

Reference copy.

MORISTON MATTERS

PRICE 10p.

No.5

FEBRUARY, 1978

OUR VILLAGE HALL

The shed at the west end of the Church was stuffed fuller than ever before with waste newspaper when the big lorry arrived promptly at 10.30 on the morning of December, 14th, and seven stalwarts, with only about twelve hours' notice, were able to leave what they would otherwise have been doing and help to load it. In three quarters of an hour over 4½ tonnes had been transferred from the shed, and as a result a cheque for £90.09 has been received for the Hall Funds.

The shed is now filling up again!

On December 14th, despite the mumps outbreak in the Glen, the Christmas Party was held by the Mothers' and Toddlers' Group in the Hall for all the Glen children under five years old. Twenty two children attended and all enjoyed themselves.

After a period of abandoned play when the children enjoyed various large toys provided by the mothers they sat down to a tea which included all the tempting things children enjoy and ended with jelly and ice cream. This gave the mums and the few brave fathers who came a brief respite to enable them to take a cup of tea.

(Continued on Back Page).

The Dance held in Glenmoriston Hall on Friday, 20th January, in aid of our Hall Funds realised £13.00.

Dances in Invermoriston usually swing along to a pleasant tune, but alas on Friday the 20th January this was not the case and it ended up with about £12.00 worth of damage being done. All dance notices will now be billed with -

"RIGHT OF ADMISSION RESERVED"

M. Smart,
Organiser.

editorial

Last issue, a new name; this issue, a new format and printing process.

We have decided to try printing the magazine by photo-copier. This is more expensive: what it means is that we are limited to an issue of 12 "this size" pages in order, at a selling price of 10p, barely to break even. Regrettably, therefore, we have been unable to include all the material received, but what has not been included this time will be next time: we hasten to say, in other words, that there was no question of the contributions not included being rejected; and again, we take this opportunity of thanking our contributors for the trouble they take.

This issue, then, is an experimental one and we trust you will bear with us as over the next few weeks we do some strategical and tactical thinking based on the following three fundamental considerations:-

1. The selling price will be held at 10p;
2. 12 'this-size' pages, if we are to do a semi-semi-professional job and use space properly, include illustrations, etc., etc., are not enough to justify, not only 10p, but also the volume and quality of contributions we can now rely on; and
3. Printing by typing on stencil, while relatively inexpensive, is clumsy, time-consuming and restrictive of the potential possibilities of art work (only those who know what is involved can appreciate how well Allan Nairn has coped so far).

It is not possible at the time of writing this to say what the front cover heading will be; but we thank the young person for her idea. This will be awarded a prize in any case; and if the idea is used, the full prize will be given.

It will have been noted that we have not been able yet to continue with our 'Local Personalities' page. 'Moriston Matters' intended to find its way to No.2 target - Pat the Peer - over the festive period; but it will be appreciated that certain seasonal unexpectednesses can intervene over this time.

We are delighted at the way the pupils of the various schools are responding and appreciate the efforts of the 'encouragers'. What about the upper primary and secondary pupils trying their hands at reporting events and perhaps even writing features?

There have been requests for crosswords; but compiling these takes up a great deal of time, and this is not available at the moment. Meantime, if any crossword compilers are interested and, of course, all contributions, suggestions, etc., will continue to be, as they say, gratefully received.

Contributions for the next issue to Mrs. Fraser by Mid-March please.

A SORT OF HE - DRUM, HO - DRUM DON REVIE!

During the summer months, so as to escape the almost unbearable heat of RIYADH, the capital of the Kingdom of SAUDI ARABIA, the government and civil service move "en masse" to the kinder climate of TAIF, high up in the mountains. As a result any visiting heads of state, diplomats, ambassadors, etc., from other countries are also destined for TAIF. On these occasions the government sometimes puts on a show - a parade, a flypast, or whatever, depending on the status of the visitor.

On one such occasion as I was passing one of the government buildings I was amazed to see a pipeband on parade in all their regalia. The pipes are slightly different from ours and smaller - but nevertheless, bagpipes. I have since discovered that they were introduced into the Mid-East by the invading Turkish armies many years ago. I stopped and listened. The music was tolerably good. In fact, one air I distinctly picked out was "THE GLENDARUEL HIGHLANDERS", or, to the pop fans, "CAMPBELTOWN LOCH". I stood there nostalgically tapping my feet and humming to myself, "Arabian Gulf, I wish you were ---".

When the dignitary had gone and the band was dismissed, I approached the bandmaster, who spoke a little English, stating I was a Scot and complimenting him on the quality of his music. I then politely suggested that there was something missing, a lost ingredient, and that I knew of a gentleman tucked away in a corner of the Highlands of Scotland who might add a little colour to his band. Bring to it a whiff of Scotland. Act as an adviser. Yes. A sort of "he-drum, ho-drum DON REVIE". He was interested until I insisted that an essential clause of the contract would be a generous AND constant supply of a certain commodity only talked about in whispers in these parts. So he sadly declined my offer.

"What a shame!" I thought. To see that wayward pair of plus-fours in 'good form' and in full flight, likening himself to a "bird on the wing", leading the band would surely set the desert alight. Alas!

DONALD F. MACDONALD.

MRS. THOMSON.

The blizzard of the last week of January brought tragedy early to Glenmoriston. Almost before we were aware of the size of the storm news reached the village that Mrs. Mary Thomson had been struck by a skidding pick-up as she was about to board a bus at her road-end, and killed. Charlie was with her at the time, but fortunately escaped almost uninjured. Mrs. Thomson was always busy about her house along at Primrose Bay, and found her contentment and her fulfilment in her home and family. To them in their tragic loss we offer our deep sympathy.

the historical glen

The Building of the hall

"A Public Meeting of the people of Invermoriston was held in the School on Thursday, 11th Aug. 1927 at 9 p.m. to consider the advisability of steps being taken to raise funds for the erection of a Public Hall in Invermoriston to take the place of the Comrades Hall recently destroyed". With these historic words the Hall Minute Book 1927-47 records the setting into motion of the process which would lead to the erection of the present Glenmoriston Public Hall. And set into motion too were the local dignitaries in whose civic hands the project was entrusted. They were:-

Captain Grant of Glenmoriston;
(Chairman);
Mrs Grant of Glenmoriston;
Mr Kydd, The Hotel;
Mrs Kydd, The Hotel;
Mrs.A.D.Grant, Craigian;
Mr.W.Chisholm, The Shop;
Mr.D.MacDonald, The Pier;
Mr.J.MacEwan, Forestry Hut;
Mr Pollock, Schoolhouse;
Rev.A.MacNeill; and
Mr.A.D.Grant, Estate Office,
(Secretary and Treasurer).

Fund-raising was, of course, of paramount importance. As a first step, each member of the "Ways and Means" Committee, as it was called, set himself or herself to "endeavour" to raise £10 from among his or her friends, none to be collected locally. An "Entertainments" sub-committee, consisting of Mr.Chisholm, Mrs.Kydd and Mrs.Grant, Craigian, under the chairmanship of Mr.MacEwan, was formed to organise a dance. (This was held in the Hall at Invermoriston Mains on Friday,

26th August, 1927, and realised the sum of £20 - 13/-). And then, in this preliminary stage of fund-raising, the Territorial Force Association, the National Council of Social Service and the Forestry Commission were approached for financial assistance, it being pointed out to them that the erection of a Public Hall in Invermoriston "would tend to improve the social life of the district". The first two bodies named declined to assist; whether, or not, the Forestry Commission did is not clear.

About the same time a "Building" or "Works" sub-committee was formed, comprising - Mr.Kydd, Mr.Chisholm, Mr.D.MacDonald and the Chairman and Secretary as ex-officio members. By the 17th September, 1927, a Plan 'B' was adopted as a suitable type of building, at an estimated cost of between £340 and £400. Following what must have been lengthy discussion and negotiation, the contract for the erection of the Hall, the building to be of the "expanded metal type", was awarded to Mr.Norman Smart of Inverness.

Meantime, fund-raising was being continued apace. The possibility of a Free Gift Sale was discussed, and it was decided to arrange a door-to-door collection. Lady Cooper of Ceannacroc was mooted as a likely subscriber and it was resolved to send a "suitable letter" to "Her Ladyship".

By December the 10th, 1927, a site had been selected and negotiated for, and the go-ahead given to clear the site

and prepare the foundations as soon as the "Building Committee considered it safe to do cement and concrete work".

So far, the sum of £124-13-0 had been collected and approximately £85 had been further promised and would be paid to the Hall Fund after the building operation had commenced. At this point, Captain Grant intimated that in the event of the necessary funds not being raised Glenmoriston Estates Ltd, if approached, probably would be willing to contribute towards the fund.

By the 26th September, 1928, the question of securing chairs and forms and installing lighting was being dealt with, and negotiations had been entered into with Mr. J. Paterson, Fort Augustus, regarding the cost of putting in "lavatories".

A perennial problem, that of spiralling costs, now reared its head: in October, 1928, it was found that even in spite of a donation of £150 from Glenmoriston Estates Ltd., a further £300 plus was required to complete the Hall in a "moderate" way. But Sir Alexander Grant, Bart. of Logie, whose forebears came from Glenmoriston, had promised to contribute "whatever sum Captain Grant found was required to complete the hall and make it comfortable for future use", and accordingly he was asked for a donation of £400. Altogether, it would seem that the erection of the Hall, its furnishing, lighting (by Petromax lamps), installation of water (hand-pumped from St. Columba's Well) and toilets cost about £600.

The Hall was officially opened on Friday, 5th October, 1928, the occasion of an opening ceremony and grand dance. It must have been a memorable evening as the

extracts from "The Inverness Courier" on the following page testify.

Towards the close of that year, a draft constitution was deliberated on and after "several alterations thereto" had been effected a fourteen clause Constitution of the Glenmoriston Public Hall was approved.

On the 15th December, 1928, a caretaker, at an "annual salary of Ten Pounds, payable in equal sums of Five Pounds each half year" was appointed. There had been six applicants, now reduced to a leet of three: William MacDonald, Blacksmith, William MacKenzie, Invermoriston Pier and Donald MacDonald, Redpark. Donald MacDonald was appointed and took up his duties on the 17th December, 1928.

A meeting of Householders elected as the Hall's first Committee of Management, the members of the Committee of Ways and Means who had erected it.

The first A.G.M., the original Committee still in office, was held on the 10th August, 1929; at the last A.G.M. held on 16th January, 1979, the following were re-elected to serve on the "Committee of Management":

- Mr. Pat MacDonald (Chairman);
- Mr. J. E. Grant of Glenmoriston,
- Mr Ian Grant, the Rev. Peter Fraser, and Mr Gordon Cowie (all trustees) and Messrs. A. Nairn, J. Service, P. Stoddart, Mrs. M. E. Fraser and Mrs. Anne Douglas (Secy).

(We extend our gratitude to the Hall Committee for making available the relevant Minute Book. Ed.)

the historical glen

OLD TRACKS AND ROADS.

When we step into our car, or if less fortunate mount the bus, on a shopping spree to Inverness, we reckon on reaching our destination within an hour, depending on the road traffic. How was the journey accomplished in times gone by?

First, let it be said that prior to last century Glenmoriston was to a large extent self-supporting. Apart from such items as firearms and broadswords all the necessities of life were produced locally, though a certain amount of meal had to be brought in from the neighbouring glens. During the nineteenth century a tailor and a bootmaker set up business in the Glen, while the village shop with a limited range of groceries came into existence. But let us go back to earlier times.

For those moving from one glen to another there were well-known tracks along the easiest route over the hills, skirting the bogs, which by all accounts struck terror in the hearts of those strangers from the South who were brave enough to explore the Highlands. Needless to say, there were no river bridges, which explains why these cross-country tracks converged on points where there were fords and in a few cases ferry boats. Travellers on pony-back could generally depend on their mounts to get them across without a ducking, while the pedestrians adopted the follow-my-leader formation, placing their hands on each other's shoulders. But there were numerous cases of drowning when rivers were in spate. Captain Burt, a Government Agent (some said a spy) who travelled around the North West Highlands in the eighteenth century tells in his letters about crossing a river in a ferry boat with so "many marks of antiquity" that he felt obliged to ask as to its age, and was told by the ferryman that it was "above sixty years, having belonged to his father".

Needless to say, these hill-tracks were used by those in the cattle-lifting 'business' and on the war-path. In 1603 when Glengarry men had carried out a bloodthirsty raid on their enemies in the Black Isle, the MacKenzies retaliated, bringing with them a light boat known as a 'coit' to cross the Moriston at Wester Inverwick.

In these days of old, the wayfarer from the South crossed the river mouth of the Moriston and followed the track up the west side of the Home Farm burn over the flat east of Achnaconneran and Mealfourvie leading down to Glenurquhart in the vicinity of Clune-more. The next upstream crossing of the river was at "Linne-nam-Fichead" the "Pool of Twenty", just above Bhlairadh, where a party of that number are said to have been drowned. It is perhaps significant that nearby on the south bank is the Allt-nan-Gadaich, the Thieves' Stream. The track from this crossing leads up the west side of the Bhlairadh Burn and over the water-shed east of Loch Chraich. Peter MacMillan, for many years head-keeper at Invermoriston, pointed out the track to the writer, but it is not easy to distinguish. Further up the Glen, the track most in use came over the hill from Auchterawe to Torgoyle and then on to Tomich along the east side of Loch Na Beinne Baine. But there was also a coffin road from Glengarry to Achlaine opposite the graveyard at Balintombuie. Some of these tracks have been described on the maps as "drove-roads", but the only one worthy of this description came from Glenelg, down the East side of Loch Cluanie and then over the hill to Fort Augustus at Aonach, west of Achlaine.

MR. JOHN GRANT.

MR GRANT'S ARTICLE WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT ISSUE WHEN HE DEALS WITH THE COMING OF GENERAL WARD

the historical glen

THE BALLAD OF ANNA PURNA

(an echo of the brave days of the Schemes)

Monday morning, tenth November,
Is a day for many to remember;
The fox, he started in his den,
When Anna Purna went up the Glen.

Her engine sounded loud and shrill,
The echo swept from hill to hill,
And roused a hundred sleeping men,
When Anna Purna went up the Glen.

She took every turn and she took every ridge
Till she came to the first real hump-backed bridge.
Her passenger gave the first push then,
As Anna Purna went up the Glen.

At the foot of the Falls Brae, fast she stuck;
Her Owner said, "What rotten luck!
In England she sped across the Fen;
I hadn't considered this wretched Glen".

They heaved with might, and they pulled with main,
And pushed in the teeth of the wind and the rain;
The Passenger said, "It's beyond my ken
How Anna will ever get up the Glen".

But a heavy lorry hove in sight;
The Driver looked and cried, "All right!"
Six strong arms, and light as a hen
Anna Purna went up the Glen.

Ceannacroc grounds were dark and dim;
The colour schemes were grey and grim;
There's a red splash now, for never again
Will Anna come purling down the Glen.

P.F.

Jimmy & Jess Steele have now moved into their new house where we wish them a long and happy stay; we welcome Gordon, with Sandra, his wife, and Catherine and Derek back to his old home.

CONGRATULATIONS to our nurse, Mrs. N. Robertson, on gaining her BA degree from the Open University.

BADMINTON

A meeting has been arranged for Wednesday, 15th February at 8.00 pm in the Hall to try and re-start the Badminton Club.

All persons who are interested in this sport shall be welcomed.

1

living it up!

The Senior Citizens' Committee arranged a buffet supper in the Hotel on Tuesday, December 20th and were happy to welcome twenty-nine lively senior citizens and Mr. Grant of Glenmoriston as their special guest. After a delicious meal, prepared by Mr. Leather and his staff, there was a programme of music, dancing and games with John Grant, Dalchreicht and Tommy Calder (home to Invergarry on a visit from New Zealand) playing accordion selections, Tommy singing to his own accompaniment and Mrs. Sheila Grant singing in Gaelic and English. In the course of the evening Mr. Leather announced the results of a scheme whereby each senior citizen in the community received a present of coal, groceries or whisky from funds raised in various ways by Margaret Smart and Daniel Stoddart. He also announced that firewood

had been cut and delivered to those people by a band of volunteers the previous weekend. The evening finished with the ever welcome cup of tea, but before the guests departed Mr. John Smart expressed the thanks of all to the Committee. Those who were unable to be present have since received a gift from the committee.

A week or so earlier Mr. Grant of Glenmoriston entertained a number of senior citizens in Invermoriston House. Mrs. Sey and her helpers served tea and Mr. Grant showed slides of his recent visit to Canada. There were carefully chosen presents for all on the Christmas tree, and at the end everyone said how much they had enjoyed Mr. Grant's kind hospitality.

CHRISTMAS RAINBOW

Black the night sky, boding fears,
Grey the day clouds, toil and tears,
Blue the cold winds, biting deep,
White the eiderdown of snow.
Gold the hearts of caring people
Working, through their secret ploys,
Giving time and thought and effort
To a many-splendoured evening
Which, as bright as any star,
Shines on when the guests have gone;
Red the glow of coals bestowed,
Or goodies warming "inner man",
Memories to think and talk of
As time takes us on our way.
For laughter, cheer and simple fun
Thank you, good friends, everyone.

K.T.

FOR SERVICES RENDERED

The directors of Glenmoriston Estates gave a party in the Hotel on Friday, January 6th, for about 70 people of all age groups - the employees and their partners from Glenmoriston, Cduanie, Fort Augustus, Whitebridge and Inverness - who enjoyed music from the MAX-JAX Band for lively dancing, with prizes won by Mrs. K. Stoddart and Daniel in the Elimination Waltz and Mr. and Mrs. Henry MacPherson in the Spot Waltz. A first class buffet was provided during the evening and the guests went home about one o'clock after a very happy time together.

L.S.

FROM HOME TO HOME

The evening of Monday, December 19th was dry with bright moonlight and almost mild when nine children and seven adults set off in four cars to go carol-singing up the Glen. Beginning at Bhlairadh they went as far as Inchmore and Dalchrèichart, adding to their number four more children and another car and driver on the way. Everywhere they were warmly received and generously rewarded with contributions for SHELTER, and Mrs. Tomlin's surprise refreshments half-way through and Mr. & Mrs. Marr's at the end were most welcome and greatly encouraged the party --- who decided that if the good weather held until Thursday they would like to go out again, this time in Invermoriston.

Thursday evening at six o'clock was still dry, but a bit colder, and a slightly different party of eight children and three adults turned up with one car. This meant that while half of them were being ferried to within distance of the next stopping place the other half walked until the car returned for them, and then, hopefully, all arrived together ready to sing. The Street, Riverside Park, the Estate, the Pier and Bridgend were visited in this way. Soon, however, there was a fine mist in the air, which by half past nine had turned to steady rain, and although nobody minded having to walk, this made conditions less pleasant than on Monday. Mrs. MacPherson generously provided impromptu refreshments at half time, John and Cathie Smart took the party in out of the rain to sing and Mr. & Mrs. Craft hospitably revived them at the end of the round.

When the takings were finally counted there was £27.02 to send to SHELTER, which sum has been gratefully acknowledged.

W.R.I.

At the December meeting Mr. P. Cook gave a most interesting lecture and demonstration on Cake Icing. He also gave us some very good tips for cooking the Christmas Dinner. The mince pie competition was won by Mrs. K. Tomlin. Mince pies from this competition were donated to the Burnside Home in Inverness and were much appreciated.

The Christmas Dance in aid of Institute Funds, arranged by Christine MacDonald, raised about £34.00.

On 9th January a meeting took place at which Mr. P. Cook gave a lecture and demonstration on meat. Unfortunately snow prevented most of the distant members from attending, but those present found the lecture most interesting.

The WRI Burns Supper will be fully reported in the Spring issue of "Moriston Matters".

G.A.B.M.

INVERMORISTON SCHOOL

December began in fine style, rehearsing with high hopes for the Nativity Play. Alas, our hopes were soon to be dashed by mumps, which reduced our numbers to four and then to three; but we managed to hold the school sale, which realised £30 for school funds.

The Nativity Play, called "The Inn", was performed on the afternoon of Friday, 27th January at the Hall. Despite the bitterly cold conditions there were some staunch supporters to make up the audience and the stage was furnished with the newly fireproofed curtains. All went well and the silver collection amounted to £5.00 which will be donated to the Central Council for the Disabled.

G.A.B.M.

guild news

The annual Christmas Party was held at Invermoriston House on the evening of Wednesday, 7th December. Members were each accompanied by either husband or friend, and we had also invited members of the Congregational Board. The guest of the evening was Miss Doris Brooks of Jamaica, currently carrying out a course of her training in nursing, locally, who talked of her own country, its climate, customs, produce, differences and similarities to life in this country. Then followed the highlight of the evening, a lavish buffet supper arranged by members of the committee, which could not fail to be enjoyed by all. Several competitions afforded some light-hearted brain-teasing and prizes were won by Mrs. Tilford, Mrs. Service, Mrs. Robertson and Miss L. Service.

Some carol-singing brought the evening to a close and Mr. J.E. Grant was heartily thanked for the hospitality of his home.

The January meeting was held rather later in the month than usual due to the severe weather conditions, but eventually the Guild met at Invermoriston House on 18th Jan. at 7.30pm.

The speaker for the evening was Father Mark Dilworth from the Abbey. The subject of his talk was "A Spiritual Revival in our Churches".

He gave a potted history of an exciting new movement started in America in 1900, which gave rise to various Pentecostal Churches whose influence has slowly but surely been spreading, and, since the Second World War, penetrating into, and giving a new charisma to Protestant and Catholic Churches all over the world.

He gave first-hand observations on this movement and its dedicated and successful attempts to get in contact with the Pentecostal Spirit that poured power and single-mindedness into the disciples of Christ, so long ago.

He said that the power is still there and available, opening such an exciting prospect that he purposely kept his message in low key and as factual as possible, to avoid emotional overtones, especially in what must of necessity be but a brief introduction. It was evident from the lively discussion and conversation that this well-attended meeting had been very stimulating.

K.T.

FORT AUGUSTUS SCHOOL

It seems such a short time since the last issue of 'Moriston Matters' that there isn't very much to report.

We all enjoyed our Christmas Dance. The music was provided by MAX-JAX - a change from the old record player. We were surprised at the versatility of the staff when it comes to dancing tuition!

We will soon be getting a new gym teacher, Mrs. Sutherland.

We are very happy to have Mrs. Bruce back, fully recovered, and to know that she will be staying on at the school.

C.A.M.

THE WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is on Friday, March 3rd., with the theme "COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN MODERN LIVING". All women are invited to take part.

sport

recipes

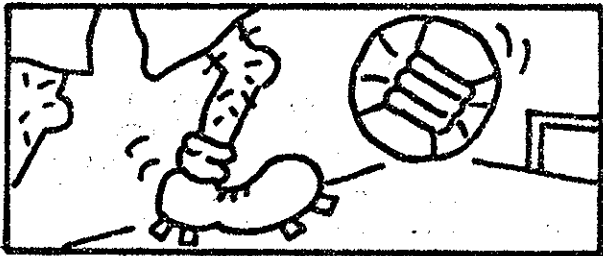
FOOTBALL

TOTAL MAGIC.

With the Aird and District Football League having only just started there is not much to report so far, but the team is looking forward to some good matches.

I hope the Scottish selectors have completed their pool of players because there is a danger that we might lose our latest and greatest recruit - namely, Tote ("watch them rubber legs go") Gillies, our new bionic winger! Twice during his debut match against the Douglas Hotel he tore the opposition to pieces with a dazzling display of footwork, ending with two magnificent goals within the opening minutes. Captain Iain MacKenzie said afterwards, "The Skye's the limit".

A.N.



DARTS

As promised, here is the result of the "DUNCAN GRANT SHIELD". It ended with Hugh Gordon and Allan Nairn in the final. A high-scoring game from both players, but alas as in all sport the best man wins Congratulations, Allan, on winning; don't be too despondent Hughie there's always next year.

Epilogue: I get the feeling that the Darts Club is beginning to lose its zest. So, COME ON, dartsmen, don't let this wonderful sport die; as you know it took us long enough to re-circulate it last time. So sharpen your knives - there are a few friends in the pipe.

STOVIES

Sliced Potatoes,
Sliced Onions
Dripping
Left over Meat
Salt - Pepper

Melt dripping in stewpan and add ingredients alternately in layers, cover and cook slowly for 1 to 2 hrs., leaving the lid on, but shaking the pan from time to time.

A nice sweet to follow Stovies is

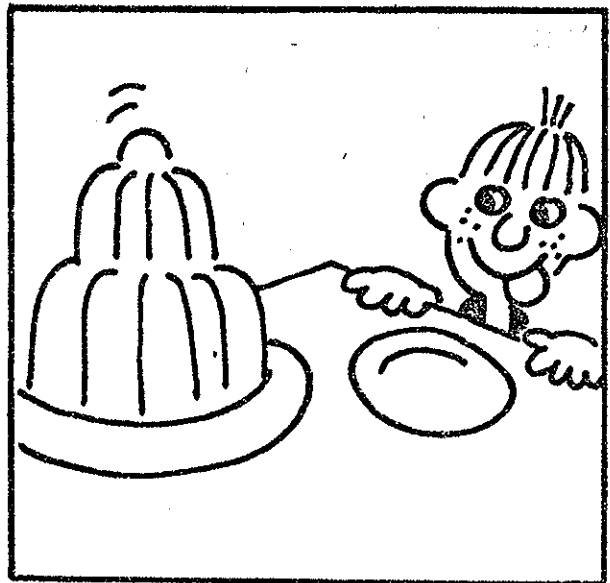
IVORY CREAM

Peel and mash 5 large bananas, add 5 teaspoonfuls icing sugar and beat till free from lumps.

Whip a cup of cream till stiff and mix with banana pulp.

Melt an orange jelly with $\frac{1}{4}$ pt. hot water, and when beginning to set waist into mixture.

Put into a wet mould and leave to set.



in brief

Although Willie and Rosemary Walker and the boys have already left Torgoyle we nonetheless wish them well in their new home at Cortachy where Willie has taken up work as a shepherd. Another vacant house in the Crescent will soon be No.6 when the Grange family move to Torgoyle Lodge where we hope they will be very happy.

Best wishes to Mr. & Mrs. Rodger and the family as they go to their new job and home in Alness. We hope they will soon settle in to their new surroundings, but we will miss Jim's cheery, obliging manner, in the shop here.

Best wishes to Jim and Margaret McDonell who celebrated their silver wedding on December, 31st.

Congratulations to Margaret Ferguson (whose beautiful work brought credit to the WRI twice in 1977) on winning a runner-up prize in a national competition sponsored by a firm of knitting-wool manufacturers to "knit a garment fit for Princess Anne's baby".

Cont'd. from front page.

The party ended with a little more organized play with some games and the children singing "Jingle Bells" with several accompanying on the rattles whilst others beat time clapping.

Our thanks to Mrs. K. Tomlin who played the piano for the games and also to Mr. J.E. Grant and the Rev. Peter and Mrs. Fraser for supporting us.

May we take this opportunity to remind any mother with children under 5 years that they are very welcome to join us at Dalchreichart School every Friday at 2.00 p.m. when we hold our meetings.

C.G.

A pretty wedding took place in the Free North Church, Inverness, on Friday, 23rd December when Miss Angela Elizabeth MacLennan, who resided with her parents for a time at Torgoyle Crescent and later moved to 19, The Riggs, Fort Augustus was married to Mr. John MacLeod, an Insurance Agent from Fort William.

The reception took place in the Clansman Hotel, Loch Ness-side, where the guests were lavishly entertained and greetings and good wishes were showered on the newly-weds. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. John Fraser, Free Church Manse, Glenmoriston.

The young couple are to take up residence in Inverness where Mr. MacLeod works at present.

We welcome to the community Mrs. Sally Allen and Scott, who is housekeeper at Invermoriston House.

Also Capt. H.J. Abraham R.N. and Mrs. A. Abraham who have come to live at Blaraidh House. After a distinguished career in the Royal Navy, Capt. Abraham was British Defence Attaché in Japan until 1972 and latterly was in charge of the R.N. Air Station at Yeovilton, Somerset. He is now to be General Manager of Glenmoriston Estates Ltd.

Also John Urquhart, who is living at Fir Cottage and is an assistant keeper with the Estate. John is a nephew of Mrs. Charlie Grant of Farnburn Cottage until a year or two ago.

* * *

The first small item in the Hall renovation scheme has now been ticked off with the return of the stage and door curtains which have been fireproofed in accordance with the firemaster's recommendations.

J.S.M.