

Talbot Johnsons Tour Scotland With Dr. Donald MacKinnon As Their Guide

Visit Lady Chieftain Of McLeod Clan At 800-Year-Old Castle

Following a tour of the Scandinavian countries, Mr. and Mrs. J. Talbot Johnson have been visiting Scotland. Friends here will enjoy Mr. Johnson's account, below, of an "ancestor hunt" which led along the wrong trail, and a meeting with friends who were last seen at Old Bethesda Church homecoming last summer.

June 27, 1952

I am writing aboard the ship Lochness, while enroute from South Uist to Oban, where Mrs. Johnson remained for three days rest, while I made brief visits to the Isle of Barra and the Isle of South Uist.

Barra, as you know, is the ancient stronghold of the "MacNeils." I went there hoping to get some early history on my branch of the McNeill family, but soon learned that I was following the wrong trail. I should have gone to the islands of Islay and Jura, for the Barra "MacNeils" have always spelled their names with one "I", and all are of the Catholic faith, having been isolated from the spell of John Knox, and not having been affected by the reformation. The McNeills of Islay and Jura all spell their names with two "I's" and all are staunch

Presbyterians.

I, however, very much enjoyed Barra, and feel well rewarded for the two days spent on the island. Nearly every one is named "MacNeil," and all were most cordial and courteous to me. One by one, I visited every store in Castle Bay, which is the largest town on the island, gleaning all the information and lore that I could elicit. Then I visited in the homes of several of the best informed citizens, where I would be delightfully entertained with tea and scones served in the kitchen.

Their kitchens are usually combination sitting rooms, dining rooms and place for cooking. It seemed strange to find settees and deep armchairs in the kitchen, but they were most comfortable and spotlessly clean. This custom springs from the fact that fuel is scarce and in the bitter cold winters the kitchen is the warmest room in the house. It is still very cold on Barra and I slept under two blankets and two quilts each night, fortified further with a hot water jug at my feet.

The most interesting man I met lives on the northerly side of the island. He is known by all as "The Cuddy, the uncrowned King of Barra." His word is tantamount to the law of the island and he wields a large influence. He looks much like our Mark Twain and is apparently highly educated. He

Bookmobile Schedule

Monday—Through Niagara to Union church (H. R. Bryant home), 2 p. m.; paved road to Vass with various home stops and Thurlow Evans' store, 2:15 to 4; stop in Negro section just out of Vass, 4; W. F. Smith home, 4:30.

Tuesday—Doubt's Chapel road from Donald Garrison home to jct. with West End road at Hawley Poole home; back to Eastwood with various stops (1:30 to 4:30 p. m.).

Wednesday—Eagle Springs, 1:20 to 1:50; Jackson Springs, W. E. Graham home, 2; postoffice, 2:30 to 2:50; West End, 3:15 to 4:30.

Thursday—Carthage library, 11:30 to 12:30; J. R. Kelly home, 1:15; Joe Pressley home near Cole's mill 1:30; R. F. Wilcox, 2; Putnam, 2:30; High Falls, 2:50 to 3:30; Will Inman home, 3:40; C. F. Wicker home, 4.

Friday—Cossie Garner service station on Hy. 705, 12:45; Westmoore community, 1 to 2. Arthur Baldwin store, 2:15 to 2:30; Jugtown, 2:45; Needham Grove church, 3:15.

had right much to do with filming the picture "The Tight Little Island," which was entitled "Whiskey Galore" in this country. He also took a part in the picture and if J. B. hasn't yet shown this picture, I do hope he will wait until we get home.

I especially enjoyed visiting the ruins of old Kismul Castle, reputed to be one of the oldest castles in Scotland. It was here, so the story goes, that the Chieftain of the "Mac Neil" Clan declined an invitation from Noah to sail with him in the Ark, saying "Na thanks, I have a boat of me own." Some of them believe this today. The castle tower is 200 feet high and contains many trap doors from which large stones would fall on the heads of the enemy in time of siege.

In Edinburgh we were joined by Dr. Donald MacKinnon as our guide and Rev. Alasdair Johnston as our driver. Our friends will remember Dr. MacKinnon as the distinguished speaker at our last Homecoming at Old Bethesda. He was a superb guide, for he knows Scotland as we at home know Moore county. For seven days we visited points of interest on the mainland and the Isle of Skye, where Dr. MacKinnon was pastor for 20 years and knows every crock and cranny.

Together we virtually retraced the steps of "Bonnie Prince Charlie" from Glenfinn, where he first raised his banner until he set sail from Arisaig for France. We visited the point where Flora Macdonald landed him on Skye in assisting in his escape. We spent one night at Fladgarry, where Flora and her husband, Allan Macdonald, lived for ten years, and where their children were born. The house still stands and is in excellent state of preservation. We also visited Flora's grave, which is a shrine.

But the most interesting place we have visited was Dunvegan Castle, the ancient home of the MacLeods. This castle is approximately 800 years old and has been in continuous operation throughout this period, and has been modernized in many respects. Through the kindness and generosity of Mrs. Flora MacLeod, who is "The McLeod of McLeod," the 28th Chieftain of Clan McLeod, we were invited for dinner and to spend the night in the castle. Never before have we been so royally or elegantly entertained. Nor have we ever met a more charming person than Lady McLeod. She has the grace, charm, wit and personality of Eleanor Roosevelt and the same type of brilliance.

We shall never forget this occasion and we are so hopeful that we can in some way arrange for her to address one of our homecoming meetings at Bethesda. She says that she will be glad to come if we could arrange for a meeting of the McLeod Clan for North Carolina.

Our sojourn through Scotland has been rendered more pleasant by reason of the pattern set for us by the Edwin McKeithens. It's really uncanny how often we have followed in their train. By strange coincidence we rented the identical Standard-Vanguard car they had used in their tour two weeks before. At several hotels in which we stopped we were greeted by the clerk with the information that they had recently had the pleasure of entertaining a couple from "the States," by the name of McKeithen—who, of course, proved to be Edwin and Norman. The same was true in Portree and also at Dunvegan Castle. Now we find we have a room at a hotel in Oban, which is the very next door to the room assigned to them.

I could go on with this offhand rambling for hours, but feel that I really must stop right here. With best of good wishes to all our friends at home let me say,

Sincerely,
J. TALBOT JOHNSON.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

SCRIPTURE: Judges 6:1-8:28.
DEVOTIONAL READING: Psalm 47.

Hero, Artist, Saint

Lesson for July 20, 1952

THE GREAT TRAGEDY of life is that man has three incompatible ideals. So says a famous thinker of our time. These three are the hero, the artist, the saint. The hero's virtue is strength; the artist's is beauty, and the Saint's is holiness.

A hero, in the course of his heroic acts, does things which would stain the honor of a saint and which are too ugly for a sensitive artist even to think about. Saints on the other hand are often most unheroic; they "wax valiant" in submission, not in fight; and they often care very little for beauty. Artists likewise may be personal cowards and live anything but saintly lives. Yet society needs all three, though the values one cherishes may be just the opposite of what the other prizes. Very rarely, the same man may show traces of artist, saint and hero.



Dr. Foreman

Hero Gideon

THE WORD "judge" in the Book of Judges usually means what we would call a hero, a military man with a successful record. Then, as now, if a man made good in the army he was after thought of as an army man. His title and his rank stuck to him his life long.

We think of General Grant as an army man, and of Lee as another; though one was President of the United States and the other one a distinguished college president.

So Gideon comes down in history as one of the "Judges" who delivered Israel from a powerful enemy. This time the enemy was the Midianites, a roaring nuisance if ever there was one. Midianites were nomads, they lived where they pleased, and they lived off the peaceful farmers wherever they were.

There were so many that their army looked like a swarm of locusts. They were seen only once a year, but that was enough. They would wait out in the wilderness until the crops were ready for harvest; then they would dash into the country, raid every farm from border to border, and skip out again, leaving the Israelites on the edge of starvation for another year.

How Gideon, a small farmer and a timid soul by nature, became the hero who nearly exterminated the Midianites and set his people free, is one of the most fascinating tales in the Old Testament. The people loved him and remembered him for that one thing above all: he could fight!

Gideon the Artist

THERE ARE MORE WAYS than one to be artistic. General Gideon painted no pictures, carved no statues, wrote no poems. But he was an artist all the same. There is something artistic about any good workmanship and it is as true of military campaigns as of everything else.

Incidentally, generals have a temptation to overlook this. At the Battle of Fredericksburg in the American Civil War, when the northern army was marching into the grinding trap which Lee and his generals had prepared, Lee remarked that it's a good thing war is so terrible, otherwise we should become too fond of it. He was speaking from the general's viewpoint, of course. The private is seldom in danger of being too fond of war.

At all events Gideon's campaigns were just as "beautiful" in all details as anything Napoleon, Lee, Hitler or Hannibal ever invented.

Can a hero be an artist? In his way, yes; like any other craftsman, he can do a necessary, rough and dirty piece of work in a way that calls out the exclamation: Beautiful!

Saint Gideon

CAN A SOLDIER be a saint? If you mean by "saint" the ideal of what a Christian should be, most would say No. General Lee said at the end of his life that if he had it to live over again he would not be a soldier.

And still, the writer of the letter to the Hebrews in the New Testament does not hesitate to list Gideon, and even that half-hero Barak, right along with the rest in his list of high saints, the men and women of Faith.

For fundamentally it is faith that makes the saint. And Gideon was a man of sturdy faith. To paraphrase Tennyson, his strength was as the strength of ten, because his faith was pure. So there have been countless men whose profession is arms who have also been men of faith.

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Pope AFB Team Wins Division Title In Air Force Tourney At Pine Needles

The team from Pope Air Force base, staying in the lead all the way, last Friday was acclaimed winner of the Southeastern Division championship at the close of a five-day tournament on the Pine Needles course.

The division tournament followed a district tournament, also at Pine Needles, in which the Pope team was the winner. Both were preliminaries to the World-wide US Air Force tournament to be held next month at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

In the Southeastern Division tournament, covering all states south of the Mason-Dixon line and east of the Mississippi river, the Pope players rolled up an aggregate score of 1,884 for the 72-hole total. The team from Elgin AFB, Alabama, was second with 1,938. Winner of the individual championship was Staff Sgt. Jack E.

Payton of McDill AFB, Florida, with a score of 287 for 72 holes. Payton turned in a sub-par 67 on the final round to finish 10 strokes ahead of his closest rival, Maj. Walt Davidson of Pope.

Third place player was Maj. Chuck Alexander, also of Pope, brother of famed golf pro Skip Alexander of Durham. His score of 300 was just one stroke ahead of the fourth-place man, Tech. Sgt. Russell Chaffman of Maxwell AFB.

Capt. Hale Baugh of McDill AFB finished in fifth place with 306.

The two Air Force tournaments were major highlights of the season on the local course. John Semple is managing the Pine Needles club during the summer months.

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Not long ago, on the way home from church, Janie heard her daddy say, "I feel like a new man. I've put off the old and put on the new."

Janie looked, but she didn't see anything new—the same neat suit—the same Sunday tie. His shirt was even a little rough around the collar. "Daddy, where's anything new?"

Her father chuckled. "Honey, it's all inside, but it's bursting out the seams of my everyday life. You don't have to have new clothes to be a new man. You just stop worrying and have faith. You pray, then go around smiling. That's what's new about your daddy—his faith."

"And I've found it all just since we began going to church every Sunday."



THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For the sake of his children and nation. (3) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Sunday	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	I Samuel	16	4-7
Monday	Psalms	39	1-6
Tuesday	Ecclesiastes	1	1-11
Wednesday	Matthew	9	10-17
Thursday	Matthew	13	44-45
Friday	I Cor. 5	14-19	
Saturday	Revelation	21	1-17

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- Southern Pines**
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**
New York avenue at South Ashe
William C. Holland, Th. D.
Bible school, 9:45 a. m. Worship 11 a. m. Training Union 7 p. m. Evening worship, 8 p. m.
Scout Troop 224, Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.; midweek worship, Wednesday 7:30 p. m.; choir practice Wednesday 8:15 p. m.
Missionary meeting, first and third Tuesdays, 8 p. m. Church and family suppers, second Thursdays, 7 p. m.
- OUR LADY OF VICTORY (Catholic)**
West Pennsylvania at Hardin
Fr. Donald Fearon, C. SS. R.
Fr. Robert McCrief, C. SS. R. assistant
Sunday Mass, 10 a. m.; Holy Day Mass, 9 a. m. Confessions are heard before Mass.
- EMMANUEL CHURCH (Episcopal)**
Rev. Charles V. Covell
Holy Communion, 8 a. m. Church school, 9:45 a. m. Morning Prayer, 11 a. m.
First Sundays, Holy Communion, 11 a. m.
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH**
New Hampshire Ave., So. Pines
Sunday Service, 11 a. m.
Sunday School, 11 a. m.
Wednesday Service, 8 p. m.
Reading Room in Church Building open every Tuesday and Saturday from 3 to 5.
- ST. ANTHONYS (Catholic)**
Vermont Ave. at Ashe
Father Peter M. Denges
Sunday masses 8 and 10:30 a. m.; Holy Day masses 7 and 9 a. m.; weekday mass at 8 a. m. Confessions heard on Saturday between 5-6 and 7:30-8:30 p. m.
- BROWNSON MEMORIAL CHURCH (Presbyterian)**
Cheves K. Ligon, Minister
Sunday school 9:45 a. m. Worship service, 11 a. m. Women of the Church meeting, 8 p. m. Monday following third Sunday.
The Youth Fellowships meet at 7 o'clock each Sunday evening. Mid-week service, Wednesday, 7:15 p. m.
- CHURCH OF WIDE FELLOWSHIP (Congregational)**
N. Bennett at New Hampshire
Robert L. House, M. D.
Church school, 9:45 a. m. at High School building. Sermon, 11 a. m. in church building. Twilight Hour for Juniors, 6:45 p. m. Pilgrim Fellowship at Fox Hole, 6:30 p. m., Fellowship Forum, 8 p. m.

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...But only Time will Tell...

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