

# BULLETIN *of the* North American Manx Association



VOL. 43 NO. 3

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

MARCH 1970

## BEST-EVER CONVENTION BEING PLANNED IN I.O.M. JULY 1,2,3

This will be the first time that an official N.A.M.A. Convention has been held in the Isle of Man and it provides a grand opportunity for N.A.M.A. members to make an "official" visit to the "Land of Our Birth". The red carpet will be out to greet you whether you arrive by plane or by boat and you can see from the programme that a whole week of festivities awaits you.

World Manx Association officials and members have been most helpful in working hard to complete all the preparations which have to be done in I.O.M. and on this side of the Atlantic plans have been going ahead for the Souvenir Booklet and the Prize Distribution as well as for co-ordinating all the arrangements.

Don't forget that a charter flight is being arranged to leave Toronto on June 27th., returning on July 18th. The cost will be about \$225.00 Cdn. but may be less. A few seats are still available and application should be made without delay to Mr. Stan Shimmin whose address is below.

If any member or other interested friend has not received his "convention kit" before April 30th., 1970, would they please write to Mr. Stan Shimmin, 53 Fallingdale Crescent, Bramalea, Ontario, and one will be sent by return mail.

### ACCOMMODATION

A hotel booking card will be included in the first mailing and can be filled in and sent to the hotel to reserve accommodation. Prices are quoted below for the convenience of those who may be thinking of booking now. Don't forget that the summer months can be very busy in the Island so that it is wise to make your booking in advance. Letters could be addressed to Mr. C. B. Bellamy, Director, and you should state that you will be attending the N.A.M.A. Convention.

*Continued on page 8*

### CONVENTION PROGRAMME

#### Tuesday, June 30.

Advance Registration, The Majestic Hotel.

#### Wednesday, July 1.

9.30 am. Convention called to order, opening ceremonies, invocation, Rev. J. C. Caley, N.A.M.A. Chaplain. Addresses of welcome..

Lt. Governor. Sir Peter G. Gawne STALLARD, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., M.B.E., M.A.

His worship the Mayor Mr. Councillor E. C. Hamill. J.P., President, W.M.A. Mr. Harold S. CAIN, C.P.

Business session.

Lunch. No official arrangements.

1.15 pm. Coaches leave The Majestic Hotel for an interesting tour of the

South of the Island, afternoon tea. Evening. Civic reception and Buffet, Reading Room, Villa Marina Douglas. Courtesy of the Borough of Douglas, with His Worship the Mayor and Town-Council.

#### Thursday, July 2.

9.30 am. Business session and memorial service conducted by N.A.M.A. Chaplain.

Lunch. No official arrangements.

1.15 pm. Coaches leave the Majestic Hotel for a tour of the North of the Island including a visit to Bishop's Court at the invitation of the Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man, Rt., Rev., Eric GORDON, M.A., and tea at Laxey Glen Gardens.

Evening. Entertainment — Provided by combined talents of N.A.M.A. and W.M.A. members and local talent.

#### Friday, July 3.

9.30 am. Business session. Includes, reports of Committees, Time and place of the next Convention and the Installation of Officers.

Lunch. No official arrangements.

Afternoon. Free. (Ladies Auxiliary may be scheduling a meeting).

Evening. Banquet and dance. The Majestic Hotel.

This terminates the official Convention programme but members are invited by the World Manx Association to attend events which are being organized by them for the three days following the Convention.

#### Saturday, July 4.

Evening. Convention party will be the guests of the World Manx Association. Details at a later date.

#### Sunday, July 5.

Afternoon. A combined outing of the W.M.A. and N.A.M.A. to North of Island with tea and then to Maughold Parish Church for Evensong when the Lord Bishop will preach.

#### Monday, July 6.

Morning. Tynwald ceremony.

Afternoon. 3.00 pm. The Annual W.M.A. Gathering at the Majestic Hotel.

### CONVENTION COMMITTEES

*Convention Chairman.*

Mr. Stan Shimmin.

*N.A.M.A. Co-ordinator.*

Mr. Sam Penrice, president.

*Convention Treasurer.*

Mrs. Jean GLASS.

*Convention Secretary.*

Mrs. Hilda PENRICE.

*Souvenir Booklet (North America).*

Mr. Robt. KELLY, Ist. Vice President

*Prize Distribution.*

Mr. Sam PENRICE.

*Registration Committee.*

W.M.A. Members with Mrs. Jean GLASS.

*Reception Committee.*

Officers & Past Presidents. N.A.M.A.

*Entertainment Committee.*

W.M.A. members with N.A.M.A. Executive.

*Chaplain.*

Rev. James Cowin CALEY, N.A.M.A. Chaplain.

## NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

### Officers 1969-70

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Bulletin Editor	Miss Margaret Joughin
	5015 Clanranald Ave., Apt. 16,
	Montreal 248, P.Q.
Sec. Treas. Ladies Aux. to N.A.M.A.	
	Mrs. Henry C. Christian
	528 Sea Crest Dr., Keene Park,
	Largo, Florida, 33540.
Published Four Times Annually. Subscription Fee \$3.00, including Membership in N.A.M.A.	

## ISLE OF MAN PERSONAL TREE PLANTING SCHEME

Would you like to own a family tree in the Isle of Man? You can you know — the Isle of Man Forestry, Mines and Lands Board has a personal tree planting scheme at Peel Hill in the West of the Island for the planting of the following tree species:

Sycamore  
 Mountain Ash  
 Silver Birch  
 Gean (Wild Cherry)  
 Wych Elm  
 Norway Maple  
 Whitebeam

20/- per tree.

As the number of trees of any one species to be planted in this area is strictly controlled, it would be appreciated if you would select three varieties in order of preference and list them on the application form.

On receipt of a complete personal tree planting application form and subscription, naming the type of tree you wish to be planted, arrangements will be made for it to be planted at Peel Hill at the appropriate time, after which certificates will be issued to donors showing the location of their tree.

## YOUR N.A.M.A. PRESIDENT ON THE MOVE

Your President Sam Penrice has had a busy time for the past month or two, firstly working closely with 2nd Vice-President Stan Shimmin on Convention plans and secondly visiting Manx Societies and Manx folk in the U.S.A. and Canada.

His activities with the Societies started December 12th. when he flew from Toronto to Cleveland for the Manx Christmas party. This was a wonderful affair and a real hospitable welcome was extended by Cleveland Society President, Richard Kelly, and by all the members. A very kind introduction was extended by Mr. Harry Kelly and President Sam Penrice replied saying how much he appreciated having the opportunity to be with them on this special occasion and conveyed greetings from the N.A.M.A. and also from the Toronto Manx Society.

"It's a fact" the Manx language is still spoken in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. President Sam Penrice discovered this when he was making a business trip across Canada.

Starting out from Georgetown on Friday, January 30th., Sam and his wife, Hilda (née Bridson) travelled by train to Chicago for a short stay as the guests of Norman and Helen Clucas. The Saturday evening was a real Manx evening when, in spite of very foggy weather, a good and lively group of faithful Manx turned out for a pleasant "cooish". Everyone was anxious to hear of the Convention plans and a great deal of interest was shown as the N.A.M.A. President gave an outline of the programme on the Island, the draw for prizes and the Souvenir Book. The evening ended with the singing of Ellan Vannin led by that wonderful Chicago Manx singer Mr. Walter Stevenson.

During Mr. Penrice's stay in Chicago the publication of the Souvenir Book was discussed with 1st. Vice-President Bob Kelly and his wife, Jean, who will be taking care of this for the Convention.

After saying goodbye to the Clucas family and his wife Hilda, who was returning to Georgetown the next day, Mr. Penrice flew on to Vancouver via Seattle.

A name plaque suitably inscribed will be erected in close proximity to each site, indicating the donor of the tree and its position.

Further enquiries about this scheme can be made from Mr. L. Bond, Manager and Secretary, The Isle of Man Tourist Board, 13 Victoria Street, Douglas, Isle of Man.

Business during the day and Manx meetings during the evenings was the routine as the President travelled eastwards from Vancouver to Toronto.

In Vancouver, Society President Peter Tregellis extended greetings at a meeting convened at the home of Eden Costain and his sister. A delightful evening was enjoyed by all and after a delicious lunch Kathy and John Cannell drove several of the Manx folk home and took Mr. Penrice to the hotel in Vancouver.

A phone call to Mrs. Neil McAllister, formerly of Ramsey, Mrs. Cannell of Douglas and a brief visit with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Quilliam were the Manx activities in Edmonton.

Calgary provided the greatest surprise. Miss Mona Hale arranged a Manx meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wade unknown to Mr. Penrice. Jack Wade is the elder brother of Evan Wade who is married to Mr. Penrice's sister, Ivy. "It's a small world". This meeting was well attended and once again everyone was anxious to hear about the Convention plans. Before the evening ended many Manx songs were sung, several of these in Manx, by Harry Leece who has relatives in the south of the Island.

A 'flu epidemic, below zero weather and a blowing snowstorm in Winnipeg did not deter several hardy Manx folk from attending a meeting at the home of Mrs. Tom Quirk in Winnipeg. This was probably the liveliest meeting of all as anyone attending the last Convention at Huntington Beach will remember the wit and humour of Society President Mrs. Tom Quirk, the Manx woman with the broad Scottish accent.

A tired but happy President returned to Toronto having travelled more than 5,000 miles, met many old friends and made many new ones and he is now looking forward to a reunion with many of them at the Convention in Douglas, Isle of Man, on July 1st., 2nd. and 3rd.

Regarding business — let's hope it turns out as successful as the Manx meetings!

## EDITOR'S NOTE

There has been a serious delay in Montreal mail for some weeks now owing to a labour dispute so it is possible that some material intended for this issue may not have reached the editor. If so it will be included in the next issue which will be published in MAY instead of June so that it will reach members before they leave for the Convention.

Would anyone wishing to have items printed please see that they reach the editor before the end of April?

### TYNWALD CEREMONY

The following account of the Tynwald Ceremony was written by Mr. Charles Southward of Papatoetoe, Auckland, New Zealand, whose name must be familiar to readers as he is a frequent contributor to the Bulletin. It seemed a timely item to publish in this edition as no doubt many of those who will be travelling to the Island to attend the Convention will also be staying to take part in the Tynwald Day ceremonies and will find them much more interesting if they know what is happening.

"Most Manx people resident in parts of the Commonwealth and the U.S.A. have a general knowledge of what takes place at this ceremony in the Island each year, but there are, perhaps, few who are aware that the ceremony has altered very slightly, if at all, over the last 5 - 600 years. At a Tynwald held in 1417, when Sir John Stanley 2nd. was present, he asked the Deemster to explain the procedure at Tynwald and this is what the Deemster told him: —

"This is the Constitution of olde time, how ye shall be governed on Tynwald Day. First ye shall come thither in your Royal array, as a King ought to do, by the perogatives and royalties of the land of Mann, and upon the hill of Tynwald, sitt in a chair covered with Royal cloath and cushions, your vision to the East, and your Sword holden before you, point upward. Your Barrons in the third degree sitting beside you, your beneficed men and Deemsters sitting before you, your clerke, knights, esquires and yeomen sitting about you. And the Worthiest in the Land to be called in before you, by your Deemsters, if ye will ask anything of them, and to hear the government of your land, and your will; and the Commons to stand without the Circle of the Hill, with their clerkes in their surplices. Then the Deemsters shall call all the Coroners of Mann, with their yards in their hands, and their weapons upon them, either sword or axe, and the Moars from every Sheading. Then the chief Coroner, which is the Coroner of Glenfaba shall make affence upon pain of life and limb, that no man make any disturbance, or stir, in the time of Tynwald, or any murmur, or rising in the King's presence, upon pain of hanging and drawing."

(Note: — Worthiest in the Land — 24 Councillors, or Keys. At this particular time they were often referred to as the "Kiare as feed" (four and twenty). Moars were the assistants to the Coroners.

Those who have attended the present day ceremony will recognise the similarity of the present ceremony to that described above. It is probable also that they will have had difficulty in remembering the order of procedure throughout the day.

The ceremony starts with a service in St. John's Church after which a procession is formed in the following order: —

- a) Four sergeants of the Constabulary
- b) Coroners (6)
- c) Captains of Parishes (17)
- d) Ministers of Free Churches (2)
- e) Clergy
- f) Officiating Minister
- g) Chairman of I.O.M. Education Authority
- h) Chairmen of Peel, Ramsey and Casteltown Town Commissioners
- i) Mayor of Douglas
- j) Vicar General
- k) Archdeacon
- l) High Bailiff
- m) Chaplain, Secretary, Speaker and members of the House of Keys
- n) Government Secretary
- o) Members of Legislative Council (Elected and nominated)
- p) Attorney General
- q) Second Deemster
- r) First Deemster
- s) Lord Bishop
- t) Sword bearer with Sword of State
- u) His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor
- v) Officers in personal attendance on His Excellency
- w) Chief Constable
- y) Detachment of I.O.M. Constabulary

There is a pathway between the Church and Tynwald Hill 366 ft. long and 48 ft. wide. The procession moves along this pathway toward the Hill in two lines. When it reaches a Guard of Honour stationed near the Hill, the procession will halt and open out its ranks to allow His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to pass through, preceded by the Sword Bearer, and be the first to mount the Hill. The procession re-forms behind him in the reverse order to which it left the Church. Members of the public who were admitted to the Church service follow the procession and are seated at the foot of the Hill, generally on the eastern side. All other members of the public are outside the enclosure.

When all are in their places the Royal Salute is given and both the British and Manx National Anthems are sung.

The following is the order of business thereafter —

- a) His Excellency says — "Learned Deemster direct the Court to be fenced".

### MORE ON HALL CAINE

To the list of Hall Caine's books listed by Cecil Kelly of Chicago I can add "The Blind Mother" and "The Last Confession". They are in a book along with another story and no date of publication is given. I have 17 of his books altogether, some containing more than one story, left to me by the late Neil H. Schrader who taught at Hiram College here in the English Department. Young in years, one of his main interests was Hall Caine, on whom he had written his thesis submitted to Western Reserve University as part of the requirement for the Ph. D. awarded. This thesis could probably be obtained from Western Reserve by Mr. Kelly or others interested.

Mr. Schrader was much interested in the relationship between Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the poet, and Hall Caine. The correspondence between them had recently become available for study in London, and Mr. Schrader went to the British Isles with this study as one of his main objects. I had given him names of people on the Island he might wish to contact, such as the late Ramsey Moore, who was a distant relative of mother's. Unfortunately he fell ill in England and came back to Hiram without completing his mission. Good treatment in England and here failed to stay the lung cancer, although he taught almost to the end. His devoted wife brought me over the Hall Caine books Neil had collected and said he wanted me to have them.

For this reason among others I intend to become better acquainted with his works and nature. My cousin Betty Qualtrough, now returned to the Island from England, remembers in her youth seeing Hall Caine at Greeba Castle, near which she used to stay. He sometimes wore a cloak and some people said he "put on" and was only "half-Manx" anyway, and exploited the half that was. The Manx are a people for cutting things to their proper size but perhaps we get them too small sometimes. No doubt many of his critics hadn't really read his works and didn't know his real nature. Mr. Schrader thought Hall Caine had many good qualities both as a writer and as an individual. He was a "best-seller" and perhaps wrote down here and there but he provided enjoyment to many, and also did much to improve the copyright laws for authors.

Professor Mary Louise Vincent, with the English Department here at Hiram College for many years, feels that had Neil Schrader lived he would probably have written a book on Hall Caine.

# NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

## GALVA

Galva Manx Society has tentative plans for a dinner and program on Sunday April 5. Further details and place of the meeting will be announced soon according to president, Loyal Kelly.

Mrs. Brian Cottier and daughters of Douglas I.O.M. visited with relatives and friends in Galva, Knoxville and the Chicago area in December. Ed and Frank Collister and Mrs. Thomas Collister are uncles and aunt of Mrs. Cottier, who with her husband operates the Atholville Hotel in Douglas.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kennaugh of Victoria, Illinois honored his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Horkstrom (Mona Kennaugh) with a farewell dinner in January. The Horkstroms are moving to the Tuscon area in Arizona. Sixty relatives, including Mona's three sisters and two brothers and their families and Wallace's brother and three sisters and families were present and a farewell gift was presented to the honored couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Leiper of Galesburg, Illinois and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Long and Mrs. James Shimmin of Monmouth visited with relatives in Florida in January.

*Mrs. Clyde Collinson, sec'y.,  
Galva Manx Society.*

## VANCOUVER

On January 3rd., 1970, a buffet supper was held in the Horticultural Hall. Between 60 and 70 attended and a very enjoyable evening was spent with the usual 'Li'l Cooish'.

The President, Mr. Sam Penrice, recently made a tour of Canada to further the interest of the N.A.M.A. and to publicize the forthcoming Convention and Home-coming to be held in the Majestic Hotel, Douglas, I.O.M., July first, second and third, 1970. To welcome Sam a meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Varley (Bessie Costain) 2270 Mannering Avenue, on Monday, February 9th.

The President gave an interesting talk giving all the information to hand regarding the Convention. From these details it would appear that all those privileged to attend will be amply repaid for their efforts. A vote of thanks was accorded to the President for his address and to Mrs. Varley for her hospitality.

*Eden O. Costain,  
Secretary.*

## CLEVELAND

### MANX SOCIETY

*formerly Mona's Relief*

Our unpredictable weather necessitated cancelling our January meeting. February's entertainment was the playing of an eight track tape sent by students and a teacher at St. Ninian's High School in Douglas. We thoroughly enjoyed the singing and the reading of old letters written by early emigrants to the States from the Isle of Man. Letters stressed how inexpensive it was to live here and encouraged other Manx folks to come.

Officers and Program Committee members (Misses Florence Lyon, and Elizabeth Clucas; and Mesdames Thos. J. Fabel, Floyd McClure, and L. L. Auty) have planned various events for the rest of this year's meetings. March will be a trip down Memory Lane with an **Old Fashioned Tea and Concert**. In April—a west side meeting—another **Bring and Buy** for it was great fun last year. A **Card Party** will be held in May for the benefit of the N.A.M.A. Convention. June will have sort of a **Bon Voyage** theme for all vacationers. Members going anywhere for a vacation are being asked to bring back some inexpensive item which will then be used in a Post Office Sale in September.

We know that some of our Cleveland members who now live in other cities (and are N.A.M.A. members, so they read this Bulletin!) will be happy to know five new members were accepted at February's meeting. This is most encouraging for it denotes continued interest in Manx activities in our area.

*Marge Krach  
Publicity*

## TORONTO

The Toronto Manx Society are busy planning a Spring Dance.

The Strawberry Tea will be held on June 16th. at the home of Mrs. Holt, 36 Fairglen Crescent, West. This annual event is always a great success.

The annual picnic will be held at Terra Cotta Park on July 4th. Anyone wishing to attend these functions while visiting the city would be welcome and can get directions or information from Mrs. Dorothy Foster, Scarboro, 293-4262, or Eileen Mitchell, Western, 248-1236.

*Dot Hall,  
Secretary.*

## CHICAGO

Sam Penrice, President of the N.A.M.A., with his wife, Hilda, Secretary to the N.A.M.A., were guests of Norman and Helen Clucas at their home in Itasca, Illinois, the weekend of February 6th to 8th. Regardless of the heavy fog and cold weather, nineteen Chicago Manx folk braved the elements to come out and visit with their Canadian friends on Saturday, February 7th. This was not a Chicago Manx meeting, it was just a social evening and everyone knows the Manx love a "Li'l Cooish".

Sam gave a resumé of surprises and things to expect for the coming Convention.

For entertainment, Norman showed beautiful coloured slides taken on his last trip to the Isle of Man.

Delicious refreshments were served and everyone joined in the singing of Ellen Vannin led by Walter Stevenson, before leaving for home.

*Emily Kelly, Secretary  
Robert Kelly, President*

## LOS ANGELES

The Los Angeles Manx have not had a meeting for some time but they still manage to keep in touch by phone and letter. At the end of January, Mrs. Tipper visited former President, Mr. Jack Cannell and his wife, and a get-together is planned for April at the home of Mrs. Tipper before she leaves for her trip overseas. She is leaving New York on the Queen Elizabeth on May 14th. and on arriving in England will spend 10 days in London before travelling to the Island where she will stay until after Tynwald Day. She is looking forward to visiting Essie Quayle at her home in Peel and to attending the Convention. Essie is a member of the Convention Committee.

*Lillian Marrion Tipper.*

## MANX WEDDIN'S

A pretty wedding was solemnized on Saturday, January 17th., 1970, in the Ruth Morton Baptist Church, when Barbara Joan, daughter of Mrs. Vera Mildred Henry, was united in marriage to Philip George Claridge, the Rev. Bruce Woods officiating.

After the ceremony a reception was held in the Blue Boy Hotel.

# 'Please Tip Your Hat to the Little People'

The following excerpts are from a "tongue in cheek" article which James M. Perry of "The National Observer" wrote after a visit he made to the Isle of Man in the winter of 1965 and may give some of those who may be going there for the first time an idea of some of the more unusual tourist attractions.

## DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN.

*Question: From May through September, what is the busiest passenger harbor in the world?*

*Answer: This is the place — Douglas, the Capital of the Isle of Man.*

It is, of course, an unlikely piece of information, hardly the sort of tidbit to break up a conversation at a cocktail party. But, then, the Isle of Man is an unlikely sort of place. Located smack in the middle of the Irish Sea, it is famous for (and what follows is not necessarily in order of importance) the tailless Manx cat, some of Great Britain's tastiest smoked kippers, the world's oldest continuously active legislative body, and one of civilization's least-known and least-important languages.

## A Long Way From London

Most visitors come to Douglas by steam packet from Liverpool, Glasgow, and Belfast. The overwhelming majority of them are working- and middle-class Englishmen, Scots, Irish, and Welsh. Americans rarely visit the island, a source of bitter regret to the island's hardworking Tourist Board.

The Tourist Board may well have reason for regret: The Isle of Man is an interesting place to visit, and perhaps the best time of all is off-season when it isn't crawling with sun-seeking Britons.

I had a feeling there was something a little fey about the place when I drove from the airport to Douglas by taxi. The driver turned to me a few minutes out of the airport to say: "Guv'ner, we're coming to the bridge. Ye be pleased to take off your hat and say good evenin' to the little people." The bridge is hardly more than a culvert and, by heaven, the sign as you approach it reads, "Fairy Bridge." It is traditional for Manxmen to take off their hats whenever they cross the bridge and say a sociable word to the little people who, the Manxmen insist with incredibly straight faces, live in the dark depths of the little stream.

Never feeling more foolish, I took off my hat and mumbled a word or two in the direction of the bridge.

"That's the idea, guv'ner," said the driver. And then he began a long tale

about the time 50 years earlier when he had been driving a hay wagon full of teen-agers down the road and had forgotten to doff his cap as he crossed the bridge. The wagon, he concluded, lost a wheel and crashed into a tree. I also heard from another Manxman about the time he forgot to doff his cap as he bicycled across the bridge. He blew a tire, he said, and skidded into a stone wall.

## Dangers in the Night

At the Fort Anne Hotel, Mary the barmaid looked aghast when I told her I was going to walk down into town (it was a dark Sunday night) to see what sights there might be. "Oh, sir, I wouldn't do that," she said. "And why not?" I asked. "Is it dangerous at night? Might I be robbed?" "Not at all, sir," she said, "It's not that at all." And then she went shuffling off towards the charcoal fire mumbling about "the little people."

Another day, driving through the countryside near Douglas, my Manx companion alerted me to the presence ahead of a ruined old church called St. Trinion's. "Long ago," began my friend (and I thought, "here we go again"), "the parishioners at this little church were puzzled because the wind kept blowing the roof off their church. Finally, a delegation went up the mountain to talk to 'Himself, the Big Fella' who, as you must know, resides up there. 'Himself' told them that the only way to keep the roof on the church was to put a tailor in the vestry and have him stitch a suit. If he finished the job, 'Himself' said, the roof would never again blow away. So the tailor was put in the vestry and he stitched the suit. He was finished all except one last button when he ran out of thread. He ran from the vestry to get more thread; the church door slammed behind him and he went up in a puff of smoke. The church, ever since, has been roofless."

## Proving the Story

And then, as a special kicker to the story, we pulled into an old inn called the Highlander. "I want to show you something," said my companion. Inside the pub, where the temperature was no more than 40 degrees, he pointed to a frame on the wall over a door. Inside the frame, under glass, were an ancient rusty pair of shears and an equally rusty old key. "The tailor's shears," said my friend, "and the key to the door that slammed shut."

"How long have they been here?" I asked the inkeeper. "Who knows?" he replied. He hadn't even looked up

from his tinkering with one of some 75 clocks that filled the room. As we left, at precisely 5 p.m., they all began to chime and ring in an unholy dissonance.

Besides "little people," the Isle of Man has its share of witches. At least two covens (a coven is a sort of witch chapter, composed of 12 witches and a priestess) are still meeting regularly. I was told on the highest advice. Witchcraft, however, did take a sudden downturn when the island's most famous witch, goateed Dr. Gerald B. Gardner of Castletown, died a most natural death recently. Dr. Gardner, Manxmen tell you proudly, was not only famous on the island; he was one of the most famous witches in all of Great Britain. His collection of witchcraft paraphernalia is now housed in a museum on the second and third floors of the "Witches Mill" in Castletown. The first floor is an ordinary tea room.

But enough of all this Manx magic. There are, after all, real places and real people on the island and, anyway, the suspicion lingers, just a trace of suspicion, mind you, that these Manxmen were, as they say in Britain, putting me on.

## King Orry's Castle

Some of the old feudal castles remain, the most splendid of which is Castle Rushen at Castletown, south of Douglas, ancient home of the kings and lords of Man. Part of this ancient structure dates back to about 1190 A.D. and the reign of Godred II, known as King Orry. The castle, expanded in succeeding years, is in a state of remarkable preservation: part of it, as a matter of fact, is still used as the local court house. There is probably no better example of a Norman castle in all of Great Britain. By itself, it makes a trip to the Isle of Man worthwhile.

## THE L'IL FOLK

Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Angus Gillon a son, Kevin, on November 14th., 1969.

Born — to Marlene (Mylroie) Robinson of Burley, Idaho, on December 2nd., 1969, a son, Ricky Leon. Marlene is the daughter of George E. Mylroie who lives in Franklin, Idaho, and previously came from the Isle of Man.

## KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

For those who are planning to do some research while on the Homecoming Trip on tracing their ancestors, it is most important to assemble all the information you already have on your family in a notebook to take along; i.e. date of birth, occupation, religion, date of marriage, and above all clues to the place of origin. It is not advisable to rely on your memory for this information.

You will want to visit the Manx Museum Library at the top of Crellin's Hill in Douglas where you will find a valuable collection of material on the Island. The General Registry, on the second floor of the Government Office Building (adjacent to the House of Keys) on Prospect Hill has volumes of records on births, deaths and marriages; and the details of Wills can be obtained from the Registry of Deeds on the first floor of the same building.

It is sometimes possible at the Manx Museum to get photocopies of pertinent records, and the General Registry

will supply certified copies of their records. Both of these services involve a small fee.

While at the Museum you will find a valuable collection of pamphlets, books, postcards, and stamps for sale at a nominal price.

Parish Churchyards are another source of information, and it is suggested that you photograph all tombstones for future reference.

Since there is no city directory on the Island, you will find the I.O.M. Telephone Book helpful.

Maps of the Island to aid you in locating different places are available at the Tourist Board on Victoria Street and the local bookshops sell a very good I.O.M. Ordnance Survey Map.

For those who wish to do searching in England, Wales, Scotland or Ireland, the British Travel Association has a pamphlet which you will find very helpful. Write to your nearest branch office for a free copy of "TRACING YOUR ANCESTORS IN BRITAIN".

*submitted by: Mrs. Robert S. Cowin*

## HALL CAINE — from page 3

My late mother (Sarah Quine) was born in Douglas and my late father (John T.) was born in Peel. All eight of us children and parents came over on the Carpathia in 1916 and settled in Cleveland. Although only 5½ then I remember much of the Island and of course heard much more from the numerous Manx in Cleveland.

When the Knickerbocker Theatre in Cleveland was a first-run house (about '17) my mother sang Manx songs as a prelude to the showing of the film made from Hall Caine's "The Manxman". Maurice Spitalny directed the orchestra and told her she should go on the stage with her fine alto voice, but with mother her family came first. She did much church choir work and into her sixties would sit down after her work was done to sing to her own accompaniment. As small children we especially liked "The Old Umbrella", a negro dialect song she knew by heart.

I have never heard it since or seen a copy although it had a fine swing and good sentiment. A later favorite was "Danny Boy" and, especially of mine, that old tear-jerker "Where Is Now The Merry Party". With both of these she could make my spine tingle. Sometimes the late Joe Cannell and his good wife, from Lakewood, Ohio, would call and we would beg Joe to sing "Father O'Flynn", which he did with great gusto. Simple pleasures be-

fore radio and TV. There was always a point in these visits when my Dad would go out to the kitchen to cut "thin bread and butter" to go with the tea.

The saying is that "Frank are the Manx" and while this use of "frank" is often meant as a compliment it is possible it was not meant as one by all who used it with this meaning in the past. The Byzantines called all Western Europeans "Franks" and the Princess Irene Comnenus tells of her father holding day long court with no lunch for Franks passing through on their way to the Crusades. She was amazed by their long-windedness and "Frank" manners. The location of Constantinople had long made diplomacy and tact a necessary weapon in their arsenal. Evidently this tradition of plain-speaking survived on the I.O.M. My mother used to say: "Do I have to put my words in my hand before I speak them?", if we objected to a sally and generally in the U.S. you have to tailor your words more carefully. Let's hope this tradition keeps up on the Island and that it continues to be ballasted by the usual Manx sense of fair play.

*Arthur F. Killey,  
Box 44, Hiram,  
Ohio 44234.*

## HISTORIAN DIGS UP THE FAMILY TREE

*From: The Courier Ramsoy,  
Isle of Man, October 3, 1969*

After a busy week in the Isle of Man, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sayle, of Arlington, Virginia U.S.A., returned to America on Wednesday.

As his name implies, Mr. Sayle belongs to a Manx family and his great grandfather emigrated from Andreas almost a century ago.

Mr. Edward Sayle is an historical writer and a member of the Historical Commission for Arlington and as can be imagined he lost no time in making an expert piece of research when he was here and he dug up the family tree, traced to which branch of the Sayle family he belonged, had a chat with the Manx Museum staff who he says were most helpful and he also managed to meet World Manx Association chief, Mr. Harold Cain and his wife.

Mr. Sayle was grateful too, for the kind welcome he received from the W.M.A. and they enjoyed very much the coffee evening which was held for members and guests in the Villa Marina last week. Mr. and Mrs. Sayle also met the Deputy Mayor at the Town Hall.

The story of great grand-father Sayle is characteristic of the emigrations of those days. He belonged to a family living at Keilthustag, Andreas, and at Smeale Beg and was a stone mason by trade. He was the son of William Sayle and his wife Jane (nee Christian) and settled in Massachusetts.

Mr. and Mrs. Sayle of course visited the old homestead and took photographs and also traced the family graves in Andreas Churchyard.

They deliberately decided to make their first visit to Manxland when it was not busy with the holiday season and they were thrilled with its beauty and charm.

Said Mr. Sayle to the Courier: "The Isle of Man is a gem packed with history and we have been very impressed."

## NICKNAMES — cont'd from page 7

boat called the Spy; Margaret/Taleyr y Killey was the daughter of the tailor who lived near the church (killey); John the Mortar was a mason; Ewan Crowe/Cornet evidently entertained on festive occasions. Sayle/Sumner was a church official, one of whose duties was to stand at the floor of the church during service to keep stray dogs from entering the church.



## MANX NICKNAMES

by Charles Southward.

In past ages nicknames were common the world over and they were used extensively in the Isle of Man until the beginning of this century. In our own history we have Ketil Flatnef (Flat-nose); Magnus Barefoot (he wore a kilt); Olaf the Black.

The chief reason why they were used in the Isle of Man was the limited number of Christian names and the number of people residing in the same district with the same surname. In any of these districts where there were several people of the same surname but of different families and a member of each family had the same Christian name it was essential to make an addition to the Christian name or surname to indicate which person was referred to.

For instance, at the beginning of the century in one of the Island districts there were three John Killips living at the same time and belonging to different families. They were known as John Killip, Ballarobin; Johnny the Shoe and John Beg, being respectively, farmer, shoemaker and youngest of the three (beg - little).

In the beginning of last century people were probably better known by their nickname than by their real name. There is a story told which shows at least some were in danger of forgetting their real names owing to the constant use of the nickname. At one of the old Country Club meetings on one occasion, the attendance was being checked and names being called over. The name of John Morrison was called but there was no response; then the Manx name, Juan Mylewoirrey, was called and still there was no response. One of the officers stood up and said, "I'll find him", and he called for Juan Onnee and an immediate response came from the back of the hall — "Aynshoh" (here). Nicknames in the Island fell into four classes —

1. from character or appearance
  2. from place of abode or origin
  3. from parents' Christian names
  4. from trade or occupation
1. The earliest names in this class are found on ancient Runic stones and are such as: Grim the Black, Thorulf the Red. In later times there is Corlett the Smeggle (chin), probably prominent; Illiam Dhone — brown haired William; Cowley/Grumble, probably descriptive of temperament; John Quine/Cabbagh, a stutterer; Quirk/Yernagh (Ireland),

probably either came from or spent some time in Ireland; Cannell the Timber, probably had a wooden leg; Thos. Christian/Mule, probably had the pre-vailling characteristic of that animal; John Cregeen/Smile, probably had a beaming face; John Corlett, Munlaa (mid-day) so called because he was able to determine exact noon in all seasons without the aid of a watch.

2. These were numerous. Most of the landed gentry were referred to in this way, as — Christian/Lewaigue; Clucas/Thornhill; Moore/Billown; Far-rant/Ballamoar, etc., then we have John/Ballarobin for John Killip of Ballarobin farm; Corlett the Clenagh, for John Corlett who lived in the Clenagh Road, Sulby; Jacky ny Slieau, for Jacky Corlett who lived in the hills (slieau — mountain); Bill the Craig Moar for William Quayle who lived on the hill farm of Craig Moar; Kaighin y Phurt, for Kaighin who lived at the Port; Paddy ny Keylley (wood) who lived near a wooded place for Paddy Kennish; Tommy Traie (shore) for Tommy Kneale who lived near the shore.

3. These were also numerous. William Kennish who lived at Cornaa, Maughold, in his early life, was something of a poet. He wrote the following verse which indicates this method of naming people: —

*"Now I'll be bail, his name is Quayle*

*"I see it in his face,"*

*"As sure as life", exclaimed the wife,*

*"He's something to that race",*

*"Yes, you are right, good dame", said I,*

*"That is my father's name,*

*Though not the one I go by,*

*Nor like unto the same;*

*I'm called by all, both great and small,*

*Bill-Hommy-Beg-Tom-Moar."*

(Bill, the son of little Tommy, the son of big Tom)

John Corlett/Hommy and William Cowley/Jack refer to the father's name; Henry Kneal/Nelly and William Corlett/Bahee refer to the mother's name and indicate illegitimacy; Gilbert Teare/Tom Nan indicates that Gilbert's father was born out of wedlock. In exceptional cases one might come across the following: Tom-Billy-Sam-Harry.

4. Dan Teare/Physick and Kewin ye Doctor refer to country practitioners who dealt in charms; William/Fidder beg and Tommy the Fidder were both weavers; Bob-a-Gow and Ned-y-Gaane were both blacksmiths; Kelly the Gobbag was probably a fisherman as the gobbag is the dog fish; Ned the Spy was Edward Gale who had a fishing

## MICHIGAN NURSE OF THE YEAR

Mrs. Eleanor Ann (Dolly) Weston, L.P.N., was voted "1969 Michigan Nurse of the Year," in the Upper Peninsula, by the Marquette-Alger District of the Michigan Practical Nurses Association.

Mrs. Weston graduated from the Northern Michigan University Practical Nurses Center in 1953 and passed her State Board Examinations in 1954. Prior to this she worked for many years as a Nurse Aide in St. Luke's Hospital, mainly in the Pediatric, Orthopedic and Physical Therapy Departments. Upon graduation from nurses training, she was employed at St. Mary's Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital and was also engaged in private duty nursing in private homes.

Mrs. Weston is active in the Michigan Practical Nurses Association and was recently elected to a three-year term as a Director of the Upper Peninsula Area. She is a member of St. Barnabas Guild for Nurses and a charter member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary. She attends the First Presbyterian Church and is active in the Rebecca Circle.

Mrs. Weston was born in Laxey, Isle of Man, and came to the United States with her parents during the First World War. Her father Herbert Kelly lived in Laxey Glen and worked in the Laxey lead mines in the winter and on the Isle of Man Steampacket ships in the summer. Her mother was Frances Skillicorn. They both now are deceased. Her brothers are Alfie, Stanley, Leslie and Fred; and sisters, Mrs. Edith Garrett and Mrs. Freida LeChevalier. A brother John died on June 6th., 1969.

With her husband, William Lee (Bill), Mrs. Weston resides in Marquette and is now semi-retired and enjoys reading, knitting and sewing for her 10 grandchildren. A son Myron Allen and his family live in Marquette also, and another son, William Lee Jr., resides with his family in Lansing. A daughter, Mrs. LeRoy (Julee Ann) Process is a graduate of St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing.

Mrs. Weston is planning to attend this year's Convention in the Isle of Man and has booked her seat on the charter flight.

## TYNWALD CEREMONY

*cont'd from page 3*

- b) The First Deemster will then say — "Coroner of Glenfaba Sheading, fence the Court"
- c) The Coroner fences the Court by saying — "I fence this Court of Tynwald in the name of our most gracious Sovereign Lady, the Queen. I charge that no person do quarrel, brawl, or make any disturbance and that all persons do answer their names when called. I charge this audience to witness this Court is fenced." The last sentence is repeated three times in all.
- d) The first Deemster will then say — "Outgoing Coroners surrender your Staves of Office to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor".
- e) The Coroners ascend the Hill in the following order — Glenfaba, Michael, Ayre, Garff, Middle, Rushen — hand in their Staves of Office and return to their places at the foot of the Hill.
- f) The First Deemster will then say — "In-coming Coroners take the Oath in ancient form to execute your Office for the ensuing year, and receive your Staves of Office from His Excellency the Lieut. Governor".
- g) The Coroners-elect proceed up the Hill together and kneel on cushions on the top platform near to where the Governor is seated and take the following Oath administered by the First Deemster:  
"By that Book, and by the Holy contents thereof, any by the wonderful works that God hath miraculously wrought in Heaven above and the earth beneath, in six days and seven nights, you shall without respect of favour or friendship, love or gain, consanguinity or affinity, envy or malice, well and truly execute the Office of Coroner for the respective Sheadings of Glenfaba, Michael, Ayre, Garff, Middle and Rushen, for the ensuing year. So help you, God".
- h) The Coroners will receive their Staves of Office and return to the foot of the hill.
- i) His Excellency will then say — "Learned Deemster and Lhaider (Manx reader) I exhort you to proclaim to the People in ancient form, such laws as have been enacted during the past year, and which have received Her Most Gracious Majesty's assent".
- j) The titles of all Acts, as mentioned above, are now read alternately in English and Manx by the First Deemster and Lhaider respectively. Example: First Deemster — "Jury Act which consolidates and revises the Law relating to Juries"  
Lhaider — "Slattys Bing, ta unaneysey as aa-chummey yn leigh bentyn da Bingyh"  
(Note: — Prior to 1866 the whole Act was read.)
- k) The troops in attendance are now called to attention and the First Deemster calls out — "Freemen of Mann, in your ancient Tynwald assembled, I call upon you, as an expression of your loyalty, to give Three Cheers for Her Majesty the Queen."
- l) The First Deemster will then ask — "Has your Excellency any further commands?"
- m) In the event of there being no further commands, His Excellency will say — "The Tynwald will adjourn to the Church, and complete such business as remains to be transacted."
- n) The procession will now re-form at the bottom of the Hill in exactly the same order as it did on leaving the Church and with the same procedure of halting on the way to the Church to allow the Governor to enter the Church first.

This concludes the ceremony.

*(Note: — The word "Court" in the above means the Tynwald Court, which is the members of the Legislative Council and the members of the House of Keys sitting together, and acting as one body).*

## OBITUARIES

LIGERTWOOD, William died in Vancouver while visiting his son, Bill, at 5744 Cranley Drive, West Vancouver. Mr. Ligertwood, who was 74, arrived from the Isle of Man with his wife, Eileen, on Dec. 18 to spend Christmas and New Year with their five grandchildren who had been born since their son emigrated to Canada 15 years ago.

Mr. Ligertwood was a commissioner in the Isle of Man parliament and a former mayor of Port St. Mary.

CORLETT, Maud (née Smith) of Shaker Heights, Ohio, passed away December 22nd., 1969, at the age of 89. She was the beloved wife of the late Thomas E. Corlett, mother of Gertrude Sievertson, Ruby, Harold and Wilbur Corlett, grandmother of 5, great-grandmother of 8 and sister of Verna Corlett, Ethel Knapp and Ray Smith. Through the years she was very active in the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Mona's Relief Society.

BELL, Mrs. Elizabeth K. of 3231 W 116 St., Cleveland, passed away on September 6th., 1969. She was a member of the N.A.M.A. and is survived by a nephew E. H. Hagerty.

LOWE, George of Emington, Illinois, died on February 5th., 1970, aged 70. Born in Lezayre, Isle of Man, he was the husband of Esther Lowe. He is survived by brothers William and Fred of Illinois, John in Florida, and Edward and Leonard in the Isle of Man. A sister and two brothers died previously.

KELLY, George Edward, passed away suddenly on January 18th., 1970, in Chicago. He was born in Peel, Isle of Man, and emigrated to Chicago in 1921. He was the husband of the late Bernice Kelly. He is survived by a sister, Doris Kelly Johnson, of Peel, Isle of Man, and a brother R. Cecil Kelly of Chicago. He was the brother-in-law of Emily Kelly and Uncle to Robert Kelly, President of the Chicago Manx Society.

At the close of the funeral service, as a tribute Robert Kelly recited three verses of the Manx Fisherman's Evening Hymn. The words from the last verse are very appropriate.

*"Sow in our hearts the seeds of  
Thy dear love,  
That we may reap Contentment,  
Joy, and Peace;  
And when at last, our earthly  
labours cease,  
Grant us to join Thy Harvest  
Home above".*

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

## CONVENTION ACCOMMODATION

*from page 1*

The Majestic Hotel — Tariff  
55/-d each person, per day — Full Board — Inner Rooms

60/-d each per person, per day, inclusive of Full Board: or

65/-d each per person, per day, inclusive of Full Board with Private Bath.

There is a supplement of 5/- per day for Single Rooms.

Children under 12 years sharing accommodation with parents half price.

*These rates are increased by 5/- per day for the months of July and August.*

A nominal charge is made for Afternoon Tea, if required. The terms are subject to a 10% service charge.