

# BULLETIN *of the*

## North American Manx Association



VOL. 55 NO. 4

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

JUNE 1982

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At this time of year, we find it is most gratifying that Nature has really started to bring back all her splendour, what a joy to see living colour, especially to those who have experienced a most severe winter.

As I write this message it can be noted that we are fast approaching the first half of the year, and our Convention date is now only a few months away, therefore we shall soon be starting our pilgrimage to meet and gather at our Convention, where we have the opportunity to renew old acquaintances, meet relatives, and make new friends. To making any meeting, gathering or Convention a success, it can be stated that success is valueless unless friends participate in it, and everyone needs friends. Joy is empty unless it is shared with someone.

In order to get the most out of life we need to do our best work, participate in the best activity, and without enthusiasm we are only "getting by", however we can add very much to our happiness by the courage to be what we are, and to follow the course we have mapped out. Remember

"Whate'er is left of Ancient Heritage"  
Treasure and maintain through the age.

In closing let us look forward to tomorrow with calmness and anticipation so that the achievements of our great North American Manx Association in the future may be greater than those of our glorious past.

George Curphey,  
President

### ISLE OF MAN STAMPS MARK BIKE RACING.

On the Isle of Man, motorcycle racing is a popular spectator sport, drawing racers and spectators from all over the world early each June.

This year will be the 75th year of the event, and five stamps will be issued on June 1 showing racers and their cycles of 1907, 1927, 1932, 1961 and 1980.

This is the third series of motorcycle

racing stamps issued by the Isle of Man, the earliest sets appearing in 1973 and 1974.

On June 1, the Isle of Man also issues two stamps for European Telecommunications, showing historic events, the arrival of the Earl of Derby to the island in 1507, and the second stamp showing Bishop Thomas Wilson and the first book printed in the Manx language in 1707.

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### KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

For the first time since she has been writing this column, Mrs Edna Cowin will be unable to prepare copy for the June Bulletin, due to her husband's illness while in Florida she was not able to research her material. Edna's column is widely read and is of great interest to all our members, she does a tremendous amount of research and looking up facts and we will miss her column, but hopefully when Bert is restored to good health, Edna will resume in the next issue of the Bulletin.

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### DUES TIME

The enclosed pink membership slip is a notice to you that a new year is about to start and that dues are due again.

Please pay your dues promptly, forward your cheque or money order to the Treasurer - Mr. Clarence Creer, 14228 Union, Orland Park, Ill. 60462. USA.

Membership fees are \$6.00 for Regular members, this includes the N.A.M.A. Bulletin four times a year and \$2.00 for Associates.

If you are a Life member or have paid in advance, please pass the membership slip to a friend or relative.

Please forward your payment by JULY 31st, 1982.

Thank You.

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### BOOK REVIEW ON "My Brother, My King"

by Nancy Gaffikin

Published 1981 on Isle of Man

When you are married to a Manx man, you become attached, or at least interested, in all things Manx (excluding the cats, in my case anyway!). After a trip or two to that charming little Isle, you suddenly become completely hooked. You not only want to know all about your ancestors, who they were, where they lived on the Island, but you begin to want to know more about the history of the Manx people.

I had read A. W. Moore's "A History of the Isle of Man", and learned a great deal about the Manx mixture with the Norse, the Scottish, the Irish and the English. But the Moore book is typical of the dull (the only word for them!) history books, published in the early years of the 20th Century. We all like a good historical novel that faithfully sticks to the facts. The book I am reviewing is just that.

"My Brother, My King", by Nancy Gaffikin, published in 1981 (we can give you publisher's address and price etc., if you are interested). This is an historical novel about two royal brothers, Olaf, the Black (so-called because of his dark hair and dark eyes like his Irish mother) and Reginald, both of whom were Kings of Man, and the Outer Hebrides (read the poem in the first page of this book). The novel, which covers the period 1187 to 1237, is set partly in the Isle of Man, partly in the Isle of Lewis, and partly in Edinburgh.

The author is an Englishwoman who has retired to the Isle of Man, and has become interested in Manx history and culture. She knows her Manx history well, I think, and is very specific on letting the reader know which characters are imaginary and are needed to bind the story together to form an exciting plot. The language is simple and direct, and any allusions to old Celtic words, or music, or implements used in work or war are well-defined. This book could be read and enjoyed by young adults too.

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N.A.M.A. Membership Fee \$6.00 per year  
(from Aug. 1st, 1981) this includes sub-  
scription to Bulletin published four times  
annually. Membership without Bulletin  
\$2.00

**Life Membership Fees in N.A.M.A.**

Members over 50 years of age \$40.00  
Members under 50 years of age \$50.00

I would recommend this book to any Manx enthusiast. It provides a graphic description of conditions in those days. For many of us who know mostly English history, it may come as a surprise that the Manx people had an excellent democratic form of government already in existence when King John of England proclaimed the Magna Carta in 1215.

Of course, for you who have been on the Isle and to the Tynwald Ceremony, this book will be fun to read. You will thoroughly enjoy and easily recognize the fine descriptions of St. Patrick's Isle and Church, the Calf of Man, Castle Rushen, St. German Cathedral, the Douglas Nunnery and especially Tynwald Hill and the beauties of nature, the hills and dales of the fair Isle of Man.

LaJean Anderson  
1914 First Bank Place West,  
Minneapolis, MN. 55402.

**CALIFORNIA  
HERE WE COME!**

Hotel San Diego is the headquarters for the N.A.M.A. Convention, and the dates are Friday, August 6 through Monday, August 9, 1982. The format will be much the same as the last two Conventions. Registration will begin at 3 P.M. on Friday, August 6. The President's Reception will be Friday evening. The formal opening of the Convention will be Saturday morning, August 7. Then, that afternoon, the Ladies' Auxiliary will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with a special luncheon. While the ladies attend the luncheon, the men will visit a local winery. The annual Banquet will be on Saturday evening. Sunday morning will be the Memorial Service, followed by a business meeting. Sunday afternoon we will board buses for a tour of San Diego, visiting the "Star of India" en route, and hopefully having the Convention photograph taken on board. Then we will return to the hotel for a buffet dinner, followed by a "free-and-easy" meeting at which we hope to have films of the Isle of Man. Monday morning will conclude the Convention, with committee reports, election and installation of officers, and prize drawing.

We are pleased and honoured to report that we are going to have Mr. E. G. Lowey, M. H. K., and Mr. Les Quilliam, an authority on surnames and place names, as visitors. Mr. Quilliam will address us on surnames at the banquet, and will hold an informal question and answer session on Sunday evening.

San Diego is a year-round resort area, and as such is quite expensive. We are trying to hold the cost down as much as possible, so we chose to forego tennis courts and swimming pools and use an older, but completely

refurbished, hotel as our headquarters. The rates, including 6% tax, are \$39.22 for a single room, \$45.58 for a double room, with either one double bed or with twin beds, and \$6.36 for each extra person in a room. Reservations must be made by July 6, and one night's lodging must accompany the reservation request. If you do not use the registration form from the Convention letter, please state in your request that you are with the N.A.M.A. Mail requests to Hotel San Diego, 339 West Broadway, San Diego, California 92101.

As in the case of the hotel costs, we are trying to hold down the Convention package costs. Full registration will be \$38.00 (U.S. currency), and will include registration fee, book, badge, President's Reception, Banquet, Bus Trip and Buffet Dinner. Partial registrations are listed below. Please send all registrations with remittance before July 6 to Mrs. Eileen Fabel, 1736 Walnut Lane, Rocky River, Ohio 44116. Make cheques payable to N.A.M.A. Convention Fund. As in the past, anyone attending two or more activities for which there is a charge must be registered. Also, badges will be required at all meetings (except Sunday evening), so anyone planning to attend any of the meetings must be registered.

Since reservations for the various dinners and luncheons must be made well in advance of the Convention, we are asking that you indicate attendance at the Ladies' Auxiliary luncheon on the Convention Registration Form. Please do not send any money for this, but do plan to attend.

If you are bringing children with you, we would like to know the sex and age of the child. We would like to plan activities for children old enough to take some responsibility for themselves, but we will need to know how many are coming. It has been our hope that many families would choose to attend the Convention and visit California at the same time. Please write the information about the children on the back of the Registration form.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you in San Diego, so begin planning now to attend. Let's make this a wonderful Convention. See you there!

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**DUES DUES DUES**

Have you paid your dues yet?, if you haven't done so, I would like to hear from you now-now-now. Send remittances to Mr. C. Creer, 14228 Union, Orland Park, Ill. 60462.

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## CONVENTION NEWS

**TIME AND PLACE:** \* Hotel San Diego, California, Friday, August 6th through Monday, August 9th, 1982.

**REGISTRATION** - Registration will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 6th.

**RATES** - The rates, including 6% tax, are \$39.22 for a single room. Double room with either one double bed or twin beds - \$45.58, and \$6.36 for each extra person in a room.

**RESERVATIONS** - Reservations must be made by July 6th and one night's lodging must accompany the reservation request. Mail requests to Hotel San Diego, 339 West Broadway, San Diego, California 92101.

If you do not use the registration form from the Convention letter, please state in your request that you are with the N.A.M.A.

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## CONVENTION FULL REGISTRATION

**Full Registration** - \$38.00, (U.S. currency), this includes - Registration fee, book, badge, President's Reception, Banquet, Bus Trip, Buffet Dinner.

**All Registrations must be sent before July 6th to -**

Mrs. Eileen Fabel,  
1736 Walnut Lane,  
Rocky River, OHIO. 44116.  
Make cheques payable to N.A.M.A.  
Convention Fund.

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## Partial Registration

Registration Fee, book, badge \$3.50  
President's Reception 6.50  
Banquet 17.00  
Bus Trip and Buffet Dinner 17.00

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Mona Haldeman  
Convention Chairman

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## LADIES' AUX. TON.A.M.A. 1982 CONVENTION

The Ladies' Auxiliary will celebrate its 50th Anniversary with a special luncheon on Saturday afternoon, August 7th, it is hoped all ladies will attend this important event.

## ISLE OF MAN REPRESENTATIVE FOR N.A.M.A. CONVENTION

Mr. Eddie Lowey, M.H.K., newly elected Chairman of the Isle of Man Tourist Board, will represent Tynwald at the N.A.M.A. Convention four other names were proposed for the trip, it was a secret ballot with Mr. Lowey being selected for the pleasant visit to sunny California for a one week vacation.

## CONVENTION NEWS

Marge Weber, energetic member of the San Diego Manx Society sent me news of interest to all members of N.A.M.A. who are planning to attend the Convention, again I will give you the date - August 6 - 9th, San Diego California.

She has obtained discount tickets for several attractions in the San Diego area -

San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park  
10% off

Sea World, (San Diego, Orlando, Florida and Aurora, Ohio) 15% off

Universal Studios Tour (Los Angeles)  
10% off

Lion Country Safari (Laguna Hills)  
10% off

Knotts Berry Farm (Buena Park, near Los Angeles) \$1.00 off each admission.

If anyone is driving and would like to stop at any of the above places en route, drop Marge a line and she will mail the discount tickets to you. She will also have them available during the Convention. Her address is - 4575 Catherine Avenue, San Diego, CA. 92115, USA.

Discount coupons from a rental car agency, available during the Convention can also be obtained, they are as follows:

|                   | Daily   | Weekly   |
|-------------------|---------|----------|
| Economy Stick     | \$21.21 | \$101.11 |
| Economy Automatic | 22.91   | 110.46   |
| Citation/Fairmont | 28.01   | 140.21   |
| Monte Carlo       | 31.41   | 152.96   |
| Malibu/Granada    | 33.11   | 164.86   |

The above rates include UNLIMITED MILEAGE (buy your own gas). All cars have air conditioning. The car agency will pick you up at the airport when you arrive.

If any of our members wish to reserve a car, write to Marge Weber and she will send the coupons to you. Her address - 4575 Catherine Ave., San Diego, California 92115, USA. These coupons will also be available at the Convention.

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## COINS

DID YOU KNOW...

... that the Isle of Man has a most distinctive coinage?

Many are probably familiar with the three-legged device of booted and spurred human legs, bent at the knees as though running, and joined at the hip. This design is referred to as the "triquetra".

It was used on the silver staters of Pamphylia in Asia Minor about 500 B.C. This coin pictured two wrestlers on its face, while its reverse showed a man with a slingshot. Directly in

front of the slinger was the triquetra. Thereafter, from time to time, this unusual device appeared, most often on coins of the Two Sicilies (Sicily and Naples).

When Joachim Murat, brother-in-law of Napoleon Bonaparte, became the king of Naples (1808-1815), he made it part of his heraldic shield. He adopted the name of Gioacchino Napoleone, which appears on the coins that also bear the triquetra.

It is believed that this device was introduced into the Isle of Man between 1266 and 1286 by King Alfred III of Scotland when he conquered the island and also took the title of King of Man. He is said to have used the triquetra because his wife's sister was Queen of Sicily.

The coins of Man, pennies and half pennies, issued from 1721 to 1839, all have the three-legged reverse.

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## PRIZE DRAWING

By now, all of you should have received the Convention letter, and the drawing tickets. We hope you will send in the tickets, or bring them with you to the Convention. If you would like to bring a prize, we would be delighted, but please remember that many of the prizes have to be mailed to the winners, and many of the rest have to be carried home by airplane. Please choose prizes that are easily portable, light weight, and preferably not breakable. If you would prefer to have one of us choose a prize for you, send your donation along with your drawing tickets money to Mrs. Eileen Fabel, 1736 Walnut Lane, Rocky River, Ohio 44116. Please specify that you would like a prize purchased in your name. So far, we have an afghan, stainless steel flatware, and probably a picture. Be sure to send in your tickets so that you can be a potential winner.

Mona Haldeman,  
Convention Chairman

## CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Any changes in the Constitution and By-Laws must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of N.A.M.A. - Miss Elizabeth Clucas, 1541 E. St., Apt. K 605, Euclid, Ohio 44117, U.S.A., 30 (thirty) days before the Convention.

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

# NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIE

## MINNESOTA MANX SOCIETY

The meeting of the Manx Society of Minnesota was held on Tuesday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m., at Point of France in Edina, Minnesota. The weather having moderated somewhat, we enjoyed a very good turnout of members.

Some very interesting correspondence from Mrs. Frank Getchell of Duluth, Minnesota, about a "Manx Coincidence" was read by Jean Lavelle. This will be presented in our Bulletin No. 3. As a result of the above, several members offered to write up interesting stories about their own families which relate to their Manx heritage, and these will be presented at future meetings.

LaJean Anderson then read a book review of "My Brother, My King", by Nancy Gaffikin, which she had prepared for the Mansk-Svenska Publishing Company of Peel. We just received the latest book, "Let the Sea Roar", by Ethel Harper. This is a historical novel about Miles Standish, with particular reference to his Manx heritage.

The members found these books so interesting that they ordered two dozen for distribution at the next meeting.

An announcement was made of Al Clague's death and a moment of silence was observed in his honor. A committee was organized to find a suitable memorial for him.

An invitation from John and Charlene Shimmin to hold our meeting next fall in Duluth was read. This was enthusiastically received. Members were reminded of a standing invitation from the Callister family to attend their family picnic next summer, and from all indications, a goodly number will be accepting that invitation.

Helen Powell, Mona Andrews and Mary Mitchell provided refreshments which included cheese and crackers, wine, coffee, tea and Angel Pie. A basket of spring flowers and bright yellow candles graced the table and made the evening complete.

T. R. Anderson, President  
1914 First Bank Place West  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

## TORONTO MANX SOCIETY

The Toronto Manx had their Spring meeting on the 3rd of April. As usual it was a most enjoyable evening. We said a temporary Good-bye to Sue Ellis who will be leaving shortly on a lecturing tour of the South Pacific, calling at New Zealand, Australia and Easter Island. We shall certainly have a wealth of information and films when Sue returns.

Many of our members are off to the Island this year. Kelly Watson, our very efficient and charming Social Convenor is to stay in Douglas all summer. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Daubney are leaving shortly for Ramsey.

Whilst we have been digging out in Toronto, I believe the Isle of Man has been basking in 60°F temperatures. My son Robert, who was over during February and March, reported that the spring flowers were out and the weather was quite mild.

Anyone anticipating a visit to the Island, should be aware of the difference in the purchasing power of their money. While staying there last summer, we realized that we could buy more for one dollar in Toronto than could be purchased in Douglas for one pound, and as the exchange rate was over two dollars to the pound, we found it quite expensive.

We all send our best wishes and hope that the N.A.M.A. have a most successful convention at San Diego.

Phyllis Linsley  
President

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

Time is drawing closer to the N.A.M.A. Convention in San Diego, we sincerely hope everyone is planning to attend; and busy making items for our Craft Table.

This is our only means of raising funds to support the N.A.M.A., which is the purpose of the Ladies Auxiliary.

I look forward to meeting all of you in San Diego and thanking you for your co-operation.

Irene E. Curphey,  
President, Ladies' Aux. N.A.M.A.  
Box 76, William Street,  
Liverpool, N.S. Canada.  
B0T 1K0

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## WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION EVENTS 1982

June 17th - Thurs. evening 6:30 p.m.  
Outing to North of Island, Manx supper at Quayle's Hall, Ramsey, 8:00 p.m.

July 4th - Sunday, 2:30 p.m.  
Outing to South of Island. Tea at Golf Links Hotel, Castletown. Service in the Abbey Church, Ballasalla, with Canon J. Payne - Vicar.

July 5th - Monday, 2:45 p.m.  
Annual Gathering, The Sefton Hotel, Douglas.

Aug. 14th - Saturday, 2:30 p.m.  
Outing to South West of Island. Tea at Niabyl 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 9th - Thursday 2:30 p.m.  
Outing to Port Erin. Tea at Allandale.

Oct. 29th 7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
T. E. Brown Dinner. Sefton Hotel.

Meeting place for Outings is the Masonic Temple, top of Derby Road, Douglas. Book by phoning Douglas 28105 as early as possible.

Doris Clague, Pres. W.M.A.  
1 Hilary Road, Douglas  
Isle of Man

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## W. M. A. EXECUTIVE

|                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| President                    | - Doris Clague                 |
| Chairman                     | - John J. Quilliam             |
| Vice Chairman                | - Nina V. Quiggan              |
| Secretary                    | - Mary Weller                  |
| Minuting Sec.                | - Winnifred Livingstone        |
| Ticket Sec.                  | - Grace Coole                  |
| Outings Leader               | - Thomas Bridson               |
| Catering Ladies              | - Ralda Speed & W. Livingstone |
| Leader of the Junior Section | - W.M.A. - Irene Dixon         |

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## PEORIA MANX SOCIETY

The 49th Annual Pot-luck Dinner will be held on Sunday, July 25th, 1982 at West Park in Elmwood at 1:00 p.m. Guests welcome.

Jean Callister Martzluf  
133 W. Van Buren St.,  
Brimfield, Ill. 61517.

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## BISBEE MANX SOCIETY

The Bisbee Manx had no meeting in January due to so many being away but we met again in February when ten members attended and we had a nice get-together at the home of Eunice and John Cain.

We received a letter for donation to the Convention Fund so all present donated \$1.00. A pig in the poke was raffled and a door prize given.

The March meeting was held at the home of Eva Cunningham with a good turnout. In April we met at the home of Ethel Chick when only 8 members showed up. However, we had a nice meeting and enjoyed the usual Cup of Tay. We missed the John Hughes who had gone to Cleveland to attend Kathryn's mother's 90th birthday. We hope to see them back for the May meeting.

I received sad news this month. My cousin Albert Corrin, Douglas, Isle of Man had passed away March 11th at a nursing home on the Island. He leaves a daughter, Dorothy Caine, living in Whiting, Indiana; a son George in London and daughter Kathleen Taggart of Abbeylands, Onchan, Isle of Man and several grandchildren. We have had a couple of very sick members, Mable Bolitho who was in the hospital for tests and Sarah Mazzoni also for tests. Glad to say both are better. Mable is currently in California visiting her children.

I was glad to have my daughter Peggy home for a visit over the Easter Holiday. We are looking forward to the Convention and waiting for news concerning same. Had a letter from my cousin Marge Frederick of San Diego and she tells me plans are going well there. We have cousins coming from the Island to attend. We are hoping for a gathering of the clan.

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

## THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MANX SOCIETY

Greetings to All from Southern California. We are looking forward to meeting friends at the Convention in San Diego in August. We hope that there will be a good group in attendance as San Diego has so much to offer visitors.

Irene and George Curphey spent a day with Malcolm and Joyce Kinley in February on their way to visit relatives in New Zealand and Australia. We will also see them on their way back home in early May.

Malcolm and Joyce Kinley visited Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kermeen former M.H.K. for West Douglas. They were

visiting his daughter and family who are in California for a 4 month work contract.

Malcolm and Joyce represented our Society at Miss Iris Corkhill's funeral in San Diego in March.

Our next meeting is in May at the home of Rev. James and Clarice Caley. Jim will be showing slides of Ellan Vannin.

Joyce Kinley  
2816 Shantar Dr.,  
Costa Mesa, CAL. 92626.

## CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

Our regular April meeting was set aside when we had the golden opportunity to hear a lovely concert presented by the 1976 Cleveland Medal winner of the Manx Music Festival - Mr. Ernest Thorn. He is the first winner in all the years since 1923 who has ever come to us in Cleveland. We were thrilled!

Mr. Thorn's program consisted of a varied selection of songs, including "The Holy City", "The Lost Chord", and "The Lord's Prayer". He also sang some well known Manx songs and included a few humorous offerings. His wife, Barbara, sang duets with her husband. The children, Jo-Ann and Bruce, were delightful. They contributed to the musical program too and exhibited much "stage presence". With such talented examples, it seems the young ones are following in their parents' footsteps. The Thorns were to continue on to Florida before returning to the Isle of Man.

An abundant, delicious array of "goodies" was provided by some of our ladies for "Tea" afterwards.

Our annual card party was scheduled for May 11th. This is our society's activity to raise funds for the N.A.M.A. Convention.

A change made in our fiscal year has the election of officers on our June meeting agenda. No regular meetings are held in the summer but many of our Cleveland Manx folk are looking forward to attending the convention in San Diego.

Marge Kennish Krach  
319 Ridgeview Drive  
Seven Hills, OH 44131.

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

The Ladies' Auxiliary to N.A.M.A. will celebrate its 50th Anniversary this year of 1982. At the N.A.M.A. Convention held in Rocky River, Ohio in 1978 the then President, Mrs. Helen Clucas welcomed 111 members to the Ladies' Luncheon. As a tribute to the founders of the Auxiliary Mrs. Clucas

had ordered a bronze plaque with the names of the first officers engraved thereon.

These ladies were:

President: Mrs. Arthur Callow,  
Toronto, Canada.

1st Vice President & Treasurer: Mrs. John R. Cain, Cleveland, Ohio.

2nd Vice President: Mrs. Wm. Karran,  
Long Island, N.Y.

Secretary: Miss Ada Christian,  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

This plaque was presented to Mrs. Edna Cowin for display at the Clague House Museum in Westlake, Ohio.

## LETTER FROM ELLESMERE PORT

Greetings, friends. 'Tempus fugit' and spring is here, at least I thought it was, until I awoke this morning to the howling of the wind. On the Manx News service at 9.0am. it gave warning of westerly gales in the Irish Sea - Storm force Ten. Seas very rough, so I am glad I am not on the Isle of Man steamer today.

Never mind, the daffodils are now in bloom in some profusion together with purple and white crocuses and only the delicate snowdrops at the bottom of our garden are slowly fading to their long sleep for another year.

I do not intend to speculate about the magic of spring - some say it is a time for blowing on the embers of our dying dreams, a time for romance, a time for re-affirming our faiths and beliefs. For others, certain Manx ladies of my acquaintance it is just a time for spring-cleaning. I would not dispute any of these assertions, particularly the latter.

For me, it is perfectly expressed in that lovely verse from the Song of Solomon: "For lo - the winter is past the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."

On the subject of 'turtle doves' and on a very personal note, my wife and I have been having a spectacularly successful period of 'billing and cooing' lately. Chiefly, because Mother and Dad (my wife's parents) who as usual, having been staying with us since Christmas will shortly achieve the distinction of being married for sixty years. In April, therefore, we are all crossing to the Isle of Man where we plan to have a celebration for the anniversary of their Diamond Wedding and when we hope to have the whole family together to show our veneration for Mother and Dad - (Mr. and Mrs. Fred Walker, 1 Teares Terrace, North Shore Road, Ramsey)

continued on page 6

Our only regret is that young Hilda (our dear sister) your esteemed Bulletin Editor - Mrs. Penrice, will not be with us in Ramsey to participate in this happy event. Never mind. - 'Loving thoughts have wings'. Incidentally, at the latest count Mother and Dad have seven children, twenty grand-children and sixteen great-grandchildren. Wow!

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### "VOX POPULI VOX DEI"

From an article which appeared in the Liverpool Daily Echo recently, Mrs. Peggy Irving from the Isle of Man (a long time campaigner for law and order) quoted some interesting facts:-

"Between 1974 and 1978 there were no birchings on the Isle of Man, because of the threat from Strasbourg to order the abolishment of corporal punishment. Since 1978 one birching was ordered and that was subsequently quashed by an appeal court. Up to 1980 all violent crimes have risen by 70%. Figures for 1982 not yet available. The fact is, that on the Isle of Man violent crime in four short years since Strasbourg is now on a par with Britain which has one of the highest rising crime rates in the world."

These facts 'highlight' the problem of rising crime in Western Europe and particularly Britain where, presently there is great controversy and furore both inside and out of Parliament.

Statistics for 1981 show that violent crime has increased to epidemic proportions. In London now, there are fifty muggings each day.

I make no apology for discarding my usual flippant comment on matters of controversy, simply because this is a matter upon which I have the strongest of feelings.

In our society on the Isle of Man when I was young, the law was paramount. All those in authority, including the police were honoured and respected.

The Deemsters were the arbiters of the law and as supreme judges they executed it in accordance with their ancient and sacred oath - "Justly between the Lord and his people of this land, and between party and party as indifferently as the herring backbone doth lie in the middle of the fish."

This environment was the natural benefaction from the oldest parliament in the civilized world. The law was our heritage - it gave us stability and security from crime and human violence. It gave us a society of tranquility and gracious living.

Part of this system of law included the use of the birch - a bundle of birch twigs bound together and weighing 9

ounces. An effective pacifier. Its administration brought a high degree of humiliation - where I think lies its deterrent effect. In any event, I do not think there is a recorded case of any backside so carressed ever again being offered for a second application.

The answer to this problem lies, I think with the politicians, who so long as I can remember, tend to ignore the will and commonsense of the long suffering majority - the usually silent majority of the population.

The violence spreading across this land like a cancer is the most pressing social and moral problem facing the government today. The predators who lie in ambush to maim, steal and even kill the young, the old, the weak, the defenceless, are developing a callous and pitiless cruelty in their attacks unequalled in the annals of human savagery. They deserve the most severe and condign punishment that the law can provide. If this punishment is not available, then the law must be changed.

For myself, I will look for a vision - they sometimes appear, you know.

Maybe when I look upwards to the sky I will see there on the ramparts of freedom - a vast multitude - the great silent majority, - but they are not silent - they are crying out with one mighty voice -

"BRING BACK THE BIRCH - BRING BACK THE DEATH PENALTY"

"VOX POPULI VOX DEI."

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### "THE MEXICAN"

Manufacturing a nick-name requires a special skill; the Manx people have developed the art to a high degree. An apt name is devised and granted entirely without malice.

Then used openly with an almost affectionately insolent familiarity.

For obvious reasons, those 'gems' which I have recorded here below have long ago gone to their just reward up there above. In fact, consider it an act entirely without malicious intent or scurrilous allusion - just a gift of happy remembrance.

"THE EARWIG"

- A lovely man. Diminutive with a size 12 neck inside a size 15 collar. Assiduously devoted to his life-long habit of picking up full glasses and setting them down empty.

"OMO"

- A most lethargic manual worker whose claim to notoriety was demonstrated by his skill in avoiding the use of soap and water.

"HARRY WALK-EASY"

- The possessor of two large tender splay feet, which he placed on the ground with the most solicitous care.

What about the following:-

CIRCLES.  
MOONSHINE.  
NICE NOW.  
DROPSONE.  
LAPTHORN.  
MARY DO-DA.  
MOULDY.  
TOT THE PHANTOM.

There are thousands more, but sometimes an error is made. For instance, why, oh why do they call me "The Mexican". Anyone less like a Mexican it would be hard to discover. I suppose there is only one way to find out. When I go over to the Isle of Man on my holidays this year, I shall wear a big hat and string together a few appropriate phrases such as 'hasta la vista' 'quien sabe' 'Si Signor' and all that jazz. Maybe I will find out more than I really care to know.

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### NEWS ITEMS

I am sure, that as usual, I have already taken up too much valuable space. However, briefly here are excerpts from some English papers:-  
"Manx Economic Boom has come to a Halt"

A blunt warning that the Isle of Man's 20 year old boom has come to a halt was given by the Manx Govt. Treasurer - Mr. William Dawson. Since 1979 income has stood still but government expenditure has risen by 18 per cent. This has to be severely curtailed. Tynwald must give this matter serious consideration.

"ISLAND FISH FARM"

A derelict open-air swimming pool at Port Erin is to be turned into a commercial fish farm and it is hoped production will include the cultivation of oysters, last done on the Island in the 1930's.

"MANXMEN PLEA TO IMF. OVER CURRENCY LINK"

The IOM. Govt. has asked the IMF. to carry out a study to assess whether it is practical to cut the link between the Manx pound and sterling.

Apparently the U.K. residents who have money in Manx banks are worried that their capital will be trapped in the sterling area if Britain ever decides again to impose exchange controls.

(NB. This looks unlikely under this Government).

Cheerio for now.

A.H. BRIDSON.

(ELLESMERE PORT).

### ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

If not, please do so at once as dues were due JULY 31st. Show your support for the N.A.M.A. by sending a cheque today.

C. E. Creer, Treas.



## OBITUARIES

ABELL, Margaret Eleanor (nee Skelly - formerly Kennish). Beloved wife of the late Carl J. Abell. Dear mother of Florence Burrows (Mrs. Samuel T.) of Mansfield, Ohio; Margaret I. Krach (Mrs. Michael) of Seven Hills, Ohio; and the late Alfred Bert Kennish. Dearly loved grandmother and great grandmother. Passed away February 16th in Scenic View Castle Nursing Home, Millersburg, Ohio at the age of 98 years.

Ellen, as she was known, was born in Whitehaven, Cumbria, England to Manx parents. All her older brothers and sisters were born on the Isle of Man, so she considered her place of birth (due to her father's employment and the necessary change of residence from the Island to England) a mere technicality. She was Manx! Most of her early years, after the death of her mother, were spent on the Isle of Man. In November, 1904, she came to Cleveland to marry E. Bert Kennish. Their marriage lasted until his death in 1938.

Until health problems and loss of sight curtailed many of her activities, Ellen attended many N.A.M.A. conventions. She had been a staunch supporter of the N.A.M.A. since its beginning. Bert Kennish had been co-chairman of Entertainment at the first N.A.M.A. convention held in Cleveland in 1928. A fifty year membership pin was awarded to her some years ago by the Order of the Eastern Star.

Private services were held Wednesday, February 17th with Rev. S. John Kelly of Millersburg officiating. Interment in West Park Cemetery, Cleveland, Ohio.

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BLACKWOOD, Eunice Christian. (nee Sloan), passed peacefully away at her home in Dorval, Que., on January 21st, 1982, beloved wife of Alastair Blackwood, dear mother of Gail and Bruce, mother-in-law of Trudy and loving grandmother of Shannon, sister of Mary, (Mrs. G. Smith), Catherine, (Mrs. R. Shorrock), Toronto, Ontario. Predeceased by her sister the late Janet, (Mrs. H. Hornsby) and brother the late William. Also loved by many nieces and nephews. She was the loving daughter of the late Mrs. E. A. Sloan, (nee Effie Madrell) formerly of Peel, Isle of Man.

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BROWN, Mrs. Ethel, died February 19th, 1982, on the Isle of Man, she was born in Laxey, I.O.M. in 1898 and lived in Cleveland, Ohio for the greater part of her life until she and her husband, the late Wm. Brown moved to St. Petersburg, Florida, she had been a life

long member of the N.A.M.A., she is survived by her niece with whom she resided since 1979 - Mrs. T. Stowell (nee Cowley) of Douglas, Isle of Man. She was predeceased by her two sisters - Mrs. Ralph Cowin and Mrs. Doug Cowley.

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CORKHILL, Miss Iris S., died at her home in San Diego, California, on March 6, 1982. She was born July 14, 1899, at Ballagarraghyn, St. John's, Isle of Man, the eighth of eleven children of Robert Corkhill and his wife, Elizabeth Catherine Kelly Corkhill.

In 1929 Miss Corkhill came on her own to America, settling in Topeka, Kansas, where one of her brothers was living. She resided briefly in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1936, then moved to San Diego, California, where she made her home until her death. She held responsible positions as secretary and bookkeeper, both on the Isle of Man and in the U.S.A.

Although far removed in terms of miles from many members of her family, Miss Corkhill maintained close communication with them all, including numerous neices and nephews, as well as brothers, sisters, and in-laws. Relatives say that she never failed to send greetings to each one on birthdays and holidays.

Miss Corkhill helped to organize the San Diego Chapter of the Manx Society, served as its first secretary-treasurer, and was actively engaged in the chapter's planning for the 1982 N.A.M.A. Convention.

Funeral services were held on March 10 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, with the Rev. James E. Carroll officiating. Interment was at Cyprus View Mausoleum, San Diego.

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DOBBYN, Florence Phyllis (nee Quane) passed away at Melita Hospital, March 17th, 1982, after an illness of several months. Born January 9th, 1917 in Melita where she lived all her life. She was married to Albert Dobbyn in June, 1939 and was pre-deceased by a daughter Carol in 1951, two brothers Frank in 1973 and Charlie in 1981, she leaves to mourn her loss her husband Al, twin sons, Don of Melita and Doug of Winnipeg, a daughter Barbara Onslow of Medora and six granddaughters, she is also survived by her sister Doris Quane and brothers Lawrence and Fred, all of Melita.

The late Mrs. Dobbyn was a member of Victoria United Church, a long time member of the Legion Ladies's Aux., and the N.A.M.A. she was a talented Artist and taught class at Medora, she helped organize the Melita Art Club,

she enjoyed golfing and bowling. She was one of the ten first cousins of the Cashin descent who attended the N.A.M.A. Convention held in Halifax, N.S. in 1980.

Funeral services were held at the Victoria United Church and the Legion Ladies Auxiliary attended to show their respect.

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NELSON, Mr. Allan James, age 83, of Eden, N.C. passed away March 1982. funeral was held at the Fair Funeral Home with the Rev. Thomas Garner officiating, Intombment was at the Overlook Memorial Mausoleum.

The late Mr. Nelson was a long time member of the N.A.M.A., he was a Hennepin County, Minn., native, a retired employee of Fieldcrest Mills and a member of the Church of Epiphany, he was a World War I U.S. Army veteran.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Alphonsine F. Nelson; daughter Mrs. William O'Brien of Park Ridge, Ill; and five grandchildren.

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QUANE, Charlie Cashin (Chuck), third son of Thomas and Eleanor Quane, passed away peacefully on Dec. 18th, 1981 at Morden District General Hospital. He is survived by his beloved wife, Marjorie, of Morden, Man., two sons, Ross and his wife Diane, of Winnipeg; and Charles and a special friend, Sunday, both of Morden; two sisters, Miss Doris Quane and Mrs. Phyllis Dobbyn; two brothers, L. E. (Pop) and Fred, all of Melita, Man. many neices and nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by one brother, Frank. Chuck was born in Melita, Man on Sept. 9, 1919, where he attended school and in 1936 moved to Sioux Lookout to work with his brother. In 1941 he joined the Canadian Army where he served for almost five years. On discharge in 1946 he moved to Saskatoon to work as a baker where he married Marjorie Larsen on Sept. 28th, 1946. The couple moved to Morden in 1948 where they operated a bakery and food bar until 1963 when he joined the Manitoba Highways Dept. and was still in their employ at the time of his death. He was a member of the Morden Legion Branch and was always active in golfing and curling and a keen supporter of the hockey team.

Services were held on Dec. 22nd from St. Paul's United Church, Morden, with Rev. A. Riddell and Rev. P. Douglas officiating with eulogy delivered by Mr. Ed. Maddock. Active pallbearers were Legion Members and honorary pallbearers, fellow workers from the Highways Dept. continued on page 8

Interment took place at Hillside Cemetery, Morden, with graveside services conducted by Morden Legion Branch #11.

Chuck, along with his wife, attended the N.A.M.A. Conventions at Cleveland and Halifax and was one of the ten first cousin (descendents of the Cashin family) who attended the Halifax convention.

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

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## MANX TOMBSTONE PUZZLE IN U.S.A.

From the Isle of Man "Weekly Times"

The tombstone of a Manx exile, probably a miner, in the churchyard of Central City, Colorado, was a focal point of interest for a Gloucester couple of Manx descent during a recent visit to the U.S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Lawrence, of 25 Cherston Court, Barnwood, Gloucester, have written to the "Isle of Man Times" to see if any reader can throw light on the story of the Manx exile. He says that he and his wife were extremely interested to see the grave, since both of them have Manx grandparents.

The tombstone reads: "Sacred to the Memory of Thomas Cringle, a native of the Isle of Man. Died March 21st, 1874, aged 37 years." It also contains the words: "His end was Peace."

Centre City took its name because it was the centre of what was once called "the richest square mile on earth" during the Colorado gold rush.

A man called Gregory first discovered gold there in 1859 and soon prospectors were swarming into the area. Perhaps the Manxman Thomas Cringle was one of them, since he would have been 22 at the time.

Mr. Lawrence has sent us a copy of a history of Central City which says that these early gold prospectors were generally men without capital, but had plenty of muscle and courage. The growing area of canvas structures and fog houses put up by the miners was incorporated as a town and given the name of Central City in 1864.

Shortly before Thomas Cringle died there was a disastrous fire which burned down the town. Was that the cause of his death we wonder? Or was it an accident while mining? He was too young at 37 to have died a natural death. Perhaps one of our readers can help to unravel the mystery.

## I O M SEEKS DATA ON KENNISH ROLE

The Isle of Man Post Office Authority is seeking information on William Kennish, a Manxman who purportedly played an important role in original planning for the Panama Canal.

They would be interested in hearing any descendants having letters, documents or other data substantiating his contribution to building the waterway, as well as any information detailing his life and achievements.

Members of N.A.M.A. having such information are encouraged to write Mrs. E. B. Hanna, I. O. M. Post Office Authority, 6 Regent Street, Douglas, Isle of Man.

## OUR OWN PEOPLE

The latest news about Miss Margaret Joughin, Past President of N.A.M.A. is that she is now in the Julius Richardson Convalescent Hospital, 5425 Bessborough Ave., Montreal, she is very pleased to have visitors and she enjoys receiving cards and letters. Good Wishes and Kind thoughts go to Margaret from all of us in the North American Manx Association.

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Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Corlett of Quebec are planning a trip to the Isle of Man from May 1st to 15th, they will spend another week touring England and Scotland, their daughter Glennis hopes to also visit the Island in early July/82.

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News from the various Manx Societies printed in the N.A.M.A. Bulletin usually includes the name and address of the Sec./Treas., this enables members travelling from place to place to get in touch with any Society in that area. The Chicago Manx Society can be reached by contacting - Mrs. Florence Abbinanti, Sec./Treas., 9330 S. Richmond Avenue, Evergreen Park, 60642. Illinois. USA.

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The 16 year old granddaughter of Marge Krach recently returned from a month's vacation in England, she had a marvelous time. She stayed with an English family in the Manchester area, unfortunately she did not have time to visit relatives and friends on the Isle of Man.

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The many friends of Edna and Bert Cowin will be sorry to learn that whilst on vacation in Florida, Bert was taken ill and was taken to hospital, they had planned to return on April 2nd, if his condition improves they will be able to soon head towards home. It is fortunate they have been staying with Mrs. Ethel Christian and that it did not happen along the highway. Good Wishes go out to Bert.

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Since we shall be going west for the 1982 Convention, perhaps it's a good time to mention an historic western movement in the USA -- the building of the Union Pacific railroad, nearly one hundred and twenty years ago. A Nebraskan, Clark Fuller, has written a book, "Prairie Paths", in which he describes something of that undertaking. We quote from a chapter in that book:

"The Casement brothers, Jack and Dan, practically built the Union Pacific railroad. The parents of these remarkable brothers came to the United States from the Isle of Man in 1827 and settled in Michigan. There Jack was born in 1827 and Dan a little later... Jack started as water boy for the old Michigan railroad. Later he and Dan got a contract to build a branch line for the Michigan Central, and on that job gained the experience that was to stand them in good stead later. During the latter part of the Civil War Jack entered the army as an engineer, reconstructing southern railroads destroyed by retreating Confederate troops. It was in this work that he became acquainted with Generals Grant, Sherman and Dodge. When the building of the Union Pacific bogged down near Fremont, Nebraska (sic!) in 1865 and General Dodge took command, he sent for the Casements."

(The rest tells how the Casements, short, stocky men, took charge; "the biggest little men you ever saw, were tough drivers of a fearsome bunch of men, toiling under the blazing noon-day sun, laying a ribbon of steel across the nation's belly." According to the reports, the two little Manxmen were equal to almost any situation, and crises that would have daunted men of lesser courage.)

Which proves once again (as was true in other parts of the world) the Isle produced sons and daughters who could adapt to a New World, a new way of life. They were innovators, creative, and indomitable. Their lives are a part of the fabric of American history. May that same spirit be in us, as we are confronted by the most challenging tasks of our day.

Herbert G. Kelly

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