

# Tiree is prepared to go it alone

**T**HREE, while welcoming any help that might be made available, is prepared to act on her own initiative in the fight for a better economic future for the island.

This was said yesterday by Major Iain C. MacLennan, chairman of Tiree's recently formed council of social service and chairman of the local district council.

He said: "On Tiree we are convinced that there is no good sitting back and screaming that you are hurt. You have to get things done for yourself if you want to make progress. This is the only way that the Highlands can resolve their difficulties."

And as one of its early priorities the council is determined to attract new industry to the island.

"What we want," said Major MacLennan, "is some sort of suitable light

industry and we have a number of possibilities in mind."

His council, he revealed, was particularly interested in developing the island's lobster-fishing industry along the lines which are proving so successful in North Uist.

A number of these points were raised with the Minister of State for Scotland, Dr Dickson Mabon, when he paid a short visit to Tiree last week.

During his visit he was shown round the island by Major MacLennan and later met councillors and other officials.

The islanders' views on the 10 per cent increase on passenger fares and freight imposed by MacBrayne were put very forcibly to Dr Mabon who is reported to have been very sympathetic.

Also raised was the question of a proper water supply for Tiree. Major MacLennan said that two-thirds of the island as yet has no public water supply and difficulties have been aggra-

vated by the summer drought. Major MacLennan said it had cost farmers a great deal of money transporting livestock to parts of the island where adequate water supplies still existed.

The council of social service is to ask Argyll Water Board for a list of the priorities they intend to give to new water schemes.

Other topics of discussion included transport generally, light industry, tourism, and agriculture.

Major MacLennan said that Dr Mabon, who was accompanied by the deputy head of the Department of Agriculture in Scotland, Mr Tom Lister, and Dr Alastair Fraser, had been very attentive and had listened sympathetically to the various points made. "We were very impressed," added Major MacLennan.

At the end of his visit, which lasted several hours, the minister left for Skye by helicopter.

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## TIREE

**Youth Club:** Young folk on the Isle of Tiree turned up in strength at a meeting called by the island's council of social service to discuss and form a youth club. Dr F. R. Calvert presided and present was Mr Moodie, assistant youth organiser for Argyllshire. Mr Moodie gave details of the sort of activities the club could organise and outlined the support and aid which would be forthcoming from Argyll County Council. The young people elected their own committee of six youngsters who would run the club under the guidance of six adults. Those elected were: Youth—Morag MacKinnon, Gillian Calvert, Nancy Kennedy, Alan Rowan, Ian MacKinnon, Kathleen MacLean; adults—Alex. MacArthur, Dr Calvert, the Rev. W. J. MacLeod, Duncan MacInnes, Mrs Cameron and Mr W. Rowan.



The committee of the newly MacKinnon, Gillian Calvert,

## Better medical facilities for Tiree

**S**O that they can provide the folk of Tiree with a medical service more in line with the people of the mainland, Dr F. R. Calvert and his wife Betty, herself a doctor, are looking forward to the day when their new surgery unit will be completed.

Work started at the beginning of this month, and the new unit is being built alongside the doctors' house. Accommodation will consist of a consulting room, treatment room, dispensary and waiting room.

Dr Calvert and his wife are the island's only doctors.

Dr Calvert says he would not have thought of coming to an island with almost 1000 people on it were it not that his wife was also a qualified practitioner. The thought of what could happen should he himself fall ill, and a locum not easy to obtain, filled him with foreboding.

Both Dr Calvert and his wife trained at Manchester University, where they first met as students. They were married in 1950 and have three children—Michael (17), Gillian (13) and Christine (7). The family came to Tiree in 1967.



Dr and Mrs Calvert.

## TIREE

We received this note from our Tiree correspondent this week: "I was disappointed that the paragraphs I sent for last week's district news did not appear. It wasn't that I missed the post; I made the 10-mile car run personally to be sure of being in time for the air mail on Monday, October 14. The letter had a 5d stamp, too."

The letter took three days to reach us, arriving too late for publication. The paragraphs, however, are included below.—Editor.

**Girl Piper's Success:** In the competition held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, the Scottish Pipers' Association, schoolgirl Anne Sinclair took first prize for Piobaireachd, silver medal and the Farquhar MacRae Trophy. She played "A Kiss from the King's Hand." She was awarded second place for her playing of Pipe Major Donald MacLeod's "Skyeman's Jig."

**Mod Success:** Most successful competitor from the island at the National Mod, in Dunoon, was Mrs Danina (Nina) Langley. In the oral section she took first and second place for recitations, first for reciting poetry composed by the competitor, first for a speech, and a second for a story. She also collected two prizes in the literary section. Among her trophies were the Glasgow Skye Association Medal and Cardonald Highlanders' Association Cup for fluent Gaelic speakers.

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