

carn

A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS

No. 64

WINTER 1988/89

£1

Striving for a Welsh Speaking Wales

Emigration — AN Irish Scandal

Housing Crisis in Mannin

Parliaments for the Celts

Housing the English

Baase Desmond Greaves

Diwan — Progress
and Setbacks

Scotland — Free in Europe or a
Thatcherite Desert

CELTIC LEAGUE



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



ALBA

NA COIGRICH

le Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig

1.
Ged is grianach an latha
Gur beag m'aighear r'a bhòidhchead,
Is Alba air a bàthadh
O'n briseadh a-steach nach còrdadh.

2.
Ceudan mìltean coltach ri dìle
Sior sùghadh ar cosnadh
Daoine modhail gun teagamh,
Coltach uisg' blath 'sa chontraigh.

3.
Pailteas san Shasunn mu dheas
Nì sgaoileadh an òrdugh,
Alba air a ceannsachadh,
Chan eil an giulan cho neònach.

4.
Ach dé fuasgladh na ceist seo?
Direach an Roinn Eorpa.
An dearbh fhreagart a tha aca
San Fhraing, sa Ghréig, san Lochlann

5.
Ma bhios coigrich a' dol ann
Son fearann no ri obair
B'fheudar a' chàin dh'ionnsachadh
Agus bi fàilt' orr' an comhnuidh!

Thachair tachartas iongantach air Di-Luain 29mh Lùnasdal 1988. Bhruidhinn trì guthan na h-Alba mar aon, 'se sin ri radh da phaigear-naidheachd ('An t-Albannach' agus 'An Tosgair Glaschu') agus STV.

Thug iad rabhadh dhuinn gun robh Sasunnaich a' glacadh uiread de chosnadh againn agus gum biodh Alba a' dol fodha mur eil sinn comasach freagairt fhaighinn. Bha an cuspair seo toirmisgte gus an latha an diugh, ach ghlaodh na paigearan-naidheachd seo agus STV àrd an claiginn agus air an aobhar sin, cha bhi e na chuspair falaichte tuilleadh.

Thuit an STV gur e ceannsachadh na h-Alba as coireach. Tha sin ceart, gun teagamh, ach tha ath-bheothachadh na Gàidhlig cheart cho feumail.

Chunnaic sinn am Prògram STV seo agus thuig sinn, ann an ùine ghearr gun robh cuspair eile toirmisgte fhathast, 'se sin, 'Aiseirigh na Seann Chànain Albannaich' mar a dh'ainmich Alasdair MacMhaighstir Alasdair i.

Nuair a bhios ar cànain Albannach againn fhéin air a h-aisigeadh air ais, gus an àite far am bu choir dhi bhith — an àite na Beurla —

cha bhiodh tuilleadh bàthadh na h-Alba ann, oir mur eil na coimhich comasach Gàidhlig a chleachdadh gu fileanta cha bhi iad comasach obair sam bith fhaighinn.

Nochdaidh Israel dhuinn an doigh aisigeadh na Gàidhlig, 'se sin 'teagaisg a h-uile cuspair feadh nan sgoiltean, colaistean agus oilthighean tre na Gàidhlig, feadh Alba gu leir agus cleachdadh na Gàidhlig fad àm na h-obrach agus am na foise.' Tha sinn lan comasach ma chuireas sinn romhainn sin a dhèanamh comhla ris a' chumhachd phoileataiceach. Ma dh'fhàsas na coigrich ro-fhileanta sa Ghàidhlig 's e sin a' phrìs bu choir dhaibh paigheadh, dìreach mar a dh'fheumamaid cosnadh fhaighinn no fhaighinn a-steach don oilthigh san Fhraing no sa Ghréig no an àite eile sam bith feadh na Roinn Eorpa gu leir. Nuair a bhios Alba na rìoghachd shaor fhéin-riaghlaidh a-rithist agus Gàidhlig cho buadhmhor gu léir is a tha an Fhraingis san Fhraing no a' Ghreugais san Ghréig, bithidh Alba ceart gu leóir.

Bhon nach robh am Program STV seo ag iarraidh Saorsa na h-Alba comhla ri Aiseirigh na Gàidhlig... de bha iad ag iarraidh? Othail a-mhain, dìreach othail. Mur eil cànain nàiseanta thèarmannach (protective) air a cleachdadh foadh Alba gu leir, théid Alba leis an t-sruth a chionn s' gum bi uiread de bhàthadh leis na coimhich a' tighinn a-steach do dh'Alba.

Mata, feumaidh sinn na Goill agus na coimhich a tharruing a-steach don chànain againn le aoibhneas ro-mhór gus a bheil iad ag ionnsachadh ar cànain 's ar ciuil agus ag cur na cloinne aca dha na Sgoiltean Araich, do sgoiltean coltach ri Sgoil Sir John Maxwell ann an Glaschu agus colaistean coltach ris an t-Sabhal Mór Ostaig.

Cha robh ann an cuis Saorsa agus Fhéin-riaghaladh na h-Alba cho mór-chòrdte tri fichead bliadhna air ais, ach dhearbha na nàiseantaich don t-sluagh on am sin, gun robh fein-riaghladh feumail do gach neach feadh na h-Alba gu leir agus tha iad a' tuigsinn gum bheil sin na fhìrinn glan an diugh. 'S fheudar dhuinn dèanamh dìreach mar an ceudna a thaobh na Gàidhlig.

Nochd am Prògram STV dìreach mar a bha cunnartan gu leóir ann, bhon a bha uiread de choigrich a' tighinn a-steach do na dreuchdan as cudthromaiche, gu h-àraidh a-measg nan Ealain; coltach ris na h-Ard Taighean-tasgaidh (museums), Ard Taighean-peantaidh (art

galleries), an t-Ard Leabharlann, Opera Albannach, Dannsadh Albannach (ballet), Comhairle nan Ealain an Albain, na Feisean ann an Dun Eideann agus Glaschu agus mar sin air adhart.

Tha ochd oilthighean ann an Alba, agus tha ceannard os cionn gach oilthigh. Tha coignear ceannardan nach eil Albannach. Tha coig colaistean deug fo smachd an Rìaghaltais ann an Alba, le deich nach eil fo stiùireadh Albannach.

Tha 50% de na h-oileanaich an Oilthigh Chill Rìmhinn bho thaobh deas Shasuin agus leis a sin tha a h-uile cail san Oilthigh ag aomadh gus na Sasunnaich. A reir a' Phrogram STV bithidh na h-oilthighean Albannaich eile a' dol leis an t-sruth cuideachd, seach Glaschu agus Srath-Chluaidh.

Da bhliadhna air ais, rinn Anna NicGuigean rannsachadh a thaobh Roinn nan Saidheans Soisealta, Oilthigh DhunEideann, air 'Sasunnachd an Oilthigh DhunEideann'. Labhair i roimhe air beulaibh luchd-teagaisg agus oifeagaran an Oilthigh air. Nochd i gun robh iomadh sgoiltean taghta ann an Sasuinn mu dheas, mar Eton is Harrow, a' putadh nan sgoilear aca a-steach do Oilthigh DhunEideann.

Tha Colaiste Leigheas nan Beothach Dig Rioghail (Royal Dick Vet) ann an DunEideann fada nas miosa dheth. Anns a' bhliadhna 1978 bha 60% de na h-oileanaich nan Albannaich, a-nis chan eil ach 20% oileanaich Albannaich ann. Cha bhiodh bàthadh nan Albannach ach nam biodh a h-uile cail air a theagaisg tre na Gàidhlig!

Tha cor Alba dìreach cho dona a thaobh Rannsachaidh agus Saidheans (Science), far a bheil Sasunnaich a' stiùireadh uiread de dh'ùghdarrasan, mar eisimpleir, Gleidheadh an Naduir, Forsaireachd, Iasgaireachd, Rathadan agus mar sin air adhart. Cha bhiodh ach breacadh de choimhich ann a shin nan robh cànain na h-obrach tre na Gàidhlig!

Tha cóig bailtean ùra ann an Alba. Stiùireadh oifigearan Sasunnaich an Airm, air chluain, a trì.

Chunnaic sinn an fhìrinn air a' Phrogram STV ach dh'fhàg iad a-mach na bha cudthromach mar gum bheil cànain eadar-dhealaichte na sgiath. Ach cha d'fhuir iad facal a thaobh na Gàidhlig no nan Gàidheil. Mar a tha fios againn tha a' Ghàidhealtachd luma-lan de Shasunnaich. Tha fios againn cuideachd gum bheil a' mhór chuid a' toirt an dualachas air ais bho na Gàidhlig agus na Gàidheil. Is ainneamh uair a tha iad ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig no a' brosnachadh na feadhna òg aca, sin a dhèanamh... ach an fheadhainn eile a tha air an iompachadh... mata, tha iad dìreach miorbhuileach. Ach cha d'fhuir am Prògram STV facal a thaobh

SCOTLAND — FREE IN EUROPE OR A THATCHERITE DESERT

This autumn the political news from Scotland is up-beat. There is a clear SNP strategy decision to throw Scotland's hopes of survival into the European Community arena; the Tory government's unpopular policies on the poll tax, and training, their butchery of the Health Service continue to bite deep; Labour's open divisions over how, or if, to oppose the poll tax and whether to support a cross party self-government initiatives is up in the air; the Social and Liberal Democrats continue to stand very low in the polls — all of these open a new chapter in Scottish politics.

The SNP emerged with a united stand on "Independence in Europe" after a heated debate at their annual conference in Inverness. By six to one the means to banish electors fears about isolationism, if they voted for independence, appears as a vote-winner to a wide spectrum of SNP opinion. The other parties realise this SNP initiative to propose a Scottish seat at the EC Council of Ministers as a great political boost in the run up to next June's Euro elections. Other parties like the SLD see their pro-European stance outflanked because Liberals believe Scots need Britain to protect their future. One prominent Labour figure, the recently retired General Secretary of Scotland's largest teaching union the EIS, Mr. John Pollock, has endorsed the idea of independent SNP representation in Europe and pronounced devolution dead. He is gaining support from others in Labour's ranks who fear a UK Labour victory will never, if ever, give Scots the attention they demand. A hit song from leading Scots pop group "The

Proclaimers" sums up the mood — "I can't understand why we let someone else rule our land, we're cap in hand".

One Labour member who agrees with Mr. Pollock also takes a strong anti-poll tax line. He is Mr. Dick Douglas, MP for Dunfermline West. With around 14 other Scots Labour MPs he is poised to defy their party policy which seeks only to oppose the poll tax within the law, unlike the united SNP call "Can Pay — Won't Pay". Nowadays many sections of the community question whether the ACT of Union with England of 1707 can be brought to court to stop a tax applied a year ahead of England which makes the poor pay as much in local taxes as the rich. Scenes of dismay and disagreement at Labour's special Scottish Conference in Govan, Glasgow, timed to coincide with the last day of SNP's Conference, only revealed the trade union block vote saving Labour's face while many now openly questioned the "stay legal" stance. If Labour has to tailor all its policies to capture SE English votes, so the argument goes, why bother voting for them again. Scots want stronger meat.

Marching in parallel are a series of strands across the Scottish political spectrum which desire action to achieve Scots solutions to Scottish problems without waiting for Westminster. How can Scots face 1992 and EC free market conditions without a Scots voice at the top table? How can Scots throw out the poll tax without throwing out Westminster rule as well? How can Scots protect themselves from nuclear accidents, military or civil, and even worse prevent being used as the UK depository for nuclear waste? What about the Anglicisation of education, the attack on the NHS and so on? The gulf between Scottish and English aspirations is yawning.

Early in September a TV programme examined the "Englishing of Scotland". Why are so many of the top posts in the land now held by people of English training and origin? The finger points directly at Mrs. Thatcher's man in Scotland, Malcolm Raskind, the Secretary of State. He has massive patronage of appointments to the public and semi-public bodies which carry out many functions of modern government. Scottish culture, higher education, our collectivist Scottish social scene are all undermined by unsympathetic outsiders who in the main represent a very different set of cultural values. Their voices grate in our ears as the sound of authority on so many TV and radio programmes and in so many areas of public life.

So to another initiative afoot this year. The Campaign for a Scottish Assembly has published a "Claim of Right" a dispassionate dissection of the failure of the Westminster system to meet Scottish needs. On a cross-party basis, with many prominent Scots in support, it challenges the parties, trade unions and churches to set up a democratically elected Constitutional Convention. The date planned is next Spring, the task to draw up a form of government based on a Scots parliament to place before Thatcher. The plan already has SNP, SLD, STUC and COSLA support. Kinnock's man in Scotland, Mr. Donald Dewar also gives it his blessing — chances are that a united opposition have made a basic agreement which could well bear fruit. For it has been notoriously difficult to gain cross-party support for many other ventures.

Labour may wish to cover its disarray by agreeing, with more or less enthusiasm, to the initiative, they know people will become very impatient if there is no lifting of the gloom which Thatcherism has laid over so many Scottish hopes.

The catalyst could be a bye-election called in Govan in either November or March. It will be the first such parliamentary joust since 1982 in Scotland; caused by the elevation of Bruce Millan, MP for Govan, to be a European Commissioner. Although a safe Labour seat, in the heart of Glasgow — it is now a national focus as it was in November 1973. Then SNP's Margo MacDonald snatched a stunning victory which kick-started the SNP rise of that decade. Today, in albeit a largely redrawn constituency, her husband, ex-Labour MP, Jim Sillars, is the SNP champion. Already Labour have been caught flat-footed and their executive's chosen candidate ditched by the local party in favour of TU official Bob Gillespie. He immediately conceded to SNP policy by declaring himself resolved not to pay the poll tax. While the media recognise that SNP have a mammoth task to overturn a 19,000 Labour majority — with 20% in the recent District Council polls last May SNP is already on the rise.

Dick Douglas's declaration in favour of self-government for Scotland in a European context will be seen as further evidence of a growing support in the Scottish Labour movement for a more nationalistic stance — so commented "The Scotsman" newspaper on 1st October as it reported the increasing discussions which are surfacing among a possible new coalition of forces spurred on by SNP advances. The means to break the stranglehold of Thatcherite power in South East England which denies Scots, Welsh and Irish people of self-government is now reaching the top of the Scottish agenda.

ROB GIBSON

GILLEASBUIG MacMHUIRICH
Gilleasbuig Lachlainn 'Illeasbuig.

The two most quality newspapers and a TV programme stressed the real dangers of Scots becoming swamped in their own country by outsiders who were laying hold of some of the most strategic jobs in the country. They hinted the restoration of Scottish sovereignty; but there is a much potent solution to the problem, but, as monolingual English speakers, they couldn't or wouldn't see it!

Editor's Note: The bye-election referred to above was held in November and resulted in a decisive victory for S.N.P.'s Jim Sillars who took the seat with a majority of 3,554. Mr. Sillars said that Scots were sick of being treated as a second class nation by a government whose policies they abhor. He said the next general election will centre on whether Scotland will become independent or remain a "province of an English Tory government".

ON THE GAELIC FRONT

Television, like fire and electricity, can be either a devastatingly successful enemy or a friendly agent for good. This is particularly so in the context of the cultures of lesser-used languages in Europe. And it is even more the case with Gaelic.

Setting aside the work of such bodies as Comunn na Gaighlig, An Comunn Gaidhealach and other striving agencies for the language, Gaelic culture and language is still being bombarded daily with mid-Atlantic cultural values expressed through the medium of English. Gaelic is as yet only allowed a small and hardly charitable token presence on the airwaves.

So far as radio is concerned, Radio nan Gaidheal, based in Inverness, and the local output from Radio nan Eilean, based in Stornoway, supplies a reasonable amount of Gaelic-medium programmes. These are varied enough to have a wide appeal to listeners of all ages and tastes. Not only that but the number of Gaelic-speakers involved in programme making is quite significant, building up a bank of technical expertise which could be accessed by those interested in the TV side of things.

Which brings me to the recent formation of ABU, an independent Gaelic-based film-making company being set up to stake a claim in the Gaelic TV production market. ABU will also have the potential for strengthening the widely-supported campaign for an expanded TV service in the language.

Two of the people involved with ABU have a massive experience in broadcasting. One is Alasdair Milne, former BBC Director General. The other is Fred MacAulay once Head of the BBC Scotland Gaelic Department. It is significant that ABU has been welcomed by both the BBC and the two independent ITV companies in Scotland.

At the moment a campaign is being mounted to get a minimum of 520 hours of Gaelic programming on the air.

In some ways ABU will be in competition with the other film/TV programme company Bòrsa Beò, but no doubt both companies will find their own share of the market to the ultimate benefit of Gaelic.

The need for such TV companies was seen during the week of the National Mod in Glasgow in September. Outside broadcasts of the Mod have been claimed by the BBC to be too costly where the Mod is held outside Glasgow or Edinburgh. Yet, despite the fact that the Mod was "just down the road, from BBC Glasgow, there was no TV coverage of either the competitions or the major concerts. This is speaking with forked tongue!

It is early days yet to say whether in a handful of years the Gaelic-speaking community will have TV programmes in their own language to watch. But the moves are all in the right direction at the moment and what once might have seemed pie in the sky may well become a reality in the near future. Watch your screens!

FRANK MacTHOMAS

HELD AT GUNPOINT IN BRITISH EMBASSY!

In mid-September Cornish nationalist Allen Forster visited Ireland on a fact-finding mission and as part of a campaign to draw international attention to Cornwall's plight.

As part of the campaign Mr. Forster, a member of the "Free Cornwall" magazine group and a Celtic League member, planned to hand in a letter to the English Ambassador, Nicholas Fenn, at the English Embassy in Dublin. The letter, written in both Cornish and English, complained about the genocide-by-substitution policy of the English State which has reduced the Cornish people to a minority in their own country.

On Friday September 16th Mr. Forster, accompanied by the author of this article and by an Irish female member of the Celtic League (who wishes to remain anonymous), approached the Embassy which is under heavy armed guard.

When Mr. Forster approached the outer security gate and asked to see the Ambassador, a security guard aggressively demanded that a camera in the possession of one of the group should be handed over. Since the camera was personal property, was not in use, and there was no intention to use it — it was being carried in a jacket pocket — this curious demand was refused.

At this point an attempt was made to seize the camera by force, the attempt was resisted during a brief struggle, and without waiting to be ordered off the Embassy premises, the group ran through the outer security gate, across the Embassy grounds, up a flight of stairs, through an unlocked door leading into the passport section of the main Embassy building and, finally, into the commercial section of the Embassy.

Two armed men entered the commercial section (the alarms had been sounding throughout the Embassy for several minutes) and menaced the group with a revolver and an automatic pistol. They were in such an agitated condition, waving and pointing their guns at everything in sight (including Embassy staff) that it was a miracle that no shots were fired and nobody was killed or injured.

As it was, the three of us were roughly bundled out of the Embassy after being held at gunpoint, and were then threatened with arrest, warned twice by different Irish police officers that "you're lucky you weren't shot", and the film was ripped from the camera — which was slightly damaged.

Mr. Forster demanded a receipt for the film, which was given by a uniformed policeman (shaking so badly that his handwriting is nearly illegible), and also insisted that his letter should be delivered personally to the Ambassador.

All this to hand in a letter of protest! So much for "British democracy"!

When Mr. Forster and I approached the media to make a public complaint about our mistreatment (the female member of our group having been taken home suffering from

shock), the media (e.g. the Sunday People) distorted the story to suggest that we were in some way the "aggressors"! The media ignored the following facts:

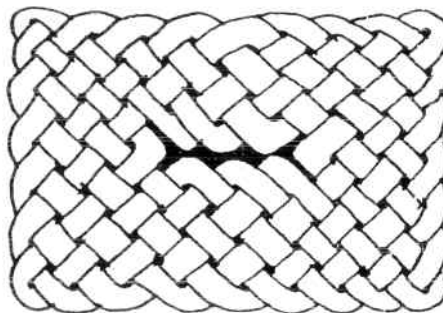
- The group merely intended to hand in a protest letter but were lucky to survive the incident;
- It was the Embassy security staff who created the incident — what legal right do they have to demand the confiscation of personal property and then to forcibly seize it?
- Despite the fact that there is an agreement that security at the Embassy is handled by the Irish police, at least one member of the Embassy staff threatened the group with a Browning Automatic Pistol (the standard weapon of the SAS), in clear breach of the agreement that Embassy staff should not be armed.

Why is the Irish Government not investigating?

This incident serves as an illustration of the aggressive nature of the British state and its attitude towards even peaceful protests.

Complaints have been made and the matter is still being investigated with a view to compensation.

ADAM S. BUSBY



CONNOLLY EXHIBITION

Celtic League chairman, Peter Berresford Ellis, officially opened the exhibition on the life and work of James Connolly — 'Sing a Rebel Song' — at the Grange Museum of Community History, Neaseden, London NW10, in September last. The exhibition was due to remain at the Museum a month before transferring to the National Museum, Dublin.

In his speech, Berresford Ellis said the exhibition had an important role on the breaking down of centuries of propaganda which had been enforced on the majority of English people leading to ignorance, apathy and hostility towards the Irish.

Before opening the exhibition, he sketched the relevance of Connolly's writings on nationalism and socialism, as well as the Partition of Ireland, to the problems of today.

BREIZH

SKINWEL EVIT GOUEZELEGERIEN ALBA

Hag e fazian? Ne welan kaer nemet STOURM AR BREZHONEG o lavarout ez eo ret kaout ur servij-skinwel klok en hor yezh. Koulskoude, ha daoust d'am damgredenn ez eo techet ar c'henreizhadoù skinwel, dre natur, da ober fae war ezhommoù ar bihanniverioù, ret eo deomp strivañ da dennañ mad eus o zeknologiezh. Pouezus eo kaout postoù-henchañ brezhonek. Ne goustfent ket gwall ger. Ret kenderc'hel a-se da atizañ ar pennadurezhioù d'o lakaat. Kalz pouezusoc'h c'hoazh eo reiñ tu d'ar Vrezhoneg da welout ha da glevout o yezh war ar skramm bihan, da arvestiñ ouzh programmoù a bep seurt. Ar c'helenner Jak L. Williams a lavare war-dro 15 vloaz zo e vefe gouest an darn vrasañ eus e genvroiz da gomz kembraeg a-benn ar bloaz 2000 ma vije krouet ur servij skinwel klok er yezh-se. N'eo ket ur ganol distag a felle dezhañ met a-drugarez da S4C emañ Kembreiz war an hent mat evit tizhout ar pal-se.

Gouezelegerien Alba n'o deus netra heñvel, na tost. Goulenn a reont perak ar gwallziforc'h. Sklaer eo an abeg, koulskoude. N'eo ket kement-se en arbenn ma'z eo niverusoc'h ar gembraegerien egeto. Gwanoc'h un tamm mat eo an emskiant eus talvoudegezh ar yezh en o bro ha n'eus ket eno netra par da g-Cymdeithas yr Iaith na den doujet ebet evel Gwynfor Evans gouest da spontañ ar pennadurezhioù saoz. . . . Evel e Breizh, ez eus un aozadur en Alba o c'houlenn ur servij klok: Cumann na Gàidhlig. Hemañ zo anavezet "en kefridiel", mui pe vui, gant ar Stad. Emañ o paouez embann ur skrid peuz hir, ennañ kinnigoù da vout breutaet ha burutellet gant ar re a zo prederiet gant ar gudenn, a-zivout ar seurt servij rekis d'ar gouezeleg evit chom bev.

Me n'ouzon dare hag eñ 'z eus bet prientet ur rollad kinnigoù ha mennadoù ken munudus gant Stourm ar Brezhoneg pe ur gevredigezh bennak all? Ma n'eus ket e talfe ar boan studiañ hini ar c'h-Cumann evit gouzout tost da vat peseurt kudennoù a vefe da ziskoulmañ. Ne lavaran ket e vefent dres evel en Alba. Met evit kaout harp digant un toullad mat a zilennidi e rankor displegañ dezho kinnigoù pleustrek. Hep ul luskad-pobl kreñv ne blego ket ar genreizhad c'hall da aozañ ur servij dereat e brezhoneg.

N'eus ket plas amañ da addisplegañ kement kraf eus skrid C. na G. Evit gouzout hiroc'h, ra skrivor d'e chomlec'h, 109 Sraid na h-Eaglaise, Inbhirnis IV1 1EY (Bro-Skos) ha goulenn un adskrid eus "Towards a Gaelic Television Service".

D'ar mare e vez pellsignet programmoù gouezelek gant teir c'hanol: BBC Alba, Grampian Television ha Scottish Television. Aet eo Cumann na Gàidhlig, war atiz tud ar gouarnamant, da welout o renerien. Ar re-mañ o deus disklêriet holl n'int ket gouest da

ober muioc'h eget bremañ, gant ar brasañ bolontez vat: d'ar gouarnamant, emezo, eo da zivizout penaos ober evit krouiñ ur servij klok gouezelek. C'hoari bolotenn! Da zigarez e lavaront ez int dalc'het gant reolennoù kefridiel, e ouestlont endeo d'ar gouezeleg un darn vat eus an araezioù miret evit programmoù rannvroel; ma rofent muioc'h e klemmfe an arvesterien ha na ouzont ket gouezeleg. Diwar tailhoù paeet gant embannerien-kenwerzh e vev Grampian ha Scottish; ma padfe pelloc'h ar programmoù gouezelek e teufe un toull en o c'hefioù. Pa lavaren deoc'h, skinwel ha bihanniver n'int ket mignoned.

Daveañ a ra ar c'h-Cumann da enklaskoù ha da zanevelladurioù o tiskouez ez eus ezhomm eus 12 eurvezh bennak ar sizhun evit gallout pourvezañ ur servij klok e gouezeleg. En holl war-dro 500 eurvezh ar bloaz a c'houlenn eta evit ar pevar bloaz'zeu. E 1988 ne vo bet nemet 102 eurvezhiad, ha c'hoazh 17 anezho zo traoù astommet, adskignadurioù. Pell emeur aze diouzh ar pal. Eus an holl eurvezhioù-pellsignañ e diraez Skosiz, n'eus nemet 4,6% e gouezeleg o kontañ an teir c'hanol skosat; ma lakaer e penn kont holl an eurvezhioù skinwel breizhveuriat n'o deus nemet 0, 46%. Koulskoude o deus prometet ministred an It. Thatcher ez int a-du gant reiñ skoazell "rezonabl", oc'h anzav e tle ar skinwel c'hoari ur roll a-bouez er strivad da zerc'hel bev ar gouezeleg ha da harpañ ar sevenadur ma'z eo diazezet warnañ. Anv zo gant gouarnamant London da zegas kemmoù bras war dachenn ar skinwelerezh e Breizh-Veur, kemmoù o tennañ splot eus an doareoù-treuzkas arnevez. Da zoujañ ez eus e vint drastus evit ar gouezeleg. Bremañ da skouer e c'hall BBC Alba bezañ distaget diouzh BBC 2 evit skignañ er yezh-se da vareoù 'zo. Ma

tivizer treuzkas BBC 2 dre satellit, ne vo ket tu d'ober an dra-se mui. Ne vern penaos, ret eo diogelaat

1. e vo krouet ur frammadur hag a roio tu da genurzhiañ ar "vennadurezh" (menoziou-blein hag an divizoù d'o seveniñ), an araezioù (arc'hant, koskor, ardivinkoù) hag an treuzkas (dre hanterouriezh an aozadurioù-pellsignañ bezant pe dre unan da grouiñ c'hoazh);

2. e vo tu da bellsignañ da vareoù dereat hag evit darn da vareoù-barrarvest (i.e. pa vez e-leizh a dud oc'h arvestiñ); re alies bremañ e vez ar programmoù evit an dud deut (an dud en oad gour) diwezhat da noz pe abred da veure;

3. e vo roet arc'hant a-walc'h da gas ar servij en-dro;

4. e vo hemañ e diraez ar gouezelegerien dre Vro-Skos a-bezh.

Ezhomm o deus da gaout programmoù liesseurt: keleier, displegadur darvoudoù, dihedoù, pezhioù-c'hoari, taolennadur eus buhez an dud hag an natur, sport, programmoù evit ar vugale, h.a. Er bloavezhioù tremenet n'eus ket bet tu, dre ziouer a araezioù, da ober tra nemet programmoù evit ar vugale ha divizoù a-zivout an darvoudoù.

A-zivout an treuzkas hag ar frammadur dre vras: d'ar gouarnamant eo da zivizout. Pe krouiñ ur ganol a-ratozh evit ar gouezeleg, pe ober gant ar c'hanolioù bezant (BBC, Grampian, Scottish). Gant ma vo 500 eurvezh ar bloaz, n'eo ket ret e vefe ur ganol arbennik. Met aesoc'h e vo mont dre hanterouriezh ur ganol nemeti eget dre veur a hini, ne vefe ket a gudennoù kenurzhadur. Lakomp e vefe graet gant ur ganol BBC, unan eus ar re n'o devez ket ur yoc'had arvesterien, da skouer BBC 2. Tu a vefe da zistagañ diouzh ar ganol-se 1-1½ eurvezh bemdez; hag evit mirout na "gollfe" an arvesterien skosat (di-ouzeleg pe nann) traoù "a-bouez" d'an holl, e c'hallfed gouestlañ an hevelep mare da brogrammoù rannvroel pe o tennañ da vihaniverioù e lec'h all ivez. Mod all e c'hallfed distagañ diouzh BBC 2 er Gouezelva hepken, ha treuzkas darn eus ar programmoù dre ganolioù all e-lec'hall hag un darn all dre modoù arnevez, da skouer dre fard en toledoù poblet-stank. Da ziwall a vefe na vefe treuzkaset gouezeleg da vareoù boutin dre ganolioù disheñvel, na zic'hlanfent an eil war egile.

Evit echuiñ e tenn ar c'h-Comunn evezh war an talvoudus ma'z eo magañ an emfiziañs a zeu d'an dud pa vez diogel o yezh: reiñ a ra ivez un diazez start d'an diorroadur armerzhel ha kevredigezhel. E-leizh a youlvat zo bremañ e-touez an dud evit ar gouezeleg. Arabat eo e vefe foranet ar vad-se dre wallegezh ar servijoù-skinwel.

POET YANN BER KALLOC'H REMEMBERED

The 100th anniversary of the birth of Yann Ber Kalloc'h, known also as Bleimor (= sea-wolf), was celebrated on his native island, Enez Groe (S. of An Oriant) with a series of cultural events during the period from July 16th to 24th. It was organised by an ad hoc association Kantvlead Bleimor but above all by Yannig Baron who worked very hard to make it a great success: he secured the participation of numerous musical groups, choirs, dancers, the well-known singer Gilles Servat, the harpist Gwenn Loarer, the composer René Abjean. There were also lectures about the poet's work. The organisers had endeavoured to involve as many as possible of the population not only at local level but also in other parts of Brittany. School children were invited to take part in three competitions — poetry in Breton and in French, drawing and posters: the response was quite good.

Kalloc'h's poetry bears testimony to his deeply religious convictions. The commemoration was thus marked by an opening mass during which poems from the collection "Ar en deulin" (= on my knees) were sung in four voices. A week later, the premiere of a mass titled "Missa Keltia", entirely composed by R. Abjean and inspired by airs from the Celtic countries, was performed with the participation of 200 musicians and singers. G. Servat directed a group of 60 Groe children who sang a selection of Kalloc'h's poems. There were various concerts (organ, harp, pipes), the final one including the staging of an oratorio "War varc'h d'ar mor" (riding to the sea) also composed by R. Abjean with a text by Job an Irien: it is a dramatic piece involving soloists, choirs, an instrumental ensemble (guitar, harp, bass and percussion instruments). The music is of Celtic inspiration, the text is in the form of the Breton "gwerzioù" (ballads consisting in a succession of scenes). It is an interpretation

Geriou nebeut anavezet. Kefridiel : official; pellskignañ : to broadcast; araezioù : means; mareoù barrarvest : peak viewing times; kanol arbennik : special channel.

Summary: Like Brittany, Scotland has no proper television service in its Celtic language, i.e. a service covering a broad spectrum of programmes. Cumann na Gàidhlig have recently published a discussion paper containing proposals which if implemented would provide the Gaelic speaking community throughout Scotland with a fairly comprehensive service. It includes also suggestions as to how existing TV channels could be adapted for such a purpose.

A. HEUSAFF

of the Irish myth of Oisín ("Ossian") and Niamh Chinn Óir, the man following the fairy/goddess to the land of eternal youth. It was an imposing conclusion to the commemoration of one of the greatest Breton language writers, in which some 6,500 people took part, a popular event which should in particular contribute to a strengthening of interest in their native language among the people of Enez Groe.



Yann Ber Kalloc'h.

Its various episodes have been recorded on a video cassette which costs 250 F and can be obtained from Yannig Baron, Kergouareg, 56 400 Brec'h, Brittany (Tel. 97 245767). Some details about Kalloc'h and his work are appropriate. He came from a poor family, his father, a fisherman, perished at sea when Yann Ber was still a child. He studied to become a priest but had to renounce it due to the development of fatal mental illness in the family. He had to go into exile to earn his living, feeling guilty at having failed his ecclesiastical vocation. However he took an early interest in the Breton language and history, was encouraged to develop his literary talent and contributed actively to several Breton magazines. He proclaimed that he did not feel in the least bit French. Yet as soon as the war started, like the Redmondites joining the British forces, he volunteered to fight in the French army and wrote several poems, in the Gwened dialect, on the theme of war. These along with many others were published in 1915 under the title "Ar en deulin". He sensed that he would be killed and indeed he was fatally hit in April 1917.

J. Belz, who has done considerable research on the Breton language literature, had this to say at the commemoration: "The strength of Kalloc'h's poetry resides in its sincerity. He lets his heart speak freely, with great

simplicity. The themes which inspire him are universal: man's search for himself, God, death, suffering. The poems of course reflect a life afflicted by grievous losses. Not all are as highly inspired. Sometimes he displays a lack of measure and some of his "war songs" are not particularly Christian. . . . The language is polished, clear, powerfully sounding. . . . Why did he volunteer to fight? He was convinced that after the war, in view of the sacrifice of so many Bretons, France would recognise the value of the Breton language and culture and acknowledge just claims. Poor Kalloc'h gave his life for an illusion. . . . "It is in that mood that he wrote "Er Gedour" (= the sentry), which is, with the often sung *Me zou ganet é-kreiz er mor*" (= I was born in the middle of the sea), the poem that most frequently comes to mind when his name is mentioned. In it he sees himself, shortly before his death, defending the soul of the "Occident", its land, women and flowers, "it is all the beauty of the world that I watch over to-night. . . . I am a bright star shining on France's forehead. . . ."

This of course has been used to show that true Bretons are most loyal Frenchmen. When one knows the kind of war it was, a conflict between imperialist "have"-s and "have-less"-s in which one must ask what an economically neglected and culturally oppressed Brittany had to gain, it is rather sad that we should have lost such a gifted writer at the age of 29. One trusts that as a poet he would have come to see what France had in store for his language. Sincere as he was he would surely have resumed the pre-war commitment to the Breton struggle with even greater determination. In the fight of subjugated nations for survival poets should play a major role. However a clear understanding of the relationship between Brittany and France was apparently shared by only a small number of Bretons throughout the 19th century. Kalloc'h epitomises the experience of a people locked in a contradiction. He was a great poet, but France has ensured that so few of his compatriots can read him otherwise than in a French translation.

The association Kantvlead Bleimor is to publish a small book about him, to which Jorj Belz is contributing. It is reported that the latter has "rediscovered a certain number of pieces, of sentences written by Kalloc'h which were suppressed in all the manuscripts, even those published by the people nearest to him". One is curious to know. . . .

A. HEUSAFF

AL LIAMM, literary magazine in Breton, 5 times a year, 80 pp. 140FF/annum Breizh/France, 150/180 FF surface/airmail other countries. P. Le Bihan, 16 rue des Fours à Chaux, 35400 St-Malo. Nr 248-9 brings a variety of contributions, a short (too short) story by the excellent Yann Gerven, a study of the "whodunit" novel, recollections about Roparz Hemon and Marc'harid Gourlaouen, and the continuation of J. Abherve-Gwegen comments, in the form of a series of snippets, on what is going on in and around the Diwan schools.

DIWAN SCHOOLS: Progress and set-backs

The Diwan schools reopened in September under slightly more favourable financial conditions than a year ago. That they hold firm is due primarily to the solidarity and support forthcoming from other Breton organisations and individual sympathisers. A new nursery school has been opened in Montroulez/Morlaix, a new primary in An Orient, and a DIWAN college has started in Brest. The latter has been made possible by the hard work of Lukian Kergoat and some fifty collaborators during the past three years. Pupils who have completed their first level education can thus continue to receive a Breton education.

There must however be no relaxation of effort. It is only by persevering against great odds and showing that an excellent standard is being maintained that the hesitations and lack of spirit of elected representatives can be overcome in the struggle to win a public commitment. How difficult the path is has been exemplified by the attitude of the municipal councils of two towns in which Diwan schools have existed for a few years now.

The Banaleg (S. Finistère) council, at a meeting on September 2, rejected by a majority of 19 to 4, and one abstention, a DIWAN request for an additional class room which is needed because of the increase in the number of children, some of them attending higher classes. The council was prepared to give provisional accommodation in a disused school five miles away from the town, and justified their refusal to allocate one of the six rooms made vacant in the local nursery school by the building of a new one, by pointing out that they are under no legal obligation to provide buildings for DIWAN, that only a minority of the children are from the commune (the others come from neighbouring areas) and that a number of other local associations have applied for authorisation to use the vacant rooms. The mayor argued that, since the children are from several communes, it should be for the Finistère General Council to take charge of expenses connected with DIWAN.

A similar disagreement arose in Lannuon, in Côtes-du-Nord. There also an additional school room was needed. The département council offered to contribute 51 000 F to the cost of building and equipping it provided the town would bear the main burden, to the tune of 130 000 Fr (an amazingly high sum . . . for just one room??). The municipal council refused, saying it was not fair since, of the 34 attending children, half come from other communes in the vicinity. And they listed several facilities that had already been given by them to Diwan, a private school under simple contract with the State, for which the commune is not financially budgeted as in the case of the public schools (??).

Whatever the details, it is clear that unless the DIWAN schools get recognition as fully fledged public schools, entitled to regular support from public funds like the other schools, they will be continually threatened with disruption. In some communes like Pempoull the councils manage to give generous subventions, but there will always

be problems of priority, and in this case they should be solved at an overall Breton level. Unanimous support for DIWAN was vouched by the Rennes Regional Council and by all the Breton département councils, 250 communes have also come out in favour. What is preventing them from getting together to solve the financial problems which are in the way of an expansion of the Breton schools? Presumably their budgets are under strict State control. They must then strive to obtain greater freedom! In the meantime however, DIWAN may well be advised, when difficulties arise as in Banaleg and Lannuon, to intervene with the councils of neighbouring communes with a view to obtaining voluntary contributions from them also.

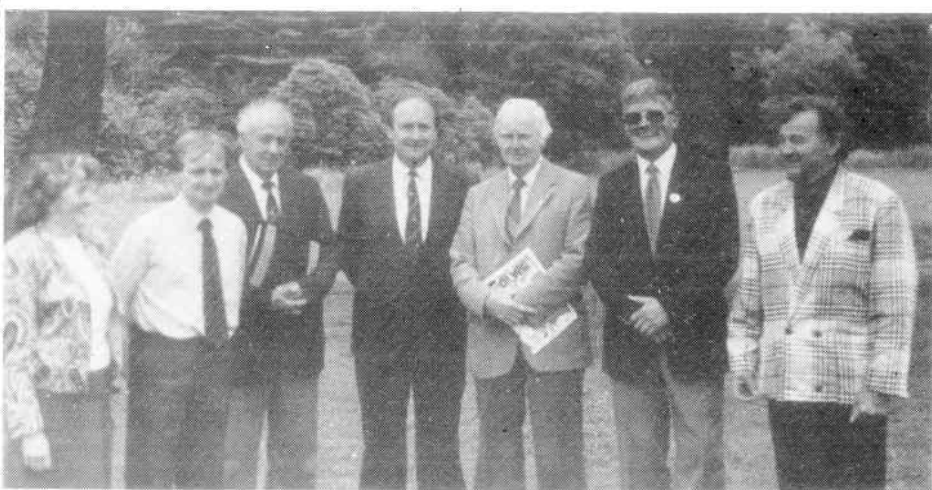
500 children are attending the Diwan schools

this year, an increase of 17% compared to last year.

There are now eight State-controlled bilingual schools in which education is given progressively in Breton as well as in French. The classes exist in parallel with those in which all the education is through the medium of French. They range from nursery level to the end of primary schooling. Three of them are in Côtes-du-Nord, 2 in Finistère, 2 in Morbihan, 1 in Rennes.

Apart from the DIWAN and the bilingual school children, 6,000 nursery and primary school children are being introduced to Breton, and 3,000 secondary school students attend courses in the language. There are not enough teachers to satisfy the demand. This is due primarily to the refusal, in spite of repeated demands, of the authorities to create a DEUG (diplôme d'études universitaires générales) in Breton, the BA degree is insufficient. In 1988 and also in 1987, only one CAPES (Certificat d'Aptitude Pédagogique à l'Enseignement Secondaire) in Breton, the only diploma which entitles to a post of teacher in that language, was delivered.

The administration has done it again in the Paris and Versailles educational districts: it has refused to sanction the appointment of Serge Richad to the post of Breton teacher which he has held for 6 years, and as for Ronan Tremel, no assurance was given that he would be allowed to teach the 18 hours he had so much trouble in getting in the past few years.



Brittany-Wales Association Delegates (from right to left: Michel Chauvin, Gareth Matthews, Gwynfor Evans, Adrien Kervella, Per Denez, Clive James, Rita Williams).

BRITTANY-WALES ASSOCIATION

A charter formalising the setting-up of a Brittany-Wales Association was signed on the occasion of the Welsh National Eisteddfod held early in August in Casnewydd (Gwent). The Breton side was represented by Prof. Per Denez (University of Roazhon/Rennes, Adrien Kervella, the mayor of Kastell-Pol who is also a Finistère département councillor and a member of the Rennes Regional Council, and Michel Chauvin acting on behalf of the Morbihan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In the new association they exercise respectively the functions of honorary

president, president and secretary of its economic Section. They were received by their Welsh co-officers, Gwynfor Evans, former M.P. honorary president of the Welsh Party Plaid Cymru, and Gareth Matthews who provides the driving force/who gave the impetus on the Welsh side. The charter, signed by the two honorary presidents, specifies the aims of the association: to develop the cultural, economic and linguistic relations between the two countries. Exchanges and activities are already being prepared in these fields.

INTERCELTIC FESTIVAL: THE YEAR OF RENEWAL

The group TRI YANN.

For the past three or four years the Lorient Interceltic Festival appeared to be losing ground from the point of view of attendance and quality of the shows on offer. The most difficult year was undoubtedly 1986 when a relatively large deficit was registered. On account of the financial problems the organisers were obliged to take several economy measures in programming the 1987 festival, in particular they decided to limit sharply the number of invitations to Welsh and Manx performers. This "purge" was successful in that it put the Festival back on an even keel; in its eighteenth year of existence it was able to make a new start on a sound basis.

But what about the event itself? The programme comprised remarkable innovations. In particular mention must be made of Alan Stivell's new show, acclaimed by thousands of enthusiastic spectators; a new musical, *Le Vaisseau* by Pierre, presented by the TRI Yann and well received in An Orient, contrary to what had happened in Nantes, Rennes and Kemper; the DAVY SPILLANE BAND which was a revelation, winning warm applause. Rock music was massively represented by E.V. and DEACON BLUE, but with qualified success. It is true that these overtures to rock and jazz will make it possible to attract a new clientele in future and also to better reflect the cultural reality of our different countries. The huge attendance recorded this year (200,000 visitors) can certainly be explained to a large extent by these "heavy shows", but it was due above all to the multiplicity of activities and performances presented each day as well as to the atmosphere prevailing in the city.

Two interesting new features should not be forgotten: one is the World Celtic Harp Competition (crowned by a Guinness Trophy which went to Mary-Ann Kennedy from Scotland) — here the Bretons were literally swept off the stage because of their modernistic style, excessively influenced by the contemporary French school; the other was the International Pipe Band Championship (also a Guinness Award). These two competitions, along with the MacAllan Trophy for bagpipe soloists, seem likely to gain increasing in importance. There were however some resounding failures in planning too, such as staging in the same concert THE CHIEFTAINS and VAN MORRISON — the 4,000 spectators totally rejected the association of the famous Irish group with the former Irish-Californian star. Neither did the partnership arranged for the SHOTT'S AND DYKEHEAD CALEDONIA PIPE BAND and the excellent Scottish group CAPERCAILLIE bring a satisfactory response from the public. We had better say nothing about the "French Song" (?) soiree which got onto the programme, God knows how or why, during the festival; it was a mighty and well-deserved flop.



Another question concerns the near-absence of representatives from Wales. They were twenty at most, while the Galician and Asturian delegations were more numerous than ever. Strictly political and economic considerations (a projected car ferry service between An Orient and Gijon) may explain the latter's presence, but why should Wales be so underrepresented? It is a mystery. Further to this, every year the Festival offers stands at an "Arts Forum" to each Celtic country where they can present their cultural and artistic activities. It was amazing to see how little the Scottish, Irish and Welsh stands had on display. What are the Tourist Boards doing? Such a poor show is rather hard to credit when one knows how much these countries have to offer in those fields.

We are accustomed to another defect of the Lorient Festival: it seems that the organising committee is not in the least interested in our language situation; one gets the impression that the few crumbs of Breton scattered here and there get "smuggled" through. I think however that the language movement could do more to manifest its presence by taking an active part in the Festival: criticism is not enough, proposals must also be made. And finally, I must say how aghast I was to hear the folk group STORVAN speaking of "the four Breton départements" and the well-known SONERIEN DU group introducing the *veuze* (a pipe instrument) as an instrument from the "Pays-de-Loire". . . deculturation is proceeding apace. In any case, the Festival remains an event in the cultural life of Brittany that one cannot bypass, and it extends its influence well beyond our borders. I truly believe that in the years to come it will yet bring us excellent surprises.

ISAN KERABELLEC

ENTERTAINMENT IN BRETON

A set of **playing cards** featuring seven families, one for each Celtic country and one representing the ancient Celts, has been published by KEIT 'VIMP BEV, address Oaled ar Re Yaouank, 29112 Brieg, Brittany. How to play is explained in Breton and French on two cards. Each family is of six members. The producers have endeavoured to represent on each card the characteristic ways of dressing and occupations of the different peoples. The set costs 20FF, plus postage; but the price per set is reduced considerably if buying a larger number. KVB are doing a good job also of providing comic strips in Breton.

ELECTIONS

French départements are administered with the help of "conseils généraux". Councillors are elected on the basis of one per canton, a canton being constituted by a few communes (4 or 5 generally). One-third of each département council was due for renewal this year; there were two bouts of polling at the end of September and beginning of October.

The powers of these councils are rather restricted although they have been slightly increased 6 or 7 years ago. Party politics are not supposed to play any role in the elections but they do, particularly in large agglomerations. Three Breton parties put forward candidates, but only in a few cantons. EMGANN had three in different parts of Upper Kernev (Cornwall) and Tregor; POBL had 3 in Roazhon/Rennes, and the UDB had 8, distributed over 3 of the 5 Breton départements. Results not known as we write. One of the Emgann candidates, J.M. Salomon, went forward in the general election last Spring and scored fairly well, taking account that he was not backed by big money nor by media tam tam.

NATIONAL MINORITIES FESTIVAL

The 11th Film Festival devoted to national minorities took place in the Douarnenez, in the West of Brittany between the 27th August and the 4th September. The theme this year was: the Basque and the Breton peoples.

Film festivals are quite common nowadays but the Douarnenez event is noteworthy on account of:

- its aim which is to make more widely known the cinematographic and audiovisual achievements of minority cultures (on previous occasions they have directed attention to the problems of the Quebecois, the Catalans, the Georgians, the Tzigans, the Occitans, etc.;
- the opportunity it offers to those involved in such work of creation to meet and compare their experience. This year it enabled the participants to appreciate the quality of the Basques' audiovisual expression which hitherto got scant international recognition and at the same time to acquaint themselves better with this European nation.

In addition to the attention given to the guest minorities, the festival reserves every year one day to Brittany. The Breton film and audiovisual production is thus provided with a "shopwindow" and competitions which allow an assessment of how Brittany is faring in this field. The prizes serve to encourage the work of the actors and producers and to win recognition of their ability.

THE 1988 PRIZES

The festival's Grand Prix went to the film *GWERZ*, scripted, written and directed by Jean Charles Huitorel and produced by the Atelier Régional Cinématographique de Bretagne. It is a documentary on the now renowned musical group *Gwerz*. The "Prix du Grand Reportage" was given to a film by Jean Rival produced by the Association for the Greater Appreciation of Intercultural Exchanges "A.V.E.C.": "Pour une Poignée d'Infidèles" (For a Handful of Unbelievers) is another documentary, it is about a trip by five Breton farmers who brought help to a community of 3,000 people, the Kalash, who live in Pakistan but have always refused to convert to Islam.

Two video films were selected for distinction: *Emgav*, produced by FR3-Bretagne, and "Lorient: de l'Océan jaillit la Lumière" produced by Video Language. The latter, as well as "Gwerz" and a fiction film "Mili" received help from Skol Uhel ar Vro — this illustrates the role of patron played by this cultural institute.

Let us hope that these productions will succeed in the field of distribution: this is where Breton films and videos are meeting with great difficulties.

J. Y. LE TOUZE

Note: of all the works mentioned, only possibly *Emgav* appears to be in Breton.



Film: *GWERZ* de Jena Charles Huitorel. Production A.R.C. Bretagne/I.C.B.

DEMOCRACY FOR WHOM

About two years ago, it appeared that département councils were prepared to put up bilingual road signs on major roads in most parts of Brittany. A good start was made in Côtes-du-Nord (and elsewhere by several communes). This led STOURM AR BREZHONEG to suspend its campaign of removing or daubing the offending monolingual signs. Unfortunately things came to a standstill. Appeals to the authorities have fallen on deaf ears. The S. ar B. campaign was therefore resumed early this year when nightly operations were carried out near Kemper and in three communes of the Gwened/Vannes area, also at the end of July when some 150 signs were smeared over in the An Orient/Lorient area. S. ar B. vows to continue its action, in view of the total lack of good will on the part of the State, and the futility of petitions. Breton must be recognised as an official language throughout the territory of the Breton nation.

Three men, alleged to have defaced 21 road signs around Chateaubourg, near Rennes, in August 1987, were recently given sentences of four months suspended imprisonment.

As a further pointer to the official hostility towards our language comes the news of the rejection by the Rennes Administrative Court of the request by Claude Le Duigou for annulment of a decision, by the regional director of the Postal Services, to refuse to accept his (Duigou's) address in Breton on postal cheque forms; it also rejected his request to have the tax administration using his address in Breton as well as his request to oblige the postal services to deliver to the Telephone Company communications addressed in our language. The court abided by the law! There is no obligation, apparently. International agreements, conventions etc. relating to minority languages are of no account, as far as France is concerned.

No wonder that some Bretons are driven to acts of violence against State institutions. A bomb explosion wrecked the Pontivi tax office

on September 16. This attack was claimed immediately by the A.R.B. ("Breton Republican Army"). In a phone call to Agence France Presse the point was made that Brittany gets only a small return on the taxes paid to the French State. The caller referred also to the ultra-liberal policy pursued in taxation by a supposedly socialist government.

Six of the eleven candidates presented by the UDB obtained more than 6% of the vote, the highest percentage (15.6%) being obtained by B. Hangouet in Malestroit. This points to renewed vigour in the party.

None of EMGANN's three candidates, presented in rural areas, got more than 3.1% (in Benac'h). This is attributed to lack of an active campaign and strong competition. EMGANN made prominent use of Breton in its election literature.

POBL had three candidates in the Rennes urban area. Competition with ecologists (and insufficient involvement in public life?) left them with lower scores than all other Breton (i.e. UDB and EMGANN) candidates.

The editor of *PEUPLE BRETON* draws the lesson: "Sustained work, a presence in associative life, being rooted and known in the constituency, these factors are crucial for Breton candidates. They partly compensate the handicap arising from the total exclusion from TV at the time when the written work impinges on fewer and fewer people. Without access to TV, people remain largely ill-informed of local realities and thus pay little attention to them."

For a more detailed analysis of the election results, read the October issue of *Le Peuple Breton*, BP301, 22304 Lannuon-Cedex. (Annual subscription 120 Francs. Brittany/France, 150F/180F airmail elsewhere).

L'AVENIR DE LA BRETAGNE, monthly, 16 pages. Presents the case for a Free Brittany within a European Federation and the policies of the P.O.B.L. Subscription 130F (Brittany/France, 140F (other countries). BP 103, F-22001 St-Brieuc-Cedex.

CYMRU

ATLASAU A GWERSLYFRAU DAEARYDDIAETH YN GYMRAEG

Yn ystod y blynyddoedd diweddar gwelwyd cynnydd mawr yn y nifer o werslyfrau daearyddiaeth o'r safon uchaf i gael eu cyhoeddi.

Un o'r llyfrau mwyaf cyffrous yw **Yr Atlas Cymraeg** (1987, 144 td). Golygydd yr **Atlas** yw Dafydd Orwig; bu iddo gadeirio sawl pwyllgor gwaith i ddewis Atlas a gyhoeddwyd yn barod y gellid ei addasu; dewisiwyd **Philips' Certificate Atlas**. Yna bu rhaid iddynt benderfynnu ar bolisi ieithyddol ar gyfer enwau llefydd trwy gydol yr atlas, megis beth i wneud ag enwau mewn ieitheoedd a gwyddor anrufeinig iddynt, pa le i roi i'r ieitheoedd brodorol a'r ieitheoedd gwladwriaethol (os yn wahanol), a pha le i roi i'r enwau traddodiadol Cymraeg ar lefydd tramor, megis enwau Beiblaidd.

Gweithia'r polisi tebyg i hyn:
1af. Enw'r wladwriaeth.
2ail. Yr enw brodorol (os yn wahanol i [1.]).

neu 3ydd. Yr enw Cymraeg (lle bo un).
Er enghraifft, rhoddwyd enw Prifddinas Iwerddon felly:

Dublin
Dulyn
... a rhywle arall yn yr atlas felly:
Dublin
Baile Átha Cliath

Y mae'n bosibl y bydd darllenwyr **Carn** yn gresynu am i'r **Atlas Cymraeg** ddefnyddio'r enwau Saesneg yn gyntaf ar gyfer gwledydd Celtaidd nyssoedd Prydain. (a Ffrangeg yn Llydaw), hyd yn oed yn yr ardaloedd lle siaradir iaith Geltaidd gan y mwyafrif, megis Ynysoedd y Gorllewin. Ar y llaw arall, nid oes ond enwau Cymraeg yng Nghymru- da iawn am hynny.

Yr wyf an amau hefyd nad yw pob lleisfrif yn cael ei gydnabod gan yr **Atlas**, yn enwedig os na chydabyddir y lleiafrifoedd hynny gan y gwladwriaethau y maent yn rhan ohonynt. Er enghraifft, y mae unrhyw un sydd wedi cael y fraint o ddarllen campwaith Meic Stephens **Linguistic Minorities in Western Europe** yn gwybod bod lleiafrifoedd mawrion a bychain yng ngwledydd megis Yr Eidal a Sbaen a'r Iseldiroedd, ond ychydig iawn a welir o'u hieithoedd yn nhudalennau'r **Atlas**.

Atlas y byd yn gyfan yw **Yr Atlas Cymraeg**, ac y mae'r mapiau o Gymru a'r gwledydd Celtaidd braidd yn siomedig am iddynt fod yn rhy fach ac o ganlyniad yn rhy fras (h.y. dim yn dangos y manylion).

Cyn i neb feddwi fy mod i'n erbyn **Yr Atlas Cymraeg**, y mae rhaid i fi ddweud fy mod i wrth fy modd ag ef, ac yn falch iawn i'w

ddangos i unrhyw un a ddaw i'm cartref. Yr wyf hefyd yn credu fod llyfrau tebyg i hwn yn rhoi urddas a statws i'r hên iaith ym meddyliau nid yn unig y rhai sydd yn siarad Cymraeg, ond hefyd ysgolheigion ledled y byd.

I gyd-fynd â'r **Atlas Cymraeg**, cyhoeddodd y Cyd-Bwyllgor Addysg Cymraeg yr **Atlas Adnoddau CBAC** (1987, 28 td). Ynddo, ceir

manyion ystadegol ar ffurfiau graffeg a mapiau arbennig yn dynodi hinsawdd, adnoddau dŵr, defnydd tir, gweithgareddau economaidd, poblogaeth, ac ati. Ceir ymdriniaeth fanwl a theg o Gymru, gyda deg allan o wyth-ar-hugain o dudalennau yn canolbwyntio ar y wlad hon.

I'r rhai sydd yn gallu darllen graffau yn haws na darllen geiriau, y mae'r **Atlas Adnoddau CBAC** yn ddelfrydol.

Y trydydd llyfr yw **Gwaith Map** (1987, 55 td) gan Mari A. Morgan. Un o gyfres o werslyfrau daearyddiaeth yw, a nid yw'r llyfr yn gyfieithiad, ond yn hytrach gwaith gwreiddiol a ysgrifennwyd yn arbennig, sydd yn achos i lawenhau ynddo i hun. (Carwn ychwanegu nad cyfieithiad mo'r **Atlas Adnoddau CBAC** gwaith).



Ynddo, ceir ymdriniaeth fanwl o ystyr y symbolau arbennig, sut i ddehongli mapiau, ystyr llawn termau technegol, ac ati.

Ond yr hyn sydd fwyaf cyffrous i fi yw yr enghreifftiau o Fapiau yr Arolwg Ordnans yn **Gwaith Map**, sydd wedi eu llwyr gyfieithu i'r Gymraeg. Dyma wireddu hen freuddwyd mwy nag un aelod o'r Undeb Celtaidd, byddai cael y gyfres o bob un o'r mapiau ordnans un fodfedd (1:50,000) yn Gymraeg yn llenwi bwlch amlwg.

A phaham na chawn ni fapiau ordnans yn Gernyweg ar gyfer Cernyw, yn Albaneg ar gyfer yr Alban, ym Manaweg ar gyfer Ynys Manaw a Gwyddeleg ar gyfer Iwerddon? Nid wyf yn gwybod beth sydd gan y Ffrancod tebyg i'r mapiau O.S., ond mae rhaid fod rhywbeth i'w gael i'w addasu i gau pen y mwdwl.

Y mae'r llyfrau uchod i gyd ar gael am bris rhesymol dros ben. Y mae'r mapiau ordnans Cymraeg ar gael mewn pecyn arbennig o Wasg Gomer, Llandysul, Dyfed.

Ond drud yw'r atlas olaf hoffwn grybwyll, sef **Atlas Cenedlaethol Cymru**. Mewn pedair rhan, (y bedwaredd mewn llaw), yn costio rhyw gant a hanner o bunnau, anhebyg y bydd rhesi o bobl yn aros tu fâs y siopau llyfrau i'w brynu. Ychydig o lyfrgelloedd a all fforddio'r **Atlas Cenedlaethol Cymru** hefyd, a'r unig olwg yr wyf wedi cael o'r **Atlas** yw ar stondin Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru yn eisteddfod Casnewydd. Ta beth, y mae'r hyn yr wyf wedi gweld o'r safon uchaf posibl, a hoffwn gael darllen mwy.

Ysgrifennais at Wasg y Prifysgol yn ddiweddar yn gofyn iddynt ystyried cyhoeddu fersiwn o'r **Atlas** yma mewn argraffiad poblogaidd, rhesymol ei bris, ond cefais ateb yn ôl yn dweud fod y rhelyw o'r mapiau o ddiddordeb i arbennigwyr yn fwyaf, ac nad oes cynlluniau ar y gweill ar hyn o bryd i gyhoeddi fersiwn poblogaidd o **Atlas Cenedlaethol Cymru**.

I grynodi, y mae gennym ar hyn o bryd:

- Atlas y byd (mapiau)
 - Atlas Cymru a'r byd (graffau ac ystadegau)
 - Atlas Cymru (rhy gostus)
 - Dechreuad ar gyfres un fodfedd (1:50,000) o Fapiau Ordnans o Gymru
- Y mae angen arnom ni yng Nghymru:
- Atlas Cymru **neu**, yn well gen i, **Atlas** y Gwledydd Celtaidd tua'r un faint a nifer o dudalennau ag **Atlas Adnoddau CBAC** yn dangos gyda chryn fanylder pob sir a thref (e.g. graddfa o 1:250,000) gyda mapiau ffisegol, gweinyddol, a.y.y.b., a beth am fapiau yn dangos tiriogaeth y gwahanol dafodieithoedd Cymraeg (fel yn **The Linguistic Geography of Wales**), ynghyd â thafodieithoedd yr ieithoedd Celtaidd eraill?
 - Mapiau Ordnans y wlad i gyd (cyfres 1:50,000) gan gynnwys y rhannau o'r ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr lle mae enwau Cymraeg (a Chymry Cymraeg cynhenid) yn dal i fod.

Y mae Alan Heusaff yn gweithio ar hyn o bryd ar fap un dudalen fawr (ar gyfer wal) yn dangos y gwledydd Celtaidd i gyd mewn arddull deniadol, gyda'r enwau Celtaidd yn unig arno.

Y mae angen cyfres o fapiau tebyg i'r rhai a restrwyd uchod ar bob un o'r ieithoedd

PIGION CELTAIDD

ETHOLIADAU DOSBARTH

CYNGHORAU Ar ôl yr etholiadau

cynrychiolaeth Plaid Genedlaethol yr Alban
a'r pleidiau eraill yn ninasoedd yr Alban yw:

	Glaschu	Obar Dheathain	Dùn Dèagh (Dundee)	Caeredin
Llafur	60	28	29	33
Tori	4	9	10	23
Democrat	2	14	—	4
SNP	—	1	5	2

Canran y bleidlais S.N.P. oedd 19.3% yng Nglaschu a 13.8% yn nDùn Dèagh.

CWMNI FFILMIO GAELEG Gobeithir sefydlu cwmni rhaglenni teledu Gaeleg newydd ar Ynys Skye. Cyfarwyddwyr y cwmni yw Alasdair Milne (cyn-Gyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol y B.B.C.), Fred Mac Aulay (cyn-bennaeth Gaeleg y B.B.C.), Syr Iain Noble (o Fearann Eileann Iarmainn) a gwraig fusnes o Bort-righ, Kate Ann Morrison. Y Cadeirydd yw'r Parchg Jack Mac Arthur. Y prif weithredwr fydd Mairead Ross, cyflwynydd y rhaglen **Can Seo** a chyfarwyddwr y cwmni drama **Fir Chlis**.

YSGOLION GAELEG Eleni bydd dosbarth Geleg newydd sbon yn Ysgol Gynradd Tain yn Nwyrain Ros. Hefyd mae cais oddi wrth rhieni am uned Gaeleg yn Lochalsh, Gorrlewin Ros.

DYSGU'R AELEG Neilltuwyd £2,000 gan Gyngor Rhanbarth yr Uchelidir ar gyfer dysgu'r Aeleg i staff y Cyngor (ar wahân i athrawon) ar Ynys Sgitheanach (Skye) y tu mewn i oriau gwaith.

MOD AMERICA Cynhaliwyd y Mod cyntaf erioed yn America ym mis Gorffennaf mewn maesdref o ddinas Washington — Virginia. Hefyd eleni oedd y hanner-canfed Mod i'w gynnal ar Ynys Cape Breton yn Nova Scotia ym mis Awst.

YSGOL FEITHRIN NEWYDD Agorwyd ysgol feithrin newydd yn Ulapul, Gorrlewin Ros. Hefyd ceisir cynnal ysgol gynradd yn Ulapul ar gyfer dalgylch yr ysgol uwchradd leol a grŵp mam a'u plant.

Y BEIBL GAELEG Tua deunaw mis yn ôl gwnaethpwyd adolygiad orthograffeg o'r Beibl Gaeleg yn Obar Dheathain (Aberdeen) yn union â safonau Bwrdd Arholi Tysysgrif Addysg yr Alban ar beiriant Amstrad 8256 WPC. Defnyddir teip "Times Roman" yn y Beibl newydd. Gobeithir cynhoeddu'r Beibl newydd yng Ngwanwyn 1989.

CLIVE JAMES

Celtaidd, nid yn unig y Gymraeg.

Hyderaf fod y momentwm sydd wedi dechrau gyda'r cyhoeddiadau eisoes yn mynd i barhau, a gwelwn ni **Atlas** y Gwledydd Celtaidd a'r gyfres 1:50,000 yn Gymraeg yn y dyfodol agos.

PETER LLOYD

There have been a number of Welsh language atlases and geographical textbooks of the highest standard published recently.

Yr Atlas Cymraeg (1987, 144 pp A4, lit "The Welsh Language Atlas") is a world atlas and a pleasure to read and to use. Its treatment of the Celtic countries, even Wales itself, is however disappointingly brief, and English and French corruptions of native placenames are unfortunately given first place above the Celtic. One suspects that linguistic minorities outside the Celtic countries fare even worse for recognition in this *minority language* atlas, which the author deprecates, as we Welsh should know better.

Despite these few deficiencies, an atlas of this standard lends dignity and world scholastic status to Cymraeg.

Yr Atlas Cymraeg is an adaptation of an existing atlas; the following, however, are original works in Welsh.

The Atlas Adnoddau CBAC (1987; 28 pp A4, lit "Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC) Resource Atlas") is a more technical textbook for the mathematically or geographically minded reader, it being full of bar graphs, pie charts and technical maps. Ironically, although smaller than **Yr Atlas Cymraeg** its treatment of Cymru is much

fuller. I managed to navigate by use of this atlas most of the way to the Celtic League AGM in Mannin.

Gwaith Map (1987, 55 pp A4, lit "Map Work") is a geographical textbook packed with information on how to read and interpret maps. The most exciting feature for me is the examples of the 1:50,000 one-inch series of Ordnance Survey maps which have been completely and well translated into Cymraeg.

The **Atlas Cenedlaethol Cymru** (lit "National Atlas of Wales") is beyond the pocket of even the most patriotic Welsh reader. In four parts, (part four pending), and bound looseleaf at a total price of about £150, the maps which are of the highest standard are inaccessible to the general reader.

To complete the whole range of maps in Welsh, we need to publish an atlas of Wales (or preferably an atlas of the Celtic countries) showing these in detail (approximately at a scale of 1:250,000); perhaps with maps showing dialectal variants and their territories for each of the Celtic languages, in addition to the usual relief, political, administrative, etc., maps.

We also need the O.S. 1:50,000 series in Welsh to be completed.

Alan Heusaff is working on an attractive wall map of the Celtic countries with the correct native names only on it. All the Celtic languages need a series of maps similar to the books and wallmap listed above.

In Wales' case, I am sure the momentum already generated and the commitment of our splendid geographers, will ensure the completion of the set in Cymraeg.

PARLIAMENTS FOR THE CELTS

Dissatisfaction with the exclusively socialist stance adopted by Plaid Cymru in the early eighties and the playing down of nationalism by its leader in favour of socialism and anti-Thatcherism has given rise to a politically broadly based strongly nationalist organisation called **Cymdeithas Cyfamod y Cymry Rhydd** (The Association of the Covenant of the Free Welsh).

Socialism and anti-Thatcherism won't win self-government for Wales.

The Cyfamodwyr (Covenanters) know full well that if their association fields candidates in elections that will inevitably split the nationalist vote. They may not mind doing that in the constituency of one Plaid Cymru M.P. believing him to be more of a liability to the Welsh cause than an asset. He was naïve enough, or brazen enough, to describe himself once as a British Intellectual Socialist. But it would be a self-defeating process to have competing nationalist candidates throughout Wales until the hold of the English parties on our country has been weakened enough.

There is one thing that the Cyfamodwyr can do very soon. That is to do what the Irish did in 1919: set up a parliament. That was crucial for success in the Irish cause.

There is nothing illegal in the setting up of a parliament. It is the assumption of executive powers without them being transferred by legislation that can cause trouble but it does not transgress any law for a parliament to be set up ready in anticipation of an executive rôle.

Let Cymdeithas Cyfamod y Cymry Rhydd take the supremely constructively step of setting up an elected Welsh parliament or **Senedd**. Let Senedd Cymru meet in Owain Glyndŵr's Parliament House in Machynlleth. Let those who win in the Welsh parliamentary constituencies at election time be invited to attend the Welsh Parliament together with those who come second and third so that each constituency would be a three seater for the purposes of Senedd Cymru. That would introduce an element of proportional representation from the start.

Of course such a move would be met by guffaws from English politicians and their henchmen in Wales. Never mind. Let us not quail before a barrage of ridicule as has happened so often before. The Senedd would be there, getting elected at every General Election and gaining steadily in general acceptance and stature.

One may ask how many would go to the meetings of Senedd Cymru. In the beginning so few of those elected to it would recognise it. The rôle of Cymdeithas Cyfamod y Cymry Rhydd will be crucial in the early days of the Senedd which can't be allowed to falter because a majority of the elected representatives choose to absent themselves from its meetings. Let Cyfamodwyr be appointed to fill the gaps. Only those in favour of self-government among the elected representatives will attend. In the early days the Cyfamodwyr would hold the majority. They would determine the character of the Senedd. As it gains recognition and more of those elected in the parliamentary elections attend the die will already have been cast; it

will no longer be possible to subvert, undermine or wreck the Senedd.

Senedd Cymru can meet once a month or more often as necessary during parliamentary terms to discuss matters relevant to a national parliament and decide on them.

The Senedd must from the very beginning be a fortress of Welshness. The Cyfamodwyr can ensure that. It won't be worth having otherwise. Like the National Eisteddfod it must have a Welsh rule and it must stick to it. All discussions and operations of Senedd Cymru must be in Welsh and in Welsh only.

Let the Senedd adopt as its foundation of law the Code of Hywel Dda updating it where necessary to meet modern conditions. Senedd Cymru must be thoroughly Welsh in all respects.

Let the Cyfamodwyr bear in mind at all times that famous dictum of the late Jac L. Williams, "Mae'n rhaid i'r Cymry fod yn feddiannol" (The Welsh must be assertive).

What is officially recognised as Wales is much smaller than what should be Wales. Not such a distant memory are the days of Wales and Monmouthshire as if there was some doubt about the Welshness of Monmouthshire, or Gwent. Gwent has been secured. It is time to secure the other territories known as the Welsh Marches which properly belong to Wales. It is not generally known that Llywydlo (Ludlow) in Shropshire was the capital of Wales in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Those who gain first, second and third places in the constituencies in the Marches in General Elections should also be invited as members of Senedd Cymru, in Welsh of course. If they won't come because of ill will towards Wales or can't come because they don't understand Welsh then Cymdeithas Cyfamodwyr y Cymry Rhydd will have to appoint Cyfamodwyr instead of them.

In the beginning, although it won't have any executive power any more than the European Parliament in Strasbourg, Senedd Cymru must conduct its affairs on a proper Parliamentary basis. The Senedd will have considerable influence from its establishment. It will be there and active. Official recognition and executive power will follow. Let Senedd Cymru be set up next year, the two hundredth anniversary of the fall of the Bastille in 1789.

What about Brittany? Surely it is even more important for dedicated Breton nationalists to set up a Breton Parliament next year of all years to counter the thunderous pro-French propaganda during the orgy of celebrations to commemorate the French Revolution.

Everything to do with the Breton Parliament must be in Breton and in Breton only. Apart from the other considerations that would be a force against the anti-secessionist laws of

the French Republic which does not recognise the Breton language. If France moved against the Breton Parliament that very act would imply some recognition of the Breton language. That in itself would be a consideration gain. And where should the Breton Parliament be held? In Naoned, of course. Where else? Just as the Welsh Parliament should be held in Machynlleth because of its historic associations so should the Breton Parliament be held in Naoned.

There is nothing to stop the setting up of a parliament in Scotland though it would probably have to be bilingual as the position of the Scottish language is as yet so weak. But it should be made quite clear from the outset that Scottishness should be an indispensable goal.

I am somewhat unclear about the Stannary Parliament in Cornwall. Can't that be put on an electoral footing using the Westminster parliamentary elections as the means?

I advocate using the Westminster elections to elect the Welsh, Scottish and Cornish parliaments if only to save money. The individual Celtic parliaments won't have the resources to conduct elections on their own until they have executive power. The Breton nationalist will have to use the electoral facilities already available in their own country.

There is only one Celtic nation that has a parliament with jurisdiction over the whole of its country, the Manx.

The Irish victory for independence was incomplete. But since all the Irish parties aspire to a United Ireland except the Unionists, a fairly small minority in the context of the thirty-two counties, why aren't representatives invited from Northern Ireland to sit in the Dáil. The political parties seem singularly sluggish in seeking the fulfilment of their national aspirations. They could give substance to their aims without much difficulty. Northern Ireland wouldn't pass from the legislative authority of Westminster to Dublin just like that but inviting representatives from the North to the Dáil would be a firm step in the process towards a United Ireland. If the Unionists choose to refuse membership of Dáil Éireann it will be no use for them to complain that they have had no influence in the constitutional arrangements of a thirty-two county state in Ireland.

This article is in line with a political principle held and often proclaimed by Mahatma Gandhi that if one seeks freedom he must act as if he is already free. It is the politics of the fait accompli, so much more effective than pleadings for recognition and fair play, however justified those may be. Political leaders concern themselves so much more with what is than with what ought to be. People will accord their allegiance to national institutions that are in place much more readily than to noble ideals.

So let the parliaments be set up now instead of waiting until Tibb's Eve for England and France to give the Celtic nations self-government as a gesture of goodwill.

Merfyn Phillips

CYD: STRIVING FOR A WELSH-SPEAKING WALES

CYD is a national, fast-growing movement. It stands for the will of native Welsh speakers and learners alike to use the Welsh language in everyday life and for a commitment to popularise the Welsh language as a natural medium for work, social life and public life in Wales.

The movement was formed in 1984 through the inspiration of adult Welsh tutors and friends of Welsh learners and especially under the influence of Dan L. James and Prof. Bobi Jones, Aberystwyth. It was felt that there was a pressing need to form a movement that would directly increase the number of Welsh speakers.

CYD, which means "together" ("ynghyd"), pronounced "keed" has at present forty branches in towns and villages throughout Wales that meet regularly to socialise in Welsh. These branches consist of adult Welsh learners and speakers (including learners of all levels — from the beginner to the almost fluent). Many varied activities are held which can include a quiz, language games, an evening of singing or dancing, dining at a restaurant, a keep fit session, a pool or a darts contest, or a Japanese evening! These are held at different types of venues: a room in an hotel or pub, a chapel vestry, a room in a college or a village hall or centre.

CYD branches vary a great deal in size and character, the smallest having ten members

and the larger branches consisting of over a hundred members.

It is an accepted "rule" that in all meetings an effort is made by all to speak Welsh only. It is vital that a Welsh atmosphere is created in which learners know that they will be able

to practise their Welsh in order to become fluent.

It should be emphasised that CYD does not organise Welsh classes. That function is carried out by Local Education Authorities, the University's Extra-Mural Departments and other statutory bodies. CYD is a voluntary movement that tries to provide a Welsh speaking atmosphere for the Welsh learner and provide practice and enjoyment in Welsh.

Cont. on 17



"A Jolly Evening" — CYD South Glamorgan Division.

NEWS FROM WALES

COALFIELD DECLINE The further dramatic decline of the South Wales Coalfield can be seen in the following figures:

	Total Output (million tons)	Operating Loss	Colliery Manpower	Output per Manshift
1978	7.5	£32m	29,500	1.29 tonne
1988	5.0	£77m	9,900	2.30 tonne

Now only eleven collieries remain with 7,400 colliers. The administrative staff has been cut back and relocated. The coalfield has also been reduced in status.

WELSH BOOKS IN 1987 In 1987 389 new Welsh book titles were published — a figure only exceeded in 1982 and 1983. Some 197 titles received a grant from the Welsh Books' Council. In comparison with 1986 there was an increase in titles for children, adult novels and young persons' literature. Decreases were recorded in Religion, Religious History, Poetry and Drama.

THE LANGUAGE IN MEIRIONNYDD After initially refusing to discuss Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg's report, "The Welsh Language in Meirionnydd", there has been a three hours meeting between members of the Society and members and officials of Cyngor Dosbarth Meirionnydd. Between 1961 and 1981 the number of Welsh speakers in the district decreased from 24715 to 21037, a decline of 5%.

NANT GWRTHEYRN It is intended to convert part of the old manager's house at the old quarrying village of Nant Gwrtheyrn which is now the premier Welsh language teaching centre as a centre for the "little languages" of Europe. This will be part of a £45,000 rebuild of the house. The building will house a centre for the study of the little languages of Europe and as a library. Next year there will be a conference on these languages.

CATALOGUE OF CHILDRENS' BOOKS According to this new catalogue, available from Cyngor Llyfrau Cymraeg, Castell Brychan, Aberystwyth, there are 1,700 titles by 500 authors of children's books in Welsh which are still in print.

PROBLEMS FOR NURSERY SCHOOLS

A lack of Welsh-speaking class organizers is causing a problem in some areas for the Welsh Nursery Schools' movement. Since 1980/81 the number of children attending Ysgolion Meithrin Cymraeg has doubled from 5,200 to 10,455 in 1988/89. However some groups in South Wales have been forced to close when a Welsh speaking leader has left. In many areas further growth will need non-Welsh-speaking mothers to be trained to lead groups. Special courses are being held in Pontypridd, Rhymney, Bridgend and Cardiff. With the increasing decline in the Welsh-speaking areas the traditional source of leaders has dried up. Soon even these areas may face problems. On the brighter side new headquarters near the centre of Cardiff may be bought to cope with the past and hoped for future expansion of the movement.

NEW BILINGUAL HIGH SCHOOL After being rejected by local parents twelve years ago, Ysgol y Preseli in Crymch, North Pembrokeshire will become an official bilingual secondary school for 600 children in 1990. Another bilingual school may be needed for South Pembrokeshire.

CLIVE JAMES

ÉIRE

FILE FAOI BHLÁTH

Nuair a luaitear ainm Phádraig Uí Fhiannachta, ní hé an teideal 'file' is túisce a ritheann leat, b'fhéidir. Sagart, fear athbheochana, riarthóir ollscoile, foilsitheoir, fear síochána, scoláire SeanGhaeilge, oideachasóir pobail — níl ansin ach cuid de na cáilíochtaí atá lánthuillte ag an bhfear céanna. Tá a thuilleadh nach iad. Ach is mar fhile a thagann sé os ár gcomhair an babhta seo sa chnuasach cuimsitheach dá chuid saothair filíochta — *Deora Dé*.

Tá a fhios ag duine ar bith a bhfuil taithí aige ar chomhoibriú le Pádraig Ó Fiannachta gur fear é a thugann le fonn agus le díograis faoi sprioc ar bith a leagtar roimhe agus a chaitheann a chuid fuinnimh go dúthrachtach chun a chúis a bhaint amach. Ní taise dá chuid filíochta é.

Cruthúnas ar an méid sin is ea an mórshaothar seo — cnuasach d'fhilíocht a shíneann thar thréimhse fiche bliain.

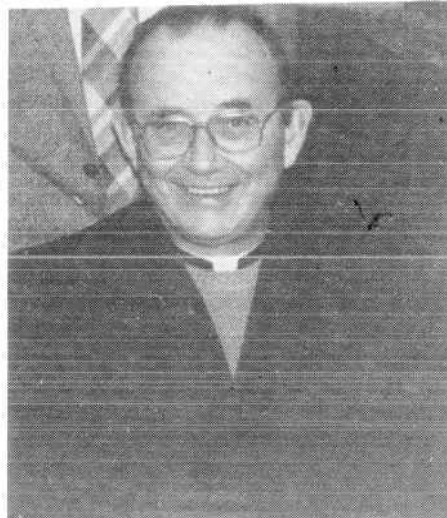
Agus trácht á déanamh ar mhórfhíli Gaeilge na linne seo, ní chloisimid mórán ar Phádraig Ó Fiannachta. N'fheadar an cothrom na Féinne an méid sin. 'Séard atá sa saothar seo ná cnuasaigh uile an Fhiannachtaigh curtha ar fáil le hais a chéile in aon mhórchnuasach amháin. Agus is leor aon amharc amháin chun a thuiscint go bhfuil planda na filíochta cothaithe le cúram ag Pádraig Ó Fiannachta le breis is fiche bliain. Ní fás aon oíche an fear seo, is file faoi bhláth é. Ag léamh an chnuasaigh seo duit, chífir file ag tabhairt an domhain ina thimpeall faoi deara agus ag fágaint clocha duirlinge laistiar dó in abhainn an tsaoil.

Tá na clocha sin le feiscint sa chnuasach seo. Gheobhair daoine ann — Tomás Ó Seanainn in Ospidéal Inis Diomáin, Máire Ní Fhloinn a sheol cárta Nollag chuig an bhfile, Séamus agus Eibhlín a chomóraigh fiche bliain a bpósta, Seán Mac Fhlannchadha a thug iasacht lámhscríbhíne don fhile, Íde Ní Dhónaill a chonaic tionóisc "buail-is-teith" agus daoine nach iad.

Gheobhair eachtraí ann — bagairt an Rúisigh an file a phleancadh, a turas thar n-ais ó Ghleann Dá Loch, lá ar Loch Coirib, leanaf Bhaile Thormaid a ghlac seilbh ar sheomra an fhile, aifreann ag Cill Mhaoil Céadair, iubhaile mná rialta.

Gheobhair an domhan mór — An Stiftsbibliothek i Sankt Gallan, Gorta Bhaifra, Sleaidí i bhVenizia, Droch-eachtra i Soitsí, Leanaf na Tíre Beannaithe, Manna ag Tel Arad, Ar Fán i gCymru agus i Sasana, Bunú eaglaise i Namukusi, Ag seachaint haisís i Khan El Khalili, gan dearúd a dhéanamh ar Thigh Ibrahim i gCairo agus ar tharla ann.

Gheobhair meas ar fhíli eile — Dán ugaigh do Sheán ó Riordáin —



An tAth Pádraig Ó Fiannachta.

"Ná bí i gcogair leat féin!
Scaoil chugainn brí do scéil.
Ní focal focal béil
Go gcloise cluais a chéill."

Do Sheán Ó hUaithín —

"Sin paidir gach file
Ag bun gach duille
Le scaipeadh a chlainne
Ar fud na cruinne."

Dán molta do Mhicheál Ó hAirtneide as Íde Naofa a mholadh —

"Nuair a cheilis do phearsain
A rúin siúd a nochtais,
Ach dhúnais an poll slogaide
A shúnn gach cneastacht
ó chroí an fhíréin."

Dán spreagtha do Thomás Mac Síomóin —

"Léan ort!

Nach cuma faoi na dallacáin
Ná tuigeann ach na focail amháin!
Níor thuig éinne fáidh riamh
Ach na céadta bliain ina dhiaidh
Scéigh toircheas ó bhroinn diamhair."

Is léir agus is ríléir ar an gcnuasach seo gur file é Pádraig Ó Fiannachta a bhfuil a pheann imeartha aige ar phraitinní móra den saol. Níl aon am caite amú aige, ná aga caite uaidh. Is é a bhua mór an cumas atá ann an ócáid speisialta úd — an uain bheo, an tréith phearsantachta sin — an splean draíochta, a thaifead agus a chur i ndán. Níor bhac sé riamh leis an útamáil, an tástáil foirmeacha. Dhírigh sé ar an atmasféar a thabhairt leis, a theachtairacht a chur i gcrích.

Ní hionann sin is a rá gur file tuata é an Fiannachtach. A mhalairt ar fad atá fíor. Nach suaithinseach mar a mhair is mar a d'fhorbair an bhrí sa dán "Suantraí Do Chara", dán a cumadh ar chlos bás Allende don fhile —

"Codail, a chara, tar éis an lae.
Is scaoil thar do chluasa an scéal.
Nach bhfuil againn na scuainí naomh
A fuair íde gharbh mar é? . . .

Ach d'ainneoin seo i d'ainneoin siad
Mairfidh an aisling a spreag an chúis
Is adhnfar arís i gcoinneal do shúl
An dóchas daingean nach millfidh na búir."

Agus an tóirán fuitreach Pinochet ar na déithe deiridh, nach fíor do gach aon fhocal?

Agus deartháireacha Pinochet i gceannas sa Phailistín, nach fuirist briathra seo an Fhiannachtaigh a scríobhadh sé bliana déag roimh *Intifada* a thuiscint? —

"Is furasta daoibh béiceach
Ar shráideanna tréigthe Iarúsailéim
A shaighdiúirí bídeacha aeracha
Fad tá agaibh gunnaí agus piléir.

Pé teideal eile atá tuillte ag Pádraig Ó Fiannachta, is file é. File pobail é, ní cleasaí focal. File beo é, ní leimheacán briathra. File a linne féin é agus, toisc nach n-athraíonn dúchas an duine, file gach linne. Deir sé nach dócha go scríobhfaidh sé a lán eile filíochta. Más fíor sin, nach boichtede éigse Éireann. Seans, fós, go gcloisfidh sé macalla a bhriathra féin ag léimint chuige as a chéad dán, Ponc, is nach bhfágfaidh sé "bearna ina dhéidh".

Deora Dé, Pádraig Ó Fiannachta, An Sagart, 1987.

V. UÍBH EACHACH

EMIGRATION, AN IRISH SCANDAL

One of the most popular songs of Connemara 1988 is 'Cóilín Phádraic Shéamuis' — nearly twenty years after its composition. One would imagine that it was written during the depression of the 50's; it was written in the early 70's and is even more relevant now in the near 90's.

Ó saolaíodh thú, is mairg a rá
Go raibh an long anonn i ndán duit.
Bhí sé romhat de shíor go mbeifeá lá
I measc na n-imirceánach
Níl maireachtáil ag baile dhuit,
Ní thusa féin is cáinte
Ach an dream a d'fhág tú thiar díomhaoin,
Ag stracadh leis an nganntán.

'Emigration was to be your destiny, you are not at fault; but those that left you slaving with few resources and without an alternative.' We Irish accept emigration as part of life. The most frequently heard comment is 'what can we do? nothing!' We run away from the problem, as this article is being written the Government are being congratulated for meeting all financial targets for the past year. We need to borrow £300m less than we thought, and there is no mention of the 100,000 people who have left the country since 1986. The exchequer 'saved £30m' this year because of emigration, and this isn't to mention the savings on housing, education, health and ancillary services. Fr. Bobby Gilmore is the organiser of the Irish Chaplaincy in Britain which looks after the welfare of Irish immigrants there; he said in a recent submission to an Action Report, 'Emigration is not accidental. It is the result of failed policies. Our lack of vision and natural fatalism has made us look to emigration as the only solution. We have failed to look at the real causes and permanent solutions to our economic policies.'

Examining emigration in a simplistic fashion, we can get four immediate areas of focus which we can deal with. The primary area of scrutiny must be the causes. We can accept that lack of job opportunities, a level of dissatisfaction with remuneration, the taxation system being inequitable, a large acceptance of redundancy deals are causes; these are allied with a lack of confidence which leads people to decide that leaving is a better option than staying.

Our next area of concern must be, what do we do with a potential emigrant? The Government's answer is 'let him go'. We have one full-time advice centre in the country, in Cathedral St. in Dublin and this is sponsored by the church. We need an adequate information system for our youth to acquaint them with the harsh realities of life abroad. Over 70% of our emigrants still go to England, that is 28,000 in the past year alone. The Camden Borough claim that 16% of their homeless are Irish. The Kerry diocese are extending their Hostel at the moment because of the radical shortage of space. The Government in Ireland gives £250,000 to the Irish welfare services in England, the same as emigrants pay in their 'tourist' tax when they leave. Much as we should detest it we must prepare our youth for the injustice that we inflict on them as a nation of people which avoids demanding rights for these people at home.

The third area of concern is the emigrant's life abroad. It is not the garden of roses

frequently portrayed by the media. In September, 20,000 Irish youths in England had no supplementary benefits as the system was changed to income support which is paid 2 weeks in arrears. Since the first of September there are no welfare payments to 16-18 year olds. They must go on a youth training scheme and they could wait 3 months for this. There are over 100,000 illegal Irish in the U.S.A. No easy access to home, no banking facilities, no medicare, no life. We don't even give our emigrants the right to vote in elections at home. The Italians subsidise travel home for their voters if they wish to vote. In Ireland we pack them off and make sure that they don't have a say in how the country should be run. They never will get the vote, the politicians would have no control over the vote. It could even lead to a socialist Government that might distribute wealth more equitably and improve the plight of our 30% poor!

Solutions must be looked at. Emigration must be tackled as it is a self-perpetuating evil until eradicated by a brave and imaginative leadership. There must be a massive job creation scheme with less reliance on multinational companies. We have to set community job targets and train our community leaders. We have waited in vain for political strength and creativity. Our present situation has emerged from bad long-term planning, let us get it right this time around. 'Ná lig do Chóilín imeacht, tá a mhuintir sa bhaile'!

'A Programme for Action' — A report on Emigration is available from TIDE, 17 Beresford Place, Dublin 1.

LIAM Ó CUINNEAGÁIN

OPENING OF GAELSCOIL INSE CHÓR

The much-travelled Gaelscoil Inse Chór was at last officially opened in a unique ceremony in October at Islandbridge, Dublin.

The magnificent new school building was declared 'open' by all those past pupils who attended this Irish-medium school since its inception in 1977. These are the pupils who travelled over the years on a special school bus to classrooms in other school premises in Crumlin, Templeogue and Walkinstown, many miles distant.

In a symbolic ribbon-cutting ceremony those past pupils honoured the dedication and commitment of the school's parents and teachers, past and present, in securing the continued development of the school. This was achieved in the face of difficulties and delays encountered over the years in dealing with various Government administrations.

Pressure leads to Success

The success of this school highlights the large degree of determination needed by parents to get an Irish-medium education for their children. That laudable objective, thwarted as it was in this case by successive Governments in the period 1977-1987, has now been achieved. Those days of frustration are now, happily, past.

The utmost pressure possible at crucial times had to be exerted to enable the school to move on to the next stage of the long and difficult road towards getting a proper school building.

The success of this school will, it is hoped, be an inspiration to the many other Irish-medium schools now facing the difficulties it encountered over the years. It will also, hopefully inspire others to set up an Irish-medium school in their own areas. It is a difficult and, at times, frustrating task, but it is certainly worthwhile. A scoil lánGhaeilge not only has a very positive effect on the children attending it but it has a tremendous beneficial effect on the local community's attitude and commitment to Irish.

AN BORD BAINISTÍOCHTA

SUPPORT FOR IRISH IN MATRICULATION

80 people attended a seminar organised at the end of October by Conradh na Gaeilge in Dublin. 'Matriculation and the Irish Language' was the subject of the seminar. Proinsias Mac Aonghusa, Tánaiste of Conradh na Gaeilge, chaired the seminar and put two important motions before those attending. The motions were adopted unanimously.

The first motion called on Senators of the National University of Ireland to ensure that the status of the Irish Language as an essential subject in the Matriculation Examination remains unaltered.

The second motion called on the Taoiseach and the Minister for Education to see to it that Irish is taught effectively and well at every stage of courses of study at the second level.

The speakers at the seminar were Tomás de Bhaldraithe, Donncha Ó Súilleabháin and Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh.

WHO FEARS TO SPEAK?

Much analysis and comment has attended the review of the Anglo-Irish Agreement after three years of survival. Those three years have seen many disastrous mistakes by both the IRA and the British government, but everyone is agreed that the most significant thing achieved by the Agreement has probably been the facing down by Britain of a co-ordinated Loyalist threat.

While monster street rallies, marches, demonstrations and riots did take place, the threat by Unionists, that they would make the state ungovernable unless the Agreement was scrapped, did not materialise. That is something which will not go amiss on any future British government in making decisions about the ultimate lasting solution of the "Irish question".

Paisley and Molyneaux, the Unionists' leaders may well have huffed and puffed, but they most certainly did not blow the house down. In fact, they have managed to give away the biggest secret in the Unionists' arsenal of defence against any constitutional change.

It was always thought that a massive Loyalist backlash would follow any interference by the South in the North's affairs. The very hint of mobilising such a backlash was enough, heretofore, to send shivers up the spine of any British Prime Minister.

Now, however, the full impact of loyalist anger has been felt, faced down and left redundant as a serious threat. The campaign against the Agreement has illustrated, for the first time, that there is a limit to what the majority of loyalists will do to protect their position. That is a piece of proven information that will be very helpful indeed to future British governments. The Unionists have stubbornly held on to the policy of refusing to talk until the Agreement is suspended. But, there are signs that the resulting stalemate, with Southern Ministers having more say in the running of the North than Unionist elected representatives, is not one which Mr. Molyneaux or Mr. Paisley can contemplate with any comfort.

The Unionist leadership has put itself on a very barbed hook, indeed, in demanding a suspension of the Agreement before talks on a devolved administration in the North can begin. Early in the New Year, it is confidently expected that some accommodation will be made to get talks started and the Unionists off their own hook.

Meanwhile, the nationalist population is, at best, somewhat indifferent to the Agreement. It neither radically improves their lot, nor does it disimprove it.

There are, for instance, no signs that the British government is acceding to demands from Dublin for radical changes in the legal system, the Royal Ulster Constabulary or the Ulster Defence Regiment. On the contrary, the three years since the signing of the Agreement have produced some remarkable cases which would indicate that the British legal system is heavily weighed against Irish people on charges related to possible IRA involvement.

What does recommend itself strongly to the nationalist population about the Anglo-Irish

Agreement, however, is the fact that the Unionists detest it. What the ancient enemy dislikes "can't be all bad," goes the thinking.

Meanwhile, in the South, a remarkable consensus of opinion has emerged, among the parties in Dáil Éireann on the northern troubles. Under the influence of the North's biggest nationalist party, the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP), the scenario would unfold something like this:

- 1) If the British get the strong co-operation that they want on security against the IRA, they will concede changes in the judicial system and the RUC and UDR.
- 2) There will be a resultant weakening of the IRA and the RUC and UDR will become "acceptable" to the nationalist population.
- 3) A devolved government involving the SDLP and the Unionists will be set up.
- 4) With this new beginning, the SDLP will have real power, attract support from Sinn Féin and eventually reduce the Republican vote to insignificance.
- 5) With the harmonisation of taxes in Europe in 1992, frontiers will lose their importance and the possibility of co-operation between the two parts of Ireland together in many fields such as tourism, agriculture, industrial development will be very real in a "united Europe".

It would be probably fair to say that the "united Ireland" traditionally aspired to by the main parties in the South is not now actively being sought. The only movement which is now pushing with any seriousness for a British declaration of intent to withdraw from Ireland is that which encompasses Sinn Féin and the IRA.

This fact was starkly illustrated during Mrs. Thatcher's last visit to the North when she declared that Britain would stay in the North as long as a majority there wanted them to. Not one voice was raised in Dáil Éireann or elsewhere in the South to point out that the Northern state is, ipso facto, a total negation of democracy, having been set up specifically, against the will of the majority in all of Ireland, to ensure Unionist domination in perpetuity.

In the new atmosphere which pervades Anglo-Irish relations, to utter this glaring truth would have been neither well-mannered nor friendly. In former years, Mrs. Thatcher's brazen and outrageous misrepresentation of the truth would have elicited an immediate challenge from leaders in the South. A deafening silence was the most recent response.

It is difficult to construe that silence as anything other than the reaction of a heavily intimidated and weak national leadership. In fact, one is almost unavoidably reminded of the words of that great Irish ballad from another generation of struggle "The Memory of the Dead":

"Who fears to speak of 'Ninety-eight
Who blushes at the name
When cowards mock the patriot's fate
Who hangs his head for shame?"

P. MAC AIRT

CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS

Shock revelations during the course of September, indicated that the Irish Government, as part of its on-going "commitment to security in the North of Ireland" had agreed to over-flights of the twenty-six counties, by British Army Air Corps aircraft. The aircraft involved were De Havilland Beaver, which are based at Aldergrove in the North. The aircraft have a mid-flight air reconnaissance rôle and are specially adapted with various surveillance equipment, generally considered to be more secure for operations in the border areas following the reputed acquisition by republican elements there, of surface-to-air missile equipment.

The operations by these clandestine forces came as no shock to the C.L. however. Since 1986, C.L. Mannin Branch has engaged in a long running series of correspondence with the MoD, into operations from Jurby Airfield in the north of Mann, by Beaver aircraft. All the indications tell us that these aircraft are home-based at Aldergrove. It would seem that Jurby was being used on a reconnaissance loop, out through the border areas and back to the Isle of Man, with subsequent return home to Aldergrove. Why on earth the British Military thought this would confuse anybody, is beyond us! In effect, nothing has been achieved but a hornets nest has been stirred up. Jurby, being a disused airfield lacks aircraft control and rescue facilities and is closed to air traffic. Despite protracted correspondence, the MoD and the Island's authorities have never quite been able to explain the mysterious comings and goings of the army's Beaver aircraft. Perhaps the operations are so secret that the British Forces in the North of Ireland have not even informed their own MoD.

With the Beaver destined shortly to pass out of service, C.L. military monitoring supporters in Mann, await with interest the arrival of its successor. The Islander, we understand, has been chosen to take over this clandestine function in the N. of Ireland — very appropriate — the name anyway!

J.B. MOFFATT

IRISH IGNORED

The publication of "Education Reform in Northern Ireland — The Way Forward" confirmed speculation that the authorities in the North had ignored representations with regard to Irish made by many bodies including the Celtic League. The language is not

included in the prescribed areas of study. In the foreword the following is stated with regard to the position of Irish.

"At the same time, however, the Government fully recognises the importance of the Irish language to many people in Northern Ireland. For those schools which teach through the medium of Irish (currently at primary level only), a programme of study will be drawn up for Irish which pupils must follow in addition to the programme of study for English (and a major European language in the case of secondary schools). Pupils in those schools will be formally assessed in each language.

In addition, a programme of study and formal assessment arrangements will be available for those secondary schools which wish to teach Irish as a modern language within the Language Studies area of study. For the reasons given in paragraph 2.14 the Government believes that it is important for all pupils to study a major European language and this means that pupils wishing to study Irish will also take French, Spanish or German. This is analogous to the position for pupils in schools in Wales, who will have to take a major European language whether or not they take Welsh."



Cont. from 13

Many Welsh speakers find it difficult or embarrassing to speak Welsh to learners when they know that they could communicate quite easily and fluently in English. One of CYD's tasks therefore is to impress upon the Welsh speaker that it is important that as far as possible only Welsh is spoken to the learner.

It is also hoped that in CYD activities Welsh learners, who are often newcomers to Wales, will learn about the Welsh culture and the Welsh way of life; not only how to sing in Welsh or to learn about Eisteddfodau and other cornerstones of Welsh culture, but to enter into the Welshman's mind and way of thinking.

We also organize a programme of national activities every year, including Welsh social weekends, a National Summer Festival and a week's holiday in Welsh in Nant Gwrtheyrn. An effort is made to vary the venues for the weekends. Three weekends were held last year in the splendid National Language Centre at Nant Gwrtheyrn on topics such as singing, Welsh courting customs and the Fourth Centenary of the translation of the Bible into Welsh. Weekends will be held this year in the Vale of Glamorgan and an Outdoor Activity Weekend in Tegarón, Mid-Wales.

As a member of the Celtic League myself I am very eager to start a dialogue between the Celtic Nations (and indeed other small nations in Europe) about movements for adult Welsh learners. Are there similar movements in other countries? Is there a wish in other Celtic Nations to multiply the number of speaker through this type of activity?



CAR REGISTRATION CHALLENGE

In October, Ciarán Ó Feinneadha, a Dubliner, decided not to conform with the legal requirement of using the abbreviation D in the registration of his car and unveiled instead his plates carrying B.Á.C. In a statement Ciarán said: "Living languages are spoken and one of the most effective ways of achieving this, in the case of the Irish language, is to create an atmosphere which will encourage people to speak the language.

Car number plates are very visible signs and they would certainly help to create an Irish atmosphere were they based on the Irish names of the counties. This would not involve any extra cost.

Baile Átha Cliath is where I was born and reared and that is the only name of this city that I use as an address in my private and business life. The State would be doing an injustice to me were they to ask me to put on my car number plates with an abbreviation based on the English version of Baile Átha Cliath. I will not put such number plates on my car."

Conradh na Gaeilge commended Ciarán Ó Feinneadha for taking the initiative and putting on his new car number plates (88 BÁC 27796) which gave due recognition to the Irish language, as the national language and the first official language of the country. They congratulated him for the courageous stand he had taken and said that Ciarán's action highlighted the lack of respect shown by

authorities of the State for the constitutional status of the Irish language.

Two years ago the Department of the Environment announced that a new system for registering vehicles was to be adopted. The Department put three alternative systems before the public and sought their views on them. Irish was not used in any of those systems.

The Minister for the Environment in the last Coalition Government, John Boland, then announced that he had selected the system which was based on abbreviations of the names of cities and counties in English. That decision was an insult to the Irish language, to the national aim of restoring it and to Irish speakers.

Soon after his appointment, Conradh na Gaeilge asked the present Minister for the Environment, Pádraig Ó Floinn, to alter the system by giving due recognition to the Irish language. He rejected that request.

Conradh na Gaeilge stated they hope that Ciarán's initiative would encourage the Minister for the Environment to review the situation and to replace the current registration system with one that is not insulting to the Irish language. It would be easy to do that and, even, retain the basis of the current system — it only requires using abbreviations of the names of cities and counties in the Irish language.

Please contact me, either by writing to me directly or through correspondence in "Carn". I have suggested the idea to Cemaes Merfyn Phillips, the secretary of the Welsh branch of the Celtic League that an inter-Celtic conference should be held to discuss CYD and other similar organisations, or that a seminar should be held in some Celtic event.

I am convinced that we could learn a great deal from each other's experiences. CYD is a success in Wales and I am eager that other

Celtic nations should gain from our experience.

SIÓN MEREDITH
CYD National Organiser,
Adran y Gymraeg,
Yr Hen Goleg,
Heol y Brenin,
Aberystwyth,
Dyfed SY23 2AX
(0970) 623177

KERNOW

GWEALL THORT CURNOW

En Curnow thera nye zenge dewatha cala an tavaz Cornoack car drolga angye boaz zengez gen dean vo en bethe, dreffen boaz hebma an dewatha seen ogaz an gwaladgagath nye. Ma Alban ha Kimbra leezagweth mouy vela nye, buz angye a veez an keth caletter dro tho mothow go thavaz hagenze an taga an coweras gwaladgack angye.

En Alban an gweall ew wonnen spladna ez trova kenz. Nag ew pell athor denithians an towl tho fundia bagazow-gware Gwithalack, buz hithew ma aweeth skoliow kenza leba ma deskez maters dre veen an tavaz genedgack, ha ma colgy en Enis Skye leba el boaz deskez peb mater oll dre veen an Gwithalack. Buz ma deaw dra eeze goera feen thon tolowma: kenze, faut arrance, ha nessa, faut descadurrian! An gwella ew drew an seeris ha damiow leb eeze chalingia an tavaz Gwithalack en skoll, colgy ha pednskol.

Buz an arrance veth nefra caletter. En kemedniath leba el kenefra dean drei cartane, television liwis, gulheres, computer-choye, keeg restez war a bord, ha degoliow derez an more . . . callish ew, car dre hevol, trovia edn penz pi deaw tho speana war megias an coweras gwaladgack; whaeth en termen ez passiez pa nag era thon bobel scantlower deaw thinar tho ruttia warbar, an Gwithalack vee an kenza tavaz! Ha lebben ma Consel an Descas an Euhaldeeriow degea an skoliow bean ha en kettermen ma settia an arhow leb

vee proviez rag deske an Gwithalack en tellariow leba ew an tavaz mouha ewiez kenzemmin.

Na whaeth, nag ew hedda pleazia aheaz seeris ha damiow thort kene terathow, ha ma angye nefra whilaz formia classis noweth en Gwithalack ra go flehaz. Gothe compla boaz lebben Kell Gwithalack en Glasgow rag 67 diskibel. En nebbaz tellariow ma arrance luk, ha an edn dra eeze lettia formians kellow noweth thew an faut a thiscadurs! Nag ew hedda tho laol boaz migil culednow an thiscadurs Albanack, buz kenz trew callish thon sistem drei discadurs en Gwithalack mar iskis tra eeze faut dotha! Steeth gwidnvez, nyc venga laol!

Ubba en Curnow nye venga pedeere treeze an Gembrean tregaz en Neav pothow dothans mar vear teez el clappia an Kimbrack, ha mar vear culednow-tubm eeze tedna tha arvow os gweetha sow naze an walaze. Buz nag ew andelna! An gwreanathe ew drew Kimbra scantlower gwell vel brossa ehan a Curnow, dothe caletters pocara a ri nye . . . buz brossa! Rag ma a Gembrean laol drew an tavaz angye kildedna tewa Gwynedd, ha remnant an walaze tho doaz ha boaz mouha Sounsack kenefra journa. An ancombringyma ew adganez tho nye aweeth. . . . Ma nefra mouy a Zawson eeze toaz ha tregaz en Kimbra, car dreeze aweeth en Curnow, ha ma angye perna aman an powe nebbaz ha nebbaz, he drei bera go vurrew ha go thavaz Sawsnack.

Ha ota ubbas an brossa escar nye . . . an arrance! An gwaladgow Keltack vee nefra bohodgack, ha faut dothans a vunna, buz en doola an escar an arhow veth creffa vel an

arvow. . . . Ma angye comeras veaz gon gwalaze tabm orth tabm en vor nag ew cabmen veeth bidn laha, rag thon nye kenefra wonnen sojeta an vaternes Sawsnack ha e lahas, minnin ke na vinnin.

Ma gorrib rag hebma. PEB POWE KELTACK DALVEA CAWOS E ZOVRANTA E HUNNEN, pi metessen edn sovranta vo radnez treeth an Whee Powe.

Eeze kene towl thon Kesednians Keltack?

RICHARD GENDALL

PRECIS OF CONTENTS:

The situation in Scotland relating to the state of the Gaelic is brighter than it used to be. There are pre-school play-groups, primary and secondary schools already using it, and a college in Skye where in theory any subject may be studied using the native language. Shortage of funds has made the Education Committee concentrate its resources in areas where Gaelic is already strongest, but parents in other areas are demanding the right to have their children taught in Gaelic. A shortage of teachers seems to be the main obstacle.

Wales seems to be scarcely better off than Cornwall. Welsh is retreating to Gwynedd as even more English families move into the land bringing with them English ways and language. Even communications are orientated in favour of access from England. Wales, like Cornwall, is being sold out.

The answer seems to be that the Celtic countries should enjoy their own sovereignty. Does the LEAGUE have any other aim?

RICHARD GENDALL

DIRTY TRICKS BRIGADE ACTIVE

Underground Cornish movement An Gof were active in the Camborne area during September 1988. An Gof are not usually in the habit of making statements about their actions or their policies. So what happened on 15 September 1988 appeared a little odd, especially to Cornish political observers.

The Camborne Packet newspaper of 22/9/88 reported that: "On Thursday a telephone call from a man claiming to be a member of An Gof was made to the Packet's Camborne office claiming the movement had been approached by Sinn Féin and they may be helping them by giving information on military personnel in Cornwall. In return Sinn Féin would help in An Gof's struggle in Cornwall."

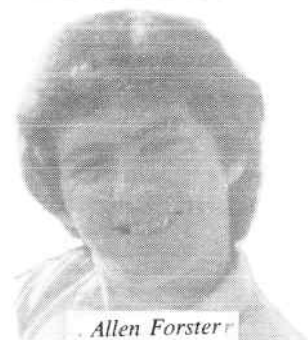
As it happened, Allen Forster of the FREE CORNWALL organisation was in Éire at the people from both SF parties, and the Workers

time of the phone call, and had spoken to Party and Celtic League members. In fact FREE CORNWALL had officially been invited to Republican SF's Ard Fheis in October.

Any person who has a knowledge of either Cornish or Irish politics, would know that SF are politically poles apart from An Gof and it is absurd to think that they would aid An Gof in its present form.

Allen Forster received a lot of publicity for an incident at the Brit embassy in Dublin. He was asked by certain media persons about the An Gof/SF supposed connection, and of his possible involvement.

The phone call was all too convenient and coincidental to be genuine. So who made it? And for what purpose? There are two theories:



Allen Forster

- The media or state dirty tricks brigade were responsible;
- More likely, a person/persons active inside the Cornish movement with an obvious grievance against Allen or maybe FREE CORNWALL was responsible.

Allen has an idea who might have been responsible. The plan backfired, and any intended harm to either him personally or to FREE CORNWALL never materialised.

HOUSING THE ENGLISH

In some parts of Cornwall house prices rose by as much as 90% during 1987/88. Nothing remarkable in that, as many parts of Wales and Scotland saw similar rises, but the difference is that house prices in Cornwall were already much higher than in the other Celtic countries. And, crucially, this is coupled with the lowest wages in these islands. The result — yuppie prices: coolie wages — and a situation where 80% of our first time house buyers in Cornwall end up chasing just 2% of the available housing stock!

Where does the other 98% of our housing go? To well heeled settlers from the South East of England. Ever since the 1960s our house prices have risen faster than the norm in response to the burgeoning demand from nomadic English people fleeing their own leafy parts of suburbia in pursuit of some hazy romantic dream that involves a sea view. This had already led to the transformation of villages in parts of Cornwall to become predominantly middle class English communities as the previous residents were forced to move to cheaper areas or council estates in the towns.

But now even this last resort has been closed off. Since the Tory Government's attack on public housing very little council housing has been built in Cornwall to replace that sold off. Again, our proportion of council housing (around 16%) is much lower than areas with similar low wage levels in the other countries.

1988 has seen a dawning awareness that there is a problem. Unfortunately many of the proposed solutions are worse than the problem. Cornwall Council planners stand like King Canutes before a tide of potential English settlers flushed with the six figure proceeds from their sales of semi-detached 'Bide-a-wees' in Surrey, and chant the mysterious incantation contained in Government circulars — 'we must accommodate demand' (i.e. by building thousands of houses on green field sites and planning for a continued population growth rate of over 10% a decade — all this rise accounted for by immigrants).

Local councillors, many of them Cornish, go further. Worried by the problems of local first-time buyers, they can be heard arguing that if house prices are too high 'we must build more until they fall'. These people are apparently willing to cover Cornwall from end to end in concrete just in order to provide houses for the English — an amazing and appalling consequence of 1,000 years of colonisation.

What is going on has rightly been termed genocide by replacement. The housing market

(along with the jobs market) operates in a way that effectively says Cornish people have no right to be in Cornwall. Because of the tremendous demand to move to Cornwall, because of Cornwall's size relative to England, because of the relative ease by which people can travel these days from the London area to Cornwall, because of the remaining difference between house prices in London and Cornwall there are always thousands of potential in-migrants.

It only takes 1% of the population of South East England to want to come to Cornwall and we're talking about a 60% rise in the population of Cornwall. The more we build houses and succeed in holding down prices (even if we could do that) the more the effective demand to move here is increased.

But the housing problem, while a spectacular symbol of Cornwall's colonial plight, has to be seen in a wider context. The desire of English people to move to Cornwall and the willingness of local planners to accommodate them has to be understood as more than just a conspiracy to destroy the Cornish nation.

The analysis of the social changes affecting us and the social forces involved has been at the centre of a project that COSERG (the Cornish Social and Economic Research Group) has been working on since February, 1988. The result is a book, **Cornwall at the Crossroads**, published in December, which provides the beginnings of a coherent analysis of Cornwall's problems.

COSERG point out the existence of four assumptions which lie at the heart of policies about Cornwall. They are

- 1) that Cornwall is remote, therefore we must build fast roads to bring us nearer to England, which, incidentally, encourages more people to buy second homes or make their permanent move to Cornwall.
- 2) that the Cornish people are backward, therefore we must import dynamic in-migrants.
- 3) that Cornwall is too small to be viable, therefore it must be linked with parts of South West England.
- 4) that Cornwall is a leisure playground for the English, therefore efforts must be concentrated on the tourist industry — which in turn again indirectly encourages in-migration.

Most, if not all, writing about Cornwall has these assumptions at their core. They are, of course, basically centralist and see Cornwall as just a periphery of England. They are also unlikely to lead to any desire to resist the tide of in-migration.

Quite the contrary, in a policy U-turn Cornwall Council now bases its plans on an immigration-led population growth strategy rather than a jobs led growth strategy that at least tried to match population in-migration to job supply. Now it says let them all come, we must just accommodate them and see what jobs are created. The result is a recipe for disaster — for finally turning Cornwall into a replica of South East England: suburbanised, tamed, exploited. Planning becomes implicitly devoted to ensuring the rapid Anglicisation of Cornwall and the extinction of a distinct Cornish community.

In contrast to this grim scenario COSERG proposes that other goals are adopted, namely:

- a) A breathing space for our communities. It's important to do everything possible to slow down population growth.
- b) Plan to retain our dynamic young emigrants (who still leave in search of higher education and work) rather than attract what is in reality those who — far from being 'dynamic' — are opting for semi-retirement by the sea. Build an economy that is based on our geographical strength, such as Cornwall's maritime location.
- c) Defend and reinforce the Cornishness of Cornwall. Guarantee the right of future generations to be Cornish.
- d) Concentrate on human scale development for local need, development that respects the environment rather than speculators' profits.

Of course, there is a central contradiction and COSERG is aware of it. To meet these goals there has to be a transfer of power to Cornwall. Cornwall's special case has to be recognised by measures of autonomy so that the Cornish people can regain some control over their destiny and begin to confront housing and jobs markets which ignore their right to live and work in their own land.

The latter part of 1988 has seen various conferences on local housing needs and suggestions for tinkering with the housing system. But, without a clear awareness of Cornwall's historic case based on its rights as a Celtic nation, all such well meaning initiatives are doomed to failure, as they tend to start from the same broad assumptions that COSERG have identified.

Only a major raising of national consciousness can give an edge to demands for local needs in housing and prepare us to stand up and confront the policy of immigration-led growth. Only arguments based on the fact that we're not 'just another English county' can deal with the banal accusations that opposing housing growth is 'selfish' and that Cornwall is 'for sharing' — both sentiments heard expressed recently by Cornish apologists for high rates of in-migration at a local planning meeting.

Cornwall at the Crossroads is the first step in providing some arguments that allow us to do this. But it's only a first step, certainly not a blueprint. What's needed is education, agitation and, primarily, organisation in order to lead the struggle for an alternative future that respects our national rights.

Cornwall at the Crossroads (192 pages) is available at £4.25 post free from COSERG, 51 Plain an Gwarry, Redruth, Kernow.

Another odd coincidence was the fact that ex Radio Cornwall journalist Phil Reeves (now working for the English 'Independent' newspaper), was at the same time as this incident in Éire doing a story on people in West Belfast. Back in 1987 Allen Forster was given a hard time on Radio Cornwall by Phil Reeves over remarks made about SF and possible violence in Cornwall as a result of Cornish ghettoisation.

PETER PASCOE

MANNIN

BAASE DESMOND GREAVES

Hooar Desmond Greaves baase ayns Mee Luanistyn as eh bunnys 75 bleeane dy eash. Va enney aym er Desmond rish bleeantyn — ny smoo na feed, son shickyrys. Ga dy row eh ruggit ayns Sostyn, she Yernagh dooie v'ayn kiart dy liooar, Yernagh ren streeu car e vea son seyrnsys Nerin. Ta Desmond ardghooagh myr yn dooinney ren screu beashnys Yames Connolly as beashnys Liam Mellows, agh va foddey ny smoo na shen jeant echey.

Roish y Nah Chaggey, va obbyr ec Desmond myr kemmighagh, agh lurg y caggey v'eh gobbraghey car y traas son cooishyn politickagh er y skian toshtal. V'eh ny chummynagh, foddey beggan goll rish ny shenn chummynee ta sleih craiddey mysh y laa t'ayn jiu. Erskyn ooilley, v'eh gobbraghey son ny Yernee va (as ta) cummal ayns Sostyn. Nalbin as Bretin. Oddagh oo gra, bunnys, dy row Desmond Greaves yn Connolly Association as dy row yn Connolly Association Desmond Greaves. Va'n Cheshaght Connolly currit er bun dy chur er e hoshiaght y chooish jeh seyrnsys Nerin ayns Sostyn, erskyn ooilley sy Cheshaght Obbree ayns Sostyn. As ga dy re sheshaght veg ta Sheshaght Connolly, t'ee er ve speideilagh ny keayrtyr syn obbyr shen. Va Desmond cur er e hoshiaght y smooingagh dy lhisagh Slattys jeh Kiartys Deiney ve ec sleih ny hellanyn shoh bleeantyn roish my row y lheid ry chlashtyn veih sleih elley. As tra va sleih ayns Sostyn gra dy chooilley horch dy red keoi mysh Nerin, va'n Cheshaght Connolly dy kinjagh gra dy lhisagh ny Sostnee goll magh ass Nerin ooilley, cha nee dy doaltattym, agh ny veggan as veggan harrish paart dy vleeantyn, erreish daue v'er gra dy row ad son gimmeaght. Ta sleih dy liooar gra shen nish, agh feed blein er dy henney cha row monney sleih gra eh er lhimmey jeh'n Cheshaght Connolly.

Er y fa dy row (as dy vel) cummynee dy liooar sy Cheshaght Connolly, va paart dy Chatolee lajer noi'n Cheshaght. Mysh feed blein er dy henney, va musthaa mooar syn Ynnid Yernagh ayns Lerpoyll kyndagh rish shen. Smooinee paart dy haggartyr dy row lught Connolly geddyn "airh Voscow" as va lught Connolly ceat magh ass yn Ynnid! Va'n arganys shoh sharroo dy liooar as ren eh assee dy liooar da'n chooish Yernagh ayns Lerpoyll er y fa dy row yn Ynnid Yernagh ayns Lerpoyll goaill aggle atchimagh roish politickagh tra ghow y caggey toshiaght reesht ayns twoaie Nerin ayns 1968-69. Trooid yn arganys shoh, hoig Desmond dy beagh eh aggaighagh dy ghra reddyn lunagh

mysh yn Agglish Chatoleagh. Er jerrey, va lught Connolly abyl goll erash syn Ynnid Yernagh. Agh roish shen, va ny Yernee ayns baljyn elley ayns Sostyn er nyannoo foddey ny smoo son ny Yernee tranlaasit sy Twoaie na va jeant ec ny Yernee ayns Lerpoyll.

Tra haink y scoltey mooar eddyr ny Poblaghtee as haink ny Shallidee roo, va ram sleih sy Cheshaght Connolly laccal gra nagh row ny Shallidee feeu. Agh cha jinnagh Desmond shen. Ayns e phabyr eshey, yn "Irish Democrat", cha ren eh rieau soie er ny Shallidee. Cha daink scoltey sy Cheshaght Connolly.

Oddagh oo gra dy re dooinney condaighagh va Desmond. Tra phoos Yernagh va gobbraghey son yn Cheshaght Connolly ayns Lunnin, v'eh baghtal ry akin dy row Desmond smooingagh dy row yn poosey cur yn olk er obbyr pholiticagh y dooinney shoh! Cha row Desmond son jummal e hraa lesh mraane. Er agh ennagh she shenn Thoree v'ayn. Agh erskyn ooilley she dooinney v'ayn va toiggal nagh vel noidys erbee eddyr soshiallys as graih-cheerey. Shoh red nagh vod ram Sostnee t'er y skian toshtal toiggal — ga dy vel y chooid smoo jeu nyn ashooneyrin Sostnagh. T'ad lhiggey er dy vel ad "eddyr-ashoonagh" agh cha nel ad fakin agh Sostyn Veg.

Ny yeih shen as ooilley, va Desmond graihagh er goll magh marish sleih elley as giu bine beg. Shimmey skeal aitt v'echey. S'cooin lhiam y traas ayns Lunnin dy dooar fer syn Cheshaght Connolly lioar beg doo sy traid cheumooie jeh oik ny Sheshaght. Va'n lioar shoh lesh ny meoiryn-shee follit as va ram enmyr as enmyssyn jeh sleih "ourysshagh" ayn. Erreish daue v'er jeeaghyn er y lioar as feddyn row ny enmyr oc hene ayn, va lught Connolly jeant bwooiagh dy chur y lioar erash da meoir-shee as gra: "Ta shin smooingagh dy vel shoh lhiats".

Va oanluckey feer vie ec Desmond ayns Lerpoyll. Va'n brattagh tree-daahit er e choavin as chloie piobeyr ny shenn charryn. Va ram sleih ec y lullack as ec y farrar syn Ynnid Yernagh. Veagh Desmond er ngoaill soylye jeh'n jough.

BRIAN MAC STOYLL

Desmond Greaves, who died in August, will be remembered not only for his books on Connolly and Mellows, but also for his work in the Connolly Association and the "Irish Democrat".

HOUSING CRISIS

Tynwald has set the timescale for presenting the Executive Council's proposals in the form of a Consultative Document on Population Management, which deals with possible controls on immigration. Public comment of the proposals has been invited by the Social Issues Committee and the whole matter will not come before Tynwald until the end of March 1989 — a full six months after the Document's publication. Even then it is not certain that any controls will be introduced. Warnings from the Channel Islands brought the dangers of a free for all to the attention of the Government which refuses to acknowledge that a problem already exists, despite signs of public unrest.

Local people did not need the examples of the Channel Islands to realise what is happening to this Island. They do not enjoy the same protection as locals do there. Lack of affordable housing is now a major problem, particularly for those people who were not in a position to rent or buy a couple of years ago. Young people in their early twenties have been dealt a doubly hard blow. They left school when the recession was biting deepest and now they have reached an age normally associated with striding out on a more independent life, away from the parental home; only to find it impossible to compete in the housing market.

Some "first time buyer" housing is under construction for local people, but only married couples need apply. Then there is still the question of earning power being sufficient to repay £40,000 in this low wage economy. Increases in rents in the private sector mirror the dramatic and scandalous rise in property prices. The percentage increase in house prices has outstripped anywhere else in the British Isles in recent months.

The Chief Minister has not addressed the difficulties experienced by the lowly paid. Many of them live in substandard flats most likely to be sold off by private landlords who are making the most of the great demand for property for redevelopment into offices, and of course the high prices. Despite claims that Government wishes to develop a "prosperous and caring society", the excuse given is that no promises were made regarding pay, but that it is creating the atmosphere for full employment.

Local authorities have the responsibility of re-housing those made homeless and unless central Government is prepared to help substantially, large increases in rates are inevitable. If this happens, the major burden will once again fall on the shoulders of local people. In contrast, several developments of

luxury flats designed to cater for the new immigrant market, have been given planning approval.

It began to dawn on politicians that there existed an under-current of disquiet about the way things were going when graffiti began to appear. They were clearly outraged and embarrassed by the more serious damage done around the Tynwald Hill area just before Tynwald Day. The Treasury Minister felt it appropriate to give assurances, at the opening of St John's village flower show in September, that he did not wish to see the indigenous population become a disadvantaged minority. Harking back to the "For Sale" sign placed on Tynwald Hill, he stated: "the Isle of Man is not for sale" and that the finance industry is for the benefit of the Island and its people, not the reverse. Mr. Cannan is deluded if he really believes that. He went on to declare, "the Manx Government and myself are fully committed to preserving the heritage, culture, traditions and way of life". If that be so — and we have seen very little evidence to justify such a statement so far — let them give it some substance. We are tired of mere rhetoric!

A further rush of new residents can be expected over the next few months to beat the dead-line of some possibility of restrictions. That in itself will cause a further rise in property prices.

The Mannin Branch has re-iterated its Resolution passed at our 1988 AGM and has urged the Government to make provision for interim immigration controls as a matter of urgency.

C.J.K.

The 1987 Official Isle of Man Year Book gives a guide to price various types of property. I quote the very first on the list category. Under £20,000.

"Charming end of terrace modernised, 3 bedrooomed cottage in the heart of Peel 30 yards from the Promenade and Beach."

Advertised in the Courier September 1988.

ARTS COUNCIL CHAIR RESIGNS

Mrs. Betty Hanson, former Member of the Legislative Council, has resigned from the Arts Council because she is unhappy about it being taken over by the Department of Tourism and Transport.

Until now, the Isle of Man Arts Council has been administered by a body independent of, but funded by Government. Its brief has been to allocate grants and interest-free loans to cultural/arts projects, fund artists from abroad to give concerts and so on. As an independent body, the Council made decisions on which projects were worthy of assistance. Apart from the constraints of a meagre budget, they were able to be altruistic and did a good job. It was one of the few agencies to help Manx cultural projects and we have benefitted from their help.

It is true that the Tourist Department has financially assisted the art exhibition to go to

MANXLAND'S (RECENTLY DISCOVERED — MAINLY DUE TO THE FINANCIAL ADVANTAGES) MOST FAMOUS (GRAND) SON SENATOR DAN QUAYLE

TALKS TO THE MOST FAMOUS * WALKER IN THE MANX PHONE BOOK.



*Miles Walker is the Chief Minister of the Isle of Man Government — with their delusions of grandeur our politicians would have you believe this footnote is unnecessary. Fortunately — some of us live in the real world. . . .

Lorient, but that was not altruism, it was considerable, inexpensive publicity. The Tourist Department and in particular the Department's Minister has come in for public criticism lately, being accused of junketting in foreign parts when he should have been dealing with the various crises in the Industry.

It would be a sad state of affairs if, in their new rôle, they are motivated to make decisions with tourists in mind, rather than for the benefit of the local population.

C.J.K.

YN CHESHAGHT GHAILCKAGH

Current books/tapes and price list. Apply — Mnr. Juan Crellin. Thie ny Gaelgey, St. Jude's.

SONGS

BARZAZ BREIZ, the famous collection of Breton popular songs and gwerzioù made by Kervarker/La Villemarqué around 1850, published first in 1867 (and translated into several languages), is being republished by Mouladurioù Hor Yezh, 1 Plasenn Ch. Peguy, 29260 Lesneven, Brittany. Up to now, pride of place was always given to the French translation, the Breton original texts were confined, in small print, to the bottom third of the pages. In this new edition, only the Breton text appears, in an updated spelling, with music and linguistic annotations. 160FF in paperback, 220FF hardback. We'll come back to this important work of Breton literature.

INTER-CELTIC MOD?

An official representative of the Mod, attending Yn Chruinnaght last July was sufficiently delighted by the inter-Celtic element of the festival that he hopes to persuade the Mod Committee to introduce a similar dimension to Scotland's National Gaelic Festival.

CELTICA

CELTIC LEAGUE SUBMARINE MONITORING CAMPAIGN GOES ON

The C.L.'s submarine monitoring campaign, re-affirmed at our 1988 AGM, held at Thie ny Gaelgey, St Jude's, Mannin, has been given new impetus by a spate of incidents which have occurred in the Irish and Celtic Sea areas since the AGM. In fact whilst the AGM was in progress, a number of incidents occurred in the North Channel area, in the immediate approaches to the Faslane complex. In two of these, vessels were sunk after collisions with submarines: an army yacht, manned by members of the special boat section, engaged in clandestine military operations connected with the conflict in the North of Ireland, was sunk by H.M.S. Courageous. No lives were lost. Subsequent to this there was a further incident, this time involving a civilian yacht with approximately twenty people on board. It was severely damaged in a collision with H.M.S. Otis. At the end of July there appears to have been a major incident in the approaches to the Clyde complex, involving a suspected intruder — probably of Warsaw Pact origin. This goes to show that the deadly game being played in the N. Channel area around the Faslane complex, involves the protagonists of both "sides". However, undoubtedly the most serious incident occurred on Sept. 5th 1988, off Fishguard in the Pembroke Strait. This incident involved a fishing vessel, the Inspire, which was suddenly capsized. Three lives were lost and the survivor has ascribed the incident to submarine activity. Despite denials, there is no doubt that a major military exercise was taking place in the area at the time and subsequently a sub. identified as H.M.S. Courageous, docked at Fishguard.

As a consequence of these incidents, the League's campaign as re-stated at the AGM

has been stepped up. Over 30 circulars were sent out during the course of October to members of the Irish Parliament, particularly to those whose constituencies are in coastal areas. Circulars of a similar nature were also sent to the main party spokespersons on the Marine.

In concert with these actions a number of queries were addressed to the U.K. Ministry of Defence, Department of Transport, U.K. Marine Section and also the International Maritime Organisation (I.M.O.).

In addition to the I.M.O. initiative, a further letter was sent to Mr. C.J. Haughey, An Taoiseach. Again this draws his attention to the previous efforts by the Irish Government in this area, and asks him to use his good offices, together with those of the Danish Government which has previously expressed concern and to give more teeth to the ineffectual Resolution passed by the 15th Assembly of the I.M.O.

There is no doubt that despite efforts by the Dept. of Transport and M.O.D. to cover up incidents by adopting a new "cheque book policy" the situation continues to gain publicity and escalate in importance. This was illustrated most clearly in mid-September when one of the prominent U.K. civil servants' unions, fighting off closures of coast guard stations, actually cited the dangers to maritime traffic caused by military vessels like submarines and their support ships, travelling to and from the Faslane complex.

J.B. MOFFATT

PLAID CYMRU — CELTIC LEAGUE LINK-UP

Following a military monitoring initiative in July, C.L. Assistant General Secretary, Bernard Moffatt wrote to the Scottish Nationalist Party and Plaid Cymru suggesting a joint campaign to oppose low flying aircraft operations. The following replies have been received. The S.N.P. has indicated practical difficulties for them at this time in becoming involved in a joint strategy on this issue. They drew attention particularly about the amount of work in their anti "poll-tax" campaign in Scotland and also in their efforts to take

advantage of the Labour Party's current difficulties in that area. The response from P.C. however, was enthusiastic and Plaid Secretary, Dafydd Williams, has written to the C.L. suggesting that a meeting should be arranged to consider joint co-operation.

"Thank you very much for your letter of 25 July which was discussed by the last meeting of our National Executive Committee. Please forgive the delay in responding to your letter, owing to the date of the meeting and the effect of our postal dispute.

Our National Executive would be in favour of discussing the question of low flying with you at a mutually convenient time and place. We also very much welcome participation by the Scottish National Party, although the practical problems of arranging a meeting may prove quite daunting! "

The low flying issue is destined to be one of increasing concern in the coming years to those areas of the Celtic countries already affected, particularly mid and north Wales, the northern Irish Sea — including the Isle of Man and the area of south-west Scotland leading into the border. Developments on NATO air and sea bombing ranges in other parts of Europe indicate that because of domestic problems in those areas, there will be an increasing tendency on the part of NATO, to push its air operations into the Celtic countries. This, in fact, is in line with C.L. military monitoring predictions of approximately four years ago. Whilst this article is in compilation, Oct. 1988, a major exercise in the particular areas mentioned, involving 390 sorties per day, is currently underway. The C.L. military monitoring programme will build on the positive response from Plaid. Of particular importance to any joint strategy is the positive input their elected representatives can supply. Dafydd Elis Thomas in particular has been a great support in laying down questions in the House of Commons, and in fact for some time was the lone voice on this issue — an issue lately taken up by certain prominent U.K. Labour Party M.P.s. — now that is, that the problem has started to affect parts of England as well. No doubt the initial attitude will be one of concern, but like their colleagues in social democratic parties in NATO areas, provided they can export the problem out of their constituencies, they will see this as a resolution to it.

The C.L. and the various national parties in all the affected countries, must do all in their power to make sure this selfish and callous attitude is not allowed to succeed.

J.B. MOFFATT

DISTRIBUTION OF CARN

The distribution of CARN to branch secretaries and shops has recently been bedevilled by postal strikes in Britain (September) and France (October-November). Carn 62 parcels posted in Cymru before Mid-July reached the Breton secretary only towards the end of September. Great delays occurred in previous occasions in getting parcels of Carn printed in Ireland and in Wales. We would like to know, before complaining, whether others have experience of parcels taking a full month to go from Wales to Ireland.

A MANX JOURNALIST'S REPLY

I have noticed your appeal for photographs. I'd like to send you a copy of a picture taken on July 30, in the Legoland amusement park, near Billund, Denmark. Visitors are provided there with several scrabble boards and letters of the alphabet on LEGO bricks to "write" on. Imagine my surprise when I saw a line in Welsh on one of the boards! Thanks to the Samuel family for their use of **yr iaith barddoniaeth** and sorry that I did not hear the children talking in it about their day in Legoland. **Iechyd i bob Cymro!**

(A member of the Celtic League's International Branch and a self-taught enthusiast of Cymraeg, from Norway).

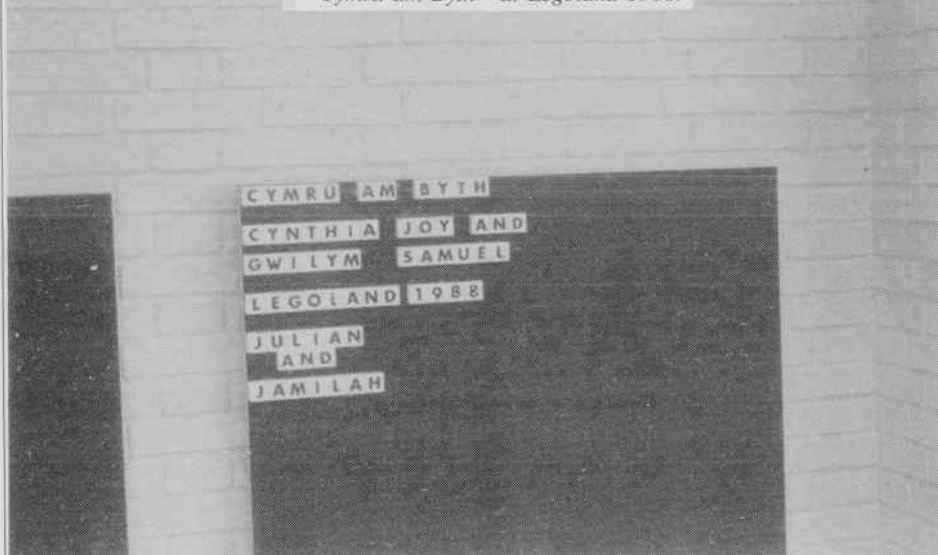
Dear Sir,

As a relatively new and inexperienced adherent of the Celtic League, may I congratulate you on the high standard of "Carn". I was beginning to feel I was the only

person to see a need for such a publication until I came across it. However, I do feel that some people who send in articles fail to see danger where danger is greatest. I am referring to English immigration to the five countries under England's thumb. All capitalist states (and many "Communist" ones, will try to integrate and assimilate their national minorities and this is their most effective and insidious method. Surely you will agree that, twinned with (our) emigration, this is the greatest danger to our future today. If only half of Mann and half of Kernow are native, surely their very nationhood is being called into question. I would be interested to know if the League is going to organise a campaign against this. Also, what percentage of Breton residents are (shall we call such people) Colonists?

Thank you,
M. O'DIREÁIN

"Cymru am Byth" at Legoland 1988.



AMERICAN BRANCH ELECTIONS

In its annual Branch Committee elections, the American Branch elected a new Branch Secretary, along with several new officers. The results were tabulated from a record return of ballots, and the new Branch Committee for 1989 is as follows:

Branch Secretary and Welsh Chair: Stephen Paul DeVillo; Treasurer and Manx Chair:

Liam Ó Caiside; Correspondence Coordination and Breton Chair: Alexei Kondratiev; Media Director and Scottish Chair: Greg Douglas; Irish Chair: Brendan Fay; Cornish Chair: Mickey Burke.

The election results take effect as of Celtic New Year, 1 November 1988. The new American Branch Committee and the Branch Secretary extend their greetings to everyone in the Celtic League, and look forward with the greatest confidence to a productive future for the American Branch.

STEPHEN PAUL DeVILLO

Your correspondent J. B. Moffatt is guilty of gross misrepresentation in his account of the relationship between the media and Government in the Isle of Man, ("Media Indignation", Carn No. 62). Indeed, his warped interpretation of events is so far removed from reality as to be a work of the imagination.

In the crude caricature drawn by Mr. Moffatt, the media apparently "bowed to the wishes of Government" after being lashed for upsetting Government in its reporting of recent industrial disputes. Then, by an extraordinary feat of mental gymnastics, Mr. Moffatt leaps forward to draw a connection with a subsequent ban on the direct passing of notes between journalists and members of the Tynwald Chamber. According to a special brand of logic, where two plus two equals seven, this move was obviously a consequence of the media's "grovelling servility".

In fact, it was a couple of backbench members of Tynwald expressing personal views, and not the Government, who criticised the media's handling of the major shipping strike earlier this year. Their complaints were concerned with professionalism and breadth of coverage, and had nothing to do with any alleged pro or anti-Government bias.

One development which did emerge from the strike was a recognition by Government of the need for better PR and a higher public profile. In due course this higher profile was reflected in the local media, which in the interests of democracy has a duty to report the comments of the Island's Government as well as those of the various organisations to which Mr. Moffatt belongs. It is quite preposterous to assume a "knee jerking" response from the media, which would have no reason to behave in such a manner even if it had incurred Governmental displeasure in the first place.

The note passing row was entirely unconnected and in any case involved the Clerk of Tynwald's Office, which as even junior reporters know is not the same thing as "Government".

ALISTAIR RAMSAY,
Manx Independent, Douglas.

"I am much obliged for the copy of CARN 61 you sent me. I have already written a review of it and have included general information on the magazine as well as on the efforts of the Celtic League for our scientific publication *Studia Ethnographica* which is soon to appear. As to the interest in the Celts and Celtic history in Czechoslovakia, a country with an ancient Celtic tradition, I should like to keep in contact with you.

DR. L.S., Prag

C. DESMOND GREAVES: AN APPRECIATION

by Peter Berresford Ellis

Long time Celtic League member, C. Desmond Greaves, died on August 23, 1988, aged 74 years old. In his passing the movement for Irish national and social freedom lost one of its most influential and tireless workers.

Des Greaves was born in Liverpool, of Irish parents. Taking a science degree at Liverpool University, he became an industrial chemist. Moving to London in 1939 he joined the Connolly Association and became active in Irish-exile politics. In 1948 he had left his job to devote his full time to political activities becoming editor of the "Irish Democrat", a position he held until his death.

He proved himself to be a perceptive political thinker and historian. His magnum opus remains his study "The Life and Times of James Connolly" (1961), a major contribution on Ireland's struggle for national and social liberation.

His other works are highly regarded. "Liam Mellows and the Irish Revolution" (1971); the analysis of the Six County problem "Irish Crisis" (1972) which was translated into seven other languages apart from English and "The Irish Transport and General Workers Union: The Formative Years" (1982), an official history of the ITGWU.

Des wrote many other pamphlet studies and thought-provoking articles. Among his books was "Seán O'Casey: Politics and Art" (1979).

Des had only recently transferred to the London Branch of the Celtic League in order to become more actively involved.

He was a firm believer in the League's aims.

He was hoping to increase the page size of the "Irish Democrat" and planning to devote one page solely to "Celtic news", aimed at fostering co-operation and solidarity among the Celtic peoples.

It is tragic that he has been cut down in the middle of these plans and we can only hope his successors will continue the path he mapped for them.

Des was very happy that among the membership of the Connolly Association were to be found many members of the Celtic League. He saw the League as an important "added dimension" to the struggle to secure or win political, cultural, social and economic freedom for the Celtic peoples.

He educated generations and his influence will be felt for generations to come. The League can ill-afford to lose men of such stature. *Go dtuga Dia suaimhneas stóir dá anam!*



WAR CRIES

It has often been noted that the rendition of Celtic words, in mottoes or slogans of the "nobility" of England and its adjacent loyalists, is generally inaccurate whereas French is generally written correctly. Basic disparagement of course.

In one of the archetypes of the books about "society" (what are the 99.9% of humanity if not society), *Historic Devices, Badges, and War Cries* by Bury Palliser, we get a good example of what I have in mind, when she discusses the decline of the "droit de bannière et du cry de guerre" — attributes of nobility, you see — she writes:

"... in 1495, an Act of Parliament was passed forbidding all these cries as productive of discord and enjoining all noblemen and their retainers thenceforth to call only on St. George and the King.

The cries 'Crom-a-boo' and 'Butler-a-boo' are especially prohibited 'Abo' from an early

period was the cry of the Irish. 'Laundarg Abo! — the Bloody Hand! — Strike for O'Neil!' were the battle cries of the wild followers of the rebel Shan O'Neil, when he defied the forces of Elizabeth, and 'Abo' now appears an adjunct to the mottoes of many of the nobles of Ireland, cojoined with the name of the chief fortresses of their family, as the 'Crom-a-boo' of the house of Leinster, the 'Shanet-a-boo' of the Earls of Desmond, the 'Butler-a-boo' and many others. The calling the name MacGregor was legally annulled in Scotland."

It gets better: "The war-cry of 'Alban! Alban!' was used at the battle of the Standard, 1138, by the Celtic portion of the army of the King of Scotland" — apparently an early example of the Celtic League in politics!

In a list of war-cries in the same volume we encounter "Gabriagh-a-boo" for the Bourkes, "Cnock Elachan" for Colquhoun, "Ard Callichie" for Mac Gregor, "Faugh-a-Bollagh" for Gough. But as I say the cries in English and French are depicted correctly.

P. Ó SNODAIGH

Membership and Subscriptions

All those who agree with the Constitution and Aims of the Celtic League are eligible for membership. The membership fee (including Carn) and subscription rates are: IR£6, Stg£6, 60FF or US\$15. Postage outside Europe is by air mail.

For information about the Celtic League, applications for membership, subscriptions, etc. write to any of the following secretaries:

ALBA

Mairi Denovan, Old Mission House, Nth. Erradale Ross-shire IV21-2DS.

BREIZH

Subscriptions: Youenn Craff, Talbodek, Beilh/Baye 29130 Kemperle/Quimperlé, Brittany. **Correspondence: Yann Bouessel Du Bourg**, La Haie d'Izé, Val d'Izé, 35450 Livré-sur-Changeon, Brittany.

CYMRU

Merfyn Phillips, Parc y Ffrier, Llandudoch, Dyfed.

ÉIRE

Tomás Scott, 16 Páirc na Cabraí, Baile Átha Cliath 7.

KERNOW

Ian Williams, 6 Rose Row, Redruth.

MANNIN

Cristl Jerry, 6 Glenfaba Road, Peel.

LONDON

Séamas Ó Coileáin, G.42 Du Cane Court, London SW17 7JR.

U.S.A.

Stephen Paul de Villo, 313 East 201 Street, Bronx, New York 10458.

INTERNATIONAL BRANCH

Alan Heusaff, Seana Gharráin, An Spidéal, Co. na Gaillimhe, Éire.

When renewing please send cheques to same Branch as previously, or notify its secretary of any change.

The General Secretary of the Celtic League is **Davyth Fear**, 58 Ffordd Eryri, Parc Henre, Caernarfon, Cymru LL55 2UR.

The Editor is **Ms. P. Bridson**, 33 Bóthar Bancroft, Tamhlacht, B.Á.C. 24, Éire.

Our next deadline for CARN 65 will be the **10th February, 1989**. I would ask regular or new contributors to meet this due date and would appeal especially for more photographs/illustrations (not necessarily accompanying articles).

Materials sent for publication in CARN must relate to our aims, be clearly written; if in languages other than English articles should be marked to ease editing (bracket sentences/paragraphs which may be omitted in case of need to shorten).

Help to find new subscribers and to sell CARN. We offer 20% retail allowance (sale or return). All material is copyright (©) CARN unless otherwise stated. The views expressed in CARN are not necessarily those of the editor nor of the Celtic League.

Members please renew subscriptions now!