

Manx Notes 282 (2017)

THE MANX LANGUAGE SOCIETY (1) FIRST COUNCIL MEETING (29 APRIL 1899)

The first meeting of the Council of the above society was held in the Belvedere Temperance Hotel, Douglas, on Saturday. Mr A.W. Moore, M.A., Speaker of the House of Keys, presided, and there was a good attendance, amongst those present being Mrs Laughton, Rev. Canon Savage, Rev. C.H. Leece, Messrs W. Radcliffe, Henry Kelly, W. Quayle, J.E. Leece, W. Cubbon, W. Kneen and John Cubbon.

The minutes of the initial meeting held March 22nd, were read and passed.

Letters sympathising with the movement were read from Mr G.W. Wood, London; Miss A. Gell, Castletown; and the Rev. J. Hayde, Cardiff, and others.

Letters of apology for inability to attend the meeting were read from Deemster Gill, Dr Clague, Canon Kewley, and Miss Morrison.

THE OBJECTS, CONSTITUTION, &C.

After discussion it was decided that the following be the objects and constitution of the society:

That the name of the society be the "Manx Language Society."

1. The preservation of Manx as the national language of the Isle of Man.
2. The study and publication of existing Gaelic literature and the cultivation of a modern literature in Manx.

The means by which it is sought to achieve these objects are:

1. The encouragement of the formation of classes for the study of Manx.
2. The holding of public meetings and lectures for the purpose of stimulating and informing public opinion on behalf of the Manx language.
3. To encourage the people who know Manx, to speak it habitually, and to impart it to the
4. To endeavour to secure facilities for teaching it in the public schools.
5. The publication and distribution of books and pamphlets-in or relating to Manx.
6. The encouragement of Manx music and of songs in Manx.
7. To inform the public on questions relating to the movement by contributions to magazines and journals.
8. The collection of oral Gaelic literature, consisting of folk tales, poems, songs, proverbs, riddles, etc still extant among the people.

CONSTITUTION

1. The society shall consist of a president, vice-presidents, secretary, and committee (who shall form the Council), and members.
2. The qualification for membership shall be an annual subscription of two shillings and sixpence.

3. The business of the society shall be conducted by an executive committee, which shall consist of the president, vice-presidents, secretary and treasurer, and seven other persons to be chosen annually by and from the members of the Council. Five members of the executive committee shall form a quorum.

4. The Council shall be elected by the members at a general meeting to be held on Hollantide Day, (the Twelfth of November), and shall hold office for a term of one year.

5. The president, vice-presidents, secretary and treasurer shall be elected annually by the members.

6. The secretary shall summon extraordinary general meetings on receipt of a requisition signed by ten members.

The following ladies and gentlemen were added to the Council of the society: Mr Thomas Moore, Brookfield; Mr J. Callow, Laxey; Miss A Gell, Castletown; Mr J.J. Kneen, Douglas; Mrs H. Kelly, Ballaqueeney; Captain James Clague, Castletown; Miss E. Corrin, Castletown; Mrs Roberts, Castletown; Mr Robt. Kerruish, Magherbreck, Maughold; Mr Killip, Clyeen, Michael; Mr J.C. Looney, Ramsey; Mr D. Teare, Bride; Mr J.H. Caine. Douglas; Mr W.H. Bell, Douglas; Mr J. Costain, Colby; Miss A M. Crellin, Orrysdale; Mr P.M.C. Kermode, Ramsey; Mr Jno. Callister, Ballaconley; Rev T.R. Kneale, Ballaugh; Mr W. Tupper, Laxey; Mr W. Quane, Knocksharry; Mr P.G. Ralfe, Castletown; Mr W. Cashen, Peel; Mr T. Kelly, Peel; Mr W. Moore, Peel; Mr T.C. Kinnish, Santon; Miss Joughin, Peel, Mr J.E. Crye, Ramsey.

The seven members of the Council who, along with the officers (president, vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer) shall form the Executive Committee were elected as follows: Canon Kewley, Mr Hy. Kelly, Ballaqueeney; Mr W. Cubbon, Douglas; Mr W. Radcliffe, Andreas; Miss S. Morrison, Peel; Mr J.E. Leece, Douglas; and Mr J.J. Kneen, Douglas. The other members of the executive are the president (Mr A.W. Moore, M.A), the vice-presidents (Deemster Gill, Canon Savage, Dr Clague, Mr J.C. Crellin, H.K.). and secretary (Mr W. Quayle) and the treasurer (Mrs Laughton).

The executive committee were instructed to approach the school committees throughout the Island with a view of obtaining the free use of the schools for the teaching of Manx classes.

The executive were also recommended to issue a circular drawing attention to the objects of the society, and inviting interest and support.

The executive committee meet in Douglas to-day (Saturday).

“The Manx Language Society.” *Isle of Man Examiner* 6 May 1899: 3a.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2017

