

celtin

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

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- Celtic Organisations Abound - Can They Co-operate?
- Underhand War on Breton
- For a Welsh National Theater
- Mebyon Kernow Survey
- Reuyrey Ayns Ellan
- Employment Discrimination in the North of Ireland
- Human Rights Concerns in Mannin
- Celtic League Military Monitoring Report

ALBA: COMUNN
CEILTEACH • **BREIZH:** KEVRE
KELTEK • **CYMRU:** UNDEB
CELTAIDD • **ÉIRE:**
CONRADH CEILTEACH •
KERNOW: KESUNYANS
KELTEK • **MANNIN:**
COMMEEYS CELTIAGH

CELTIC LEAGUE



ALBA

Cruinneachadh Sgoilearachd nan Ceilteach an Dun Eideann

Stèidhich Eamon de Valera, nach maireann, an Cruinneachadh seo, iomadach bliadhna air ais. Thionail a' chiad Cruinneachadh de'n luchd-oilthigh ann am Baile Átha Cliath a h-uile ceithir bliadhna an deidh sin, an siud 's an seo.

Chruinnich an coinneamh ann am Paris 'sa bhliadhna 1991 agus bha an cruinneachadh air a chumail am bliadhna ann an Dun Eideann san Tallachan Pollock; agus abair gun d'rinn iad turas math dheth!

Thàinig sgoilearan à oilthighean feadh 30 dhùthchannan mar Ruisia, A' Phòlainn, An Ungair, Na Stàitean Aonaichte, An t-Seapan, Astràlia, An Spàinn, Suòmi, Romàinia, An Isealtir, A' Ghearmailt, An Fhraing 7c... agus gun teagamh na sia tìrean Ceilteach—Alba, A' Bhreatainn Bhig, An t-Eilean Mhanainn, A' Chòrn, Eirinn, A' Chuimrigh...

Bha 510 sgoilearan ann agus faisg air ceud aoigh. Leugh iad 240 pàipearan sgoilearachd thairis air còig làithean rè na mìos Lunasdail... Dheasaich an Roinn Cheilteach, Oilthigh Dhun Eideann an tachartas seo fad 18 mìosan...

Abair gun robh an Cruinneachadh seo iongantach gun teagamh sam bith! Abair gun robh e na adhbhar-ionghnaidh 500 sgoilearan Ceilteach ainmeil fhacinn tighinn a-mach as na naoi Tallachan Pollock... a h-uile 40 mionnaid an deidh gach òraid... abair gun robh an còmradh acu dìreach iongantach... dìreach miorbhuileach...

Ach, a' dh'aindeoin sin, sheachainn an TV, radio 7 pàipearan-naidheachd aig luchd na Beurla a' chùis uile gu leir... mi-rùn... gun teagamh mi-rùn. Ge b'oil leibh, thug dithis a bha ann am buill a' Chruinneachadh, Hugh Dan MacLennan agus Mary Beith, iomradh air na bha a' tachairt... agus thàinig sgioba TV Frangach ann cuideachd... agus Murdo MacLeod à Radio nan Gàidheal... ach sheachainn luchd na Beurla an tachartas ainmeil seo...

Mata, dè na cuspairean a bha na sgoilearan a' leughadh agus a' deasbaireachadh air? Agus an robh na

cuspairean aca luachmhor agus freagarrach?... Chì sinn...

Anns an fharsaingeachd, bha pàipearan air an leughadh air a' mhòr-chuid de foghlam nan Ceilteach an diugh agus sna làithean a dh'aom.

Mar eisimpleir, chuala sinn eachdraidh nan Ceilteach nuair an do nochd Dr Marek Oledski à Oilthigh Łódź anns A' Phòlainn gun robh na Ceiltich air a' chiad phoball a thàinig a-steach don Phòlainn. No nochd Dr Luis Berrocal-Rangel, a tha a' teagaisg seann-eachdraidh an t-àrceolas no àrsaireachd (archaeology) ann an Oilthigh Madrid, gun robh Strabo is Pliny ceart go leòr a thaobh imrich nan Ceilteach a dh'fhalbh o thaobh gu taobh den Spàinn is den Phortagail.

Innsidh sinn gu bheil sin uamhasach inntinneach, ach ciamar a bhiodh am foghlam seo freagarrach do sabhaileadh agus do sgaoileadh ar cànan 's ar ciùil 's an latha an diugh?

Bha pàipearan air an leughadh cuideachd air cuspairean Ceilteach mar eachdraidh, fionnsgeul (fable), diadhachd, litreachas sna cànanean Ceilteach; seann-lagh agus sean eòlas-leighis nan Ceilteach agus mar sin air adhart...

'S urrainn dhuinn aon rud a ràdh nuair a bha Seapanach a' leughadh gun robh onair is nàire cho cudthromach a-measg nan gaisgeach Ceilteach agus mar a bha e a-measg nan laoiach Seapanach! Chanaimid nach do bhuin sin ri aiseirigh na Gàidhlig no cànan Ceilteach eile!

Ach cha robh a h-uile sgoilear a' toirt foisrachadh nach robh a' buntainn ri aiseirigh nan cànan Ceilteach. 'S e Gàidheal a tha ann am Mike Kennedy a' buntainn do Prince Edward Island ann an Canada an Ear. Tha e ag obair ann an Sgoil Eòlas na h-Albainn ann an Oilthigh Dhun Eideann. Arsa esan gu bheil e seachd sgith mar leis gu bheil na Gàidheil cho cinnteach gu bheil a' chànan agus an dualchas aca aig oir na dualchas Beurla an àite teismeachan na cultur Gàidhlig.

Ach sin tulasgan na firinn! Tha sinn air iomall na Beurla gus am bi cròileagan ri fhaotainn air son gach pàisde Albannach aois 2 1/2 bliadhna gu còig bliadhna nuair a ruigeas an leanabh aois sgoile far am bi a h-uile teagasg tre na Gàidhlig agus mar sin air adhart tre cholasde agus oilthigh agus ar cànan a' cur an àite na Beurla feadh Alba gu leir... agus na dùthchannan Ceilteach eile mar an ceudna leis na cànanean acu!

Chan eile sin cho neònach idir. Tha e mar sin anns a h-uile riochachd eadar Portageil is A' Ghrèig agus eadar an t-Suain is an Eadailt! Tha na cànanean acu fhèin agus fèin-riaghladh acu cuideachd.

Bha fearas-cuideachd aig na sgoilearan agus aig na aoighean mar an ceudna... mar cheilidh sònraichte agus "blasadh an uisge-beatha" air an robh ainmean Gàidhlig coltach ri "Tè Bheag" agus mar sin air adhart.

Cùmaidh iad an ath Cruinneachadh Ceilteach sgoilearachd ann an Corgaigh (Cork) an Eirinn sa bhliadhna 1999 agus an deidh sin sa bhliadhna 2003 ann an Harvard sna Stàitean Aonaichte.

Chì sinn sa chuibhreann sa Bheurla a leanas far a bheil leabhar a' Chruinneachaidh sna Tallachan Pollock ri fhaotainn.

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich (Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig)

The most recent International Congress of Celtic Studies was held this August in Edinburgh and its proceedings are discussed at length in the above article. However a selection of the most outstanding papers will be obtainable in book form called "Celtic Connection" at the prepublication price of £15 from Tuckwell Press, The Mill House, Phantassie, East Linton, East Lothian, EH40 3DG, Scotland.

CNSA

Having spread, albeit thinly, throughout Scotland, the Gaelic revival appears to be moving South into England. Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich (CNSA) the Gaelic pre-school council have announced their intention to establish at least one Gaelic medium nursery in London this year. CNSA have also revealed their desire to

establish other operations in England within the next five years. Proposed are pre-3 family resource centres and full-time nurseries in Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle, Plymouth, Leeds, Hull, Liverpool and Bristol.

While this initiative may seem strange at first, CNSA have pointed out that there are large numbers of people living in England who were either born in or are connected through family with Scotland. The 1991 census figures suggest that around three quarters of a million Scots reside in England in addition to around two million people with Scottish family connections. Organisations like Gàidhlig aig Deas and the Gaelic Society of London are also likely to be of help in CNSA's endeavours. The Gaelic learners body Comann an Luchd Ionnsachaidh also have a considerable number of members in England.

In Scotland the growth of CNSA pre-school groups has been impressive. In 1994, CNSA attracted 2500 children. There is no time for complacency however and more groups and children are always needed. If you want further information about CNSA or wish to make a donation, write to: Mr Fionnlaigh M. MacLeod, Chief Executive CNSA, 53 Church Street, Inverness IV1 1DR.

Alasdair MacCaluim

Guth na Gàidhlig

A quarterly newspaper in Gaelic was launched by the Highland News Group in April 1995. The second issue, published in July 1995 says that there has been a "tremendous response" to the paper. The large number of adverts contained in Guth na Gàidhlig is an encouraging sign for its future. While the great majority of the paper is in Gaelic, it also contains sufficient English to appeal to non-Gaelic speakers who want information on the Gaelic world.

Hopefully this paper will go some way to providing a central focus for information from the various Gaelic bodies, a focus which is needed urgently given the compartmentalised nature of the Gaelic movement.

If you want details, write to Guth na Gàidhlig, HNG, 13 Henderson Road, Inverness, IV1 1SP.

Alasdair MacCaluim

L'Avenir de la Bretagne

Monthly, for a free Brittany in the Europe of the Peoples. Subs. 180F/200F outside State to BP 4103, 22041 Saint-Brieuc Cedex 2.

In the July-August issue M. Texier has an article titled "Le Rayonnement de la France" which suggests a natural association with radiance and radiation. He quotes a few of the shining lights which have exalted that country's special place in the order of things: Rivarol (18th Century): "What is not clear is not French". V. Hugo (19th C.): "Without you, France, the world would feel alone". De Gaulle: "France is the light of the world." "There is not a place in the world where men have not, in every moment, their eyes focused on us" Mitterand: "A just and generous France can light the way for the march of mankind." Say it often enough and...

Left Nationalist Publications

Socialists supporting an independent Scotland have never been served better by magazines, newsletters and journals than at present. Here are a list of publications likely to be of interest to left Carn readers

Scottish Workers' Republic

This is the organ of the Scottish Republican Socialist Party. The SRSP's aims are: 1) An independent workers republic of Scotland; 2) Workers' control of industry, distribution and consumption and 3) a non-aligned nuclear-free Scotland. While Scottish Workers' Republic is published irregularly, it is still well worth reading. SWR is always scathingly critical of the dreaded Brit-Left and is frequently very funny. As well as articles relating to independence, SWR often looks at other national struggles, the anti-nuclear movement and significant issues in Scottish History. If you want to know more, write to: Scottish Workers' Republic, c/o Box No 41, Alba Publications, 133 London Road, Glasgow G2 2AW.

Liberation

Liberation, the left nationalist quarterly costs Stg.£8 per year. It aims to inform, stimulate debates and encourage actions in support of a radical independent Scotland. Most of its editorial team are SNP members. Liberation's brand of socialism is green, feminist and internationalist. Their address is Liberation, PO Box 474, Edinburgh, EH11 2TQ.

Scottish Marxist Voice and Alert Scotland

These are the journals of the Communist Party of Scotland which was founded in 1992 following the break-up of the CPGB. The CPS, which previously favoured strong home rule within the UK, decided upon independence for Scotland in 1994. Scottish Marxist Voice is a quarterly theoretical journal whereas Alert Scotland is a bi-monthly newsletter concentrating on topical items. A years subscription to Scottish Marxist Voice costs Stg.£6 and a years subscription to Alert Scotland Stg.£4. Write to SMV or Alert Scotland at 2 Merkland Street, Glasgow G11 6DB.

Scottish Socialist Movement Bulletin

The Scottish Socialist Movement was founded in 1989 and aims to bring socialists from different parties together. Members include supporters of the SNP, the Green Party, the CPS, Militant and Labour. It seeks to link the struggle for Scottish self-government to feminism, environmentalism and internationalism. Scottish self-determination is not merely tactical or tagged on to a Brit Left agenda, it is central to the Socialist Movement. As well as addressing topical issues of the day like water privatisation, the anti-M77 motorway campaign and the dreaded Criminal Justice Act, the SSM Bulletin also discusses long term and more theoretical issues. Many of these are likely to be of interest to Carn readers. The struggle for Scottish self-government is discussed very frequently as are national liberation movements in countries like Ireland, Palestine, Bosnia, Chechnia and East-Timor. The anti-nuclear movement also features regularly. The Bulletin is published around 9 times a year. Membership (including subscription to SSM Bulletin) or subscription without membership costs Stg.£12 per annum waged, Stg.£6 low-waged and Stg.£4 unwaged. Their address is Scottish Socialist Movement, PO Box 980, Glasgow G14 9QQ.

Alasdair MacCaluim

Celtic Organisations Abound - Can They Co-operate?

The spread of organisations which celebrate, investigate or exploit the Celtic inheritance is testament to its increasing strength. This summer has seen every indication that much of the scholarship, celebration and future plans of the various organisations could well benefit from some rationalisation of effort.

The music scene has paved the way through arts and popular traditions to build links that act as a cement for many other developments. The work of individual political groups and language activists in each Celtic land was inspired to co-operate more vigorously in the early 1970s by Alan Stivell who called for a great Celtic revival. Many answered the call, including pipe band championships, summer music schools, the seventy year old Festival de Cornouaille responded, Lorient Interceltic Festival is now twenty-five years old. Celtic Connections in Glasgow for three years followed the Celtic Film and TV Festival. Two umbrella groups, the Celtic Congress has been going since 1947, and the Celtic League since 1961.

Indeed the 18th International Congress of Celtic Studies has just finished in Edinburgh. With some 510 official delegates from thirty countries and 240 papers read between major debating sessions, this five day event is another landmark in understanding our Celtic roots. The last Congress was in Paris, and its four year cycle takes it to Cork in 1999 and Harvard in 2003. There is, if anything an increased international interest in Celtic culture which is being cemented at a most practical level between Strathclyde and Aberdeen Universities in Scotland with Trinity College, Dublin. These universities have forged an agreement for students following Celtic Studies courses to spend time in other universities in the Celtic countries. They call it the Celtic Crescent.

At the Lorient Interceltic Festival in August, it was announced that the Universities of Brest and Rennes will be joining in, and feelers are also being put out to Welsh institutions to ensure that the disciplines including history, literature and in future the study of politics will actually lead to the closing of the communications gap which academics perceive as hampering the Celtic image. They are giving a weighty lead to emphasise its vitality and importance to our collective futures.

It gives me even greater pleasure that the idea of Celtic music, which though largely undefined, has a wide recognition factor and strong identity as previously reported in *Carn*, the Celtic Connections

Festival in January '95 enthused 50,000 participants in the depths of Glasgow.

The Festival de Cornouaille celebrated the arrival of the Scottish bagpipes in Brittany and underlined the Celtic connection with Dan ar Bras, gold disc winning production, "Heritage des Celtes"; Lorient's 25th anniversary focused on Scotland as did the Festival de Cinema in Douarnenez in August.

The big question has to be asked, can there be more co-operation between all the parties to build stronger lines of communications? Take for example the subject matter of the Celtic Congress meeting in Lorient, the week before the Interceltic Festival. "Human Rights and the Celtic Countries". Surely there has to be some rationalisation of effort. I'm not saying that all such vigorous effort should merge, far from it, debate and diversity of approach are vital components in the health of the Celtic nations. Because various organisations are increasingly treading the same ground the need to review what can be achieved in both governmental and non-governmental co-operation moves into focus.

Since the Celtic League made the first moves to focus on the political and cultural freedom of the Celtic nations it seems to be time for us to make the first moves in the lead up to the millennium to explore the possibilities of inter-Celtic co-operation amongst the growing band of organisations and groupings. This is all the more urgent as at the practical level the EU sponsored *Arc Atlantique* has a major platform opportunity for aspiring Celts.

In the ground breaking series "*How to be Celtic*" produced by Douglas Eadie and directed by Mike Alexander for Channel 4 in 1984 it was Alan Stivell who summed up the issue when he said: "being in love with the Celtic culture and being proud to be a Celt, I want the Celtic civilisation to live on in the next century and next centuries; so I think the only way of surviving is in common, to insist on what is in common between all the Celtic nations. And because, maybe we have lost something passing the year 2000 what we have to keep alive is what is most original in the Celtic civilisation. And then it is what we have in common in every type of thing, in music, in the arts, in language, but in politics we might arrive at having a federation of Celtic republics. This is the only way of surviving for Scotland, Ireland, Brittany and Wales."

Rob Gibson

Of Salmon and Sodger

Some of the English settlers in our countries have their own ideas about "Celtic" culture and even think they can teach the natives something. The following piece is from Louis Mair of Garioch, Alba. RAF Kinloss and the Findhorn Community are both in the Moray region of Scotland.

What do you say when an alien offers to sell you your own culture? He did not mean to be rude; he would claim to be well educated; am I perhaps missing something in this strange affair?

A supposedly internationalist spiritual community is built next door to a powerful military complex. The military machine is funded by the most successful of the world's imperial powers. Who funded the "just here by co-incidence" community of saints?

Can the natives be expected to find spiritual fulfilment in the shadow of their colonial masters? Well, there are always those who instinctively defer to the bully. In my country we call them Ranger's fans, among other things.

Although the Kirk of Latterday Mumbo Jumbo had many quiet years, the money kept coming in. Now they have the confused city kids queuing up at the doors. The slightly educated local lackeys are willing to pay for the privilege of hearing an "expert" tell them about Celtic culture. Those who live under the old Law and tradition will know the ancient definition of an expert. We have striven for long years to find insights into the fundamental knowledge which is there for all. "Seek and you shall find," but not for free, nothing of value can come from the land without a struggle. No birth without pain. If an expert had gone to all this travail and truly understood our culture, would they offer this knowledge to any stranger who crossed their palm with a likeness of the empress?

The fools who pay for such sacred knowledge lack the wisdom to appreciate it. Their teacher in accepting their money breaks the very Law they claim to be expert in. The wisdom of past generations is timeless; as pure and true today as it was when the first poem was told:

X is an undiscovered measure,
SPURT is a drip under pressure.
To every coo her calkie.

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BREIZH

Emvod Dibenn-Sizhun en Inis Oírr

Abaoe pemp bloaz e vez aozet bep bloaz un emvod dibenn-sizhun gant Conradh na Gaeilge en unan eus ar gouezelvaou. Ar pal eo lakaat an annezidi da welet ez eus iwerzhonegerien c'hredus e lec'hioù all dre ar vro ha reiñ tu d'ar remañ ivez da anaout gwelloc'h ar plegennoù ma vev an dud-se.

En Inis Oírr (dist. Inis 'i:r), an hini eus Inizi Aran zo an tostañ da g-Kontelezh An Clár, e oa an emvod hevlene e miz Gouere. 120 den deuet eus an diavaez o kemer perzh. Evit mont di e c'haller kemer ul lestrig a ya bemdez eus Dúlain, ur pennkêr eus An Clár ma vez klevet kalz sonerezh iwerzhonat, pe ur c'harr-nij e Conamara. A-drugarez d'an ostalerioù ha d'an tiez prevez a ginnig lojeiz e c'haller chom eno da dremen meur a zevezh mar karer. Un draezhenn vrav zo evit ar re a gar neuñviñ. Met bihan eo an enezenn. N'eus ken nemet 200 den o chom eno da vat.

Hervez un enklask graet da vare an emvod n'eus nemet daou di ma ne vez ket komzet iwerzhoneg. Mestrez unan anezho a skrive n'eus ket pell d'an Irish Times o klemm na fell ket d'an dud komz saozneg ouzh he familh hag o tamall dezho ober gant an iwerzhoneg e-sell da gaout ar skoazelloù arc'hant a vez roet gant ar Stad d'an iwerzhonegerien er Gouezelva, evit sevel pe adaozañ tiez da skouer; ahendall, gouez dezhi, e rafent ken buan gant ar saozneg. Dislavaret krenn e voe gant ur c'henskriver all. E gwirionez ne vir ket ar skoazelloù-se ouzh an darn vrasañ eus tud Conamara a sevel o bugale e saozneg. Ha nebeut a dra a vez kinniget d'ar re yaouank gant ar skinwel hag ar video en iwerzhoneg, betek-henn da vihanañ, un abeg ouzhpenn da saoznegañ. Koulskoude e teu miliadoù ha miliadoù a vugale eus pep korn a Iwerzhon da bleustriñ an iwerzhoneg e skolioù-hañ savet un tamm e pep lec'h er Gouezelva, hag e-leizh a oadourien a zeu ivez en arbenn a se. Ma'z a da goll evel yezh an darempredoù pemdeziek e kollo an tiegezhioù ma vez lojet an hañvourien-se un tamm mat eus o gounidegezh. Ha ne vern ket dezho?

Arvar zo na vefe prenet muioc'h-mui eus douar ar Gouezelva gant estrenien

gouest da baeañ prizioù uheloc'h eget tud ar vro. Kement a gozhidi dizimez ha divugel zo bremañ e kornôg Iwerzhon ha kar ebet dezho o kas dont da chom en o lec'h! Ma vern d'ar Stad e kendalc'hfe remziadoù iwerzhonegerien da vevañ eno e tlefe lezenniñ evit herzel ouzh alouberezh diavaezidi na reont forzh gant ar yezh. Aotreet e vefe gant an Unaniezh Europat a-hervêz.

Ur prezeger all a zisplegas pegen gwan e oa aet an iwerzhoneg e Corca Duibhne, ar gouezelva bihan e penn pellañ al ledenez en em astenn er c'hornôg da d-Trá Lí. Saozneg an hini a vez gant ar vugale e porzhioù ar skol hag er c'hirri-boutin o tont d'ar gêr. "Din-me", eme an den-se hag a zesav e re en iwerzhoneg du-hont e Dún Chaoin, "e lavaront n'eo ket flour ha tonius ar yezh-se (evel ma'z eo ar saozneg na petra'ta) - níl an Ghaeilge cool." N'o doa ger iwerzhonek ebet evit "cool"... Penaos o lakaat da drec'hiñ war ar seurt santad pa'z eo merk an dreistpouez en deus kemeret ar "sevenadur" saoz-amerikan e buhez an holl dud yaouank koulz lavaret hag e koller e vignoned ma ned eer ket evelto gant ar c'hiz? Ne c'hall ket an iwerzhonegerien yaouank - hag un heñvel dra eo gant ar vrezhonegerien 'm eus aon - mirout krenn-ha-krenn a ober "evel an holl", anez bezañ youlek ha kalonek pe bezañ bodet alies ha bevañ a-gevret un darn vat eus an amzer gant desavourien gouest da vagañ enno fealded d'o yezh ha lorc'h ganti. Peurvuiañ n'eo nemet goude ma vez tremenet an oad-krenn pe da vihanañ ar gaezougezh e teu an den da vout start a-walc'h en e demz evit ober diouzh e vennozh e-keñver yezh koulz hag e mod all

A.H.

Summary

Conradh na Gaeilge organises every Summer a gathering of Irish-speakers from other parts of Ireland in one of the Gaeltachtaí. This year it was in one of the Aran Islands, Inis Oírr. Here Irish is still in a strong position, this however risks being undermined, as is happening on other Gaeltachtaí, unless special legislation is adopted to prevent a chequered conquest by indifferent outsiders. (Source Anois)

Nebeutoc'h a bouez d'ar galleg...

Gant Servij Bedel ar BBC e vez skignet programmoù e meur a yezh evit brudañ mennozhioù ar gouarnamant breizhveuriat e-touez ar pobloù a fell dezhañ kaout levezon warno. War ali Maodierniezh an Aferioù Diavaez eo dreist-holl e vez divizet pegement a amzer a dleer gouestlañ d'ar programmoù er yezh-mañ-yezh ha peseurt leviadurezh a dleont displegañ er c'heñver-mañ-keñver, o telc'her kont eus hollad an arc'hant deroet d'ar Servij a vloaz da vloaz.

Se zo bet pouezus d'ar Saozon keit ha ma padas ar Brezel Yen. Da skouer, pa savas bec'h e Polonia e-tro 1980 hag e voe lakaet ur Poloniad da bab e voe kresket niver an eurvezhioù skignet e poloneg gant skinva ar BBC e Berlin. Bremañ ma n'eo ket mui rannet ar bed e daou gamp bras kealoniell ha ma'z eo disteraet galloud Breizh-Veur n'eo ket mui ken chalet paotred London da lakaat anaout o sav-boent e kornioù pellañ ar bed. Ret eo krennañ an dispignoù foran ha dibab mat eta ar broioù ma fell dezho e ve klevet o mouezh. Met n'eo ket diouzh ar seurt renadur politikel a vez e penn ur vro e vez divizet, diouzh niver an dud a gomz pe a gompren he yezh ne lavaran ket.

E pep bro eus ar c'hevandir europat ez eo bremañ ar saozneg an eil yezh pouezusañ, ha se dreist-holl abaoe m'o deus kroget kompagnunezhioù skinwel amerikan evel CNN da bellgas a-hed hag a-dreuz ar rannved-mañ. Talvout a ra koulskoude skignañ e yezhoù all ivez. O vezañ ma teu bremañ ar galleg war-lerc'h an alamaneg evit an niver a Europiz yaouank a oar ar yezhoù-se, ez eo bet divizet krennañ kalz an amzer gouestlet da programmoù e galleg skignet gant ar BBC war-du ar broioù europat.

Evit Afrika n'eo ket heñvel. Er c'hevandir-se ez eo ar galleg ar yezh "etrebroadel" muiañ anavezet, setu n'eo ket bet krennet an niver a eurvezhioù gallek skignet war-du ar c'hevandir-se. N'eus ket bet a zigresk kennebeut en niver a programmoù BBC e spagnoleg, ar yezh etrebroadel a zalc'h startañ ouzh emled ar saozneg en darn vrasañ eus an Trede Bed,

pergen e Kreiz-hag e Su-Amerika, hag e lec'hioù zo en Antilhez zoken ma kemer plas ar yezh-se.

Perak ne aoz ket ar BBC programmoù gallek a c'hallfed pellgas war-du kevandir Europa koulz hag Afrika? Daoust hag ez eo en abeg ma n'eo ket gant an hevelep danvez e vefe dedennet ar selaouerien-arvesterien hag e vefe koll efedusted oc'h ober evel-se? Hag e kav talvoudusoc'h renerien ar BBC stummañ Europiz eget tud Afrika diouzh o doare-gwelet dre hanteouriezh ar saozneg? Hañval eo ez int mennet da gemer muioc'h a blas diwar goust ar galleg e broioù europat ma oa ar yezh-mañ anavezet mat evel eil yezh betek-henn.

Gant harp gouarnamant Pariz e striv ar skingaserezh gall da gevezañ gant ar skingaserezh saoz-amerikan. A dra sur n'eus gouarnamant all ebet er bed a-bezh hag a vefe ken gredus da zifenn ha da astenn an dachenn gounezet da yezh ar vro leuriadet gantañ. Gwashañ 'zo, seul vui ma vezo lakaet ar gounid-se en arvar seul startoc'h e klasko mirout ouzh ar brezhoneg a adc'hounit tachenn. Dale'homp da stourm en ur ober fae war ar re a garfe reiñ da grediñ n'emañ ket mui ar Stad c'hall enep hor yezh. O stourm eo e vez goveliet ur vroad nevez!

A Heusaff

Geriou nebeut anavezet

Kealoniell: ideological; kevandir: douar-bras; skingaserezh: reizhiad skingomz ha skinwel; leuriadet: renet dre zileuriadur.

Summary

According to the Irish language weekly ANOIS (29-30/7/95) the BBC World Service has decided to reduce the time devoted to broadcasts in French for its European listeners. English and German are now more widely known than French as second languages throughout the continent.

Galv d'an holl Vretoned

N' on-me na Breton nag ezel eus Diwan met ur c'henvroad kelt eus Galisia. Ren a ra Diwan un emgann tenn evit Breizh hag ar brezhoneg. Met ezhomm en deus ac'hanomp. Grit evel don, Bretoned. Kemerit ur voestig, ha pa brenit bara, sigaretennoù, hag all, lakit "ar pezhioù melen" e-barzh. Pa vo leun, lakit c'hoazh ur bilhed, 100 lur da skouer, ha kasit an arc'hant da z-Diwan, Z.A. Sant-Ernel, BP156, 29411 Landerne.

Evel-se e vo skoazellet Diwan ganeoc'h.

J. Calvete (A Galician Celt with a good knowledge of Breton)

REMEMBER THEM

A Breton People's National Day was celebrated in various ways in numerous places throughout Brittany on June 6.

In An Oriant/Lorient a wreath was laid at the Monument to the Dead of the first World War, to commemorate the 240,000 men killed in the name of France. "This was not our war," said a spokesman. "It had terrible consequences for the number of Breton speakers and the future of our language..."

The figure of 240,000 killed in the 1st World War has generally been accepted as correct. In 1926, in a display of loyalty to France, all the députés and senators of the five departments signed a statement asserting "in the name of the 250,000 Bretons who died so that France might live" that no province was more attached than Brittany to France.

Recently revisionist historians, including one of the co-authors of a History of Brittany published by Skol Vreizh (an association of State school teachers favourable to the teaching of Breton), have criticised the Breton nationalists for putting the figure too high and they have themselves put it at 120,000. Others think it should be about 150,000.

However in the Breton-Language quarterly AL LANV (March 1995), Divi gKervella discusses the official figures and come to the conclusion that the total well exceeded 150,000. Judging by census figures for 1911 and 1921 and allowing for

other factors such as emigration (10,000 a year on average other than during the war), there was a shortfall of... 240,000! From another calculation based on the number of war dead inscribed monuments in 30 communes, he deduced that the total could be 160,000 but with a total of about 1,500 communes in the country, it is not as conclusive. In any case, it would be 160,000 too many!

State propaganda has accredited the myth that the Bretons went gladly to fight for France. A letter written by a soldier, Jozef an Tieg, who was killed three weeks before the end of the war, tells a very different story.

Translated

"Saturday 8 June 1918

If I had been as free as the air I would have cleared off and said goodbye to France and the day I get a chance to flee I shall do it yet... At the moment what I hope is that the Boches go as far as Le Mans before the end of September then we could have the end... My aim in this war is to save my skin like all those who are fighting here. Whether the Boches take half of France or make it bigger by half my share will always be the same, thus you can imagine what courage we have to get our block knocked off, particularly seeing how we are led (=the sort of leaders we have). It is on us they are making war not the Boche."

Gouel ar Brezhoneg

The 9th Breton language festival took place on June 3/4, as in previous years in Speied, near Karaez. The organisers reckoned it successful as several thousands attended it, attracted by the multiplicity of items - music, dances, singing - offered in the programme. The small town was bedecked with Breton emblems. A bank note in Breton, worth 100 Francs, and bearing the effigy of Bastian ar Balp, leader of the Bonnets Rouges revolt in 1675, was specially printed for the occasion and accepted for payments in shops, pubs etc. Presenters were requested to use French as little as possible. In 90% of the cases they complied readily, but allowance had to be made for the fact that so many of the young people now know little or no Breton. Although the festival is one of the most popular in Brittany, it received only grudging publicity from the daily press and none from television (France 3) although a few images and brief interviews were broadcast from Brest at the beginning of the following week. An event which extols the national character of our culture does not go down well in some quarters... Censorship has its way.



Mona Jaouen one of the singers at Gouel ar Brezhoneg (Courtesy of Combat Breton)

An appeal, "Galv ar Mil", was launched at Gouel ar Brezhoneg with the distribution of a leaflet urging people to sign an undertaking to refuse to pay their TV license when 1000 signatures will have been collected and, on a date to be then specified, to take part in a demonstration to support the demand for a Breton channel. The bilingual form is available from "Galv ar Mil", Kan an Douar, Presbital Kozh, 29530 Landelo.

Underhand War on Breton Stiffening up

In view of the importance of the issue it deals with, we give here the essentials of a statement by the new president of the Union of Breton Teachers, J.D. Robin, published in *Kannadig*, the organ of that association.

He denounces the stiffening of the French Department of Education's opposition to any extension of the teaching of our language

* * *

"When the shepherds fall asleep, the crows venture nearer..."

Some people had begun to think that the French State would go on yielding to our demands and finally open wide the doors of its schools to the teaching of Breton.

They were forgetting that the same State has for more than a century waged a war to eradicate our language once and for all.

The time had come for the crows, dressed as scientists, to proclaim shamelessly and openly that such a war had never taken place, thus diverting attention from its present phase just when the Department of Education "nationale" is doing its utmost to nullify the concessions it had made.

Of course a war needs ideologists to level up the ground for it.

They had kept rather quiet during the past 13 years, embarrassed by a revival of which they denied the existence even though they profited from it. They surfaced again on the occasion of a colloquium on Tregarvan on April 29 to declare that the Republic's schools had never sought to kill the Breton language but only to bring French to the children. The Bretons had themselves given up their language for the sake of their children if we are to believe these great scholars who belong or are close to a political party now expert in revisionism, concerning its own history begin with.

Apparently they plan to have another colloquium next year about "The French Department of Education since the Thirties", probably to prove scientifically that it was the State schools which gave a new lease of life to Breton, in spite of the Bretons themselves...

The mirage of the Savary era is gone

A new period in the history of the relations between Breton and the French State started with a circular issued in 1982

by the minister, Alain Savary. Things have certainly not been easy since then as we had to struggle ceaselessly to get concessions. But if one thinks of what was won, the struggle was worthwhile: the DEUG (=Diploma for General University Studies including Breton), The CAPES (Certificate entitling to appointment as secondary school teacher of Breton), bilingual streams in State schools (now attended by 900 pupils) tests through the medium of Breton in the Brevet (=O-levels) exam and in competitions for school teachers...

The State and its ideologists did not expect, after sowing the seed of shame, cowardice and apathy, that the people, parents, teenagers, children, would warm up in ever greater numbers to the language of their county.

They thought they had succeeded in discouraging them. Still, to make sure, they rejected over 40 parliamentary proposals which would have given legal status to the "regional" languages and they refused to sign any international declaration, charter or convention which would bind them to protect the latter. Whatever about such agreements, by exploiting the crumbs which had to be thrown to us from time to time, the teaching of Breton was bearing fruit.

The State could not tolerate further progress. The time had come for it to stop the advance and then it could claim the results were insignificant.

Time to wake up to what is going on

By signing a contract with *Diwan* settling the association's debts (see *Carn* 87) and issuing a circular on 7/4/95, the Minister of Education, F. Bayrou gave recognition to the teaching of Breton but *at the same time set a limit to its ability to expand*: the contract and the circular, while accepting liability for most *Diwan* teachers' salaries, rule out any further help from the State. Having thus blocked the way to *Diwan*, it can more easily stifle the teaching of Breton in its own schools.

No return to school will have started in such upsetting conditions as in this autumn.

At the primary level, only one teacher has qualified for bilingual teaching in an IUFM (training college); this leaves 7 posts in the existing 12 bilingual schools unprovided for, not counting 2 supplementary posts needed in Rennes.

In the colleges, the chief education officer (Rennes) continues to make the mess as bad as possible: instead of filling posts in accordance with the needs, there will be one less than in the past two years and teachers are diverted to other subjects;

the five new CAPES graduates will not be used to fill posts for which there are not teachers available in spite of the existing demand but to replace teachers who have occupied other posts for many years and who, in spite of their proven ability in the field, are transferred to other subjects.

A New Strategy

It is obvious that the State does not want to have bilingual streams in its secondary schools.

It is easy for it to argue that there are not enough teachers to teach various subjects in Breton, when it has done nothing during the past 13 years to train them.

We recognise the fact that (although the potential is demonstrably there) our college and lycee students are until now not very numerous and that it does not facilitate providing teachers for all sorts of subjects, even if the good will existed in the Administration.

Diwan also faces great difficulties in opening new colleges.

We must think about our aims more carefully:

— Can we consider as bilingual classes which are not given the means to really make the pupils bilingual? In the secondary schools they are "drowned" in a French environment, and they are not taught enough subjects in Breton or the teachers are insufficiently trained for that. In the primary schools, the classes are overloaded, teachers are only half-trained, there is a lack of substitute teachers, of Breton-speaking assistants...

— Or should we endeavour to create a system of truly bilingual streams leading all the way to the "baccalauréat" (Leaving Certificate), by combining our forces (teachers and pupils of 'public' schools and of *Diwan*) in a plan for real Breton colleges and lycees - to be integrated into the State education system if possible, but outside it if they keep refusing the means for a genuinely bilingual education. There is such a plan for the projected College of S and W (Breton) Cornwall - Skolaj Kernev Izel: it has been adopted by the UGB, *Diwan*, APEEB-Divyehz (parents of State school's children) with the backing of the Finistère Department Council. By consigning it, the UGB's administrative Council has shown which of the two options it prefers. And the UGB teachers have expressed the same view to the authorities. Minister Bayrou's circular has not only closed the door on an "era", he has opened it on a new period of struggle.

J.D. Robin

Members of Stourm ar Brezhoneg splashed the doors of France 3 Ouest in Rennes on June 6 with tar in protest against the cancellation of the 3/4 hour Breton TV programme "Chadenn ar Vro" to make time available for the broadcasting of a tennis competition. The programme is suppressed all though the Summer for the sake of broadcasts in foreign languages for tourists. This happens every year.

S.ar B. campaigns for a Breton channel. France 3 is an instrument of the French policy of eradicating Breton.

*Get rid of France 3 Ouest
(from Bremañ July-August)*



Need for Monitoring Service

At a meeting (called Etats Généraux) organised by An Nerzh Nevez (The New Force or Strength) an association grouping Breton-speaking elected representatives, and attended by 500 or 600 people in Kemper on 27/5, J.Y. Cozan, vice-president of the Finistère Department Council, proposed that a charter for the Promotion of the Breton Language and culture be prepared and submitted for signature to all the elected councils of Brittany. They could, he said, implement many of the recommendations of the European Charter for Minority Languages (which France *will* not sign). Much would of course depend on the determination of really committed Council members as well as on a better co-ordination of militant actions and a clarification of aims.

The meeting expressed also the need to set up a Monitoring Service (Arsellva ar Brezhoneg) to gather accurate information on the state of the language and what is being done for it, to serve as a basis for further measures to promote it. It would also assess the efficacy of those taken.

An example of the kind of work that could be done by the Arsellva is the survey commissioned by the Breton Cultural Council and Skol Uhel ar Vro and carried out between October 1994 and May 1995.

A questionnaire was sent out to the 1500-odd municipal councils of Brittany. 31% of the 420 which answered stated that they were prepared to take part in a project that would set easily realisable objectives. (Obviously there is a lot of persuading to be done yet...)

A pleasant surprise: 76% of the communes of Upper (=Eastern half of) Brittany considered that the Breton language concerns their area as well as traditionally Breton-speaking Lower Brittany, it being a valuable element of the personality of the whole country. (The report does not make clear if it is 76% of *all* the communes or of those which answered).

Another investigation that the Arsellva should undertake would be to find out how many children/teenagers attend Breton classes of some kind or other and, equally important, what degree(s) of proficiency they are reaching, what opportunities and incentives they have to use their knowledge outside classes. There is no accurate information about all that available so far.

Musique Bretonne

Bimonthly, 32pp, mainly in French. Subscription 120F/annum, 150F outside State to *Dastum*, 16 rue de la Santé, 35000 Rennes. This well illustrated magazine tells all about the Breton musical scene: festivals, interviews with singers, musicians, collectors, new cassettes/records, books...

Fighting for an elementary right

* On May 24, secondary school students belonging to the association CLEB (Co-ordination des Lycéens pour l'Enseignement du Breton) met at the Office of the Head of Education for Brittany-4 to protest against the reduction

of the number of lycées in which our language is taught from 8 in 1993 to 2 in 1995, thus ignoring the demand. Similarly protests were staged in Rennes on 18 May, 9 June, 16 June, partly involving also the APEEB (parents).

The administration is dismantling the teaching of Breton in state secondary schools throughout Brittany but particularly in Ille-et-Vilaine, said the president of the Union of Breton teachers.



Silvi Jouan, president of APEEB Rennes Area, giving a radio interview in front of (the well guarded) Office of the Head of Education in Rennes (16.6)

CYMRU

Pigion Celtaidd

LLYDAW

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Ar hyn o bryd mae ymchwiliadau ar droed i'r posibilrwydd o sefydlu papur dyddiol dwyieithog ar gyfer Llydaw - EKLEO - gyda 20 tudalen. Disgwylir gwerthu'r papur am 4.90 F. Y cyhoeddwr yw Heklev, 17 avenue Chardonet, 35000 Raazhon.

IWERDDON

Béal Freirste

Am y tro cyntaf yn ei hanes o 107 o flynyddoedd etholwyd dirprwy maer Catholig gan Gynor Dinas Béal Freirste - Alasdair McDonnell o'r SDLP. Ond am ei fod e wedi derbyn y swydd mae'r SDLP wedi ei ddiarddel o'r blaidd tan fis Hydref gan fod yr Unoliaethwyr heb addo rhannu grym yn y dyfodol.

YR ALBAN

Arwyddion Ffordd

Yn groes i benderfyniad blaenorol mae Comhairle nan Eilean ar yr Ynys Hir wedi penderfynu cynnwys elfennau o'r iaith fain ar arwyddion ffordd yr ardaloedd gwledig o hyn ymlaen. Hyd yma, uniaith Albaneg oedd yr arwyddion yn y rhannau gwledig ond dwyieithog yn y trefi mwy Seisnigaidd. Mae hyn yn gam yn ôl i statws yr iaith.

Swyddfa yng nGlaschu

Mae Comunn na Gàidhlig wedi agor swyddfa newydd yng Glaschu/Glasgow. Gobeithir ad-leoli swyddfeydd y Cyngor Llyfrau Albaneg i'r un safle. Bydd David McCrossan yn rheoli'r swyddfa.

CELTIC HISTORY REVIEW

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Cymdeithas Continue Struggle for Language

The main campaign of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, the Welsh Language Society, during this year's National Eisteddfod at Abergele, was for an independent and democratic education system for Wales. With education, as with many other aspects of government in Wales, the Tories in London have taken power away from democratically elected local authorities and given it to nominated committees or Quangos. Cymdeithas organised a petition calling for the setting up of an Education Council for Wales with representation of teachers, students, parents etc. to take over the power of the education Quangos. Over 20,000 people signed the petition but they were not joined by the Welsh Office ministers who visited the Eisteddfod.

The fact that the new Secretary of State for Wales, William Hague, visited the Eisteddfod may be a sign that his

attitude to the language is more favourable than that of his predecessor, John Redwood, the most hostile Secretary of State for many years. However Hague refused to talk to a delegation from Cymdeithas yr Iaith on the grounds that some of their activities break the law. Like Redwood, Hague is an Englishman representing an English constituency.

Also at the Eisteddfod, Cymdeithas declared their intention to lobby the newly created local authorities in Wales over the language. These new councils will replace the existing counties and districts and will have less power. Cymdeithas said that each council should have a committee on Welsh language education to complement a national education council. It was stressed that lobbying of the new councils needs to take place locally.

Robat ap Tomos

For a Welsh National Theater

Wales has a few great institutions, the Welsh National Opera, the International Eisteddfod and above all the National Eisteddfod in the organisation of which the Gorsedd plays a central roll. But there is no Welsh National Theater, the campaign for such a company to which the well-known playwright Dedwydd Jones has for many years now devoted his energy was some time ago echoed in *Carn*. He has written numerous plays, his *Iolo Morgannwg* comes immediately to mind.

How should a Welsh National Theater be constituted? Three options are considered in "The Stage" (27.7.95):

- * A small touring company, taking the work to the people.
- * A large, Cardiff-based production house staging large scale productions.
- * A company with two seasonal bases, in Cardiff and in Mold (in the N.), supplemented by a "touring partnership" that would embrace three or four other major towns.

The author of the article, Phil Gibby, says that an amalgam of the first two proposals seems more appropriate than the third although this is financially sound. A Welsh National Theater has to be for all the people and while a flagship Cardiff base is vital, a widespread, accessible touring policy is equally important... There should be new work for Welsh writers in both languages, while English language classics could be translated for Welsh-speaking audiences. A Welsh *Macbeth* could be staged in rep with a new play in English by a Welsh writer, for example.

That should widen the potential audience, and narrow the language gap. Of three figures which have already emerged as possible standard bearers - Michael Bogdanov, Julian Mitchell and Dedwydd Jones, the latter is without the slightest doubt the only one who would ensure that it would be a truly Welsh national institution. Dedwydd Jones, says Ph. Gibby, is a writer and director, he has campaigned and rallied support for the concept like no one else, his Welshness is not to be disputed, and most important of all, he has no trucks with the cliques and Mafiosi that seem hell-bent on choking Welsh drama.

Trade Missions

In May the Welsh Office organised its first ever trade mission to South America. Appropriately it included Argentina and, in particular, Patagonia, including the possibility of a 400 km railway refurbishment.

"D" or "L"?

The Welsh Office have consulted about the desirability of permitting learner drivers display the letter "D" instead of "L". As with the debate over bilingual road signs, the same opposition comes from English lobbies. In Northern Ireland newly qualified drivers carry "P" plates, and this is acceptable to the same (Unionist?) lobby.

Nursery Schools

The current number of children in nursery and 'mother and toddler' groups by language are:

	No.	Total Children	Welsh speaking
Nursery groups	607	9639	4045
Mother & Toddler groups	377	4315	2102

Language Guideline

Following extensive consultation the Welsh Language Board presented their revised guidelines for public sector Welsh language schemes under the 1993 Welsh Language Act to the then Secretary of State early in the summer. He approved them without any modification and, as the law states, put

News from Wales

them before the English parliament for the statutory 40 days. There were no objections and we can look forward to the first organisation being required to produce schemes in the autumn.

Welsh Official

Clwyd County Council has designated Ysgol Gynradd Bryneglwys, Dyffyn Clwyd, as an official Welsh language school.

S4C Viewers

The percentage of Welsh speakers watching S4C at peak-time evening viewing fell from 19.4% to 18.9% last year - the target is 20%. Top programmes attract around 125,000 viewers, many around 50,000. During an average week 82% of Welsh speakers watched the channel, down 2%, and again, below the target of 85%. However, income from the government rose 4.1%, and self-generated revenue also rose by £5 million. Money spent on programmes rose by 16.6% to 93% of total net revenue and rose from £48,000 to £51,000 per hour. Broadcast hours rose from 32.7 per week to 33.7, far above the target of 25 hours. Some 75% of C4

England's programmes are broadcast. Just over half of the Welsh language output was sub-titled, this year's aim is 60%.

Cost of a Welsh Parliament

One of the last acts of Governor General Redwood was to estimate the annual cost of a Welsh Parliament as £124 million per annum. This is broken down as follows:

Salaries - £8 million (members paid as at Westminster!)

Administration - £4 million (pro rata to the grandeur of Westminster)

Advertising - £4 million (based on existing Welsh Office costs).

Translation - £0.5 million (staff of 20).

Election Costs - £1 million (but could be at same time as local government!)

Cars - £350,000 (delusions of grandeur?)

Maintenance - £4 million (based on Westminster costs, not Cardiff).

Travel and subsistence (£1 million)

Quango Saving - less £1 million (it is hoped to abolish many Quangos!)

Welsh Office - £19 million (need to provide new support for Secretary of State as Governor General).

Start up costs - £12,800,000 (Exaggerated!)

New Policies - £67,000,000 (Assumes that Assembly would generate new public expenditure).

These allegations should be compared with the entire cost of the Dáil in Éire of £25,000,000 per annum!

Clive James

Whose National Identity?

When the Isle of Man government issued a new design of driver's licence two years ago, it added one noticeable departure from previous practice in that in addition to the technical data it also included a photograph of the holder. It was speculated at the time that this provided a useful first step to establishing an identity card system.

Earlier this year the United Kingdom government introduced a green paper and started to take soundings on the possible re-introduction of a national identity card system. Libertarian groups in the UK were understandably concerned at this development and there is little doubt that opposition will be focused on the plans. The issue is also likely to be contentious in the Celtic areas where the argument over infringement of Liberty will be compounded by political and cultural concerns.

In the Six Counties, Wales and Scotland for example, there are significant numbers of people who regularly indicate via the ballot box that they have no desire to be part of the British nation State, and the "National" card system would provide a useful *cause celebre*. Similarly many people in the Celtic areas now take strong exception to official documentation that is not either bilingual or solely in their national language. The introduction of the cards again would provide a useful focus and it immediately springs to mind that they would need to be manufactured from an extremely durable material!

The UK operated an ID card in the period of the 1939-45 war and they continued in use into the early 1950s. In 1952 plans to extend their use indefinitely were shelved following an outcry when a member of the public was prosecuted for refusing to show his card when asked by a police officer.

Successive governments, since the demise of the wartime ID, have toyed with the idea of its re-introduction. The supposed merits of a system have varied over the years; in the seventies when the Troubles in the Six Counties spilled on to the streets of Britain they were argued for

as a necessary tool in the fight against Terrorism. Eventually the government settled for the introduction of what were considered less contentious measures, and the Prevention of Terrorism Act was introduced, as a temporary measure. Subsequently, with the media furore over football hooliganism, the idea was variously touted as a selective or all-embracing measure. With rising crime now the buzz word the idea is once again to the fore. Of course as well as dealing with criminals and helping us to identify ourselves at the bank etc., the cards will be a useful tool in the fight against that other scapegoat of annual UK Conservative Party Conferences, the illegal immigrant. One does not have to be a clairvoyant to appreciate the scope for harassment of ethnic communities, particularly black and coloured people.

It is worth considering some of the criteria above before developing the argument against cards any further.

Many of the United Kingdom's European neighbours operate either compulsory or voluntary systems. Many of those countries have also had to combat internal security problems. The operation of ID card systems has not assisted counter

terrorism to an acknowledged degree. Indeed it is fair to say that it is more likely those states which have countered internal subversion have invariably had to resort to illegal clandestine means themselves, far in excess of any statutory regulation the States citizens would officially sanction.

Even the British government by-passed any thought of ID in relation to the Six Counties and resorted to blanket clandestine surveillance on a scale unprecedented in the history of the British Isles.

Michael Howard (MP, Westminster) is proceeding cautiously. His green paper sets out a number of options. These range from retaining the *status quo*, through to a system based on a compulsory "super ID card", which in addition to basic information to remind you who you are and where you live, would contain personal information on its holder. Advances in technology make the scope for introducing a personal data base on the subject feasible.

Mr. Howard is said to favour a middle road involving a non-compulsory basic ID card. I prefer on this occasion not to take Mr. Howard at face value, and feel sure that his middle road will ultimately lead us down the path to the super data base ID card storing all manner of easily accessible information, including DNA and other records.

If the UK government green paper does lead to the introduction of legislation, we should ensure now, as a campaigning organisation, that we mobilise opinion throughout the Celtic areas, to mount a vigorous programme of opposition. Fortunately given the position outlined in the opening paragraphs in the article sizeable groups in Scotland, Wales, the Six Counties and Cornwall will not require much stimulus!

Bernard Moffatt

The Coracle Men

They were at work before the Romans came.

They spread their nets while Peter fished at Galilee.

They watched unmoved the passage of two thousand years and rode the river tides they loved.

They had their rules before we had our laws and kept their vigil in the quiet night.

Be grateful if you see them now: the privilege is rare.

For these are the coracle men.

They and their craft will not endure long.

Victims not of time or tide but of our own indifference.

How much we hear of ancient things, often a few square feet of rubble with grants, custodians and all the attention they command, yet we neglect this living real history and we allow nonentities to maul it. We have stood by while the unelected body like the National Rivers Authority has

The Celtic Realms

'Beyond the Grave'

Dr. Harmut G. Rentsch

This is a collection of 65 original musical compositions for the Scottish Clàrsach. The tunes are based on the pattern of Celtic folk music, mostly Welsh and Scottish, but there are some reminiscences to Breton music. The music, essentially composed for the clàrsach, can also be played on a flute, whistle, fiddle or any other leading instrument plus accompaniment.

Dr. Harmut Rentsch, a seasoned visitor to Celtic countries, has gained an intimate knowledge and vast experience of our musical traditions. The tunes and dances featured in this booklet were written during the past 15 years and each tune has a short footnote regarding origin.

This attractively produced booklet is A4 size with 68 pages and is available directly from Dr. Rentsch at a cost of

the celtic realms



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Owain Lawgoch Memorial Proposed

There is a plan to erect a memorial to the Welsh leader Owain Lawgoch in the village of Mortagne-sur-Gironde, near Bordeaux, France, where he was assassinated in 1378. Owain Lawgoch was the nephew of Llywelyn II, the last reigning Welsh leader before the conquest. He had gone to France along with many Welshmen of that period to fight for the French against the English who were occupying part of France as well as the whole of Wales. It had been his intention to lead a fleet of ships to Wales, with French support, to liberate the country. He had actually succeeded

in setting sail twice, but had to return to France because of the weather in 1369 and then because of a last minute change of plan by the French in 1372. The English government were aware of the danger he posed and Owain was murdered by an English agent at Mortagne in 1378. During this period there was an expectation in Wales that a 'Mab Darogan' or Liberator would appear to free the Welsh and it was widely believed the Owain Lawgoch would be this leader. This was not to be, but a generation later the prophecy would be fulfilled by another Owain, Owain Glyndwr.

It is understood that the local authorities in Mortagne-sur-Gironde are in favour of the plan and that the way is clear for further progress.

Robat ap Tomos

treated these men like toys.

It has increased their licence fees eightfold in nine years and now intends to decimate their working hours.

It has strangled an ancient way of life and for what reason?

It is because the stock of salmon in the rivers of West Wales has been diminishing for years and the local netmen have to take the blame.

There is no secret about the real culprits.

They are the people who pollute our river waters and the Atlantic trawlers which take

salmon by the ton.

But the NRA will not confront them.

They choose instead to crucify the little men... the habit of the bully through the ages.

But when the last coracle is taken from the water and hung on a museum wall, who will the NRA blame then?

And when your children ask what happened what will you say?

David Sallis

ÉIRE

Seirbhísí breise do lucht foghlama an Gàidhlig

Mar is eol do chuile dhuine a léann CARN go rialta tá borradh agus fás tagtha ar theagasc na Gàidhlig ar fud na hAlban, sa Ghaidhealtachd agus lasmuigh de, agus ní amháin sa chóras oideachais ach i ranganna oíche agus cúrsaí ar leith do dhaoine fásta. Le freastal ar an lucht foghlama seo tá cumann ar leith ann ar a dtugtar "Comunn an Luchd-Ionnsachaidh" nó CLI. Cé gur bunaíodh an cumann deich mbliana ó shin, is le deireanas a ceapadh stiúrthóir lánaimseartha - sé sin Peadar Morgan a scríobhann do CARN ó am go chéile - agus oifigeach riaracháin leis an cumann a reachtáil, agus rinneadh ráitheachán den iris 'Cothrom' a fhoilsíonn CLI. Is de bharr chabhair airgead ó Chomhairlí ar nós Comhairle Roinn a' Mhonaidh, Comhairle Roinn na Gaidhealtachd, chomh maith le Comunn na Gàidhlig agus Oifig na hAlban a chuir ar chumas ChLI an fhorbairt seo a dhéanamh. Seachas deontais ó na dreamanna thuasluaite, is ar bhallaíocht foetha atá CLI ag brath; táille £10 atá ar bhallaíocht aonar sa Ríocht Aontaithe, £12 sa chuid eile den EU agus £14 ins na tíortha eile. Tá ballaíocht ar £15 do bhaill chorpartha m.sh. eagraíochtaí, clubanna agus coláistí. In eagrán an tSamhraidh den iris 'Cothrom' a chuirtear ar fáil saor in aisce do na baill, luaitear breis is tríocha Baill Chorpartha idir Clubanna Gàidhlig agus Coláistí in Albain agus na clubanna agus cumann thar lear sa Bhruiséil, ins na Stáit Aontaithe, sa tSéalann Nua agus Nova Scotia, chomh maith le cumainn eile nach bhfuil baint díreach acu leis an Ghàidhlig, leithéidí an *Dalriada Celtic Heritage Society* agus an *Highland Regional Library Service* agus an *Scottish Centre for Information on Language Teaching*. De bheis orthu siúd uilig tá mogallra de sheirbhísí le haghaidh lucht foghlama ar a dtugtar 'lón' a riaradh ag CLI.

Tá táille speisialta de £5 do mhic-léinn agus daoine difhostaithe cuma cé as dóibh. Siad na haidhmeanna atá ag CLI guth a thabhairt do lucht foghlama na Gàidhlig, eolas ar chúrsaí Ghàidhlig a scaipeadh ina measc, forbairt a dhéanamh ar na háiseanna foghlama, go háirithe do dhaoine fásta,

agus spreagadh a thabhairt don lucht foghlama páirt a ghlacadh in imeachtaí agus i bhforbairt na teanga.

Maidir leis an ráitheachán 'Cothrom', is iris snasta dhátheangach de 50 leathanach é, le grianghrafanna agus fógraí go leor. Ní iris dhátheangach é sa chiall go bhfuil altanna éagsúla i nGàidhlig agus i mBéarla inti. Tá an Ghàidhlig agus an Béarla taobh le chéile ar chuile leathanach, saor aistriúchán ó theanga amháin go dtí an teanga eile, aistriúchán Béarla curtha ar an nGàidhlig i bhformhór na n-altanna. Níl d'eisceacht ar an riail seo ach litir oscailte amháin atá scríofa i mBéarla ag leas-Cathaoirleach CLI, Anthony Dilworth (ball den Bord Stiúrtha) mar fhreagra ar alt a bhí ar an 'Scotsman' le duine darbh ainm Peter Clarke, ina ndearna sé ionsaí gránna ar an Ghàidhlig, idir teanga agus litríocht, fiú gur chaith sé amhras ar fhiúntas filíochta Shomhairle Mac GiollaEathain. (Sampla den cineál masla aineolach a bhí san alt "... vernacular Gaelic is a low level peasantish sort of debris..." "there is nothing Gaelic that is worth passing on to the rest of mankind...") Ní hé an chéad uair a chualamar, na Ceiltigh, a leithéid faoin ár dteangacha dúchasacha, ach chuirfeadh sé droch mhisneach ar dhuine go mbíonn nuachtáin le seasamh áirithe i measc an phobail sásta an brocamas seo a fhoilsíú.

Alt suimiúil eile is ea an tuairisc ar an léacht a thug Alasdair Mofat, príomhfheidhmeannach 'Iomairt Telebhisean na hAlba agus iar-stiúrthóir na gclár ar STV le linn Féile Idircheilteach Scannán agus Telefse sa Ghearasdan i mí Aibreán seo caite. I mbeagán focail bé an teachtaireacht a bhí aige "Chan ionann na Gaidheil agus an Ghàidhlig". Is duine den lucht foghlama é féin agus cáineann sé polasáí atá ann faoi láthair gan ach cainteoirí dúchais Ghàidhlig a ceapadh ar an 'Comataidh Telebhisein Ghàidhlig: dar leis go bhfuil na cláir Telefse i nGàidhlig dírithe ar phobal níos leithne, go deimhin ar phobal iomlán na hAlban agus ba chóir go mbeadh ionchur ag an pobal sin ins an clár a chraoltar i nGàidhlig. Ní féidir a rá go ndéantar dearmad ar an lucht foghlama ar Thelefse na Ghàidhlig; in alt eile san iris luaitear go

bhfuil an 4ú sraith den chlár "Bruidhinn ar Cànaínn" (Speaking our Language) a ullmhú le craoladh amach anseo.

Seachas na dea-scéalta, tá corr ábhar buartha ag CLI agus ag Comunn na Gàidhlig, go háirithe teirce múinteoirí Ghàidhlig. Ní féidir dul ar aghaidh le cuid de na haonaid lán-Ghàidhlig i mbunscoileanna in iarthar na nGarbhchríocha i mbliana ceal múinteoirí cáilithe. Le dul i ngleic leis an bhfadhb seo tá pacáiste nua gairme eisithe ag Comunn na Gàidhlig "Thig a' Theagasg" (Come Teaching) atá dírithe ar dhaltai iar-bhunscoile a bhfuil lófach acu sa teanga, agus a spreagfadh iad le staidéar a dhéanamh ar an Ghàidhlig go dtí an Ard-leibhéal agus dul le múinteoireacht ina dhiaidh sin. Meastar go mbeidh gá le 35 múinteoir in aghaidh na bliana ins na bunscoileanna Gàidhlig as seo go deireadh an chéid. Tríd is tríd tá an t-ábhar ar aon dul leis an gcineál a bhíonn in iris dhátheangach Chonradh na Gaeilge .i. CNAG, le tuairiscí ar na himeachtaí, cúrsaí, seimíní agus rí. a mbíonn á reachtáil ag na clubanna agus cumainn éagsúla atá nasctha le CLI mar a mbíonn ag craobhacha an Chonartha abhus. Is iris dhátheangach de chineál eile é CNAG dar ndóigh mar nach mbíonn ann go h-iondúil ach an beagán Béarla agus ní bhíonn aon aistriúchán ar na h-altanna Gaeilge. B'fhéidir gur léiriú é an difríocht idir an dá iris ar staid na teanga sa dhá thí? Caithfear a rá go bhfuil dul chun cinn mór á dhéanamh in Albain i dteagasc agus i gcur chun cinn na Gàidhlig, agus léiríonn an tacaíocht láidir agus leathan atá ag CLI go bhfuiltear sásta acmhainní nach beag a chur ar fáil chuige sin.

Brid Heussaff

Summary

In Scotland in recent years great strides are being made in the promotion and teaching of Gàidhlig, especially among adult learners. This article gives an account of the association established to provide services and help for learners. 'Comunn an Luchd-Ionnsachaidh' (CLI) the 'Voice of Gaelic Learners' has recently appointed a full-time director, and their well-produced magazine 'Cothrom' has become a quarterly. CLI is supported by a broad spectrum of organisations, clubs and colleges in Scotland and abroad. Their new office is at 3 High Street, Dingwall, Ross-shire, IV15 9HL, Alba, Fón/Facs 01346-862820

Decommissioning — British Should Lead by Example

Great play is currently being made by the British government for a need for the paramilitaries (in particular the IRA) to decommission weapons. In the context of what has to date been a successful peace process, a dangerous game of 'chicken' has developed between Sinn Féin on the one side and the British government on the other.

The negative context of this posturing has been highlighted in the past by the so-called extremists on the loyalists side. The Progressive Unionists with their call for a statement on *no first strike or defence only* from the IRA are showing a pragmatism that should be an example to those, including the British, digging their heels in.

It is easy, twelve months on, to forget the momentous move that was made on the Republican side when Sinn Féin opened the door to political dialogue and carried the armed wing of Republicanism with them. No one is suggesting, (despite all the talk of prizes) that they should get



an award for this. The precious prize of peace was won on the first day - but how to keep it?

Sinn Féin could listen to the pragmatism on the Loyalist side and see if it can use its influence to consolidate the process.

The real body to influence matters however are the British government who to date have presented an increasingly ridiculous international spectacle with their obstinacy. The developments in early August in which they all but called former Taoiseach, Albert Reynolds, a liar when he recorded his understanding of talks with them, further undermined their credibility.

The British could influence matters by

moving the process to all party talks. They could also move it by progressing the situation of those people from both communities in N. Ireland who the whole world (outside London W1) regard as political prisoners.

There are other positive moves which could be made, at great gain to the process and little loss to British government pride. The military run down to date has been minuscule. This should be speeded up. In addition to the Security hardware and network of bases which festoon the 'border' area, tangible efforts should be made to remove the more repressive aspects which have dominated life in N. Ireland for too long. We recall to what one former British Statesman (Winston Churchill) in the context of Nazi Germany referred to as "all the terrible apparatus of the Police State".

The decommissioning of British intelligence machinery in Ireland, the MIs, the Special Branch, the snooping, the surveillance, the harassment etc. A presence, over twenty five years, as malevolent to the Nationalist Community as the IRA is perceived by the loyalist.

If Mr. Major wants decommissioning perhaps he should lead by example!

AGM Resolutions Progressed

Following the Celtic League AGM the General Secretary sent the following two letters to the Northern Ireland Secretary on the 25th August, 1995

• • •

Dear Sir Patrick

At its Annual General Meeting held in Inverness on 18/19th August the following resolution was moved by the Irish delegation and received unanimous support from the delegates from the other five Celtic countries.

"This AGM deplores the behaviour of the British Government in stalling the Peace Process. We question their commitment to the process and urge them to move matters forward by initiating all party talks immediately."

We have noted the comments delivered by yourself at a press conference today in N. Ireland in which you launch a spirited defence of the British government's position to date and unveil further proposals to continue the process. We appreciate also that in relation to a situation as sensitive as that in N. Ireland there is a need to advance matters on a broad front with all sections of the community considered. However you must agree that

the very fact that you needed to stage today's conference indicates an underlying malaise to the process which certainly supports our concerns outlined above.

On the 14th of this month we issued the attached press release (see above) which whilst condemnatory of the British position also criticised others. In relation to the United Kingdom we identified two positive moves (relating to the prisoners and the emergency legislation) that could be made, both of these were addressed in part today but the British government seems inert on the talks issue.

All party talks are the major factor which would 'concrete the foundations' of this process therefore we urge the British and Irish governments to advance them without delay

• • •

Dear Sir Patrick

Recognising that one of the cornerstones to lasting peace and security for all the people of N. Ireland is recognition and respect of the cultural diversity of the community it is disappointing that the British government is apparently still acting via its educational policy to the detriment of the Irish language.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Celtic League held last weekend (18/19th August) in Inverness delegates unanimously supported the following

motion proposed by the Irish delegation.

"This AGM condemns the lack of recognition and regularised funding for Meánscoil Feirste Bunscoil an luir and other Irish medium primary schools in the North of Ireland. We call on the Department of Education in Northern Ireland to grant immediate recognition and provide adequate funding now."

I believe that the intent of the resolution is self-explanatory and I would welcome a commitment from you to address these concerns.

J.B. Moffatt

APPEAL

Due to other commitments Janice Williams is unable to continue on as Secretary of the Éire Branch. We thank Janice for all the work she has done for the Celtic League over the years.

We are, at present, attempting to reorganise and expand the branch. Any members willing to become involved actively should contact the Editor of *Carn* (addr. pg 24).

Articles for the Éire section, in Irish/English would also be welcomed - these must relate to our aims.

Notice of the next branch meeting will be posted to members in the near future.

P.A. Bridson

Employment Discrimination in the North of Ireland

Despite Fair Employment Law in the North of Ireland being more effective than equivalent legislation aimed at protecting minorities in Britain, we argue that there is still a long way to go to eliminate sectarian bias in the work-place.

The origins of the present conflict in the Six Counties is often perceived in traditional or historical political terms but the recent twenty-five year long struggle also had its basis in much more mundane social inequalities. Housing discrimination and electoral gerrymandering may jockey for first place in the league table of inequality, but another strong contender was employment discrimination.

Keen followers of the saga as it unfolded may have wondered from time to time why the IRA seemed to have a penchant for attacking school bus drivers, in areas such as Fermanagh and Tyrone. It would have needed more than a passing interest to identify this group, often Loyalist/Unionist and invariably members of the UDR or its predecessor the B-Specials, as beneficiaries of the twisted employment strategy followed in West Ulster, which saw the majority of prime public sector employment opportunities go to the minority Unionist community.

No serious attempt was made in the early days of the struggles to address the issue of sectarian discrimination in the work-place, despite the high flying rhetoric of some Unionists, today described by historical analysts as reformers. Even the adoption, by the direct-rule Stormont regime, of specific Fair Employment legislation in 1976 did not noticeably eliminate the problem. By the early 1980s the combined efforts of the increasingly social programme of Sinn Féin, left-wing political agitation in the Westminster parliament (particularly targeting key industrial employers in Belfast) and the McBride Principles campaign directed at the United States produced groups for political sanctions against the UK in N. Ireland and was the catalyst which forced British action. As a result of this pressure, in the mid eighties the UK government were forced to admit that despite ten years of the 1976 Fair Employment legislation, the minority catholic community remained "at a serious disadvantage in employment, in both quantitative and qualitative terms".

The result was the 1989 Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Act which put in place a more decisive framework to

tackle religious and political discrimination in employment matters.

The result of the Act has been significant, but has to be offset against an overall picture of continuing high levels of unemployment. In the North Catholics are more than twice as likely to be unemployed than Protestants. This simple statistic also conceals the fact that where employed they tend to be numerically over-represented in lower paid, low-status employment. In these respects there are remarkable parallels between them and the ethnic communities in Britain.

In the UK, ethnic concerns about employment discrimination are addressed by different legislation administered by the Commission for Racial Equality. A statistical analysis of the two sets of legislation shows significant advantage in respect of the operation of the N. Ireland legislation, which is the newer of the two. Applicants to a N. Ireland Fair Employment tribunal:

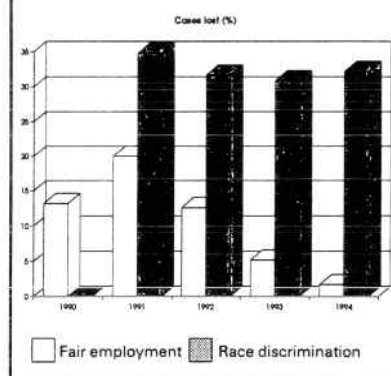
- * were found to receive up to three times the compensation achieved in UK race discrimination applications.
- * were also three times more likely to have the case heard under the N. Ireland system.
- * When settlement occurred out of court the compensation level was even higher equalling on average four times in N. Ireland than achieved in Britain.

The imbalance between the operation of the two systems in the UK has understandably excited social research groups in the UK, who tend to believe the structure of the Fair Employment Act 1989 (under which Employers are obliged to implement a number of specific measures to ensure and monitor fair treatment) give it the edge on the equivalent racial equality legislation in Britain. Also, and significantly, the N. Ireland model uses a distinct tribunal to process fair employment cases as distinct from the UK where the matter is handled by the Industrial Tribunals set up under labour law.

Social affairs correspondents in the UK regard the N. Ireland system as a model for Britain, and believe it indicates that the British government has demonstrated a political will to fight discrimination by developing laws with real deterrent effect.

This is a somewhat naive analysis. The imperative driving the UK in its desire to tackle the problem is the force of both internal and external political pressure. The fact is, that despite the rosy picture presented by British Sociologists,

Percentage of cases lost by the Fair Employment Commission and Commission for Racial Equality



comparing bad legislation aimed at tackling race discrimination in Employment in Britain with the UK's mediocre efforts in N. Ireland cannot obscure the fact that we have some considerable way to go before sectarian discrimination in employment is eliminated.

Bernard Moffatt

As part of our fact sheet programme in 1996, it is hoped to produce a more detailed report on Employment Discrimination in the Six Counties. To that end comment on this article, critical or otherwise, is most welcome and should be forwarded to the General Secretary, Celtic League. (addr. pg 24)

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£5 (include p&p).

KERNOW

CUZAL HA TEAGE

En Spanack ma lavar coath ell boaze traylez avel *Gen an termen pubtra vedn doaze*, tho neb en tavaz Kernuack an nessa ellen dry ew *Cuzal ha teage, sarrah wheage, moaze pell!*

Alebma hunt tho melle vlethan, en 1046 en gweer en taa, e ve comerez ker an sea a Bosvena ha Lannaed, ha reze o than Kernowian contentya go hunnen gen vewa dadn lagas zans an espack a Careesk en Powe Densher. Gothe adgan drewa dro tho 120 moldeer a Careesk terebah Pleaw East! Eze pleaw en hole Breten leb o e theeze mar bell thur ago espack?

Bedn duah an 15vas cansblethan mouy avel edn leav o derevez aman a peidgy dre vea gotheffiez than Kernowian sea go hunnen arta, whathe na ve terebah 1879 dro hedna colenwez; heb dowte hanaw droage ange gen an Sausen en kever ago leez draffa reeg tedna rima tho glenas, ragowne teez Kernow tho sendgy go hunnen ree greav! Mean leer an cathedral noweth a ve settez en 1880, ha pubtra o cowle wreze en 1910. Thur peleah theath an monnah rag an wheal broaze ma? Dar, e ve teeze Kernow poran an droze!

A termen coath, mor menga nebun Kernow presentya e hunnen than unyversyta gotha dotha moaze tho

Resodgon, sketh heere. Agoye tho proces a dermen, unyversyta noweth a ve fowndez tho Careesk keffrys ha tho leez trevow erol, ha hethow nageze scantlower edn powe en hole ennis heb e unyversyta... buz Kernow ew onen a rima, conorea!

Whathe, gero nye gwella gon cheare, rag an vlethanma an pednzhevigian reeg daryvas dre venga Unyversyta Careesk hetha e hunnen aberha tho Kernow, ha war 25ans pednbluth an Institucion an Meddrans Kernuack is-Chancellor an Unyversyta a gomplaz deraage an bobell drera towle dybblans a fowndya Unyversyta Kernow mar scoen drella boaze, ke na veath hedna gwreze meaze a doarn; na whathe, en dallah meeze Gorefan nye reeg desky driggez a whellas telhar kenz lebmen, lebma derevall an Unyversyta noweth. Mehall! nag ew hedna rag fra regoysya?

Teeze Dew vedn laull tha whye pegebmys ve matter an sea Kernuack rag bownaz an Eglos en Kernow. Urt an Unyversyta, nag eze dowte en beaze dre vedn hebma comeras wara nye en broaza manner alga boaze pedeerez; rag rina tho neb ew sewena sparyans an powe an mouyha leas, seere ew dre veath dres tha Kernow na en ednack meare a wheal

noweth, buz leez milveel a benzow en vlethan; rag rina eze honegath rag sperez an powe, veath dres nab peath a neb ve faut thene aban terros Coleg Glasney... dyskar, exampill, leder, creis, colon deffry, ra' gon esperans avel teeze dybblans, avel teeze Kernuack.

O hebma gwreze ken dallah thassoras an tavaz, na vea an miscomeriangaw oll andro tha nye ew gwellez en owre ma, ha pezeal mouy pelha vea an styrt nye rag hedna!

Nye ell gwettias gwellhas tridga soon hogan, metessen... Kernow ha dothe goverans e hunnen arta! Pew a ore?

Richard Gendall

Summary

All in good time! Cornwall having lost her see in 946, it was over 1000 years before it was restored to her. Having lost Glasney College under Henry VIII, it has taken till now for Cornwall to be offered, at last, a University of her own. Announced in 1995, this will have an immense effect upon life in our country, serving as power house and mentor for our highest aspirations.

The Literature of Wales

Ass yw da geles bos dyllys wor'tiwedh lyver a'n par ma. Lemmyn yma genen lyver poket a wra ri dhyn istori kott lyenn Kembra a'n hweghves kansblydhen bys y'n eur ma.

An deg chaptra usi ynno a wra ri dhyn istori an vardhonieth, an yeth plen ha'n gwari-mir skrifys (po formys) yn Kembra. Yndella ni a wra kavoes ystori lyenn Kembrek ha Sowsnek ynwedh. Rag an dus na gonvedhons Kembrek yma meur a ensamplow a'n lyenn trelys dhe Sowsnek. Ynwedh yma kals a dheliniansow a'n dus ha'n taklow a vri.

An lyver a dhalleth gans an verdh gotha, an "Cynefeirdd" a'n hweghves kansblydhen, berdh a gana y'n gwaskordhow usi lemmyn yn Pow Sows po Alban Dheghow. Y fia an chaptra dhe les dhe Gernowyon rag y kana an verdh ma yn yeth a dheuth ha bos agan teyr yeth ni. An lyver a yn-rag dhe dherivas yn kever bardhonieth moy diwedhes "Beirdd yr

Dewisyans Ranndirrek 95

Yn Kernow 5 ha 1/3 konsel a wrug sevel rag dewisyans (Pennwyth a wra dewisi tressa rann pub blydhenn). An dewisyans ranndirek mis Me 95 a wrug gweles ogas oll an Bagas Tori fyllel. Yma lemmyn le es 20 konsellor Tori yn Kernow (ha brassa rann an re na eusi yn Pennwyth may yn wrug sevel rag dewisyans) kansrann le es Alban.

An Lib Dems a wrug brassa rann aga ober yn Karadon ha Kernow Kleth ha wrug gwaynya erbyn Tori, Mebyon Kernow hag Independents yn randirow na. Mes yn ranndirow erel i a wrug gwitha aga le mes gwrussen kelli nebes le dhe Lafur hag Mebyon Kernow.

Mebyon Kernow a wrug profya 9 rag dewisyans yn 5 Ranndir (an vrassa nyver wosa 1979) gans 2 a wrug gwaynya ha nebes esel a wrug sevel avel Independent.

Yma lemmyn konsoller Mebyon Kernow war hanter an Konsellow Ranndirek yn Kernow. (ynwedh Mebyon Kernow a wrug ughella aga nyver war Konsellow Plu ha Dre dres Kernow oll).

Summary

The May District elections saw the Conservatives lose almost all their seats. There are now less than 20 Conservative Councillors in Cornwall, a lower percentage than Scotland.

The Liberal Democrats put most of their effort into Caradon and North Cornwall where they took seats from Conservatives, Mebyon Kernow and Independents but in the other Districts they kept their position.

Mebyon Kernow put up 9 candidates in 5 Districts (the largest number since 1979) Also Mebyon Kernow increased their representation on Town and Parish Councils throughout Cornwall.

Martyn Miller

An Assembly for Cornwall?

A survey of attitudes from a Mebyon Kernow report

The debate within the UK Labour Party recently has put regional government within Britain back on the political agenda. With this in mind Mebyon Kernow wrote to a selection of politicians from the main London-based political parties, who represent Cornish constituencies.

Mebyon Kernow feared that the media debate would be stilted, by-passing all discussion of the case for a Cornish Assembly. Unfortunately this fear was proved to be correct. The Britain-wide (English) newspaper's coverage was superficial concentrating on inconsistencies between the Labour leadership, rather than investigating the actual case for regional government. In the media in South-West Britain and Cornwall it was almost totally ignored. The Western Morning News published an article by George Parker, the paper's political editor, entitled "But will the West want to take the high road to Home Rule?" in which he stressed the "distinct history, culture, landscape and way of life" of the "South-West" (sic) as a reason for regional government covering that region. He did not consider these same reasons enough for an Assembly for Cornwall - a nation in its own right - rather than some ambiguous South-West region.

Literature of Wales (contd)

Uchelwyr" po "Berdh an Dus Nobyl", an Mabinogi, Dafydd ap Gwilym ha lyenn an Oesow Kres.

Yma chaptrys a-dro dhe'n kansblydhynow bys y'n ugensves had 3 13a-wosa y teu tri chaptra a-dro dhe'n gansblydhen ma. Dres an gansblydhen ma y feu dasserghyans lyennek y'n dhiw yeth kewsys yn Kembra ha'n lyver a dheriv yn ta orthyn displegyans an eyl ha'y ben. Ni a yll dyski yn kever Kate Roberts ha Saunders Lewis, mes ynwedh yn kever skriforyon meur aga hanow avel Dylan Thomas hag R.S. Thomas.

Skrifys yw gans Dafydd Johnston, pregowther yn Kembrek orth pennskol Kerdwyth ha dyllys seulabrys. Ny gost marnas £5.95 (rag 145 folenn) hag y hylir y gavoës diworth Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru, 6 Stryd Gwennyth, Caerdydd CF2 3DB, Kembra. Y'n keth kevres yma dew lyver arall, onyn yn kever usadow an wlas ha'y gila yn kever istori Kembra (dyllys yn Sowsnek ha Kembrek ynwedh).

Yndella mara'gas beus edhommm aswonnnvos gwell lyenn agas hwoer-yeth, prenewgh an lyver splann ma.

Guto Rhys

Westcountry Television were even worse. Power Game, the channel's political programme, compared the aspirations of Wales and Scotland to those of their "independently-minded Celtic cousins in the Westcountry", without mentioning Cornwall at all.

It was only non-newspaper media outside of Cornwall and the South-West that paid any real attention to Cornwall. A "New Statesman and Society" editorial entitled "Labour's Local Difficulty" noted that "there is little real interest in new tiers of regional government" in England (sic) except for a few notable exceptions, and specifically gave Cornwall as an example. Also BBC Radio 1 compiled a six and a half minute feature on Cornish identity as part of a series of debates on devolution in its nightly Newsbeat programme.

Mebyon Kernow asked the following questions of selected local politicians:

- Q.1. Are you in favour of Welsh/Scottish Parliaments or Assemblies?
Q.2. Do you believe more decision-making powers should be decentralised to Cornwall?
Q.3. Are you in favour of regional government for Cornwall and England?
Q.4. If the regional government became a reality, would you support calls for Cornish regional government/Assembly, rather than an assembly to cover the South-West?

Conservative & Unionist Party

	Q1	Q2	Q3
Neil Badcock	No	Amb	No
Sebastian Coe	No	Amb	No
John James Daniel	No	Yes	No
David Harris	No	N/A	No
Robert Hicks	Yes	Amb	No
Nigel Linacre	No	Amb	No

Liberal Democrats

Andrew George	Yes	Yes	Yes
Terry Jones	Yes	Yes	Yes
Matthew Taylor	Yes	Yes	Yes
Robin Teverson	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paul Tyler	Yes	Amb	Amb
Colin Breed did not respond			

Labour Party

Chris Fegan	Yes	Yes	Yes
George Greene	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mark Jeffery	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colin Godolphin, Dennis Knight, Godfrey Smale, SW Regional Office and St. Austell Constituency Office did not respond.			

Key: Amb = Ambiguous; N/A = not answered

Question 4: If regional government became a reality, would you support calls for Cornish regional government/Assembly, rather than an assembly to cover the South-West?

From a nationalist point of view this is the most important. Who if it came to the crunch, would back calls for a Cornish Assembly serving the needs of this historic Celtic nation as a distinct political/cultural unit; or settle for submersion in an amorphous South-West Region?

Those answering Yes

Neil Badcock, Andrew George, Matthew Taylor MP, Robin Teverson MEP, Chris Fegan, George Greene, Mark Jeffery.

Nigel Linacre's answer was ambiguous, he said "if regional government became a reality... there may be a stronger case for... regional government in Cornwall rather than the South-West as a whole."

Those answering No

Sebastian Coe MP, John James Daniel, Robert Hicks MP.

Of those opposing Cornish regional government only Robert Hicks MP expanded his reasons. He wrote "I have to say I would not support calls for a Cornish Regional Assembly... the economics of Devon and Cornwall are both interlinked and interdependent. Plymouth is in effect the principal centre and major economic growth point. These basic economic considerations cannot be ignored particularly in the context of any dealing that we have both with Whitehall and the EC Commission in Brussels."

Those who did not specifically answer

Paul Tyler MP, David Harris MP, Terry Jones.

The Cornish Branch View

It is interesting to note the positions of the main personalities (of the London based parties) in Cornwall. It is also interesting to note how these views differ from that of their party's official position, and how the avowed views are acted on by the individual respondents.

The Conservative Party are at least consistent in their opposition to decentralisation at all opportunities. But Robert Hicks MP is a mystery, how can he support Scottish & Welsh devolution yet oppose any form of Cornish devolution, is there any difference? On the otherhand the actions of the most Liberal Democrat led Councils seem to be working towards Devonwall structures mostly run from outside the Duchy, contrary to their stated support for Cornish regional government. The full Mebyon Kernow report "An Assembly for Cornwall?" cost £1 is available from: Dick Cole, Shell Cottage, Moorland Road, Indian Queens, St. Columb, Kernow.

M. Miller

Cornish Today

An examination of the revived language by N.J.A. Williams, MA, PhD., pp 280, Stg £8.90 (ex p+p)

In the publicity leaflet published recently this book is claimed to be the most important study of the Cornish language since Henry Jenner's *Handbook of the Cornish Language* of 1904. In **Cornish Today** Dr Williams analyses both the traditional language and the main varieties of the revived language currently in use. The publicity leaflet states, "Not only does the work break new ground but all opinions advanced are supported by extensive quotations from the texts."

Dr. Nicholas Williams is a professional Celtic scholar, who lectures in the Department of Modern Irish in University College, Dublin. His main interests are Irish, Manx Gaelic and Cornish. He qualified as bard of the Cornish Gorseth of 1962 and won first prize for Cornish poetry in the Gorseth literary competitions of 1961, 1964 and 1965. He has more recently been described as 'perhaps the foremost Cornish scholar of the present time'. Dr Williams was instrumental in 1989-90 in removing the unnecessary combinations **tj** and **dt** from Kernewek Kemmyn. In this book he widens and deepens his analysis of both traditional and revived Cornish.

The conclusions of **Cornish Today** include the following:

- The Cornish language enjoyed a resurgence as a result of the Norman

Conquest. In consequence English-speakers in Cornwall learnt Cornish and brought into the language English speech-habits.

- Some of the differences between Middle and Late Cornish are in fact differences of regional dialect.
- Kernewek Kemmyn is very unsatisfactory.
- Since Middle Cornish and Late Cornish are the same language Cornoack Nowedge has little or no *raison d'être*.
- The way forward for the revival is to emend the few errors in the sound-system of Unified Cornish and to simplify its grammar in line with the later Middle Cornish texts.

The last part of **Cornish Today** consists of a revision of Unified Cornish. This emended Unified Cornish Dr Williams calls Unified Cornish Revised (UCR). UCR has already been warmly welcomed by the supporters of Unified Cornish.

Cornish Today also contains a dictionary of UCR in which the forms in their original spelling are given from the various texts. The work also contains a section of Cornish tests both traditional and revived—each in its own orthography, a glossary of symbols and technical terms, a general index and five place-name maps to elucidate dialect features etc.

Cornish Today can be obtained from Kernewek dre Lyther, 6 Halton Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6NP, Pow Saws/England.

UK

Government to end GCSE Cornish?

It is possible that due to reorganisation of the UK's examination boards, regional (sic) GCSE's like Cornish may be abolished. The head of the Cornwall Association of Secondary Head Teachers (Lancashire born John Evans) is reported to have said that Cornish may not be worth preserving as a subject to study for a "national" exam subject. The UK government's view is that commercially run examination boards should decide whether it was worth their while to offer subjects at GCSE level outside the "national curriculum", meaning that after 1996 Cornish would not be on offer as a GCSE subject.

This would be a retrograde step, since the Cornish language is not only part of the unique Celtic culture of Kernow, but also an important part of the heritage of Great Britain and Europe. The GCSE is a public demonstration of some degree of official recognition for our language.

I suggest that Cornwall's LEA should be encouraged (and funded) to follow the example of the Manx Government, and set up a survey of the demand, if the Cornish Language was offered as an *optional* subject to every pupil in a Cornish school of 11+ (preferably 7+) or whose parents would like it. This would either refute or validate Mr Evans' claim that there was very little demand among pupils for a Cornish GCSE. But if the Manks example and apocryphal evidence from teachers who are interested in the Language are borne out then it would suggest that around 10% would be interested in some form of Cornish Language lessons.

It would then be useful if funding could be found to provide suitably qualified teachers in order to provide lessons in the Cornish Language to all those who would like it.

I ask that those who wish to protest about the UK Government's decision, write to: Gillian Shepherd, MP, Minister of Employment & Education, C/o The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, England.

(Perhaps noting that it was a Cornish man who was instrumental in preserving the English Language from extinction in the 13th Century).

Martyn Miller

A New Dictionary for Modern Cornish

Teere ha Tavaz, *Land and Language*, is currently working on the production of a completely new set of language books that will be compatible with the setting up by the University of Exeter at Redruth this autumn of a certificate course in Cornish, to be followed next year by a degree course.

The new publications will include: (a) *Part 2 (Cornish-English) of the Student's Dictionary of Modern Cornish*; (b) *A practical Grammar of Modern Cornish*; (c) *A Practical Dictionary of Modern Cornish*; (d) *The Pronunciation of Modern Cornish*; (e) *A Practical Manual of Modern Cornish* (this will replace *An Cornoack Hethow*); (f) *A Concise Dictionary of Modern Cornish*.

All these are being prepared parallel to each other as one bears upon another, but the *Concise Dictionary* part 1 (Cornish-English) is already available. Of A5 format, fine-printed, it is not too ungainly to be carried about

in pocket or bag, and though not so full of synonyms and the rarer words that will be found in the *Practical and Student's* dictionaries, nor yet having space for etymology etc., its vocabulary of approximately 6000 entries is adequate for most everyday use. Against each entry is given its pronunciation. It also contains an Appendix with the paradigms of essential verbs, prepositions etc., together a gazette of personal and place-names. *A Concise Dictionary of Modern Cornish* will eventually be published as a two-way dictionary... This is expected to be before Christmas 1995.

For details please write to *the Secretary, Teere ha Tavaz, Treggrill Vean, Menheniot, Cornwall, PL14 3PL*, enclosing a stamped envelope.

The Secretary, Teere ha Tavaz
(per R.R.M. Gendall)

MANNIN

Reuyrey Ayns Ellan

Er aght ennagh, ta red ennagh feer chooie bentyn rish y treealtys ec Redlands Aggregate dy yannoo quarral moor ass towse ayns ny Harrey (Harris). Harrish keeadyn dy vleantyn, ta lught yn argid er soiahey beg jeh seihll ny hAlbinee Gaelgagh. Va'n chengey marrooit, bunnys. Va thousaneyn dy 'leih scughit magh ass dy yannoo reamys da ny kirree. Va'n sleih hene coontit dy ve gyn feeuid erbee.

As nish ta treealtys ayn dy reuyrey as spooillee y thaloo hene dy yannoo raaidyn vees gymmyrkey tooillee gleashtanyn vees tilgey magh tooillee nieu. Shen y seihll dhyt.

Ta colught Redlands Aggregate geeearree jannoo quarral feer vooar ec Lingerabay ayns ny Harrey Jiass. Veagh y quarral shoh costal jeih as tree feed millioon punt as veagh eh ry-akin veih'n eayst. T'eh jeeaghyn dy vel ny creggyn ec Lingerabay feer vie ry-hoi raaidyn. Dy dooghysagh, veih'n toshiaght, ta sleih er duittym magh dy lajer noi as son y quarral. Ta sleih ynnydagh ennagh smooinghtyn dy bee startaghyn ry-gheddyn sy wharral, as ta sleih elley gra dy bee brock ass towse jeant jeh'n cheer.

Va brialtys theayagh currit er bun dy chlashtyn arganeyssyn noi as son y quarral.

Va imraa (report) jeant ec fir-choyrlee son Comhairle nan Eilean mychione y quarral. Er aght ennagh, hie yn imraa shoh dys Redland Aggregate roish my jagh eh dys ny coonseilee reihit (gyn ourys, ta'n lhiied taghyrt ayns Mannin neesht). Dooyrt yn MP son ny hEllanyn Heear, Calum Mac Donald dy nee 'scammylt' v'ayn dy row 'imraa follit' ry-akin ec ny lhiaseydyryn (developers) roish my vaik ooilley ny coonseilee eh. Reesht, shoh beoyn (tendency) lajer ayns ymmoder cheer, Mannin ny mast'oc. Ta 'shirveishyn theayagh' soiahey beg jeh sleih reihit as freayll pooar dauesyn hene liorish folliaght.

Ayns Mee Boaldyn 1995, chlou yn West Highland Free Press ny hearrooyne haink ass towse-barel ayns ny Harrey mychione y quarral moor. Sy towse-barel, dreggyr 82 sy cheead jeh'n sleih. Jeu shid, va 68 sy cheead noi'n wharral as 32 sy cheead ayns foayr jeh. Tree bleaney roish shen, va ny hearrooyne bunnys bun-ry-skyne

casley rish shen, lesh 62 sy cheead ayns foayr jeh as 38 sy cheead noi echee.

Myr shen, ta caghlaa moor er jeet ayns barel y phobble.

As t'eh jeeaghyn dy haghyr yn un red sy choonseil. Sy toshiaght, va'n choonseil ayns foayr jeh'n wharral, son y chooid smoo. Agh lurg tammylt, va ny smoo as ny smoo coonseilee noi. As ta'n Cheshaght Obbree ayns ny hEllanyn Heear noi'n wharral neesht. Ta Redland Aggregate treishteil dy bee y Scrudeyr-Steat ayns foayr jeh'n wharral (cha bee eh ny red noa my ta politickeyr jannoo neu-nhee jeh barel Albinee as eshyn ny oltey jeh sheshaght pholitickeyr ta goll rish yn Auk Moor ayns Nalbin).

Haink y brialtys theayagh gy kione er aght fud-y-cheillee. Va'n choonseil er votal nane as feed noi hoght noi'n wharral: caghlaa moor veih'n vote daa vlein roish shen. Er y hon shen, cha row turneyr y choonseil shickyrr c'ed dy ghra ec y vrialtys.

As kyndagh rish shen, t'eh jeeaghyn dy row coonseilee dy liooar coontey nagh row yn caghlaa-aigney soilshit magh ec y vrialtys. Va'n stayd ommdjagh ayn dy row lught y vrialtys goll er myr dy beagh y choonseil foast ayns foayr jeh'n wharral as fys mie ec lught y vrialtys dy row y choonseil (goll rish y theay) er jyndaa mygeayrt dy ve noi'n wharral.

Ta'n skeal shoh ny skeal cadjin. Ta treealtys ayn jeant ec reiltys ny colught moor. Cha nel monney sleih cur geill da sy toshiaght. Eisht, ta tooillee sleih smooinghtyn er y chooish as toiggal dy bee y treealtys jannoo assee moor.

As ta tooillee sleih loayrt magh. Shoh yn tra ta lught-reiltys loayrt mychione 'possan beg jannoo boirey'. As foddee t'eh ro anmagh dy chaghlaa red erbee.

Ta boirey dy liooar jeant liorish folliaght oikoil. Ta sleih ayns ny hellanyn shoh loayrt mychione 'yn co-phobble neu-follit' ('the open society') as 'reiltys neu-follit'. Dy firrinagh, ta reddyn gaase ny smessey. Ta reiltys Lunnin lhiigey er dy vod sleih geddyn greim er stoo va screet my-nyn-gione ec sleih-reiltys. Agh dy firrinagh, ta reiltys Lunnin shirrey argid dy liooar veih sleih ta laccal feddyn magh cre

ren 'scaan' enagh screet my-nyn-gione. Jarrood 'reiltys neu-follit', ta ny 'scaanyn' foast reill.

Ayns ny Harrey, va boirey jeant dy fardailagh er y fa dy row peiagh ennagh ny sleih ennagh geeearree freayll imraa myr imraa 'follit'. S'cosoylagh dy beagh ny sloo assee jeant dy beagh yn imraa er ve currit roish y theay dy chelleeragh. Agh ta ram sleih ta gobbraghey ayns offishyn foast slane shickyrr dy vod ad freayll seihll kiune daue hene my t'ad glassey stoo ayns kishtaghyn - ny lhiigey da sleih 'scanshoil' fakin y stoo 'follit' oc.

Orree Crennell

The row over the superquarry in Harris once again highlights the need for less secrecy in government.

Feailley Gaelgagh

13th to 18th November, 1995, organised by Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh. Events will include: Concerts, Manx Classes, Ned Maddrell lecture, a Gaelic Forum and a Giense Moorar (Ceili).

The aims of this festival are to increase the use and awareness of Manx Gaelic nationwide.

Contact: Phil Gawne, Cooil Bane, Cregneash, Mannin.

Human Rights Concern Vindicated

British and Manx Government criticised by two United Nations Committees.

A damning condemnation of the United Kingdom's Human Rights record was issued in July by the United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC). This followed with criticism by the UN Committee of the Rights of the Child, of the Isle of Man Government's policy of Child Imprisonment. The decision of these two important bodies is a powerful endorsement of the Statement the Celtic League issued in January of this year highlighting human rights abuse. A section of the statement was published in *Carn* 89 (Spring 95) issue. Copies of the document were also supplied to the Breton Secretary of the Celtic Congress, ahead of that organisation's L'Orient meeting which considered the Rights Issue.

The League statement was timely and extremely prophetic. Both UN bodies focused specifically on two administrations whose abuse of rights our pamphlet had highlighted.

Secretary of the committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Soussan Raadi-Azarakhchi said in a letter to the Manx Council for Civil Liberties that: "the general concern expressed by the Committee in its concluding observations about the compatibility of the application of secure training orders on young children with the principles and provisions of the Convention in relation to the administration of juvenile justice *does naturally also cover the specific situation in the Isle of Man* arising from the provisions contained in the Criminal

Justices (Penalties etc.) Act 1993. *The recommendation by the Committee that serious consideration be given to raising the age of criminal responsibility throughout the United Kingdom and reviewing legislative principles and provisions of the Convention will also be of relevance to the legislation applicable in the Isle of Man.*"

Pointedly the UNCRC had considered the issue after concluding its deliberations on the UK earlier and had obviously considered the issue serious enough to warrant specific condemnation.

Our pamphlet's criticisms of the powers conferred by the operation of the Prevention of Terrorism Acts, both in the United Kingdom and Isle of Man were also vindicated. Julio Prod Vallejo, Ecuadorian member, of the UNHRC, contributed a comprehensive survey of the powers of the UK P.O.T. Act and cited its intimidatory effect upon Irish people living in Britain. Similar concerns we had voiced in relation to the treatment of political prisoners were also echoed by the Committee.

It should be recalled that it was this same body the UNHRC that in the 1970s was instrumental in highlighting the systematic torture and abuse of political detainees during interrogation in Northern Ireland. It is of concern that twenty years on the Committee still found the United Kingdom's Rights record to be so fundamentally flawed. Expert after expert produced a litany of abuse covering the questionable use of legislative powers, prisoners rights, emergency powers,

restrictions on freedom of expression and the cynical manipulation of Human Rights protection procedures. In this latter regard the British government were accused of taking refuge "behind the more conservative judgements of the European Court of Human Rights" using those judgements to defend emergency measures such as restrictions on broadcasting and exclusion orders.

The British delegation, headed by John Halliday, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, are reported to have been overcome by the weight of criticism, and "appeared at times flustered and irritated". Halliday denied this later saying the delegation "had expected a robust examination".

The Committee focused in particular on the United Kingdom's repeated failure to draw up a Bill to safeguard rights incorporating either the European Convention on Human Rights or the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Almost all other European countries have enacted such measures, which allow individual citizens to bring complaints to the UN.

The focus provided by these two Committees on the Human Rights record, in both the Isle of Man and United Kingdom, supports our contention set out in the pamphlet "Human Rights on the Celtic Fringe", that a standing Commission should be established to continuously monitor the situation.

J.B. Moffatt

New Sea Dump Explosives Warning

The frequency with which obsolete munitions are washing up around the Isle of Man has prompted the Island's Department of Transport to issue warnings to members of the public. In recent times beaches on both the west and east coast have been affected.

Whilst warning posters are a feature of most Harbour or Coastguard Offices the Dept. has now gone one further and posted newspaper adverts alerting people to the danger and warning that the latest 'crop' of devices coming in give off noxious fumes and can explode.

For many years the Island has had to contend with a variety of ordnance, some emanating from British MOD post-war sea dumping in the Irish sea and to the west of Scotland and Ireland, and others from the now disused Jurby sea bombing range.

Since 1993 however, large quantities of incendiary type devices with a phosphorus content have appeared with alarming

frequency. They appear to originate in the Beaufort Dyke sea dump area and in addition to the Isle of Man other areas of the Irish sea coastline, particularly SW Scotland and the Antrim area of Northern Ireland have been affected.

The contents of the Dyke may have been disturbed by considerable seismic work which has gone on in the North Irish sea.

However, a more likely scenario is that the material encasing the munitions is simply breaking up after forty years in the sea.

The main body of explosives currently coming in, whilst partially chemically based, are easily dealt with when recovered.

The Celtic League's continuing concern however is that other chemical and nerve gas agents now known to have been dumped may also be on the move.

Urgent action is required from the British government to address this problem

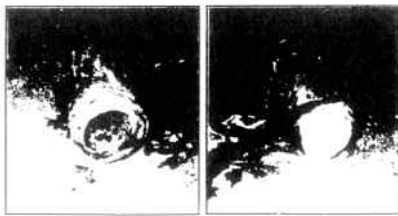
J.B. Moffatt

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT HARBOURS DIVISION

SAFETY NOTICE

1. A number of yellow coloured canisters and fragments as illustrated below have been found on beaches in the Isle of Man.
2. As with any unidentified object, the public are warned not to touch or remove these items.
3. In a number of cases, these canisters have ignited resulting in some flames and smoke. If this is observed, remain well clear of any smoke.
4. If you come across one of these items, please note its position in relation to the point where you came on to the beach and report the information by:

**DIALLING 999 and ask for
THE COASTGUARD**



Fish and Ships - Angela Kneale

1995 ISBN 1 873120 19 2 Paperback £6.99 *The Manx Experience, Slieau Dhoo, Tromode Park, Douglas, Isle of Man.*

Fish and Ships set out in a highly readable form depicts another "link between the Celtic Nations" that unfortunately, with developing pressures of the modern world, is passing. Great fishing fleets have plied the waters around the western British Isles for centuries ensuring that the traditions of Brittany were known in northern Scotland and vice versa. In 1957, by an accident of fate, a young Belgium woman living in the Isle of Man was catapulted into a position which would make her name 'Madame Angele' synonymous with hope and assistance to a generation of Continental Fisherman, a very great majority from the Ports of Brittany. The wreck of a Breton trawler on cliffs near Port St. Mary in the Isle of Man led to an initial involvement as Interpreter which ultimately in 1961 led to her appointment as Consular Agent for France. This was no dull diplomatic post however, and the 208 pages of this book are a testimony both to the variety of the work and the savageness of the sea. In her detailed records, which she started to compile in 1961, she chronicles 1,800 incidents dealing with 450 vessels from France, Belgium, Holland and Spain. The vast

majority, as with her first encounter, from Brittany.

When Angela Kneale first mentioned the project to me she indicated that her intent was to write it up from her records, I had the idea that this might detract from its impact and appear almost diary-like. The finished article however is immensely readable, and indeed this reviewer scarcely set it down between front and final page. The book is at times informative, amusing and serious. The final section which relates an encounter in a hospital in L'Orient, I found humorous. I then moved to browse through the appendices. The list of vessels, some marked with a simple asterisk and number, indicating a loss and death toll made me immensely sad.

This book should especially appeal to those who work in or have an affinity with fishing communities like those in west Brittany, the Isle of Man, the Celtic Countries and the other coastal areas of the British Isles. It will I feel also be appreciated more widely. It constitutes a rich and sometimes tragic chronicle of a disappearing tradition.

Bernard Moffatt

Bridging that Gap

London branch is at present considering how to publicise the League, in particular by means of leafleting large political rallies. Such rallies are few and far between these days. The next one may well be held in Manchester. Nobody is likely to be interested in joining if we call ourselves London branch up there.

Less than half our members live in London or the Home Counties. Nearly all the remainder live elsewhere in England.

It seems only reasonable that the name of the branch should reflect the area we administer. This would give us a chance of picking up some more members and *Carn* readers.

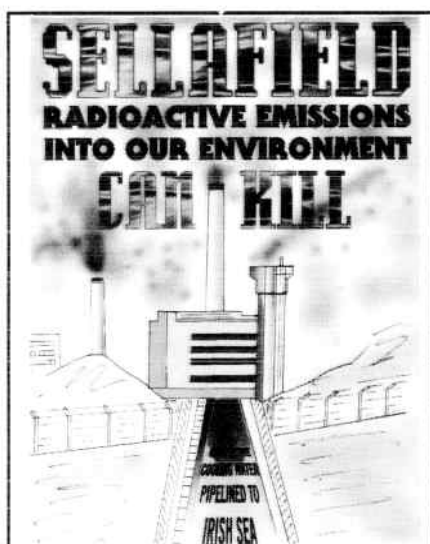
Accordingly we agreed at our AGM to change our name to England branch with the decision to be finalised at our committee meeting in October.

We are, of course, merely regularising a situation which exists, not seeking additional powers for our branch. It will be nice, though, to see England below Mannin on the *Carn* branch secretaries' list!

If there are any *Carn* readers living in England who would like to join the League please contact our Secretary, Robat ap Tomos.

Ifor Kenna

Chairman, London Branch.



This booklet is produced by the Thorp - Shut it Now (Jeigh eh Nish) group. The group campaigns to increase public awareness of the dangers arising from the British Government's Nuclear Policy. Available from : Cathy Clucas, 'Reayrt my heear', Cregneash, Rosien, Mannin IM9 5PS

Da Mihi Manum

Marion Gunn, Everson Gunn Teo.,
Baile Átha Cliath (1994), 128 pp.

This book is a selection of words and phrases in all six Celtic languages given side by side serving as an inter-Celtic phrase book. There is an explanatory introduction written in the six languages and also in English and French, but the body of the book is in the Celtic languages only.

The book is intended for those who have a good knowledge of a least one Celtic language and who wish to speak to other Celts in their languages, typically at inter-Celtic gatherings such as the Celtic Congress (or the Celtic League Annual Conference!). To this end the selection of words and phrases given is especially useful, being different to those given in e.g. a tourist's phrase book. Since no pronunciations are given the user needs at least a basic knowledge of this aspect of the language being looked up.

As a method of learning a language a phrase book is no substitute for a full course with grammar etc., but as a compliment to other studies a book such as this can provide the student immediately with words and phrases that will be of use in situations encountered and which may not be provided early in traditional courses.

The book is relatively free of errors, which would be difficult to avoid in work so linguistically complex, but in a few places the given equivalents do not correspond, possibly because the translators interpreted the meaning of the original phrase in different ways.

Throughout the book the Cornish is repeated three times, in Modern/Late Cornish, Unified and Common. Given the situation in Kernow this is a fair enough policy. Strictly, however, Unified and Common differ only in spelling, and where the Unified and Common equivalents given in this book differ the user can regard them as interchangeable. The Late Cornish forms are frequently quite colloquial and idiomatic and could well be observed by all Cornish speakers.

Robat ap Tom

CELTICA

Annual General Meeting

A very successful and well-attended AGM took place in Inverness, Alba on 19th August this year. The venue was Balnain House, the Home of Highland Music, which meant that over the weekend, after business, delegates enjoyed a variety of entertainment, including a most enjoyable music session which included Scottish, Manx, Welsh and Irish tunes and songs.

General Council Members elected: Chairman - Cathal Ó Luain; General Secretary - Bernard Moffatt; Assistant General Secretary - Mark Kermode; Treasurer - Paul Kelly; Editor - Patricia Bridson.

The following resolutions were passed:

- This AGM notes the increasing identity of a wide range of organisations within the Celtic countries, their heritage, languages, history and politics. We recall the decision of past AGMs to promote links at governmental level between the Celtic countries. This process has been far slower than we would wish.

Therefore this AGM seeks to progress this League policy by means of a working group elected by the AGM.

This AGM wishes to see progress reported as soon as possible and not later than the next AGM.

- The Ard-Fheis calls on the English government to ratify the European charter for Regional or Minority languages immediately and condemns their delaying tactic of claiming to be considering the consequences of doing so.

We call on the French government to ratify too.

- This AGM urges the Celtic League to investigate with appropriate agencies the establishment of a Standing Commission on Human Rights in line with the recommendations set out in the General Secretary's discussion paper "Human Rights on the Celtic Fringe", published earlier this year.

- This AGM denounces the decision of the French Government to carry out a series of nuclear tests in the Pacific as

contrary to the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and likely to revive the nuclear race, and asks against which military threat France feels the need to upgrade its nuclear armament, if it is not for the purpose of supporting a claim to hegemony in Europe.

- This AGM recalling concerns first raised at the 1985 Annual General Meeting of the Celtic League concerning the sea disposal of munitions by the British government in the North Irish Sea calls upon the League's General Council to seek to have the dangerous pollution problems caused by these dumps raised in the European Parliament with a view to bringing pressure on the United Kingdom to investigate and if necessary stabilise the dump sites.

- This AGM informed that the Postal Services have in certain communes of Finistère repeatedly refused to forward letters bearing the forms of the commune names in Breton, even though they were preceded by the corresponding post code numbers and were easy to identify, considers this refusal as a denial of the Bretons' right to use their own language in public life, asks you to a) recognise that right by making available to your employees the list, published by Servij ar Brezhoneg, (74F rue de Paris, BP3166, 35031 Rennes-Cedex) which gives the names of all the communes of Finistère in their Breton forms opposite the official versions with the post code numbers, thus removing any possible difficulty in forwarding such letters.

b) To instruct your employees to act accordingly.

- This AGM considering that it is an obligation on the part of the French State to meet the Breton's demand for the teaching of their language, informed that several bilingual classes in State-administered primary schools risk being without teachers of Breton at the start of the 1995-'96 school year, and that a similar situation exists in secondary schools, protests most strongly against the decision to dismiss five experienced teachers of Breton who have

university qualifications in the language from their posts in various parts of Brittany and to replace them with holders of the CAPES in Breton instead of appointing the latter to posts in other schools where a proven demand exists for Breton classes which allegedly cannot be met for lack of qualified teachers, calls on the French Minister of Education and on the Rector of the Academy of Rennes to ensure continuity in the teaching of Breton, and to provide for the training of competent



Mark Kermode

teachers of the language on the basis of a clear and coherent education policy adapted to the Breton's demand.

- This movement adds its voice to the appeal for the release of Siôn Aubrey and other Celtic political prisoners used as pawns in the "British" and "French" game.

- This Celtic League AGM deplores the behaviour of the British Government in stalling the Peace Process. We question their commitment to the process and urge them to move matters forward by initialising all party talks immediately.

- This Celtic League AGM condemns the lack of recognition and regularised funding for Meánscoil Feirste, Bunscoil an Iúir and other Irish medium primary schools in the North of Ireland. We call on the Department of Education there to grant immediate recognition and provide adequate funding now.

- This AGM calls on the UK government's Education department to ensure the continued provision of a GCSE



Entertainment at AGM Céili

in the Cornish Language despite reorganisation of Local Examination Boards.

- This AGM condemns the decision to proceed with the proposed Royal Navy firing range off Dodman Point on the South Cornish Coast.

Reiterates its opposition to the Range and pledges to give all assistance to environmental groups and fishermen who also oppose it.

- The Cornish language - and its various versions - is the responsibility and liability of the Cornish people and themselves only, and this organisation should not interfere.

- This AGM mindful that the Isle of Man is, via obligations entered into on its behalf by the United Kingdom, a signatory to various Conventions of the United Nations, expresses its concern that the Manx government has indicated that it will not amend legislation which established "Child Prisons" despite criticisms of that legislation voiced by the UNCRC.

- This AGM calls upon the General Council of the Celtic League to seek action, via the Irish Government, to obtain an apology and compensation for persons detained on the Isle of Man under the provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act in 1989.

- This AGM calls upon the TV broadcasting media serving the Isle of Man to recognise the needs of Manx speakers when planning their programming. Whilst it is recognised that Manx speakers are only a small minority of the total viewing public on the Island we feel it is not unreasonable to ask for a small amount of Manx language programmes to be commissioned and broadcast.

- Following Tynwald's recent request that the Department of Education should look into the future of the Manx language

this AGM calls upon the Department to recognise the considerable role which successive Manx governments have played in the decline of the Manx language. This recognition of the Government's neglect and at times open hostility to Manx should now be balanced so that Manx is adequately promoted and supported.

Celtic Congress

The Celtic Congress, an organisation which exists since the beginning of this century and is devoted to the promotion of the Celtic languages and cultures, held its annual gathering this time in An Oriant (Lorient) from July 26 to 31. One of its themes was "Human Rights and the Celtic countries." The text on the same subject published in *Carn 90* was referred to by Brian Mac Stoyll from Mannin. To the question whether our languages would get a better chance in the European Union, Per Denez, president of the International Congress, replied "Yes, if it becomes democratic!"

{One might point out that the safeguarding of a language is not a matter of human rights alone but also and above all a collective, national right. It depends for its survival, when under threat, on more complex relations than those between *individuals* and a State. It has to be seen as pertaining to an organic community, its speakers must be or become an organic community, if it is to live. Many parallels could be mentioned from the fields of sociology and other disciplines (biology, physics etc.) to show that the general rule applies that the properties of complex

bodies and systems and the relationships which govern their behaviour are of a different, higher order than those of their constituent elements. This does not invalidate the claim to human (individual) rights, but these are not sufficient. Our languages require recognition as essential characteristics of the Celtic nations. Failing that they remain condemned to a low larvate or mutilated form of life. The problem is essentially political!}

Thanks to the co-operation of the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies and to the initiative of Eibhlín Ní Chathailriabhaigh (Irish branch of the Celtic Congress), Coiscéim, the prominent Irish language publisher directed by Pádraig Ó Snodaigh, brought out just in time for the meeting in An Oriant a 64 page book reproducing three talks or lectures delivered at a commemoration, in Dublin (June 1990), of the Breton language pioneer, writer and linguist Roparz Hemon who died in Dublin in 1978. On one side are the texts in Irish (2) or English (1), and opposite the equivalent texts in Breton. They give excellent information on different aspects of the life and work of a man with whom the authors were in touch for many years. Per Denez talks about R.H.'s achievements in the linguistic struggle, Malachy Mac Kenna about his place in the Breton literary tradition and the present writer gives his own recollections of him over more than thirty years. The book can be ordered from Coiscéim, 127 Bóthar na Trá, Dumhach Trá, Baile Átha Cliath 4. (Ir£4 or 40 FrF plus postage 10%).

A. Heusaff

Political Correctness for Celts Number 3 This Country

The English media frequently refer to the whole of the island of Britain as "the country", and the same habit is widespread in daily conversation in England. Those of us who want Wales, Scotland and Cornwall to remain distinct national entities and not to be absorbed into a Greater England should reject this practice and where possible object to it. When in Wales "this country" should refer to Wales, when in England it means England etc. The same should apply to Brittany as against France.

R.apT

In the municipal elections held in June, over 90 of the candidates belonging or closely related to the Union Démocratique Bretonne were elected. Although it

is hardly 1% of the total number of Breton municipal councillors, it is an increase of 20% compared to the previous number. It was by making arrangements with local branches of French Leftist parties (where it was possible without contradicting its own policies) that the UDB candidates could join lists put forward by one or the other of those parties. It was deemed they had thus a better chance than by going out on their own.

There are UDB councillors, some appointed deputy mayors, in several of the main Breton towns. The party uses a

Municipal Elections

regionalist, not a nationalist, language. This year's elections showed 51% of the Breton voters favouring the Left. The percentage of those supporting J.M. Le Penn's

National Front was much lower in Brittany than overall in France. This may have to do with the fact that there are relatively few immigrants here.

A close monitoring of the performance of the various elected representatives concerning the specifically Breton interests should be carried out and its results published in the Breton periodicals. This would be more useful than devoting a lot of their space to the problems of far-away ethnic groups as most of them are doing!

A.H.

Al Liamm

Literary magazine in Breton, 5 issues/year, subscription 150/160F - 200F airmail outside State to Per ar Bihan, 16 r. des Fours à Chaux, 35400 Sant-Malo. The Summer double issue Nr 290/291 has 124 pp containing a dozen contributions, some long ones like R. ar C'halan's study of the link between playing (four aspects) and literature - he illustrates this mainly

by reference to works in French -, others short like the moving story of a seven year old disturbed by the prospect of his widowed father's remarriage and lively pieces from four secondary school pupils. Alan Botrel tells of the strange experience of a Greek girl whose lover has been killed at the battle of the Thermopyles. In addition to translations by Mark Kerrain, Goule'han Kervella (of Seán O'Casey's play "Bedside Story" and others, there are 30 pages of Notennoù full of information about the Breton publications etc.

Attempted Murder... A Pictish Perspective on the 1707 Treaty of Union

Scottish Exchequer Press,
Caledonia House, Alness, Easter Ross,
Alba/Scotland, Stg. £4.95

In every century a prophet arises from among the Scottish people often of a purely secular type. They tend to be larger than life with splendidly inspiring powers of rhetoric and deeds. The artist-writer the late Wendy Wood was the previous one. She stirred more to the struggle for Scottish independence than the Scottish National Party of that time ever did and they envied and hated her for that. The media was particularly mocking of her heroic triumphs, for the same reasons.

The media is marginally kinder to her successor - Robbie the Pict... The Pictish kingdom of which we know comparatively little was situated in the North-East of Scotland. Its people are understood to have been Celts. Their art certainly is in the Celtic art tradition. Robbie has seen the publicity potential of latching on to them.

Hence his sobriquet - Robbie the Pict.

His paperback book *Attempted Murder... A Pictish Perspective on the 1707 Treaty of Union* is a very good read... scholarly and flamboyant. The Recommended Reading list at the end of the book reveals that he has expended considerable research in putting this breezy but erudite book together.

We know how Czechoslovakia fell to Hitler. The surrounding circumstances around 1707 by which England annexed Scotland are arguably similar. Sadly, we are not referred to the relevant historical details in this splendid little book. But a quick resumé of the facts relating to the period under consideration may make Robbie's book even more interesting. At the Restoration of the English King Charles II most of the key posts in the Scottish government were filled by those who were pliant to the English establishment. Around 1707 vast bribery and corruption was made. The most amenable traitor was Lord Banff who not only threw in his vote for the extinction of his country but also changed his religion for £11 and 2/- (£11.10)! Compensation was also offered to ruined investors in the botched-up Darien Scheme. The right to trade in the English (British) Empire was also offered to the weak and

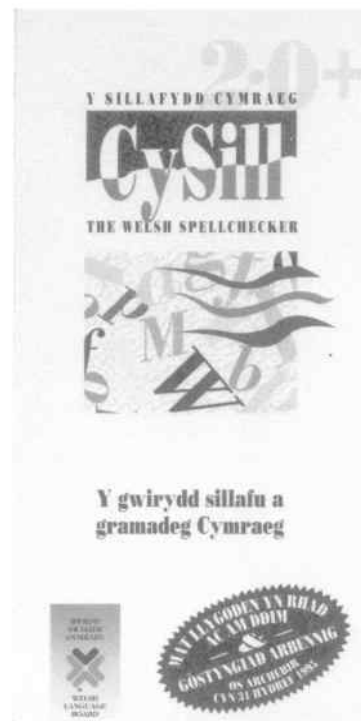
greedy. Scots had been excluded from this Empire till 1707. Bad harvests and being cut off from trade by Scots with Europe on account of the English wars of Empire both helped to ruin the Scottish economy.

Above all, John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough had become the mightiest military commander in the world at the beginning of the eighteenth century after defeating Scotland's ally the French King Louis XIV before the Union in 1704 at Blenheim and Ramillies in 1706. He moved his troops to the Border at Berwick and Carlisle (as Hitler did with Czechoslovakia almost 2 1/2 centuries hence).

It might be added that Marlborough became the all-powerful force in England when he married Sarah Jennings in 1678. Sarah could be regarded as an earlier Maggie Thatcher and virtually ruled England by bullying Queen Anne into submission.

These are an extraordinary combination of circumstances peculiar to the end of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries and in no way justify the continued subjugation of Scotland by her Southern Neighbour almost into the twenty-first century.

This book will delight and educate its readers in a way few other books can.



Y gwirrydd sillafu a gramadeg Cymraeg

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La Maison du Connemara - Histoire d'un Breton

*Tome II by Yann Fouere. Published by
Coop. Breizh 1995. 338 pp 158 FrF.*

This book is the continuation of "La Patrie Interdite" published in 1987 and reviewed in *Carn* Nr 62. These recollections constitute an essential part of the contemporary history of Brittany in which Fouere has played an irreplaceable role. He has published several books but the originality of this one is that it reveals an aspect of his personality which we thought we knew but of which many of us were not aware.

We knew the Breton political figure, one of the greatest - if not the greatest - in this century, the untiring fighter endowed with that extraordinary adaptability which transformed him from being almost exclusively an intellectual reared in the ranks of the French Administration into a company manager who succeeded in particularly difficult conditions. Here he appears as an affectionate head of family and as a Celt sensitive to the beauty of the world, also with a feeling for the beyond that surrounds us. Living on one of the headlands in the West of Ireland, he often gets the impression of being at the limit of two worlds, the visible and the invisible, at the point of departure from the sacred edge of Ireland for the Islands of Eternal Youth.

This is the most intimate of his books, although his extreme discretion leaves us with much to guess of his anguish and suffering.

There are four parts, in chronological order. The first two concern the vicissitudes of his exile in Wales and then in Ireland. The difficulties encountered by a number of other Breton activists, obliged like himself to seek refuge from persecution, trying to survive in almost impossible conditions in spite of the generous aid given by our brother Celts, are also related here, though more briefly.* The fourth part tells us about Y. Fouere's periodical returns to Brittany and France after his acquittal (in 1955) by a court finally worthy of the name, the beginnings of the (unpolitical) *Committee for the Study and Co-ordination of Breton Interests* (C.E.L.I.B.), the launching of the Project for the Organisation of Brittany in 1956 leading the following year to the foundation of *Movement for the Organisation of Brittany* which marked the political rebirth of our country after ten years of repression. This section belongs therefore to its more general history, a history which sectarian petty bourgeois have tried to occult or rewrite in their own way.

However the pages which are for me the most moving are those which describes his life in Connemara, the meticulous

observation of the innumerable personalities of various backgrounds whom he came across in the course of his business, as well as socially, along that seaboard of Connaught to which Cromwell and his like relegated the Irish Celt in the hope of exterminating them. The picture of this westernmost, least known, part of Ireland is drawn with great affection and irresistible humour. It is for us unforgettable. But this Ireland will vanish. It has begun to get in tune with the new Europe, for better or worse. Yet it will live on through this book.

All the account is mingled with reflections testifying to the great wisdom of a man now in old age who had lived an exceptionally full life.

Yann Bouessel du Bourg

** Practically all had to move to Ireland, a country of high unemployment where only a few could eventually get a lasting and satisfactory job. A few inaccuracies in the details concerning some of the former members of the Bezen Perrot, although not serious, might be rectified in a future edition.*

A.H.



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