



Craigellachie

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Clan Grant Society
1058 Wembley Rd.
London, Ontario
N6H 3X6

Spring, 1986

It's GREAT to be a GRANT!

Vol. IX, No. 1-A

Scotland Tour Planned Aug. 8-15 for Grants

Anyone thinking of touring Scotland this summer (there's been no terrorism there!) might well want to consider joining the Clan Grant Society (U.K. Branch) tour Aug. 8-15.

The cost of this part of the tour would be around \$500, if enough people sign up quickly. Anyone thinking of doing so should contact David Grant-Blythe, 18 Grant Stuart Street, Edinburgh EH3 7TN, Scotland.

"This will be a great trip," George H. Grant, Convener, points out, "especially for those who have gone without a Grant group, and friends who want to see the 'real'

Scotland, and meet 'real' Scots. It will be an historic event to be able to attend a service at Duthil Kirk for the first time in many years, and possibly the last time. If you go with David Grant-Blythe, you will have a great treat, as he is a Burns scholar, and does an unforgettable 'Ode to the Haggis!'"

Following is a tentative schedule; the final schedule will depend on how early the bookings come in.

You will get your own transportation to Grantown; thereafter, a luxury bus will be available to take to entire party to the various places of interest. City buses or taxis

will be used in Edinburgh, where the tour will end.

Friday, August 8, Arrive and "book in" in the Grantown-on-Spey area. Introductions — Welcoming Reception organized by the U.K. Branch of the Clan Grant Society for overseas visitors, followed by dinner at the Seafiel Lodge Hotel, Woodside Avenue, Grantown. (Introductions and Welcoming Reception at 7:00).

Saturday, August 9, All day at the Abernethy Highland Games and Clan Grant Rally. (11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.). Buffet lunches will be available at the Clan

Grant Hospitality Tent. In the evening there will be a Grand Clan Grant Society Dinner at the Nethybridge Hotel (7:30).

Sunday, August 10, Last service of Holy Worship to be held in Duthil Church (by then, hopefully, owned by the world Clan Grant Society). To be attended by members of the tour. A general invitation to attend the service will be extended to local residents, relatives of persons buried in the Duthil Cemetery, which surrounds the church, and to any other interested persons. (11:00 a.m.). After the service there will be a conducted walk around the graveyard where many "Grants" are interred (including all the Chiefs of Grant from 1600 to 1900). Lunch at Carrbridge Hotel (or elsewhere if preferred). Afternoon visit to Castle Grant, Grantown, to see progress of the work on the restoration of the castle, to visit those rooms that can be

opened to the public and, in particular, to see the accommodation to be made available to the world-wide Clan Grant Society for use as a Clan Museum and Visiting Centre. (3:00-5:00 p.m.). Buffet dinner and then Ceilidh at the Seafiel Lodge Hotel, Grantown. (7:30-10:30 p.m.).

Monday to Wednesday, August 11, to 13 inc., Visits to be arranged to various places of interest to "Grants," e.g. — Glenmoriston and Urquhart Castle, Ballindalloch Castle, Monymusk, one or more "Grant" Distilleries, the Inverdrue Visitor Centre at Rothiemurchus (in the shadow of the hill of Craigellachie), the Highland Folk Museum, Kingussie (founded 50 years ago by Dr. I.F. Grant), etc., etc.

Thursday, August 14, Travel together to Edinburgh (stopping at various places of interest on the way, with lunch either at Perth or Pitlochry). On arrival in Edinburgh (p.m.) visit the

Scottish National Portrait Gallery and National Museum of Antiquities (to see such items as the "long gun" of Sir Ludovic Grant (from Castle Grant), the original Waitt portrait of William Cumming, the Chief's piper, the priceless Monymusk Reliquary, etc., etc. In the evening attend a performance of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Friday, August 15, Conducted tour of Edinburgh Castle (to see the Scottish Regalia and (in the Military Museum) uniforms of the "Grant Fencibles," followed by a guided walk down the "Royal Mile" to Holyrood House (conducted tour). (a.m.) In the afternoon free time either to shop in Edinburgh or visit other places of interest (or just take things easy after an exhausting week)! In the evening attend a "Farewell Dinner" at which Edinburgh, and other, "Grants" will be present. Tour ends after the dinner.



CLAN TENTS provide the excuse for these Grants to go walking — from left to right, Hal Grant of Altamont, NY; Kathleen and Jim Maxey of Dunedin, Grandpa George and Grant Bisbee.

New Zealand Clan Active

Grant cousins in New Zealand are organized into a very active group. The organization was founded by Frederick Grant-Burgess and his late wife Irene. We had the privilege of meeting them in 1981 at the first Clan Gathering in Scotland.

The January 1986 newsletter has some very interesting news concerning Grant presence in New Zealand.

May 22 marks the 150th anniversary of the first Grant setting foot on New Zealand soil. He was Thomas Grant, a farm laborer, who arrived on the ship "Concorde" in 1836. He was the first of many hun-

dreds of Grants who migrated, and began a new life in New Zealand, including our Chief's father.

Thomas Grant secured a position with the New Zealand Land Company, working with a survey party in the Petone area. Regretably, poorthomas wasn't to enjoy his new life for long; he was killed in a skirmish with the warlike Maoris, just eleven months after his arrival.

Another anniversary to be celebrated this year is the 50th of the Whakatane Caladonian Society. The occasion is to be marked with a Grand Ball, where a number of young debutantes will be presented to the

Society. The late James Grant was a great benefactor to the Society in its formative years. James farmed for many years on the Galatea Plains. The home he built is standing today and I believe the Whakatane Historical Society is pressing to have the home restored. Some Society members can, to this day, be seen "sporting" the Grant tartan kilts presented to the Pipe Band by James Grant. The Grant crest is used on the Society stationery.

Th Gathering of the Clans (Southern Hemisphere) will be held in Sydney, Australia from November 22 to December 2, 1986. A large contingent of Grants will join with the Australian Grants for the occasion. If any American Grants are going to be in Australia during this time, make plans to attend. Our Chief was the Honored guest in 1984, and had a grand time.

Officers of the Clan Grant Society New Zealand are:

Convener, Frederick Grant-Burgess, 12 Sealy Road, Napier; Editor, Malcolm Grant, 9 Flagstaff Place, Massey, Auckland; Treasurer, Grant Melville Holms, 55 Balmoral Road, Mt. Eden, Auckland.

Volunteers Needed for Calif. Games

California Grants desperately need VOLUNTEERS at the following list of games this year. If you, or your spouse, or both, or any of your older children, could possibly help (it's an entertaining experience!) please contact Gene Grant, 1250 Crestmont Dr., Angwin, CA 94508, and let him know who, where, when, etc.

Last year, at Santa Rosa, three volunteers managed to keep the booth going, but it is much better when several groups help. Even an hour's rest helps.

The following games in northern and central California will be staffed, if

enough Grants volunteer; there will be an information booth at all of the following, except the California Central Coast games at San Luis Obispo, which is the same date as the Sacramento games and gathering:

May 17th, (Sat.) Marin Highland Games, Marin County Day School, Corte Madera

June 7th, (Sat.) Highland Games & Gathering, Tuolumne Regional Park, Modesto

June 21st (Sat.) California Central Coast Games, San Luis Obispo

June 21st (Sat.) Scottish Games & Gathering, Hornet Stadium, Cal State, Sacramento

June 28th & 29th (Sat. & Sun.) Scottish/Irish Games, Golden Gate Fields, Albany

July 6th (Sun.) Games & Gathering, Oakland

August 2nd & 3rd (Sat. & Sun.) Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Monterey Fairgrounds, Monterey

August 17th, (Sun.) Campbell Games, Campbell

August 29th, 30th, & 31st (Fri., Sat. & Sun.) Caledonian Games, Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Santa Rosa

Sept. 13th (Sat.) Fresno Highland Gathering & Games, Coombs Ranch, Fresno

Stories Urgently Needed!

If you have any items of interest to other Grant clan members, concerning your family, the Grant name, or clan doings, or games you have attended, don't be shy! Share them with your fellow

clan members through the Craigellachie.

Send items for the coming issues to: Dick Heller, Craigellachie Editor, P.O. Box 1001, Decatur, IN 46733-5001.

Kentucky Games May 9-11

A number of Grants plan to attend the 4th annual Kentucky Scottish weekend May 9-11 at General Butler State Resort Park,

Carrollton, Ky., halfway between Louisville and Cincinnati. This has been a gala occasion each Spring, often despite rainy weather.

By George!

This issue of the Craigellachie is our spring mailing. I apologize to all of you for the mixup that failed to produce the Christmas publication.

Annual dues are once again due. Please use the enclosed envelopes to send in your \$15.00. The Society is growing around the world and particularly here in the United States. We have very active members all over the country. I have just heard from our Northern California contingent. They have purchased a large tent for use at the games, especially at Santa Rosa. We are sending them appropriate flags and other things for the tent. Would you like to represent your Clan Society at a local Scottish event. Please let me know and we'll assist all we can.

Duthil Kirk is now the property of the Worldwide Clan Grant Society. Walter Grant, Hon. James Grant, and David Grant-Blythe have inspected the property and are taking appropriate action to stop the vandalism and begin to restore the building. We will contribute to this effort from our treasury, however it will require more money. Shortly we will have an estimate of the cost to make this our Clan Headquarters and Visitor Center. It is planned to hold a final Church service during the dedication on August 10. See the article on the trip planned by our U.K. cousins.

Please send information on you and your family to Dick Heller so we can all get to know you better. Pictures are particularly welcomed.

Now that we have a physical presence in Speyside, we need to make a concerted effort to find and get our cousins to join the Society. If you will send in the name and address to our membership, Shirley Smith, she will contact them and send application for membership. They and you will both benefit from our Society, especially if you take an active part.

Lucille and I hope to see you this year.

Gaelic Lessons at Grandfather July 7-10

Gaelic instruction — both for very beginners and for those who have studied before — will be featured in a four-day special school at Grandfather Mountain, July 7-10, 1986. Catherine MacIver Parsons, a native speaker, will teach the more advanced students. An accomplished singer, Mrs. Parsons taught Gaelic at St. Ann's, Nova Scotia, for

The Dunedin Games held April 5, 1986, in Dunedin Florida were well attended by the Grant Clan. Syd, our Convenor in Canada, and his wife Eileen, came to Florida to be with us. Dunedin treated us to the best weather we have had for games in a long time, especially nice for the Northern guests. It was warm with a nice breeze. Also from a distance were Harold and Beryl Grant from Altamont NY, our Commissioner and Genealogist, respectively. We enjoyed being with both couples, as the last time we had an opportunity to visit was in Nova Scotia in 1984. Hal and Beryl were fortunate to re-ignite a friendship with John C. Todd III, wife Gayle and young son Connor. John and Harold were business associates in past years and now John is Marketing Professor at the University of Tampa. Our Grandson Grant Bisbee made Connor especially welcome — they are just two weeks apart in age. At five-and-a-half months, they had lots of discussing about life so far.

We had the privilege of accepting three new members. James H. and Anita M. Stafursky of Tampa; Bruce Colt from Crystal River and Mryann Mercak from St. Petersburg. Welcome to them all! Now if we can just get Rod Grant from Dunedin to join the Clan...

Other members at the games were Grant Stageberg, Dunedin; Jim and Kathleen Maxcy, Dunedin; Richard, Susan and Grant Bisbee, Palmetto; Terrilynne Grant and David Harper, Tampa; Bob and vivien Grant, Dunedin; Bill and Doris Mathews, Dunedin Scottish.

The Council of Scottish Clans gave a prize of \$150 to the clan organization who had the best tent at the games. The prize was won by the McNeill Clan, but the Grant Clan was second.

The next game we will attend is the Kentucky Games in Carrollton, Ky in May. Hope to see more Clan

several years. Clan Grant member Phil Smith will lead the beginning class.

For information and applications, contact Ms. Ginger Hinton, #711 Chatteau Apts., Carrboro, NC 27510. Don't delay, class size may have to be limited. This activity is sponsored by the Council of Scottish Clan Societies.

Craigellachie

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OFFICERS
George H. Grant, Convener
301 Masters Road
Hixson, TN 37343

John G. Grant, Convener
266 N. Ashdale Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90049

John C. Grant, Treasurer
5534 Joeclay Dr.
Stone Mountain, GA 30088

Mrs. Shirley G. Smith, Membership
1207 Cavalier Ln.
West Chester, PA 19380

James H. Grant, Historian
3264-A Henderson Mill Rd.
Chamblee, GA 30341

Dick D. Heller, Jr., Editor & Publisher
141 S. 2nd St.
Decatur, IN 46733

members there and welcome new Grants to the Clan.

There will also be a Clan Grant tent at the Gatlinburg games in May.

I have received some response requesting accommodations at Grandfather Mountain Games in July. If you are planning to attend

and wish to stay with the Clan Grant, please contact me by the end of April. This will need to be done in advance.

Lucille H. Grant
301 Masters Road
Hixson, TN 37343
615-870-5744 or 842-4581



CLAN LEADERS include Harold Grant of Altamont, NY., left; Grant Bisbee with Granddaddy George H. Grant of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Syd Grant, Convenor of Canada for the Grant Clan.

Notes from Our Secretary

Mrs. Shirley Grant-Smith

1207 Cavalier Ln West Chester, PA 19380

Mrs. Mary King is back with us after an absence of several years. We are always glad to welcome those back who have had to drop out for one reason or another! She is searching for the marriage date of Rachel Grant to Captain William Prey (Pray?) around 1745. He was a French sea captain.

Mr. & Mrs. Walter R. Grant, Elgin, Scotland, and our hosts this last Fall in Scotland, send their regards to all the members of Clan Grant in the U.S. They not only won our hearts with their generosity but planned a trip to remember for all of us! (And Walter is great singing songs at midnight on a tour bus!)

Subscriptions to the Highlander will be \$8.00 this year for group rates. April 15th is the absolute deadline for subscribing to the magazine this year!

Attention, Californians and all visitors to the Sunshine state! The Grants will be represented this year at the Marin Highland Games in Corta Madera on May 17th; the Sacramento Games on June 21st; the Monterey

Games on August 2nd-3rd; the Caledonia Games in Santa Rosa on August 30-31; and the Fresno Games in September! Gene Grant says he personally will ride his haggis to every one of these games!

Don Grant, of Athens, Georgia, expects to go to Israel and Greece this summer. He promises to be back in time for the Stone Mountain games, however!

United Kingdom offers Assoc. Membership

The United Kingdom Branch of our Society is offering associate membership to the organization. Cost is \$15.00 annually. You will receive a copy of the newsletter and help to support the activities of the Society. These activities

include supporting our Worldwide Society presence in Speyside. A recent example is the acquisition of Duthil Kirk; negotiations leading to our Clan Museum and Heritage Center at Castle Grant; supporting the Clan Grant Gathering during



GRANT BISBEE, George's granddaughter, at 2½ months and 4 months.

New Tartan Book by Dr. Phil Smith

SCOTTISH DISTRICT TARTANS by Society member Dr. Phil Smith, F.S.A., and one of our Honorary Members, Dr. Gordon Teall of Teallach, F.S.A., should be in bookstores by autumn, 1986. The first book to deal exclusively with District tartans, the book will contain colour pictures of fifty Scottish District and National Tartans. Many were specially woven for the

photographs.

Tartans representing Cornwall, Wales, Man and Ulster are included. DISTRICT TARTANS also illustrates Canadian Provincial tartans, American regional tartans, and the Australian tartan. Short sketches give something of the location and history of each District and tartan. Thread counts are given for every tartan illustrated for the convenience of weavers.

DISTRICT TARTANS is being published in the United Kingdom. Royalties will go to support the Museum of Scottish Tartans located in Comrie, near Stirling.

New Members

CLAN GRANT

The following persons are new members of the Clan Grant Society:

GRANT, Miss Georgia Louanne, 954 Henderson, #8, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

GRANT, Mr. & Mrs. John M., 20463 Bermuda Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311

GRANT, Mr. Scott W., 13201 N. 21st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85029

WHITE, Miss Kathryn Cox, 1853 Ebenezer Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730

RENEWALS

The following persons have renewed their membership in the Clan Grant Society:

BUSH, Mrs. Doris Proctor, 215 Florence Avenue, West Atlantic City, NJ 08232

BUSH, Mr. Gene, Tuckerton Marina, Tuckerton, NJ 08087

BUSH, Mr. Proctor, 1104 Haral Place, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

BUSH, Mr. Sherman, Box 386 Winding Cove Road, Marstone Mills, MA 02648

GRANT, Mr. & Mrs. Robert H., 100 Bancroft Street, Portland, ME 04102

PRATT, Mr. & Mrs. William D., 3053 Lower Wyandotte Road, Oroville, CA 95965

the Nethybridge Games. None of the funds are spent for personal expenses.

I highly recommend your joining. Send your name and address to:

David Grant-Blythe Esq.
18 Great Stuart Street
Edinburgh EH3 7 TN

The Hon. James Grant of Grant wed Dec. 13 to Miss Margaret Drummond of Largo, Fife

Defying superstition, the Hon. James Grant of Grant, elder son of the Clan Chief, Lord Strathspey, was married at Upper Largo Church, Largo, Fife, on Dec. 13, 1985 to Miss Margaret Drummond of Largo, Fife.

Among the congratulatory telegrams read out at the reception by the Best Man, Mr. Ian Dewar of Perth was one sent on behalf of the world wide Clan Grant Society. It contained some lines, written by Mr. Robert Grant of Bristol, which made skilful reference to the respective plant emblems of the two Clans. The "Grant" emblem is the pine tree and the "Drummond" emblem is the holly.

Here are Robert Grant's lines:

Said pretty Drummond to her man,

"Make up your mind, why can't you?"

The kilted lad did acquiesce, "Now it is time I 'Grant' you."

"Let's join the tartans with a strand

Of Speyside blue," he said: And thus with speed it was agreed

The happy pair would wed.

"You need a 'Drummond' in your life,"

She said, "For happiness to last.

A graft of holly on the pine, Will surely aye 'Stand Fast.'"

After the cake had been cut and the Toasts had been proposed and replied to, the Hon. Secretary of the U.K. Branch of the Clan Grant Society, Mr. David Grant Blyth, who was a guest at the Wedding, was asked to address the company on behalf of the world-wide Clan Grant Society.

Mr. Grant Blyth, speaking, he said, "in the name of the members of the Clan Grant Societies in North America, New Zealand, Canada and Australia as well as in the United Kingdom," then addressed the company of some 70 friends of the bride and groom, and members of their two families. He said —

"Having been introduced, and invited to speak to you, in the role of representative of the world-wide Clan Grant Society, I should like to deal with that side of the matter first. When I heard that my friend, The Hon. James Grant was to marry a lady by the name of Margaret Drummond, my first action was to look up the standard work of reference on the Scottish Clans — 'The Clans and Families of Scotland' by a former Lord Lyon King of Arms, Sir Thomas Innes of Learney. I was very interested to see what he had to say about the Drummond Clan. Sir Thomas Innes of Learney's comment on the Drummond tartan is both fascinating and relevant. 'The tartan illustrated in the colour plate,' he said, 'is the historic and ancient sett of the Clan Drummond but, in recent times, a version of the Grant tartan has sometimes been used in place of it.' Sir Thomas Innes of Learney must have had the 'second sight' — certainly, all of us here today know of one erstwhile Drummond who will be wearing the Grant tartan as from to-day. Will she wear a Grant tartan skirt or will she 'wear the breeks' — or will she do both of these things at one and the same time? (Laughter and applause).

Sir Thomas Innes of Learney also stated that the Drummonds, unlike most other Clans, had not just one, but two, Clan slogans or mottoes. I am not sure whether, as she contemplates her future as the wife of a 'Grant,' Margaret regards either or both of these Drummond slogans as still applying to her. One of them is 'Gang Warily' (Laughter): the other is 'Lord, have mercy!' (More and louder, laughter). So much for the 'Clan' side of things.

Those of you who, like me, are old enough to remember, with affection, the famous French entertainer, Maurice Chevalier, will no doubt also recall one of his best-known and best loved songs — 'Thank Heaven, for little



THE HON. JAMES GRANT AND HIS BRIDE.

girls: For little girls grow bigger every day.

Thank Heaven, for little girls:

They grow up in the most delightful way."

We have only to look at today's charming bride to realise how true these words are. We do indeed see before us a "little girl" who has grown up and, obviously, one who has done so in a "most delightful way." Is it not also most delightful to see Margaret sitting there in her beautiful wedding dress with the love-light in her eyes — but how else would you expect a pretty young woman to look on her Wedding Day? Of course, all women (before they are

married) think that marriage is like a beautiful romantic novel which always has a happy ending! The married ladies present know better than that: they know that it is only when you begin to read that novel that you find out that the hero dies in the first chapter! (Loud laughter). Joking apart, however, we rejoice with Margaret and James in this, the most important, day in their lives — and we wish them a very long, happy, life together. (Loud and prolonged applause).

I may say that I feel particularly well-attuned to the expression of these congratulatory sentiments to-day, because the 13th of December happens to be my



The Hon. James Grant and his bride.

own Wedding Anniversary. Mind you, my wife and I have been married somewhat longer than Margaret and James. We count in years what they count in minutes — for today is our 44th Anniversary! We did not, however, exhibit the extraordinary courage which Margaret and James have shown. We did not tempt Providence by marrying on Friday, the 13th! In 1941, the year in which we married, the 13th of December fell on a Saturday. Looking back now, I sometimes think that, as things turned out, it might well have been better for us to have married on the Friday of that week than on the Saturday — for our wedding did not pass off without incident! In 1941, we were at war with Germany, and young men like me, that was, before the snow fell (patting his white pow), were marrying, perhaps somewhat earlier than they might have done at other times. There seemed to be even less certainty then, at that time when bombs were actually following on London, Coventry, Glasgow and elsewhere, and guns were being fired in anger, than there is to-day in this atom-threatened age, that we had a future to which we could look forward: happiness had to be seized while it was available. Sure enough, we got early proof of that. Scarcely had the officiating Minister pronounced us to be "husband and wife" than the Air Raid Sirens wailed their warning that enemy planes were approaching. There was a great commotion! One of my aunts, who took her duties as an Air Raid

Warden very seriously, stamped noisily out of the Church pulling on her tin helmet, while her gas-mask bounced merrily on her hip. The Church Organist was a high-ranking voluntary Officer in the Auxiliary Fire Service, and he also departed: we had to sing the last hymn unaccompanied — and, what was worse, when my wife and I had signed the Register, we had to walk up the length of the church aisle, without having the comforting strains of the Wedding March to support us. There had been no Air Raid alerts on the previous day, that is the Friday of the week concerned; in 1941, therefore, the hoodoo of the 13th applied to the Saturday as we knew to our cost! We would have been wiser to have married on the Friday of the week, as Margaret and James have done. (Laughter and applause).

To conclude, it is my duty and my pleasure to-day, on behalf of all the members of the Clan Grant Society, here in the United Kingdom and Overseas, to offer sincere good wishes to Margaret and James. I am sure that I am joined in this by all the "Drummonds" here, who will wish to be associated with the "Grants," in conveying to the young couple our warmest wishes for a long and happy life together. Margaret and James, I can only say to you, from a background of 44 years of experience up to this very day — "If your married life is only half as happy as mine has been, you will have every reason to rejoice eternally over what you have done to-day." (Loud and prolonged applause).

Indiana State Library Has Census Records

The Genealogical Division of the State Library in downtown Indianapolis, Indiana, has a copy of the 1820 Census for Kentucky. History comes alive when you realize that only forty-five years earlier, Daniel Boone had settled Boonesborough — and he died in Missouri the same year as the Census! (See National Geographic,

December, 1985, for an interesting account of this famous pioneer and the immigration pattern in the Ohio Valley area.)

A John Grant, in Gallatin County, Kentucky, is listed in the 1820 Census as having five persons and one slave in his family. He was engaged in commerce. In Mason County, the James Grant family consisted of four

persons and seven slaves. Jonathan Grant is also mentioned — with six persons counted.

The genealogical section of the building has information on a number of states represented by different census records. The library has a large quantity of microfilm readers, maps, file indexes, etc. The staff is very helpful. Time goes

quickly as you discover the past by tracing family names!

The editor, Dick Heller, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Indiana Historical Society, which the genealogy division; he is a former member of the Indiana Library and Historical Board, which maintains the entire library in the neighboring building.



BETSY GRANT, at six months, held by her dad, Hank Grant of Atlanta, Ga., on Jan. 3, 1986.

West Coast Grants Start Newsletter

The West Coast Grants have started a newsletter which will be mailed to all the Grants who join in that area; if you are interested, but did not receive the following letter from Gene Grant, write to him at 1250 Crestmont Dr., Angwin, CA 94508 and ask to be put on the mailing list.

Gene Grant is acting West Coast Commissioner, and he needs your help! Activities will grow and be fulfilling only if YOU take part. Here is Gene's first newsletter:

"Last year I promised those of you who signed the guest list at the Scottish Games a newsletter of the West Coast activities of the Clan Grant. The Clan Grant Society has given us a list of West Coast members. John Grant has graciously lent us his list of family members so we may get word of our activities to as many Grants as possible.

"This year we have purchased a beautiful tent or "top" to use as an information booth at Scottish Games and other events. It has red and white stripes with a very sturdy frame to stand up to the winds such as we had — last year in Santa Rosa.

"We also have purchased Scottish and British flags and some tartan material. A display collection of Grant

memorabilia consists of photos and photo albums of Scotland; poster-sized pictures of Castles Grant and Urquhart; photocopies of some very old newspaper clippings (1920's) and miscellaneous books. If you have any newspaper clippings or family photos (preferably with names and dates on the back) that would be of interest to the Grants, please send photocopies to me at the address below.

"If there is anything else you might like to contribute, please do so. We would like to make our display one of the most attractive and exciting in the nation.

"Volunteers are desperately needed for most of the Games. Last year at Santa Rosa, three of us managed to keep the booth going but it was difficult. At Fresno, there was only myself which meant taking down the display every time I had to leave the booth. As the display grows, this becomes more time-consuming. If you could donate an hour or even less, let me know which Games you plan to attend. I am including a list of the Games in Northern and Central California with the ones where we plan to have a booth marked with a star "★."



WORKERS AND VISITORS at the Santa Clara, Calif., event are pictured above March 15-16 in photos by Gene Grant.

"Even if you can't volunteer, please drop by and see us. We want to arrange some activities this year and next so we would like your input and help in planning.

"At the Santa Rosa Games, we are hoping to have a barbecue or potluck dinner on Saturday following the Games and ending before the Ceilidh that evening. If you are interested in having similar activities at other Games, let me know.

"We are also hoping to generate interest in a Burns Night Supper in late January, 1987. An outing and

picnic at some scenic area this Summer is also in the works.

"We need your input so that we can decide where and when to have these events and what other things we all might enjoy.

"A discount on tickets for most of the Games is available through the Clan Grant Society if we buy them together as a block. The average is 1/3rd off for a two day ticket except for children and senior citizens who are already discounted.

"Let me know which of the Games you plan to attend and I will send you details for those you designate."

Moreover...

...by Lord Strathspey

Adverting to that always informative and interesting news item headed "BY GEORGE" in Vol. VII No. 4, Vol. I No. 1 of Craigellachie, I have checked up and it seems to me that a U.S. Clan Grant Society was proposed by John G. Grant of Los Angeles in 1976. Later George Grant of Hixson wrote to me that he was also interested in starting a Clan Society and I put him on to John and from there on they proceeded. By 1977 George had really got things humming with his great driving force. In order that this fledgling Society might have a ready made chance to learn about the long history of their Chiefs I presented the Society with my Grandmothers copy of Vol. 1 of William Frasers "Chiefs of Grant." I hope by now some of you have had an opportunity of reading this most important and detailed history. (See Page 2 of my book).

About this time Robert Grant of Bristol was exploring the idea of resuscitating the U.K. Clan Society. Unfortunately his location in Bristol caused too many problems, but in 1981 David Grant Blythe of Edinburgh successfully re-established the U.K. Clan Grant Society. It had been dormant since 1957 following the much regretted decease

of J. Macdougall Grant, our then Convenor, virtually a one man band.

The New Zealand Society started in 1979. The prime mover was the late Mrs. Rene Grant Burgess, a charming, enthusiastic and most loyal clanswoman, fortunately her husband Fred shared her enthusiasm and did all the active work and still does. He now has some able office holders to back him up thank goodness!

The Australian Society was started in 1982 by Doug Grant of New South Wales on the recommendation of Fred Grant Burgess.

All these were followed by a Canadian Society including a slightly separate one for Nova Scotia.

I am sure we will all be interested to hear when the Clan Museum in the Castle will be open to receive the loan of exhibition items. No doubt someone will tell us. I feel we should get on with it!

I have always tried to keep our Societies on the correct line, i.e. the straight and narrow, and how they do it is of course up to them and not up to me! Some of the old country abbreviations of words need explaining from time to time: such as P.T.O. which means "please turn over" — it is not some exalted decoration! So this time I have one. Mr. Grant

Blythe is not the "Honourable Secretary" he is the "Hon." (abbreviation for "Honorary") thus denoting that his post is unpaid. Thus Hon. Sec. or Hon. Tres. for Treasurer and so on is correct.

I am so glad you have corrected the record about me as quite honestly I am a bit fed up with reading "owing to ill health..."

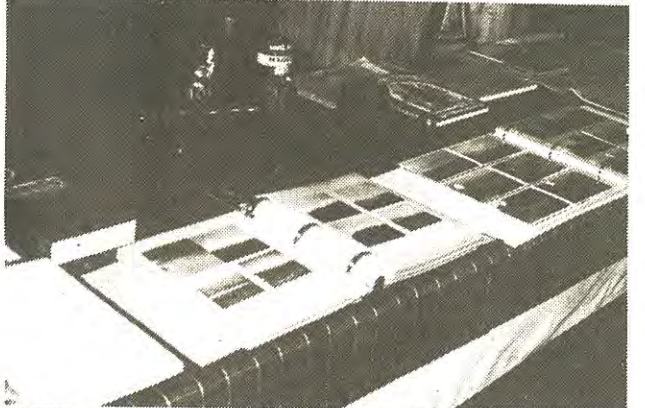
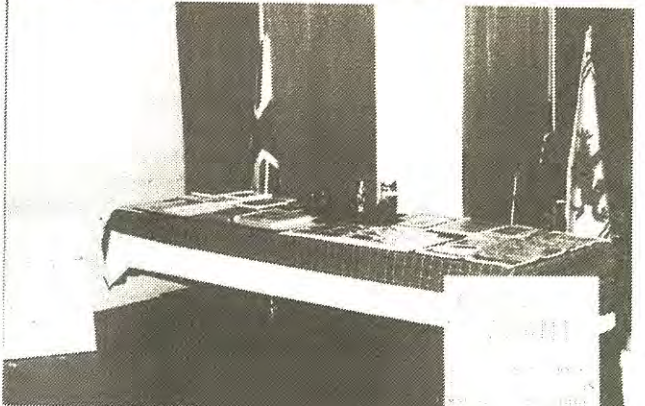
I do feel it would be most interesting and valuable to have an article on Elgin and environs. You see I feel that until fairly recently my ancestors must have owned quite a lot of property there in addition to Grant Lodge and fuf duties too as superior because until about the late 1920's there was an outstation Strathspey Estate Office there, which the Trustees closed down because of certain events which we need not concern ourselves with. I'd be quite happy to do such an article but need a knowledgeable local contact such as Mr. Walter Grant of Elgin whom I do not know and who has

not communicated with me unfortunately.

I wonder how many of you have thought of visiting the bakery in that little Grant town called Aberlour? You see they make a Strathspey cake there which is sold in many countries. We have even bought it in our village here in the south of England. Incidentally the big Aberlour House was owned and occupied by the late proprietor, whose name escapes me, of the "Scot-smen" daily newspaper. He sold the newspaper to the late Roy Thompson, the Canadian who subsequently became Lord Thompson of Fleet.

One last thing — I hear Lord Lyon is engaged, inter alia, on deciding the type of flag which can be carried by Societies and not infringe the heraldic rights of individuals. I have made suggestions and look forward to the promulgation by Lyon in due course.

Cheerio. I hope you all enjoyed terrific celebrations on the 18th of March!!! Har Har...



SANTA CLARA INTERNATIONAL FAIR, March 15-16, included a fine West Coast Grant display by Gene Grant and his helpers, who plan to visit ten events this year with the Grant Clan story and tent. Anyone interested in seating up, or presenting, such a display should contact George H. Grant at once.



DUNEDUN, FLA.: 1986 Grant tent at games in April.