

# BULLETIN *of the* North American Manx Association



VOL. 42 NO. 4

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

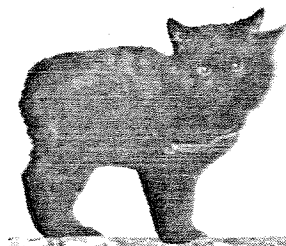
JUNE 1969

## MANX PRICE WINNER

In this 36th year of breeding Manx cats exclusively in their Glen Orry Cattery, at West Chicago, Illinois, Misses Ruth and Ellen Carlson have entered four of their Manx cats in five major cat shows so far this 1968-69 show season. This has involved a total of twenty-three judging rings. All of these Manx entries have placed in the final top bests of show a newsworthy number of times, mostly in Chicago and nearby areas, but also in far-away New Orleans.

The most recent of these shows was held the week-end of February 22-23 in Chicago, where about 250 cats of all breeds from some fifteen states and Canada vied for awards and drew a throng of over 8,000 visitors to the Lincoln State Cat Show. One of the Glen Orry Manx entries, Quane, edged her way up amid a large number of nationally famous champions there to win Best Opposite Sex Champion in Show in two different rings.

In this and previous shows of this season, the Glen Orry entries have been awarded Best Kitten three times for their Cushag-Lass; Second Best Cat twice for each of two males, Godred and Toshee; and most notably, Best Cat four times for female Quane who also was Second Best Cat in two other shows. These awards were won in All-Breed competitions as well as in Short-



*Glen Orry's Toshee*

hair Specialties, under judges from all sections of our country and Canada, and in contest with cats, who at times numbered well over 300 and came from similarly different areas.

In the Manx cat divisions, the Glen Orry Manx, who met competition with Manx entries from various regions and states, won better than two thirds of the Best of Breed awards, plus and in the same proportion, also the Best Opposite of Breed ribbons.

In last year's show season, a Glen Orry kitten, Toshee, achieved the signal distinctions of being the 1968 Inter-American Best Kitten of the Year by the American Cat Fanciers Association, and the 1968 All-American Kitten of the Year by Cats Magazine.

## MANX DIAMOND KING

by T.C. Southward, New Zealand.

The name of "diamond king" was given to Joseph Mylchreest who was born in a cottage near Peel shore in 1839. His father was skipper of the schooner Peveril which traded around the coasts of Britain.

He was apprenticed to serve as a carpenter with Henry Grave who had a shipyard in Peel. However, at the age of 18, he decided to travel the world in search of adventure.

His first stop was Sierra Leone on the west coast of Africa where he worked for some time as a carpenter. He then went to Australia to join his two brothers and began his mining career in Queensland. Prospects not being too

promising, he moved to New Zealand where he stayed for a year. Then hearing tales of a gold rush in California he journeyed there and later went to British Columbia where he did not stay long before leaving for the tin mines in Peru and Bolivia.

It is said that one night a gang of native miners decided to do away with their white overseer, and approached his hut. At this time Mylchreest was 6 ft. 4 in. and weighed about 20 stone (280 lbs.). When the natives saw him get up, raise his arms and roar, they all fled.

From South America, he went back to Australia for a time, but being unable to save much money, he went to South Africa after diamonds.

## CONVENTION NEWS

The N.A.M.A. 1970 Convention is to be held on the Isle of Man on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The headquarters will be the Majestic Hotel, Douglas.

An interesting and exciting programme is being planned and the officers and members of the World Manx Association have promised their full co-operation. The Lord Bishop of Sodor and Mann has already extended an invitation to visit Bishop's Court and has offered to conduct a religious service.

Stan Shimmin, 2nd Vice-President of the N.A.M.A., has been appointed Convention General Chairman and he is at present working on plans for a charter flight from Toronto to Manchester and Isle of Man. (See article on page 3)

At a meeting of the N.A.M.A. Executive to be held in Toronto during the summer a detailed programme will be arranged and committees formed.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO PLAN YOUR 1970 VACATION — MAKE SURE YOU SPEND PART OF YOUR HOLIDAY ON THE ISLE OF MAN AND ATTEND THE NEXT NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION CONVENTION — YOU WILL ENJOY IT!**

In 1876, when he was 37, he arrived in Kimberley with 2/- in his pocket. He tried digging in the Vaal river, but this was unprofitable so he went back to Kimberley and opened a joiner's shop.

Whilst there he decided to get into one of the four big mines and after a company went bankrupt he took a lease of the Dutoitspan mine. He borrowed the first month's rent of £300 and for the first year he was just able to make ends meet by the sale of diamonds. He almost despaired but he urged his men on and gradually forged ahead of his rivals, buying up claims, until he was the largest owner of claims. His weekly wage bill was £1000 when a white man got £5 and a native £1 per week.

In 1886 it was stated that the amount realised each week from his claim would have been sufficient to have purchased a good sized farm in the I.O.M.

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## NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

### Officers 1968-69

Hon. President	John R. Cain Cleveland, Ohio
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## FRED BASSET

How many of you have heard of Fred Basset? Fred is a dog who appears in the comic strip under the same name composed by Alex Graham of the Associated Newspapers Limited.

In the Chicago Sunday Tribune of April 27th, 1969, there appeared an interesting story, especially so to Manx people.

In the beginning of the cartoon story, we see Fred Basset's master and mistress at work in their garden doing things the hard way, with the perspiration pouring out of them, while old Fred looks on in wonder. Suddenly Fred's doggie brain cells start working and we see Fred Basset thinking thus: "Let's see now" . . . "What was it the poet said? Thomas Edward Brown, wasn't it? Ah yes! I remember . . . "A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot" — That's what he said." The scene ends showing Fred's master and mistress thoroughly exhausted while old Fred is saying to himself, referring to

## 95 YEARS OLD MANX EMIGRANT IN CALIFORNIA

To-day at the age of 95 a grand old man who emigrated from the Isle of Man in 1908 and landed in Philadelphia, is passing the eventide of his long life in a Convalescent Home in California.

*The story of Frank Mealin, who still loves to look back over the years and bring to mind reminiscences of his youth and early married life in Ramsey, has been written for the "Courier" by Mr. T. Donald Bain, of Long Beach, California, U.S.A.*

Manx people of my age group oft-times speak about that grand old Manxman, the late Mr Richard Cain. His nephew, Mr John Douglas Cain of La Canada, California, told me in these words last week: "The reason 'Uncle Dick' lived for more than 30 years beyond the allotted span of life, was the fact that he loved everybody. As one of nature's gentlemen, he was always going out of his way to help someone in the name of the Lord."

This leads me to relate the life story of a young English chap named Frank Mealin who came to Ramsey, Isle of Man, in the year 1892. At the age of 19 for the first time in his life, he strolled down Parliament Street in Ramsey.

What a thrill it was to stand across the street and just look and admire the new Primitive Methodist Church which had been completed a few weeks earlier.

Frank Mealin arrived in Ramsey from his home in Chipping-Norton, England, to join his older brother Harry, who worked for Mr. McEwen, plumber in Ramsey. Frank also found employment with Mr McEwen, and later he worked for Mr Fred W. Callow, plumber of 71 Parliament St., Ramsey.

Our friend Frank loved the Manx people and as a handy fellow at his trade, he was welcomed into the homes where his services were required. He made many friends by the efficient manner in which he performed his job.

the poet, "I suppose he knew what he was talking about . . ."

The Reverend Thomas Edward Brown was the beloved poet of the Isle of Man and his poem 'My Garden' is loved and quoted by garden lovers the world over.

*"A garden is a lovesome thing.*

*[God wot!*

*Rose plot, fringed pool, ferned grot,  
The veriest school of peace; and, yet,  
The fool contends that God is not —  
Not God! in gardens! when the eve*

*[is cool?*

*Nay, but I have a sign*

*'Tis very sure, God walks in mine."*

One job recalled was the installation of seven hundred pounds of lead on the roof of the Cottage Hospital in Ramsey. His co-workers on this job were Charles Fargher of Ramsey, and the late John Callow, formerly of Douglas, and later well known in a Southern California Manx circles.

On April 4th, 1900, Frank married Miss Eunice Quayle. Their first home was at the Shipyard. Later they moved to 40 Bowring Road. Miss Maggie Gawne (daughter of Captain Gawne) and Eunice were chums. While working in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Worrall of Bowring Road, she met Frank. During this time her chum Maggie, and Harry fell in love, and they were married in Ramsey, with Frank and Eunice best man and bridesmaid.

Mr and Mrs. Mealin were blessed with two children. Daughter May was born in Ramsey. She is Mrs. May H. Griffith, of Long Beach, California, and son Robert Quayle Mealin, born in Salina, Kansas, who with his family resides in Buena Park, Orange County, California, near where father Mealin now lives.

Mrs Griffiths tells me she attended the Primitive Methodist Sunday School regularly during 1906, 1907, 1908, and sad to relate this beautiful sanctuary of Methodism is now a memory, and a new modern supermarket will soon take its place.

## 16 HAPPY YEARS

After nearly sixteen happy years working for Mr Callow, Mr Frank Mealin and his family decided to emigrate to America. They embarked on the s.s. Haverford, a ship of the American Lines, on 11th November, 1908, landing at Philadelphia. The writer recalls he came to America on a sister ship, the s.s. Merion in April, 1910.

On arrival at Philadelphia the Mealin family were met by Uncle Robert Mealin, who resided in this city. The Mealins spent a week with Uncle Robert, then moved on to White City, Kansas, where a friendly Manxman, Mr John Taggart, had arranged work for Frank with the Salina (Kansas) Plumbing Company. Later he was in the plumbing business for himself in Salina, Kansas, for 22 years. During this time, Mr Andrew McMurtrie, a former Ramsey man, worked for the firm. The business years in Salina, Kansas, were happily prosperous. John Taggart's son Paul and his wife Deana, resided in White City, Kansas, at the time.

After attending the North American Manx Association Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska, in August, 1939, the writer was invited to go by car with

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## CHARTER FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

Toronto Manx are planning a charter flight to the Convention in 1970. Negotiations are in progress with B.O.A.C. to have a Boeing 707 Jet to fly from Toronto to Manchester and a charter aircraft to fly from Manchester to the Isle of Man. The fare will be a low \$225.00 (Cdn. funds) for the Toronto to Manchester section and approximately \$11.00 for the special plane to the Isle of Man. The fares include a 66 lb. baggage allowance and complimentary 1st class meals and refreshments. There are only 146 seats available and invitations are extended to our friends in Cleveland, Chicago, Winnipeg, Montreal and points between to take advantage of this special flight.

**TO BE ELIGIBLE YOU MUST OF COURSE HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS AND SEATS ARE BEING RESERVED ON A "FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS".**

Plans call for the flight to leave Toronto on Saturday evening, June 27, and after a 6 hour flight to arrive in Manchester on Sunday, June 28th (the time difference will make the arrival time a reasonable hour) and then on as a group to the Isle of Man and a homecoming welcome! !

*95 Years old from page 2*

Mr and Mrs Guy B. Griffith to pay a visit to Mrs. May Griffith's father and mother in Salina, Kansas. It was a long journey over country roads. The scenery along the way was beautiful. Stopping for gasoline at a small village, the gas was hand pumped and water was also delivered by the old style pump. Mrs Mealin had a wonderful supper ready for us when we arrived at 10 p.m. Mr Mealin and the writer's father were old friends in Ramsey; and he could see that I was one of the Bain boys.

In May, 1922, the four members of the Mealin family returned to the Isle of Man for a summer visit, and Mrs May Griffith relates that about the first thrill she had after arriving in Ramsey was to take a walk up to Albert Tower. From childhood she remembered there was nothing, like a good walk, especially to the tower on the hill. The Mealins enjoyed their first grand holiday on the 'Isle' of precious memories.

As retirement from business comes to all men, our friend put aside the cares of the work-a-day world, turned the business over to others, and started to see America. Eleven happy carefree months were spent in Wichita, Kansas.

Payment for the flight can be made in three stages — \$75.00 with the initial application; a further \$75.00 before November 30th, 1969, and the final \$75.00 before February 27th, 1970. All cheques should be made payable to the N.A.M.A. Charter Flight 1970 and should be sent with the initial request for a seat to:

*Mr. Stan SHIMMIN,  
53 Fallingdale Crescent,  
BRAMALEA, Ontario, Canada.*

It should be noted that the charter from Manchester to the Isle of Man is only planned as a one way trip as no doubt we will all have different plans for visiting friends and relatives at the conclusion of the Convention. The return trip from Manchester to Toronto will be on Friday July 17th, 1970.

Plan to travel with this trip and book your seat soon. Anyone wishing further details or assistance with travel arrangements from your home to Toronto please contact me. I will be glad to help make this a successful Convention.

**BUT REMEMBER IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER HOW YOU PLAN TO TRAVEL TO THE CONVENTION JUST SO LONG AS YOU GET THERE AND MAKE THIS THE BEST ONE YET!!!**

*Stan Shimmin,  
2nd Vice-President.*

But the lure of California and the Golden West had taken hold of his children and their families; so it was in 1944 Frank and Eunice packed up the family car and away they went, first to Los Angeles, then when later Guy and May moved to Long Beach California, father and mother followed on.

On October 12th, 1962, Mrs Mealin was called to her heavenly home. She is at rest in Inglewood Park Cemetery, near Los Angeles, close to the grave of Miss Lilian Callow, late of Agneash, Lonan.

Frank and Eunice Mealin had been happily married for 62 years. This grand couple found happiness in serving others; many Los Angeles Manx Society members will remember their presence at Manx meetings. They always brought a cheery note of love and friendliness.

Mr Mealin is the oldest living member of the Loyal Good Anchorage Lodge of Odd-fellows in Ramsey.

He is also a member of 60 Masonic Lodge in Salina, Kansas.

After a time of successful business in Long Beach, California, May now had the urge to cast business cares aside, and she did so wish to show

*cont'd on page 5*

## YOUR N.A.M.A. EXECUTIVE PART II

The Financial Secretary is Clarence E. Creer. His wife is Mona and they have 2 children—Diana (15) and Judy (9). Clarence's father, James E. Creer was born in Union Mills and migrated to Illinois at an early age. His grandfather was John Creer. Mona also has a Manx background since her mother is Elsie M. (Joughin) Broadbent, also an NAMA member, and she came from Ramsey. Clarence spent several days in the IOM during World War II. Mona also spent time there while cycling in England one summer. Both are also members of the Chicago Manx Assoc., and it is through this Association that Clarence came to learn the most about his Manx heritage. A Manx cat named Gilroy is also a member of the Creer household. He came from the Glen Orry Cattery in West Chicago, Ill. Incidentally Clarence and Mona first met at the convention held in Windsor, Ontario. That's one convention they will never forget.

## WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

Miss Doris Clague, secretary of the World Manx Association, has provided the following list of W.M.A. Outings to be held this summer in the Island. Homecomers will be most welcome on these excursions and if anyone would care to book a seat they could do so by phoning Miss Clague at Douglas 6741 the day prior to the outing.

June 29th. - Sunday - Ramsey. Grand Island Hotel for tea, proceeding to Maughold Church for evening service.

July 5th. - Saturday - Tynwald Day Gathering.

July 17th. - Thursday - Evening run to south of the Island - supper at Ballanarran Hotel.

August 14th. - Thursday - North of the Island - Ravensdale Castle Hotel for tea.

Sept. 11th. - Thursday - Laxey via Mountain Road - Laxey Glen Gardens for tea.

Both Miss Clague and Mr. Harold S. Cain, president of the World Manx Association, have expressed the wish that Manx people travelling to the Island would let them know in advance of their intending visit so that they would have an opportunity of meeting them and welcoming them. Miss Clague's address is 1 Hilary Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, and she will be most pleased to hear from anyone planning to visit the Island this summer.

# NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

## CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

*(Mona's Relief Society)*

Our April meeting's entertainment was a surprise of a mythical cruise to the Isle of Man. Mrs. Floyd McClure (Bessie Leece Auty's daughter, Betty) and Mrs. Thos. J. Fabel (Mrs. Robt. Faragher's daughter, Eileen) worked up a very clever program which included "shipboard entertainment" for all the "passengers". With group singing, piano solos by the young Haldeman girls, narration, etc. — plus various "props" — we all enjoyed our trips to and around the Island. As we passed the various towns, kinfolk of our members were "seen" and with a little imagination—it was the next best thing to an actual visit.

Our president and his wife were the ship's captain and his lady; while Harry Kelly was—for that evening—Governor of the Isle of Man. A typical Manx tea afterwards ended our Manx cruise. Everyone enjoyed the trip—and not one case of seasickness!

In place of our regular May meeting, our society held a card party. It was well attended and most successful in every way. Harry Kelly and his committee did a commendable job.

We are looking forward to a summer picnic though time and place has not yet been decided upon. Should anyone be in the Cleveland area at any time and wish to contact us, our president and our secretary—Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Kelly—may be reached at 944-5807

*Marge Krach,  
Publicity Chairman.*

## ROCHESTER

Florida's gain is Rochester's loss as another good Manx worker heads South. Phoebe Sundlof has sold her home in Dansville and was leaving for Orlando, Florida, in May. We will miss her. Her daughter and husband moved there last summer, so Phoebe will be near them.

Mona Kelly and Phoebe spent a few days in Toronto visiting old friends, Mrs. Beddow and Mrs. James Kee. They had a grand farewell party there.

We will soon be able to hold a convention in Florida with so many seeking sunshine down there.

*Alice Garrett,  
Regional Director.*

## CHICAGO

The Chicago Manx Society observed its 96th Anniversary on April 18th, 1969, with a delightful dinner at the Oak Park Arms Hotel. Following the dinner, Robert Kelly, President, called the group to order and welcomed all present. There were three past presidents at the dinner; Walter J. Stevenson, Charles T. Corrin, and R. Cecil Kelly; also the daughter of one of the founders of the Society, Mrs. Percy Ristow. Her father, Mr. W. Kneen, was one of the men who instituted the organization in 1873. It was called the "Sons of Mona Society" until March 2nd, 1914, when the name was changed to "The Chicago Manx Society". Past president Charles Corrin was a nephew of Mr. Kneen. There was one guest at the dinner, an English lady, Mrs. Frances Bennett, who has spent many happy holidays on the Isle of Man.

Before the business of the evening, the group stood for a moment of silence in memory of Ella Leece Boyde and George Connall who have passed away since the last meeting. Robert Kelly read a prayer in memory of our departed friends. Communications were read from members who were unable to attend and it was moved and carried to send cheer cards to our sick members.

Robert Kelly reported that he had been in touch with Ruth and Ellen Carlson of the Glen Orry Manx Cattery who had provided the floral decorations on the dinner tables. They sent regrets that they were unable to attend the dinner as they were out of town. They have graciously extended an invitation to the Chicago Manx to hold a summer picnic at their home in West Chicago.

Robert Kelly gave a report on a homecoming trip to the Isle of Man in 1970. There had been a discussion on this at the convention in California in August, 1968, and a committee has been formed to act upon it.

Community singing of old Manx songs led by Mr. Walter Stevenson and Myrra Johnson proved most enjoyable. Everyone joined in the fun, especially when they sang "The Manx Wedding" in unison. Two Manx readings, "Mona Ma Chree" and "Little Ellan Vannin", were presented by Emily Kelly to introduce Manx slides including the Isle of Man, the summer picnic, the Folk Fair, the Convention and the Glen Orry Manx cats, shown by Cecil Kelly. These were followed by a report on the Convention at Huntington Beach by Emily Kelly.

The programs, designed and made by Jean Kelly, were beautiful — bright red with a large Manx emblem on the cover. Two lucky people received Isle of Man rock for door prizes and as the guests left for home they each received a spray of flowers arranged by Jean Kelly from the lovely flowers which had graced the banquet room.

Robert Kelly, President, wishes to thank each one who contributed to the success of the evening. The meeting adjourned with the singing of "God be with you till we meet again."

*Robert Kelly, President  
Emily Kelly, Secretary.*

## TORONTO

The Toronto Manx Society has very little news since the November Bazaar which is always a success. The winter weather set in and this is always a hardship for our older members as they cannot get out and the flu bug hit us all badly.

In March we were all saddened by the death of Frank "Pop" Williamson and Mrs. Lillian Russell, two of our faithful members.

The Toronto Manx Society will be holding their annual Strawberry Tea at the home of Mrs. Holt, 36 Fairglen Crescent, Western, on June 15th and on July 5th at 1.30 p.m. the Annual Picnic will be held at the Thomson Park, Lawrence and Brimley Road, Scarborough. Anyone passing that way will be made most welcome.

*Dot Hall,  
Secretary.*

## VANCOUVER

The 60th Anniversary of the Vancouver Manx Society was celebrated on Saturday, March 22nd., 1969, when a Buffet Supper was held in the Horticultural Hall, 20th. Avenue and Clark Drive. Between 50 and 60 attended and enjoyed to the full the good eats provided. The catering was supervised by the ladies of the committee, assisted by several others, and a most enjoyable time was spent by all. A decorated cake commemorating the occasion was cut by Mrs. Killey.

During the evening a raffle was held for some valuable prizes. Dr. Gordon Gell entertained with the showing of slides taken while on vacation last year. There were scenes from England and the Isle of Man and, judging by the applause, they were appreciated by all those present.

*E.Q. Costain,  
Secretary.*

## GALVA

The Rev. John H. Clarke of Knoxville, Illinois, retired Methodist minister, who came to this country from the Isle of Man 60 years ago last March, was featured in a recent issue of the Knoxville Journal in the column "Portraits in Print". Rev. Clarke is a former president of the Galva Manx Society and is still an ardent member of the Society.

A native of Ramsey, he came to the United States in 1909 and has returned to his native land three times as a visitor. We quote his philosophy of life: "My philosophy of life is to laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, to know that even one life has breathed easier because I lived."

*Hilda Collinson,  
Secretary.*

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Our Southern California Manx Society held a meeting on March first 1969 at the home of Rev. & Mrs. James Caley and elected its new officers for the coming year.

Donald Bain as president,  
William Caley as vice president,  
Malcolm Kinley as treasurer,  
May M. Griffith as secretary,  
Ellen Bain as Sunshine chairman.

Our next meeting was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bain on March 28, 1969. Had a nice discussion about the 1970 convention on the Island. We will meet again in the form of a picnic to be held at Bixby Park, Long Beach, Calif. on June 7, 1969. Our weather now beginning to be nice we are looking forward to a large gathering. We will also hold a picnic on July 26, 1969 in Lake Park, Huntington Beach, Calif., honoring several guests from the Isle of Man who will be out here visiting the Ed. Caley's & others of our group.

Our society extends to any Manx friends who are out our way anytime—an invitation to get in touch with our society and you might be here when we have one of our get togethers.

*May M. Griffith, Secy.  
2441 Cedar  
Long Beach, Calif. 90806.*

## THE LI'L PEOPLE

Born - Tony, a second son, on January 25, 1969, to Delbert and Shirley Rawlings. Tony's grandfather is Mr. George E. Mylroie of Franklin, Idaho.

## WORLD MANX

Exerpts from the Annual Report for the year ended 31st. December 1968 presented by Miss Clague at the annual General Meeting of the W.M.A. on March 12th., 1969, are given below:

"... Our membership has grown steadily, and this of course is vitally important in enabling us to proceed with our work of linking up all Manx Societies with the Homeland, by providing contacts for Manx people leaving the Island to settle in other countries, organizing outings for any Homecomers during the summer months, and bringing them together at our Tynwald Day Gathering. ...

We have been greatly encouraged by the excellent attendance of our members at meetings and outings, and we feel that the members have themselves created the friendly atmosphere which prevails. ...

May 5th was the Birthday of our Manx Poet and Scholar, Thomas Edward Brown, and the annual visit to his memorial plaque was made by officials and members of the Association. ...

We all looked forward with anticipation to our Tynwald Day Gathering on July 5th. last, which proved to be a wonderful re-union for many Manx folk. The number of Homecomers present was over sixty, and that I believe was a record for many years.

... It is very evident on July 5th that a visit to their dear Ellan Vannin is a source of great happiness and I think this feeling is very well expressed in the lines of a poem by Miss Kathleen Faragher:—

*"To feel once more the friendly  
hand*

*To hear the welcome warm.*

*To look into each smiling face*

*And know I have come home."*

## DUES NOTICE

### HAVE YOUR DUES BEEN PAID?

The answer is probably yes, but there are a number still unpaid. Perhaps the blame is on us for continuing to send the Bulletin to some whose dues are delinquent and who don't really want to be members. If you are one of these, please let us know and we will stop the Bulletin and the dues reminders. Your membership is cherished and we think you will agree that \$3.00 a year isn't too much to keep informed on your Manx heritage. Please let the Financial Secretary know now, however, what your wishes are.

## MANX WEDDIN'S

On February 14th., 1969, the wedding took place of Marlene Mylroie of Franklin, Idaho, to David Leon Robinson of Burley, Idaho. Marlene is the daughter of George E. Mylroie of Franklin, Idaho.

Miss Elaine Dorene Newman of Fairbury, Illinois, and Wade A. Nystrom, son of Mr. Merrill Nystrom of Altona, Illinois, exchanged wedding vows Saturday, December 21, 1968, at the Fairbury United Methodist Church. The young couple are both public school teachers and are residing in Toulon, Illinois.

Miss Claudette Cain, daughter of the president of the World Manx Association and Mrs. Harold S. Cain, was married at Onchan Parish Church on March 29th., 1969, to Mr. Robert Treasurer, the only son of the late Mr. Robert Treasurer and of Mrs. L.V. Walsh, and stepson of Mr. L.V. Walsh. Many members of the Manx Society attended the wedding and telegrams were received from leading personalities in the World Manx Association all over the world.

### 95 Years old - Cont'd from page 3

hubby, Guy, the Island of her birth. In 1965 they flew by jet to England, and May and Guy had a grand holiday there, and in the Isle of Man where they met so many relatives and old friends.

To-day at the age of 95, we find Mr Frank Mealin residing at a Convalescent Home in Buena Park, Orange County, California. Except for failing eyesight and some deafness, he is enjoying a measure of good health. Daughter May, and son Robert, and their families have been a great comfort to their father in his declining years.

Mr Mealin has always had a fine sense of humour. He laughs and jokes. Few men at his age have such a good memory, especially when he thinks of Ramsey. At the close of this article our thoughts are of the beautiful setting in Orange County, where Mr Frank Mealin dwells. The view of the San Bernardino snowcapped mountains is beautiful indeed, and we are reminded of the words in the 121st Psalm, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills. From whence cometh my help". "My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth."

T. DONALD BAIN,  
Long Beach,  
California,  
May, 1969.

(Reprinted from "The COURIER")

## KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

'A Series of Stories and Historical Facts Surrounding the well known Manx Name "Quirk"' is the title of a booklet which was, among others, presented to the N.A.M.A. in memory of Gertrude Cannell by her brother Douglas.

Written by "Treljah" (Mrs. M.A. Watterson) and published by "Lewthwaites," Market Hill, Douglas, Isle of Man, it gives the following account of the origin of the name "Quirk".

"The name Quirk is undoubtedly Irish, but at the time of the Rebellion many families fled from Ireland and made their home in the adjacent isles. Some made their way to the Isle of Man, while others found homes in Scotland.

It is believed that the first family of the name of Quirk on coming to the Island settled in Braddan. They named their farm Ballaquirk, which is now known as Lamb Hill. The Quirk's held this land for centuries, finally selling the place to Senhouse Wilson, Esq. There is a Ballaquirk pew in old Kirk Braddan Church. Branches of this family farmed Ballavar, Knockaloe and other farms in the Patrick and Foxdale districts.

A number of Quirks became large landowners in the western districts of the Island, and it has been stated that they owned all the farms on the west coast from Peel to Dalby Point.

With reference to the name Quirk, we find it mentioned by our Manx historian, A.W. Moore, Esq., in his book of Manx names, as being contracted from McCuire, Corc's son. The letter C has the same sound as K, Cuirc, pronounced Kirk.

Corc was King of Munster early in the fifth century.

An article written by the late Canon Quine, our Island's great Latin scholar, and published in the "Examiner" in 1932 under the heading: "An Early History of the Isle of Man." deals with the life of St. Patrick. In his translation of the Latin book "Confessio," written by St. Patrick, he states that King M'Quirocato, who was King of the Red Branch of Ulster in the fifth century was St. Patrick's personal friend, but St. Patrick describes the king as being lukewarm towards Christianity. Although St. Patrick had definitely converted the king from paganism to his faith, the king refused to order his subjects to accept the same belief. While St. Patrick resided in the Isle of Man, a son of King M'Quirocato visited him, and was ultimately buried on the Island.

Latin names generally end with the

letters "-os" or "-us". The name M'Quirocato abbreviated from its Latin form could easily develop into M'Quirc or M'Quirk.

At a later period, we find the name Ceinnedigh O'Quirc, Lord of Muscraige, who was slain A.D. 1043.

As early as 1430, the name was found at Patrick, Isle of Man, as Quirk and M'Quirk. From this date, the name underwent many processes of alteration in spelling, probably due to lack of education. It was the duty of the parish clerk to write out burial certificates; obviously he spelled the names according to his own idea, and it is a known fact that in many cases the surnames of members of the same family were spelt differently.

The name was at one time pronounced Kirk and Kurrik. Elderly Manx folk always pronounced the Manx names beginning with the letter "Qu-" correctly, such as Quilliam, Quayle, Qualthrough, etc., but not so with the name Quirk.

A quaint story has been told of how the name Quirk became known on the Island. "A newcomer, on landing, when asked his name hesitated for such a lengthy time with his answer that he was called a quirk, which name he accepted."

Another story goes as follows: — "A Scotch woman when passing near old Kirk Patrick Church heard the cries of an infant. After a search, she found a baby on the church step. She brought the child home and reared him, giving him the name Patrick MacKirk. Patrick, for the parish in which he was found; Mac; for the Scot who reared him; and Kirk for the Church."

The ancient Quirks were of a retiring disposition, cautious in friendship, dubious of strangers, industrious and hard-working. They were religiously inclined and of a studious nature. The remark has often been made: "Where there's a Quirk, there's a book."

### VISIT OF W.M.A. PRESIDENT

N.A.M.A. President, Sam Penrice, has received a letter from Mr. Harold Cain, C.P., with the news that he and Mrs. Cain hope to sail to Canada on the Empress of England leaving July 10th, and arriving in Montreal July 17th.

At the present time it is not known if Mr. and Mrs. Cain will stay a few days in Toronto before proceeding by train to Calgary to visit Mr. Cadman. Mrs. Cain's father. Arrangements will be made for as many Manx folk as possible to welcome them to Toronto.

## OUR OWN PEOPLE

Mr. George E. Mylroie, Box 121, Franklin, Idaho 83237, came to the U.S.A. from Laxey in 1912. He writes that he has all the issues of the Bulletin from December, 1931, onwards and would like to have copies of any previous to that date. He would be pleased to hear from anyone who could help him to obtain them.

Mr. Mylroie's daughter, Darlene, will graduate from college this year with a B.A. degree and will teach next year in California.

Harry Kelly was guest speaker at the Westlake Historical Society's meeting Monday evening, May 26th, at the Clague Museum in Westlake, Ohio.

Inasmuch as the museum is housed in what was originally the Clague homestead, members of the Westlake Historical Society were keenly interested in learning more about the birthplace of the Clagues. Mr. Kelly's commentary on the Isle of Man was most informative and his colored slides were well received.

Jane Caley, a Junior at Huntington Beach High School has been selected as student ambassador to Europe under the People-to-People Program.

Jane is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. James C. Caley of Huntington Beach.

The People-to-People Program, launched by President Eisenhower in 1956, is an effort of private citizens to promote international understanding.

Students are selected on the basis of scholarship, club activities and civic work.

Jane will travel to Washington, D.C. in June where she and other students will be introduced to U.S. and foreign officials. They will tour the city before departing on the 45-day trip.

The group will visit England, France, Austria, Romania, Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal.

In England and Austria the students will be guests in private homes. Student meetings have been planned in the remaining countries.

Jane has studied French and Latin in high school and has been active with the Girl Scouts and in her church.

Ethel (Mrs. H. C.) Christian who recently moved to Florida writes:

I really have no news being away from all the Manx folk down here but I have run into a few things which to me were interesting. While at the Auto Club Travelogue one night in St. Pete, heard two ladies behind me discussing the Isle of Man. I looked round but didn't know either of them. During intermission I spoke to them and asked if they had been talking about the Island and they said "Yes". It turned



out that one of the ladies, a Mrs. Howard Walker's, grandparents had come from the I.O.M. In the course of our conversation she told me that her relatives had been Stowell and Kelly and they had come from near Douglas. She recalled her grandmother taught her to count to ten in Manx but had forgotten it so I sent her a Manx napkin with the numbers on it and received a lovely letter saying she had given one to her brother who lived in Sarasota and how pleased he was to hear of our encounter.

When the Harry Kelly's stopped here this April while driving around our neighbourhood Mary saw the name "Cubbon". Later I called on them and found out his grandfather came from Lonan — they are from Wheeling, W. Va. Three brothers came to America about 1856. Mrs. Cubbon brought over a history of the Cubbon's for me to read. I am going to give them my last Bulletin as one of Mr. Cubbin's brothers is a professor at Tallahassee University and hopes to come this way and hear more of the Island from me. Then I also noticed that a Robert Corris is going to build a house in this neighbourhood but that could, of course, be Irish. After my trip I'll see if I can find out.

Had lunch one day with Noreen Cottier, formerly of Cleveland too, and Ethel and Bill Brown who have since returned to the I.O.M., stopped to visit with me one morning.

I am flying to London May 26th with my cousin Mrs. Mildred Johnson from St. Pete. We will spend six weeks touring Europe, have about a month in the I.O.M. and two weeks in the Scandinavian countries before returning.

## MANX DIAMOND KING

*Cont'd from page 1*

In 1888 he sold all his claims to Cecil Rhodes, for which he received £115,000. However, he stipulated that he should work the mines for six months after sale and before handing over. He concentrated all his labour force and took out 400,000 tons of blue clay ready for washing which he could do in his own time.

He retired when he was 50. He brought back with him the Mylchreest diamond weighing 200 carats and exhibited it in many places in Europe and America. The stone was eventually cut in two, each part stated to be worth £50,000.

During his retirement he lived at the White House, Michael, Isle of Man, and was a member of the House of Keys for Peel for a time. He died at the age of 59.

## LOOKING BACKWARDS

Many tales have been told about the Isle of Man by people of all ages, of different viewpoints and personalities. May I tell my tale as I have relived it so very many different times?

I have stood on my parents' doorstep and looked out on a scene of beauty because I was lucky to live in a home that gave us a view that was a pleasure to behold. I have looked across the sea and watched the Liverpool boat come into sight, seeming to grow larger by the minute and I have heard my Dad say, "Boat is almost in. Is everything ready?" This because we kept a boarding house.

I have looked at the pier with one or two or sometimes, during the very busy few months of summer, four boats alongside and I have looked at Douglas Head and seen all its beauty. Conister in the foreground was always a wonderful sight to me and still is; a lonely dangerous rock that now has its Tower of Refuge built upon it. I have imagined how it could save lives and have read how it came into being and loved it for being there.

I have also stood on that same doorstep watching an entirely different scene; dark sinister skies, waves that were mountainous and a small winter boat starting out to brave the storm and make its way to Liverpool. I have watched as it disappeared and held my breath until it appeared again, painfully making its way out so sea. How I used to admire the captains and first mates who seemed to have super human ability to bring every one safely to shore in Liverpool or Douglas. So many thousands of trips and so very few casualties.

Turning my eyes in front of me I saw our square, a lovely place for a child to play. Then, it was just a green on two levels with a concrete and iron rail around: now it has been turned into a very lovely little park with plenty of shrubs and flower beds and is a place to admire instead of for children to play in. I have also watched the beautiful sky of snow-white clouds and like most children made my own lovely pictures out of them every minute as the winds blew. So also have I watched the snow gradually cover everything until we were not on the Island any more but in a white wonderland; but I have also gone to bed at night fearful that the wind of gale force would blow the house down.

I was lucky to have a father who made me aware of nature with all its beauty. He stood again on that famous doorstep and taught me about the winds and what to look for according

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It is with deepest sorrow we announce the death on May 14th. of Mrs John R. Cain, Honorary President of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the N.A.M.A. and well known member of the Manx community which will remember her with affection.

CAIN, Margaret J., 82, of 4075 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Heights, died on May 14th., 1969. after a lengthy illness. Mrs. Cain, the former Margaret J. Kinrade, was born in Peel, Isle of Man, and came to Cleveland as a bride in 1913. Mrs. Cain was for years prominent in activities of Manx organizations and was a past president and, at her death, honorary president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the North American Manx Association. She was also a past president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Mona's Relief Society (Cleveland Manx). A member of the Windermere chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star No. 388 for 48 years. Mrs. Cain was also a member of the Church of the Master. Surviving are Mrs. Cain's husband of 55 years, John R. Cain, a past president and now honorary president of the North American Manx Association; a daughter, Elinor M. and a sister, Mrs. Henry Corrin of Douglas, Isle of Man.

We also announce with sorrow the death on April 4th. of Miss Mildred Corris former corresponding recording secretary of the N.A.M.A., who will be remembered by her many friends and acquaintances.

CORRIS, Mildred C., died in the Good Samaritan Nursing Home, Avon, Ohio, on April 4th., 1969, aged 72. Mildred was a secretary for more than 50 years. for the last 10 years before she retired in 1967 with the Crane Supply Co. She was a member of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women, the Mona's Relief Society, the Lincoln Chapter of the Eastern Star and the North American Manx Association. She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Corris (Jane Moughton) and is survived by two aunts and several cousins. Mildred was a well known member of the Cleveland Manx community and of the North American Manx Association which she had served as Corresponding and Recording Secretary from 1959 until 1965.

For much of the time since she retired in 1967 Mildred has been a resident of the Good Samaritan Nursing Home and unable to join in the activities of the Manx community.

## LOOKING BACKWARDS

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to whichever way they happened to be blowing; made me aware of the beauty of the sunbeams streaming through the coloured lead lights of the front door onto the coloured hall and took me to our very small garden to see the marvel of the first crocus and snowdrops popping their heads up after the hard ground of winter gave way to spring. He would stand by me and calm my fears when a heavy thunder storm came up and show me that the lightening was beautiful when one was not afraid and could calmly stand and watch it. He made me aware of the joy of loving all living things.

*Lillian Marrion Tipper.*

## OBITUARIES

**BRIDSON, Cecil Edward** of Ramsey, Isle of Man, died on March 19th., 1969, in Cronk Ruagh Hospital at the age of 86. He was born in Crosby House, Marown, I.O.M. and spent most of his early life in Glen Helen and Cronk-e-Voddy, the places he loved most in the whole Island. He and his three brothers attended Douglas Grammar School driving by horse and trap every day from Cronk-e-Voddy. As a young man he came to Ramsey and for many years worked for Mr. Robert Sayle Corlett in the corn and seed business on the Quay. He had been retired for many years and since the death of his wife in 1961 had been living with a niece and her husband — Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Kennish, Riverside, Ramsey. He took a great interest in all things Manx and always attended the World Manx Assoc. meeting on July 5th. He loved music and choir singing and never missed the "Guild". He was a member of the W.M.A. and of the N.A.M.A. He leaves two daughters: Ethel (Mrs. S. Jones Cheshire, England) and Hilda (Mrs. Sam Penrice) Georgetown, Ontario; three sons; Bill, Blackpool, England; Arthur, Ellesmere Port, England, and Geoffrey at home; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**CAIN, Miss Rhoda** of Douglas, Isle of Man, died February 20th., 1969, at the White Hoe Hospital, Isle of Man, after a short illness. Miss Cain was a member of the World Manx Association and of the North American Manx Association. With her brother Jack, she attended the Toronto Manx Convention, where they made many new friends and in August,

1968, they returned to Detroit, Michigan, where several of their relatives reside. She is survived by her brother Jack of 5 Lancaster Road, Douglas; nephews, Lawrence - Douglas, Roy, and neice, Eva, residing in Detroit, Michigan.

**CORKILL, Stella E.** of 14879 Whitcomb, Detroit, Michigan, died in Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital on April 25th. after a short illness. She was the beloved wife of Richard H. Corkill, a past president of the North American Manx Association. She was a retired supervisor with the Michigan Bell Telephone Company and a charter member of the Michigan Bell Telephone Pioneers Club. Stella was not Manx but she was very interested in all Manx affairs and attended most N.A.M.A. Conventions with her husband.

**COTTIER, John Edwin,** of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, passed away on February 2nd., 1968, after being ill for almost three years. He was born in Douglas, I.O.M. He spent his entire years of service with the Pittsburgh Steamship Company. He leaves his widow, Kathleen Cottier; a son, John E., Jr., of California; a daughter, Mary Jane Cottier of Lakewood, Ohio, and grandchildren in California.

**COWLEY, James Herbert,** aged 85, of Galva, Illinois, died January 31 after being in failing health for several months. He was born May 16, 1883, at Glenmoye, Isle of Man, and came to the United States in 1902.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Clague Cowley, whom he married in 1916; two daughters, Mrs. C.B. Garrison of Little Rock, Arkansas, and Mrs. Dale Gargher of Kewanee, Illinois, and one son, James, of Galva; also a nephew, Haslam Brew, of Toulon, Illinois, who was reared in the Cowley home; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Burial was in the Galva cemetery.

**DOUGLAS, John,** died on February 16th., 1969, aged 84 years. He lived in Douglas, Isle of Man, from the time he was 1 year old until he was 21. He was the owner of Douglas Plumbing and Heating. He is survived by 2 sons, Robert and John, of Enumclaw, Washington, and a daughter, Mrs. Bill Brown of Vashon Island, Washington, with whom he had lived for the last three years, and 17 grandchildren and great grandchildren.

**KILLEY, Martha Grontie,** of Denver, Colorado, passed away January 2nd.,

1969. She was the beloved wife of William H. Killey, Regional Director of the North American Manx Association. With Mr. Killey she attended the N.A.M.A. Convention in Peoria, Illinois.

**RUSSELL, Lillian Edith,** of Toronto, died on Sunday, April 13th., 1969, at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. She was the dearly loved wife of Robert William Russell; mother of Roy; grandmother of Stephen, Susan and Mark. Mrs. Russell was a faithful member of the Toronto Manx Society.

**WILLIAMSON, Frank.** The Toronto Manx Society lost one of its oldest and most valued members on April 6th., 1969. "Pop" as he was called by Manx folk all over North America, was also one of the oldest members of the North American Manx Association. He was born in England and when he first came to Canada in 1908 worked on a farm at Bowmanville. After a short time he moved to Toronto where he successfully operated a tinsmith business on Ossington Avenue.

Frank was a tower of strength to the Toronto Manx Society. He successfully filled every office in the Society and a lot of his enthusiasm rubbed off on the other members. Though not a Manxman, he loved the Isle of Man which he visited at every opportunity and where he made many friends. He travelled to many of the conventions in Canada and the United States and at his death was Regional Director of the N.A.M.A. for Toronto.

Frank is survived by four daughters. The Rev. Colin Aspell, a Manxman, officiated at the funeral service on April 9th.

**WOOD, Miss Doreen,** of Shawinigan, Quebec, passed away suddenly April 11th., 1969, at the age of 59. Born in the Isle of Man, Miss Wood came to Shawinigan with her parents and brothers in June, 1913, and she had been a resident of the city ever since, working for 40 years for The Shawinigan Water and Power Company and Shawinigan Chemicals where she was still employed. She was a Life Member of the North American Manx Association and regularly attended conventions. She leaves her brothers, Arthur Maddison of Shawinigan; Rex of Ottawa; a sister Joyce, Mrs. Douglas McKim, of Bedford, Que.; sisters-in-law, Mrs. Rex Wood and Mrs. Arthur Wood; brother-in-law, Mr. Douglas McKim and their children.

*To friends and relatives of the above we extend heart-felt sympathies.*