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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for July 13th, 2018

To see what we've added to the Electric Scotland site view our What's New page at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/whatsnew.htm>

To see what we've added to the Electric Canadian site view our What's New page at:
<http://www.electriccanadian.com/whatsnew.htm>

For the latest news from Scotland see our ScotNews feed at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/>

Electric Scotland News

The big news this week has been the plan PM May put to the cabinet which would mean total surrender to the EU. Is there no pride in the country these days? All the stats show that Britain is doing much better since they voted to leave the EU. All that I've read suggests that an Independent Britain can be a great leader in free trade around the world yet for some reason the British Parliament seem to doubt this is possible.

I'll say that I see the PM as being a traitor to the country and probably the most inept PM that Britain has ever had in its history. Also given the referendum results an awful lot of MP's have told lies to the electorate as in both Labour and Conservative manifestos they said they'd leave the Single Market, the Customs Union and take back control of our laws and immigration. A lot of them should be deselected at the next election in my opinion.

The other big news is of course Donald Trump and his activities with NATO where he dared to suggest that all NATO countries should pay 2% of GDP which they actually agreed to do in 2014. Germany, the richest country in Europe, only pays 1.3% and is not very keen to pay any more and of course Canada has already said they won't be paying any more ever.

Frankly all NATO countries should pay the 2% end of story and one would have to ask the question why it's always the US that needs to bail them out.

The season for Highland Games is well on its way in North America as well as Australia and New Zealand and also elsewhere. Always fun to attend to get your Scottish fix.

Our Community hit a problem this week by giving us a 500 internal server error. Steve was trying to fix an issue with our hard drive and it seems that something he did caused something to cause this error. He tells me he thinks it's a program error so has been re-installing programs such as PHP and MySQL hoping that will fix the issue but obviously it hasn't.

To this he has only just returned to work as he had to spend several days in hospital in which he was told that if he'd delayed his visit by other 2 hours he'd have died as a result. Not sure of all the technical issues but in short his kidneys almost shut down due to taking a drug, Buffering I think he said, as it has known side effects if used over a several year period.

So clearly he's having to deal with the after effects of this and so I guess it's only fair we give him some slack. If we're not up later today then I won't be able to post up the usual newsletter but it will still be available in pdf format.

Here is the video introduction to this newsletter...

https://youtu.be/YQ89_H2zTa8

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

Note that this is a selection and more can be read in our ScotNews feed on our index page where we list news from the past 1-2 weeks. I am partly doing this to build an archive of modern news from and about Scotland as all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on Google and other search engines. I might also add that in newspapers such as the Guardian, Scotsman, Courier, etc. you will find many comments which can be just as interesting as the news story itself and of course you can also add your own comments if you wish.

We should positively think of a no-deal Brexit as the Global Option

For two years we've been fed a diet of daily fear by those who wish to overturn the Brexit referendum result and keep us either in the EU in whole or attached via Customs Union and Single Market membership in perpetuity by being told that a no-deal Brexit would be a fearful conclusion.

Read more at:

<https://brexitcentral.com/positively-think-no-deal-brexit-global-option/>

Africa's revolutionary new free trade area could lift millions out of poverty

The African Continental Free Trade Area will comprise 1.2 billion people and a cumulative GDP of \$2.5 trillion. Prospects for African growth are better than ever, as countries move away from socialism

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/africas-revolutionary-new-free-trade-area-could-lift-millions-out-of-poverty>

How Theresa May is selling the Chequers proposal to Conservative MPs

Below is the full text of the letter Theresa May has sent to Conservative MPs in the immediate aftermath of the Chequers summit:

Read more at:

<https://brexitcentral.com/theresa-may-selling-chequers-proposal-conservative-mps/>

The Government's Chequers Agreement. From Canada Plus Plus Plus to Brexit Minus Minus Minus.

If no deal is better than a bad one, the sum of this policy is certainly a bad deal. Tory leavers now face a bleak choice.

Read more at:

<https://www.conservativehome.com/thetorydiary/2018/07/the-governments-chequers-brexit-agreement-from-canada-plus-plus-plus-to-brexit-minus-minus-minus.html>

Trump ready to offer 'ZERO TARIFF' trade deal to make Brexit Britain BOOM

DONALD Trump is ready to offer Theresa May a "zero tariff" trade deal to help get Brexit Britain booming, his ambassador has revealed.

Read more at:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/985070/brexit-news-donald-trump-usa-trade-deal-theresa-may-eu>

The Chequers Cabinet conclusions – an assessment

Lawyers for Britain Chairman Martin Howe QC has prepared a Chequers Briefing Memo which assesses the details of the Chequers Statement from HM Government .

Read more at:

<http://lawyersforbritain.org/the-chequers-cabinet-conclusions-an-assessment>

The Chequers Conclusion

By Lawyers for Britain

Read more at:

<http://lawyersforbritain.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Chequers-Briefing-Memo.pdf>

Western armies are losing their high-tech edge

When America goes to war, its soldiers, sailors and pilots typically have long been used to having a spectacular technological edge.

Those days are ending fast.

Read more at:

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-apps-military-commentary/commentary-western-armies-are-losing-their-high-tech-edge-idUKKBN1JV2LN>

Workboat launch signals new era of commercial shipbuilding on River Clyde

A new boat has been launched at Renfrew for the first time in more than 25 years as one company invests in a new era of commercial shipbuilding on the River Clyde.

Read more at:

<https://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/workboat-launch-signals-new-era-of-commercial-shipbuilding-on-river-clyde-1-4766179>

European nations - not Trump - are undermining NATO

The wealthiest NATO allies have underspent, while the poorest have moved heaven and earth to meet the target

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/european-nations-not-trump-are-undermining-nato>

What Donald Trump should - but won't - say on his trip to Britain

Together, Britain and America can roll back the tide of anti-competitive market distortions which threaten the world

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/what-donald-trump-should-but-wont-say-on-his-trip-to-britain>

Advisers instruct and May obeys

By contrast, for today's government policy on Brexit, unelected advisers instruct and Theresa May meekly obeys.

Read more at:

<https://www.conservativewoman.co.uk/advisers-instruct-and-may-obeys/>

The McNanny State: it's time to challenge it

SINCE the Scottish Parliament came into being in 1999 it has passed over 300 bills that have been given royal assent and are now the law of the land.

Read more at:

http://www.thinkscotland.org/thinkculture/articles.html?read_full=13606

Also see the full article at:

http://www.forestonline.org/files/3315/3017/0902/TheMcNannyState_BrianMonteith.pdf

In this report there is a considerable amount of information on smoking and alcohol use which you may well find of interest.

Brexit is a case of lions led by donkeys

Why have our political class let us down so badly?

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/brexit-is-a-case-of-lions-led-by-donkeys>

Trump's ratings aren't great - but they could be far worse

With President Trump arriving on our shores today, what better time to take stock of what the public on both sides of the Atlantic really think of this one-man controversy generator?

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/trumps-ratings-arent-great-but-they-could-be-far-worse>

Electric Canadian

Engineering Journal

I discovered a lot of volumes of these transaction which are very detailed and note that they are very popular downloads so assume civil engineers are enjoying the details given in these transactions.

I've added the 1946 volume and will add others each week. You can view these at <http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/industrial/index.htm>

Some of the topics discussed include PERMANENTLY FROZEN GROUND AND FOUNDATION DESIGN, A NEW HIGH-EFFICIENCY LINEAR AMPLIFIER, GAS TURBINE FUNDAMENTALS, THE WINTER TEMPERATURE CYCLE OF THEIST, LAWRENCE WATERS, OBITUARIES, NEWS OF THE BRANCHES, INDUSTRIAL NEWS, IRRIGATION, etc.

Canada and its Provinces

A History of the Canadian People and their Institutions by one hundred Associates. General Editors: Adam Shorty and Arthur G. Doughty. Edinburgh Edition (1914) in 23 volumes. I will be adding a volume each week until completed.

Added Volume VI. The Dominion: Political Evolution Part I.

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/canadaprovinces.htm>

Mining Journal

The Official Organ of the Gold Miners Association of Nova Scotia and the Representative Exponent of the Canadian Mining & Mechanical Industry.

Found several copies of this publication and you can read the volume for 1893 which starts with an article on Review of the Gold Mining Industry of Nova Scotia in 1892..at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/mines/mining.htm>

Wacousta

A Tale of the Pontiac Conspiracy by Major Richardson (1906) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/Wacousta.pdf>

Memorial to William George McIntyre

Born Clearwater, Man, 19th June, 1888; Died Vimy Ridge, 9th April, 1917 (pdf)

You can read this at: http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/william_mcintyre.pdf

Canadian Corps Operations During the Year 1918

Interim Report by Lieut.-General Sir A. W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., Commanding Canadian Corps. (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electriccanadian.com/forces/canadiancorps.pdf>

Conrad Black

On Immigration and the Supreme Court, Democrats Are Snookered

<http://www.conradblack.com/1408/on-immigration-and-the-supreme-court-democrats>

Resistance to the summer jobs nonsense is heating up

<http://www.conradblack.com/1409/resistance-to-the-summer-jobs-nonsense-is-heating>

Nominating Amy Barrett Would Be Political Genius

<http://www.conradblack.com/1410/nominating-amy-barrett-would-be-political-genius>

Electric Scotland

Commonwealth of Australia

Historical Records of Australia published in 1914 in 19 volumes. Intending to put up 1 volume a week until complete.

Added Volume 16 - 1831—1832, Governor Bourke

You can get to this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/australia/commonwealth.htm>

Sketch of the Life of Dr. MacDonald

A significant Gaelic speaking minister with two poems in Gaelic. (1862) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/bible/drmacdonald.pdf>

The Jacobite Lairds of Gask
By T. L. Kington Oliphant (1870) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/books/pdf/jacobitelairds.pdf>

Colonel George Steuart and his Wife Margaret Harris
Their Ancestors and Descendants with Appendixes of Related Families, Portraits and Illustrations, a Genealogical History by Robert Stewart, D.D., LL.D., Author of "Ancestors and Children of Col. Daniel Fisher and his wife Sybil Draper," (1907) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/nation/steuart.htm>

The Conquest of a Continent
Or The Expansion of Races in America by Madison Grant (1933) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/history/america/conquestofcontinent.pdf>

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree
Got in Section 2 of the August 2018 issue

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft/index.htm>

Memoir of Robert Herbert Story by His Daughters
Principle and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Glasgow, one of his Majesty's Chaplains in Scotland by his Daughters (1909) (pdf)

You can read this at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/bible/Memoir-of-Robert-Herbert-Story-by-His-Daughters.pdf>

Farm Implements and Farm Machinery and the Principles of their Construction and Use
With Simple and Practical Explanations of the Laws of Motion and Force as applied on the Farm with 287 Illustrations by John J. Thomas (1869) (pdf)

You can read this at: <http://www.electricscotland.com/agriculture/FarmImplements.pdf>

The Lauder of Fountainhall Baronets
by Gregory Lauder-Frost, FSA Scot

A major re-write of this article which corrects a number of errors. You can read this at:
<http://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/htol/lauder8.htm>

The Story

I'm providing this as a starter for you to read the pdf file as I believe it's important to at least read it. Whether you agree or not it's certainly worth a read.

The McNanny State: How Scotland is becoming a puritan's playpen

Foreword by Allan Massie CBE

WRITING of his time as a Conservative and Unionist parliamentary candidate before 1914, John Buchan remembered that while Tories were better-born, the Liberals were sure they were born better.

As Brian Monteith demonstrates in this masterly survey of the almost twenty years of devolved government in Scotland, we are now in the grip of a political class that is complacently certain of its moral or ethical superiority, a class that in its ineffable conceit has no doubt that it knows what is good for us, and does not hesitate to legislate accordingly. The Church of Scotland and the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland may have lost much of their old authority, but that authority has been transferred to the political class, or been annexed by its members.

Scotland today is governed by men and women belonging to the class of beings whom Robert Burns resented and mocked as the "unco' gude". Ever since the Scottish Parliament came into being in 1999, the politicians have chipped away at the liberties of the

people.

Brian Monteith calls Scotland today a McNanny state.

Fair enough, you may say, for we have a state where the politicians, like Nanny, know what is best for us and are determined to teach us good behaviour. Yet the term is unfair to Nanny. A good Nanny prepared the children in her care to grow up, to be free of her, to become eventually responsible young adults. The Scottish state today treats adults as people incapable of managing their own lives and, if they are parents, as people who cannot be trusted with the unfettered care of their children. So it's not a Nanny, or McNanny, state.

It's more like a soft fascist one: soft because there is no violence or brutality, no castor oil or camps for delinquents; yet fascist because the logic of its policies is that politicians are the masters. The McNanny State not the servants of the people, while the people must be pressed into a way of life as approved by the "unco' gude".

Like hard big-F Fascist states, our soft small-f fascist one recognises the family as a subversive force, potentially subversive at any rate. So children are first fed, as Monteith reports, with propaganda that will render them critical of their parents, a policy pursued by the Fascists in Italy, Germany, and the nominally Communist Soviet Union. Next, our Scottish Government made its resentment and distrust of the family explicit by introducing its proposal that every child should have a state-appointed guardian, a 'named person' responsible for overseeing the child's welfare from birth to adulthood. Opposition has seen the plan somewhat diluted and its implementation delayed. You would however have to be a trusting innocent not to realize that once the proposal has been enacted, then the 'ratchet-effect', as seen, and so well described by Monteith, in the operation of anti-smoking and anti-drink legislation, will begin; restrictions on parental rights will be tightened and the power of the named person and the state will be extended.

Robert Burns used laughter as a weapon against the unco' gude - see 'Holy Willie's Prayer'. We ought likewise to mock the self-righteousness of today's Holy Willies, and expose their hypocrisy. One example – a small but significant one – is the readiness to grant charitable status to a political pressure group like ASH Scotland. This body, formed to lobby against the tobacco industry and, by extension, with the purpose of restricting the freedom to smoke, gets the bulk of its income from taxpayers. The smokers it persecutes are taxpayers, disproportionately highly taxed ones indeed. So they are compelled to finance an organization that harasses them.

Politicians can always find good reasons to curtail liberties, invoking the General interest, as they do so. In this the Scottish Government is no worse than others. But it is still bad. Brian Monteith's examination of the consequences of devolving power to Holyrood is measured – more measured than this indignant foreword – and cogent. He recognises more clearly than most that the extension of government is always presented first as a boon and blessing, and time may pass before it is felt as a burden and a curse.

He calls for action. I hope, without much confidence, that it is not too late for his call to be answered, and we elect politicians who respect inherited liberties and speak up for the common sense of people, and against the prejudices of the Unco' Gude.

You can read the full edition at:

http://www.forestonline.org/files/3315/3017/0902/TheMcNannyState_BrianMonteith.pdf

And that's it for this week and hope you have a great weekend.

Alastair