

READ THE
SERIAL STORY

by
David Whitelaw
On Page 3.

CUMNOCK EXPRESS

FOOTBALL
NOTES
by
"BATMAN"
On Page 8.

AND AUCHINLECK, CATRINE, MAUCLINE, MUIRKIRK,
NEW CUMNOCK, OCHILTREE, STAIR AND KIRKCONNEL PRESS

No. 2.

Registration Applied for.

CUMNOCK, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1934.

Phone: 99.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

DEATH.
EAGLESHAM.—At Darnconner Manse,
Auchinleck, on 10th December, 1934,
James Eaglesham, in his 79th year.

A GRAND
GYMNASTIC DISPLAY
by the
MUIRKIRK PHYSICAL CULTURE CLUB
will be given in
DUNDAS HALL,
On FRIDAY, 21st DEC., 1934.

Chairman—Rev. John Henderson, B.D.
Programme will consist of Club Swing-
ing, Sword Swinging, Parallel Bars, "Hand
Balancing Trio," Wrestling, Boxing, Pyra-
mids, Tumbling, Muscle Control, Boys'
Tumbling Team, etc., etc.

Prices—1/-, and 7d (Tax included).
Ticket-holders will be admitted first.

A DANCE WILL FOLLOW.
Music by Samson's Band of 4 players.
Admission—Ladies, 6d; Gentlemen, 1/-.

NEW YEAR SPECIAL

1 BOTTLE TAWNY WINE (Port Type).
1 TWO POUND SULTANA CAKE.
1 QUART BOTTLE FRUIT WINE
(Ginger, Blackcurrant, or Raspberry).

For 2/3

CURRIE'S,
Barrhill Road, Cumnock.

BULBS IN FLOWER.
Your own Bowls filled with HYACINTHS
and TULIPS. Cheap Bowls in Stock.
A Bowl of either makes a nice Christmas
Present.

Be in Time.

FERNS, PALMS, CASTOR OIL PLANTS,
JUNIPERS, Etc. HOLLYBERRY
WREATHS.

R. MEIKLE,
STRAND GARDENS,
OLD CUMNOCK.

DANCING DISPLAY
by
PUPILS OF JOHN C. POLLOCK,
in
TOWN HALL, NEW CUMNOCK,
on
FRIDAY, 14th DECEMBER, at 7.30.
Adults, 1/-; Children, 6d (Including Tax).

OLD FOLKS PARTY
in
LUGAR INSTITUTE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21st.
"THE BOHEMIANS,"
Scotland's Premier Concert Party.
Chairman—WM. LOGAN, Esq., Craigtoun.
Doors Open, 7 p.m. Commence, 7.30 p.m.
Social, 2/-.
Dance—Ladies, 1/-; Gentle-
men, 1/6. Nighthawks Orchestra.

**OUR XMAS AND NEW YEAR
'Curriegram'**

1 TWO POUND TIN XMAS
ASSORTED BISCUITS.
1 TWO POUND SULTANA CAKE.
1 QUART BOTTLE GREEN
GINGER WINE.
1 LAUDER WINE GLASS.
All for 2/6.

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Cumnock and Craigbank.

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Visit the Old Firm

M. B. DALE & SON,
Cumnock and Auchinleck.

Here We Are Again Offering You a Host of Useful Bargains
Making Ideal Xmas Presents.

Shop Early and Avoid Disappointment.

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DOWN THE PAWN STAIRS

LADIES' TWEED COATS, FUR-TRIMMED—18/11.
LADIES' RAINCOATS—27/6 to 37/6.
MAIDS' LEATHERETTE COATS—12/11.
LADIES' SILK WATERPROOFS: All Colours—4/11 to 6/11, 8/11.
Large Selection LADIES' GLOVES: All Leading Makes—4/11 to 8/11.
LADIES' EVENING DRESSES: All Colours and Styles—14/4 to 27/6.
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GENT'S TWEED SUITS—Were 50/-; Now 30/-.
YOUTHS' SUITS: All Sizes—18/11 to 27/6.
BOYS' SUITS—6/11 to 10/6, 12/11.
GENT'S DOUBLE TEXTURE COATS: All Sizes—11/6.
GENT'S RAINCOATS—24/6 to 35/-.
GENT'S TWEED COATS—25/- to 35/-.
KIDDIES' SILK SETS: All Shades—3/11.
KIDDIES' SILK PYJAMAS—3/6 Suit: Lovely Shades.
MAIDS' CASHMERE JUMPERS—2/11 to 3/11 Each.
GIRLS' GYMNS: Finest Material: All Sizes—6/11 to 7/11.
SILK VESTS, STRAP and BUILT SHOULDERS: All Colours—1/11.
SILK SLIPS: All Colours: From—1/11 to 3/11.
O.S. SILK KNICKERS: Seconds: Lovely Stuff—1/6 Pr.
INTERLOCK VESTS and KNICKERS—1/- Garment.

Inspection Invited. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

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GILLESPIE & SONS, Down The Pawn Stairs.



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GARAGE**

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Cars for Hire at Moderate Rates.

Wireless and Car Batteries perfectly charged.

New, Second-Hand, and Re-built Tyres in Stock.

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Suits designed to give the wearer ultra
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comfort.

The very latest subtleties of style in
Dress Wear are embodied in every one
of our models, and only the latest
cloths of the very highest order are used
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as well as OURS is to save time and go forward?

LET US HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF DEMONSTRATING
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Electrical and Automobile Engineers,
54 AYR ROAD, CUMNOCK.

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BEAUTIFUL PERMANENT WAVES.

EVERY woman can be the proud possessor
of beautifully waved hair adorned with close,
soft curls if she chooses a KERKA Wave.
This long established system of Permanent
Waving brings lasting beauty. Whether
your hair is dark or fair, auburn or grey,
the natural gloss is maintained and no
discoloration takes place.

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NAN M'CU LLEY,

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THE FINEST SYSTEM OF PERMANENT WAVING IN THE WORLD.

Telephone: 98 Cumnock.

G. LEITCH & SON,
Grain & Seed Merchants,

Ayr Road,
CUMNOCK, 13th December, 1934.

To users of our "Supreme" Poultry Foods

Dear Sirs,—

If you want Chickens that would pass a first class Judge for quality
and stamina, and will give the results that you desire, then there is only one thing
to do—

Feed "Supreme" Impregnated Chicken Mash.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE LEITCH & SON.
(Robert M. Leitch).

NOTE 1.—(Select your Breeders from their Record, after a careful inspection of each
Bird for Brightness of eyes and comb and bodily fitness).

Livingstone Hastings,

37 GLAISNOCK STREET,

Can MEAT all your requirements.

STEAMING HOT PIES, STRAIGHT FROM BAKER'S OVEN.
PRIME ROAST BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK.
PICKLED ROLLS and TONGUES.
PORK STUFFING FOR FOWLS.
COOKED MEATS OUR SPECIALITY.

Our Cooking ensures that the full Quality and Flavour is
maintained.

Grade A Ayrshire Bacon. Second to None.

ALL SLICED TO SUIT CUSTOMERS TASTE WITH
BERKEL SLICING MACHINE.

Sausages Make a Meal, when HASTINGS Makes the
Sausages.

Winner of over 40 Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals
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Baker and Confectioner
— AND —

Wedding Cake Specialist,

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OUR FAMOUS SHORTBREAD

in Tartan Sealed Tins

4 Cakes, 2/6. 6 Cakes, 3/9.

8 Cakes, 4/9.

Shortbread Fingers, in Tartan Boxes, 1/6.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF ICED XMAS CAKES,
SCOTCH BUNS, PLUM, SULTANA, CHERRY,
DUNDEE, PARADISE, ETC.

CUMNOCK U.F. CHURCH.

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IN LESSER TOWN HALL, OR SATURDAY, 15th DEC.

Opening Ceremony at 2.30 by Mrs BARTON of Ayr.

ADMISSION - - - 24.

Goods of every description at reasonable prices suitable for Christmas Gifts. Refreshments obtainable during Sale.

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FOR SALE 266 Shares of 10/- each of the above Company. OFFERS in sealed envelopes marked "OFFERS FOR GAS SHARES" to be lodged with the Subscribers not later than 27th December, 1934.

BRACKENRIDGE & GRAHAM, Solicitors, Royal Bank Buildings, Cumnock.

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The Perfect Fixative **BUKREME** Obtainable only at this Saloon. Price for Bottle, 1/-.

LOOK OUT FOR **LABOUR SOCIAL.** FRIDAY, 28th DECEMBER. LESSER TOWN HALL.

DEXTER WEATHERPROOFS BRITISH and RELIABLE

with an exquisite fineness and freedom that gives them a style not usually associated with such coats.

Ladies' or Gent.'s Dexters From £2 2/-.

Sole Agent— **WM. RONALD,** TAILOR, 61 Barrhill Rd., CUMNOCK. Cheaper Range from £1 1/-.

FLOWERING TULIPS and HYACINTHS for Christmas in attractive Bowls. Bring Your Own Bowls Now and Have Them Filled. HOLLY WREATHS and CROSSES. — Prices Reasonable. —

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SUNDAY, 16th, at 6.15 p.m., in CRONBERRY HALL. Subject: "Before the Dawn."

MONDAY, 17th, in CRONBERRY HALL. TWO LANTERN LECTURES: At 6.15—

"Exciting Days with the B.B." At 7.30—

"Social Politics."

COLLECTION AT BOTH LECTURES. Members and friends throughout the Parish are reminded that the Annual Collection for Church Schemes will be called for shortly.

- Picture House -

CUMNOCK. AUCHINLECK.

To-Night and Saturday—SCENES OF THE ROYAL WEDDING.

TO-MORROW (SATURDAY)— BRUCE CABOT in MIDSHIPMAN JACK.

MONDAY and TUESDAY— DICK POWELL in TWENTY MILLION SWEETHEARTS.

WEDNESDAY— NIGHT CLUB QUEEN.

TO-MORROW (SATURDAY)— MARRON DAVIES in SPY 13.

MONDAY and TUESDAY— MARY CLARE in NIGHT CLUB QUEEN.

WEDNESDAY— TWENTY-MILLION SWEETHEARTS.

SEE WINDOW BILLS.

NOTICE TO BIRD LOVERS.

We are stocking full range of Capern's Foods, remedies and tonics (Bird and Fish); also full range of the famed **GLENYKAGE BIRD CAGES & STANDS.** Could there be a better CHRISTMAS PRESENT for a Kiddie than a pair of LOVE BIRDS and CAGE? The Birds are all Pedigree-bred by Capern's people, and Two Days' Notice is all we require.

PRICES—Greens, 11/- Per Pair; Yellows, 14/- Per Pair; Sky Blues, 15/- Per Pair; Cobalts, 20/- Per Pair; Whites, 30/- Per Pair. Cages from 7/- Upwards—all Colours and Designs.

Alex. Muir & Son, Grocers and Wine Merchants, OLD CUMNOCK. Telephone No. 21.

CUMNOCK EXPRESS.

Installation of Electric Light and Power by Messrs COWAN & LINTON, LTD., Electrical and Automobile Engineers, 54 AYR ROAD, CUMNOCK.

The Established Electrical Firm of the District. Let us have your enquiries. Estimates Free.

Phone: 50 Cumnock.

Why you MUST try "CRAWFORD'S" **One-Day Cleaning!**

- IT IS SPEEDY We Collect To-day, Clean To-morrow, and Deliver the Day after.
- IT IS THOROUGH Leaves Clothes Free from Oily, Dust-collecting Film.
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Agent: Miss JACKSON, Glaisnock Street, CUMNOCK 5 Beresford Terrace, Ayr. Phone 3315.

JAMES McGRADY 9 THE SQUARE, OLD CUMNOCK.

The Old Established Firm with the reputation for keeping the Largest and Most Varied Stock of all the Best-known Makes in the Trade including

LOTUS, DELTA, "K," QUEEN, DIANA, GIPSY QUEEN, KORCET and GRENSON.

Arch Support Shoes stocked in all above makes.

WE ALSO SPECIALISE IN WIDE-FITTING SHOES.

We have on hand a very BEAUTIFUL SELECTION of **SLIPPERS SUITABLE FOR XMAS GIFTS.** For MEN, WOMEN, and CHILDREN at Prices to Suit All Purses.

Phone 81. THE CHOICEST CLASS OF PROVISIONS ALWAYS IN STOCK AT

William McCubbin's, Family Grocer, Tea and Provision Merchant, GLAISNOCK STREET, CUMNOCK. Great Variety of Christmas Cakes. Fancy Biscuits in Boxes—all Prices.

Sinclair's and Biggar's Finest Qualities FINEST SMOKED HAM. BUTTER and EGGS. Finest AYRSHIRE BACON. CHEDDAR CHEESE of unequal quality. TINNED FRUITS in variety. See Windows for Prices. Try our famed 2/- TEA—A Perfect Treat. ORDERS CALLED FOR AND DELIVERED FREE BY OUR OWN VANS.

THE FESTIVE SEASON IS HERE! ENSURE ATTRACTIVENESS BY MAKING YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW WITH

Betty & Nancy Reid, Hairdressing Specialists, TO HAVE A Whole Head Perm, 12/6. OR Macdonald Perm, 21/-; Eugene Perm, 16/-, OIL MASSAGE. FRICTION. SETTING. WATER-WAVING. BOBBING. SHINGLING. POINTING and SINGING. 78 Glaisnock St., CUMNOCK. Phone 76.

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If you wish to spend a little less than usual, but at the same time want your Gift to be as good, then it will Pay You to visit us.

We have definitely the Finest and most Up-to-date Stock of China and Crystal goods in town—and the Prices are as fine. COME IN AND LOOK AROUND. Pick your Gift and we will reserve it till Xmas. You are always welcome at

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A FINE SELECTION OF **HANDBAGS** 2/6 to 18/6. **EVENING BAGS—MODERN DESIGNS.** **GLOVES** FUR-LINED, WOOL LINED, FUR-TRIMMED, FUR-BACK and LEATHER PULL-ONS. Prices from 4/6 to 18/6.



HANDKERCHIEFS BEAUTIFUL DESIGNS. In all the Newest Colourings for Evening and General Wear.

AN ATTRACTIVE RANGE OF TARTAN NOVELTIES FOR "A FRIEN' AWAY!" LADIES' ART. SILK UNDERWEAR, NIGHTDRESSES, PYJAMAS, AND VESTS, LUMBER JACKETS, UMBRELLAS, STOCKINGS, AND DRESSING-GOWNS.

MEN'S DEPT. GLOVES, HANDKERCHIEFS, TIES, PYJAMAS, SOCKS, SHIRTS, PULL-OVERS, ETC. A SPLENDID CHOICE. **TOYS** for THE BAIRNS.

At **GOLDIE'S,** The Square, CUMNOCK.

Public Personages.

THE COUNTESS OF DUMFRIES WITH LORD CARDIFF AND THE HONOURABLE DAVID CRICHTON-STUART

THE COUNTESS OF DUMFRIES before her marriage was Lady Eileen Beatrice Forbes, second daughter of the Earl of Granard, K.P., Master of the Horse.

She was presented at Court in 1931 and the same year met the Earl of Dumfries for the first time at her father's home in Ireland, and came back with him on a return visit.

On 26th April of the following year she was married to Lord Dumfries in the Parish Church at Newtownforbes, County Longford.

The Earl and Countess took up residence in London where their twin sons, Lord Cardiff and the Honourable David Crichton Stuart, were born on the 27th of February, 1933.

Her ladyship, like her husband, is a member of the Eglinton Hunt. She is a very ardent member, hunting being one of her hobbies. It follows quite naturally that riding is another of her hobbies. Coming from a country where the love of a good horse



is almost a fetish she is passionately fond of riding, and finds time almost every day to enjoy a gallop over the

The Countess owns two steep-chasers, Humble Pie and Bachelor's Heart. The former is trained in this country by Mr Percy Woodlands, while the latter is trained in Ireland by Mr Farrell, Laughs, and County Longford. Motoring is another of the pastimes in which she delights.

Her twin sons are now one year and nine months old. A visit to the nursery found these sturdy youngsters being prepared for bed, but glad of the respite to show their faces. Both children have curly hair. Lord Cardiff is being golden while the Honourable David has very dark curls.

The children seem to have inherited the parental energy for they romped about the nursery, running from one side to the other and back again; crossing and re-crossing with laughing glee.

A glance at the Earl and the Countess showed the father and the mother. Fond eyes followed the antics of their children, while indulgent smiles revealed their pride in their greatest possession.

broad acres at her disposal. She is an excellent judge of a horse, and a very accomplished rider.

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THE WAY OF DANGER By DAVID WHITELAW.

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTER.

CHAPTER I.—Brenda Freyne, secretary to Noel Cotford, of Cotford and Sons, silks merchants, filing her employer's letters one night after he has left the office, finds among them part of a written communication that is evidently intended for her eyes. It is a single sheet of paper warning Mr Cotford that he is being watched, mentioning murder and advising him to "keep the police out of his affair."

A wild desire took her to cry out... call for the police. The man and woman in the car would not dare touch her then. Then the girl's courage that had been slowly ebbing returned to her.

She heard the shouting of the driver... then she was on the other side of the street. She looked back. The car had stopped and was waiting for a gap in the traffic to turn.

CHAPTER II. "Bit tickle being a fellow waiting like this. After last night at the Regal, too."

She looked suddenly down at the peached egg on toast that the waitress had placed before him.

me as soon as look at me. But I've got the car ahead half a mile away, and I'll give him the slip all right. Harry, old man. These men won't stop at murder. Go to the post office at Zerran and inquire. It's a great life if you don't weaken, and judging by what you've learnt up North, I think we've got 'em where we want 'em. It'll be seeing you."

What's the trouble, Brenda? Can I help? I don't see how you can, Ronnie. "Let me try. I'd do anything for you."

Brenda was usual with her, took a quick decision. She had had a trying time and somebody had got to be told. Her sister's advice had got to be asked. She had passed a night when sleep had seemed to her to be a million miles away from the little room where she had lain, tossing from side to side and staring at the patch of star-powdered sky that was framed in her window.

What would you do, Ronnie, if you had been given something to do and found you couldn't do it? "Bit vague, aren't you? ... How d'you mean?"

And in a few sentences Ronnie Slade heard the story of the night before. As he listened his heart, like the tea in the cup in front of him, grew cold. Brenda had reached the part of her story dealing with her visit to Mr Bristol in Wigmore Street at four that afternoon.

What was that you were saying about murder? "I'm not going to the police because Mr Noel said he didn't want the police in this affair."

But I was only joking, Ronnie. I'll think it over, Brenda. The girl rose and took up her gloves. "That's just like you. Thinking things over with other men are getting down to work."

hand was reaching out for the ball connecting with the warehouse. But Slade had reached the door. With the handle in his fingers he drew his peaching shot. "You're not a bad sort, Hughes. ... but don't you ever want to break away and have a scouse for the grand?"

Brenda had decided to take the mid-night sleeper, but second thoughts had dissuaded her. She had slept hardly at all the night before and she wanted, above everything, to be fit for whatever might lie before her.

Brenda spent the evening quiet in her little flat with guide book and a large scale map, and at ten the next morning, rested both physically and mentally, she set gently out on her journey on the first stage of her adventure. Leaning back on the cushions of the third class carriage and placing two very shabby, worn-out portmanteaux on the seat before her the girl gave herself up to dreams. She watched the flying hedges and manor-houses in a little while these flat fields and pastures would give place to the villages and woodlands of Somerset.

If only Ronnie had not been so lacking in imagination. But why think of Ronnie? The boy wanted to get his hands across a desk adding up interminable rows of figures and scribbling bills of lading instead of going gallivanting to sea with Brenda's heart was crying out for companionship. But she was happy. She was leaving behind her the dull routine of the beaten paths of life, and was entering into a new and wonderful world where anything and everything might happen.

But as she stood that evening at the rain-blurred window of the bar parlour of the "Tinner's Arms" she had to wonder over the grey Atlantic the first doubts as to her wisdom in taking her employer's car on to the coast. She had to wonder what she would do if Mr Noel had said she should, having failed to get the car to the coast.

Old Hughes looked up from his desk as the young shipping clerk entered the office the following morning. He peered up short-sightedly at the clock. Then he peered at Ronnie Slade.

At that moment the barbs that Brenda Freyne had the evening before implanted in the soul of Ronald Slade, and that had tortured him throughout the night hours, turned to Paradise in their passage of sea and moorland, the purple smudge of distant hills and gulls whirling high in a cloudless sky.

Brenda breakfasted in the bar parlour, and at a little past ten took the path leading across the cliff. A delightful path it was that zigged and zagged and among grey boulders and golden gorse, rising to the crest of one headland, dipping and sitting again to another, showing at each turn some new and more wonderful vista of sea and moor.

The house held for the girl a message. In some vague fashion it seemed to the mission; told her that this was no holiday jaunt that she had come upon but grim reality, that behind the glory of this particular autumn morning tragedy was waiting for her. Even in the golden sunshine there was something sinister, something evil about the place and about the gaunt skeleton of the ruin. It made her think of the broken masonry of its shaft and power house beside its walls. Standing knee deep in the bracken on the opposite headland Brenda experienced the feeling that was supposed to know when someone walks over one's grave. For a moment the sun seemed to be darkened as though a shadowy hand had been raised to hide it. But the next turn in the path hid the house from view, and the next after that opened out to the girl a picture of the village of Zerran. In the distance of the cliffs below her, a small huddle of grey roofs with the square tower of a church and a crooked little street winding down to a tiny granite shelter in the foreground, a little grave in a clay bank which bore a faded fishing boat's red gentry at anchor. (To be Continued.)

Sports Page

FOOTBALL.

Talbot Get The Points.

WESTERN LEAGUE.

By "BATMAN."

At Beechwood Park... About a couple of hours before the advertised starting time... Talbot was first in action...

minute, and with the visitors' showing improvement... Talbot-McCaffer, Crowley and Wylie; M'Ally, Morrison, Hutton, Findlay, Hutcheon, Irvine, McCall, and Kelly...

GLENAFON ATHLETIC F.C. AYRSHIRE'S "SCOTTISH" HOPE.



(By kind permission of Scottish "Daily Express.") (Back row) A. Stewart (treasurer), D. Logan, H. Brown, W. Gray, M. McEwan, J. Sim, G. Ballantyne (captain). Front row—J. Irvine, J. Miller, D. Lamont, F. Campbell, R. Jackson, R. Hawthorne.

The direct methods of this winger was a worry to the Salscats defence... Kello Collect. WESTERN LEAGUE. Kello Rovers travelled to Irvine on Saturday to meet the Meadow...

FOOTBALL NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Murphy, the stockily built centre forward whom Talbot signed at the beginning of this season... FOOTBALL NOTES AND COMMENTS. By "BATMAN." Murphoy, the stockily built centre forward whom Talbot signed at the beginning of this season, and whom Oldham picked up a couple of months ago...

rather than pay this amount 37 of them have indicated that they will take in the gas for cooking purposes. My impression is that the question of gas versus electricity enters very little into the dispute. As one of our tenants states that on no consideration would he change over, as he has taken careful note of the cost in comparison with the same size of a house supplied with gas only, and claims electricity to be cheaper, cleaner, and in every way more satisfactory. My advice is get into touch with the Board first, if you have not done so already.—Yours faithfully,

John A. Aird,
Convener Kilmarnock Housing
Committee.

Dear Sir,—
3rd December, 1934.

Housing Scheme—Electric Cookers.

I have your letter of the 30th ulto. My Council installed electric cooking apparatus at two of their Schemes some years ago, but recently, as a result of persistent complaints by the tenants, who were far from satisfied, they arranged with the Corporation Gas Department to supply, on simple hire terms, gas cookers and wash boilers to the tenants who desired to have such apparatus in preference to the existing electrical apparatus. The tenants, of course, pay the hire charges direct to the Gas Department.

I enclose a Statement showing the existing tariff of charges which I received from the Ayrshire Electricity Board in 1933, and also a new Optional Tariff of Charges which came into force then, amended in accordance with a recent reduction. I understand that most of the tenants in 1933 changed from the then existing tariff of charges to the new optional tariff of charges.—Yours truly,

N. J. Campbell, Town Clerk.

Baillie Bridges also read a letter from Treasurer Carney, Kilmarnock, substantiating his previous statement that a number of tenants in Scott Road all-electric houses were changing back to gas.

Provost—I think we should circulate this information among the members and ask Mr Bexon and Mr Graham to supply statements which could also be circulated. After that we could ask these gentlemen to meet us, when we could ask questions.

P.-J. McCall—I am not pleased at the terms offered by the Electricity Board.

Provost—The correspondence does not supply all the information. I move we ask both the representatives to meet us.

Meeting authorised execution of mortgage by the Public Works Loan Board to secure £6000 and interest.

An application, dated 19th November, from Mr A. Withers, to erect a shed 7 ft. by 6 ft. in his garden at Keir Hardie Hill was remitted to the Housing Sub-Committee with powers.

Council confirmed a resolution of 9th December, 1934, to borrow (1) £200 for water mains at Barr's Park (extension site); (2) £225 for sewers at said site; (3) £3200 for construction of streets at east side of Glaisnock Street site; (4) £360 for water mains at said site; and (5) £650 for sewers at said site.

Letters from Town Clerk, Kilmarnock, and Ayrshire Electricity Board regarding "all-electric" houses.

It was agreed to ask them for the 20th inst., and to consider contractors' offers on 7th January. Appeals against assessments will be heard on 24th inst.

Fire Brigade.

Provost Hughes—We hear various suggestions from time to time about the local fire brigade. There is a feeling of dissatisfaction regarding it, and I think we should meet this by investigation. I move we remit it to the Magistrates' Committee. Agreed.

Lively Wind-Up.

Baillie Bridges—I was approached by two men last week applying for two appointments to be made in this connection early in the year. I told them I was unaware of any such thing.

Baillie Holland—Mr M'Kissock told me he heard it was to come before Council, but neither his son nor son-in-law mentioned it to me.

Provost Hughes—I do not know the men.

Baillie Bridges tried to raise the matter of Mr M'Millan's account, but was informed by the Provost that the meeting was adjourned and would now sit in Committee.

Baillie Bridges insisted on a hearing, but Provost Hughes was adamant, and the Press retired with Baillie Bridges asserting the Provost was a "Pinchbeck Hitler."

Cumnock District Council.

The statutory meeting was held at Millbank on Monday, 10th inst.—Mr Geo. M'Turk in the chair. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Messrs J. Trotter, J. Colthart, and T. Flynn. The Rev. J. Henderson moved that Mr M'Turk be reappointed to the chair, and this was unanimously agreed. This is the third unanimous appointment of Mr M'Turk to the chairmanship.

Mr M'Turk thanked the members for this expression of confidence.

A letter from the County Clerk acknowledged receipt of petition to repair Cornmill Street, Catrine, and stated the matter was receiving attention.

Mr Anderson—This came before the Highways Committee, and I was informed it is not on the list of highways. This street is over 100 years old, and has been maintained by the County. The only excuse given for not maintaining it now is the change of roadmen.

Rev. J. Hill—How long has the County repaired it?

Mr Anderson—Since the change over of administration.

The point is it is not on the list of highways and the County has maintained it. It is not in bad repair; the proprietors keep it in fair order. The Highways Committee refused point blank to put it on the list. One member jocularly suggested the County should charge the proprietors for repairs.

The Clerk said he would receive an official reply from the County Clerk, and it was agreed to leave the matter as it is.

A letter from County re Sorn lighting had been referred to the County Engineer to obtain further particulars. The question had not been raised by the District Council, but had originated from the Sorn Estate.

Chairman—I have no fear but Sorn will get the same consideration as other parishes, and if we proceed cautiously we shall see electric lighting at Sorn.

Rev. J. Hill—It's not caution you need, it's patience.

A letter from the County Clerk stated that the Property and Works Committee are seeing the work of erecting two additional lamps at Mill Square, Catrine, carried out.

Mr Allan intimated that warning notices had been posted to head teachers asking them to warn pupils re the mischievous practice of tampering with and misuse of phone at telephone kiosk, Comelpark. This matter arose out of a New Cumnock minute. Mr J. Nicol, Bank School, had replied saying he had warned pupils of his school.

The Clerk submitted the following copy of letter he had sent to the Secretary of National Playing Fields Association, Edinburgh:—

4th December, 1934.
Captain E. D. Stevenson, M.C.

Dear Sir,—

Ochiltree, Catrine and Sorn Play Parks, and New Cumnock Play Park.

I duly received your favour of 28th ultimo., and have since been in communication with the County Clerk, who has been carrying out our legal work in connection with Play Parks. I enclose letter received from him. Regarding para 2 of page 2 of his letter, I think it would be better to have one formal Deed of Dedication to include the four play parks above mentioned. I enclose excerpt minute of meeting of the District Council resolving to dedicate the play parks in perpetuity and agreeing to complete a formal deed of dedication when all the conveyances are duly recorded in the Register of Sasines. I shall be glad to hear from you as to whether you agree to accept this as sufficient for your purpose. The County Architect is preparing for me the "marked" survey sheets requested in yours of 27th ultimo., and so soon as these come to hand I shall let you have them.—Yours faithfully,

John Allan.

P.S.—In asking you to accept excerpt minutes it was not the legal cost of preparing the deed I was concerned about but the "law's delays."

The next monthly meeting was due to fall on Christmas Eve, and it was agreed to dispense with it altogether; the various conveners to deal with any matters arising in the interim.

Mr Anderson submitted the following letter he had received from the County Architect:—

County Buildings, Ayr,
30th November, 1934.
Jas. B. Anderson, C.C.,
Sorn, by Mauchline.

Dear Mr Anderson,—

Catrine Housing (1930) Act.

With regard to the housing at the above development I understand from the Convener of the Housing Committee that you desire some information regarding progress at the above scheme.

I have had a good deal of trouble with the plasterer here, and I am glad to say that he is now making good progress.

The weather has also been better for drying purposes. I shall be glad to explain the action I took to try and expedite progress.—Yours faithfully,

William Reid.

P.S.—I enclose herewith for your further information a report of the progress at present.

Mr Anderson—The point is I was unaware of there being any hold-up on this work. I gave notice at the County meeting I was going to ask this question at the close, but the meeting was adjourned. I asked the chairman, who was aware of it, but had not heard officially.

Mr Cook—The report is pretty accurate. There has been a great delay due to the plasterer. Unfortunately the weather has been bad for plaster work.

Mr Pollock—I think, Mr Chairman, the correspondence bears out the statement I made at last meeting.

Chairman—The matter is now being reviewed.

Mr Anderson—The County Clerk has instructed me to write to the Highways Committee drawing attention to the deplorable state of the footpaths in Auchinleck—particularly at Main Street, Old Avenue, and Park Road. There was flooding some time ago, but now the ground has settled I think the time is ripe for having these repairs done. Agreed.

Mr Bushell—I would like similar measures to be taken to expedite the demolition of the old buildings at Mauchline. These are in a dangerous state. The tenants at Burnside complain of stones falling from the old building there. The one at the Knowe is opposite the church, and when it is a windy day worshippers are subjected to great inconvenience from dust blowing. The last time this Council wrote Ayr on the matter the roofs were removed. Four months ago a recommendation went from here to have them cleared away. I hope you will agree to send on that recommendation again.

Chairman—I have no objection; these old houses can become very dangerous.

Rev. J. Hill—It is the proprietor's duty to remove them; they get three months in which to do so.

Col. Adair—Those houses have not been condemned. I got one removed from High Street. All we can do is try and get them cleared away.

Mr Bushell—I understand a Demolition Order was taken.

Col. Adair—The man in High Street gave up the ground to the Highways Committee on condition the County cleared away the building.

Clerk—I can take this up with the County Council. Agreed.

This concluded the business.

COMMUNION SERVICES.

Old Church.—Holy Communion was celebrated in the Old Church last weekend. Although the weather conditions were far from desirable, there was a large attendance.

On the Friday evening the customary preparatory service was held, when the officiating ministers were the Rev. J. D. M'Clymont, B.D., and the Rev. W. G. Alexander, M.A., of Muirkirk. The visiting minister preached on Psalm 116, v. xiii.—"I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord." Thereafter the minister of the Old Church admitted 27 catechumens to the full communion.

On the Sunday the dignified and impressive service of Holy Communion was conducted by the Rev. J. D. M'Clymont, who also preached, taking as his text—"And he went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God" (I. Kings, 19-8). The organist, Miss Jean Rankin, L.R.A.M., played at both services. The number of communicants would be about 450.

Cumnock U.F. Church of Scotland.—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed on Sunday, 9th December. The Rev. Cossar Walker, of Meigle, occupied the pulpit morning and evening, and preached to a large congregation.

West Church.—The Holy Communion was dispensed in the West Church last Sunday morning by the Rev. Douglas B.A., Dundee. In the evening the Thanksgiving service was conducted by the visiting minister.

TOWN COUNCIL

pearing in the 1931 Census returns referable to the area under the jurisdiction of your Local Authority.

As might be expected, the incidence of overcrowding is greatest in houses of one or two apartments, and the Department observe that in the burgh the percentage of such small houses to the total number of occupied houses is no less than 52.4. Further, the percentage of the burgh population living in these houses is returned as 51.8.

If a standard for overcrowding of more than two persons per room is accepted, the number of families in the burgh living under overcrowded conditions is 252. Even if a standard of three or more persons per room is taken, the number of overcrowded families is 174.

Shortage of houses is a primary cause of sub-letting, which in its turn leads to overcrowding. The latest Census figures reveal that the number of sub-let houses in the burgh is 15, being 1.7 per cent. of the total number of occupied houses.

The Department have set out these statistics on overcrowding as they feel that their presentation in this abbreviated form will emphasise to the Local Authority the extent of the evil in their district. Its menace to the population needs no elaboration. Overcrowding engenders impairment of the health of young children and the spread of infectious diseases, and should obviously be dealt with on grounds of decency and morality.

The Department consider it their duty to emphasise the extent of overcrowding that prevails in the burgh and the opportunity for dealing with it which the Local Authority have by reason of the subsidy specially provided by Parliament for this purpose.

The capitalised value of the State subsidy based on the current rate of interest (3½ per cent.) charged by the Public Works Loan Board is approximately £63 per house—a substantial contribution with building prices at their present level and one that the Department are confident the Local Authority will find attractive if they have careful regard to the low rates at which Local Authorities can borrow, and to the economies, referred to in paragraph 21 and 22 of the Department's circular of 30th May, which can be practised in plans and specifications.

The Secretary of State directs me to express the hope that, so many and pressing are their other duties and obligations, the Local Authority will not overlook so favourable an opportunity of removing one of the gravest aspects of their housing problem, and he trusts that the Local Authority will see their way to formulate proposals in time to make the fullest possible use of the special subsidy.

I shall be glad if this communication may be submitted to an early meeting of the Local Authority or their appropriate Committee for their consideration and due intimation made to me of the result.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
Alex. McKenna, Assistant Secy.

A circular, dated 12th November, from the Convention of the Royal Burghs of Scotland regarding the Local Government and other Officers' Superannuation Bill was held over pending action of the County on the matter.

A letter, dated 13th November, 1934, from British Empire Cancer Campaign asked permission to hold collection on 25th May, 1935. This was left to the Clerk to arrange a day.

A letter, dated 29th November, was read from the North British Exhibitions regarding booking of Town Hall for Trades Exhibition. It was agreed to send terms and refer them to hallkeeper.

A circular, dated 29th November, from Department of Health for Scotland regarding rates of interest on loans received from Public Works Loan Board stated rate to be 3½ per cent. for housing loans for any period; other loans 3¼ per cent. for period of 30 years; 3¼ per cent. for 50 year loans.

A letter, dated 28th November, from Mr John McCulloch stated that the house at 17 Shankston was inadequate for his purpose.

A report by the Burgh Surveyor confirmed the estimate given by the Board that half the houses in Cumnock were 1 or 2 apartment houses and that half the population lived in these houses.

It was agreed to circulate a communication from the Scottish Association for Mental Welfare appealing for subscriptions.

The following letters were received by Mr R. D. Hunter, town clerk, Cumnock:—
County Buildings, Ayr,
30th November, 1934.

Dear Sir,—
Ayr County Water Order.
The Committee of the County Council

promoting this Order have resolved to send you, for the information of the Cumnock Town Council, the enclosed print of the Draft Order as lodged in terms of the General Orders with the Scottish Office along with a Petition to the Secretary of State.

The Committee desire to give due consideration to any observations which the Town Council desire to make on the Draft Order and to meet as far as possible any objections.

It may be that the Town Council would prefer the constitution of a Joint Board representing the County Council, Town Councils and other water undertakers for the administration of water supply in the whole area rather than the proposed transfer to the County Council, and, if there is agreement among the local authorities to this effect, the County Council would be prepared to negotiate the terms and conditions of such an agreement, to avoid a conflict with other local authorities.

If there is any further information required to enable the Town Council to consider the proposals, the Committee will be glad to supply such information so far as it is available.—I am, yours faithfully,
James Shaw, County Clerk.

In the same matter a letter dated 1st December called a meeting of Burgh representatives at Ayr on 7th inst.

ALL ELECTRIC HOUSES.

The following letters for and against "all electric" houses were read:—

County Buildings, Ayr,
6th December, 1934.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter, dated 30th Nov., addressed to the County Clerk and which was passed to me on 1st December. I hope to give you the information asked for at an early date.

I am afraid that I have not much to say in favour of the all-electric house, but will state my reasons when replying to Mr Shaw.—Yours faithfully,
William Reid, County Architect.

Greenholm Street, Kilmarnock,
5th December, 1934.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 30th ult., and am pleased to learn that your Council have under consideration the proposal to build 166 all-electric houses.

My Board are prepared to charge the Town Council on the same basis as the Irvine Town Council for their all-electric houses, namely, your Corporation to pay to my Board a sum equal to 15 per cent. of the assessed value of each house, the minimum assessment in each case to be £20, and all units as registered on the meter to be charged to the consumer at 4d per unit. At these rates there is no doubt that electricity is the cheapest proposition.

I understand the Irvine Town Council collect the £3 by means of an extra charge on the rental, which is more suitable to the consumers than collecting payment in one sum. The unit charge of 4d is so small that the quarterly account only amounts to a small sum.

I have looked up some of the consumptions of consumers in the Irvine Housing Scheme and I find that the average of the highest consumers is 16s each per quarter, and the average of smaller consumers in the same housing scheme is 13s each per quarter; in fact there are some cases where the consumptions are practically only 100 units per quarter, which amounts to 4s 2d.

In looking up another all-electric housing scheme where the consumer pays the sum under the assessment, the total cost of an all-electric house, including cooking, heating, a wash boiler, and water heating averages between £6 and £8 per annum.

In regard to the latter part of your letter my Board are unable to give preferential treatment. We charge the consumers on our ordinary tariffs, but you might let me know what you mean by the "cheapest terms."

A representative of the General Electric Co., Ltd., called for me on Monday last, and mentioned that the cookers in the new housing scheme would each be of a capacity of over 6 kilowatts, and, if such cookers are installed, then the assessment sum will be reduced from 15 per cent. to 12½ per cent.

I shall be glad to call and discuss the matter with your Council, should they so desire.—Yours faithfully,
Ayrshire Electricity Board,
William C. Bexon.

Greenholm Street, Kilmarnock,
5th December, 1934.

Dear Sir,—I have written to you to-day specifically in reply to your letter of the 30th ult., but I feel after reading in the Press your Council's discussion on all-electric houses that I should place certain facts before you.

First of all, in regard to Mr Miller's remarks, I cannot agree with him that gas

is cheaper than electricity, at the rates which my Board offer, and I cannot agree with his figures that 200 cubic feet of gas equals 100,000 British heat units. The heat units depend on the value of the gas, which, as probably you are aware, varies in many gas undertakings.

We have a few thousands of electric cookers now installed, these cookers having replaced gas cookers, and in some instances the price of gas is less than that at Cumnock. I think, therefore, this proves that electricity for cooking is more efficient than gas.

According to the Press report Bailie Bridges enquired whether the Council were aware that at Scott Road, Kilmarnock, the tenants had asked for gas to be installed, to replace an all-electric system. In the year 1924 Kilmarnock Corporation launched out on the Scott Road Housing Scheme, and, as the electricity undertaking was then in the hands of the Corporation, the late Bailie Cumie, who was a member of the Town Council, was anxious that these houses should be all-electric. The Electricity Committee therefore agreed that they would, as an experiment, and at their own expense, instal radiators, a wash boiler, an electric cooker, an immersion heater in the tank, a kettle and an iron, in each house. The charges for the current consumed were as follows:—

Four-roomed house.—250 units, a certain number allocated to each quarter during the year to be charged at 6d per unit, and all in excess per annum at 0.8d per unit.

Three-roomed house.—200 units, a certain number allocated to each quarter during the year to be charged at 6d per unit, and all in excess per annum at 0.8d per unit.

This tariff was slightly in excess of the ordinary tariff at that time, the increase being partly to cover the cost of the electrical apparatus which the Electricity Committee had provided free of charge to the tenants.

As you will appreciate, the charges for electricity have been reduced, and also there have been considerable improvements on electric cookers. Quite a number of the tenants in the Scott Housing Scheme wished the Board to provide an up-to-date cooker, free of charge, and also to charge them on the ordinary tariff. This practically meant that they wished the Board to provide them with all the electric apparatus free of charge, and also to have the lowest charge for electricity. My Board could not agree to this, but they were prepared to provide cookers on the ordinary basis and to charge for electricity at the standard tariffs. By so doing, the consumers in practically every case would have saved in their annual electricity bill.

A number of tenants in Scott Road did agree to this and were thoroughly satisfied, but there were others who were dissatisfied, and, in view of this, the Corporation Gas Department laid a gas main recently for the purpose of giving a supply for gas cooking. I am led to understand that although the gas main has been laid, very few of the tenants of this housing scheme are going to take advantage of the gas main by installing a gas cooker, and I would recommend that representatives of your Council visit the Scott Road Housing Scheme, as I think the tenants there will be able to give an unprejudiced opinion of electric cooking.

I rather welcome the fact that a few tenants in the Scott Road Housing Scheme have installed gas cookers, as, after a year's run, it can be definitely proved whether all-electric housing is a better proposition than the lighting and small domestic apparatus being electric, and the cooker being gas.

I have ample evidence and figures to show that the cost of an all-electric house is cheaper than gas. As can be expected, the British Gas Association have been, and are doing, everything possible to prevent the installation of electricity for lighting, cooking, and heating. I can remember when the writer was endeavouring to get electricity for street lighting in a burgh, a leaflet was circulated pointing out that electricity for street lighting would be very much more expensive than the existing method of gas. It may interest you to know that the lighting of this burgh, since electricity has been installed, amounts to approximately £198 per annum, whereas with gas the cost was approximately £322 per annum, thus showing a saving of £124 over a year.—Yours faithfully,
Ayrshire Electricity Board,
William C. Bexon.

4 Princes Street,
Kilmarnock, 8-12-34.

Dear Provost.—Our Scott Road all-electric scheme consists of 60 houses and was occupied in 1924 with all the electric appliances supplied free by the Electricity Board.

In order to give our tenants the benefit of the now cheaper rate of electricity and the use of a modern cooker, the Board want to charge an annual rent for the cooker of 30s, which they resent, and