperance Act in Skye. The following was the result of the poll:—No Change, 103; Limitation, 7; No Licence, 55. The electorate is 811.

CRUELTY TO A HORSE.—In Portree Sheriff Court, on Friday, 19th inst., Geo. Cameron, Inverness, appeared before Sheriff-Substitute Valentine on a charge of having driven a mare belonging to him when in a lame state, through a hoof being cracked. The accused tendered a plea of guilty, and was fined 30s.

PORTREE—EDUCATIONAL.—A meeting of Skye School Management Committee was held at Portree on Thursday of last week. Mr Nicol Martin of Glendale, chairman of the Committee, presiding. There was a full attendance of members notwithstanding the very boisterous weather which prevailed, and a considerable deal of educational business was transacted.

PORTREE—PROSECUTOR FISCAL.—The Lord Advocate has made the following appointments:—Mr W. J. Robertson, solicitor and Procurator Fiscal at Portree, to be Procurator Fiscal of the Kilmacq District of the County of Ayr. Mr Alexander Dugald Mackinnon, O.B.E., solicitor, to be Procurator Fiscal of the County of Inverness at Portree.

PORTREE—SHERIFF COURT.—On Thursday, 18th inst., before Sheriff-Substitute Valentine, Archibald Stewart, merchant, Stein, Waterish, was charged, at the instance of the County Sanitary Inspector, with selling to the public, cream of tartar substitute at the price of 3s 8d per lb, namely, at the rate of 3s 8d per lb. Mr George M. Frazer prosecuted on behalf of the County Council. Accused pled guilty to the charge, but made the explanation that the articles had been supplied to him by his wholesale merchants as genuine cream of tartar. A fine of £3 was imposed. The fine was paid at the bar.

PORTREE—A DANGEROUS BUILDING.—An action at the instance of Mr W. J. Robertson, Procurator Fiscal, came up in the Sheriff Court on Thursday last, against Mr Duncan Mackinnon, Bank Street, Portree, the proprietor of a three-storied ruinous building in Wentworth Street. The building was burst out by fire about five years ago, and has been allowed to stand in its gutted-out state since that time. During the storm which raged last week the building swayed ominously, and presented an appearance which was regarded as dangerous to the public. The Procurator Fiscal, in the public interest, took steps before the Sheriff to have the proprietor demolish the building. After having received a surveyor's report, and heard evidence regarding the dangerous state of the building, the Sheriff pronounced an interlocutor ordering its demolition, as far as the height of the second storey, within a reasonable time.

ELEVEN AND A HALF DAYS TO COUNT A MILLION.

A million is a pretty big number to deal with. If you were to start counting at the rate of sixty to the minute, and to keep it up steadily day and night, without stopping for meals or sleep, it would take you exactly 11 days 13 hours 46 minutes 40 seconds to count one million. So the story of the Scotsman who won a packet of a million pins in a raffle, and next day presented himself before the Bazaar Committee with a complaint that there were three pins short, may be dismissed as a malicious invention.

Everybody knows Bovril. It has become, in a way which must be unique in the history of commercial commodities, a part of our national life, and the wise policy of the proprietors in refusing to take advantage of the almost unlimited opportunities for profiteering which the war presented to them has established Bovril more firmly than ever in the confidence and affection of the public.

Probably few even of those who are best acquainted with its virtues realise the magnitude of the organisation that is required to ensure the regular supply of the familiar brown bottles to all the shops that sell them, from Lands End to John O'Groats, and in practically every civilised country in the world.

When you come to consider the dozens of millions of bottles that represent the annual output—not simply to be counted, but to be filled, corked, labelled, wrapped, packed and despatched to their destination—you will begin to get some idea of the kind of organisation that is needed to run Bovril. The mere provision of the necessary bottles, etc., is an important business in itself, and one that requires careful planning many months in advance.

But the supply of bottles is, after all, a subsidiary matter compared to the supply of the raw materials of Bovril, and it is in the development of the sources of raw materials, and the linking up of all the stages of the business, from the Ox to the shop counter, that the greatest foresight and acumen have been shown by the Directors of the Company.

There are no fewer than three powerful associated Companies whose main business it is to see that plentiful supplies of raw material are always available for the making of Bovril. Two of these, the Argentine Estates of Bovril, Limited, and Bovril Australian Estates, Limited, control vast ranches in Argentina and Australia, and devote themselves to the raising of cattle on a huge scale for the benefit of the parent Company. The third, Estates Control, Limited, is even more closely connected with the main stem as the chief holding Company, in its interests, in the other two, and in the all important part it plays in carrying the vast reserve stocks of raw material which are the life blood and the safeguard of the business.

LOCHCARBON.—The result of the Local Veto poll in Lochcarbon is:—No Change, 80; No Licence, 3; Limitation, 51.

GAIRLOCH.—The following result of the Local Veto poll in Gairloch was declared on Wednesday:—No Change, 123; No Licence, 124; Limitation, 26. Under 35 per cent. voted.

BEAULY NEWS.

IN MEMORIAM.—A memorial service was held on Friday evening in the U.F. Church, Beauly, whither the remains of the widow of Rev. Mr Macrae, for many years minister of the church, were conveyed from Teanahinch, Canon, where she died. Rev. A. Murray, U.F. Church, Beauly, Rev. R. Macdonald, U.F. Church, Dingwall, and Rev. J. Hill, St. Columba's, Beauly, took part in the memorial service. The funeral was largely attended, the deceased lady being known to all Beauly residents for her generosity and hospitality. One son, Lieut. M. J. Macrae, and a daughter, Mrs Matheson, Teanahinch, survive, and with both much sympathy is felt.

AULDREAR.—Alderman Votet "WET."—The result of the local veto poll at Auldrear is as follows:—No Change, 183; No Licence, 84. No Change majority, 98.

GLASGOW NOTES

Notwithstanding the dense fog which enveloped the city and neighbourhood on Wednesday evening, and the attendant inconveniences of disarranged railway and tramway services, there was a packed audience in the large hall of the Christian Institute for the grand concert by the choir of the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association. In the area every seat was occupied, and in the balcony, except for a space reserved for the choir in order that they might enjoy Mr Archibald MacCallum's latest essay in Gaelic dramatic composition, the same satisfactory state of matters obtained. It was a magnificent tribute to the value placed on the work of the choir by Gaelic Glasgow, which apart altogether from the financial gains, cannot fail to act as a stimulus to the members and their brilliant leader to advance towards still greater achievements. As was stated, and with pardonable pride, by the chairman, Mr Alexander Fraser, in his short opening speech, the choir has won premier honours thrice at the Mod, and if account is taken of the prizes won by individual members of the choir in singing and recitative competitions, it easily holds the record among Gaelic choral combinations in Scotland. It was fitting, therefore, that Gaelic Glasgow should accord honour where honour was due, and in doing it in such ample fashion as they did on Monday evening they at the same time honoured themselves more than a little.

The opening number, a rendering of the old Gaelic Ream time "French," proved an admirable performance, and prompted the chairman, at a later stage, to suggest that these old tunes might with advantage be heard more frequently in Gaelic Churches. The grand ralling song of the Gael, "Susa leis a Ghaidhlig," was given with admirable verve and precision, and was also "Till till," "Eigh m'ruin," "Tog orm no Phìob," "Eilean Mulla," "Hi 'im bo," and indeed all their part songs, all sections of the choir following Mr MacCallum's expert leading with an alertness and confidence which admits of no criticism. In the matter of tone and the finer shading which are almost necessary to a true artistic rendering of most Gaelic songs, the choir has made vast improvement during the past year. This was particularly noticeable in their execution of the difficult "Tog orm no Phìob," and elicited a perfect storm of approbation. Articulation, too, was excellent, this sine qua non to success in singing being a matter which has always received attention from the "G.G." management.

Equally satisfactory were the appearances made by the male choir and the ladies' choirs, the former's rendering of "Craochan Beann" being a most effective performance. "Am Mullaigh Dubh," given as a quartet by Mrs Coutts and Miss M. Campbell, and Messrs G. A. Sutherland and Donald Mackenzie, was particularly well done, and so also was the duet, "Talach," by Misses Mapherson and Maclean, these ladies having to respond to two recalls before the audience could be brought to let them go. The soloists included Miss Phemie Marquis, Miss Gloria N. Maclean, Miss Myrtle Campbell, and Mr G. A. Sutherland, and in each case the enjoyment of the audience found noisy expression in an insistent recall. Miss Marquis, indeed, being honoured with a double encore.

Half way through the programme the new Gaelic dramatic sketch by Mr MacCallum, "An Gille Sin," was given with excellent effect by Mrs W. Coutts and Mr J. M. Bannerman, the dialogues which gained first honours at last Mod for the performance of this piece. Mrs Coutts' impersonation of the mother of "That Boy" was entirely clever. Her management of her son—sometimes wheedling, oftener scolding—in the difficult task of choosing wisely from a bevy of marriageable girls, being as true to life as it was certainly highly diverting. As the son, Mr Bannerman performed most creditably, his evident reluctance to be guided by his mother tickling the audience and sending them into paroxysms of laughter time and again. Needless to say, there was a big demonstration of approval at the close of the piece, an ovation which included its talented author as well as the other two performers. Altogether, having regard to the character of the entertainment and the size of the audience, the concert may rightly be described as a great success, which is highly creditable alike to the members of the Gaelic Musical Association and the Highland public of Glasgow.

The song lecture by the Rev. John Maccechern, Moy, on "Songs of Bygone Days," given in the Christian Institute on Thursday last under the auspices of the Glasgow Inverness-shire Association, proved one of the most delightful things of the kind that a city Highland Association has been privileged to enjoy for many a day. Possessed of a "good voice," Mr Maccechern was exceedingly effective in his illustrative efforts, and their enjoyment by the audience was intensified by the obvious circumstance that the lecturer was enjoying himself quite as much as they were. He fairly brimmed over with humour—a droll, pawkily humour that elicited round the room and made willing captives of everyone in his passage. Beginning with the songs sacred to the nursery, the lecturer went on to give illustrations of popular ditties which he had heard as a boy, as a youth, then as a student, and in careered much merriment by his illustrations of how certain well-known songs—such, for instance, as the popular "Daisy Bell" of thirty years ago—were sung by the Cockney, the Lowlander, the Aberdonian, and the Hebridean. For the purposes of such a lecture the old student songs provided much good material, and these Mr Maccechern used with the consummate ability of a "top-line" artist. The mannerisms typical of students of various nationalities were depicted to the life, and in a fashion which unfailingly induced to unbounded hilarity. Than his mimicry of the young German, for instance, pouring out his "life" in song to his charming maiden it is not easy to imagine a more effective performance. Equally satisfactory was his dramatic presentation of the "Barrin' o' the Door," a song which he said his father, also a clergyman, was in the habit of singing at choir parties in the mans. Fathers, too, was not wholly absent from the lecture, the old Scots ballads affording Mr Maccechern scope for variety of which he made effective use. While he himself played the active part, his mimicry of the young German, for instance, pouring out his "life" in song to his charming maiden it is not easy to imagine a more effective performance.

Following week, but he doubted if even he could have entertained them for a whole evening more pleasantly and more successfully than Mr Maccechern had done. Should he pay them another visit, and be trusted Mr Maccechern would do so, he was certain a much more commodious place of meeting would be required to accommodate all who would be desirous of hearing him. Similar sentiments were expressed by several gentlemen present, after which votes of thanks were heartily accorded to Mr Maccechern and his brother.

Members and friends of the Inverness-shire Association should note that a dance, arranged by the lady members, has been fixed to take place in the Charing Cross Hall on Tuesday, 14th December. The weekly meetings of Glasgow's twin Ceilidhs continue to draw large audiences each Saturday evening. At Ceilidh nan Gaidheal, where Miss Nancy Maclean read an excellent Gaelic paper on St. Columba, Mr Malcolm Macleod presided over a very large audience, and at the High School Gaelic Ceilidh Dr Burgess, Crookhill, a well-known and highly-esteemed personage in Highland circles, lectured interestingly on "The Scot and His Country" to a large assemblage of members and friends. Mr David MacLennan, of the Boss and Cremarty Association, presided. This week's lecturer is Mr Fred T. Macleod, Edinburgh. Glasgow readers should note that in future Ceilidh nan Gaidheal is to meet half-an-hour earlier—at 7.30 p.m.

For the forty-ninth annual gathering of the Skye Association, probably the strongest Highland organisation in the city, a most attractive concert programme has been drawn up. The artistes engaged are all well-known and proved favourites, and, barring accidents, nothing seems to stand in the way of this Association adding yet another to its long list of remarkable concert successes. There will be Gaelic songs by Mr Rodgers' accompaniment, and Miss Flora Macneil, and Scots songs by Misses Macdonald and Rhoda Macleod, whilst variety will be given to the entertainment by readings by Miss Agnes Bartholomew, recitations by Mr John K. Maclean (the Reid), violin selections by Miss Florrie MacBride, and displays of national dances by the Hebridean Troupe of Dancers. It is of interest to note that Mr Roderick Macleod's numbers include "Cumha, Mhìs Ordoimain" (with organ accompaniment). Many regard this as Mr Macleod's masterpiece. Certainly his is a superb interpretation of this magnificent and world-famous lament, and it is worth going a long distance to hear. The venue, as usual, is the St. Andrew's Halls, and the date Friday next week. Colonel Kenneth L. Macdonald, D.S.O., of Skelbo, is to preside. Further particulars may be seen in the notice published in our advertisement column on another page.

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In connection with its War Memorial Scheme there is to be another dedicatory service in the Highlander's Memorial Church on Sunday, December 5, when Sir Hector Munro, Bart., of Foulis, the donor, will present the Munro Shield for dedication. At the Highland Land Settlement Association meeting, on Friday last, Mr H. F. Campbell, advocate, Aberdeen, presided over a fair attendance of members and friends interested in this important socio-economic question. There was considerable discussion by members of Glasgow Highland Societies of the various matters brought forward, and eventually the submitted resolutions were carried unanimously.

1. That this Association deplores the great delay in settling ex-service men upon the land, and regrets that owing to this delay the Land Settlement Act, 1919, has remained practically a dead letter. 2. That this Association urges the need for carrying out Land Settlement in a more expeditious manner, and to that effect calls upon the Government to appoint Local Committees of experts for the purpose of expediting Land Settlement, and also calls upon the Government to finance adequately the Scottish Land Bank. 3. That this meeting of the H.L.S.A. deplores the lack of support given by the Scottish Fishery Board and the Scottish Office to the Admiralty Schemes for aiding ex-service fishermen to the Scottish M.P.'s to give every support to these schemes.

Mr Archibald MacCallum presided at last Saturday's concert of the Paisley Highlanders' Association, which again drew together a crowded audience. Miss Annie Morrison, and Mr Hugh Macdonald, Greenock, gave enjoyable renderings of Gaelic songs, and Scots songs were sung by Mrs Duncan Woodrow, Clydebank, and Andrew Hamilton, in a manner which delighted all present. Displays of dancing and pipe selections filled out an entertainment which was never allowed to become dull, and the evening was agreeably closed by a dance which was taken part in by many of the younger members of the audience.

In local shinty circles attention is being focussed on Blawarthill Argyll, whose trouncing of Glasgow University in the Southern League fixture last Saturday came as a surprise to many. Though its formation dates back only a few weeks, the team is now at the head of the League, and conjecture is general as to the probability of its being able to maintain itself in that position. Already a few of the knowing ones are beginning to think that it may remain on top, and point to the fact that in the team's four League engagements it has netted no fewer than 17 goals and dropped only 7, while its points' record stands at 6 out of a possible 8. It has to be remembered, however, that Glasgow Skye and Glasgow Kyle are both unbroken teams, and their conquest by the young combination having regard to their doughy records, is most unlikely.

NEW FURNITURE SALEROOMS AND STORES.—Mr Kenneth Mackenzie, auctioneer, has become tenant of the large halls in Washington Court, Inverness, formerly occupied as billiard saloons, and now part of the "Highland News" buildings. The premises have been reconstructed, and are admirably adapted for carrying on all branches of the furniture trade. Mr Mackenzie has wide and varied experience of the business, and is engaged in, and his many friends wish him success in his new enterprise.

OUTBREAK OF FIRE.—Early on Saturday evening, fire, caused by the dropping of a heated match on sawdust, but which, happily, was successfully subdued, broke out in a cellar of the premises occupied by Mr R. Campbell, fishwife, Queen-gate. Firemen, the fire was subdued, being confined to the cellars, although considerable damage was done to the stock by water, and to the goods in the shop of Miss Maclean, by smoke.

FOOTBALL AT STORNOWAY.

RAMBLERS V. LAHWAD. The scheduled match between the above teams in the Stornoway League was played in the Goathill Park on Saturday last. Mr Macintosh, coastguard, acted as referee, and there was a large turnout of spectators. The day was dry but cold, and the cross wind did not make for the best of football. The Ramblers had few changes from the team that gave so improved a display against the school a fortnight ago, but Lahwad made many changes, some of which did not conduce to strength. Fairly punctually the referee got the game started with the Factory representatives defending the top goal. The whole pitch was sodden, and the goalmouths were quaking quagmires, so the game was nothing to enthuse over for the first few minutes. The Ramblers pressed consistently but, by strong defence in which the Lahwad right back was most consistent, they were unable to finish as effectively as they would have desired. They succeeded in scoring 2 goals, when they might without injustice have had more, and the Ramblers 2; Lahwad, 0.

It was expected that in the second half, with the wind favouring them Lahwad would have much more of the game, and the transference of their outstanding player from right back to centre forward seemed to hint that they expected to score. The opposite proved to be the case, for the Ramblers began to pile on goals in a fashion so easy as to be almost inhuman. The Lahwad halves collapsed under pressure from the fast running Ramblers' forwards, and Robertson in centre was kept busy knocking the ball into the net. Towards the finish the question was, not who was to win the game, but by how many goals would the victors triumph. Finally the whistle went with the score at the unbelievable figure of eleven goals to none. Result—Ramblers, 11; Lahwad, 0.

With every match the Ramblers continue to improve, and are a quite different team from that defeated so easily in the first match. Maclean in goal did not get a shot from Lahwad, and must have had a cold afternoon. The backs were fairly sound, though Maciver seems to be better at half. Their halves tackled well and placed fairly accurately, Bishop being most conspicuous. The forward line moved sweetly and was very effective. The stars were the Robertson at centre and outside right. It is difficult to account for the collapse of Lahwad. Individually they had some very sound players, and in the first half played well, even though numerically they were over the regulation number. In the second half they were completely out of it, and will require very much reorganisation if they are to win any matches.

Mr Macintosh, referee as efficiently as ever, and gave proof that his arithmetic is as strong as his football. The most unsatisfactory feature is the state of the field, but the League which has up to date spent a good deal of money on equipment and improvements how to have the goals sorted before next match. It is also hoped to erect a small dressing shed for the convenience of players, and steps to raise the necessary funds for that purpose are under consideration. While the collection at matches have not been bad, I am sure the Committee would welcome more generous contributions.

LEAGUE TABLE. Goals P W L D F A Pt Stornoway Athletic 3 2 1 0 9 2 4 Ramblers 3 1 1 1 16 7 3 Nolew's Invictite 2 1 0 1 4 2 3 United Services 2 1 1 0 5 5 2 Lahwad 2 0 2 0 0 18 0

LITERARY. "LONDON MAGAZINE." Out of a large budget of magazines we accord the palm to "London's" Xmas Number for variety, amusement, and general make-up. Everyone is, or ought to be, interested in H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, so will be pleased with the article by G. Marsden, from which we give an extract, on the most eligible bachelor in the world.—"The Prince of Wales dines out a great deal when in London. He would do so even more freely than he does, only for one thing—the Prince is the most eligible bachelor in the world. It is hundreds of years since such an expression could be used of the Heir-apparent, for up to the present time it was to all intents and purposes impossible for the Heir-apparent to marry a lady who was not of Royal rank. But to-day it is possible—though it may not be probable—that the Prince of Wales will marry outside the rank of Royalty. All the cleverest match-making mothers in the country, somewhat to the embarrassment of the Prince, understand this perfectly well, and the fact sometimes rather interferes, as I have said, with the Prince enjoying himself in Society as freely as he otherwise would. There have been many speculations about who and when the Prince will marry. One fact, at least, about the Prince's marriage, whenever it takes place, may be stated with certainty. His Royal Highness will never marry against his parents' wishes, and they, on their part, will never attempt to make him marry against his will." Other features of special interest in the issue are Golden Golf Rules, by George Duncan; the Problem of the ex-Service Men, Safety First or How to avoid Motor Sweeps, and the continuation of Cosmo Hamilton's story, "The Blue Room." Christmas-looking are the beautiful illustrations, entitled "Touches of Real Winter," depicting various ice and snow games in the Bugadine. Get the Number, price 1s, and enjoy it for yourself.

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