

The Season's Greetings

BULLETIN of the North American Manx Association



Vol. 15, No. 2

"To preserve whate'er is left to us of ancient heritage"

December, 1941

A Christmas Message From Our President

To all Manx Friends:

Once again, it is Christmas, and it is my pleasure to wish you one and all the Season's Greetings.

Among all the wonderful cards and letters of greeting and expressions of kindly thoughts that always seem to come to me at this time, the one I cherish most is the Christmas issue of our Bulletin containing, as it does, the expressions of love and good will so ably expressed by those whose friendship we treasure.

To wish you all a Happy Season at a time like this, when the whole world is in an uproar would seem like a hollow wish, but the fact remains that wars may come—be fought and won favorably or otherwise, but the greatest day in the world's history always stands out like a beacon to guide us to thoughts of better things for the future.

Let us hope when this, the greatest struggle of all time, is settled, we shall find time to offer our thanks to the Prince of Peace, whose birthday we are celebrating at this time.

I can only hope that the messages you read on these pages will be a comfort to you, as indeed they are meant to be.

Just a few years ago, before



the formation of the N.A.M.A., what means had we then of keeping in touch with the Manx people in this Continent? We had none, and now we have, and yet we have to be continually asking for further support to enable us to carry on our work. It should not be necessary to do this.

At this time, the thoughts of many of us will be turning to other Happy Christmases spent in Manxland in less troublesome times. How happy were those days, and how we looked forward to this festive season, not com-

mercialized in those days as it is now, and how we enjoyed visiting, the carol singing, the Hunt the Wren, the White Boys, and other customs of the period.

My thoughts at this time also return to our Island, which seems to be entertaining a lot of people whom they could do very well without, more especially when they cannot realize that they are so well off and cannot behave themselves accordingly.

Now, a word to all our members, those loyal people who have supported us at all times in our endeavors to accomplish what we started out to do—Our sincerest thanks to you all. I appeal for your continued support, to allow us to carry on for the future, and by so doing, pay tribute to those many fine members who have passed on, but who gave us support and help during the time they were still with us.

In conclusion, my best wishes to every Manx person on this continent, in the Isle of Man, and indeed all over the world, wherever these columns meet their eye.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and may God bless you all.

James Y. Mann, *President.*



N. A. M. A. Executives Extend Season's Greetings

Amid the noise of booming cannon and bursting bombs, it may be difficult to sing the anthems of the herald angels. But, if you listen closely, you can catch the refrain that first echoed through the Bethlehem hills. There is still the message of good will to tell to men. Even the war has not drowned the chorus of those who believe in Christmas.

Christmas is a symbol of Peace. It is not only peace among nations, but it is peace among people, and peace in the mind and in the heart. This year the peace of the world has been shattered by the enemies of Christmas. They have set forth to silence forever the chorus of the herald angels. By the imposition of force, these dictators have tried to depose the reign of charity and love. They have brought sorrow and darkness to a world where light should prevail, and where light will prevail again. The Prince of Peace still reigns. With him came Christmas and all that Christmas stands for. The enemies of peace have thrown the world into war, but He guides and guards those who have taken up arms to defend the right.

To the people who are determined to defend freedom, this Christmas will bring courage and a prayer that by next Christmas, a just peace will have been established. So, listen and you can hear the herald angels still singing their message of good cheer, "Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Richard H. Corkill,
Representative, N.A.M.A.
Breakfast Club.



Christmas . . . For many it means heartaches this year, when loved ones are separated by the horrors of a vicious war, which is rapidly drawing all of the peoples of the world into its orbit. But, despite all this, there is with us still the abiding faith that right is might and that the One for whom we celebrate at this season can and will again bring peace to a troubled world.

So, to all my Manx friends everywhere—May you each and every one have the Happiest Christmas possible, to be followed by a Brighter and More Prosperous New Year, in which your every wish will be fulfilled.

Claire M. Mylecraine,
Corresponding and Recording
Secretary.

In these troublous times, it is hard to think of Christmas, and the things it stands for, in the same manner we have in past years. However, there still is a God in Whom we can put our trust. May it be only a short time until we can again feel free to celebrate this time of the year in the same manner as in the past.

May God's richest blessing be with all Manx people wherever they are.

Walter D. Skillicorn,
Vice President.



It is with great pleasure that I greet my Manx friends at this season.

We of the Ladies' Auxiliary are very grateful for the interest in and growth of our organization. May we keep on growing!

With best wishes to Manx folk at home and abroad for a Merry Christmas, and for a Happier and More Prosperous New Year,

Edith A. Bury,
Representative, N.A.M.A.
Ladies' Auxiliary.



Again we cross the threshold of Christmas, a day which brings forth a fresh outburst of merry making and holy joy. The day comes to us again as a reminder of the world's debt to the Incarnation. To the Christ Child, born that first Christmas Day, we owe all that is best in life and hope. For in that Child, found by the Wise Men in the stable of Bethlehem, the streams of all prophecy converge; and from Him radiate the glowing lines of all history.

May we be able to hear above the noise of the cannon and the bomb, the angelic hosts, singing, "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

Above the discordant noise of the world, may we hear the celestial music, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace."

May the spirit of Christmas, the spirit of goodwill, be yours! May the great joy of the heavenly host gladden your hearts! May the faith of the shepherds animate your lives and go with you all into a new year of happiness and faith that right will in the end triumph over wrong.

Joseph Partridge,
Past President.

It is a wonderful thing to exchange greetings with our many friends each year through the medium of our Bulletin, and I am glad of the opportunity to add my greetings to the many others.

To just wish a Merry Christmas seems so inadequate in these days of so much strife, bitterness and uncertainty in the world. We must, however, keep alive to a greater extent than ever before that spirit that really means Christmas. A phrase from a well known Christmas poem should mean a great deal to us at this particular time:

"The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, goodwill to men."

May you have a real old fashioned Merry Christmas and may the coming year be a very happy one for all of you.

Alice Garrett,
Vice President.



To all the Manx—Good Cheer, Good Health and Happiness at Christmas. And may the New Year bells ring a joyful prelude to a glorious peal of Victory in 1942!

Gertrude Cannell,
Financial Secy.-Treas.



In a short time we will celebrate the Christmas season of festivities, with our thoughts on our fellows of Manx descent living in the United States and Canada. Especially this Christmas are our thoughts on the Manx ones living on the Ill Island, in Great Britain and the British Dominions, and more especially on the Manx boys serving their King and who are so courageously upholding the honor of Eilan Vannin and the Empire of which she is a loyal member.

For many the name "Christmas" is a sad word this year, but sure are we that even those who are sorrowing will find it in their hearts to greet the Christmas with courage and good cheer. To such we Washington and Baltimore Manx send our affectionate greetings, and to others we extend our heartiest good wishes that they enjoy a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, in the hope that ere another Christmas is at hand we will have Peace on earth and Good Will among men.

J. Wilson Jenkinson, Vice Pres.,
Washington, D. C.

**TORONTO CONVENTION
COMMITTEE**

Executive Committee

General Chairman, T. Moore.
Secretary, Mrs. Mona Downward.
Treasurer, Mrs. Frank Williamson.
Souvenir Book and Publicity, Frank Williamson.
Prize Distribution, Charles Moore.
Reception, Joseph Daugherty.
Registration, Fred Caveen.
Badges, William Fick.
Refreshments, Mrs. Jack Costain.
Hotel Reservations, Mrs. Ivy Colquitt.
The ways and means committee is made up of all the above members.

**TORONTO
Our Convention City**

The 1942 convention of our Association will be held in Toronto, Canada, August 25 to 28.

We are going to a beautiful city with every convenience to give us a good time and fine business sessions. We are going to enjoy the novelty and charm of visiting a land different from our own, and one that has much to interest us. The history of Toronto dates back almost three hundred years, when the first French adventurers were guided by their friendly Indians to the "Place of Meeting" which is the Indian name for Toronto. It was undoubtedly a centre of trade early in the eighteenth century, becoming important enough to be made a fortified post in 1749-50, when the French built a fort and named it Fort Rouille, after the colonial minister at that time. In the war between the French and the English, the fort was burned in order to prevent English occupation in 1759.

Governor Simcoe chose the site of the city in 1793, for the capital of the province of upper Canada. He changed the name to York in honor of the Duke of York, son of King George III. The town was occupied by the United States' forces in 1813, at which time the legislative assembly building and archives were burned. Self government was granted in 1817 and in 1834, the population having increased to 9,000 it was incorporated as the City of Toronto. (Date of incorporation, March 6, 1834.)

From such a sturdy beginning, Toronto has developed into a great modern cosmopolitan city in the front rank of the really important commercial, industrial and travel centres of the North American continent.

Located on the northern shore of Lake Ontario, midway between New York and Chicago, Toronto is reached with no more effort or expense than an overnight rail journey, or a fine day's motoring from all centres of population of eastern and central United States.

Your trip to Toronto to the North American Manx Association convention will be one of outstanding enjoyment as there are so many interesting and beautiful places to visit.

NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

MONA'S RELIEF SOCIETY

At the meeting held December 2, the following officers were elected to serve for the coming year:

President, John Gell.
Vice President, John Callow.
Financial Secy., W. C. Kissack.
Cor. & Rec. Secy., Mrs. H. Foster.
Treasurer, John Lewin.
Relief Committee, Mrs. C. J. Sutton, Miss Mary Hampton, Robert Gorry.

Trustees, W. H. Gorry, W. H. Kelly, Paul T. Long.

Historian, W. H. Callister.
Miss Amy C. Quayle, who has served the Society as secretary for thirty-five years, has resigned due to ill health. In recognition of her long and loyal record she was elected Secretary Emeritus.

LADIES' AUXILIARY, MONA'S RELIEF SOCIETY, CLEVELAND

A very successful luncheon was arranged by the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Mona's Relief Society Friday, December 5th. Over ninety people attended to partake of the excellent lunch, and all had a most enjoyable time. The next meeting, on December 19th, will take the form of a Christmas party when gifts will be exchanged. A hearty welcome will be extended to all ladies who come.

MONA'S MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY

At the meeting of this Society held on December 8th, the following officers were elected:

President, Alan Fricke.
Vice President, Herbert Quayle.
Financial Secy., Roland Corlett.
Recording Secy., William Gorry.
Treasurer, Norman Cowin.
Trustees, John Watterson, Fred Brew, W. H. Callister, S. T. Kelly.
Chaplain, Robert Gorry.
Conductor, Joseph Clucas.
Warden, Robert Cooil.

WINNIPEG

The Winnipeg Manx Society reports through its Secretary, Mrs. Tom Corkan, that some entertaining and successful whist drives and dances have been held there recently. They are holding their Christmas party on December 22nd.

MONTREAL

The Montreal Manx Society held a very successful Military Whist on the 28th of November in aid of the Liverpool Mobile Canteen Fund. Door and Table prizes were given and the ladies served refreshments at the end of the evening.

BISBEE

The December meeting of the Bisbee Manx Society, when they were to have their annual election of officers, was to be held on December 5th at the home of their Secretary, Arnold Corrin in Lowell, Arizona. This Society was responsible for two Harvest Home Festivals this year, one at the Trinity Methodist Church in Warren, and the other at the Presbyterian Church in Bisbee.

CHICAGO

The Chicago Manx Society held a very successful party on Saturday, October 25th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Shimmin, 6544 Perry Avenue, Chicago, in an effort to raise money to send to the Manx boys for Christmas. They played cards, bunco and bingo and an amount of \$29.00 was realized.

On Friday, November 25th, they held a meeting at the Stevens Restaurant in Chicago. Out-of-town visitors were Mr. William Kelly of Kirkland, Washington, and Miss Peggy Gill of Virginia, Minnesota.

VANCOUVER

At the annual meeting of the Vancouver Manx Society, held in October, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President.....Mr. J. E. Costain
Vice President.....Mrs. A. E. Halsall
Secretary.....Mrs. T. L. Killip,

1020 Harwood St., Vancouver, B. C.
Treasurer.....Mrs. R. McWaters
Committee—Mrs. Killey, Mrs. W. Christian, Mrs. Irwin, Mr. R. Fayle, Mr. J. W. Clucas, Mr. T. L. Killip.

The Annual Banquet of this Society will be held on January 1, 1942 in the I.O.O.F. Hall, 6th Avenue and Main Street. Supper will be served at 6:00 P. M. and will be followed by dancing. They are looking forward to welcoming out-of-town visitors on this occasion.

VANCOUVER LADIES' AUXILIARY

The annual election of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Vancouver Society was held on November 26th, with the following results:

President.....Mrs. McWaters
1st Vice President.....Mrs. Clucas
2nd Vice President.....Mrs. Woods
Secretary.....Mrs. Ramsey,
511—8th Ave., Vancouver, B. C.
Treasurer.....Mrs. Killip
Social Committee.....Mrs. Christian

GREATER NEW YORK

The October meeting of this Society was held at the home of Mrs. Will Karran and Miss Eleanor Watterson in Brooklyn, when ten pounds were voted to be sent to the Isle of Man for Christmas parcels for Manx prisoners of war. One of their members, Miss Anna Karran, who is prominent in the Karo Corn Products Company, also was responsible for a party in that company, when well over \$400.00 was raised for Christmas gifts for British children.

Their December meeting will be held on the 13th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Anderson in the Bronx.

DETROIT-WINDSOR

The Detroit and Windsor Manx Society held their Annual Banquet on November 12th at Pallister Tea Room. All enjoyed the turkey dinner and good visit. Some of our Canadian members, whom we have not seen for some time, were with us.

(Continued on page 8)



Christmas Greetings

GREATHER NEW YORK

The Manx of New York send Christmas Greetings to their countrymen and women throughout the world. At this time our thoughts are especially with those of our compatriots, who by the thousands are fighting Freedom's battle on land, sea and air. To many of us, the great issues at stake and this Season have such a definite relationship, that we feel that those who are taking the greater risks, are truly Crusaders for the better world to come. May all possible joy be theirs for Christmas and the New Year.

James C. Tyson, Pres.
Mrs. T. Christian, Vice. Pres.
Miss Florence M. Gill, Secy.



TORONTO

The Officers and Members of the Toronto Manx Society extend cordial Christmas and New Years greetings to their kinsfolk at home and abroad. We pray that our fight for freedom will bring forth VICTORY during the coming new year. In the meantime we must all pull together and carry on our support to the brave people in the front line so that we may once again sing "Peace on Earth—Good Will to All Men".

Tom Moore, Pres.
Mona Q. Downward, Secy.



NORTHEASTERN OHIO

The Northeastern Ohio Manx extend Joyous Greetings of the Season, with Best Wishes for a Prosperous New Year.

Calla Harrison, Pres.
Blanche Killey, Secy.



ROCHESTER

To our kinsfolk at home and abroad, to the many friends we meet year after year at our conventions—the Rochester Manx Society wishes each and every one a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year.

Alfred E. Looney, Pres.
Dan W. Christian, Secy.

GALVA

The Galva Manx Society wishes one and all a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

T. T. Kelly, Pres.
Ada Cubbon, Secy.



BUFFALO

The members of the Buffalo Manx Society extend Season's Greetings and hope that the dark clouds will have rolled by and brighter and happier days will gladden the hearts of all before another Christmas.

Fred G. Towle, Pres.
Mary Skillicorn, Secy.



WINNIPEG

Down through the ages the singing of carols at Christmas time is a custom which has touched the hearts of men. It lives today. It symbolizes the real spirit of Christmas—the spirit everyone likes to see. The shining, smiling spirit, that won't let anything mar the Christmas joy of loved ones. It is a valiant spirit . . . rising to this Christmas, 1941, with the same strength it did in other years.

Somehow, this Christmas means more to all of us. It means making the most of the treasured traditions surrounding this sacred season.

The Winnipeg Manx Society extends to all the greeting of happiness at Christmas, and contentment in the coming year.

J. Y. Mann, Pres.
E. C. Corkan, Secy.-Treas.



MONA'S MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY CLEVELAND

At this season of the year, when we commemorate the birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace, let us all pray a little more fervently that peace may be realized by all people everywhere and that justice will prevail.

The officers and members of the Mona's Mutual Benefit Society extend best wishes for Christmas, and hope for a Peaceful and Happy New Year.

John Callow, Pres.
Raby Kermode, Secy.

SAN FRANCISCO

Christmas means—for the children, Yes: "Joy and Merriment." It must be for them a "Merry Christmas"—this they must not be denied. And, to those of us who have grown up, it denotes remembrance and recollections of those with whom we shared our childhood's Christmas joys.

Let us then wish each other a Happy, Happy Yuletide of fond memories, spent by most of us in a little island home in the Irish Sea, where the merry bells were wont to ring out over the crisp, nippy air, their season's message of Joy and Cheer.

For the children, Yes: "Joy and Merriment,"—and to the grown up, "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

Let us rejoice, for the day is near when Peace shall once more hold sway, and to those who have suffered loss in this cruel war, the assurance that those who died have not done so in vain. Ours is the heritage of their glory.

We San Franciscans greet you all, Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year!

Ivor Stokes, Pres.
Essie Quayle, Hon. Secy.



CHICAGO

Greetings for a faithful Christmas! With a world in turmoil it is impossible to envision a Merry Christmas. While the bells may ring and the carolers sing, yet heavy hearts will greet the advent of Christmas day wherever the English tongue is spoken. In this twentieth century of the christian era, we might almost question whether the precepts of the sermon on the mount have influenced civilization or whether it has reverted to the brute rule of the stone age. Yet we of the Chicago Manx society have faith that the cause of freedom and justice will eventually triumph, and the dawn of a brighter day appear. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to all our dear relatives and friends who serve or suffer in loyal duty in America, Canada, Britain and the isles of the sea.

Thomas C. Kelly, Pres.
Ethel M. Shimmin, Secy.



From Manx Societies



LADIES' AUXILIARY TO THE N.A.M.A.

There is a saying that friends are a cherished possession, and the Ladies' Auxiliary to the N.A.M.A. is rich in that possession. We have made many friends during our few years of organization work and we are justly proud of that fact. The officers of The Ladies' Auxiliary are glad to extend the season's greetings to all the many friends and members who have been such loyal workers. May you all have a real Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you great happiness.

Mrs. L. Abell, Pres.
Miss Alice Garrett, Secy.



BISBEE

The members of Bisbee Manx Society send greetings and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all Manx folk wherever they may be.

Arnold Corrin, Secy.



MONTREAL

We wish all our fellow-countrymen, both on this Continent and elsewhere, a Very Merry Christmas and all the best that they could wish for themselves during the coming year.

Jack Bell, Pres.
Catherine S. Shorrock, Secy.



NEBRASKA

Across the prairies broad and wide,
Over the mountains high,
Winging afar to Mona's Isle,
Our Christmas wishes fly.
May peace come soon to our troubled world,

And all men in love abide,
That the New Year may bring
With each dawning day,
The glory of Christmas-tide.

With this message the officers and members of the Nebraska Manx Association greet our countrymen in the United States, in Canada, and across the seas.

Mrs. H. R. Crellin, Pres.
Mrs. James Robison, Vice Pres.
Mrs. Nell Joughin Morris,
Secy. Treas.

VANCOUVER

The Vancouver Manx Society sends warmest greetings to all Manx people everywhere and hopes they will have pleasant reunions with relatives and friends at Christmas, and go forward to the New Year with hope and trust.

J. E. Costain, Pres.
Mrs. T. L. Killip, Secy.



VANCOUVER LADIES' AUXILIARY

Greetings and all good wishes for a Merry Christmas, and a New Year full of Happiness to Manx friends everywhere is the sincere wish of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Vancouver Manx Society.

Mrs. McWaters, Pres.
Mrs. Ramsey, Secy.



LOS ANGELES

What could be more enjoyable in these unsettled and critical times than friendly gatherings at Christmas, instilling confidence in each other, and sharing similar daily experiences, duties, enjoyments, responsibilities, and interests.

May there be many such occasions among the Manx this Yuletide, when friend with friend means so much in the calm tenor of one's life. This is the wish of everyone in the Los Angeles Manx Society. A Merry Christmas to all!

William Mullen, Pres.
Mary Caine Ward, Secy.



LADIES' AUXILIARY TO MONA'S RELIEF SOCIETY

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Mona's Relief Society extends Holiday Greetings to Manx friends everywhere. Our thoughts and best wishes are particularly close to our boys in the Service and their families. It is our sincere hope that the coming year will bring about a victorious peace, and happiness to all.

Margaret J. Cain, Pres.
Mona A. Bertsch, Secy.

N.A.M.A. BREAKFAST CLUB

The officers and members of the Breakfast Club wish to extend to all Manx people the world over, Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous and Victorious New Year.

As Christmas chimes ring gaily,
Filling us with glad mirth;
Memory, our heart is stirring.
Sending wireless o'er the earth.
And among the many thousands,
Broadcasting their wishes true.
The Breakfast Club wishes to show
That we haven't forgotten you.

Stephen H. Quinney, Secy.-Treas.
21009 Clare Avenue,
Maple Heights, Ohio



MONA'S RELIEF SOCIETY

The Mona's Relief Society of Cleveland send their greetings and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all our Manx Societies throughout the world.

Wm. H. Gorry, Pres.
Mrs. Lucille Fricke, Cor. Secy.



DETROIT-WINDSOR

The Detroit-Windsor Manx Society sends warmest Christmas Greetings and every good wish for the New Year to all Manx friends all over the world. We are thinking especially of those on the little Island, and pray that we may soon enjoy a lasting peace.

Lillian K. Campbell, Pres.
Norma K. Upham, Secy.



PEORIA

From the Peoria Manx Association:
"Greetings." May this season be the beginning of "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

Rev. John C. Craine, Hon. Pres.
Frank L. Shimmin, Pres.
Eva Kelley, Secy.



THE NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS 1941-1942

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
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| Hon. Vice Presidents |Hon. Richard Cain | Atty. Gen'l Ramsey B. Moore |
| | | Douglas, Isle of Man |
| Past President |Rev. Jos. Partridge | Casey, Illinois |
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| | Mrs. Edith Bury |Gowanda, N. Y. |
| Rep. N.A.M.A. Breakfast Club: | | |
| | Richard H. Corkill |Detroit, Mich. |
| Corres. and Rec. Sec'y |Claire M. Myllecraine | 16525 Baltic Road, Cleveland, O. |
| Fin. Sec'y and Treas. |Gertrude Cannell | 1492 Robinwood Ave., Lakewood, O. |
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| | Claire M. Myllecraine | Gertrude Cannell |
| | Mrs. F. T. Gorry | John R. Cain |
| | | F. T. Gorry |

About Things Manx

MANX FIRESIDES

Those who look back to younger days in the Isle of Man know that in winter every family activity centered round the fireside. In the mornings it was cold getting out of bed—no warmth stealing up from "central heating"—but oh, how cheerful was the blaze of the newly lighted kitchen fire with the flames roaring merrily; how promising the song of the kettle; and when the coals had burned to a good red glow, how pleasant to sit on the fender with the long toasting-fork, to toast the bread or cook the bacon in that most appetizing of all ways.

In the afternoon when it got dark so early, Mother would say "These are the dark days before Christmas, right enough!" And how lovely it was after tea, to sit around the fireside, to have friends drop in and pull up a chair. There was a cold draft from the hall when the door was opened, and Father would say "There'll be frost on Pen-y-Pot tonight," but faces glowed and the polished brass glittered in the firelight, and the teapot was always on the hob—a cup of tea all round before saying goodnight, and a snack of bread and cheese and seedcake, and fruitcake and mince-pies at Christmas.

That was a fireside for Christmas stockings, for carol-singing, for story-telling; a fire to sit by, late, with the lights out, and watch the glow die down and grow dim, until the last embers fell in softly and it was time to go to bed.

Here, when you enter a Manx home at Christmas, you find it warm and cozy too, but with heat radiating from an invisible source—no blazing fire to pull up to. But you know at once you are in a Manx house. There will be pictures of Peel Castle or Bradda Head or Laxey Wheel; there will be the Three Legs somewhere about; there will be a Manx greeting in a hearty voice. And the talk about local "doings" will be mingled with

happenings in Douglas, Ramsey, Peel and Castletown; old friends will be recalled, old songs sung, old yarns retold, and when the evening wears on, the song of the kettle will be heard, there will be bread and cheese and seedcake, fruitcake and mince pies, and when finally you leave, it will seem as though you should be turning out into Michael Street or Bucks Road. And all—without the Christmas fire!

Washington Irving, American author who wrote so heartily of Old English Christmas as he saw it during a visit in 1820 said, "'Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality." That is the genial fire which glows in every Manx home, warms every Manx gathering, and carries on in spirit the fine tradition of the cheerful firesides of old Manx memory. And in the same spirit is that most familiar phrase from Dickens' well-loved "Christmas Carol"—"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."

Yes, whenever and wherever people gather . . . the Christmas spirit is there. Take a Manx Convention. There is the cheery glow of welcome and hospitality, the warm glow of friendship, the bright sparkle of fun and jollity. And at the end? Well, look at this little scene from the Buffalo Convention last August. After four days of fun and friendliness, Saturday morning brought the leave-takings, and goodbyes were said over and over as people lingered, finding it hard to part from friends so seldom met. That night about a dozen still remained and that handful of Manx people found a corner in the hotel lobby for a last quiet "cooish"—and Tom O'Hara from Detroit told Manx stories . . . Manx fairy tales . . . Manx ghost stories—until the stiff plush chairs and the gilded columns and electric lights were forgotten, and we were back, sitting round the "chiollagh" with the fire burning clear, hearing the far-off boom of the surf and the wail of the wind under the thatch; and inside, the cat asleep on the hearth, the flames reflected in jugs and basins and polished candlesticks, but never lighting the far corners—casting shadows on the wall, wavering shadows . . . strange shadows. Until someone remembered it was getting late and there were trains to catch and journeys to make in the morning, so goodnights were said, and a Manx fireside group separated, looking forward to another meeting.

So—"keep the home fires burning"—these genial fires which mean "home" wherever we Manx may be. And on New Year's Eve, let's tune in our radios to hear Big Ben ring in the New Year over there, as so many Manx people do, and drink a health "for auld lang syne" to friends across the water, knowing that they are doing the same for us, for we and our friends here are warmed by the same generous fire of brotherhood and high tradition which was kindled centuries ago.

Gertrude Cannell.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

Miss Blanche Cowley Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Young of Wilmington, Illinois, is spending the winter in Chicago, studying at the Public Schools' Radio Council under the Chicago Teachers College. Miss Young is on a year's leave of absence from her position as director of radio activities for the Indianapolis Public Schools.

Mr. Ben Greggor, 14500 Orinoco Avenue, Cleveland, recently won the silver cup for the best "singles" player, presented by the East Cleveland Lawn Bowling Club. Mr. Greggor also won a plaque in the same tournament. Congratulations, Ben!

Mrs. Edith Garrett of Iron River, Michigan, would love to hear from members who may remember her as Edith Kissack of Foxdale, Isle of Man.

Private Lewis C. Phillips, 12th Field Ambulance, R.C.A.M.C. (A.F.) is stationed at Valcartier, Quebec, and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Phillips of Errington, Vancouver Island, B. C. Private Phillips would like to meet Manx people in Montreal or elsewhere who may be near enough for him to contact.

Irvin Anderson, husband of Elsie Quine Anderson, has recently been honorably discharged from the U. S. Army, being beyond the new age limit for draftees. Irvin and Elsie are at present living with her mother at 1469 South Noble Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

A new banner was recently presented to the Manx Society of Greater New York by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Christian, members of that society. The needle work on the banner was done by Mrs. Jim Tyson, wife of the President. This lovely new banner attracted a good deal of attention at the Dominion Club concert on October 4th, when it was draped over the Manx box.

The Montreal Manx Society and the N.A.M.A. extend sympathy to the following in their recent bereavement:

Miss E. Watterson, whose father passed away in the Isle of Man; Mr. S. Sloan, in the sudden passing of his brother, Robert, of Otterburn Park, P.Q.

Mrs. J. W. Morris and daughter, Mona, enjoyed a visit to Denver at Thanksgiving, where Mrs. Morris' husband, Dr. Morris, is spending some time in an endeavor to regain his health. They stayed with William Joughin, a brother of Mrs. Morris, and also visited with a cousin, Mrs. Caleb Kennaugh of Victor, Colorado, with whom Mrs. Morris made contact through the medium of the N.A.M.A. Bulletin.

(Continued on Page 8)

Old Manx Families

By William Cubbon, Douglas

Few people will deny what to us appears to be an incontrovertible fact, that Mann is, and has been for thousands of years, a distinct nation. Its political and social system is distinct from that of the United Kingdom generally, with separate needs and interests.

Any person, not of the Island but coming into it from the outside is immediately conscious of the fact that he has entered a strange country.

The people are in some strange and subtle way in permanent contrast with the English people themselves. He who comes there from other lands is not long before he becomes aware of a remarkable independence of character and of a strange political organization.

There is still the most important fact that the Manx people themselves are conscious of their independent nationality. This consciousness of unity and independence has been kept alive for many centuries notwithstanding the modifying influence of the larger nations around.

This feeling of separateness is embedded in the ancient Manx proverb which translated runs: "Near is my shirt, but nearer is my skin."

The fact that the great bulk of our family names is Celtic is remarkable having in view the fact that our home has been the meeting place for Iberians, Gaels and Norsemen. But it must be remembered that our ancestors, the Celts, were dominant in the Island, from the Bronze Age to the Viking invasions in the 9th and 10th centuries, and that the period of Norse domination was relatively only brief.

It is accepted that the bulk of the Manx people are of the same race as the Irish and that they have a share in the Ossianic and Cuchullain legends that take the place of history in Ireland. It is certain too that from the fifth to the eighth centuries, the Manx people were Christianised by Irish missionaries who have left their names to our ancient keills or churches.

The political influence, however, of the Norsemen must have been very strong in the Island, as shown by the development of the Kingdom of Mann and the Isles from about the ninth to the 13th century.

These two historical periods have left their traces in our family names. Those of Celtic derivation are, as might be expected, much the larger class, while the families of Norse derivation comprise no more than ten per cent. The Scandinavian personal names have gone through the process of Celticization; that is to say they have received the Celtic prefix Mac, and have undergone the kind of phonetic corruption which was inevitable when they had to pass through Celtic-speaking lips.

In the early documents nearly all the Manx family names were prefixed by Mac, such as Mac Alister, Mac Nele, Mac Fayle, and so on. This is

the explanation of the many names beginning with C, K, or Q, such as Callister, Kneale and Quayle. The hard C sound of Mac becomes the initial of the name.

There is a prevalent impression that Mac is distinctly Scottish, and the O typically Irish, and that both signify "Son." This is an error. Mac is purely Celtic for "Son," and O signifies grandson or descendant. Both are found in the Isle of Man; but the O is found affixed to only three family names in 16th century documents, namely the family of O'Barron in Jurby parish; O'Fayle in Lezayre parish, and O'Quyllan in Rushen parish; three widely separated parts of the Island.

Form of Land Tenure

We will first consider the Manx mode of land tenure, since the whole structure of its society ultimately depended upon the land.

Long before the arrival of the Celts, who came probably over a thousand years before the Christian era, there was a pre-Celtic race, variously styled Dedannans, Iberians, and Picts, with whom the wizard chieftain Mannanan, (who it is believed took his name from the Island) was associated.

The more primitive Iberians were pushed into the remoter places on the hillsides and glens by the Celts, who probably came from Ulster, and who took possession and became in the main the ancestors of the Manx people.

They were the originators of the tribal system of government which system was of course copied from the Irish model.

Their first attempt at government was to divide the country into more or less equal family holdings, every family to a holding.

These holdings were from 400 to 500 acres in extent and were called Treens.

The Treen was the original unit of land belonging to the ancestors of the Manx people, and became the centre and habitation of the Clan.

The people on the Treen were kinspeople and descendants of the original ancestor.

The meaning of the word Treen has been much discussed; but the word is so old that no derivation has been agreed upon.

I believe the word is from Cheer which is Manx Gaelic for "country." The same word is associated with the names of Tyrone and Tirconnell in Ireland, which mean the country of the Eoins and the country of the Connells.

The ecn at the end of the word is simply the Gaelic diminutive, Treen thus meaning a little country or tribal community. The word ultimately was worn down to Treen.

The Treen property was common to all the clan and was originally owned and worked on communal lines.

The Treen division as such has for a long time past gone out of service; so much so that their names have in many cases been forgotten and their boundaries are not now traceable excepting by careful research.

Having been personally encouraged by Lord Raglan while he was Governor of the Island, I have given much

time to the study of the Treen lands, and have been able to define the correct boundaries of each, numbering altogether 169.

The Treen, which I believe, existed long before the organization of the parish (or even the larger division, the sheading), have all certain uniform characteristics. There are on the average twelve Treens in each parish. They invariably contain four "quarterlands," farmsteads, (or "Balleys" as they are familiarly called) in strip form; they invariably touch either the sea or a river, and reach towards the mountains thus giving access to the sea for shipping and to the mountains for pasture; there was an important or ruling family in every Treen; and each contained a Keill, or clan church in which the family or tribe worshiped. Each Treen was an isolated and separate community under its own petty chieftain. It is significant that the number of ancient Manx families, correspond almost exactly to the number of Treens. The number of families with Celtic patronymics is about 150, while the number of Treens is 169.

This gives weight to the opinion that Manx family names go back to the period when the Treen as a land division was organized.

The original tribal unit, the Treen, remained in the tribe; and the tribe looked back as far as the great grandfather of the final holders.

The Treen, in the course of four generations, became divided into four more or less equal strips, running from the lowlands to the higher land, and were called "Balleys," Gaelic for townships. Nearly all farm holdings are now called by such place name as Ballaquine, Ballacornish, Ballachrink, Ballamoar, and so on, from the name of the holder or the character of the land.

(To be continued in March issue)

Christmas For Manx Servicemen

A fine contribution was made towards Manx Servicemen's Christmas cheer when the sum of fifty-six pounds was cabled to the Isle of Man following the Prize Distribution and Card Party held in Cleveland on Tom Brown Night, November 10th. The Arvin portable radio was won by James Benedict, 13511 Milan Avenue, Cleveland.

Fifty-six pounds is the largest sum sent at one time by the Cleveland Committee. It includes the proceeds of the Prize Distribution and Card Party, collections made at the Buffalo Convention and donations received during the past few months.

Hearty thanks are extended to all members of the Cleveland Committee and others who worked so tirelessly for the Prize Distribution and Card Party and to all who supported these efforts with their contributions, and gave generously of time, money, thought and effort to help give the Manx Boys "a taste of Christmas."

Fred T. Gorry, Chairman,
Claire M. Mylecraine, Treasurer,
Gertrude Cannell, Secretary.

OBITUARIES

Cowley—Thomas, of San Francisco, passed away on Sunday, October 28th. He is survived by a brother, Charlie. His father was Captain Cowley of the "Lily Miles," Douglas. Mr. Cowley worked for the city of San Francisco for many years, and was a highly respected and popular member of many clubs and lodges in that city.

Creer — Mrs. Frances (nee Kelly), widow of Robert, died at her home in Crystal Falls, Michigan, on September 8th after a long illness. She was born in the Isle of Man in 1863. She leaves a daughter, Christina; a brother, Henry, Isle of Sheppey, England; a niece, Mrs. John Phillips, Detroit, and two nephews, Robert Creer of England and John Garrett of Ishpeming.

Devereau—Joseph, passed away in the Isle of Man on October 28th. He was the father of Mrs. Taubman and Mrs. Charles Moore, both of Toronto; and Mrs. W. Kelly of Douglas, Isle of Man.

Kaneen—Charles T. of Santa Ana, California, passed away on October 20th. He was a grand old Manxman and a life long friend of the late Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Teare. Born in Kirk Bride, he was always interested in the Isle of Man and loved to have Manx people call on him.

Killip—Thomas, of 1523 East 81st St., Cleveland, died October 24th aged 61 years. He was born in Laxey, Isle of Man, and came to America 21 years ago. Two brothers, John F. and William J., his niece Georgina and nephew Thomas Alfred survive.

Murfett—Charles C., 18112 Kinsman Road, husband of Dixie (nee Palmer), father of Charles P. and brother of John, Irving, Ada, Olive, and Edith, passed away December 6th and was buried at Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Riggins—Mrs. Ella S., of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, died suddenly on May 1st at the age of 86 years. Mrs. Riggins was one of our oldest members and is survived by her daughter, Mrs. J. W. Bruner of Bloomsburg.

Campbell—Mr., passed away in Richmond, California on November 4th. He was the husband of the former Alice Caley of Ramsey. Mr. Campbell was a veteran of the last war and his son had left California only two days before his father's death, as a member of the Ambulance Unit of boys from the U. of C. for overseas duties.

Killey—John T., of Cleveland, passed away November 2nd. Born in Peel, Isle of Man, Mr. Killey and his family came to Cleveland in 1916. Surviving him are his wife, Sarah; three sons, Robert, Arthur and George of Cleveland; and five daughters, Mrs. Ida Bowman of Oak Park, Illinois, Mrs. Barbara Duffy of Mishawaka, Indiana, and Mrs. Margaret Reed, Mrs. Eleanor Pinney and Miss Patricia Killey of Cleveland.

Quilleash—James, of St. Helens, Oregon, passed on suddenly while at his daily work on October 24th. Born in the Isle of Man, Mr. Quilleash came to the United States in 1910. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Quilleash; and two daughters, Mrs. Fay Olson and Mary, both of St. Helens.

To the families and friends of the above, we extend sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

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Personal letters have been received by Mrs. J. F. Lewin, 13615 Fourth Avenue, East Cleveland, and Mrs. Lily McKibbin, 2060 East 83rd Street, Cleveland, from men serving in His Majesty's Forces in England, thanking them for socks knitted by these ladies and sent to England by the British War Relief Society. It was a great thrill to receive these letters and to know how much the boys appreciated the woolies sent them from this side of the Atlantic.

Congratulations to the following on the new arrivals at their homes:

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Robison of Elk Creek, Nebraska, a son, Rodney Clayton, born September 20th.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Davey of Montreal—a son.

Mr. and Mrs. George Smith of Montreal—a son.

Miss Charlene Moore of Fairbury attended her first meeting of the Nebraska Manx Association on December 7th. Her grandfather came from the Isle of Man. We trust Miss Moore had such a grand time that she will not miss another meeting of the Nebraska Manx.

Mrs. Elsie Rogers (nee Corlett) of Lowell, Arizona, was recently married to Mr. Louis Haygreen, a prominent Lowell business man.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cottier, members of the Nebraska Manx Association, plan to spend the Christmas holidays in Venice, California, and would enjoy seeing any Manx folks in and around Los Angeles. They plan to stay with their daughter, M. Watson Coleman and family.

News of the Manx Societies

Continued from page 3

BUFFALO

At a recent meeting of the Buffalo Manx Society, held at the home of Mrs. Edith Bury in Gowanda, New York, the following officers were elected:

President.....Fred G. Towle
Vice Pres.....Mrs. Wilfred Edmonds
Secretary.....Miss Mary Skillicorn
Treasurer.....Richard Coole

This Society also had a Hallowe'en Party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Skillicorn in Buffalo, when some very unique costumes were displayed. Mr. John Meade and Mrs. Wm. Peake were the winners of the prizes for the best costumes. Their Christmas Party is being held at Lyon's Tea Room in Buffalo on December 12th.

SAN FRANCISCO

The tenth annual dinner of the San Francisco Society was held on Saturday, November 15th at the Koffee Kup in San Francisco. Sixty-eight members and friends sat down to the beautifully decorated banquet table. Out-of-town guests were Mr. Skillicorn of Sacramento; and Mr. and Mrs. T. Kelly and Dr. and Mrs. David Maeth, all of Santa Cruz. Their President, Ivor Stokes, delivered the welcoming address and Fred Callow acted as Master of Ceremonies. An excellent program of music was provided and was interspersed with short addresses. Their annual election of officers was also held at this meeting, with the following results:

Ivor Stokes, President.
Dr. David Maeth, Vice President.
Katie Stokes, Treasurer.
Essie Quayle, Secretary.
Amy Satterlee, Asst. Secretary.

NEBRASKA

The Nebraska Manx Association's annual Christmas party and meeting was held on December 7th at the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Morris in Lincoln, with 23 members in attendance. Luncheon was served at noon and was followed by the regular business meeting, an entertainment and an exchange of gifts.

The spring meeting of this society will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Clarke in Exeter on Sunday, April 12, 1942.

91st ANNUAL CLEVELAND MANX BANQUET

The annual most outstanding event for the Cleveland Manx—the Banquet and Dance—will be held at the Carter Hotel on Friday evening, January 30th. Tickets are \$2.10 each, including tax.

This is the 91st annual banquet to be sponsored by the Cleveland Manx—a record of which they are justly proud. The Committee is already hard at work arranging a party which will assure a grand evening for all who attend.

Make your plans NOW to meet YOUR Manx friends on this occasion. You should not miss this party!