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A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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What Next for Welsh Miners?

The O'Malley Business

Scotland — A Nation in Crisis

Direct Action for Breton

Advancement of
Manx Gaelic

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ALBA

Co-Labhairt Dun Eideann 1984

Bha "Seuson Ceilteach" ann an Alba as t-foghair. Taing don Dr. Anndra Hunter dh'fhosgail an t-Oilthigh Heriot-Watt a dhorsan dhuinn san t-seann baile Dhun Eideann, agus, taing dhàsan, cuideachd, rinn Aitreabh nam Frangach mar an ceudna sa bhaile nuadh Dun Eideann agus san Aitreabh aca ann an Glaschu.

Feadh an t-"Seusoin" seo bha iomadh tachartasan, ceilidhean, ceòl is dannsadh agus mar sin air adhart. Ach, gun teagamh sam bith, bha An Co-Labhairt air 23 agus 24 Samhainn a' chùis as cudthromaiche. A choinns gun robh e a' chiad uair a tha an Eachdraidh ag iarraidh na Ceiltich a sheasamh dlùth ri chèile anns an dòchas gum bheir an Roinn Eorpa ann am Brussels cobhair dhuinn an aghaidh nan cunnartan electronaich (video, T.V., transistor 7c.) a tha gar bagradh an diugh.

Ach ma bhitheas cobhair ann, feumaidh sinn bruidhinn leis an aon ghuth. Nach eil na Ceiltich a' bheag-chuid (minority) as mó feadh na Roinn Eorpa? Se sin ri ràdh gum bheil Càirdeas eadarainn feumail. Ma bhios an Càirdeas Ceilteach seo comasach agus glic, 's math dh'fhaoidte gum bi na uaislean sin ann am Brussels deònach còraichean a thoirt dhuinn air sgath na Gàidhlig agus na cànaichean Cheiltich eile?

Nach do dhiùlt a' Phàrlamaid Shasunach còraichean na Gàidhlig nuair a dh'iarr Domhnall Stiùbhart B.P. sa bhile aige. Diùlt iad bho'n nach robh sinn neartmhor. Mur eil sinn neartmhor 's math dh'fhaoidte gum bheil an Roinn Eorpa comasach gu leoir na còraichean sin a liubhairt dhuinn. Nach eil an Roinn Eorpa 'na Càirdeas i-fhèin; càirdeas eadar uiread de rioghachdan far a bheil iomadh cànaichean?

'Sa chiad dol a mach, sa Cho-labhairt, bhruidhinn na Cuimrich. Mhìnich iad ciamar a tha iad d' dèanamh spàirn air son na Cuimreish. Shaoilinn gun robh iad ag cluich geam na cànaich fada nas fheàrr na sinne . . . mar gun robh ri tàileasg!

An oidheche sin, bha deagh cheilidh ann, anns an t-sean nos. Bha Mór Nic Leòid, bana-Ghàidheal ainmeil as na h-Earradh, 'na bean-an-taighe. Tha i ag obair ann an Sgoil Eolais na h-Alba. Ged a rinn Mór uamhasach math an oidheche sin, bhruidhinn i fada nas fheàrr an ath latha, Di-Sathurna, nuair a dh'innis Mór choir dhuinn mar a bha saoghal nan Gàidheal roimh'n Chogaidh 1939-45 agus an deidh sin, nuair a bha i 'na caileag òg; bha teàrtaichte ann, bho'n a bha bochdainn mhór ann . . . agus bha na h-eileannan agus

na h-àitean eile nan Gàidheal, air leth.

Ach thàinig na rudan electronaich (T.V., transistor, video 7c) oirnn. Tha iad nimheil fhads a tha iad 'sa Bheurla. Tha d'fhuair sinn fhathast Amar T.V. gu tur 'sa Ghàidhlig, no stéisean rèidio Gàidhlig, no videos no eile mar sin 'sa Ghàidhlig.

"Rud eile a tha ceàrr," arsa ise, "tha na Gàidheil ro dhéidheil Beurla a bhruidhinn nuair a thigeadh neach aig nach eil facal Ghàidhlig 'nam measg. . . Tha trì nithean a dhìth oirnn (1) barrachd de Ghàidhlig air T.V. and rèidio (2) tuille leabhraichean air son na cloinne agus (3) barrachd de Ghàidhlig ri fhaicinn gu follaiseach . . . agus facal mu dheireadh. . . Brosnaich parantan a nis agus parantan san àm ri teachd — seas gu daingean — na aontaich gu iarrtas sam bith no airgead-pocaid a thoirt — mur eil na pàisdean a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig!"

Tha Iain Noble ainmeil feadh Alba gu léir. Stéidhich e Sabhal Mór Ostaig (an Colaiste Gàidhlig san Eilean Sgiathanach) agus rinn e iomadh rud eile a chur am feabhas cor nan Gàidheal agus na Gàidhlig. Arsa Iain coir —

"Tha ath-bheothachadh na cànaich Cheiltich a' gealltainn iomadh rud miorbhuileach — dìreach miorbhuileach, sam àm ri teachd, bho'n a tha an t-slàinte eaconomach agus an t-slàinte chultarach co-cheangailte ri chèile. Grionaidh an soirbheas comhla ris a' chànaich. Mar a bhios cuibhle an fhortain a' dìreadh a thaobh na cànaich s'ann a bhios a' chaithebeatha eaconomach a' streapadh mar an ceudna, bho'n dānadas agus bho'n bhrèisleach a tairmaicheas ath-bheothachadh na cànaich.

Mar eisimpleir, gus a seo, bha na Gàidheil aineolach a thaobh nan gnòthach malairteach no a chur suas no a stiùireadh thionnsgnadh no project. Sna làithean a dh'aom cha robh na sgoiltean ach a lìonadh nan dreuchd proifeasanta sna bailtean móra. A nis, faodaidh duine iasad-calpa fhaighinn air son dheagh thionnsgnadh no project; agus tha gnòthaichean ionadail fada nas fheàrr na gnòthaichean móra a bha aim am putadh a steach, on taobh a muigh!

Chrìon a' Ghàidhlig leis uiread de shluagh eirmsich a bha air an tàladh do na bailtean móra — ach tha ceistean gu leoir a dh'fhuasgladh aig an taigh.

Co-dhuin Iain Noble coir, leis an rabhadh seo — gum biodh na dùthchannan Ceiltich fada nas bochd a thaobh airgid on Roinn Eorpa a dh'aithghearr bho'n a bha An Spàinnt a' tighinn a steach do'n Roinn Eorpa. B'fheudar dhuinn dèanamh na tha feumail AN DRASDA.

An sin chuala sinn mu dheighinn an Comunn Breatunnach d'am b'ainm "Das-tum". Dh'fhoillsich iad eadar 30,000 agus 50,000 'cassettes' le paisgeadh a bha uamhasach taitneach. Bhiodh 'cassettes' freagarrach do na cànaichean eile cuideachd.

A reir bas-bhualadh an luchd-eisdeachd, chòrd na thuirt Per Denez riutha uamhasach math dha-riribh. Mhìnich Per Denez, a tha na Phroifeasair na Breatunnais ann an Rennes, gun robh doigh-stiùiridh luchd-teagaisg na Breatunnais gun moran fheum, bhon a bha e cho seann fhasanta. A dh'fhuasgladh na ceist seo feumaidh sinn an aon rannsachadh no examination fhaighinn air son na Breatunnais a tha ri fhaotainn do'n Bheurla. Tha an rannsachadh a dhìth oirnn an canar CAPES. Agus a nuair a tha t-oileanach deiseil a theagaisg faigheadh e dreuchd anns a' Breatunn Bhig oir bhiodh sgoil ann an Corsica gun fheum sam bith.

Co-dhuin Per Denez le ceithir cuspairean a fhreagradh. Gun teagamh bhiodh luchd-teagaisg deonach gan rannsachadh, mar a tha iad dèanamh am measg nan oilthigh agus colaisdean Basgaich (Basque) anns an Spàinnt.

A. Nochd na doighean ciamar a bha cànaichean eile buadh-mhor.

B. Carson a tha feadhainn a' faireachdainn gum bheil a' chànaich aca suarach agus gun suim.

C. Dèan a' chànaich freagarrach don t-saoghail an latha an diugh agus caith-eamh-beatha sna bailtean móra.

D. Is urrainn do na colaisdean oibrichean-cànanaich (language workers) a theagaisg coltach ris na oibrichean-caidreamhaich (social workers) ach a thaobh na cànaich, anns na doighean-sgrìobhaidh agus deasachaidh leabhraichean, sgeulachdan, nobhailean, litreachas, naidheachdan, craobh-sgaoileadh, computaran, filmean, dealbh-chluichean agus mar sin air adhart.

Sin agad e, na trì cuspairean, teagaisg troimh'n chànaich, an cunnart electronach agus cobhair o'n Roinn Eorpa.

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich (Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig).

The United Kingdom media virtually ignored a serious incident at the U.S. Navy Nuclear Submarine Base at Holy Loch, on the Clyde in November 1984.

The incident occurred aboard the U.S. Navy Submarine support vessel 'Hunley'. Two men carrying out routine duties involving tests on a transformer were injured when equipment they were using exploded; one man suffered severe burns and there is some evidence that a serious fire was underway for sometime.

U.S. Navy sources played down the incident and said there was no risk of radiological contamination.

One can only speculate as to the possible consequences of a serious fire on such a vessel, and the consequent pollution from escapes of radioactive plutonium.

ON THE GAELIC FRONT

le Frang MacThomais

It is seldom that the observer of activity on the Gaelic front finds himself without hard news on which to comment. Yet this, strangely, is the fact of the matter. One obvious reason for this lack of newsworthy items is that the new organisation Comhairle na Gaidhlig (CNAG) is now settling down to working out a strategy for the development of Gaelic. It recently appointed a chief executive, a native of Lewis who was previously employed by the Highlands and Islands Development Board. We await Mc. MacKay's announcement of CNAG's priorities with great interest.

With the appearance of CNAG, An Comunn Gaidhealach is also looking closely at how it can interpret its new role (in the field of Gaelic arts) effectively. It will, of course, still be responsible for the National Mod. But other areas now have to be looked at to discover how to revitalise such subjects as Gaelic music, drama, the visual arts and the like.

While CNAG was able to fill its Chief Executive post quite quickly, An Comunn's advertisement for a Chief Executive has had to appear for the second time. Presumably the first applicants were not up to scratch to match the requirements of this difficult position.

It needs someone with verve, nerve, initiative and the ability to instil confidence and commitment into the volunteers who already work hard to ensure that Gaelic has a place of significance in Scotland.

The problem An Comunn has in filling its post (even at £15,000 per annum) may well be a reflection of the fact that there are not many suitably qualified people around who are willing to risk giving up established career prospects for a job which is only sketchily defined. However, that same prospect faced An Comunn away back in the 1960s when it advertised for a full-time Director. It got one, and a good man at that whose commitment to his language and culture was never in doubt. He had to define his own job from scratch and did it well. Is there anyone out there?

When Comhairle nan Eilean was set up in 1974 as a local authority with responsibility for the Western Isles, among its many aims was a cultural revival. It set up, among other things, a Bilingual Project, the purpose of which was to educate primary school children through the medium of Gaelic. A Report recently published (from Acair Ltd., Stornoway, Price £8.50) in thick paperback format describes how the Project was set up, and how the progress was made from 1976 to 1981 to ensure that Gaelic had an up and coming generation of Gaelic speakers.

The Report, which makes fascinating reading, describes the impact made on children from Gaelic-speaking homes and, no less, the impact on teachers involved in implementing the Project's aims and objects.

While the authors make no claim that the number of Gaelic speakers in the Western Isles has increased, it is noted that there has been a significant increase in the percentage of those who can read and write Gaelic. That is in itself a considerable achievement, because it has been the lack of readers in Gaelic which has prevented the Gaelic publishers from keeping their heads above water. Only when there is a committed Gaelic reading public will Gaelic authors be encouraged to produce the writing which is needed to sustain the language.

There is probably only a handful of writers who depend wholly on their writing activities (some of it in English) to survive. Most Gaelic writers produce work on the edge of their daily work. Royalties must be paltry indeed.

While the Bilingual Project has long-term aims, there is much work to be done in the short-term. Perhaps An Comunn Gaidhealach's new role in the world of Gaelic arts will encourage more writing from the coterie of existing writers. Money always talks! The Report, by the way, is in English, so readers of CARN might care to buy a copy from Acair, Stornoway.

Speaking of Gaelic books, one landed on my desk recently. It is a Gaelic version of the Welsh Mabinogion and is a joint publication between Club Leabhar, Portree, Isle of Skye, and the Welsh Arts Council. Fully illustrated in colour, it is a magnificent tribute to an effective collaboration between two sister Celtic tongues. It tells the first four tales from the Mabinogion, and even Gaelic learners will be able to get through the text without too much difficulty. It is available (price £9.50) from Club Leabhar, P.O. Box 1, Portree, Isle of Skye.

Environment Research Cut

One would have thought that after the face-losing incident of an honorary degree not being offered to the prime-minister signs would appear of a change of policy in matters of education and research. Far from it, according to a report in the papers of Feb. 15th there are to be cuts in research grants which will mean that the National Environment Research Council (NERC) will have to shed 700 of its staff of 3,130.

The NERC has announced that over the next 10 years it will have to reduce its budget by a quarter. The NERC has 13 institutes and laboratories working on a variety of subjects from forestry to North Sea oil resources so it will be seen that this is of great concern in Scotland.

The NERC finances its own institutes and research in universities and in "the interest of flexibility" it is proposed that funds will be shifted to the latter. So the former will bear the brunt of the cuts.

In Scotland there is the British Geological Survey (encompassing the UK's seismic monitoring centre and offshore work), the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology's two stations one at Bush near Edinburgh and one in Kincardine), the Scottish Marine Biology Association at Oban and the Institute of Marine Bio-chemistry at Aberdeen. The 500 scientists who work there and at some of the other institutes await anxiously the final outcome especially as there is to be stronger central control from the NERC's headquarters in Swindon, England of course.

The one section of NERC which is expanding and recruiting is the British Antarctic Survey — which until the time of the Falklands war was being cut back! The BGS (British Geological Survey) is so insensed that it is drawing up plans to make itself independent of the NERC. BGS is incidentally celebrating its 150th anniversary this year with an exhibition in the Royal Scottish Museum in Edinburgh — let us wish them success.

The ITE (Institute of Terrestrial Ecology) having recently extended its work to include acid-snow as well as acid-rain is concerned that its still small staff will also be reduced.

The head of ITE also points out that to cut one area is to affect the other and he examples — acid rain — where there has been co-operation between ITE with its expertise in forestry and atmospheric measurements and the soil scientists at Aberdeen and Lancaster University's laboratories for exposing in relation to the effect of air pollution on trees. Commenting on the whole situation he said — "It is rather surprising that they (the government) have picked on these topics which the general public see as increasingly important. The UK's research IN THE DEFENCE AREA (this writers emphasis) is very large but other than that we have one of the smallest research budgets of any European country."

M. DENOVAN

EXCHANGE OF PUBLICITY

Irish Democrat, monthly organ of the Connolly Association, 8 pp., in English. Stg£5/annum, from 244 Grays Inn Rd., London WC1. Good reviews of the political scene in Ireland and of Anglo-Irish relations from a socialist and republican standpoint. In the February issue, read about the campaign for the repeal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (designed to prevent Irish people in "Britain" from putting pressure on the English to withdraw their forces from Ireland).

The Liverpool Connolly Association is calling for an exploratory conference on the militarisation and pollution of the Irish Sea. It invites representatives of the communities living in its coastal areas to take part.

Date and venue yet to be arranged. Further information from:

M. MORTIMER,
24 King's Way,
Liverpool 22.

Scotland – Nation in a state of crisis!

The bleakness of the economic landscape as 1985 begins is depressingly real. Tory policy is destroying the industrial base of the nation by virtually writing off any need to keep political credibility in Scotland. Their 28% share of the Scots vote in the 1983 General Election ensures that Secretary of State, George Younger is in effect, a colonial governor. Donald Stewart SNP MP for the Western Isles has gone further in calling Younger the General Jaruzelski of Scots politics.

The double speak of Tory policy has pretended that new economic developments in chemicals and electronics are leading Scotland out of recession. In reality only a fraction of the jobs in electronics are in Scots based companies while the multi-nationals fail to pump in the necessary research finance to build a sound base for the sunrise industries in Scotland. Meanwhile the failure to invest in the mining industry to exploit the deep seams below the Firth of Forth is reaching a tragic conclusion in the wake of the last stages of the year long miners' strike. Serious fires at the Frances and Seafeld collieries in Fife have resulted in the loss of around 800 jobs from two of the most productive Scottish pits. The Fife miners were the most solid for the strike in Scotland, now the organisation and leadership they gave is clearly at risk. Perhaps the Labour Party, in starting the vast nuclear reactor complex at Torness signed the death warrant for Scottish pits, most of whose coal fires our power stations. Pro-nuclear policy in London, much more openly espoused by the Tories will drastically reduce mining once Torness comes on stream.

IT'S HIS OIL



So why are there so few jobs for Scots? Why do we have the worst unemployment rate in industrial Europe? X

To expect a real consensus to emerge in Scottish politics to tackle these problems is wildly over-optimistic. Labour in Scotland with 20% of UK Labour MPs is even more committed to the hopes of a Labour victory in Britain for the jobs which could follow for these parliamentarians. At local government level the big Regions like Strathclyde and Central etc. show none of the resistance to Thatcherism displayed by London, Sheffield and Liverpool councillors. Thatcher has passed laws to break up the English metropolitan counties — there is no sign of the Labour dominated Scottish heartland causing her any problems at all. Some rumours of District councils in Aberdeen, Dundee, Glasgow and Edinburgh fighting the draconian powers of this right wing government will have to be monitored if they occur.

The predictions of the SNP and the YES campaign in the devolution referendum of 1979 have been accurate. Scotland is prostrate before a Tory English majority who have no electoral interest left to win Scottish votes. In the Labour party the failure to compliment socialism with nationalism has led to demands for stronger devolution plans before the 1983 election being watered down in the recent consultative paper issued last autumn by Labour's Scottish Council. The debate of 1985 will centre around how Labour, which has chosen to go it alone as the only means to gain devolution, reacts to plans adopted in the Campaign for a Scottish Assembly and by the SNP for setting in motion a Constitutional Convention. This device would draw up a broadly acceptable home rule plan whether or not Labour achieve a victory in Britain in 1987/8 or not. Getting agreement in Scotland between parties to bring such a plan to reality will be the main thrust of the Constitutional debate this year.

Several political developments deserve comment. Concerning the disgraceful treatment of Scots by the Tory government. Seven years ago the SNP claimed that 5,000 old people die of hypothermia every year in Scotland. Labour, then in power slammed this claim. The SNP has long campaigned for a cold climate allowance to recognise that Scottish temperatures are far lower than in the S. of England. Gordon Wilson planned a four zone structure for the UK. He gained support from 50 out of 56 Scots District Councils and Six of the nine Regions. His Bill in parliament was lost under Tory pressure. However, Tory payments for exceptionally cold weather were given in the last two years. It has emerged that the trigger temperatures are much more generous to the SE of England than to non-Tory voting areas further North. The parliamentary row has been taken up by Labour as well and it has launched a widespread wave of disgust among Scots at this shabby treatment by "the English". Pinpricks like this which show open bias by Westminster do promote a reaction but this is mopped up by a system which has sentenced Scotland to internal exile.

The Scottish teachers' dispute to gain recognition for the vast changes in Scottish

IT'S HIS OIL



So why are 40,000 Scots kids on part-time education? And why is there only 1 job for every 5 school-leavers? X

schools which have greatly increased the teaching load through new educational developments has the backing of every education authority in Scotland. All the MPs of Labour, Alliance and SNP tackle government ministers as one. Even some Tories support the case for an Independent Salaries Review but British TV has devoted no more than five minutes in all to the issue which involves 50,000 Scots teachers. The BBC and ITV are so slavishly geared to reflect the interests of SE England that the only TV pictures of Scots teachers shown was when some of them lobbied parliament in early February — six months after the dispute had started and over a month after all new courses had ground to a halt.

The hopes of cultural and political revival in such a severe political climate is uncertain. Tory policies rain on our heads in a veritable blizzard yet the Scots who have been so used to being disappointed in the past seem likely to sop up the blows and stoically vote Labour again and again. The Tories meanwhile are moving rightwing centralism into a higher gear to set up the electorate in their favoured areas for a vote of confidence in the next election.

ROB GIBSON

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS Occasionally, when renewing, our subscribers send their cheques or P.O.'s to a different secretary from the one who had them on his/her list without prior notification. This can result in duplication of service and is then wasteful. If you plan such a change, we strongly advise you to make it known to your current branch secretary well in advance.

BREIZH

Peter ober evit saveteiñ gouezeleg Bro-Skos?

Kaset ez eus bet din ul levrig da vurutellañ. diwar-benn ar stourm evit ar gouezeleg e Bro-Skos. Me'gav din ez eo heñvel e stad ouzh hini ar brezhoneg e meur a geñver, anavezet ma'z int o daou ken nebeut ha ken nebeut a-berzh-Stad, setu ma talvez teurel pled ouzh ar pezh a zo displeget ha kinniget gant Gwen Mulholland e "The Struggle for a Language, Gaelic in Education". 24 fajenn a zo eus an destenn.

E 1980 e oa bet embannet he studiadenenn da gentañ. Bremañ ez eus ur stagadenn a 5 pajenn da ziskouez pezh a zo c'hoarvezet e-pad ar pevar bloaz da heul. Estreget eus ar skolioù ez eus kaoz gant an aozerezh. Da gentañ e tegas da goun penaos e voe gwasket war ar Gouezeleg e-pad kantvedoù evit o lakaat da zilezel o yezh. N'eo nemet war-dro 1950 ma krogas ar pennadurazhioù da gemmañ o emzalc'h en he c'heñver: a-benn neuze e oa-hi aet gwan a-walc'h e-touez an dud hag e oa tu da vont goustadik outi ha zoken ober van da reiñ dezhi un tammig frakiz. E Breizh hon eus gwelet kemendall o c'hoarvezout, c'hoari ar c'hazh gant al logodenn!

Er pennad "Just now in the schools" e kav Gwen Mulholland abeg en doare ma vez Kelennet ar gouezeleg: desket a vez dremen an arnodennoù skol eil-derezh, met ne reer koulz lavaret netra evit deskiñ dezho komz (80% anezho n'int ket gouezelegerien a-vihanik).^{*} Ret e vefe, emezi azañ rummadou-kentelioù dedennusoc'h ha dreist-holl lakaat ar vugale da zeskiñ komz aes. A-bouez bras eo an dra-se peogwir ez a war zisteraat niver ar re a zesk ar yezh war varlenn o mamm: embann a rae ar West Highland Free Press, 12/1/84 ne oa hervez niveradeg 1981 nemet 743 bugel oadet 3 ha 4 bloaz desavet e gouezeleg dre Vro-Skos a-bezh. E gwirionez n'eo ket er vro-se hepken e tlefed teurel evezh ouzh an ali a roer aze: talvout a ra evit ar yezhoù keltiek all kenkoulz; evit dezho padout evel yezhoù bev e tleer lakaat ar c'homz da bal uheloc'h eget ar skrivañ hag al lenn, ha reiñ un dregantad mat eus an notennoù d'an arnodenn dre gomz. Ober a reer dave d'un arbennigour hag a lavar: "Yezhoù bev a ranker kelenn evel ar gomz vev" hag ivez: "Deskiñ komz ur yezh a vez atav a-bell an hent berrañ da zeskiñ lenn ha skrivañ anezhi".

Ret eo din anzav n'ouzon ket penaos e ra skolaerien ar skolioù DIWAN evit deskiñ

brezhoneg d'ar re vihan met me'soñj e c'hallfent ober o mad eus ar pezh a vez displeget er pennad "Am maireach/Tomorrow" el levrig-mañ. "Emaon o teskiñ gouezeleg d'ur c'hlas deraouerien-a-grenn oadet 8 ha 9 vloaz abaoe tri miz. N'eus ket a destennoù (forzh penaos re abred eo, d'am soñj, ober gant testennoù). Ijinet em eus a bep seurt "troioù-micher" hag a laka ar vugale da gemer perzh oberiant ar muiañ ma c'haller er c'hentelioù". Reiñ a ra un toullad mat a skouerioù. "Lavaret eo bet din gant tadoù ha mammoù, zoken ar re anezho ha ne blij ket dezho ma doare da ober skol, o deus o bugale plijadur e-leizh gant ar gouezeleg. ..."

Er stagadenn e kaver neuze ur roll eus ar strivadou a vez graet pe a zo da ober n'eo ket hepken er skolioù met ivez gant harp ar skingomz, gant ar pennadurezhioù lec'hel koulz ha gant kevredigezhioù prevez evit aesaat o labour d'ar re a zo o poaniañ da ober gouezelegerien eus ar vugale. Peadra zo da vezañ laouen gant ar pezh a vez sevenet diwar intrudu prevez met difounn-difounn ez a an traoù war-raok e-lec'h ma vez d'ober ouzh ar servijoù foran (re an deskadurezh hag ar skingomz). Anaf eo ez eo kalz gwelloc'h emzalc'h an dud, pe kentoc'h ez eus muioc'h a dud troet-mat e-keñver ar yezh, eget lakomp dek vloz 'so. Adlavarout a ra an aozerezh e tleer strivañ dreist-holl da zeskiñ d'ar re yaouank komz aes — padal n'eus ket bet aozet rummadoù-Kentelioù diouzh se c'hoazh.

Un dachenn all a zo da zifraostañ: ret eo krouiñ *frammoù kevredigezhel* hag a roy tu d'an dud yaouank da ober gant ar yezh o deus desket, kevredigezhioù hag a vodo anezho evit o dihuek (meneget eo Urdd Gobaith Cymru da skouer), strolladoù sonerien-kanerien, kluboù evel hini Conradh na Gaelige e Dulenn pe hini Ifor Bach e Kaerdiz). En Iwerzhon, siwazh, eo chomet an darn vrasañ eus labour-gouezelekaat ar skolioù difrouezh en abeg ma ne voe ket roet tu d'ar re yaouank da gejañ e seurt kevredigezhioù ur wech kuitaet ar skol ganto. Penaos mirout na gouezhfe ar skolidi en-dro e mor ar saozneg pe hini ar galleg hag o koll koulz lavaret pep anaoudegezh eus an hini vroadel? Gwen Mulholland a wel ervat n'eus ket tu da vont gwall-bell gant adsav ur yezh evel ar gouezeleg hep harp digant ur gouarnamant-kreiz. Ar pennadurezhioù lec'hel, ha pa vent troet-mat, n'eus ket a-walc'h a arc'hant en o dalc'h evit reiñ an harp a zo ezhomm. Aneer eo gortoz skoezell vrokus digant London (koulz ha Paris evidomp). Setu ar gudenn washañ! "Ar gouezeleg o vezañ ur yezh skosat — a language of Scotland — e ziorroadur a dle bezañ e karg Skosiz, dindan renerezh ur Bodad politikel skosat". War an dra-se e ranker pouezañ mat: da Skosiz, Breizhiz, h.a. eo divizout petra ober evit o yezhoù, pegement dispign evito, peseurt plas reiñ dezho er vuhez

foran.

Ur gudenn bolitikel eo, se zo anat evit kement hini ha ne glask ket touellañ. Komz eus gwirioù zo mat, met kaout an tu da bouezañ war ar bolitikerien, aze 'mañ an dalc'h. Kement-se a vefe gwir atav ha pa ve emren pe dizalc'h hor broioù. M'eus aon e vank deomp ur vellouriezh (strategiezh) eus adsav hor yezhoù.

A. HEUSAFF

^{*}En Iwerzhon eo bet heñvel a-walc'h an traoù betek nevez'so: klasket e veze sankañ reolennoù start ar yezhadur e penn ar skolidi, hag e vezent lakaet da lenn testennoù skrivet-mat hep mar met hep keñver gant buhez an darn vrasañ anezho. Strivoù Colmán Ó hUallacháin er bloavezhioù '60 da zegas ar pouez war ar yezh komzet a voe enebet outo gant ministrerezh an desjadyregh, -eb devezhiou-mañ koulskoude eo bet embannet e vo roet hiviziken 25% eus notennoù an arnodenn iwerzhoneg d'an amprouenn dre gomz. A-benn ar fin!

The Struggle for a language, by Gwen Mulholland (24 pages, published by Rank and File, 11 Viewforth Terrace, Edinburgh, EH10 4LH. 85p including postage). This booklet is highly recommended to those who want to know the present position of Gaelic in Scottish education, and particularly to the people engaged in the organisation of Celtic language nursery and primary schools. The author stresses the necessity of putting the accent on teaching fluency in order to offset the sharp decrease in the number of children brought up as native Gaelic speakers; also of creating social structures to enable the young people to continue to use the language they have learned after they leave school. It is the only way to ensure its survival. This advice applies indeed to all the Celtic languages. How to get them widely and efficiently taught is another matter. It is a political problem.

OALED DIWAN, the renovated cultural centre in Treglonoù, on the coast N. of Brest, is running a series of week-end, weekly or longer courses between February and the end of August. If you want to learn Breton, Welsh, sailing, horse riding, Breton dances, filming, theatre production, or to practice Breton while working on farms, write for details to Oaled DIWAN, 29 214 Treglonoù (98) 04 07 04. Visitors may be able to get accommodation there.

BREMAN, 10-12 pages monthly in Breton, gives the most detailed news of developments in the various areas of struggle (language, political, social) in Brittany. Well illustrated. An excellent presentation. 12 issues, 96Fr to 8, stradaed Hoche, 35000 Roazon/Rennes.

THAT IS NOT A BRETON C.A.P.E.S.

Visiting Roazhon/Rennes on February 1, President Mitterand spoke of his government setting up soon a C.A.P.E.S. in Breton and Modern Literature. Many who are not so well informed of the meaning of, and distinctions between, academic titles, might well believe that this meets the demand for which the Celtic Department of the Rennes-Villejean University and its graduates have been campaigning for during the past 2 or 3 years. Indeed, the sustained acclaim from a crowd of 10,000 people, which greeted the words "Capes de Breton" (drowning the following "et de lettres modernes") showed how popular the demand for this teaching qualification is.

Kuzul ar Brezhoneg, the Breton language Council, was quick to issue a statement correcting this mistaken impression. While noting that the only definite measure relating to Breton culture announced on this solemn occasion concerned the CAPES, and that it was a recognition of its importance by the highest authority in the State, it deeply regretted that Mitterand had tricked his listeners: what he had promised was not the "C.A.P.E.S. de Breton".

A Capes in modern literature ("de lettres modernes") has long existed, with an optional examination in any of ten European languages or in Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew. Now, Breton or perhaps "regional languages" will be added to that list. But there is no "Capes d'Anglais", etc. "et de lettres modernes": there is a Capes in English (or German, etc.) and a Capes in Modern literature. The two are distinct. The Minister of Education had said in 1982 that there would be a probational period of three years before a decision about a Breton Capes would be taken. Well! It is taken. There will be no Breton Capes.

"As far as Breton is concerned, the students in possession of a degree will continue to be deprived of access to work; those who teach it will further be deprived of the status accorded to teachers of other subjects; the pupils will still have no established teachers, the guarantee of continuity of teaching from one year to the other.

"We are not deluded: the refusal to take Breton culture seriously into account persists. Those fighting for the Breton language would have preferred Mitterand to simply and honestly say NO. To our disappointment is added the bitterness of seeing how the Bretons' trust, enthusiasm and intelligence have been abused.

"The fight for the CAPES continues!"

But the teachers of the Celtic Department at the University of Brest, far from criticising the proposed measure expressed satisfaction with it. They never had any great ambition for our language. Five years ago all they wanted was a degree in Breton and English but Mitterand acceded to the demand, for which Per Denez had indefatigably canvassed Socialist MPs, for one in Breton and nothing else. Now Mssrs. Le

Du and Le Berre are pleased because a Capes in Breton would have restricted its holders to employment in Brittany. It would have confined Breton studies to a ghetto! How odd coming from the very people who teach it at the Brest University! For them, it appears that it is important that "les fonctionnaires publics" should be recruitable on a national, i.e. French, basis. Have they assurances that the various deprivations mentioned by Kuzul ar Brezhoneg will be remedied by Mitterand's solution? Or do they matter less than the "national basis of recruitment"?

The Telegramme, a daily not suspect of Breton nationalism, wonders whether the holders of this Capes-with-optional-Breton will have priority over other applicants when vacancies arise in Brittany. For these there is a long waiting list of Breton-born teachers of "lettres modernes" now employed outside the country. . . .

The inability of graduates in Breton to get appointments because there is no CAPES in that subject has taken its toll. This year only 85 students are registered for the degree course whereas there were 343 in 1981-2, 254 in '82-83 and 116 in '83-84. 123 are doing Breton in their first year as against 293 last year. The drop in figures is also attributed to course reforms, some of which make it actually impossible for students to take Breton as a subject.

Reacting to the Kuzul ar Brezhoneg statement, the Ministry of Education explained that this was a unique type of CAPES which would ensure the recruitment of good teachers of Breton language and culture as well as enable its holders to teach another subject in case their career took them outside the Breton-speaking area. It will entitle them to teach only Breton, or only Modern literature, or both.

However Per Denez maintained his denunciation and questioned the practical aspects of the measure. Which will be needed by the candidates, a degree in Breton or one in "Lettres Modernes"? Only a very small number of the students of Breton take modern literature. And how many will be given the qualification? The Association of Parents who want Breton taught to the children point out that at

MADE IN BREIZH is a kind of club launched on December 18 by eight companies including Brittany-Ferries, Brit-Air and the important farmers' cooperative of Kastellpol (St-Pol) in order to "promote the enterprises and the cultures of Brittany". Brittany, they say, has been in the last 30 years one of the most dynamic 'regions de France' but suffers from the image of a "Far-West" cut-off from the modern world. They want to project the image of a "conquering and daring" Brittany. They will limit the number of member-companies or associations to fifty, not competing with but helping one another to win markets. "Breton culture should not be a refuge against the difficulties of modern life but an additional arm in the economic struggle". At a later stage the most go-ahead cultural associations will be invited to join. The BREIZH in the name indicates that companies from the Nantes area will be involved in the scheme. A capital of 220,000 Frs has already been gathered for the development of the association.

THE ORGANISATION OF BRETON

EMIGRANTS (O.B.E.) announces the creation in the Paris area of two associations: "Kenwerzh e servij ar Brezhoneg" (Business in the service of Breton) which will publicise ordinary consumer goods presented with labels or wrapping in Breton; and "An Aluzen", launched by Diwan-Paris to act as a wholesale agency to supply local retail outlets, associations and individuals with that type of goods.

The two are therefore complementary. O.B.E. held its A.G.M. on December 1 in Paris. It backs the campaigns of C.U.A.B. (for the reunification of Brittany in a single administrative region), and the Breton language associations. It sees its role in alerting international agencies which can help the Bretons in their claims. It is above party politics.

TYPICAL of the attitude of those who advise the French Ministry of Culture is the remark by a professor of Ancient History at the Sorbonne who is reported in L'EXPRESS (11-5-'84) as saying: "What is the Breton language? What is the Langue d'Oc? Il n'y a pas eu un livre important écrit dans ces langues". What was important for him, in the 19th century, was Darwin, Marx, Mommsen" (they did not write in French. . . .) This is contempt for the ordinary people. As pointed out by L'OCCITAN, every language is important for those who speak it (if they are not alienated).

present only one-sixth of the demand is — quite erratically — satisfied. No policy, no comprehensive framework for the teaching of Breton had been defined. At least seven cultural associations supported Per Denez in his renewed demand for a full-blooded Breton CAPES.

Direct Action and Trials



H. Barry, P. Gardin and Diriou back to jail.
Courtesy of Bremán.

Stourm ar Brezhoneg which is campaigning for Breton to be given official status as the national language of Brittany, held a demonstration in Montroulez/Morlaix on December 29. It was attended by some 75 young people. The previous night, they had pulled down road signs written in distorted forms of the Breton placenames. They brought them into the town and threw them into a bonfire they had lit in the street. Two of the demonstrators were detained and will be charged.

Herve Barry, Patrick Gardin and Denez Riou, accused of having blown up two electricity transformers in the Ruis peninsula were sentenced in Gwened (Vannes) to three years imprisonment, of which two will be waived if they behave! Riou is appealing against his sentence: he denies having had any part in the attack, his conviction is based on explosives having been "discovered" in his car in Rennes, some ten days after the event, while he was away on holiday. Three years in jail when damage amounts to 7,300 Frs and would justify at most 15 days. . . .

On January 21, Herve Barry was again in court, together with D. Guesdon, accused of having defaced road signs. They were sentenced to 4 months jail and a fine of 10,000 Frs each.

Herve Kerrain and Joelle Barzhig of Stourm ar Brezhoneg were to go on trial on February 22. On March 20, it was Iwan Kadoré's and Herve ar Bihan's turn. Our deadline obliges us to defer a report on their case. There is no reason why the road signs in Brittany could not be, like in so many other countries, bilingual.

We urge all our readers to write to the French President, Mr. Mitterrand, asking for the release of the Breton prisoners.

No Equality

The Committee for the Study and Liaison of Breton Interests (CELIB) has remonstrated with the Socialist M.P. for Côtes-du-Nord D. Chouat, for denying that Brittany was being discriminated against in the subsidisation of publishing. Mr. Chouat himself had obtained figures from the French Ministry of Culture last August which showed that the Centre National des Lettres, a publicly financed institution, bestowed its bounties in a scandalous way on the Ile-de-France (Paris) region. Of the total of 62.5 million francs of aid dispensed by the CNL in 1983, almost 31m Fr, i.e. 49.4% went to that region which accounts for 20% of the State population. The 4-Département "Région-Bretagne" with 5% of the same population had got only 2.8% of the money.

CELIB had no complaint regarding the distribution of the 35.5m Fr allocated to public libraries (for buying books): it was fairly equitable. But a glaring discrimination existed otherwise. Of a total of 27m Fr given under the headings of a) creative writing and translation; b) publishing (books, magazines, minutes) Paris got 72% and the "provinces" 28%. Région-Bretagne had to make do with 2.2% of that sum. This was inadmissible considering that Brittany, as shown in a recent survey, can pride itself on having an exceptionally large number of writers and poets as well as publishers.

Ah yes, but France needs to promote its culture and ours is only a nuisance. . . .

Breton Identity in the 14th Century

Dalc'homp Soñj is a 36-page quarterly devoted to making the history of Brittany better known, since our countrymen have been systematically kept ignorant of it by the French schools and other agencies. It is published by our friend, J.Y. Le Touze, 36 rue E. Zola, 56100 An Oriant/Lorient. The subscription costs 55Fr/annum, but it is 70Fr outside the French State. It is very well presented, with numerous illustrations and photographs. Originally it had some contributions in Breton. Can their absence in recent issues be remedied?

It has now reached its 10th issue, with a circulation of 3,300 copies. It is a considerable achievement. What interested me most in this Winter issue is a 9-page article by Michael Jones, a Welshman who teaches history at the University of Nottingham and is a specialist on Medieval Brittany. He investigates to what extent the Breton national feeling was the spontaneous expression of a particular identity or the result of encouragement by the country's rulers.

The feudal system established after the Norsemen's invasions allowed the French king to claim suzerainty over the duke of Brittany. The former was himself theoretically the vassal of the Roman-Germanic

Jones gives particular attention to the part played by the Dukes' councillors and by the Breton historians' chronicles in fostering the national sentiment. The class-transcending unanimity in the defence of the country's freedom from French annexation found its highest expression in 1379. This is commemorated, according to tradition, in the beautiful war song, An Alarc'h, of Barzhaz Breizh.

There were fatal flaws however. When conflicts arose with the French king, the duke needed the help of barons who all too often had taken jobs in the French army or accepted land and other favours from his enemy. Not enough care was taken to foster emperor until the 13th century. In both cases the link was a very tenuous one and it was contested by the subordinate whenever a chance arose. The Breton dukes were drawn into the French orbit only at the beginning of the 13th century but they did not fail to remind the French that they were the successors of the kings of Brittany who "recognised no sovereign on earth" and that they were not in the same position relative to the French crown as the other peers and feudal lords.

the development of a specifically Breton cultural life. For higher education, Bretons went to French universities (it is only in 1460 that Francois II, anxious to strengthen his independence, founded the Nantes university). The dukes relied on the interpretation of Brittany's history which supported their claim but the higher aristocracy surrounding them was French in language and they themselves failed to use the Celtic element, i.e. the Breton language, in their effort to raise the national consciousness. Owain Glyndwr in Cymru did not make that mistake.

In an interview with Jakez Gaucher, Michael Jones says: You had then in Brittany a State that was quite modern for its time, with the administrative machinery needed for an independent life, an army, a supreme court, a national assembly (Etats), a law system, all the elements necessary to make a real State. — Why then did Brittany fail to consolidate its independence? — It was above all the lack of money! Resources in men and money were terribly short in its struggle against the French. The long civil war (1341-1364) had been financially exhausting. And at the end of the XV century there was the treason of the nobility.

FIGHTING URANIUM COMPANIES

The Offices of the "Mission Bretonne de la COGEMA" in Neuilhag, near Pondivi, in Central Brittany were completely wrecked by a bomb explosion on December 28th last. This attack was claimed by the A.R.B. (Armée Révolutionnaire Bretonne). The results of uranium prospection carried out in the region by COGEMA, one of the two mining companies looking for the radioactive metal in Brittany since 1982, were collected at this centre. COGEMA denounced the action, saying it would hinder work which is carried out legally and with the land owners' agreement. In answer to the accusation that they were exploiting Brittany, they said their aim was to increase France's independence in matters of energy, and that they had informed the population.

They are indeed legally bound to make their applications for prospecting permits publicly known. In fact they have surrounded them with as much secrecy as they could (see article in *Peuple Breton*, January). It is only thanks to the vigilance of one of the numerous local associations set up to protect the environment that it was discovered that the two companies had applications to prospect a total of 300 square miles in our country. They had secured permits for 4 communes in different parts of Central Brittany. Frequently it was only when administrative procedures had almost reached their conclusion that the public became aware of their plans. The campaign led by various defence committees has forced COGEMA more into the open. But the information they provide tends to conceal or minimise the dangers inherent in their operations. On November 16th, an anti-Uranium syndicate was formed by 18 communes in Cotes-du-Nord department: they immediately lodged an appeal to the Council of State against the permit granted for Moncontour.

It is only on November 22 that the first official announcement reached the town-halls, that a permit had been granted to the COGEMA. The answer of the Council of State is now awaited by the population of the Moncontour area. It is the last legal step possible. If rejected, COGEMA will be met on the spot.

ARMOR (February) gives other examples of the high-handed way in which legal opposition to the mining companies' activity is treated. No account has been taken of the 5,000 signatories of a petition against the granting of a permit for Tremoureux, one of the most beautiful sites of inland Brittany near Rochefort-en-Terre. One of the mayors belonging to the Cotes-du-Nord group of 18 communes complained to the Minister for Industry about the lack of information and of a public utility enquiry: he was told the result

would be the same, enquiry or not — so much for legal ways! Crooked methods are used to get the population to agree. The people of the Lannuon region are convinced that the local industries are being run down in order to create an unemployment psychosis which will make it easier to set up a nuclear station on the coast nearby.

The Armor correspondent asks why the elected representatives of Morbihan have not, like their Cotes-du-Nord colleagues, formed an intercommunal syndicate: is it true as the rumour goes that they are paralysed by pressure from high up? (However, it was reported that 11 anti-uranium committees in C.d.N. and Morbihan had decided on December 16 to set up a Breton Coordinating Committee). If uranium mining takes place, it will leave Brittany devastated (see CARN Nr 41: prospection in watershed areas would threaten water supply and farming in a wide area).

Who wonders when ARB type resistance is taking place?

A BILINGUAL RADIO STATION!

The October 1984 issue of *Brud Nevez* gives interesting figures about the present position of Breton on the so-called bilingual station *Radio-Bretagne-Ouest*. There was no demand for such a station in the West of Brittany only when it was created a few years ago, under the authority of *Radio-France*. However the undertaking was that it would be bilingual since it would serve a bilingual audience: 5½ hours would be broadcast daily in Breton. That was indeed the condition on which the Finistère Département Council and the Kemper City Council gave their financial support to the venture: 5000,000 Frs a year.

There never was 5½ hours a day! And what was broadcast must have seemed too much to those in charge. One must bear in mind that R.B.O. is not heard in the greater part of Brittany. In the Eastern areas served by *Radio-Armorique* in Roazhon and *Radio-Pays-de-Loire* in Naoned, the only programme in Breton is a two-hour broadcast on Sundays which can be heard in the West also. The other programmes of these two stations are on the whole completely irrelevant to Brittany.

Investigating the situation, Armand Keravel, secretary of Emglev Breizh, found that, at the beginning of 1984 RBO broadcast 14 hrs. 7 mins. a week of Breton, but at the beginning of the autumn the figure had decreased to 12 hrs. 25 mins. For the authorities two hours a day were too much! Most reasonable people had thought that 5½ hours were a minimum which would have been exceeded rapidly. . . .

Strong criticism of RBO's output — not

only of its decreasing quantity but also of its declining quality, both in Breton and in French, has been voiced several times in Breton language magazines such as *AL LANV* and *BREMAN*. Criticism comes even from within the station where the two main unions of technicians and journalists, the CGT and the CFDT, attacked RBO's poor record and laid the blame for it on the increasing lack of resources both in staff and material from which the station suffers. One of the unions spoke of "Radio France's contempt for the realities of this country" and said that if nothing was done to remedy the situation, RBO might survive but RBI (*Radio Breizh-Izel*, the name in Breton) would die.

RBO studios in Kemper were the target, last Summer, of an attack by the FLB-ARB — which failed. There are many other signs of a growing discontent with the way in which RBO copes with its so-called Breton mission. *Stourm ar Brezhoneg* will soon start a campaign against it and has already asked for the resignation of Rene Abjean, its director.

IWAN KADORED

TO PROMOTE BRETON

An Association of Breton-speaking Elected Representatives was set up, following an appeal by a dozen mayors and commune councillors at a meeting in the Gwengamp town hall last July, attended by about 50 people belonging to almost the whole political spectrum. At another meeting in Ploerdud on November 24, they elected an executive committee with Fanch Peru, mayor of Konfort-Berc'hed and four other members, as well as 8 vice-presidents (representing the different regions of Brittany). They will now prepare a general conference of the communes for the end of 1986 and strive to put the language among the political priorities. They want to give a lead in the use of Breton in public life. They are aware of their responsibility in the struggle to save it from extinction. They intend to share in the work by means of practical measures such as putting up bilingual road signs (the communes have control over those erected inside villages and on rural roads but not those on main roads), facilitating the opening of schools of the Diwan or bilingual type, using Breton in council meetings or in ceremonies such as civil marriages if required, etc. The primary schools are the major problem. Much can be done immediately in the field of sign posting. Bilingual signs can now be seen in Karaez, Pempoull, Kavan. In Pempoull (Paimpol), streets have been named after famous figures in the history of independent Brittany and modern writers such as Roparz Hemon.

• The photo on p. 10, Carn 47-48, was republished by courtesy of *Le Peuple Breton*.

CYMRU

Cadair Geltaidd Ottawa

(Following the article on Canadian Celtic Consciousness in the last issue of CARN, Zonia Bowen gives more details of the work being done in Ottawa University where she and her husband spent three months as guest lecturers last year.)

Roeddwn yn falch i ddarllen yn erthygl Peter Berresford Ellis yn rhifyn diwethaf CARN fod Prifysgol Ottawa wedi cael, o'r diwedd, addewid y bydd Cadair Geltaidd yn cael ei sefydlu yno y flwyddyn hon. Y llynedd, pan oedd fy ngŵr a minnau yno am dri mis yn helpu gyda'r darlithoedd Celtaidd, roedd aelodau'r Pwyllgor Ymgyrch, pob un o dras Geltaidd yn brysur yn ceisio codi eu cyfraniad hwy o 350,000 o ddoleri tuag at waddoli'r Gadair. A sut, meddech chi, y llwyddasant i godi'r fath swm anferth? Wel, coeliwch neu beidio, drwy gynnal sesiynau Bingo! Pobl gyffredin y ddinas nad oeddynt yn hidio dim tamaid am yr ieithoedd Celtaidd, ond a heidiodd i'r sesiynau hyn i siawnsio'u lwc, a dalodd am y Gadair. (Enghraifft arall o'r werin dlawd ...).

Rydym yn falch hefyd i glywed mai Gordon MacLennan sydd wedi'i benodi yn athro ar yr Adran. Hyd yma ef oedd yr unig ddarlithydd Celtaidd, a swydd ran amser dres dro oedd ganddo. Roedd ef ei hunan yn rhugl yng Ngwyddeleg a Gaeleg yr Alban, ond gan fod Prospectws y Prifysgol yn hysbysebu cyrsiau Cymraeg a Llydaweg hefyd roedd ef yn gorfod dibynnu ar ddarlithwyr gwahoddedig o'r gwledydd Celtaidd eraill i lenwi'r bylchau.

Roedd y dosbarthiadau iaith yn rhai bychain gyda llai na deg o fyfyrwr ymhob un, ond roedd rhyw ugain yn mynychu'r dosbarthiadau llenyddiaeth a thros hanner cant y dod i'r darlithoedd cyhoeddus ar ddiwylliant Cymru a llenyddiaeth Llydaw. Yng Nghymru rydym yn dueddol i feddlwl am fyfyrwyr fel pobl ifanc, ond roedd pobl o bob oed, rhai ohonynt wedi ymddeol, yn mynychu'r dosbarthiadau yn Ottawa, gyda hyd yn oed rhai pobl oedd eisoes wedi cael doethuriaeth mewn un pwnc yn dechrau o'r newydd ar bwnc arall.

Pobl o dras Gymreig ran fwyaf a fynychai'r dosbarthiadau Cymraeg, er bod gwaed diddorol yn rhai ohonynt. Er enghraifft, roedd nain un myfyriwr yn Gymraeg a'i nain arall yn un o'r Indiaid Cochion. Yn y dosbarth Llydaweg roedd y rhan fwyaf o dras Lydwig gyda Ffrangeg yn iaith gyntaf iddynt. Saesneg oedd iaith gyntaf y lleill. Roedd hyn yn creu sefyllfa ddiddorol gyda rhai o'r myfyrrwyr yn defnyddio Llawlyfr Ffrangeg Per Denez, Brezhoneg Buan hag Aes a'r lleill yn

defnyddio'r cyfieithad Saesneg o'r un llyfr a gyhoeddwyd gan Brifysgol Cork. Gosodw id y papur arholiad yn y ddwy iaith.

Mewn gwirionedd Prifysgol ddwyieithog hollol oedd Prifysgol Ottawa. Sefydlwyd hi yn wreiddiol fel prifysgol babyddol, Ffrangeg ei hiaith. Ond ar ôl i'r Protestaniaid Saesneg sefydlu prifysgol arall yn y dref, sef Prifysgol Carlton, penderfynwyd gwneud Prifysgol Ottawa yn un anenwadol a dwyieithog. Roedd popeth arall yn y ddinas yn ddwyieithog hefyd, arwyddion ffyrdd, hysbysebion mewn siopau, anerchiadau yn y Senedd-dy, a phob math o gyhoeddiadau argraffedig, o ddogfennau swyddogol y Llywodraeth hyd at raglen y 'Winterlude' neu'r 'Bal de Neige' a gynhaliwyd ar lyn wedi rhewi. (Ie, roedd eira dwfn ymhobman yn ystod y tri mis cyfan, a'r tymheredd yn aml iawn mor isel â 30° o dan bwynt rhewi).

Roedd rhieni yn cael dewis naill ai danfon eu plant i ysgol Saesneg neu i ysgol Ffrangeg, ac roedd nifer fawr o rieni Saesneg eu hiaith yn dewis yr ysgolion

Ffrangeg er mwyn i'r plant ddod i feddu'r ddwy iaith.

Ond yn anffodus, gyda'r holl bwyslais ar ddwy iaith swyddogol y wlad, nid oedd llawer o ddiddordeb gan y to ifanc o dras Geltaidd yn iaith frodorol eu rhieni. Euthum i fwy nag un tŷ lle roedd y gŵr yn siarad Cymraeg â ni, Ffrangeg â'i wraig a Saesneg Canada â'i blant a'n croesawodd ni yn aml gyda'r geiriau "Hi, you guys!"

Yn ychwanegol at y profiad diddorol dros ben o ddysgu mewn prifysgol dramor, cawsom ambell brofiad arall bythgofiadwy yn ystod ein taith, megis siwrne trêrn trwy'r Rockies i Vancouver, ymweliad ras wyllt â New York tra oeddem ar ein ffordd i Boston lle roedd. Geraint yn darlithio ym Mhrifysgol Havard, a'r cyfle i weld Torvill & Dean yn sgelfrio yng Nghystadlaeth Pencampwriaeth y Byd. Pan aethant i fyny i'r rostrum i gael eu medal, sisialodd y wraig a oedd yn eistedd yn ein hymyl, "You must feel so proud to see the Union Jack flying and to hear them playing 'God save the Queen'!"

Zonia Bowen

WHAT NEXT FOR THE MINERS?

Following a heroic and historic fight against the English government's plans to decimate the Welsh coal industry, the striking miners had to concede the first battle and return to square one to prepare for the next battle. It had been a laborious and lengthy strike, lasting just a few days short of a full twelve months. Indeed, it has been surpassed just once in the history of Welsh industrial relations (or lack of them). That particular strike occurred at the turn of the century when Quarrymen in the northern town of Bethesda withdrew their labour for three years in protest at their pitiful wages and near slavery conditions of work.

Many parallels can be drawn between these two industrial disputes, even though over eighty years separate them. Then, as now, the workers were fighting a strong and stubborn employer who was in full liaison with the right wing government of the day. For the slate quarrymen, Lord Penrhyn was the foe, for the colliers, the Tory lapdogs known as the National Coal Board. Then, as now, the employer's tactics was the use of scab labour, but more significantly the attempt to force their workers back to their tools through starving both themselves and their families. Then, as now, the community at large, both immediate and further afield throughout Wales, sprung to the defence of the oppressed workers. Then, as now, the sheer poverty of our country meant that the forthcoming support, other than moral, was insufficient

to sustain the battle to a successful conclusion.

This all goes to show that very little changes while Wales remains under English rule, which very often tends to be an extreme right wing government. However, the Bethesda Quarrymen did gain something from their dour struggle against the aristocracy — they regained their pride and helped rekindle the sense of community. Many northern quarrymen took their families to the southern coalfield in search of marginally better wages, but found something much more valuable. In those valleys, and also in the mining areas of Clwyd in the extreme North East, they discovered that they were enveloped by a sense of community, a feeling of belonging, every bit as warm as that of their own native areas. It is pleasing to realise that the same

spirit exists today in the mining communities, a spirit which has been greatly re-staked by this recent strike. It was the very commodity which persuaded those quarrymen early this century to fight for their communities and their rights. They subsequently formed a properly-organised trade union, defeated their aristocratic master, and secured a future for themselves and their descendants. In fact, the Penrhyn Quarry still sustains the local community to this day.

Whether the coal miners succeed remains to be seen. Certainly they haven't conceded the war yet, just the first battle. After all, the simple truth is that they can't afford to submit to the government's pressure.

The Welsh coal industry has already been whittled down to a mere thirty pits employing a direct labour force of just over 22,000. However their effect on employment in local supply industries is unestimable. It is the government's intention, in order to support even more profitable mines in the English midlands, to reduce the number of Welsh pits from thirty to eight within the next ten years. The effect on unemployment would be catastrophic, and also indirectly on de-population. The London government has guaranteed that every miner made redundant will be offered alternative employment elsewhere. Obviously, with only eight mines remaining, elsewhere would mean England.

It has been the ploy of right wing politicians the whole world over to force people from their native countries, and to enforce their assimilation to the stronger cultural stream. What would the benefit to the Welsh economy be from the enforced emigration of 15,000 valuable skilled workers and their families? For their own sakes, and for that of Wales, the Welsh miners can't afford to retreat from the government's stinging and vicious lashes. Obviously some means of protest apart from withdrawing their labour will have to be considered.

One gleaming beacon to emerge from the strike was the Wales Congress in Support of Mining Communities. This movement organised practical and political support for the dispute, and involved members of the Labour Party, Plaid Cymru, Welsh Communist Party, and Cymdeithas yr Iaith, in addition to the miners union and other trade unions. A wide feeling of discontent with the present system of government amongst the Welsh public was found by the Congress. Perhaps the message of the nationalists about the foolhardiness of our country's weak-willed rejection of the 1979 devolution proposals is beginning to sink in. However, it is hoped that the movement will now stay in existence, and progress to become the Congress in Support of Welsh Communities. The South Wales miners' leaders are reportedly not too happy about the level of support they received from other trade unions and the Labour Party's hierarchy. However, the grass roots support they received should persuade them of the value of the Congress they instigated.

Finally, I should stress that I make no apologies for the constant reference to the

word "community". That is the very fabric of which Wales and the Welsh are woven. It is that warm spirit, that feeling of belonging to your own corner of the world, that may we depend on brave souls throughout the country to defend our rights to stay in our communities, and to ensure that they flourish.

IAN LLYFNI

Political Policing in Wales

"Heddgadw Gwleidyddol yng Nghymru" (Political Policing in Wales) was published in 1984 by Ymgyrch Cymru dros Hawliau Gwleidyddol a Sifil (Welsh Campaign for Political and Civil Rights). A description of YGHGS and its aims is included in the final chapter of the book; the following is a rough translation of that description for the information of CARN readers:

Ymgyrch Cymru dros Hawliau Gwleidyddol a Sifil is run by volunteers, and is entirely dependent for its budget on donations from members of the public. YGHGS has no connection with any political party since we believe that the matters under consideration are above party politics. It was established in 1980 in response to **Operation Tân** when officers from four police forces in Wales kept over 50 people under arrest in connection with the holiday homes' burning campaign. A complete report of these events is to be found in **Operation Tân** which was prepared and published by YGHGS.

YCHGS also functions as an educational group, by offering the services of speakers on subjects relating to civil rights. It has also organised a number of one-day schools in South Wales. It compiles information for M.P.s and local councillors and acts as a pressure group on civil and political rights. It also publishes a quarterly newspaper called **Ysgrifon ar y Mur** (Writing on the Wall). This is the only paper of its kind devoted to Welsh affairs.

The passage concludes with an appeal to the reader to subscribe to YCHGS, an appeal which, having read the book under review, I can heartily endorse.

Heddeidw Gwleidyddol yng Nghymru is the official report of a public independent tribunal which was held in the Glamorgan County Headquarters in March 1984. Its authors are:

Dr. John Davies, Senior Lecturer in Welsh History, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. (Himself a founder member of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg over 20 years ago).

Lord Gifford Q.C. Legal Advisor to the Tribunal.

Mr. Tony Richards, Labour Party Chairman for the City of Cardiff.

The tribunal ran, at the invitation of YCHGS, from the 19th to the 23rd March 1984. Its terms of reference were "to conduct an enquiry into procedures adopted by south Wales Constabulary and

other police forces in their investigations of politically motivated offences in recent years. To consider the implications of those procedures and make recommendations designed to foster accountable and legitimate forms of policing in Wales." The authors emphasise, however, that, having accepted those terms of reference, the recommendations contained in the report are those of the Tribunal, for which they accept full responsibility, and not necessarily those of YCHGS. At the same time they pay tribute to YCHGS for all its support, financial and otherwise. A list of those individuals and organisations who gave financial support to the Tribunal is included at the end of the book and is extremely broad-based, including branches of Plaid Cymru and the Labour Party, NALGO branches and Balliol College J.C.R.

The oral evidence of 41 witnesses were heard by the Tribunal and numerous written documents and statements were examined. The Tribunal followed closely on the "conspiracy case" which was held between September and November 1983.

In the official indictment of this case, the eight defendants were accused of conspiring to cause explosions between March 1980 and March 1982. Out of the eight one failed to answer bail, one was released by agreement with the prosecution, one pleaded guilty to possession of explosives and the remaining four were found by the jury to be completely innocent of all the charges. It was as a result of public outcry at the way police enquiries were carried out relating to this case that the YCHGS decided to set up their own Tribunal having been refused an official one by the Home Secretary. As a result of the many complaints, however, the police decided to set up an internal one; at the time this report was written, none of the conclusions of the internal enquiry had been published.

The Tribunal bent over backwards to be seen to be fair to the police, even inviting them to come and give evidence. A lengthy correspondence is included in the report between the Tribunal secretary and Mr. David East, Chief Constable of the South Wales police force. Mr. East declined to participate, on the grounds that material which was sub judice may be discussed and that an internal enquiry was on the way. Finally, Mr. East made the memorable statement which the rest of the report proves very conclusively to be complete nonsense. "I wish you to know that there is no such thing as an investigation of 'a politically motivated offence'. This police force investigates allegations of crime. . . ."

The report is meticulously detailed; it includes not only the evidence of phone-tapping, bugging and other unpleasant aspects of political surveillance, but a lot of useful and informative historical and background material.

It outlines the origins of the Special Branch in 1883 (founded as the *Irish Special Branch*, responsible for combatting the Fenian bombings in London) and gives a detailed break-down of M15 and its many branches and their functions. At the time of writing this review, much publicity has been

given to the fact that a Channel 4 programme on MI5 has been suppressed by the IBA. Much of the information which this programme had hoped to convey would have been known already to readers of this book.

In its final chapter on recommendations the Tribunal points out that the definition of the term "subversive" as "activities which threaten the safety or welfare of the state . . . through political, industrial or violent means" is far too vague and that the welfare of the state should demand that non-violent, political activities flourish. It sees no reason that the special branch

should exist and states that police enquiries should be limited to people or organisations planning or carrying out *criminal* activities. It calls for democratic control by the local community of the police force.

All in all it is compulsive reading. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy should send £1.50 (Sterling) to:

Ymgyrch Cymru dros Hawliau Gwleidyddol a Sifil,
13 Stryd Dogo, Treganna, Caerdydd.

JANICE WILLIAMS

Solidarity with Welsh Miners in Brittany

A interview with Yann Jestin

by Jorj Abherve Gwegen

CARN. Money was collected recently in Brittany to help the Welsh miners on strike. You took an active part in this. How did you get involved?

Y. JESTIN. We got in touch with people we knew in Wales. Two miners came here, members of Plaid Cymru, one of them married to a Breton, and told us how the strikers were faring over there. They toured Brittany. I was with them at their first meeting, here in Brest. It then occurred to us that we should set up a support committee.

C. What kind of people joined it?

Y.J. Here in Leon, first of all people engaged in the Breton struggle. Most of them members of the Brest/Leon federation of the U.D.B. (who have since left that party), who had contacts with Plaid Cymru members. After Brest, we had another meeting in Lesneven to set up the committee,

under the name "Emsikour Breizh-Kembre" (Brittany-Wales Solidarity).

C. When was that?

Y.J. At the beginning of November. Our problem was: how to collect money for them. They wanted money rather than clothes or food.

C. How much did you finally collect?

Y.J. By the time we went to Wales, in Mid-December, we had got the equivalent of almost Stg£5,000.

C. Marvellous! How did you manage that? When I think of how tough it is to get money for DIWAN for instance.

Y.J. Indeed, even in Wales they were amazed to see how much we had got in so short a time. Amazed because in some Welsh towns they did not collect so much. We sold tickets to our acquaintances, our work mates, our neighbours. We also approached the trade unions.

C. Which?

Y.J. Mostly groups affiliated to the CFDT, but in some cases also to the CGT. In fact most was obtained through the efforts of the Emsikour members — selling tickets as I said.

C. The CGT and the CFDT people, did they sell many?

Y.J. Not really. I thought they could have done more.

C. What proportion of the £5,000 came from selling tickets?

Y.S. More than half.

C. And the rest then?

Y.S. From people who wanted to help without bothering about tickets, some of them in high places. Also a big festival was organised in Plabenneg, here in the middle of Leon, with local musical groups and singers. Their contributions were free, that must be stressed.

C. Would these groups be willing to sing and play for nothing to help DIWAN?

Y.S. They might.

C. Is there more money to come for the miners?

Y.S. Yes, a bicycle race is to take place on Enez-Eusañ on March 17. The prizes will be donated by the winners for the miners.

C. Would bicycle racers help DIWAN in a similar way?

Y.S. I think it should be possible to organise a big race for DIWAN. Why not ask cyclists from the other Celtic countries to take part, like Kelly from Ireland, or Roche — here in Brittany we have Hinault. Why not?

C. What kind of reception did you get in Wales?

Y.S. We were 8 from Brittany: 6 from Bro-Leon and 2 from the Nantes area. We were first received by Plaid Cymru in Cardiff, and by the Miners Union. They gave us an extraordinary welcome, everywhere we went. We stayed for 3 days with the miners' families around Pontyprydd, Ystrad Mynach, Pontypwll, not far from Cardiff.

C. What about the media?

Y.S. We had contacts with the TV but much more with the radio stations. Some ten of these showed an interest in our visit, even from London.

Recorded 27-2-'85 translated by A. Heusaff

Yann Jestin was born in 1943 in Plouvihan near Brest, where his parents were farmers. He was brought up in Breton. He is vice-president of the Credit Agricole (Bank), Landerne; a municipal councillor in Lesneven (a commune of 8,000 inhabitants); deputy mayor from 1977 to 1983; president of the Lesneven-Caerfyrddin Committee; president of the Support-Diwan Committee in Lesneven; was candidate for the U.D.B. in the 1981 district elections; went forward in the March 1985 district elections on behalf of a new group "Frankiz Breizh"; is an active member of a Cyclists Club in Lesneven.



Yann Jestin (with scarf) and another Breton with Plaid Cymru members (on either side).

ÉIRE

AN GUTH DOSHÁRAITHE

Chuir cuairt na nIndiach Rua ar Éirinn i mí Eanáir áthas ar Ghaeil. Ní minic a thagann ár gcairde Meiriceánacha anall chugainn on 'Oileán Úr' (Ní húr acusan é, dar ndóigh) agus bhí sé spéisiúil a dtuairimí ar chás a gcine a chlos, deich mbliana i ndiaidh tionscnaimh a nGluaiseachta Comhfheasa (AIM). Bhí bunaitheoir na gluaiseachta sin, An Ciúnas roimh an Anfa, i measc na gcuairteoirí a thug cuairt ar Dhoire, ar Bhéal Feirste agus ar Bhaile Átha Cliath. Chomh maith le páirt a ghlacadh i gComóradh Dhomhnach na Fola i nDoire agus seisiúin eolais a chur ar bun i mBéal Feirste, chuir na nIndiaigh searmanas pósta ar siúl i nGairdín an Chuimhneacháin agus chaitheadar tamall ag Scoil Santain i dTamhlacht. Nuair a d'fhill an toscaireacht ar a dtír dhúchais lena ndruma naofa d'fhágadar sinn i bhfad níos eolghaisí ar a gcultúr is ar a nósanna.

Dar ndóigh, le blianta beaga anuas, tá sraith leabhar tagtha amach ar dhúchasaigh seo Mheiriceá. Leabhair is ea iad sin a chuireann síos ar na nIndiaigh agus ar a stair go fírinneach, agus a scríosann an íomhá den Indiach a chothaigh *Hollywood* le fada — an barbarthach uasal fuilteach. Cuireann 'Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee' le *Dee Jones* síos go fíriciúil, stuama ar an díothú a deineadh ar na hIndiaigh ó tháinig na hEorpaigh an chéad lá go dtí an seasamh deiridh ag *Wounded Knee*. Léiríonn an leabhar sin narbh é 'An fhirinne inár gcroí agus beart de réir ár mbriathar' an mana a chleachtaigh Fir Gheala Mheiriceá ina gcogadh chun seilbh a ghlacadh ar thailte na bhFear Rua.

Ach cé gur iontach an tráchtas staire leabhar Jones agus gur mór a chuireann sé lenár n-eolas ar an éagomhlann a bhain a bhfód dúchais de na hIndiaigh, cá bhfaighimis dearcadh ar aghaidh phearsanta an Indiaigh i rith na tréimhe sin agus níos siar fós? Is é freagra na ceiste sin ná 'Literature of The American Indian'.* Sa leabhar gleoite toirtiúil seo tá samplaí de litríocht na nIndiach ón ré réamh-Cholumbach go dtí an lá atá inniu ann. Tá an -léargas le fáil ann ar mheon an Mheiriceánaigh dhúchasaigh thar na céadta bliain agus roinntear an saothar ina chaibidlí éagsúla a phléann le gnéithe áirithe den litríocht nó le tréimhsí staire.

Cuid thábhachtach de shaol na nIndiach ab ea a gceideamh. Go bunúsach aondiaigh ab ea iad, rud atá soiléir ar na cuntais ó threabhanna éagsúla ar chruthú an domhain a thugtar sa leabhar seo. Chreid na hIndiaigh go láidir sa tsaol eile agus ghlacadar ar fad leis go raibh aon chruithitheoir mór amháin ann, cé go raibh ainmneacha difriúla acu air: *Maheo* (An tOllspriod) — Sián; *Wakonda* (An Fíor-Rún Naofa) — Ómátha agus Dacóta; *Wimimíóá* (An Mórtshaoiseach Thuas) — Yacáimeá; *Awonaiwíolóna* (Cruithitheoir agus Coim-eadaí na nUile, Athair na nAithreacha) — Súnáí; An tAthair Naimuena (An Físhhear)

— Utótó. Ní hé sin an t-aon chosúlacht atá idir na reiligiúin seo agus an Ghiudó-Chríostaíocht. Rúndiamhair is ea an chaoi a bhfuair an cruithitheoir a chuid cumhachtaí; bíonn sé i ngach áit —

Maheo is still with us. He is everywhere, watching all his people, and all the creation he has made. Maheo is all good and all life; he is the creator, the guardian, and the teacher. We are all here because of Maheo. (13)

— agus i dtraidisiúin áirithe, tiocfadh sé i ndeireadh an domhain chun an bheatha a bhronnadh ar na fíréin athair —

No one knows when the Great Chief Above will overturn the mountains. But we do know this: spirits will return only to the bones of people who in life kept the beliefs of their grandfathers. Only their bones will be preserved under the mountains. (21)

Dar leis na hÚtótó, ní raibh faic ann go dtí go dtáinig an briathar chun an tAthair a thabhairt ar an saol —

In the beginning, the word gave origin to the Father. A phantasm, nothing else existed in the beginning; the Father touched an illusion, he grasped something mysterious. (28)

Ábhar tráchtas.

Ceann dena caibidlí is spéisiúla sa leabhar seo is ea an chaibidlí ar fhilíocht réamh-Cholumbach na nIndiach. Amhrán ab ea gach dán, dar leo, agus bhí ceithre chuid de ann — an ceol, na friotail, gluaiseacht choirp an amhránaí agus a chreideamh. Nuair a chan sé b'aon bheith, aon smaoineamh amháin an t-amhránaí agus a dhán —

I
the song
I walk here (47);
It is my form and person that makes me great.
Hear the voice of my song — it is my voice. . . . (60)

Níor cheadmhach dó mí-úsáid a bhaint as an teanga, as an meán. Paidir, teagmháil leis an saol thall ab ea an dán. D'fhéadfadh beannacht ón Athair a bheith ag teastáil —

Wakan'tanka
Whgen I pray to him
Hears me.
Whatever is good
He grants me. (48)

Paidreacha ab ea Rince na Báistí agus Rince an Chogaidh a bhain cáil amach le *Hollywood* is leis na sorcais thaistil. Inspioráid mhór is ea an aimsir sna dánta seo. Tá sí féin is an chruinne beo. Iontas is ea gach feothan, gach tonn, gach plimp thoirní —

From the half
Of the sky
That which lives there
Is coming, and makes a noise. (59)

Tá macalla ón gcian-ré iontu. Nochtaítear an t-iontas primitivach céanna faoin dúlra agus an meas céanna ar an saol aiceanta timpeall ar an bhfile is a léirítear i litríocht na SeanGhaeilge —

Dordaid dam
Snigid gaim
Ro faith sam;
In summer the rains come and the grass comes up.
That is the time that the deer has new horns. (61)

Tá géire mothúcháin le braithstint sna dánta grá, géire a sheachnaíonn castacht. Dar ndóigh, is iad na mothúcháin is bunúsáí is treise, agus tá an niamhghlaine is diongbháilteacht paisin a léirítear sna dánta seo inchurtha le soinéid *Shakespeare* —

No matter how hard I try
to forget you,
you always
come back to my mind,
and when you hear me singing
you may know
I am weeping for you. (63);
Friend, whatever hardships threaten
If thou call me,
I'll befriend thee;
All-enduring, fearlessly,
I'll befriend thee. (65)

Is ar dhíle is ar chumha an ghrá a leagtar an bhéim sna saothair seo, béim a phréamhaíonn as tuiscint na bhfilí ar ghiorracht an tsaoil. Brúitear an grá go buaicphointe paisin le neamhbhuaine na huaine, tocht a fhágann a rian ar an gcéile leannáin —

At some future time
you will think of me
and cry. (62)

Dar ndóigh, bhí atharrach saoil ag na hIndiaigh iad dteacht na nEorpach. Tiománadh siad iad gan stad gan staonadh, a dtailte traidisiúnta seilge is a naomhoig a ngabháil le púdar is le caimiléireacht. Bhí an troid chéanna ag an nIndiaigh san chéad seo caite agus roimhe is a bhí ag na Gaeil. Cine ab ea iad a bhí ag troid chun a dtailte is a gcultúr a chosaint ar namhaid a bhí ag iarraidh a ndaonnacht a bhaint díobh. Dheineadar iarracht a slí mhaireachtana a chaomhnú. Ghríosadar a chéile chun cogaiochta, chun athmhuintearais nó chun filleadh ar a seanchreideamh. D'fhág na hiarrachtaí sin a lorg ar a n-óráidíocht. Tá uaisle ar leith ag baint leis an aitheasc Indiach. Cruthú is ea é ar an snámh in aghaidh easa a bhí rompu.

In 1811, nuair a bhí cogadh idir na Nua-Mheiriceánaigh agus na Sasanaigh á thuar, cheap na hIndiaigh go bhféadfaí an deis a thapú chun seilbh a fháil ar a dtailte arís. Ach ní rabhadar aontaithe ar conas a bhainfi é sin amach. Bhí comhdháil ag na Seacadá agus na Siciósá chun an cheist a phlé. Labhair Teacumtha (Cúgar ar tí léimint ar a chreach), Seánaí a chreid go láidir gurbh í aontacht idir na náisiúin an t-aon tsli chun an lámh in uachtar a fháil ar na hEorpaigh. Mhol sé don chomhdháil taobhú leis an 'Athair Mór thar saile' agus na Plandálaithe a dhíbirt. Mar a dúirt sé le treibh eile —

Brothers, — We must be united; we must
smoke the same pipe, we must fight each
other's battles. . . . (154)

I ndiaidh do Theacumtha labhairt, thug Puismeatatha — fear a raibh aithne phearsanta ag sraith d'Uachtaráin Mheiriceá air — aitheasc sáraithe ag glacadh le caint an fhir eile ach ag cur síos ag an am gcéanna ar an gcabhair a bhí fachtá ag a threabh féin óna daoine geala le blianta roimhe sin —

I deplore this war, I earnestly hope it may
be averted, but if it be forced upon us I
shall take my stand with those who have
stood by my people in the past and will be
found fighting beside our good friends of
St. Stephen's and surrounding country. I
have finished. I call on all Choctaws and
Chickasaws endorsing my sentiments to
cast their tomahawks on this side of the
council fire with me. (157)

Nuair a bhí deireadh ráite, ba bheag tua chatha a caitheadh ar thaobh Theacumtha. Tá an-rogha sa leabhar seo d'óráidí Taoiseach Indiach ó Mheatacimet a cuir-eadh chun báis ag chéad-phlandálaithe Shasana sa tír ar a dtugtar Nua-Shasana anois go dtí Slán Hinmaton Yalakitit (An



American Indian group at the Garden of Remembrance, Dublin

Taoiseach Seosamh) le cogaiocht —

From where the sun now stands I will fight
no more forever. . . . (170)

Glacadh leis sa deireadh nach bhféadfaí na hEorpaigh a chloí. Bhí an Taoiseach Seattle (as ar ainmníodh an baile in 1853) den tuairim nach mbeadh fágtha de na hIndiaigh i ndeireadh na dála ach a dtaibhsí. Ina aitheasc ag searmanas ainmiúcháin an bhaile nua, dúirt sé —

And when the last Red Man shall have
perished, and the memory of my tribe
shall have become a myth among the
White Men, these shores will swarm with
the invisible dead of my tribe, and when
your children's children think themselves
alone in the field, the store, the shop, upon
the highway, or in the silence of the
pathless woods, they will not be alone. In
all the earth there is no place dedicated to
solitude. At night when the streets of your
cities and villages are silent and you think
them deserted, they will throng with the
returning hosts that once filled them and
still love this beautiful land. The White
Man will never be alone. . . . (164)

Nuair a bhí teipthe ar an Indiach, nuair nach raibh talamh ná neamhspleáchas fágtha aige, tugadh faoi 'Happy English Child' a dhéanamh de. Chuirfeadh ráiteas an Commissioner of Indian Affairs córas na scoileanna náisiúnta agus an bhata scoir in Éirinn i gcumhne don léitheoir —

It is believed that if any Indian vernacular
is allowed to be taught by missionaries in
schools on Indian reservations it will
prejudice the pupil as well as his parents
against the English language. . . . This
language which is good enough for a white
man or a black man ought to be good
enough for the red man. It is also believed
that teaching an Indian youth in his own
barbarous dialect is a positive detriment
to him. The impracticability, if not im-
possibility, of civilising the Indians of this
country in any other tongue than our own
would seem obvious. (173)

Anois agus sinn ag druidiúint le deireadh an 20ú Céad, tá na hIndiaigh i Meiriceá ag iarraidh a gcultúr a chur ar a bhonna arís. Ach leis na fadhbanna eacnamaíocha agus sóisialta atá acu is mór an dúshlán atá rompu. Agus níl an 'comhfhiós' bainte amach ag an-chuid acu fós, mar a léiríonn an file nua, Simon J. Ortiz, ina dhán, 'Ten O'Clock News' —

bernstein disc jockey
telling about indians
on ten o'clock news
o they have been screwed
i know everybody's talking
about indians yesterday
murdering conquest the buffalo
in those hills in kansas
railroad hustling progress
today maybe tomorrow in
ghost dance dreams we'll
find out bernstein doesn't know
what indians say these days
in wino translations
he doesn't know that and even
indians sometimes don't know
because they believe in trains
and what bernstein tells them
on ten o'clock news (241).

*Literature of the American Indian, Eag. Sanders & Peek, Glencoe Press, 1976.

VIVIAN UIBH EACHACH

Recently a party of American Indians visited Ireland. Amongst other things, they attended the Bloody Sunday Commemoration in Derry. In the above article, the writer considers the visit and discusses an excellent collection of Native American literature, containing a wide range of superb Indian creation tales, hero tales, nature poems, religious literature, love poems, warrior poems, oratory and modern poetry. He concludes that the Indian cultural revival will be a difficult task.

THE O'MALLEY BUSINESS

Once again there has been turmoil in the Fianna Fáil party, presently in opposition, and again the party's leader Charles Haughey has been in there in the thick of it.

There has hardly been a politician in modern Irish history whose leadership has been challenged so often. He may go down in history as the 'great survivor'.

The occasion of the recent troubles was the passing of a Bill amending the Health (Family Planning) legislation so as to make contraceptives available to persons of eighteen years and over. The Bill was proposed by the Coalition Government of Fine Gael and Labour and Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald indicated that he would be applying the whip when it came before the Dáil.

However, to his considerable discomfort he found he had rebels in his own camp who found that they could not in conscience vote for the bill. These include an ex-Minister and present member of the Common Market assembly, Tom O'Donnell. There were two other Fine Gael members and one Labour member who would not vote for it and these four lost the Government whip automatically.

Charlie Haughey too was applying the whip in opposing the Bill and this led to problems which centred on the role of Dessie O'Malley in the Dáil. This former right-wing Fianna Fáil minister has figured often in opposition to Haughey and was seen as the main contender for the leadership of the party in recent years.

The New Ireland Forum, some time back, described three alternative ways of dealing with the problem of the North but indicated that the one preferred was reunification under a central sovereign government. This was the option that Haughey favoured and it is in fact the policy pursued by Fianna Fáil all along. After the Forum report O'Malley took a stand within Fianna Fáil for one of the more compromising solutions in the report. This led to a dispute inside the party and resulted in the whip being withdrawn from O'Malley. This entails something in the nature of purgatory where some T.D.s suffer for a while before their readmission to the discipline of the whip.

In the debate on the Family Planning legislation O'Malley gave a speech which was described by some as the best speech in the Dáil for years. The speech, in fact, was very good, but one couldn't help feeling, as one read it, that the normal oratorical performance in the Dáil must be pretty mediocre stuff. O'Malley made it fairly obvious in his speech that he favoured the Bill, but he abstained from voting at all on the issue. The Bill was passed by 83 votes to 80 which was close enough.

Haughey then reproached O'Malley pretty bitterly, putting the point that some

backbenchers on the Government side of the house, who had been dithering up to then decided to vote for the Bill as a result of O'Malley's speech. Whether that was meant as an insult to them or a compliment to O'Malley is unknown.

It soon became obvious that there was great resentment of O'Malley's stance in the matter in Fianna Fáil and there were calls for his expulsion.

At this point the media went into their traditional Haughey-bashing routine. The following morning, John Bowman, no lover of Haughey, in his morning radio programme "Day by Day" played on tape the two Government back-benchers who Haughey had described as 'ditherers' protesting vehemently that O'Malley's speech had no influence on their decision to vote for the Bill. Bowman must have taped them pretty early in the morning, but such is the efficiency of the anti-Haughey lobby. Bowman then interviewed O'Malley on his programme, or, to put it more accurately, he sat back and allowed O'Malley to speak freely with very little questioning or comment.

It has been said that O'Malley was originally a Fine Gael supporter. Indeed he is much more a Fine Gael type and many would say that that party is his natural home.

He was elected in the sixties in a bye-election which was due to the sudden death of his uncle Donagh O'Malley who was a Fianna Fáil minister at the time. He actually ran against his uncle's widow, Hilda.

The same has been said about Jack Lynch, who preceded Haughey as head of the party. He is a barely concealed enemy of Haughey. It is interesting to note that on Haughey's selection as party leader, FitzGerald attacked him viciously whilst at the next Fine Gael Árd Fheis he went out of his way to wish Lynch a happy retirement. Lynch, in an interview on radio, gave as an excuse for speaking on the subject that he had to go in to RTE in connection with a programme being made for St. Patrick's Day in which he was a participant and he was accosted by a reporter who asked him his opinion of the O'Malley affair. He said he didn't want to interfere in the matter and then went on to do so saying no party could afford to lose a man of O'Malley's calibre and went on to praise his Dáil speech on the subject.

Then O'Malley unexpectedly found himself being cast in a new role. This arose from part of his speech in which he said that he did not believe that the interests of the state or the Constitution of the Republic would be served by putting politics before one's conscience. "There is a choice of a kind," he said, "that can only be answered by saying that I stand by the Republic and accordingly, I will not oppose the Bill."

The media started speaking of him as a "Republican" and he probably found himself somewhat like Garret FitzGerald when he arrived in the Dáil one day with two odd shoes.

The anti-Haughey lobby seized the speech and proceeded to point out that

O'Malley was a genuine Republican and Haughey was not.

It was very like the situation that arose in Ireland during the first World War, when John Redmond, leader of the Irish Party in Westminster called on the Irish to join up. We would get a generous measure of Home Rule after the war. Not to join up was then pointed out as an anti-Irish national attitude.

This gave a field day to the anti-Republicans who proceeded to abuse the Republicans (who opposed recruitment) as being anti-national. Simply described, it was the devil quoting Scripture for his own purposes.

O'Malley was found to be in the great republican tradition, a true son of the 1916 rebels, a crowd which is under constant attack by the same media. This was particularly true of the Irish Times a large number of whose readers wouldn't like to be associated, in any way, with that 1916 crowd.

The same paper published on its front page a very funny, but nasty cartoon depicting the Fianna Fáil party as a cowed herd behind Haughey. Fianna Fáil was no longer a democratic party.

But Fianna Fáil was always like that. We are told that Dev would listen attentively to his cabinet's opinions and then proceeded to do what he intended to do all along. But neither Dev nor Lemass had dissenters and Lynch dealt with his dissenters quite ruthlessly.

But the real cause for a very large proportion of the attack on Haughey is because he is perceived to be a Republican. He believes in a united Ireland whether a majority in the North want it or not and this is the traditional meaning of Republicanism since the state was set up. He would seem to be trying to get Fianna Fáil back on its original track from which it strayed since the sixties when that party became "the party of reality" and invited by business to invest in its infamous £100-silver plate Taca dinners, and people joined the party for their own promotion in business, etc. The party took on board many who had no interest in Republicanism. The party is now paying the price for that episode.

It would be wrong to see this type of liberalising legislation as a factor which would offer any great inducement to Unionists to view unity with much less repugnance. At the same time we should not be supplying them with excuses for opposing unity. At some future date we may be depending to some extent on Northern liberals, though they are not a large number, to encourage the rank and file to move towards integration. This Bill represents the most significant step taken in post war Ireland away from the influence of the Catholic Hierarchy. It has the negative value of reducing the extent to which the 26 counties are ruled or even seen to be ruled by Rome.

In this connection Haughey's role in respect of this legislation is not very helpful and could be viewed as a quite cynical stance in party politics. Very probably he thought the Government might collapse on

the issue which would account for his bitterness in laying the blame on O'Malley for inducing the alleged ditherers to vote for the Bill not to mention abstaining himself.

However, already it is receding rapidly into history, and Haughey is in a stronger position than before: his leadership is unlikely to be challenged in the near future. One reason for this is the great shortage of talent at cabinet level in Fianna Fáil.

O'Malley may remain the republican darling of the anti-republican media for a short period but could be without a future in politics. Haughey after a lot of manoeuvring finally got his man.

PEADAR ASHE

GROWTH or GLOOM?

As 1984 drew to a close the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) made public its predictions for 1985 for the 24 nation O.E.C.D. area. For the Republic, continued moderate growth was forecast. The GDP growth rate is predicted at three and a half per cent in volume for 1985. (Britain's rate is expected to increase from last year's two to three per cent). However, the balance of payments deficit is likely to remain high with the stimulus to growth coming more from domestic consumption than in 1984. By the year's end the inflation rate had fallen to 6.7% bringing the annual rate for the year to 8.6%, the lowest annual average since 1978. Despite this and the severe cutbacks in the level of spending on public services the 1984 Exchequer returns showed that income tax returns increased sharply, rising by 18.2% over 1983.

Favourable economic predictions at the year's end were no doubt of cold comfort to the still rapidly climbing numbers of unemployed. Swollen by many more factory closures towards the end of the year the registered jobless total for the end of 1984 was a record total of 225,445.

By the end of January this had risen to 234,064, an increase of 8,619, making the month the worst in two and a half years and giving a figure of 17.5% of the labour force unemployed. In the meantime the 1985 Budget was announced. It contained little of any real benefit to either the unemployed or the overburdened PAYE sector except perhaps that its provisions meant that their lot would not be worsened much. Finance Minister Dukes altered the tax rates to have three only, 35%, 48% and 60% — a move he termed "radical changes" — this term being echoed by some newspaper reports. Closer analysis of the effects of these changes and other alterations in tax bands and allowances showed however that even allowing for a promised 6% public pay offer (in two phases with a pay pause) most

LANGUAGE ACTIVIST JAILED

Last summer, Proinsias Ó Mianáin, a Derryman living in the Donegal Gaeltacht with his family, started objecting to the introduction of English into Mass at Cnoc Fola, an Irish speaking area. He stood up during the Mass and attempted to dissuade the local priest, Fr. Sweeney from using English in what was previously a ceremony fully in Irish. The protest for its use incidentally was supposedly to help non-Irish speaking visitors understand the ritual! He did this on a number of occasions and claimed that in one instance he was attacked by a group of ten men, who beat him up and threw him out of the church. Some parishioners then formed a vigilante style committee whose members prevented Ó Mianáin and his family from attending Mass and also another Derryman, Tomás Ó Donghaile and his family who had joined him in his protest.

In August the Ó Mianáin caravan was attacked by a group of men who smashed the windows with hammers at 4.30 a.m. while the family slept inside. A few days later the Ó Donghaile caravan was burnt down while they were away.

Ó Mianáin was brought to court for disrupting the Mass under an old statute — he was sentenced to two months imprisonment when he refused to participate in hearing the charges against him in English on sign documents in English binding him to the peace. Three youths who assaulted him following his protest at Mass received the Probation Act.

Ó Mianáin was imprisoned in early January and went on hunger strike. Pickets were mounted on the prison (Mountjoy, in Dublin) by Conradh na Gaeilge, Ceanta Gael, Sinn Féin and Belfast supporters — they exceeded a hundred at times. The Irish Council for Civil Liberties called for his release and for steps to "ensure that citizens who wish to use the Irish language in the courts be facilitated."

Ó Mianáin was visited in prison by Tomás Ó Monacháin (who had also helped the protest and is due in court on March 12th — readers of CARN will remember T.

workers would be marginally worse off with only those in the upper income limits benefitting! The Irish taxpayer is still amongst the most highly taxed in Europe with about 39% of taxpayers now paying over 35% as against only 2.6% over that figure in 1974/75.

Pensioners and long-term unemployment assistance etc. are to be increased by 6½% from July. Unemployment benefit and pay-related benefit however will only rise in some cases by a lot less than that. Changes were made in the VAT system which reduced the number of rates to zero, ten and twenty-three per cent, and eliminated the 35% rate on luxury items. This latter move was a response to the big growth in

Ó Monacháin's fight for Irish in the courts which went all the way to the Supreme Court, where unfortunately an unfavourable judgement was given). Mr. Ó Monacháin said that Ó Mianáin had three demands — that his case be reheard in the District Court at Letterkenny, that the rules of the superior courts be made available in Irish and that a sworn inquiry be held into the administration of justice by the Gardai in the Donegal Gaeltacht.

After two weeks on hunger strike Mr. Ó Mianáin was given the rules of the High Court in Irish in five volumes. He then signed a £10 bond (in Irish) undertaking to make himself available to the court and he was released. He said on his release that he intended to press for a sworn inquiry into the administration of justice in Donegal and an inquiry into Church administration in that part of the county which is in the diocese of Raphoe. He stated that while in prison some of the warders spoke Irish to him but one prison doctor refused to examine him when he would not speak in English. He was also not given clothes sent in when he would not ask for them in English.

Is it too much to hope for that the Church authorities in Raphoe will examine their consciences after this case and ensure that they and their priests do not actively push Anglicisation in one of the few small remaining Irish speaking areas?

T.V. Campaigner in Prison

The campaign against the insultingly low amount and limited content of Irish language broadcasting on RTÉ television continues. At the end of February Cairbhne Ó Aordha, who refused to pay his TV licence in protest against the neglect of Irish and was sentenced to 7 days in jail, was taken to Mountjoy prison.

Pickets were mounted by Conradh na Gaeilge and statements were issued by other language bodies in support of an tUas. Ó Cardha's courageous stand. He was released after serving three days.

cross border smuggling of such items. The budget did nothing for employment prospects — the construction industry in particular was not pleased with the VAT changes which had the effect of increasing their 5% rate to 10% and they organised a day of protest in February. There are now 84,000 people out of work for a year or more (40,000 of these have dependents) and the prospects for them and those who join that category must unfortunately appear increasingly bleak as continuing cuts bite into the Social Welfare system (whose cost increased from £496 m. in 1983 to £616 m. in 1984 — an increase of 26%) on which they depend and no real Government initiatives are taken to provide new jobs.

A.D.

KERNOW

AN ENGLISH DREAM

A year or two ago there was a very unusual occurrence in Cornwall. Objectors to a proposed by-pass road for Penzance heard that their objections had been successful with central government refusing to give the go-ahead for the road. It was Cornwall Council who had initiated and supported the construction of a road to by-pass Penzance, the last town before the Lands End. Local objectors pointed out that good agricultural land and areas of environmental interest were to be destroyed for the sake of the 'tourist' and six weeks of the summer — the only time when Penzance has any serious traffic problem. Heavy traffic, mainly heading for the town or its harbour, would not be diverted away from residential areas by the proposed road.

Not surprisingly objectors believed that this ridiculous and unnecessary road scheme had been finally quashed. Not so.

1985 Cornwall's General Election

Unique among the Celtic nations Cornwall already has an elected assembly that covers its whole territory. In May the 'County' Council is re-elected. At the moment Cornwall is one of the last such councils still controlled by Independents, though many of these 'independents' are well known card carrying members of a London based subversive organisation — the Conservative Party.

This year the local Tories are planning to come fully out of the closet and take official control of Cornwall Council — "in the interests of good government" (!) Although the present Council finds it impossible to act consistently in the interests of the Cornish people one shudders to imagine a council openly controlled by the white settlers, retired majors, well heeled yuppies and old people's home owners who seem to comprise the modern Conservative Party in Cornwall. Four years of that lot and we'll be calling for the return of the good old days of the penny pinching 'independent' farmer and the paternalistic local gentry who at present run the show.

Elections in 1977 and 1981 saw a gradual decline in the 'independent' candidate, a process that will no doubt continue as the English parties battle it out to control the Council. Ironically if the Alliance and Labour put a large number of candidates into the field this will be good news for the Tories who stand to romp home on the

In February the planners of Cornwall Council re-surfaced with a slightly revised scheme, basically the same road now re-named the Penzance Distributor Road. Thus councillors will again be spending our money to convince us of the necessity of further destroying our environment in the interests of the Ford Sierra, the English tourist and profits for the few. And Penzance still awaits a decent sewerage project to end raw sewage being deposited straight into the bay!

This is only a symptom of a wider malaise. Cornwall has been host to concerted pressure from the road lobby for some years now. Councillors, the NFU, Chambers of Commerce, industry and Tory MPs — in fact the local Establishment — have been unanimous in loudly screaming for 'motorways', 'dual carriageways' and 'by-passes', as if the economic problems endured by the Cornish people (unemployment is now over 20% even on the official figures) will magically disappear if 20 minutes are knocked off the journey to London.

Of course what all this hysteria indicates is that the Establishment, locked into Thatcherite economics, have no answer to

basis of a split anti-Tory vote and the antiquated British electoral system.

Meanwhile what is the electoral state of the national movement? Apart from Penzance, where in a recent by-election the MK candidate came a creditable second to the Tory, pushing the white settler Labour candidate of the pottery classes into last place, the picture looks decidedly bleak. At the time of writing it seems that MK will be offering between 2 and 4 candidates for 79 seats. This compares with 9 in 1981 and 7 in 1977. The CNP are, as usual, quiet and one assumes that they will present their usual 4 or 5 candidates. Despite the hopes of the mid 70s the national movement has failed to mount a consistent electoral presence outside limited areas. Is this not the cue for a serious review of the whole question of electoral politics in Cornwall?

ROOTS OF CORNISH NATIONALISM

On March 1st the Cornish branch of the Celtic League held a meeting on 'the early days of Cornish nationalism'. Guest speaker was Richard Jenkin, a former secretary of the League in Cornwall. Although MK was formed in 1951 there were a number of movements before that time. The main efforts of these were usually directed towards the cultural field and they emerged from the Cornish cultural revival, beginning around 1900.

Tyr ha Tavas was a society that aimed to spread the use and knowledge of the Cornish language. With its leading mem-

Cornwall's continuing economic exploitation. Road building, buttressed by large central government grants, appears an easy way out and the road lobby has been quick to work on gullible councillors and MPs. Local planning departments, often staffed by what can only be described as professional environmental vandals, also see in road building a good possibility of job creation, not so much for the unemployed building worker, but for the council planning department. Anyone who stands in the way of this juggernaut is publicly condemned in a supine local press by non-elected planning officers as Luddites who stand in the way of progress and, what is far worse, put at risk potential central government grants.

Planning procedures, the so-called democratic process, are to be by-passed as quick as possible if the issue is by-passes. Councillors pat themselves on the back as another few hundred acres are buried by tarmac. The end product of being an internal colony of England seems to be the creation of a society safe for the Mini Metro, a land of dual carriageways, all dedicated to that other world Celtic hero — Sir Robert McAlpine.

bers based in exile at English Universities and colleges Tyr ha Tavas did not survive the 30s in an organised form. In 1944 exiled students and others again took the lead in establishing a society called Young Cornwall. This aimed to link the cultural concerns of the Old Cornwall movement with the economic problems of modern Cornwall. Although branches of this were formed in Cornwall in 1946 it again did not provide an enduring base for Cornish political patriots who were forced to wait until the formation of MK for a permanent organisation.

CORNISH UNIVERSITY

The CNP has renewed the plea for a Cornish University. While this is a laudable aim it should be noted that, with a 'senior' polytechnic situated just across the border at Plymouth and in the light of the current Government policy on cutting non-Oxbridge higher education a Cornish University is a far less likely prospect now than when the call was first made in the 1950s.

LITTLE CORNWALL

The Cornish link with South Australia continues. From the 1840s and especially after the 60s thousands of miners and their families fled from starvation wages, unemployment and an oppressive society to the mining areas of Australia, the Yorke Peninsula in the south in particular. Every year a Kernewek Lowender (Lowender Kernewek) is held in May as a Cornish festival, attended this year by the 'Grand Bard' of the Cornish Gorseth.

MANNIN

LESSOONYN SHENNAGHYS

Yn chiaghtyn elley, va mee goll stiagh ayns shapp sy vean jeh Lerpoyll. Er y raad stiagh, honnick mee doodee va creck pabyr politickagh ennagh sy traid cheumooie "Sidooryn magh ass Nerin!" v'ee gyllagh magh. Gyn ourys, t'ee sy ghleashaght "Sidooryn Magh", smooinee mish. Tra haink mee magh ass y chapp, va daa veoirshee loayrt dy jeean rish y doodee as rish fer aeg va er ve creck pabyryn neesht. Hannee mee dy 'eddyn magh c'ered va goll er (ayns Sostyn y Thooder, cha nel oo loayrt rish meoiryn-shee my t'ou abyl shaghtney shen). Fy jerrey, daag ny meoiryn-shee, as hie mee dy vriaght jeh'n chubbyl aeg c'ered va goll er.

"Cha nel shin lowit creck y pabyr ain. Cheer seyr t'ayn, dy jarrool!" dooyrt y fer aeg dy sharroo. Va ny meoiryn-shee er chur raue daue: mannagh row y doodee as y fer aeg goll ersooyl, veagh ad goit kyndagh rish y Slattys ry-hoi Lhiettal Ym-agglaghey (Prevention of Terrorism Act). Tra cheayll mee shen, va ferg orrym, agh cha row yindys orrym. Ta Thoreeyn Hostyn er nobbraghey dy jeean as dy creoi dy lhaggaghey seyrnsys y phobble as ta meoiryn-shee Hostyn ny smoo politickagh na v'ad rieau. As Nerin? Cha nel oo lowit loayrt magh mysh Nerin mannagh vel oo jannoo craid mysh ny Paddies mollaaghtagh.

Agh va yindys orrym tra chionnee mee pabyr (dy tappee) veih'n fer aeg. Cha nee lught "Sidooryn Magh" v'ayn noadyr, agh possan cumannagh ennagh. Shimmey possan politickagh t'ayns Sostyn jiu, y chooid smoo jeh feer veg as feer yeean. Ayns y phabyr shoh, va art mooar mychiane Nerin Twoaie. V'eh scruiit: "Ayns Mee Luanistyn 1969, haink sidooryn Goaldagh stiagh ayns Nerin Twoaie . . . queig bleaney jeig jeh tranlaase Goaldagh".

Ny cretooryn boghtey. Nagh vel fys oc dy vel sidooryn Goaldagh er ve ayns Nerin Twoaie rish keeadyn dy vleeantyn? Oddagh shin loayrt mysh keeadyn dy vleeantyn jeh tranlaase Goaldagh, cha nee queig bleaney jeig jeh. Va mee ayns coardailys rish y stoo elley va scruiit mysh Nerin sy phabyr cumannagh shoh. Agh ec y tra cheddin, ta mee guee dy row y Skian Toshalt (as sleih elley) ayns Sostyn toiggal y chooish Yernagh ny share as ny s'diuneey. Peiagh erbee ta smooinghtyn dy jagh sidooryn Goaldagh gys Nerin Twoaie son y chie cheyart sy vlein 1969, cha nel eshyn toiggal y chooish ro vie!

Red trimshagh, agh cha nel monney

Sostnee graihagh er ny Yerneey. Shegin dooin jannoo nyn gooid share dy voa-daghey yn earroo dy leih ayns Sostyn (as cheeraghyn elley) ta toiggal ny ta goll er ayns Nerin Twoaie. Erskyn ooilley, ta shoh scanshoil nish as shinyn fuirraghtyn rish kialgeyrns ennagh dy ve reaghit eddyr Lunnin as Divlyn roish tra foddey. Son "cur erash" y Twoaie, bee Lunnin jerkal rish Divlyn cheet stiagh ayns Nato (dy folliit?) dy yannoo ny Americanee booiagh ayns nyn gaggey casherick noi'n Roosh. Ta ny Sostnee condaagagh shen, Tony Benn as Enoch Powell, er ghra tammylt er dy henney dy vel shen yn oyr ta Sostyn tannaghtyn cho jeean ayns Nerin Twoaie: ta ny Americanee laccal Nerin ooilley myr ynnyd-chaggee. Agh va sleih ennagh gra y red cheddin roish my daink Benn as Powell stiagh sy skeal.

It is even more crucial that there is more understanding of what is happening in Northern Ireland now that Irish neutrality is under threat.

BRIAN MAC STOYLL

FORUM NY GAELGEY '84

There is no doubt that the forty people who attended the Celtic League's second annual open forum on y Ghaileck, the Manks Gaelic, were in general agreement right from the start. The meeting took place in the Prince of Wales Hotel in Ramsey, and the topic this year was "The desirability of a centre for the Manks language".

The chairman for the discussion, Bernard Caine, first introduced Jamys y Cowle, who is himself chairman of Yn Chengey Vio, the appeal fund dedicated to raising money for a new language centre. He supported the concept as an ideal social centre, language laboratory and library/archive, bookstore and book-shop as well as an administrative centre for the language movement.

A cautionary note was sounded by those turning Devil's advocate for the debate. Some interesting viewpoints were expressed which have, perhaps, been heard only as distant grumbles hitherto. Some of the arguments in those viewpoints against a centre as something of primary concern are given below.

The first was, of course, money. Disappointment was expressed that only about £3,500 had been raised in 2½ years by Yn Chengey Vio. This raised questions about

the viability of a centre in being able to keep pace with its running costs, once set up.

Over the years, events had been organised by proponents of y Ghaileck in halls, hotels and pubs throughout the Island. It was suggested that it was important for y Ghaileck to be exposed in public places to reinforce the fact that it was a living language. It seemed to be a retrograde step to take it behind closed doors into a special centre which it would be easy for the public at large to ignore.

The siting of a centre was important. It seemed that there was no great willingness to travel from one part of the Island to another for events. This would militate against the success of a centre, since it would take the committed element of the entire Island population to ensure its success.

Since a centre was fraught with dangers, it would be of greater advantage to put the money presently lying idle in a bank to some use now. The new technology should not be overlooked. Funds could be put into developing computer and video aids to language teaching. This was more important than bricks and mortar for the future of y Ghaileck.

Also the attention focussed on one centre might amount to tunnel vision. More importantly, the success of a centre into which so much effort was channelled might persuade Government to duck its responsibilities. It was pointed out that y Ghaileck was an essential part of the promulgation of legislation in the Island. Despite this, necessary work carried out on an ad hoc basis by a private individual instead of through a properly constituted Rheynn ny Gaelgey within Government. This was indicative of the dismissive attitude of Government towards the language, despite its role in the constitution.

Government was in a prime position to set an example by the use of y Ghaileck in public documents and in public places as an open demonstration of the unique heritage which gave the Island its separate legislature. It might even lend truth to the one-time Tourist Board campaign of "Come abroad to the Isle of Man".

The proposed Rheynn ny Gaelgey might be more attractive to Government as part of an extended archive section of the Manks Museum. The present sound and film archives were something of a wasted asset since they were totally inaccessible to the public. As well as making these available, a continuing policy of establishing sound and visual records of historical events in a national archive would be a tremendous service to the Island.

Rather than going it alone in a centre for the Manks language, it would be more

beneficial to approach Government to obtain the political will to support the language by providing many of the facilities currently lacking.

The point really being made was that a centre might distract from the real priority, which was to get grassroots support in each community throughout the Island. Such support could be sought through entertainments, by running pre-school playgroups, or even by minor civil disobedience, if that was a popular way of putting the point across. The language needed the people, and the priority must be to show the people that they needed the language. A centre was not necessarily the best way to go about this.

Other speakers felt the time had come to show the strength of the language by establishing a tangible centre. This was essential also to enable learners to learn the language more quickly and efficiently in a suitable environment.

At the end of the meeting, as at the beginning, nobody disagreed with the sentiment that a centre for the Manks language would be a boon to Gaelgryn and learners. The afternoon proved fruitful in bringing out several threads of argument that merited more than passing consideration. Some alternative aims could obviously be pursued even whilst working towards the setting up of a centre for y Ghailck. There is no doubt that it will come. It is just a matter of time.

It will not be the end of the work — it will merely be another beginning.

ROBARD Y CHARSALAGH

Foreign — at last

English cultural imperialism is very obvious in the catalogues of the fine arts auctioneering firms there: Irish silver, Scottish swords, Welsh dressers are to be found under the heading "English" and never listed separately or among the non-English items listed.

The concept of "British" is occasionally used as a hold-all — often enough in similar catalogues outside England.

A recent issue of the *Coin and Medal Despatch* issued by the Glaswegian firm A. D. Hamilton & Co. Ltd. listed two categories of "Gold Coins": those from "Great Britain" and those deemed "Foreign". The former had two sub-headings "Scotland" and "England"; the latter had one listing the countries of origin in alphabetical sequence. And in that sequence are listed two pounds piece, two sovereigns and one half sovereign from the "Isle of Man", slotted in between Germany and Mexico. The penny, so to speak, may be dropping at last!

P. Ó S.

*Recording Native Manx Speech, Shorys y Creayrie.

For a Celtic Future, Published by the Celtic League 1983.

The Advancement of Manx Gaelic

From the early part of this century organisations and individuals have recognised the need to record the Manx language using the best means at their disposal. We are indebted to the foresight of those people whose time and energy produced a fund of material which remains of incalculable value today. The advantages of access to recorded speech as opposed to the written word alone will be appreciated by the student of any language.

The task of gathering contemporary material in the 1980's is no less important than in previous generations but it has been made considerably easier in the light of present technological advances.

PAST METHODS

Past methods of collecting and preserving Manx speech have been many and varied ranging from the phonograph and sound mirror through to reel to reel magnetic tape. Many of the recordings are now imperfect either because of technical problems at the time or sheer age.

Early recordings of Manx Speech:—*

- 1909 Dr. R. Trebitsch — Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna
- 1933 Prof. C. Marstrander — Dept. of Celtic, University of Oslo.
- 1948 Dr. O. Danachair — Irish Folklore Commission.
- 1949 Prof. F. Carmody — University of California.

Although over the years many recordings have been made by private individuals it is noticeable that much of the vital early recording was undertaken at the instigation of outside agencies. The necessary finance was not forthcoming from insular sources until very late — yet another missed opportunity.

PRESENT DEVELOPMENTS

Within the past year one film has been produced entirely in Manx and another is currently underway. The emphasis is now on the creative advancement of Manx rather than as previously, the task of preservation. However using film as the medium requires specialised equipment in the shooting, developing, editing and projecting, this is costly and of necessity leads to the under-utilisation of the end product. The widest possible audience is not reached.

FUTURE REQUIREMENTS

Future requirements fall into two main categories:

1. Instructional
2. Documentary.

INSTRUCTIONAL

Modern language courses have progressively moved towards colour, action and realism in presenting material. Students are

no longer prepared to accept the book and blackboard approach which has sufficed until now. To remain relevant Manx Gaelic must move with the times, its presentation and packaging must become more sophisticated and modern.

A need to progress with the recording of surviving speakers is paramount as opportunities are being lost almost annually. The recent deaths of two of the leading exponents of the language has seriously depleted the expertise available to learners. Many who have had direct contact with native speakers are now themselves fast approaching an age at which their own knowledge is vulnerable and a new generation is emerging without the benefit of such contact.

Much time and energy is expended repeating material and lessons, this duplication could be avoided by a series of language lessons available to all, in the mode of the B.B.C.'s CAN SEO and R.T.E.'s ANOIS IS ARIS.

DOCUMENTARY

This is potentially the most powerful means of advancing the language. Documentary programmes provide a vehicle for the expression of views and opinions, a hitherto little exploited area of Manx, where the emphasis has been rather strongly biased towards restoration and preservation. All aspects of Manx culture and heritage would fall within its realms and the opportunities to be created by adopting this format are only limited by the imagination.

Alone among European languages we have no recognised area of speakers which learners can visit and immerse themselves, we have no newspapers, no radio programmes and most crucially we have no television coverage generated by ourselves.

To survive Manx must be heard and seen to be alive. A video unit dedicated to producing Manx orientated films in the Manx language would go much of the way to stem the rapid erosion which the language has to compete with daily. In short, we must retain and develop a Manx attitude and a Manx voice in which to express it, to leave its representation to others is an area of Manx heritage we neglect at our peril.

WHY VIDEO?

1. Versatile and comparatively inexpensive
2. Video cassette players are now commonplace in homes.
3. Potential market is expanding rapidly.
4. Exchange of material is easily facilitated.
5. Requires no further specialised equipment.
6. Insert editing capabilities now standard.

Nearly all educational establishments have access to a television and video cassette player.

The possibility of creating a video cassette library depicting all aspects of Manx culture and heritage, freely available to individuals and organisations, could become a reality in the foreseeable future, surely a worthy legacy which subsequent generations would be grateful to inherit.

N.A.T.O. OUT

Mannin Branch campaign against the operation of a sea bombing range by N.A.T.O. in the North-west of Mann continues. The campaign commenced approx. five years ago, and in that time the Range and its operations have been under constant scrutiny.

The Range comprises an area of sea and shoreline off the Jurby Coast and security in the area, is the responsibility of the M.O.D. The Manx Government recently made new by-law proposals for the area, which provoked a storm of controversy, which has necessitated their withdrawal for re-draft. The new draft according to Government Secretary Mr. P. Holme, was to be ready by November; however, since then there have been successive delays and the draft had still not appeared by February 1st. There is no doubt however, that the re-draft will shortly appear, and that Tynwald (Manx Parliament) will give them the 'rubber-stamp'. Powerful forces are at work which make this inevitable. The U.S. Government is involved, in that, most of the operations carried out, off Jurby, are by the U.S.A.F. The term — RAF Jurby — is itself a bit of a misnomer, as real control of the Range facilities is in the hands of two U.S.A.F. Officers who are rotated regularly from their Headquarters in South East England. For public relations purposes, the U.S.A.F. personnel, keep a 'low-profile'.

Celtic League Mannin have constantly opposed the Range and there is no doubt that the M.O.D. and the Manx Government embarrassingly mis-read the opposition as being confined to a minority group. Now, opposition is coming, not only from Nationalist elements, but also Local Authorities, Fishermen and private individuals.

In the early days of our opposition, we established a Range Monitoring Operation, to collect information on 'overflights' of the land area of Mann — these are forbidden in Range related operations. This monitoring is carried on by individual members of the public (not necessarily League Members), and interest has increased of late. The activities of these 'monitors' has caused extreme embarrassment to the RAF authorities and recently resulted in an astonishingly offensive and personal attack on the League. This episode reported in the I.O.Man Press did little to enhance the RAF's public image.

Final word on the campaign to date can come from the Manx Press (I.O.M. Times) in an editorial entitled 'A Hornet's Nest At Sea'. They conclude:

"As for those who write to Government Office to say the Range should be closed, they are said to be wasting their time. This is not quite so. They must be allowed to go on making their point and they must be listened to by Government. The Range must never be taken for granted!"

J. BERNARD MOFFATT



The Calf of Mann

Readers of CARN 47/48 will be aware that in December of '84 Mannin Branch of the Celtic League launched a campaign aimed at restoring ownership of the Calf of Mann to the Manx people.

The Calf, a small island off the southern coast of Mann, is at present owned by the English Trust and administered by the Manx National Trust.

Leaflets about the situation were distributed in Mann and in London (see photos). A vigorous campaign in the Press was also undertaken.

Initially, both the English and Manx Trusts took a stance in favour of the status quo, however in early January, both Trusts adopted a more constructive approach. The English Trust informed the Manx Branch that the whole question was to be discussed by the Executive Committee of the Trust and the Manx counterpart.

The Manx Trust meanwhile issued a statement, part of the text which read as follows:

"The Manx Museum and National Trust is ever eager to pursue new avenues of approach and to this effect has recently submitted the

following resolution to the Executive Council of the Manx Government: That 'The Manx Museum and National Trust supports in principle the transfer of the Calf of Man to the ownership of the Manx National Trust and requests His Excellency in Executive Council to ascertain the willingness or otherwise of Her Majesty's United Kingdom Government to pass the necessary Legislation in the event of negotiations with the English National Trust proving successful. Such an agreement by the U.K. Government to set aside the declaration of inalienability by Act of Parliament would remove a major obstacle to the transfer of ownership which would then depend on the English National Trust's agreement to a transfer of property owned by them.'"

S. HARRISON
Director Manx Museum
& National Trust.

Other parts of the Manx Trust press release contained *inaccurate* conclusions as to the stance of the Celtic League, and the broad text of the article gave one the impression that the Trust was somewhat piqued at being forced to the negotiating table by the Celtic League.

Nuclear Scandal Continues

For over 30 years the Windscale nuclear reprocessing plant has been the most polluting nucleant plant in the world. Evidence continues to accumulate of the disastrous health effects of the plant on the nearby communities and the surrounding Celtic countries.

- British Nuclear Fuels admitted in February following publication of a 1955 internal report (classified as secret until this year) that radioactivity from the plant entered the local food chain in the early 50's.

- The fire in 1957 which emitted radioactive Iodine 131 is believed to have caused up to 260 cases of thyroid cancer.

- A study by two Irish doctors indicate that it was responsible for the cluster of Down's Syndrome births in the Dundalk area in later years.

- Surveys in County Down also indicate a link with further abnormalities to such a degree that an additional official study has been sanctioned.

As pressure has mounted the plant has been forced to take some measures. But will they eliminate discharges altogether. No, just reduce them to amounts which will contaminate us all a little slower to a lesser degree! We are told that the alpha emitting nuclides will be reduced to 20 aries per year by 1991, compared to 380 aries in 1983. Greenpeace has pointed out that the technology is available to cut the discharges to zero and is pressing for this to be made the target by 1986. Even now, they point out, plants in the U.S. and Japan achieve only one and 0.6 aries per year.

Why is it always too little too late?

GENERAL

KNOX: Manx Artist

Tiffany in New York, Liberty in London, Mackintosh in Glasgow and Lalique in Paris are all names we associate immediately with that movement called "Art Nouveau" from Samuel Bing's gallery, opened in Paris in 1895 under that name. In Italy the style was so associated with the London firm that it was designated "Stile Liberty" rather than Art Nouveau.

The metalwork produced by or for Liberty's may well be the movements most enduring memorial and that in the main was designed by the Manx artist and designer Archibald Knox (1864-1933). Before his arrival in Liberty's (c.1898) the London firm had imported much of their metalwork. That soon changed with Knox's silver range — sold under the generic Cymric from 1899 — and his Tudric pewter suite the following year.

What has been called Art Nouveau's specific mode of ornament "linear, sinuous and vegetal" was allied in Knox's work to "interlaced ornament of a Celtic character" and while his metalwork does not find ready response in modern taste it was a far livelier and genuine expression of the "Celtic Reival" than the English machine made interlace strapwork fitted to standard shapes that marked that phase in art in its long-lasting decline.

Knox, the son of a marine engineer, was born in Cronkborne and studied from 1878 to 1884 at the Douglas School of Art where he was to be a teacher later on. One of his pupils was Baillie Scott the English archi-

Silver Teapot by Knox, "Cymric" range. Photo courtesy Manx Museum.



tect who settled in Mann in 1889 and who designed mosaics for St. Matthews in Douglas. Knox collaborated with Baillie Scott in designs for ironwork and stained glass before he moved to London to work at Arthur Silver's Studio where his influence on Arthur's son, the gifted designer Harry, was very marked. Silver Studio marketed some of his textile designs.

Baillie Scott had designed textiles for Liberty's in 1893 and may well have introduced Knox to the firm where he began working seemingly in 1898. As well as metalwork his designs for them included carpets, textiles and jewellery.

Between 1900 and 1904 Knox was back in Mann, returning thence to London where he taught at various art schools including the one at Kingston from which

he resigned in 1911 when his methods were criticised by the examiners of the South Kensington Institutes for Art and Industry. One result of his resignation was that a group of the students withdrew in protest and set up the Knox Guild of Craft and Design — which lasted until 1939.

The fading fashion of Art Nouveau left his designs unpopular too and in 1909 Liberty's sold a number of his metalwork designs to James Counell & Co. Knox left Liberty's in 1912 and went to Philadelphia where he designed carpets for Bromley & Co.

He returned home to Mann in 1913, designed Arthur Liberty's tomb in 1917 and taught and painted after World War I.

P. Ó S.

LETTER

Dear Editor,

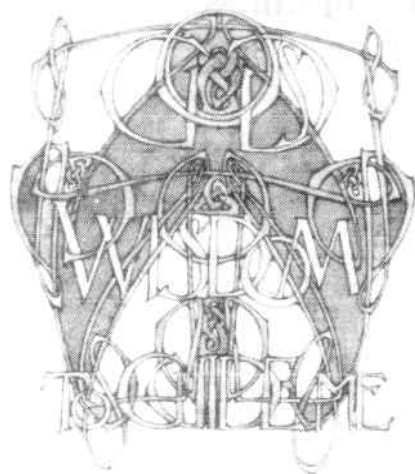
With reference to Anthony Coughlan's article in your last edition of Carn I would like to make some observations.

Mr. Coughlan represents the Irish Sovereignty Movement and talks of constitutional nationalist parties, his meaning of course being, Fianna Fáil, Fianna Gael and Hume's S.D.L.P. Party. Does he not accept yet that any agreement between any of these parties and Britain, that any Anglo-Irish Summit, any Irish or British Forum has no legitimacy and will come to nothing without the support and agreement of the republican people of the occupied Six Counties and its representatives, the Provisional Sinn Féin and IRA. Mind you, of late John Hume seems to have come round to that way of thinking.

Does Mr. Coughlan honestly believe, after sixteen years of repression, murder

and torture, after the British Army and its right wing official terrorist murder squads (U.D.A. & R.U.C.) have been driven out or disbanded, that the victory will be handed on a plate to the "British supporters club" in the South.

Mr. Coughlan continues "The Irish government naturally cannot tolerate illegal action within the boundaries of the Free State". Could he, by chance, be talking about the British S.A.S. who planted bombs in Sackville Place and Liberty Hall killing and injuring 73 people, conveniently one hour before exceptional legislation was voted through in Dáil Éireann and numerous other murderous incursions into the Twenty-Six counties, unhindered let me add, by their allies in the South. He also believes we should all wait for better times when a British government more favourable might emerge who would be more appreciative of the collaboration and would "Accept that the real interest of British is to



"Deer's Cry" by Knox. Photo courtesy Manx Museum.

have as a neighbour a friendly and cooperative Thirty-two County state, willing to give Britain all reasonable guarantees against Irish territory being used by any power hostile to British interests." In December 1921 all these concessions were given along with six of our counties and 1/4 million of our comrades forced into slavery. The price of that treachery has been dearly paid for in murder, torture, starvation and incarceration.

Does Mr. Coughlan think that Neil Kinnock could or would be any different to Thatcher? This Welshman who is considered a traitor to his own fellow Welsh and who considers his own heritage and culture inferior to that of England's. Have you forgotten the Falklands when all the British parliamentary parties and most of its citizens were baying for the blood of the Argentinians? They are at one now in their hatred and suppression of the Irish and things Irish. Thatcher is direct and straight, not fudging the issues as she demonstrated in the latest chapter of the Anglo-Irish Summit. Out, out, out she cried as Fitz and Barry were elaborating on Britain's "New Air of Realism".

It was not the humiliating slap-down that so incensed the pain, but that she had let the cat out of the bag. Now at last we have the naked truth. She is not prepared to play the time honoured game of deception. Nothing has been offered, nothing will be offered, nothing can be offered. Mind you, she has still promised to keep the tea parties going. The boys can drop in, and sometimes are even allowed to have their say. She might even come across and have tea with them on condition, of course, that they make it worth her while. Up to now they haven't done so bad: Britain has been given authority to extent her criminal jurisdiction i.e. special powers to the 26 county state.

Mrs. Thatcher let it be said, is the most popular prime minister in post war Britain. Despite huge unemployment and repressive anti-union legislation. It is also worth remembering that a large section of the unemployed trade union movement are firm supporters of Mrs. Thatcher. Her popularity is derived from the fact that she has promised to put the military GREAT back into Britain. No concessions to the Argentinians, Irish, Spanish etc.

Mr. Kinnock of course would play the old deceiving game in the tradition of Heath, Wilson, Callaghan, Lynch, Cosgrave, Haughey. His attitude is not that there should be any concessions, because he is 100% behind Thatcher's military stance. His argument goes: In the Twenty-Six County State we have friends in power, who are falling over themselves to implement our every wish. Surely we should help them with little favours such as the odd Irish Forum and Anglo-Irish Summit and helpful declarations afterwards to satisfy the gullible nationalists and sovereignty movements back home in Ireland.

Yours faithfully,
SEÁN MAC AODHA,
Supporter,
(Authentic Irish Sovereignty Movement).



Scrif-Celt '85 — First Ever Celtic Book Fair

As already announced in Carn 48-48 — and writing a few weeks before the event — Scrif-Celt '85, an exhibition and conference on contemporary writing and publishing in the Celtic languages, will be held at the London Welsh Centre, Grays Inn Road, London, on Saturday, April 13.

Organised by the London Branch of the Celtic League, it is expected to be supported by over 60 Celtic language publishers and organisations representing all six languages. Celtic language books, newspapers and periodicals will be on display and sale from over 40 stands in the main exhibition hall.

Among the organisations who are supporting the event were Cyngor Llyfrau Cymraeg (Welsh Books Council), An Comann Leabhraichean (Scottish Gaelic Books Council), An Comunn Càidhealach, Conradh na Gaeilge, Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh (Manx Gaelic Society), Kesva an Tavas Kernewek (Cornish Language Board), Cowethas an Yeth Kernewek (Cornish Language Fellowship), Kuzul ar Brezhoneg (Breton Language Council) and Skol-Uhel Ar Vro (Breton Cultural Institute).

Most of the leading Celtic language publishers are to be represented — among them Acair (Scotland), Clódhanna (Ireland), An Here (Brittany) Y Lolfa (Wales) and Dyllansow Truran (Cornwall).

SCRIF-CELT '85 has also attracted Celtic language book publishers and distributors from the American continent; among them Stone Street Press of Staten Island who specialise in dual-language books for the US market and Keshcarrigan Books of New York who will launch a new bilingual Irish/English magazine for the American market at SCRIF-CELT entitled *An Droichead* (The Bridge).

Chairman of SCRIF-CELT '85 is the historian and novelist Peter Berresford Ellis (a supporter of the Celtic League since the 1960s) author of nearly 40 titles including *A History of the Irish Working Class* and *The Liberty Tree*. His latest work, launched by publishers Y Lolfa at SCRIF-CELT, is *The Celtic Revolution* (Stg£4.95) described by Y Lolfa as 'An essential, up-to-date pan-Celtic primer!'

Speakers at the conference are to be Dewi Morris Jones of Cyngor Llyfrau Cymraeg; Iain Mac Dhòmnail of An Comunn Leabhraichean; Dónall Mac Amhlaigh, the author and journalist whose books include the famous *Dialann Deorai* and *Beoir Bhaile*; Dr. Brian Mac Stoyll, prolific Manx writer and language activist and a regular columnist for CARN; Len Truran, founder of the Cornish publishers

Dyllansow Truran; and Bernez An Nail, director of Skol-Uhel Ar Vro.

The Bretons will be the biggest single group of exhibitors. The Irish will come second in spite of a fairly slow start. Once Irish publishers realised the importance of SCRIF-CELT '85 then they flooded in with last minute applications. Cornwall was a very bright spot with every Cornish language publisher represented (Kesva an Tavas Kernewek, Cowethas an Yeth Kernewek, Dalleth, Dyllansow Truran and Lodenek Press). Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh, unfortunately, is now the only Manx publisher in existence. The organisers of SCRIF-CELT are disappointed at the response from Wales and especially with that from Scotland. The organisers think that the response from these countries was due to the fact that the Welsh Books Council and the Scottish Gaelic Books Council participated, reserving extensive stand space to exhibit the whole range of Celtic language books they represented. Many publishers therefore took the attitude that there was no need for individual participation as the Books Councils were representing them.

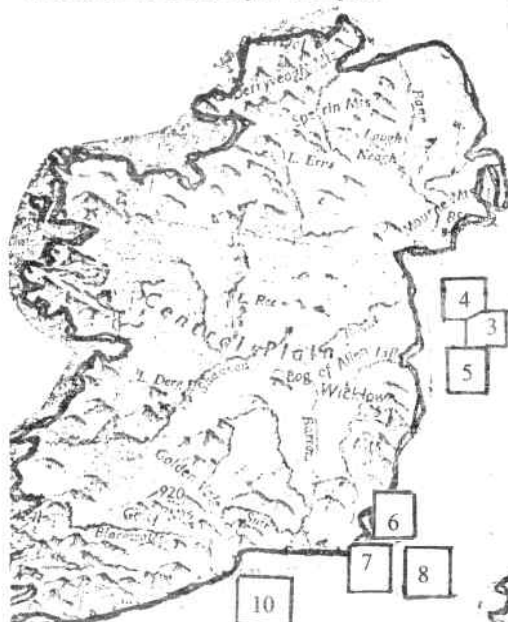
This does not detract from the overall tremendous response. Even academic groups such as *Cambridge Medieval Celtic Studies* journal wanted to participate as well as the *Bwletin y Bwrdd Gwybodaau Celtaidd* in addition to popular publishers. There was also support from English publishers such as Ventura of London who licence their children's book series for publication in over 40 languages. Their Eric Hill 'Spot' series are published in five of the Celtic languages and SCRIF-CELT saw Ventura engaged in negotiations to complete the circle by publishing Manx editions!

At the time of writing, the exact results of the publicity which SCRIF-CELT '85 has attracted is not known but it is expected to be extensive. Two months before the event overseas journalists (from countries as diverse as Switzerland and Poland) were seeking information.

'The main reason behind SCRIF-CELT '85', said Peter Berresford Ellis, 'is to provide an opportunity to present contemporary Celtic literature to a worldwide audience and to promote the Celtic languages and cultures in general.'

It is hoped to bring a further report of SCRIF-CELT '85, an assessment of its value, the publicity it has attracted and its possible establishment as an annual event in the next issue of CARN (no. 50) together with photographs of the event.

1. Submarine in tow off Mann's East Coast (30/7/84).
2. Submarine in tow off Mann's South coast (11/8/84).
3. M.F.V. entangled with submarine — cuts nets — towed for 3 miles (8/4/84).
4. M.F.V. Sberalga sunk by H.M.S. Porpoise — fishermen left to drown (18/4/82).
5. M.F.V. Crimson Dawn — nets entangled/towed/lost nets (18/4/82).
6. Cite D'Aleth disappeared off Wexford — 10 Crew lost (12/1/83).
7. ?/83 Yacht struck by Sub: believed to be HMS Opossum.
8. Galvanor disappeared with All crew (Summer/82).
9. Submarine Base Clyde Complex.



10. Jeanne de Lorraine towed backwards (3/2/84).
11. HMS Spartan snagged 'Algrie' M.F.V. (2/12/84).
12. Joanna C snagged by mystery Submarine (14/8/84).
13. 'MINE ADRIFT' — Coastguards claim no knowledge (12/6/84).

Another submarine sinking?

Yet another fishing vessel has disappeared in mysterious circumstances in the Irish Sea. The Mhari L, a Scottish boat, disappeared on 21 February about twenty miles off the east coast of the Isle of Man. Despite an extensive search no wreckage has been found. Although there was fog at the time the weather was reasonably good.

Disappearances and other instances, many of which involved submarines, have

become alarmingly frequent in recent years.* In this latest incidence the theory is being advanced that the vessel was run down in fog by a large ship. This suggestion seems to have emanated from official sources. We find it very suspicious that this idea is already being advanced, particularly as there is no wreckage recovered to support the theory.

There is considerable evidence of submarine activity in the area: The Celtic League have logged the presence of UK, Dutch and U.S. submarines. Our own view is that the Mhari L is the latest victim of a sub-strike. The Mannin Branch have contacted parliamentarians in Cymru, Alba and Éire about this latest incident.

*See numbered map.

Some Festivals and Cultural Events

Fleá Nua na hÉireann, 24-26 May, Ennis, Co. Clare.

Fleá Amháin agus Rinne, 15-16 June, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, Éire.

Fleá Cheoil na hÉireann, 23-25 August, Listowel, Co. Kerry, Éire.

The 3 Festivals of Irish Music are organised by Comhaltas Ceolteoirí na hÉireann, 32 Cearnóg Belgrave, Baile na Manach, Co. Átha Cliath.

Pan-Celtic Conference, end of April or early May, New York (enquire from Alexei Kondratiev, Celtic League, P.O. Box 322, Rego Park, New York, N.Y. 11374).

Pan-Celtic Festival, 10-19 May, Killarney, Co. Kerry, Éire. Enq. Pan-Celtic, Halla an Bhaile, Cillairne, Co. Chiarraí, Éire.

Yn Chruinnaght, Manx-Inter Celtic Festival, 20-27 July, Ramsey, Mannin (enq. David Callister, 22 Highfield Crescent, Onchan, I. of Mann).

Yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, 3-10 August, Rhyl, Cymru.

Harp Festival, 9-11 August. Enquiries: An tAthair Seán Ó Coinn, Granard, Co. Longphoirt, Éire.

Interceltic Festival, around 10-15 August, An Oriant/Lorient, Breizh.

International Celtic Congress, 11-17 August, Roazhon/Rennes, Breizh (enq. C.R.I.B. 30 Place des Lices, 35000 Rennes).

An Mod (Scottish-Gaelic Festival), around 15-20 October, (enq. An Comunn Gaedhealach, Tigh Obar Thairbh, Sr. na hEaglaise, Inbhirnis/Inverness, Alba).

An tOireachtas (Irish Gaelic Festival), 1-10 November, Cork, Éire (enq. 6 Sr. Fhearchair, Áth Cliath 2, Éire).

Lowender Perran (Cornish Festival), usually in September or October (enq. from Mrs. Joy Stevenson, Edge Hill, 36 Porthbyhan Rd., West Lodge, Looe (0536) 3561).

Celtic Film & T.V. Festival. Enquiries: BP91, 29172, Douarnenez-Cedex. Tel. (98) 921335.

As a follow-up to the Public Hearing organised by the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of "Europe" in Strassburg in May 1984, a committee of experts was appointed in December to draft a Council of Europe Charter Agreement for the protection of regional and minority languages. Various organisations (FUEN, AIDLCM, INTERREG...) will cooperate in presenting joint proposals to this committee. They will be included in a Conference which is to be held in Geneva on 16-18 May, 1985. Dr. Yvo Peeters (13 Lenoirstr., 1090 Brussel, Belgium), a committee member, will welcome suggestions from anyone concerned to help him in his work.

THE COBALT CONNECTION

This article is in direct response to a report produced by Professor Keith Boddy, a member of the Regional Medical Physics Department at Newcastle General Hospital. Prof. Boddy's report endeavoured to contradict the findings of the documentary "WINDSCALE THE NUCLEAR LAUNDRY", a Yorkshire Television Network production.

In May 1984 we wrote to Professor Boddy asking him to clarify his views on the side-effects of radioactive COBALT 60 (Co60) and its decay product ARTIFICIAL NICKEL. There is mounting evidence to suggest that these two elements may be linked to a lot of skin complaints such as eczema, dermatitis and other skin eruptions. However, when we posed this view to Professor Boddy his reply, when it eventually came, was very evasive. He certainly didn't allay our fears, nor did he provide any real evidence to discredit the currently held view that these allergic illnesses have increased to a totally unnatural level.

In the following text we endeavour to substantiate why we believe Co60 and ARTIFICIAL NICKEL are responsible for the increase in allergic diseases. To start with it is important to explain the difference between natural and artificial Cobalt. Natural Cobalt consists of only one type of atom or isotope, this is Cobalt 59 (Co59). Its nucleus contains 27 Protons and 32 Neutrons and is stable or non-radioactive. Co59 is used in the Nuclear Industry because of its magnetic properties and during the nuclear process it 'captures' a free neutron. Co59 changes and becomes Co60 during this process. Co60 is highly radioactive (half-life 5 years). The nucleus now emits beta and gamma radiations. When the Cobalt nucleus emits a beta ray one of the neutrons within changes into a proton. As the nucleus now contains 28 Protons and 32 Neutrons it is transformed into Nickel 60 which is produced in an excited state, which decays to its ground state by the emission of x-rays and is then stable or non-radioactive. From its artificial birth then the Co60 atom emits three types of radiation. If this process were to take place within the human body it could do untold damage. When we put this to Professor Boddy he stated that Co59 is an essential trace element and is contained in the Vitamin B12. He also said "There seems no reason to suppose that the radiations emitted by Co60 causes the same skin effects as Co59 which is non-radioactive."

As Professor Boddy states Natural Cobalt is present in Vitamin B12. Natural Co59 is then present in foods such as: milk, fish, eggs, beef, beetroot, lettuce and spinach. This is all the more reason why we should be concerned as these foods will provide a pathway into the body. If, for example, a beetroot requires Cobalt, it will not be able to discriminate between natural Co59 and the radioactive Co60 and so will take whatever is available. If food containing Co60 is eaten it would continue to emit radiations inside the body which eventually transforms into Nickel 60 as mentioned earlier.

Dr. Rosalie Bertell, a bio-statistician, carried out a survey on the effects of X-rays on pregnant mothers. She discovered that babies born to mothers who were X-rayed were more likely to contract an allergic illness, e.g. Asthma, Eczema etc. Medical Authorities accepted the fact that X-rays during pregnancy are harmful and this practice ceased many years ago. Medical X-rays are administered externally: It surely must follow that internal X-rays such as those emitted by Nickel 60 would be at least as damaging, if not more so!

Natural Cobalt has a special function in the lumen of the digestive tract (*1). If Co60 were to

be present in the lumen would this have any effect on the secretory IgA antibodies also present in the lumen? The cause of Eczema is said to be the over production of antibodies or an over-reaction of the immune defence system which in turn causes the skin to erupt into a rash. Would the actions of the IgA antibodies be stimulated or influenced in any way whatsoever by the presence of the emitted radiations from Co60 or its decay product Nickel 60?

As previously stated, Natural Cobalt is contained in Vitamin B12 and is absolutely essential to human beings. If radioactive Co60 were to be present in the B12 molecule instead of the Natural Cobalt 59 and were to transform into Nickel, what effect would this have on the B12 molecule itself?

Natural Cobalt and Nickel have historically the most appalling track record in causing certain illnesses — i.e., Eczema, Dermatitis, etc. However, Mr. Boddy appears to imply that the man-made radioactive varieties are not as toxic as the naturally created elements. If certain amounts of Natural Cobalt and Natural Nickel can cause the following illnesses, then it must naturally follow that the man-made radioactive Cobalt and Nickel MUST be more hazardous if they enter the human body and become involved in its metabolism.

COBALT

Examples of Toxic Properties

Co59 (Natural) and its salts would appear to have a cumulative toxic action under conditions in which elimination cannot keep pace with absorption (*2). It is now generally believed that polycythemia produced by Cobalt is attributable to an irritant property of the element (*3).

Present evidence indicates that Cobalt can exert a variety of physiological activities, and these activities are manifested at various levels of tissue Cobalt concentration. Apart from the indirect actions of Cobalt as part of vitamin B12, one of whose actions is believed to be the regulation of tissue of Sulphydryl concentration, the intimate mechanism of many activities of Cobalt is, as yet, undisclosed (*4).

Cobalt has been reported to cause an increase in phosphate turnover in both RNA and DNA and to speed up the hydrolytic rate of certain enzymes for peptide derivatives (*5).

Cobalt was unexpectedly found to be the cause of severe liaisons in cardiac muscle and of causing hypothyroidism and thyroid hyperplasia in drinkers of beer, to which had been added the foam stabilizer Cobalt SO4. The unusual type of myocardiopathy was recognised in 1965-1966 in Quebec, Minneapolis, Leuven and Omaha and was responsible for 50 deaths among 112 beer drinkers. The recovery of cases after Cobalt had been removed from the beer offered convincing evidence that Cobalt was the sole cause of the deaths (*6).

In a survey which took place in Finland on Cobalt workers it was found that 16.6% suffered from Eczema. The results suggested a positive link between Cobalt and the incidence of Eczema (*7).

Co60 is discharged in very large amounts into the sea by Nuclear Power Stations, Ministry of Defence Establishments, and Nuclear Reprocessing Plants.

NICKEL (Natural)

Examples of TOXIC Properties

The National Academy of Sciences Report No. 1080 on the toxicity of Nickel devoted 45 pages to Nickel Carcinogenicity, 15 pages to skin diseases and 2 pages to reproduction effects. Since the publication date, in 1975, more reports have appeared on the mechanism of Nickel action pertaining to Nickel Allergy, Cancer, and Lymphocyte inhibition.

Nickel Dermatitis appears to have two components, a simple rash in the area of contact, and a chronic Eczema or neuro dermatitis without apparent connection to such contact. Nickel sensitivity, once acquired is likely to persist (*8).

Nickel can apparently cross the human placenta and has been found in human foetal tissue and in cord serum from 12 newborn babies. The concentrations of Nickel were found to be identical in the cord serum and the mothers serum immediately after delivery (*9). Nickel ions exert profound effects on genetic material.

Nickel was found tightly bound to the nucleic acid molecule RNA upon its isolation from various tissue sources (*10). The potential dramatic impact of Nickel on genetic material and a basis for its carcinogenicity may reside in its capacity to depolymerize the macromolecule RNA in which Nickel is bound to phosphate and heterocyclic bases, by rupture of the phosphate-ester bonds upon warming (*11).

SUMMARY

Finally, just one or two more points need to be made quite clear before closing this text.

Natural Cobalt (Co59) is termed a *sensitizing substance* which can penetrate the barrier layer of skin (*12) which gives an added pathway into the body besides ingestion and inhalation.

Cobalt radiations are also used in transplant surgery to *suppress* or slow down the *immune defence system* (*13). When the immune system is suppressed or slowed down the body is open to any disease whatsoever. If Co60 discharged from the NUCLEAR Industry were to enter the human body could this same effect take place?

Furthermore, if it were to transform into Nickel at the critical moment, could this then throw the immune defences into a complete turmoil? Could the previously suppressed immune system go to the other extreme by over producing antibodies, the effect which causes Eczema.

Professor Maurice Lessof is chairman of a Joint Committee of the Royal College of Physicians and the British Nutrition Foundation. In reply to our queries on Co60 and Nickel 60 he stated: "It is true that certain Metals have been associated with a tendency to provoke allergic reactions in special circumstances, when they are linked to other substances. A great deal of work is going on in this department at present to try and establish the mechanisms involved." Professor Lessof obviously realises the complexity of the immune defence system, unlike Professor Boddy, who dismisses our queries out of hand and would even appear to imply that Co60 and Nickel 60 are "essential trace elements along with the Natural varieties of the same!"

Note: Reference to Cobalt radiations used by the Medical Profession in transplant surgery. No health hazards whatsoever can occur, regarding this type of surgery. The use of Cobalt radiations is under strict Health and Safety regulations which are adhered to and pursued by the Medical Profession, unlike the NUCLEAR Industry.

THE ISLAND EXPERIMENT?

One of the most publicised statements of 1984 is John Dunsters, now famous "Experiment Speech".

In 1958, John Dunster, former designer in chief of the Radio Active discharge programme at WINDSCALE and present day head of the National Radiological Protection Board, told delegates to an International conference that the U.K. was conducting a controlled EXPERIMENT to monitor the effects and movements of radionuclides in the marine environment. To minimise the discharges, Dunster said, would be to risk obtaining less meaningful RESULTS.

This revelation first appeared in the "New Statesman" 18/11/83 in an article by James Cutler, the producer of the T.V. documentary, "WINDSCALE the NUCLEAR LAUNDRY". No explanation of this statement has been forthcoming from either the Nuclear industry nor Dunster himself. We have written to Dunster on three occasions, with no reply to any of our correspondence.

If we look closely at some aspects of the Cap de la Hague and Windscale reprocessing plants some rather surprising facts come to light. Cap de la Hague and Windscale are the only two Commercial reprocessing plants in the world.

If we first look at the site location of each plant. Both of these plants are very close to Island communities: Cap de la Hague has the four Channel Islands within a 33 mile radius: Alderney 12 miles, Sark 28 miles, Guernsey 30 miles, and Jersey 33 miles. Windscale has the Isle of Man at 32 miles. Cap de la Hague has always discharged very low amounts of radioactive waste when compared with Windscale. Jersey is equidistant from Cap as is the I.O.M. Population 65,000. Jersey Population 75,000.

The peak of discharges from Cap de la Hague was in 1974.

The peak of discharges from Windscale was in 1975.

If we look at these facts it would seem to present a unique opportunity to monitor health effects on both communities in order to set "absolute limits" of discharge and we believe that this was carried out between the years of 1966 and 1975. If the two plants discharged radioactive waste into the environment raising and lowering them from year to year and then up to a peak. And health effects being monitored, rose and fell at the same ratio or % then it would present irrefutable evidence of radioactivity reaching the population. It is perhaps another coincidence that WINDSCALE's discharges

rapidly declined after 1975 as if evidence of health effects had come to light around that time. An amazing set of coincidences or a deliberate SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT?

It should also be noted that the two countries involved in the above experiments (the British and French) have worked together, both in the past and at present on many High Tech experimental ventures.

Footnote: The experiment mentioned above, involving Mann, has since been admitted.

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Many of the conclusions drawn in this article have since been vindicated according to the publishers of this paper.

P.B.

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I would like to thank most of our contributors for their tremendous efforts in meeting the due date for submission of articles for this issue. Our next deadline for Carn 50 will be May 12th.

As for this issue, articles in the Celtic languages should be submitted before the deadline where possible. Photographs, original illustrations, artwork and satirical cartoons would be appreciated.

PAT BRIDSON

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