

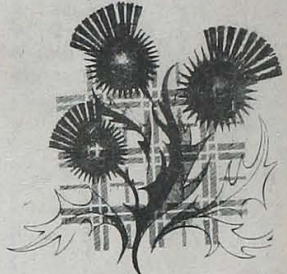


Desert Sheiks find Haven in Heather

Jan 1976

Bonnie Scotland goes Arabic

If Robert Burns were alive today, he would certainly have something to say about what is happening in the highlands and the lowlands. The Bard would be as perplexed as so many Scots people are, at the sudden influx of Arab potentates and oil-rich emirs. No doubt he would immediately sit down and pen a few pungent odes despairing of the very idea that Scotland was changing cultures, patterns and peoples.



Balnagowan Castle tumbles to Mohammed

Typical of the notable change-over is Balnagowan Castle owned for centuries by the Clan Ross. The last Ross inhabitant has been dead for some years. He was Sir Charles Ross, inventor of the Ross rifle, and a man so much in debt to the tax authorities that he used to have to make secret trips in and out of the castle to avoid them.

countries. He is also a large shareholder in Lonrho, the British-activated mining and industrial group.

The Fayeds have brought Egypt to Scotland in grand style that even a Pharaoh would appreciate. Castle Balnagowan now boasts gold-plated water taps and gold-lame pillows, with sunken baths - a new-found Scottish delight. Four-poster beds have been installed, one for Mohammed and one each for his sons.

Today the castle has a new laird in the person of Sheik Mohammed al-Fayed, the influential adviser to ruler of Dubai. Altogether, the Fayeds (comprised of father Mohammed and sons Ali and Emad - women not counted, as they still retain their secrecy behind the yashmaks) now own the Castle at Balnagowan, a mansion on the same acreage, a grouse moor and the salmon rights of the nearby river.

The family traverse the world in an executive jet of their own private airline caled 'Fayair' which lands and takes off from nearby Inverness Airport. They are ferried to and from the Castle by helicopter.

The Scots find the whole affair astounding. They just don't believe its all happening at all. Clan names like Munro, MacKenzie, Fraser, MacLeod, MacDonnell, Sinclair and MacKay still abound in the area of the highlands where the Egyptians have settled in. Maybe in future years we will be talking about the Clan MacFayed!!!

The Highlanders can hardly believe what is going on. One grizzled old-timer voiced what a lot of the area people are thinking: 'Aye son, it cannae be anything but a dream'.

Late from Egypt

Mohammed al-Fayed is an Egyptian who fled from Cairo back in the days when Farouk was thrown out by a civil and army rebellion. From then, he has grown to be a financial giant in the international world of business. He has addresses listed in England, Switzerland and other European

obituaries

McGILLIVRAY, Ruby Viola
At Summit Place Nursing Home, Owen Sound, on Sunday, February 24th, Ruby McGillivray, in her 100th year. Wife of the late John Beaton McGillivray. Dear mother of Agnes Thompson of Kincardine. Predeceased by 1 daughter Donelda Small & 1 son, Ross McGillivray. Sadly missed by gandchildren Bob Small, Lynda Seaman & Diane Hull all of Port Elgin, Doug McGillivray of California, Joanne Pfeiffe of Brentwood, B.C. & Barbara Dault of Bowmanville. Also survived by 13 great-grandchildren. Ruby McGillivray was Port Elgin's Centennial Queen in 1974. Funeral service was Wednesday, February 27th, 1991 at W. Kent Milroy Funeral Home, Interment Sanctuary Park Cemetery. Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated as

The rink skipped by Bob Cammidge came out on top of the mixed schedule this year at the Southampton Curling Club. The last games in the schedule were held last Wednesday night. Members of the rink are, left to right: Jack

Wright, Vice; Bob Cammidge, Skip; William McSloy, Second; and Eloise Farmer lead. The final club bonspiel was held at the club last Saturday, and many members were present to enjoy the day of curling.

The Beacon Times, Thursday, December 11, 1975, Page 3P



A mother and son flying team...a first for Port Elgin! Gwen Wilson, centre, and son Murray are shown with flying instructor Bill

Cruikshank of Wingham after receiving their wings together at the Port Elgin Flying Club wings dinner.