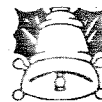


BULLETIN *of the* North American Manx Association



Ollick Ghennal As Blien Vie Noa



VOL. 54 NO. 2

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

Dec. 1981



WHAT WE MAKE IT

Christmas is too commercialized? Humbug!

Christmas is what we as individuals make it. It might as easily be said to be too romanticized or too selfish a season.

If we think of the birth the season signifies and turn off our understanding at that age of Jesus' childhood we lose the heart of Christianity and fall prey to the theory of it being too romanticized a season.

It is true that Christmas is too commercialized if we decide it is necessary to spend more than we have, to display the love or affection which we scrimped on during the year.

There is a pattern, perhaps rationalized by the gifts of the Wise Men, of giving gifts at Christmas. We doubt the wise men's gifts impoverished them or put them into debt for months ahead. Their gifts were symbols.

It is not required that gifts at Christmas should deprive us of necessities. The simplest gift will be as appreciatively received if given and received in respect and understanding. And the simplest gift may be nothing more tangible than a visit, a letter or a personal greeting.

It might be said Christmas is a selfish season. People don't share as openly with others less fortunate. It can be argued. It is true that the method of "sharing" has changed, however. Helping the "poor" at Christmas has now been altered to provide help on

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The President and Executive officers of the North American Manx Association would like to wish all members and friends of N.A.M.A. and to Manx people throughout the world - "A joyous Christmas filled with warmth and love and a Happy and Healthy New Year."

*"May the ancient miracle of Christmas
make us one with all mankind
and bring the abiding love and peace
for which the whole world longs."*

year-round basis through a society that has built in such assistance.

Groups that have tried to find areas of need have often been frustrated when they find help from others has already filled freezers and stockings. The thought of caring cannot go unnoticed though.

Christmas will be as we make it - personally. It is a season with ingredients for the sharing of goodwill and good fellowship but we become the container within which the mix is made - successfully or otherwise.

The cheery greeting starts with us - the forgotten slight starts with us - the appreciation spoken for the efforts of others starts with us.

The Christmas spirit is within us year-round but as this season of the year some magic loosens it and we are inclined to allow that spirit free reign. It sometimes surprises us.

Too commercialized? Too romanticized? Too selfish? . . . humbug. Christmas is what we - personally - will make it in spirit and in deed.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every person is called upon sometime in his or her life to use all forms of written communication. With this in view, I am writing this after our Executive Committee met in Rocky River, Ohio to finalize the plans for our next Convention to be held in San Diego, California, during August 6th - 9th, 1982.

Our First Vice-President and Convention Chairman, Mona Haldeman outlined an interesting program. It can be noted that this is a first for the City of San Diego, therefore let us make this important event a firm New Year's Resolution to all meet there in 1982.

At this time of year one cannot write without rescuing from the Old Manx Folk some of the ancient stories of their childhood, and as the dawn of the New Year (1982) appears, it can be noted that to Old Manx Folk an important factor on New Year's Day was the first person one met, or to enter the home called the "Qualtagh" a dark haired man being considered lucky (Remember the Old Manx Folk are excellent story tellers).

We know that History, the Chronicle of things past, records the birth of Jesus Christ, and on December 25th, many of us will honor his birth, others will respect it. It is a time of holiday, good cheer, re-dedication, and for a brief period each year, the collective conscience of the World says -- "There is Hope".

In conclusion my wife Irene joins me in extending warm and kind greetings to all Manx people throughout the world, and Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

George Curphey,
President

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\$2.00

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CALIFORNIA HERE WE COME!

California, here we come!! Make this your slogan for 1982, and plan now to attend the North American Manx Association Convention in San Diego, from August 6 to August 9, 1982.

As I was preparing to write this article, our local Sunday paper came out with a full page spread on San Diego. They consider it perfect for vacations, with miles of uncrowded beaches, and the most nearly perfect climate in the United States. The zoo is one of the finest in the world. The animals are housed as nearly as possible in natural surroundings, separated by moats from the visitors. The Wild Animal Park, about 40 minutes from downtown, contains lions, rhinos, eland, water buffalo, zebra, and many others. You almost feel like you're in the middle of Africa.

There are many more attractions in the San Diego area that I have neither the time nor the space to mention, but enough to keep a tourist busy for days. Next, I'd like to take you north toward Los Angeles. On the way, you'll pass La Jolla and the Scripps Aquarium, an important center of marine research, featuring ocean marine life. If you take the coastal route, you'll pass many ocean communities, each with fantastic beaches and quaint shopping centers. Many of the coastal towns are art centers, and pottery in particular abounds.

One place that should not be missed is the mission at San Juan Capistrano, made famous by the legend of the swallows. While only one of the twenty-one missions that make up the Mission Trail, it is one of the best preserved as well as one of the most extensive. The original adobe church is used daily, while the ruins of the great church, destroyed by earthquake in 1812, remain. The altar in the adobe church is magnificent, imported from Spain. It is all done in gold and red. Some of you may wish to follow the mission trail all the way up the coast.

Los Angeles, about 100 miles north of San Diego, has so many attractions that it would take several bulletins to list them all. One of the most famous is Disneyland, located in Anaheim. It is an experience for any age. Most of the "rides" are not thrill rides, but of the type that almost anyone can enjoy. Plan to spend a full day at least. Near by is Knott's Berry Farm, another amusement park, but of quite a different sort. Here you can experience the feel of the old west, visit a Mexican village, and see a replica of Independence Hall. On the way into Los Angeles, you'll pass Long

Beach where the Queen Mary is permanently moored. Stop and see how people once travelled to Europe.

Of course, Los Angeles wouldn't be complete without Hollywood. A tour of Universal Studios is not only interesting and informative, but a lot of fun. Be sure to get there early and be prepared for a long wait. The tour isn't very long, the wait usually is, but well worth the day spent. Of course, there are tours of the stars' homes, and Mann's Chinese theater with all the footprints in cement.

Further north, there are two outstanding attractions. One is located in San Marino. It is the Huntington Library, which houses on of the world's great collections of rare books and manuscripts. The botanical gardens accompanying the library contain unusual trees and shrubs. The other attraction is the J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu. It is an exact copy of a Roman villa of the Pompeii era. It houses sculptures of the Roman and Greek period, as well as mosaics that are absolutely beautiful. If you don't care for sculpture, the building alone is well worth the trip. Both of these attractions are free, but you must make reservations at the Getty Museum well in advance in order to have a parking place.

Less than 100 miles east of San Diego lies the fashionable resort of Palm Springs. Here you will find spectacular rock formations as well as Washington palms that are 500 to 2000 years old, in the Andreas Canyon and in Palm Canyon. For most people, though, the attraction of Palm Springs is seeing the place where the stars vacation and shop. The main street is lined with many fine stores, and you might just meet one of the many famous people who frequent the area.

South about 20 miles is Mexico, or more specifically, Baja California. Tijuana lies about a mile across the border, and many tourists like to go there to shop or for the bullfights, held every Sunday during the summer months. Bargains are to be found, although not as many as a few years ago. Buses run frequently from downtown San Diego directly to Tijuana. Do not drive across the border unless you plan on going further into Mexico. Also, don't eat or drink unless you have been advised of a safe place. Make certain you have suitable identification, particularly Canadians and naturalized U.S. citizens.

In the next bulletin, I will go further north and east. Remember, I'm only giving you a taste of what to see and do in one of the most fabulous parts of our continent. When you decide where you wish to go, read up on the local

attractions, the hours, the rates, etc., so you will know what to expect when you get there. Guide books can be purchased in any book store, and most motorists' clubs provide them for members. You may find something in the guide books that interests you far more than what I have mentioned. Most importantly, plan to attend the Convention.

Mona Haldeman
Convention Chairman



OLD SHIPS FEATURED ON SAN DIEGO WATERFRONT

SAN DIEGO, Calif. - Three "grande dames" of the sea display themselves daily on San Diego's waterfront. But no one raises an eyebrow because the ageless trio are ships (not women) owned by the Maritime Museum of San Diego.

Most familiar of the three to San Diego visitors is the Star of India, a century-old windjammer and the oldest merchant vessel afloat, which has been at the Embarcadero since 1926.

The other two boats - the ferryboat Berkeley, built in 1898, and the luxury yacht Media, of pre-WWI vintage - were opened to the public in April of 1974. All three are examples of an age of elegant craftsmanship in shipbuilding, now past, but not forgotten.

Since being built on the Isle of Man in 1863, the Star of India has made 21 trips around the world and performed a variety of duties.

Originally, the Star of India was the British full-rigged ship "Euterpe," and the ship's handsome figurehead still depicts the goddess. For her first few years she was in the East India trade; then she carried emigrants from England to Australia and New Zealand. In this service, she circled the globe on every voyage.

Around the turn-of-the-century she was briefly under the Hawaiian flag. In 1901, she was bought by the Alaska Packers Association of San Francisco and used in the Alaska salmon trade. The Packers renamed her "Star of India" to conform with their fleet names.

Since the time of her launching she has had her share of adventure: she lay stranded on a reef in the tropics, and, at the other extreme, she was frozen solidly into the ice of the Bering Sea.

In 1926 the Star became the property of the Aquarium Committee of the Zoological Society of San Diego, who converted her into a marine museum. The "Great Depression" halted plans for restoration, until in 1959 another group - the Maritime Museum Association of San Diego - accepted responsibility for her future.

Much of the work in her restoration was done by volunteers, including many Navy seamen who donated off-duty hours to the work of cleaning, chipping paint, stepping up the mast, and thousands of other tasks to complete the project.

Despite the ravages of time and neglect (and a 100-year history which included storms, collision, fire, mutiny and sudden death), the Star of India has been beautifully restored to her original splendor and now serves as a background for museum displays of the old sailing days.

All three ships of the Maritime Museum "fleet" are open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Admission is \$2 for adults and 50 cents for children under 12.

KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

by Mrs. Robert S. Cowin
1223 W. Melrose Drive
Westlake, Ohio 44145

I have had several inquiries from our readers to learn more about the curious old Manx custom of "Hunt the Wren" celebrated on St. Stephen's Day, or Boxing Day (December 26th). In checking my files, I found this summary which I hope will be helpful.

"Hunt the Wren" is an old custom.

In Manx the wren is called Dreenan, or the Druid Bird, because it was supposed to be a magic creature like the Phoenix, who had to die and come to life again every year. The Phoenix used to set fire to its own nest and perish in the flames; the Wren had to be hunted or stoned to death and buried in the churchyard by torchlight with a proper funeral procession, and long ago it was believed that the bird's spirit would immediately pass into the body of another younger wren and fly away from the grave to be free and safe for the coming year - for nobody would harm a wren except on St. Stephen's day when it was ceremonially hunted.

People haven't believed these old legends for a very long time, and now the wren is never actually killed or hunted, which is a good thing; but the custom of boys going around carrying a decorated pole or "brush" like the cage in which the dead wren was once placed for its funeral procession, and singing the Hunt the Wren song, collecting coppers, and sometimes doing the Hunt the Wren dance, has been kept up until quite recently. The dance is great fun, for it can be, and formerly always was, a kind of game, in which an extra girl has to try and grab a new partner at each round, the last one left out having to dance with the "bush" held by one boy in the center of the ring.

The Wren Bush is made by crossing two hoops at right angles to each other, fastening them in that position, and then lashing them to the top of a

pole, to form a sort of cage. Where the hoops cross at the top a hook is fastened, and from this is hung a small bunch of feathers - usually turkey feathers today. The whole thing is then decorated with trails of ivy, colored paper streamers and bits of holly and mistletoe and sometimes the pole and hoops are painted red or blue, or a mixture of these colors.

Another reader was interested in learning about the famous Manx Kipper (when it was first produced, by whom, etc.) and I think the following article is quite complete.

"The split smoked herring - the kipper - became popular more than 100 years ago. The quality of the Peel herring was ideal for this process, and thus the town became the base for the creation of the famous Manx kipper, renowned for its succulent flavor.

The first recorded smoke house was built in the Isle of Man in 1769, and new methods of producing the original "red herring" were introduced in 1771 by a Mr. Woodhouse from Liverpool. By 1798, there were 14 curing houses in business and some of these went over to kipper production in the 1860's.

Herring fishing was a vital component of the Manx economy from the Middle Ages. In the 13th century, both the Lord of Man and the Church had title to shares of the catch. Exports began in the 16th century, and at one period vast quantities of salted and smoked herring were being sent to feed the plantation slaves of America and the West Indies. By the early 19th century, the Manx kipper was making its mark, and it was been to the forefront ever since.

No kipper can, by law, be described as "Manx" if dye is used. The traditional methods are therefore still used. The herrings are split and placed in brine for a short period, and then placed on frames of tenterhooks and put in the kiln for smoking. The kilns hold up to 30,000 pairs. The secret of achieving the best kippers is in the period of smoking and the handling in the kiln. Hardwood chippings are used for the smoking."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please don't forget to notify the Secretary-Treasurer and the Bulletin Editor when you change your address.

News and Christmas Greetings from the Manx Societies

CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

As this is being written, an unusually early (October!) snowfall reminds one of the winter to come. It has a happy note too for it means Christmas holidays are ahead when families and friends gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The true meaning of Christmas is more than exchanging gifts and greetings; hanging holly and mistletoe; decorating the tree; or preparing sumptuous meals. It is time to pause and remember the reason for Jesus' coming to this world. May each of us - in our own way -- endeavour to show the love and concern for others which he demonstrated. May we try to follow the way he so clearly showed us. Christmas then will have meaning all year round.

Officers and members of our Cleveland Manx Society truly wish for each of you a wonderful Christmas, and much good in the year ahead.

Marge Kennish Krach
319 Ridgeview Drive
Seven Hills, OH 44131

CHICAGO MANX SOCIETY

The Chicago Manx Society had a lovely Sunday dinner on November 1st, 1981 at the Lilac Lodge in Hillside, Illinois, there were 26 people in attendance. Florence Abbinanti and her son, Brad showed pictures of their trip to Ireland before they continued on to the Isle of Man. Bob Kelly then showed his beautiful slides of the I.O.M. taken during the Millennium 1,000 year celebration.

After the program everyone "chit-chatted" for the remainder of the afternoon. Old news and new news were exchanged and a most enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

I would like to express on behalf of the Chicago Manx Society and myself best wishes to all our Manx relatives and friends, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Florence Abbinanti, Sec.,
9330 S. Richmond Ave.,
Evergreen Park, Ill. 60642.

TORONTO MANX SOCIETY

The Toronto Manx Society sends greetings to all of our friends in the N.A.M.A. Our Society has a good membership, but unfortunately, as many of our members live quite a distance from Toronto, our meetings are not well attended, with the exception of the Christmas Party, which is always a happy and lively gathering.

I was on the Isle of Man this year from February to August and attended the World Manx Association gathering at the Majestic Hotel.

I would like to thank the President of the World Manx Assoc., Miss Doris Clague for her hard work in organizing our very happy meetings and outings on the I.O.M., also for her charming and delightful manner which makes us home-comers so welcome. Thank you Doris.

Merry Christmas to you and may the New Year bring you much joy and happiness.

Phyllis Linsley,
President.

WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

The annual T. E. Brown Evening held on October 21st was the occasion of a double celebration this year when the National Poet was honoured and the 70th year of the founding of The Association was marked also.

The guests of Honour were The Lt. Governor Sir Nigel Cecil, K.B.E., C.B. and Lady Cecil, patrons of the World Manx Association.

Some 112 members attended and a sherry reception by W.M.A. greeted all present.

An excellent dinner was served, after which an outstanding Immortal Memory of Brown was presented by Miss J. Thorton-Duesbery, a former member of The House of Keys and an eloquent speaker.

During the evening Mrs. Janice Percival, Cleveland Medalist 1981 rendered several beautiful Manx songs and her accompanist for these was Mrs. Christine Osborne L.T.

A memorable occasion was brought to a close by the singing of the Company in hearty manner of Ellan Vannin and The Queen.

Warmest Christmas wishes to Manx people throughout the World, from the W.M.A.

*"May peace be at your bedside,
When you kneel down to pray
In thankfulness for having seen
Another Christmas Day"*

MARITIME MANX SOCIETY

Here is our Christmas Greeting:
"May the quiet beauty of this lovely season . . . bring you deep joy and warm memories to cherish throughout the coming year."

George & Irene Curphey and
all the Officers and Members
of the Maritime Manx Society

ROCHESTER

Christmas is the time of the year when we all pause a little longer to think of our friends and how much they mean to us.

May you and yours enjoy the blessing of a most happy Christmas-tide season, and may your New Year be a Healthy one.

Alice Garrett
Hon. President
Ladies' Auxiliary, N.A.M.A.

TO ALL MANX LADIES

IN 1982 our Ladies' Auxiliary will celebrate its fiftieth year. Our present membership has declined from a maximum of 100 in 1960 to less than 50, and that is a sad way to begin our Golden Jubilee year. I'm appealing to all the ladies who have not yet joined to make a special effort to do so in order that we can show our largest membership ever as we enter the year of this historical milestone. Dues will remain at \$2.00 until the Convention next year when they will be increased to \$3.00. They may be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer of the L.A. Mrs. Amo Fisher, R.R. #3, Tottenham, Ontario L0G 1W0.

TO ALL N.A.M.A. MEMBERS
Best wishes now to one and all
For Peace and Love and Cheer,
And may these joys of Christmastide
Continue through the year.

Amo Fisher, Secretary-Treasurer
R.R. #3, Tottenham, Ontario
Canada L0G 1W0

PEORIA MANX SOCIETY

Sixteen members and guests attended our 48th Annual meeting on July 26th/81, this was in the form of a picnic and was held at Glen Oak Park, Peoria. Everyone had a great time sharing a bountiful meal, renewing old friendships and talking about the Isle of Man.

A potluck dinner is planned for the early part of November when it is hoped there will be a good turn-out.

Christmas will soon be here and we extend sincere good wishes for the holidays and for happiness all through the coming year.

Jean Callister Martzluf, Sec.,
133 W. Van Buren Street,
Brimfield, Illinois. 61517.

BISBEE MANX SOCIETY

There is not much to report for the Bisbee Manx Society. Meetings have been called off several times due to members being out of town or ill.

Our October meeting was held at Mable Bolitho's home and only four members attended. Hopefully more will turn out this month when the meeting will be held at the home of Ida Corrin.

The John Hughes had been travelling all summer. They ended up at Cleveland where they visited their son and family and Kathryn's mother. They are planning to come down for this month's meeting.

I was away when news was needed for the last bulletin so no report was sent in. I will have the Christmas party at my home and am hoping things will get back on an even keel again as there is always a nice turn out then.

We send holiday greetings to everyone and wish the best for the New Year to all.

Ivy Dillon, Sec.,
207 Hazzard Street,
Bisbee, Ariz. 85603.

LORD'S PRAYER IN MANX GAELIC

N.A.M.A. members recently received a copy of the Lord's prayer in Manx Gaelic together with their dues card. extra cards may be obtained at a cost of 25c each or \$2.50 a dozen. Each Manx Society is asked to contact the Treasurer - Mr. Clarence Creer, 14228 Union, Orland Park, Illinois 60462, U.S.A. and order in quantity. The cards are approximately 5 1/2 x 3 1/4 and would be a nice addition to our members' Manx Memorabilia.

ISLE OF MAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

To all members of The North American Manx Assoc: their Families and their Friends: The Membership of the Isle of Man Family History Society send Greetings and Good Wishes. A Very Happy and Joyful Christmas with Good Health, Happiness and Success in 1982 to You All.

NOLLUCK CHENNAL ERRIU AS BLEIN FEER VIE.

(A Merry Christmas on Ye and
a Very Good Year)

Mrs. E. Lyle.

GIFTS OF THE MAGI WERE HIGHLY PRIZED

Gold has always been a commodity of known value. Many of us have wondered, however, about the two other gifts brought by the Magi to the Christ Child. They were also highly prized at that time.

Frankincense and myrrh both come from small trees. When the tree bark is cut, an aromatic gum exudes from the incision, hardens when exposed to air. The Greek historians once wrote that the Arabian trees which produced frankincense were guarded by winged serpents. They were guarded, because South Arabians protected their trees and kept the wealth they provided in the hands of the privileged few.

Frankincense was used to honor pagan gods long before the Birth at Bethlehem. Myrrh supposedly had curative powers, was used to anoint the dead.

It is interesting to note that myrrh was one of the gifts the Magi brought to the child at Bethlehem, and was also present at the tomb. According to John 19:39, Nicodemus wrapped the body of Jesus in a mixture of myrrh and aloes.

SAINT OLAVE'S CHURCH RAMSEY, ISLE OF MAN 1881 - 1981

St. Olave's Church, Ramsey, I.O.M., is celebrating its Centenary this year. The Parochial Church Council has published a short history of the Church and Parish, this could be of great interest to members of the N.A.M.A., particularly to those who may have connections with Ramsey.

The cost of this booklet is £1.75p (one pound, seventy five pence) per copy, members travelling to the Island could obtain a copy from St. Olave's Vicarage or from W. H. Lomas, 14 Fairway Drive, Ramsey, Isle of Man.

St. Olave's Church was Consecrated on April 20th, 1881.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Each year, as this time comes around, we need to pause and ask, What does Christmas really mean? Someone has said that Christmas is the theology of civilization yet to be. Perhaps that is not very meaningful to some people; but if it be so, then it may help to explain why we turn to the ancient prophets, like Isaiah, for a proper perspective: we must be able to envision One Who enters into our human condition -- our foibles, our follies, and our failures -- and transmutes it be His power into a new state, which is called the Kingdom of God, not yet realized on earth.

Christmas is, then, a prophetic day, looking not so much to what was, long ages ago, nor even to what is, in our present age, but to what is yet to be. Christmas is love, and love is expressed in many ways among us, from that of a young child for its mother, to a boy carrying a crippled child saying, "He's not heavy, he's my brother", to the radiance on the face of a madonna; these and other loves reflecting, more or less, that supreme, sacrificial love of God for His people through His Son. True, our love is often badly expressed; we sometimes give foolishly; we overlay our affection with clumsiness. But we must needs look beyond the poor imitation to remember what it is we are trying to express.

Christmas is music; we could not imagine Christmas without music.

Some of it is off-key, some even raucous and strident. But at its highest and finest it is a song out of the heart of the world, a song of hope given us by One Who called for men of good will to keep step with its music and live by a law which they did not make or form, the law of love; and to come to know the peace which the world can neither give nor take away, which is in Jesus Christ, our Lord. May His peace be with you, not only at Christmas, but always.

Herbert G. Kelly.

LADIES AUXILIARY N.A.M.A.

In the time honored message a Merry Christmas to all members of the Ladies Auxiliary, and to all members of the N.A.M.A. and may the New Year be both Bright and Happy. To all Manx men and women wherever they may be, may they be blessed with Health, Happiness and Prosperity for the year 1982.

Mrs. Irene Curphey,
President

Mrs. Amo Fisher,
Secretary

LETTER FROM ELLESMERE PORT

Greetings. Most of what is written hereafter was composed in our ancestral home - The Isle of Man. Once again, on an extended summer holiday, we were fortunate to enjoy a few weeks of glorious weather.

The old Island means all things to all people. For me, it is epitomised in a snatch of poetry:- "What mysterious power draws us back to where the morning of our life was spent." Reflecting in this vein, I started writing:-

IS THERE NO BALM IN GILEAD [Jer. 8/22]

I can never forget the majestic voice of the late Paul Robeson singing:- "There is a balm in Gilead that soothes the sin-sick soul... There is a balm in Gilead that makes the spirit whole."

A nice analogy I hope, when I tell you that I am seeking solace, as it were, sitting on a bench in the Mooragh Park, Ramsey, Isle of Man on a perfect August day, in the year of our Lord 1981...

Before and around me there is a scene of arresting beauty. It is early morn. The sun has thrown a noose of light over the summit of Mount Barrule - the guardian of the North. The sky is Blue and Silver. Birds are singing and everywhere there are flowers in glorious colour. The 'long light' shakes across the Lake and every tree is a sun-kissed statue - each immobile in an infinite variety of verdant shades.

Almost, it would seem as though the Mighty Hand was resting on the Island at this moment and that the Divine will has exquisitely adjusted the Eternal pulse so that here, in this loveliest of places, time seems to go so much more slowly.

This, is beyond conjecture, so I will just close my eyes and let my senses enjoy the dreaming mystery of the azure day. Surely my question is answered. Verily, in the Isle of Man, there is a Balm in Gilead...

BLACKBERRIES AND BELLOWES

As far back as I can remember, I have been addicted to picking Blackberries. Indeed, if there was an organization such as "Blackberry Pickers Annon." I would be its first vice-President.

Each year therefore at the end of August, when we holiday in Ramsey, I sally forth to the Sandygate Road and other secret places - pursuing and plucking the succulent wild Berry.

Fortunately, my wife shares this idiosyncrasy and when we motor forth, my strategy is sly but simple. I introduce her to the best patch of ripest berries and instantly, she is transformed from a gentle lady into a passionate plucker.

A furtive sort of proprietorial gleam appears in her lovely eyes and as I silently glide away, I imagine her inner voice screaming - "There mine, MINE, MINE." Her fingers start picking in a frenzy of purple activity.

Usually, I sit down near by and reflect on my good fortune. With a bit of luck, she will not utter one word for an hour.

As all Diamonds have flaws however, all Blackberries have pips, and I have to tell you I was born with a highly developed sense of self-preservation. With a sudden fright, I can move sideways, upwards or downwards even, with the speed of light. This extraordinary phenomenon is called various things by many authorities, such as "Nervous Dynamism" or "Neurological Twitch" etc., - although I am bound to say that the most common name is "Cowardice". This is manifested in extreme aversion to any form of Bovine Monsters - Bulls, Cows, Heifers and yes - little Calves.

If, therefore, in the midst of a fervid bout of Blackberry picking, I should happen to hear a Bovine bellow, I stiffen with fright. Two bellows and a snort, and I am back in the Car - engine revving and ready to hurtle away - with or without wife.

Again, fortunately, my dear wife shares this aversion and her shell-like ear has never failed yet. To put it in another way, I have never left her on the Horns of Dilemma.

Incidentally, we made 10 lbs. of delectable Blackberry Jam (Bottled Manx Sunshine).

FRAGMENTS OF MANX NEWS, ETC.

Weather. The following headline appeared in Liverpool Daily Echo on the 26th April, last: "FAMILY'S EIGHT HOUR ORDEAL IN SNOW TRAP". Britain was still in the grip of an Arctic blast today with ports in Northern England experiencing the worst late April weather for 100 years. In the Isle of Man a family of five, including children aged three and one were safe in their homes after an eight hour ordeal in the Island's storm swept hills trapped by huge snowdrifts.

The family's car was caught in a sudden snowstorm at the Bungalow on the Snaefell mountain road 1,400 feet up at the highest point on the T.T. Course. Snow ploughs could not get through and a helicopter was forced back by the storm.

Just before midnight a 30 ton Bulldozer from the new Reservoir site at Sulby forced a way through and all were brought down the mountain in the driver's cab and then to Ramsey Hospital."

Weather. The following column appeared in the Daily Express today 3rd October: "Five inches of snow fell in the North of Scotland and the Highlands, and with more than 4 inches of rain in 24 hours the Isle of Man had its worst flooding chaos for years. Roads were blocked, houses and country pubs cut off and there was heavy snow on Mountain Roads."

NB. A far cry from the lovely summer days of just a few short weeks ago.

The following are a few short excerpts from National Papers recently:

1. "Manx Birching Election Issue"

Quote: "The majority of Islanders are in favour of the Birch and any candidate who opposed it will have a very difficult time getting elected."

2. "Isle of Man wins 12 mile Fishing Limit"

Quote: "The Isle of Man is to extend its territorial waters from the present three mile limit to twelve miles."

3. "Isle of Man in new move on Elm disease."

Quote: "The Isle of Man is thought to be the only place in Europe free from Dutch Elm Disease and the Manx Government hopes to keep it that way."

NB. Time and space preclude any further Manx snippets which I hope to record from time to time. Regards.

Arthur Bridson,
ELLESMERE PORT, Cheshire.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

If not, please do so at once as dues were due September 1. Show your support for the N.A.M.A. by sending a check today.

C. E. Creer, Treas.
14228 Union,
Orland Park,
Illinois 60462.

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT August 1, 1980 — July 31, 1981

On Hand 8/1/80		\$12,137.49
Receipts		
Dues	\$3,762.04	
Memorials	187.00	
Membership Certificates	13.00	
Interest	1,079.84	
Convention	2,863.92	
Gifts	10.00	
Miscellaneous	96.50	
Total Receipts		8,012.30
Disbursements		
Editor's Expenses	406.39	
Treasurer's Expenses	229.03	
Printing - Bulletin	1,157.62	
Project - Lord's Prayer & Postage	100.00	
Allowances	600.00	
Convention	476.11	
Exchange on Dues	34.63	
Miscellaneous	76.19	
Total Disbursements		3,079.97
Balance on Hand 7/31/81		\$17,069.82
Account Balances at 7/31/81		
Orland State Bank - Checking Account		\$ 2,306.22
Orland State Bank - Savings Account & 6 Mo. Certificate		\$13,344.17
Royal Bank of Canada		1,419.43
Total		\$17,069.82

each one an application and a little pep talk.

Also, I would like to have the names and addresses of your children. We have some younger members, and we would like to have some more. If you would like to make their membership a gift, please include your check for \$6 for each payable to NAMA, and I will transfer the name and address to an application and forward them to Mr. Creer.

William E. Brideson
6821 Duke Drive
Alexandria, Virginia, 22307, USA

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

Membership certificates, especially designed for the NAMA by our President George Curphey, are still available. Send name, address and \$1 to me for each certificate needed. In addition to the certificate, you will be provided with a form for recording your ancestry at the Clague Museum in Cleveland, Ohio.

Clarence E. Creer
14228 Union Avenue
Orland Park, IL. 60462

N.A.M.A. MEMBERSHIP

Type	7/73	8/74	6/76	8/77	8/78	8/79	8/80	8/81
Regular	487	412	436	415	469	526	544	527
Life & Honorary	39	43	47	60	74	80	88	94
Complimentary								11
Total	526	455	483	475	543	606	632	632
Associate	68	82	72	81	79	91	101	109
Societies	12	8	7	7	9	8	12	15
Junior	4	17	13	12	5	3	3	12
NEW MEMBERS								
Regular & Life	36	45	50	35	99	120	85	63
Associate							11	15

LAST CALL FOR 1981/82 DUES

A few members have not sent in their dues for the year which started 9/1/81 as yet. Won't you please do so at once or let me know if you wish to let your membership lapse. Thank you.

Clarence E. Creer
Financial Secretary-Treasurer
14228 Union Avenue
Orland Park, IL. 602462.

MANX WEDDINS'

KISSACK - MYLCHREEST - On Saturday, October 3rd, 1981, at Malew Parish Church, Isle of Man, by the Vicar, Rev. Canon J. M. Payne.

James Morrison to Esther, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. M. Mylchreest. Jimmie Kissack lived in Cleveland, Ohio, moving to California in the 50's. Jimmie originally came from Peel. Esther is a sister of Henry Mylchreest, Past President of N.A.M.A. from Cleveland, Ohio.

They are making their home in Ballasalla, Isle of Man.

DUES

Please send your dues directly to the Treasurer —
Mr. Clarence Creer
14228 Union,
Orland Park,
Illinois. 60462. USA.

CONVENTION NEWS

At the N.A.M.A. executive meeting held at the Sheraton Inn, Rocky River, Ohio, on Saturday, October 12th, 1981, Mrs. Mona Haldeman, Convention Chairman, stated she was saving Betty Crocker coupons. She appealed to members to save and send in their coupons to her, they will be used towards purchasing prizes for the Convention Draw.

Her address is as follows - Mrs. Mona Haldeman, 191 Glenview Drive, Avon Lake, Ohio 44012.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Members in attendance at the N.A.M.A. Executive Meeting, Rocky River, Ohio, on Saturday, October 12th, 1981, were as follows - President George Curphey, Mr. Norman Clucas, Mr. Clarence Creer, Mr. Wm. Brideson, Mr. Robert Camaish, Mrs. Edna Cowin, Mrs. Helen Clucas, Mrs. Mona Haldeman, Mrs. Irene Curphey.

Mrs. Hilda Penrice and Miss Elizabeth Clucas. Absent - Mr. Richard Corkill, Mr. T. R. Anderson, Rev. H.G. Kelly, Miss Margaret Joughin and Rev. James Caley.

Several items of business were discussed and reports were given by the Treasurer, Bulletin Editor, Membership Convenor and the representative of the Ladies Auxiliary to N.A.M.A.

A report was given by Mrs. Mona Haldeman, Convention Chairman, of the 33rd Convention to be held in San Diego, California, August 6 - 9, 1982, the various Committees have already been formed, more news about this in future Bulletins.

THIRD VICE FLASH

MEMBERSHIP did not increase or decrease last year, we held our own exactly at 632. If every member would send me the name and address of a Manx friend or relative or acquaintance or two or three, we might grow quite a bit. I will send

OBITUARIES

BELFORD. Mrs. Katherine E., of Urbana, Ohio, died October 23rd, 1981, at Mercy Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were held at Hollingshead Funeral Home. Interment was at Princeville Cemetery, the Rev. Charles R. Wheeler officiated.

The late Mrs. Belford was a former resident of Galva, she was born on the Isle of Man, daughter of Emily Clague and Thomas Mylroie. She came to the United States and resided in Illinois for a number of years after her marriage in 1926 to Earel E. Belford, whose death occurred in 1946. She is survived by one son Earel Belford, Urbana, Ohio; five grandchildren and two nephews. Mrs. Belford was a long time member of the N.A.M.A.

BREW. Edward B., age 71, of Galva, died November 5th, 1981 at the Kewanee Public Hospital, Kewanee. Mr. Brew was born on the Isle of Man and was the son of John and Matilda Rebecca (Taggart) Brew, he was one of nine children and he is survived by two sister - Mrs. Marjorie Royce and Mrs. Gretha Hartman, both of Galva. Mr. Brew worked in the Galva area for many years, retiring from Lilly Tulip in 1975.

CALEY. Mary G., passed away on October 30th, 1981. She is survived by her husband, John T. Caley, her daughters, Mrs. John (Mary) Ryan; Mrs. John (Judith) Weber; and Mrs. Linda Steiner; her sons, John T. Caley Jr., of Syracuse and Richard H. Caley Sr., of Fairport, her sisters, Maude May; Cora Schwing; Nellie Webb; Madge Hanbly also Kene Hardy and Pearl Hodaston both of Ontario, Canada; her brothers, Thomas and Robert Garrison both of Ontario, Canada. Fourteen grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; several nieces and nephews.

The late Mrs. Caley was well known in the Rochester Manx area, she was an honorary member of the Auxiliary of Brighton Fire Dept., #1 and a lifetime member of St. Mark's and St. John's Episcopal Church.

Interment was held at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

CALLISTER. Homer, Jr., died on September 20th, 1981 at the age of 66, the late Mr. Callister was the father of Mrs. Jean Callister Martzloff, Secretary of the Pearis Manx Society. His grandfather, John Callister was born on the Isle of Man and came to Brimfield in 1849 when he was 28 years old. In 1851 he married

Catharine Clague, also born on the I.O.M. The late Mr. Homer Callister's mother was Minne Bridson.

COWLEY. James E., age 64, of Galva, died at his home in Galva, the late Mr. Cowley was born March 6th, 1917 in Knox County, one of three children of Herbert and Margaret Clague Cowley, after his schooling he farmed for 17 years in the Galva area. He is survived by his wife Austa; one son James I. Cowley of Galva; two daughters, Marthanna Laughlin, Davenport, and Janene Cowley at home; three grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Bert (Helen) Garrison, Galva and Mrs. Dale (Mary) Fargher, Kewanee; and a cousin, Hasiam Brew of Toulon. He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter. Interment was in Evergreen Memorial Garden.

LINDAUER. Mrs. Mabel, age 83, died August 25th, 1981, at Memorial Hospital in Dodgeville, after an extended illness. Mrs. Lindauer was the former Mable Callin and was born in Laxey, Isle of Man, she came to the United States in 1914 and married George Lindauer in 1920.

They farmed in the Iowa Co. area until Mr. Lindauer's death in 1954, and Mabel moved to Mineral Point. She is survived by three sons; Milton of Boscobel, Melvin of Muscoda and Dean of Torrance, Calif; two daughters, Mrs. Erwin (Beth) Buckingham of Dodgeville and Mrs. Delmer (Madge) Grange of Mineral Point with whom she resided; a brother, William Quayle of Ishpeming, Mich. 14 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Lucille; a son Paul; and a brother Sandy. The Rev. Dow Edgerton officiated at the funeral service at the United Church of Christ, Mineral Point. Burial was at the Galvary Cemetery, Cobb, Wis. Mrs. Lindauer had been a long time member of the N.A.M.A.

PARKER. Frederic Thompson, 83, of Arlington, Virginia, died October 10, 1981. Col. Parker, a member of both the Washington Manx Society and the NAMA, was born at Rock Rapids, Iowa, November 3, 1897. He graduated from Grinnell College in 1920, and attended Harvard University Graduate School. He was also a graduate of the Industrial College of the Army. During World War I, Col. Parker was commissioned a second lieutenant of field

artillery, and served both on active duty and in reserve status until his retirement as a Colonel in 1957. Among his active duty assignments were commands of Civilian Conservation Camps in Mississippi and Tennessee during the 1930's and Post Engineer during WWII at a number of military installations including those at Nassau, Bahamas, and the former Territory of Hawaii.

He was a construction management engineer with the Military District of Washington, and served in a sensitive capacity with the National Security Agency until his retirement from the civil service in 1958.

Col. Parker was a member of the Military Order of the World Wars, Veterans of World War I and II, Sons of the American Revolution, Descendants of Colonial Clergy, the Harvard Business School Club, the Harvard Masonic Lodge, Soule and Alden Kindreds, and a number of professional and genealogical organizations. He was Deputy Governor of the Society of Mayflower Descendants, Washington, D.C., being a lineal descendant of Miles and Barbara Standish of the Mayflower, believed to be the first Manx family line to be established in the New World.

Col. Parker was buried at the Reverview Cemetery in Rock Rapids. He is survived by his wife, Lois; two sons, Frederic and James; and a grandson. A memorial fund has been established in his name with the Rock River, Iowa, Library.

POLICH, Joe, passed away in August, 1981, his wife was the former Lillian Quilfer. No further particulars are available at this time.

To relatives and friends of the above we offer our deep and sincere Sympathy.

THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

St. Francis of Assisi is remembered for many reasons. He was first to arrange a manger scene. He was a great friend to animals. He is also given credit for the following Christmas prayer.

"Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me show love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console.

To be understood as to understand. To be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."