

An Gaidheal.



W. CHERRY & C.

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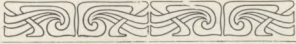
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Leabhar XXXI.]

An Dàmhar, 1935.

[Earrann 1

THE ANNUAL MOD, 1935.

CRUINNEACHADH NAM FINEACHAN.

“Chunnaic mi 'n diugh an Dun Eideann
Comunn na féile cruinn.”

Mar theid bliadhna an déidh bliadhna seachad tha am Mòd a' sior fhàs agus a' dol bho neart gu neart. Tha mòran an crochadh air an àite anns am bi Mod 'g a chumail. Am measg nam beann is an fhraoich tuigear gur e sin an suidheachadh nadurra airson na cànanain agus a' chiùil. Ach air sràidean lom nan clach cia mar gheibhear an cor anns an urrainn Mòd a bhì soirbheachail. Is e cridheachan blàth nan Gaidheal a mhàin d' an comas a leithid sin de chruinneachadh a dheanamh sundach sona, eadhon an teas meadhon a' bhàile mhòir. Is ann mar sin a thachair air an turas so. Bha buidheann de Ghaidheil thapaigh ag ullachadh fad na bliadhna airson a' Mhòid; agus an uair a thainig am tionail las gach cridhe suas leis an eud a nochd a' bhuidheann so feadh na bliadhna.

* * *

Ged is e an Diuc Rothesay ar n-oide rìoghail mar Chomunn, agus ged tha ainmsan eadhon air ar duilleagan sgrìobhaidh mar Thighearn nan Eilean, gidheadh cha d'fhuair sinn riamh fhathast gus a' so an taitneas agus an cul-taice a bheir làthaireachd ar teaghlach rìoghail an diugh do aobhar no do choinneamh ann ar dùthaich. Thug mi cunntas gearr Beurla anns an ath dhuilleig mu na tadhlàichean taitneach cairdeil a rinn Bain Diuc Eboracum, agus an

Bhan Phrionnsa, Helena Victoria, air Mòd Dhuin Eideann. Thug sin toileachas air leth do na bha an làthair. Tha mi an dùil gu bheil dilseachd dualach dhuinn; agus an uair a chì sinn buill de'n teaghlach rìoghail a' cur urrainn is meas air ar cànanain agus ar ceòl, mar thachair an Dun Eideann, nach dearbhte gu'n gluais sin ar n-aignidhean gu mór. Mar sin chan iongnadh ged chuireamaid slios an so ar n-aidmheil; agus tha mi an dùil gu'n cuir an leughadair aonta gu bheil sin fìor is ceart.

* * *

Is deagh eomharradh air adhartas a' Mhòid gu bheil aireamh nam farpuiseach a' dol suas an cuid de na deuchainnean. Tha so fìor gu h-àraidh a thaobh na h-òigridh. Tha a' chlànn a nis a' faotainn tuilleadh aire is misneachaidh na b'abhaist. Airson so tha moladh ri dheanamh air Seoras Gallda còir, smior a' Ghaidheil esan, is deagh charaid na h-òigridh. An comhcheangal ri seinn na cloinne is iomchuidh ainmeachadh gun do choisinn coisr Lacasdail cliu air leth. Chan e a mhain gun do choisinn iad duais; ach bha an comh-sheirm cho coimhlionta is gun ghabh na breitheanan mór iongnadh. Thubhairt bean usal anns an éisdeachd a bha 'n a h-Ollamh Ciùil (Mus. Doc.) gun robh an t-seinn ud tearc da rìreadh, agus 'n a h-eisimpleir do iomadh coisr inbheach. Tha na coisrean air fad a' sior dhol am feabhas an alt na seinn. Tha so

cinnteach gu sonruichte mu na coisrean duthchail. Agus le bhì ag éisdeachd bliadhna an deidh bliadhna ri beachd is binn an luchd-meas, tha an sluagh fein a' fàs nas gleusta 'n an càil, agus nas duiliche a riarachadh.

* * *

A thaobh litreachais is ur-labhraidh tha adhartas mòr ri mhòthachadh a nis. Am measg nam farpaiseach tha cuid de na h-òganaich is de na maighdeannan a tha 'n an foghlumaichean anns na h-ard sgoilean, agus aig a bheil Gaidhlig mar aon de an cuspairean sgoile. Is e a tha ri fhacinn ri linn sin, gu bheil loinn 'ri is làn ghleus air Gaidhlig a' Mhòid mar tha an fheadhainn sin a' strìth, an sgrìobhadh no an ur-labhraidh. Tha An Comunn mar thoradh air so a' faotainn cuideachadh luachmhor; agus air a' laimh eile tha an òigridh sin iad fein a' faighinn cothrom anns na farpaisean air an comas a dhearbhadh, agus an oilean a choimeas ri a cheile. Dh'éirich fothail mhór an uair nach cualas sgeul air a' bhàrd d' am b' ainm "Sugra." Sioraim sios sioram suas cha robh ball de Ruaraidh agam. Ge b'e air bith co'e no i am bard neo-aithnichte, tha aon ni cinn-teach co dhiu, is math a ghnòthach ri dhol a dheanamh bàrdachd.

* * *

Chan e a mhaoin gun robh am Mòd 'n a aon chuirme-chiùil, ach bha cuirmean eile ri sholar mar an ceudna. Chuir ard mhaithian a' bhaile fàilte air a' Mhòid, agus thug iad cuireadh gu féisd a bha fialaidh da rìreadh. Chuireadh biadh is deoch an tairge na cuideachd a bha tuilleadh is mìle an àireamh. Rinn Ard Phrobhaist Dhun Eideann oraid ghasda anns an do shonruich e cuid de na leasachaidhean a tha feumail airson maith na Gaidhealtachd. Phreagair Ceann Suidhe A' Chomuinn am briathran freagarrach, agus thugadh buidheachas na cuideachd do Ard Chomhairle a' bhaile airson an aoidheachd. Ach a thuilleadh air sin bha cuirmean cùil is ceilidhean an cuid de thighean òsda, anns an robh seann chairdean a' coinneachadh, agus cairdean ùra a' cur an tuilleadh còlais air cach a chéile. Agus mar sheinn Donnachadh Bàn ri linn am breacan aiseag as ùr do na fìneachan :

"Togaidh na Gaidheil an cinn,
Cha bhì iad fo chuinn nas mò."

THE MOD DAY BY DAY.

No finer natural feature than the Castle Rock adorns any modern city; and the Mod of this year, has taken place in the vicinity of that Rock in the Scottish capital. Edinburgh has always a romantic corner in its heart for Highlanders. This time the Mod was welcomed with a civic reception on a grand scale. Nothing was omitted to make all Mod enthusiasts feel at home. The Lord Provost and Magistrates showed the utmost kindness and hospitality.

But in addition to the civic welcome the Mod this year had the unprecedented honour of being visited by Royalty. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of York attended on several occasions. She listened to competitions and concerts, she presented prizes, and she was an appreciative listener at several ceilidhs. The Mod was attended by another Royal visitor, The Princess Helena Victoria, who came accompanied by her host and hostess Lord and Lady Cassilis.

The Edinburgh Committee acquitted themselves with conspicuous credit. It was a huge task they took in hand a year ago—but they had faith, and courage. It is manifest that the team spirit was there from the first. The constancy, pluck, and perseverance of this band of workers are indeed worthy of all praise. The organising of the Edinburgh Feill in early summer must have meant a great exertion. Other forms of endeavour were numerous and most effective. The common effort had two good results—a team united in cordial co-operation; and a sound financial success as the outcome of it all.

TUESDAY.

The proceedings on Tuesday were entirely confined to the junior section. The competitions for the day were in oral delivery on the one hand, and vocal and choral music on the other. The oral side included the usual heads, recitation from memory, reading, and conversation, while the vocal covered solos, duets, and choral work. The quality of the singing was good, and the judges were very well pleased with it; while they also pointed out a few small matters in the way of friendly counsel. These hints are most valuable, coming as they do from such competent adjudicators. The silver medal, the highest honour for juniors, went to Annie Maclean, Tobermory, and Iain MacCuaig, Glasgow. The *Oban Times* Shield was won by the Laxdale Choir, Stornoway.

The junior concert was held in the Music Hall in the evening. The chair was taken by

Mr. Marjoribanks, that friend, organiser, and inspirer of our Gaelic youth throughout the Highlands. His address was most interesting. He described his recent visit to Wales, where he had got some insight into the Welsh youth movement which includes some seventy thousand children.

The prizes were presented to the young people by Mrs. Marjoribanks. The programme was sustained by prize-winners. It was noted that the singing of one very young first-prize winner, Iain Maclaren, Edinburgh, was received with great enthusiasm by the audience.

WEDNESDAY.

A prominent class in the programme for Wednesday was the Oran Mór competition. The prescribed pieces were full of scope for a dramatic interpretation; the Battle of Alexandria and the Massacre of Glencoe provide room enough for a spirited rendering. The audience was not disappointed. The contest in the tie in the Oran Mór between Mrs. Grant, Ballachulish and Cathie M. Clark (Mrs. Buchanan Dunlop), Glasgow who was runner-up last year in Oban; and Mr. Hugh Macinnes, Ballachulish. The Gaelic judges expressed satisfaction over the proficiency of the Gaelic. The trophy shield for Rural Choirs was won by the Kinloch Rannoch Gaelic Choir. The large number of rural choirs which appeared is a good index of the extent and amount of choral work done in country districts. This type of music is gaining in popularity as it well deserves to do. The growing proficiency of these choirs is also an indication of the excellent work done by the music teachers of An Comunn in the various districts where they train the choirs.

The official opening ceremony took place at noon in the Music Hall. The proceedings began with a Gaelic prayer by the Rev. Donald M. Cameron, M.A., St. John's, Leith. The President was accompanied on the platform by Bailie Raithby who welcomed the Mod in name of the Town Council, as well as by several former presidents and their friends, and other leading workers and sympathisers in the Gaelic movement. The President delivered two excellent orations, in Gaelic and in English, of which a full copy is included in this issue. As will be seen by reference to his speeches, he dwelt on lines of thought which are of vital importance to An Comunn at this stage. The appreciation of the audience was expressed in a hearty vote of thanks which was fittingly proposed by Mr. Malcolm Macleod, Convener of Mod and Music Committee.

A civic reception by The Right Honorable Lord Provost, Sir William Thomson, LL.D., and the Magistrates and Town Council, was given in the Music Hall on Wednesday evening. A thousand guests attended the assembly, and the hospitality was on a magnificent scale.

Genial as are the ceilidhs, and bright as are the concerts, there is a peculiar note of dignity and splendour about a civic reception such as this. An Comunn Gaidhealach has reason to be grateful to the city fathers for adding so generously to the impressiveness and joy of Mod week.

THURSDAY.

Oral delivery formed a feature of this day's transactions. The winners in recitation were Mr. Nicol Campbell, Tobermory, for verse; Miss Chris Macpherson, Ardgour, for folk-tale; Miss Kitty Macleod, Lewis, for prose; and Miss Macleod was very successful in various other classes, oral and vocal. The gold medallists for solo singing were Miss Cathie M. Clark (Mrs. Dunlop), Glasgow, who was runner-up last year in Oban; and Mr. Hugh Macinnes, Ballachulish. The Gaelic judges expressed satisfaction over the proficiency of the Gaelic. The trophy shield for Rural Choirs was won by the Kinloch Rannoch Gaelic Choir. The large number of rural choirs which appeared is a good index of the extent and amount of choral work done in country districts. This type of music is gaining in popularity as it well deserves to do. The growing proficiency of these choirs is also an indication of the excellent work done by the music teachers of An Comunn in the various districts where they train the choirs.

The rural concert in the evening was well attended. The choir was occupied by Sir Alfred Macaulay of Golspie, a Lochaber Gael, who made a racy speech in excellent Gaelic, and also in English. A considerable number of former gold medallists volunteered to sing at this concert, so that the quality of the evening's entertainment was on a very high level. Miss Whigham presented the Lorn Shield to the conductor of the Kinloch Rannoch Choir.

On Thursday evening a memorable ceilidh took place in the Caledonian Hotel. The occasion was graced by the presence of Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York who was manifestly pleased with the informal gathering, for half the audience sat on the floor and sang chorus after chorus. Much of the novelty and charm of the ceilidh consists in its free unconventional form.

FRIDAY.

The competitions this forenoon included duets, quartettes, choral harmony; violin and pianoforte. All these were well contested. Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York, and Her Highness, the Princess Helena Victoria

arrived at different stages of the forenoon's proceedings. They were received by Mr. Bannerman, the President. The audience were not slow to mark by acclamation the honour conferred on the movement by the presence of the Royal visitors.

The competition between the advanced choirs took place in the Usher Hall in the afternoon. The great hall was filled to capacity. The audience listened in breathless silence to some excellent choral part-singing. The Lovat-Tulliebardine Shield was secured by the Campbeltown Choir.

The grand concert in the Usher Hall was presided over by His Grace the Duke of Montrose. Before the commencement of the concert, the office-bearers of An Comunn were presented to Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of York. Her Royal Highness presented the prizes. The identity of "Sugra," who took first place in verse composition, could not be ascertained; the winner of the second place, Donald Grant, was crowned as bard for the year. Many members could not obtain admission; so an overflow concert was held in the Central Halls. Dr. Neil Ross, presided. The hall was crowded; and in the kindness of her heart the Duchess of York came for half-an-hour, and honoured the audience by making a neat short speech. She was received by the Rev. David Duncan, convener, of the Edinburgh Mod Committee. She spoke to Mr. Duncan Morrison, the accompanist, who has recently dedicated his new book to Her Royal Highness. The ovation given the Duchess by the Central Hall audience, and by thousands outside the Hall yielded to none in warmth and enthusiasm.

Such was the Edinburgh Mod of 1935, a Mod memorable in several respects, favoured by excellent weather, encouraged by civic hospitality, graced by the presence of such distinguished visitors, and marked by the cordiality of its ceilidhs and the good feeling and friendliness of competitors. One regretted that the time flew so quickly; which only makes anticipation all the more ardent for the next Mod of 1936.

N. R.

SEAN CHLEASAGHAN.

Owing to pressure on our space this month, the instalment of Gaelic Games has been unavoidably held over.

ORAIÐ A' CHINN SUIDHE.

Adhartachd.

Thoiream mo làn bhuidheachas do'n aiteam chàirdeil sin a chuir mise anns an dreuchd so; dreuchd nach do shaoil mi a thiginn gu bràth na còir, gu sonruichte nuair bheachdaicheam air sàr chomanas intinneil nan sonn a bha anns an inbhe so, aig atharrachadh amannan, bhò'n a thòisich An Comunn.

Mar is tric a chluinneas sibh tha an Comunn Gaidhealach so againn ann am bith bhò'n bhliadhna 1891 agus ré a bheatha tha e air obair ionmholta a dheanamh as leth air Gàidhlig. As eugmhais-san 'n ar measg ciamar eile ach gu lapanach a bhiodh cor ar cànan's air ciùil air an lath' an diugh.

Ach a sheachd aindeoin oidheirpean a' Chomuinn tha a' Ghàidhlig a' sioladh as an sud 's an so cha mhòr gun fhios duinn. Is chan e cion sluagh is coireach d'a sin daonnan ach an dearmad 'san diol-dubh suarach a tha mòran, a tha 's a bhitheas a' còmhuidh anns a' Ghàidhealtachd a' deanamh air a' chànan so, is i an còirbheith. Is ann a nis a tha daoine glice anns gach cearn a' fas mothachail gu leòr air a' mhòr luach spioradail a th'anns a' Ghàidhlig dhaibhsan 's a' tighinn fo chùram mun chall do-labhairt a bhiodh ann do'r cinneadh 'nan leigte leatha dol ceum na 's fhaide air rathad an aoig. The gach sùil, gun teagamh, a' coimhead gu h-ìomagainach ris a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealach airson na furtachd sin a dh'fheumas tighinn 'g a h-ionnsuidh gu h-ealamh.

Gidheadh a réir cuid mhath de na comharran a tha 'g an deanamh fhéin cho follaiseach dhuinn 's ann a shaoileamaid gur h-ann a bha a' Ghàidhlig a' cinntinn gu torach agus gu buadh-mhor, oir cha robh riamh barrachd meas oirre le foghlumaichean ùghdaraichte air feadh an t-saoghail; gu litreachail tha i soirbheachail, 's cha robh riamh roimhe, d'ar n-fhios-ne, uiread de mhìadh air a ceòl. Os barr air gach ni tha i'n diugh a' mealtainn sochair nach robh idir air a siubhal 's na seann làithean, is e sin còir laghail air cuid de h-àite dligeach fhéin a bhi aice ann an sgoiltean a duthcha, a thaing sin uile do'n Chomuinn Ghàidhealach ach mar thubhairt mi, ge b'òil leis gach cobhair a thaing fhathast tha Ghàidhlig ann an airc, ma bha i riamh ann, air clàr-leathann a dùthcha fhéin far a mhàin an urrainn di bhi maireann.

Is ann ri deagh chuimhne dhaoine a tha fhathast beò slàn a leigeadh le galair a bhàis dol na h-aoraidh air feadh na Mòr-thìr is fadair

a bhì cinnteach nach'èil roimh'n aimhleas mhallaichte sin stad le thoil fhéin eadhon mu chladaichean siara na tíre. Is ann a tha a' Ghàidhlig ann am mór roinnean de'n Ghàidhealteachd, eadar Tìr-mór is eileanan, ann diugh fein anns na h-ospagan far an robh à bho chionn beagan bliadhnanach am mullach a sláinte. Tha làn àm ann luim a dheanamh a bhios co-chothramaichte ris a' chall-foila Ghàidhealach a tha nis a' tachairt ma tha an call dò-bheartach sin ri bhì air a stamhnadh gu bràth.

Gun aona cheist tha eòlas na Beurla do-sheachainte feumail dhuinn uile, ach chan ionann aideachadh de'n t-seòrsa sin 'sa ràdh gum feumar air talleamh na Beurla a' Ghàidhlig a sponadh as a freumhaidh dùthchasach fein. Saoilidh mise co-dhiubh nach 'èil a' Bheurla idir a' laighe gu nàdurra air Tìr nam Beann 's nan Gleann, no air machrachean is lochan is òban nan eileanan; ar leam gur h-e nì an aghaidh nàdur a th'ann, ach biodh sin mar a dh'fhaodas e mur biodh suim aig a' Ghàidheal de chaintn ach gum b'è dòigh labhairt a bh'innte anns nach robh sùgh no susbaint a bha ion-mhiannaichte le chridhe no le thoil dh'fhaodadh e bhì an uair sin cearta coma ged a dheanadh i falbh bhuaidhe gun tilleadh. B'fhearra dha gu dearbh a bhì na Ghall gu buileach no na neo-thoir air taobh a dhùthchais fein, ach chan ann mar sin a tha chùis air aona chor, is ann a tha iunntasan iomadach agus luachmhor aig a' chànan fein ri thoirt dha. Is ise innte fein suim nan iomadh feart agus subhailec spioradail a tha tighinn 'g a ionnsuidh bho ghnè is bho ghliocas nan Gàidheal a chaidh roimhe agus is ann trompe-se tha guthan gaolach nam feadhach sin 'ga ruighinn nach bu mhath leis gun dì-chumhnicheadh e ri a bheò.

Is i fìor mhàthair-aobhair do'n ghràdh-dùthcha no chinneadail sin a tha 'na aigneadh, oir ciod air bith mar tha co-mheasgadh na fola 's na làithean a th'ann is ann aig a' Ghàidhlig a tha bhuaidh, oir is ise a nis agus ise a mhàin a tha deanamh a' Ghàidheil na Ghàidheal, oir mur biodh ise ann cha bhiodh neach idir air ainmeachadh oirre, c'airt' air bith a bhiodh àite còmhnaidh no co air bith bu dhaoine dha. Is e i bhì ann an àit-eiginn a tha ceadachadh do mhòran nach labhair i a bhì deanamh feum de h-ainm, Is tha e cho math gu bheil sin mar sin oir is iomadach iad nach d'fhuair cothrom air a togail a tha làn airidh oirre. Is ann glé leòinte a bhiodh eòis na Gàidhlig as aonais an dlion 's an cuideachadhsan, ma tha iad ann cuideachd de luchd-labhairt, nì a tha gu leòr, mu'm faodar aithris gur suarach na tha iad a'

deanamh de'n t-sochair bheannaichte so a thainig do'n ionnsuidh mar dhileab. Is iad na h-eaglaisean Gàidhlig a thogas am fianuis leam 's an nì so.

Ann's na làithean a dh'aom bha a' Ghàidhlig air a Baile-mór na daingneach nàdurra fhéin, is ma tha bheag no mhór de'n t-seann bheòthalachd innte fhathast 's ann a thaobh 's gun robh am Freasdal 'ga còmhnaidh 's gun do dhubh dh'fhailech e air a naimhdean ruigheachd oirre an uair ud gus cur as dìth gu buileach. Is e na bha 'nan comas a dheanamh, agus rinn iad e gu dìoghaltach, séisd, mar gum b'eadh, a chur rithe a chlaoidheadh i h-uile latha tuille. Dhiultadh dhith gach inbhe 's gach saorsa bu chòir a bhì aig cànan sluaigh, dhiteadh i fa chomhair an t-saoghail le cur air chùl-chleachduinn ann an cùisean laghail agus chléirsinneachail is thamaillteachd i gu h-eucorach le an-uaisleachd a chur as a leth 's bha gach binn dhiubh sin ri bhì seasmhach gu latha bràth. Ach is ann le aiteas a dh'aidheach leinn air a shon sin gu bheil iad ann an diugh ann measg luchd gnìomhachais fòghluim a tha 'nan càirdean cho dìleas agus cho eudmhor air taobh na Gàidhlig 's a bha riamh 'nan imbhidhean.

Ged dh'fhaodas luchd-riaghlaidh nan sgoiltean a' Ghàidhlig a shàrachadh gu mór chan urrainear a ràdh gur h-e uile gu léir sgoil na Beurla a tha 'ga dìtheachadh, chan abhaist do'n sgoil leatha fein a leithid sin de dh'atharrachadh anabarrach a thoirt air caintn chleachdta taobh dùthcha sam bith. Tha'n dòigh labhairt aig sean is og an ceann shìos a' bhàile so fein mar bha e bho chian nan cian. Is e gu fad is mò tha fòghnachduinn do'n Ghàidhlig droch bhuaidh nan togalaichean Gallda sin, le'n cuid dhaoine Gallda a tha tuineachadh ann an taobh a stigh de chrìocheibh nàdurra na Gàidhlig 's a tha fòir-eigmeachd a mach le'n droch Bheurla a' Ghàidhlig mbath a mòran ionadan a tha gu sonraichte 'na dlìghe-se.

Tha luchd-ùghdarrais fòghluim aig nach 'èil bàigh ri Gàidhlig car cinnteach gu'm faod iad cùisean a ghabhail gu fòil a nis 's gach cunnatas a' dearbhadh gu'm bheil i dol a sealladh leatha fein. Ma's fìor chan 'èil mi-run sam bith acasan dì ach air chinnt chan 'èil an tnu' ach am folach. Feuchte ri nì ro-leasachail a chur an gnìomh as a leth 's air ball tuigear an seòrsa doimhcheadas a chuireas sin orra agus chitear mar theid iadsan 's a h-escairdean eile, gu uchd an dièill gus camraichd air choreiginn a chur air an oidheirp.

Ann's gach dùthaich tha riaghailtean iomchuidh air an coimhead a chumas cànan

na dùthcha sin gun fhàilneachadh. Tha Beurla againn uile air tailleamh riaghailtean. Glé mhath, ach ma tha, biodh canain ar dùthcha fhéin againne cuideachd air tàilleamh riaghailtean, oir dh'fhalbh an latha a nis anns an urrainn dhith cinntinn anns an dòigh uile gu léir nàdurra sin a bha comasach dhith nuair nach robh a sluagh dà-chainnteach. Tha comhairlean glé mhath 'nan àitean fhéin ach chan fhoghainn iad. Is e 'nè dhìubh sin cho math 'sa th'againn "Lean gu dlùth ri cliù do shìnsre," agus is ionnan 's i ann an uallachas an suaicheantas eireachdail sin a thog sinn os ar cinn "Clanna nan Gàidheal an gaoillibh a' chéile," ach 'se mo chùram nach 'eil stèornadh ro eifeachdach aon chuid anns a' chomhairle no anns an t-suaicheantas, ged aidicheam gur h-ann de na h-uiread ann an rathad trèorachaidh a tha an earail re chéile. Is e mar a tha a' chùis an coitcheannas nach 'eil buaidh no eadbon saorsa ri'n sealbhadh ach an taobh a stigh de riaghailtean. Is toigh le daoine riaghailtean. Mur bitheadh iad cha bhiodh fios aca gu bitheanta cìod e bu chòir dhoibh a dheanamh. Is ann a' toirt ùmhlachd do riaghailt a tha mise labhairt ann an Gàidhlig an dràsda. Tha comunnan ann a tha na's pailte de bhuihl na tha sinne de luchd-labhairt an Gàidhlig anns a' Ghàidhealtachd air fad a tha 'gan gluasad fhein gu glice fo riaghailtean a rinn an cinn-ùil fhein dhaibh. Sin an ni a dh'fheumas sinne d'beanamh, dlùthachadh ri chéile mar an aon bhuidheann agus riaghailtean a thionnsgnadh 's a chraobh-sgaoileadh a bhios freagarrach a chum ar dùthchasachd fhéin a chumail slàinteil.

Ged a tha am facal "riaghailt" air a chleachdadh cha bhiodh aige ach an seadh abhaisteach a th' aige am measg luchd comuinn eile. Cha bhiodh laghaileachd no smachd anns na reachdan a dheante. Is ann le bannaibh sìoda agus còrdaibh gràidh a bhiodh Clanna nan Gàidheal air an tarraing ri a chéile; na h-aon fheartan cumhachdach sin a tha tarraing uibhir dhinne còmhla ann an co-chòrdadh dùthchasach aig am a' Mhòid.

Ach co aig a bhiodh còir air riaghailtean a chur an cèill a bhiodh idir coitcheann 'nan éifeachd. Bhitheadh shaoileadh neach aig Pàrlamaid na cainnte—An Comunn Gàidhealach ris an do ghabhadh cheana leis a' mhòr-chuid mar an t-aon Ard-Chomunn a tha riochdachadh nan Gàidheal uile anns na gnòthaichean intinneil sin a bhùneas do'n dùthchas. Tha, mar gum b'eadh, An Comunn Gàidhealach cunntasach anns na nithibh sin airson àireamh mhòr de shluagh na Gàidhealtachd nach 'eil idir 's nach bi

gu bràth 'nam buill barantaichte de'n Chomunn.

Airson nan gnè riaghailtean a ghabhadh deanadh a chum àirde chur air ar cainnt nach tric a chluinnear tagraidhean mar so air an cur air adhart gu dian:—Na Comunnan 's na coinneamhan sin a tha gabhail orra fhein a bhi Gàidhligeach bitheadh iad mar sin am measg an cuideachd fhein, (A chionn's gu robh àireamh nach bruidhneadh Gàidhlig anns a' Chomunn bho thus b'fheudar buidheann a' stéidheachadh anns a' Chomunn ris an abrar Clann an Fhraoich nach cleachd ach Gàidhlig a mhàin anns na cùisean a tha air an earbsa riutha). Riaghailtean eile a tha air an iarraidh:—Biodh an canain dùthchasach fhéin air a labhairt gu co-sheasmhach eadar Gàidheal is Gàidheal nuair nach bi feum idir air a chaochladh doigh labhairt.

Biodh Gàidhlig nam parantan gu pailt aig a' chloinn mu'n tig air a' chloinn sin a bhi dol do sgoil na Beurla. Fagte teagag na Beurla aig a' Mhaighistir-sgoil agus bidh a' Bheurla sin ceart.

Biodh lùtrichean eadar chairdean Gàidhealach air an sgrìobhadh ann an Gàidhlig ma tha comas sgrìobhaidh ann an Gàidhlig aca.

Thoirte do Ghoill a bhios deònach a bhi làthair aig coinneimh do'n dùth, a reir riaghailte, a Ghàidhlig, làn di-beatha ach na deante muthadh air cainnt riaghailteach na coimhich air an tàilleamh. So aon de na dòighean a 's fhearr air Gàidhlig a sheasamh 's air a teagag dhaibhsan leis am miann i. Tuite sios fa chomhair na Beurla 's cha leis a' Ghaidhlig a cuid no a cotrohm fhein tuille; cha bhi aice an uair sin ach a bhi riarachta leis na greimeannan beaga a thogras a' Bheurla thoirt dhith a bonnach a' bhrosagail.

Ann an coinneimh Ghàidhealaich far am faod a' mhòr-àireamh a bhi Gallda biodh an t-àite toisich air a shon sin air a thoirt gu h-eagnuidh do'n Ghàidhlig. Is iad riaghailtean glice a chuartaicheas ar laigsinnean. Tha e na fhìor dhroch alladh air ar muinntir-ne gur sinn a's trice bhios gun aobhar pongail a' deanamh culaidh-thruais de'r canain fhein.

Ùine sin na foghnadh comhairlean leinn na's fhaide, math is gum faod iad a bhi chan 'eil purp anna dhruidheas oirn, codhiubh, chan 'eil stath anna mhaireas. Gach facal femail de'n t-seorsa thig bho'n Chomunn bu mhath leamsa air aon gu'n tigeadh le cumhachd riaghailt, agus dheante adhartachd ged nach gabhte gu deiseil ri riaghailt sam bith ach leinn fhein agus le luchd-buill ar meuran anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. Ré ùine bhiodh soirbheachadh leis an eisimpleir.

PRESIDENT'S ENGLISH ADDRESS.

So far, Ladies and Gentlemen, the matters I have referred to have had no special concern for the non-Gaelic listener. There are, I dare say, a few such in this Hall. Why they are not bi-lingualists I am not willing to understand, when there exist so many facilities for those interested, to learn Gaelic and keep abreast of its delightful culture. It is said to be a difficult language to learn, but why let the matter rest at that—were not we sufficiently counselled by our copy-book adage that patience and perseverance *overcame* difficulties? A gentleman, in this hall at present, learned it thoroughly in a year's time, and gave a most profound lecture in it to an all Gaelic Society in Glasgow without the aid of a scrap of paper. All of us, however, can say it is our language—Scotland's language, in which our most ancient and proudest traditions are enshrined. Being, as it is now, the rich language of a comparatively small and poor community, we who happen to know it love it all the more on that account. In our region, humility and human-kindness are almost always found together. "Almost" I say, as there are a few here and there amongst our own fellow-countrymen, and Gaelic speakers at that, who value the possession of it but little. Much depends on the natural patriotism of the individual, and, as we know, patriotism is a form of love that is there or it is not. Nevertheless, European Culturalists say that its inherent worth makes them wish they could possess it wholly. It would unquestionably be a best seller at the present day if only it could be sold.

But here is a matter which concerns all Scotland, as Gaelic being Scotland's only inalienable and distinguishing complete language it must be preserved in its health and vigour, if Scotland is to remain as patriotically true as it should be to its Gaelic name.

A new movement named Comunn na h-Oigridh ensues at almost the eleventh hour, that Gaelic will be socially and nationally valued by our rising generation, and its continuance made tolerably certain on a much wider scale of cultural appeal. Its initiation marks the most vital measure An Comunn Gaidhealach has ever undertaken. It is being realised, that the Gaelic language with all the heartfelt racial sentiments inseparable from it, must now be committed definitely to the safe keeping of the children of the schools of Gaeldom. The old haphazard method of hoping for the best in the interests of our language will no longer suit. All speak English—so far so good—

but our bi-lingualism is infinitely better. Jealous systems have prevented, and are still endeavouring to prevent the due and highly desirable progress of Gaelic. A defensive system of our own must now take some action to thwart all vandalic discouragements.

The Organization, and the working of it, have been entrusted to that section of An Comunn Gaidhealach known as Clann an Fhraoich whose members use the Gaelic language only in their Comunn purposes. Through them, with Mr. Marjoribanks of linguistic and Bardic fame at their head, the Gaelic youth of to-day is rapidly being enrolled on the Gaelic side of bi-lingualism, and a covenant is being made with them which is as simple and pleasing as it is comprehensive and effective taking the long view. All that is asked of the children by regulation is to be good Gaels, and that means good citizens during their time. In return Clann an Fhraoich hope to provide for them a fuller and happier life than might otherwise be their portion.

There are already 31 bands of Comunn na h-Oigridh totalling some 700 members. This, however, is but the seed grain as it were, which is expected to yield a Gaeldom wide harvest. Other youths' organizations have enthusiastic helpers in their cause, we are earnestly seeking such.

All correspondence relative to the young Comunn is conducted in Gaelic and only Gaelic-speaking children are being enrolled. The reason for this is obvious. However desirable it would be to let all come in at first, a very few English-only speakers would undoubtedly give a wrong incidence to the movement, so the Welsh people caution us. When, however, the Organization has strengthened sufficiently and gained a steady confidence in itself and its rules, it is the intention to enrol learners who will undertake to speak Gaelic to commence with as well as they can, and in the course of time to become proficient in it. By this means, it is hoped to secure a Gaelic culture and spirit where Gaelic is the living tongue of the people, and perhaps to reclaim for real Gaeldom much territory that has now become a desiccated no man's land.

The promoters of Comunn na h-Oigridh have a very difficult task before them but nothing less than its accomplishment will give Gaelic its rightful place in our homeland and restore the selfhood and manhood of our race. They have to overcome age-long indifference and even much local opposition. They must not only capture the imagination of the children as young Gaels, they must train them in sports

which will inculcate in them good behaviour and a regard for manly codes. Comunn na h-Oigridh will have to be given opportunities to meet in companies and compete in games, so as to have generated amongst them an enthusiasm and a feeling of fraternity which can only exist where there is a common patriotism and a happy sympathy of numbers. Endeavour must also be made to develop their knowledge of craftsmanship for their own enjoyment and also in order that they may be enabled in course of time to earn at least some portion of the funds required in running their Association.

The undertaking goes to the root of the problem of how to preserve Gaelic and its higher culture, difficult though it may be, where the population is sparse, and where educated helpers with the necessary leisure are hard to find, and where not even all the schoolmasters have the essential requirements. It is a cause demanding advocacy. As such, it is worthy of the most generous assistance its well wishers can give it. The new Association sends forth its call for money. There must now be no word of turning back. The necessity of making the movement an entire success is apparent if our beloved language in these ruthless days is to subsist healthfully and creditably. The winning of what has hitherto been too often regarded as a hopeless cause will give the Gael of the future a concrete reason for being proud of his Gaeldom. A thousand times better for him a vernacular of cultured Gaelic plus good English than only a glib dialect of the latter.

Looking ahead, we see that Comunn na h-Oigridh's hundreds will soon be thousands; ex-school children will be led patriotically into Clann an Fhraoich and then we may expect that a wave, let us hope, a permanent one of enthusiasm, will cheer forward the Gaelic bilingualists of Scotland. All honour to the schoolmasters throughout the North and West who have so far guaranteed the success of the new movement. It now becomes the imperative duty of all Branches of An Comunn na Gaeldom to become the active sponsors of Comunn na h-Oigridh in matters relating to its Gaelic development. Quite evidently, an urgent want by Gaelic children is being supplied, and when we remember that the most attractive and happy ostentatiousness that does other youths organizations proud, namely, our dress and our music, we may well wonder at our modest hesitancy in making use of those attributes and qualities for our own behoof.

Again I say, it is to our boys and girls, may

I say, especially to the latter, we now look to make our language, our national sentiments in song and story and our racial traditions, mostly under inspiring regulations, a credit to our Gaelic selves and to our beloved Scotland.

Gaelic has a future. It is acknowledged to be pre-eminently the language of worship and prayer, as it was in St. Columba's day, and though long hath the night of its sorrow reigned since first it sent forth its consecrated heroes from Iona, it may be that in fulfilment of prophecy the time now is for it to do such work again, and it is my personal belief that we may now entertain a vision of a college or seminary of Columban learning and spirituality nestling quietly somewhere in the land of Gaelic thought, and producing, and providing, the ideally independent and disinterested thinkers and teachers so desiderated in our day by the whole world.

THE MOD OF 1935.

By VINCENT THOMAS.

At the request of Mr. Neil Shaw I am writing a few notes in an attempt to record my impressions of the Thirty-ninth Mod, at which annual Festival I appeared for the second time as an adjudicator, as a spectator, and, it should be added, as a sincere friend and advocate of a movement which has an artistic motive, and should appeal to the sympathies of all persons who honour courage and admire gallant enterprise.

It is a little difficult to sort out one's impressions; for, although they are still vivid, there are so many of them and they are of so varied a character that they almost need the inspired pen of a Sir Walter Scott to present them in coherent shape. Last year we were all at Oban, one of the beauty-spots of the West. It is a "far cry" from there to Edinburgh, and the difference was acute. At Oban the Mod pervaded the place; the little town was absorbed by its Festival. In the Metropolis the Festival seemed a bit over-awed by its majestic setting. Edinburgh received the Mod in a friendly spirit, but with dignified reserve. It was the unbending of historical age towards exuberant youth. Nevertheless, if Oban gave us a more social atmosphere, Edinburgh was able to supply our practical needs. There were halls providing ample accommodation for competitors and spectators, and above all, the splendid Usher Hall for the chief choral event and the final concert. Here we were able to hear the competing choirs to great

advantage. There was comfort and space and it was a grand sight to see so large a building crowded with eager listeners.

It was on the last afternoon that I became fully convinced of the real progress in the choral singing, a condition for which I had been hoping since last year. The result was most gratifying. The subject of choral singing is such an important one that I must add to this statement. The conductors and their musical forces have absorbed many of the secrets of part-singing. There is more to learn, of course, but they have all done so well that they should feel encouraged to carry on the good work. There were many moments when I was deeply stirred by the eloquence of the interpretation, and the beauty of the voices. I have frequently urged the importance of tone-quality. And, notwithstanding the fact that some of our weaker brethren allow themselves to be led away occasionally by the fashionable snobberies of the day, it is instinctive in the genuine lover of music to worship beauty. I want the Highland conductors to develop their own tone-quality which is distinctive, possessing its own particular character and timbre.

But if such progress was evident in the choral singing, I cannot honestly say that I felt it in the solo events. It is true, that at certain competitions I was greatly impressed by half-a-dozen soloists, yet, when these competitors appeared at subsequent classes, at least, three of them were disappointing. Gone was the clarity of utterance I had admired; gone were the little flashes of inspiration, and, worst of all, the singers got out of tune. This last is a vocal sin and no adjudicator can overlook it, particularly when in unaccompanied songs it is part of the essential test. But I remember the pleasure I received from two pairs of duettists. Two dear little people from the Lewis (I think) and two "grown-ups" from Edinburgh itself. The charm of the children's voices and the artistry of the others are impressions that remain with me.

In these random reflections, I cannot omit the Executive. I spoke of the Mod officials last year in the pages of An Gaidheal and again this year, I found them, as before, always courteous, unruffled, and completely efficient. I thank them sincerely for their kindly attitude towards myself and the trouble they took to make me visit a happy one.

These are by no means the sum of my impressions; there are many memories too precious to put into cold print. The Highland tunes have got into my blood, and stimulated

my imagination, and for some considerable time my dreams will be haunted by visions of fine upstanding men, gracious ladies, a noble boulevard, and fairy castle hung in the sky.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of An Comunn was held in the Music Hall, Edinburgh, on Saturday, 28th September. There were 180 members present and the President, Mr. John R. Bannerman, presided.

The minute of the previous annual general meeting was read and approved.

The President thanked the members of the Mod Local Committee for their zeal and labour, and for the splendid arrangements made to make the Mod such an outstanding success in every respect. Rev. David Duncan, local convener, replied on behalf of the office-bearers and members of the committee, and thanked the President for his kind words.

The President referred to the departure of Mr. Hugh MacPhee from the services of An Comunn and thanked him for the faithful services which he had given as Assistant Secretary. They regretted losing his services but they were glad that he had received such an important appointment, and that in his new office, he would do much to further the Gaelic cause.

The result of the election of office-bearers and members of the executive council was announced as follows:—President, Mr. J. R. Bannerman (unopposed); Vice-President, Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness (unopposed); Executive Council:—John M. Bannerman, Balmaha; Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale, M.B.E.; Capt. George J. Campbell, Yr. of Succoth; Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Inverness; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Glasgow; Rev. Hector Cameron, Moy; Donald Graham, M.A., Inverness; John A. Nicholson, M.A., Glasgow; Dr. Donald Ross, Lochgilphead; Mr. James MacPhee having resigned, Mr. Stewart MacInnes, next in order of ballot takes his place for one year.

The Secretary intimated that he had received no invitation for next year's Mod, and if was unanimously agreed that the Executive Council, through the Mod and Music Committee, should be empowered to fix the place of the Mod of 1936.

Of three motions, all of which had the same end in view, the second and third were dropped, and Mrs. Barron moved for the Glasgow Gaelic

Musical Association :—"That Rule 12 should read, 'Any kindred Society may, with the approval of the Executive Council of the Association, become affiliated with the Association on payment of £1 per Annum, and shall, when so affiliated, and while continuing to contribute, be entitled to appoint one of its members to be its representative on the Association and the Executive Council.'"

Mr. John A. Nicolson, seconded.

The previous question was moved by Mr. Charles Campbell, Captain Colin Campbell, seconding. After discussion a vote was taken when 30 voted for the motion and 80 for the previous question. The previous question therefore carried.

Mr. Marjoribanks moved the following motion which stood in his name :—"Gu'n toir An Comunn Gaidhealach an gnùis do'n riaghailt iùil so : 'Gu'm bheil cluichean, cruinneachaidhean, campaichean agus an leithidean 'nan cuid bhunaitich de ghnìomhachas Comunn na h-Oigridh, as eugmhais nach gabh a leithid de ghluasad toirt gu buil idir; agus mar sin gur còir sealltuinn orra mar mheadhonan neadhreac gus cinn-erliche A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich adhartachadh.'"

Dr. Neil Ross, seconded.

Mr. Alex. Fraser, seconded by Miss Lamont of Knockow, moved the previous question. After discussion, a vote was taken when 4 voted for the previous question. The motion was carried by a large majority.

Miss Katherine B. Cameron spoke of the need for training a larger supply of Gaelic speaking teachers. It was pointed out that this matter is being considered by the special committee.

Mr. Stewart MacIntyre and Mr. Charles Davidson urged a wider advertising of the Summer School of Gaelic.

Mr. David MacCowan suggested that the method of distributing the Mod Concert tickets, with a view to giving members of An Comunn a preference, should be considered.

Mr. Hector MacDougall referred to the method of applying the Gaelic test at Mods and suggested that competitors once having passed successfully should be exempt at succeeding Mods. This matter lies with the Mod and Music Committee.

The Secretary intimated that the remit from last annual meeting, with reference to alteration of Rule 5 of the Constitution was now under consideration by the Advisory Committee.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

PRELIMINARY MEETING.

The preliminary meeting of the Executive Council was held immediately following the annual meeting. There were 32 members present, and the President, Mr. J. R. Bannerman, presided.

Minutes of the Finance Committee dealing with the resignation of Mr. Hugh MacPhee were read. The Committee's unanimous recommendation in favour of the appointment of Mr. Alastair Matheson was agreed to.

The Standing Committees for 1935-36 were appointed.

GLASGOW CELTIC LECTURESHIP.

We extend congratulations to Mr. James Carmichael Watson, M.A., on being appointed to the Celtic Lectureship. Mr. Watson is the youngest son of Professor W. J. Watson, D.Litt., LL.D. of the Celtic Chair, Edinburgh.

Mr. James C. Watson graduated with Double First Class Honours, in classics and in Celtic. Last year he published an edition of Mary Macleod. The new lecturer deserves every encouragement; and will prove a capable and popular teacher of our academic Gaelic youth in the great University of the West.

N. R.

"SUGRA."

AM BARD GUN CHRUN, 1935.

I.

Bha An Comunn na fhlas
A' sireadh 's gach caladh
Le dìchioll is dealas gu cinnteach;
Bha dubh agus geal air
Am paipearan cabaig
Is chualas san adhar gu binn e!

II.

Cha bu shugradh an obair
'S Am Mod air a bhonnaibh,
Is am bard aig a shonas 's a chiuneas,
S gun fhios 'n an am Barraigh
San Oban no'm Malaig
Bha dachaidh a' bhalaich Mac Ionndrainn!!

III.

A Shugra cha mhath dhuit
Ge mor leat an sealladh—
Bhi falach cha duineil ri chunntas—
Ach is tric a bha "Anon"
Am measg nam fear treuna
A rinn rainn is iad fhein anns na cùiltibh!!!

C. M.

MOD PRIZE-LIST.

JUNIOR SECTION.

WRITTEN COMPETITIONS.

Adjudicators—Mr. Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow; Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., Grantown-on-Spey; Miss Annie MacMillan, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. Angus MacMillan, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. Murdo MacRae, Glasgow; Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. John F. Steele, M.A., Kingussie; Miss Euphemia Stewart, L.L.A., Glasgow.

Group A—Pupils in or below Qualifying Class. Reproduction in Gaelic of a short, simple Gaelic story. Ten book prizes—1, Murdo MacKay; 2, Annie MacKay; 3, Rebecca MacLeod; 4, Neil Morrison; 5, Calum MacLeod; 6, Archie MacDonal; 7, Effie MacKinnon; 8 and 9 (equal), Hugh MacSween and Helen Ann MacKay; 10, Mary Morrison; all of Sir E. Scott School, Harris.

Group B—Pupils in the First and Second Years of Post-Qualifying Courses. Reproduction in Gaelic of a short Gaelic story, followed by a rendering of the same story in English. Seven book prizes—1, Norman Campbell, Portree Secondary School; 2, Roderick MacDonald, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 3, Samuel Nicolson, Portree Secondary School; 4, Roderick W. MacLeod, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 5, Kennina MacPhail, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 6 and 7 (equal), Maggie B. Morrison, do.; Mary A. MacLeod, do.; Margaret J. Bremner, Tobermory Higher Grade School.

Group C—Pupils in the Third and Fourth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses. Writing from Dictation of a Gaelic prose passage. Six book prizes—1, Murdo MacLeod, Royal Academy, Inverness; 2 and 3 (equal), Annie MacPherson, Fort William H.G. School; Marion MacRaild, Portree Secondary School; 4, 5, and 6 (equal), Ann M. Kennedy, Fort William H.G. School; Valerie MacKinnon, do.; Annie J. MacKenzie, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway.

Reproduction in Gaelic of a short story in English. Six book prizes—1, Ronald J. MacDonald, Royal Academy, Inverness; 2, Donald MacMillan, Fort William H.G. School; 3, Allanina MacLean, Portree Secondary School; 4, Jane A. MacDonald, Nicolson Institute; 5, Katie Ann MacLeod, do.; 6, Elizabeth Allan, Fort William H.G. School.

Group D—Pupils in the Fifth and Sixth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses. Translation of an English prose passage into Gaelic—1, Angus MacTavish, Oban High School; 2, Hughina MacKinnon, Portree Secondary School; 3, Katie MacLean, do.; 4, Malcolmina MacPhee, do.; 5, Alistair MacInnes, Oban High School; 6, Donald MacKenzie, do.

Translation of a Gaelic prose passage into English, followed by a rendering into English of ten Gaelic idioms—1, Helen O'Reilly, Fort William H.G. School; 2, Ronald Lamont, Portree Secondary School; 3, Alistair MacInnes, Oban High School; 4, Angus MacTavish, do.; 5, Annie MacKenzie, do.; 6, Norman MacDonald, Nicolson Institute.

A Gaelic Essay. A choice of three subjects—1, Angus MacTavish, Oban High School; 2, Katie Ferguson, Portree Secondary School; 3, Joan Campbell, Oban High School; 4, Annie MacKenzie, do.; 5, Mary A. MacRae, Nicolson Institute; 6, Hughina MacKinnon, Portree Secondary School.

Group E—University or Training College Students. Translation into English of a Gaelic prose passage or poem—1, Miss Christina Cameron, Shawbost, Lewis; 2, Miss Mairi Campbell, Achatenny, Ardnamurchan; 3, Miss Helen M. Murphy, Cladach, Kirkcubbin, N. Uist; 4, Miss Isabella Matheson, Lochs, Lewis; 5, Miss Jane M. Campbell, Ulva Ferry, Mull.

Gaelic Essay on a literary or an historical subject. Choice of four subjects—1, Miss Kate MacLeod, Lochmaddy, N. Uist; 2, Miss Anne MacLeod, Daliburgh, S. Uist; 3, Miss Doline R. Morrison, North Galson, Lewis; 4, Miss Henrietta MacDonald, Lower Shadar, Lewis; 5, Miss Margaret C. Matheson, Sollas, N. Uist.

Group F—Evening Continuation Classes or Special Classes. Reproduction in Gaelic of a short Gaelic story—1, A. M. MacLauchlan, Tobermory; 2, Dugald Carmichael, Tobermory; 3, Nicol Campbell, Tobermory; 4, Isabel Stewart, Oban High School; 5, Donald Henry MacKay, Oldshore Public School.

Writing from Dictation of a Gaelic prose passage—1, Dugald Carmichael, Tobermory; 2, A. M. MacLauchlan, Tobermory; 3, Nicol Campbell, Tobermory, Oldshore—1, Mary A. MacKay; 2, Donald H. MacKay; 3, John MacGregor, Badcall-Inchard—1, Katie Ross; 2, Davidina Morrison; 3, Janet MacIntosh. Oban—1, Isabel Stewart.

Group G—Special Competitions. For Boys—Essay in Gaelic on the Life of Joshua (prizes presented by the late Mrs Stewart, Simla, India)—1, Norman Campbell, Portree; 2 (equal), Malcolm D. Thomson, Harris, and John MacAskill.

For Girls—Essay in Gaelic on the Life of Joshua (prizes presented by the late Mrs. Stewart)—1, Margaret Bremner, Tobermory; 2, Sarah MacPhail, Tobermory.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR TEACHERS.

For the Highest Average Marks—Group A—1, Angus MacDonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 2, Miss G. L. MacDonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School. Group B—1, Miss J. MacKenzie, Nicolson Institute; 2, Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 3, Miss G. L. MacDonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School. Group C—1, Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William H.G. School; 2, Alex. Urquhart, M.A., Nicolson Institute; 3, Angus MacDonald, Sir E. Scott School. Group D—1, Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban High School; 2, Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 3, Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William H.G. School.

For the Highest Aggregate Marks (marks under 50 per cent. excluded)—Group A—1, Angus MacDonald, Sir E. Scott School; 2, Miss G. L. MacDonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School. Group B—1, Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, Miss J. MacKenzie, Nicolson Institute; 3, Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban High School. Group C—1, Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, Alex. Urquhart, M.A., Nicolson Institute; 3, Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban High School. Group D—1, Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, Alex. Urquhart, M.A., Nicolson Institute; 3, Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William H.G. School.

SENIOR SECTION.**LITERATURE.**

Adjudicators—Rev. Donald Lamont, D.D., Blair Atholl; Rev. Neil Ross, C.B.E., D.Litt., Laggan; Mr. Donald MacNair, B.A., Motherwell; Mr. George Thomson, M.A., Muirend; Mrs. Mary A. Campbell, Glasgow; Mr. Alex. Thomson, M.C., Glasgow; Mr. John MacIver, F.E.I.S., Invergorlan; Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh; Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William; Mr. Archibald MacLean, M.A., Logierait.

Gold Medal (presented by Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria), for most distinguished prize-winner in the literary competitions—Calum Iain N. MacLeod, Kirkhill.

Poem on any subject—1, Donald Grant, Glasgow; 2, Mrs. MacLeod, Fortrose.

Short Story, not exceeding 600 words—Mrs. Mary I. Miller, Kingussie.

Gaelic Story based on actual historical incidents or local legends (prize £5, presented by the Gaelic Society of Glasgow)—Calum Iain N. MacLeod, Kirkhill.

Gaelic Play of three scenes, to take not more than thirty minutes in delivery (prize £5, "Archd. MacCulloch Memorial" Prize, presented by Ceilidh nan Gaidheal)—Calum Iain N. MacLeod, Kirkhill.

Action songs for children (prize £5, by Mr. Robert MacMillan, Glasgow)—Mrs. MacLeod, Fortrose.

Essay on any subject—Dugald MacCormick, Melbourne.

CELTIC ART COMPETITIONS.

Adjudicators—Miss Anne M. MacBride, Glasgow; Mr. Colin Sinclair, M.A., Ph.D., Glasgow.

SECTION A—DESIGN.

Design for the Cover of Mod Programme—1, Miss Joan MacDonald, Arisaig; 2, Miss Lamont, of Knockdown.

Full-size drawings, in pencil, chalk, or ink, shaded or washed, of whole or part of any old Celtic sculptured stone or stones—Stewart Cunningham, Kingairloch.

SECTION B—HANDICRAFT.

Metal Work—Any article in pewter, copper, brass, or silver, with Celtic ornamentation of competitor's choice—1, Mrs. C. F. Semple, Crookston, Glasgow; 2, Miss L. Gray, Glasgow.

SECTION C—NEEDLEWORK.

Chair seat of wool-work on canvas, Celtic design of competitor's own choice—1, Miss Campbell of Inverneil, M.B.E.; 2, Sir Norman Lamont of Knockdown.

Quilted cushion cover, with Celtic design of competitor's choice—1 and 2 (equal), Miss Barbara A. Matheson, Arisaig, and Miss Joan MacDonald, Arisaig; 3, Miss Mary S. Trotter, Edinburgh.

TUESDAY.**Junior Section.**

Music Hall (Lower Hall)—ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—Rev. Donald Lamont, D.D., Blair Atholl; Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow.

Reading with expression a piece of prose or poetry by native speakers—1, Margaret Black, Oban High School; 2, Donald MacKechnie, Oban High School; 3 and 4 (equal), Charles MacCormick, Oban High School, and Annie MacLean, Tobermory; 4 and 5 (equal), Morag Cameron, Oban High School, and Morag MacPhail, Aros.

Excellence in Gaelic conversation (boys and girls)—1, Catriona A. MacLeod, Dunvegan; 2, Ewen C. Bain, Glasgow.

Narrative based on some local incident, tradition, or legend, to be followed by conversation on the subject of the narrative, between the competitors and the adjudicators—1, Donald MacLean, Tobermory; 2 and 3 (equal), Jean Kennedy, Tobermory; Morag Cameron, Oban High School, and Catriona A. MacLeod, Dunvegan.

Reciting "Linn an Aigh"—1, Donald MacKechnie, Oban High School; 2, Morag Cameron, Oban High School; 3, Charles MacCormick, Oban High School.

Music Hall (Room 1)—ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—Rev. John Bain, F.S.A. (Scot.), Edinburgh; Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow.

Reading with expression a piece of prose or poetry, by learners—1 (equal), Flora MacInnes, Tobermory, and Anne MacLean, of Ardgour; 3, Chrysanna Smith, Dunfermline; 4, Sine Campbell, Tobermory; 5 (equal), Anna Craig and Jessie I. Kennedy, Tobermory.

Reading at Sight an unfamiliar prose piece chosen by the judges—1, Morag Cameron, Oban High School; 2, Margaret Bremner, Tobermory; 3, Margaret Black, Oban High School; 4, Chris. M. Cameron, Tobermory; 5 (equal), Anne MacLean of Ardgour, and Donald MacKechnie, Oban High School.

Children under 12 years of age (boys) repeating the 85th prose Psalm or verses 16 to 28 of chapter 17 of The Acts of the Apostles (prizes from the late Mrs. Stewart, Simla)—1, Ewen C. Bain, Glasgow; 2, Robin MacLeod, Tobermory.

Children under 12 years of age (girls) repeating the 85th prose Psalm or verses 16 to 28 of chapter 17 of The Acts of the Apostles (prizes from the late Mrs. Stewart, Simla)—1, Catherine A. Black, Ledaig; 2, Jessie I. Kennedy, Tobermory; 3, Flora MacLean, Tobermory.

Music Hall (Assembly Room)—VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Music, Mr. J. Frederic Staton, Mus. Doc., Chesterfield. Gaelic, Mr. Angus L. MacDonald, H.M.L.S., Kilmaccolm.

Solo singing, girls (Gaelic learners)—1, Jean Greer, Glasgow; 2, Anne MacLean of Ardgour; 3, Catriona Shaw, Glasgow.

Solo singing, boys—1 (£1, and Silver Medal of An Comunn), Iain MacCuag, Glasgow; 2, Donald M. Ramsay, Greenock; 3, Iain Robertson, Greenock.

Duet singing (Gaelic learners) of the song, "Dean ba-ba mo leanabh"—1, Mary MacSween and Jenny Lindsay, Glasgow; 2, Flora MacDonald, Gourcock, and Campbell Kerr, Greenock.

Action song—1 (£4 4s, and retention for one year of the "Shiant Shield" presented by Mr. Compton MacKenzie), Laxdale Junior Choir.

Choral singing in two-part harmony (Gaelic learners)—1 (equal) (£5, and retention for one year of Mrs. Miller's Trophy), Greenock Gaelic Church Junior Gaelic Choir, and Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir.

Music Hall (Large)—VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Music, Mr. Vincent Thomas, London. Gaelic, Rev. Alexander MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow.

Solo singing (boys)—1, Iain MacLaren, Edinburgh; 2, David D. MacQueen, Easdale; 3, Arthur Sims, Kinraig.

Traditional singing of an unpublished Gaelic song (Gaelic speakers)—1, Iain Robertson, Greenock; 2, Iain M. Cameron, Greenock; 3, Moira MacKenzie, Glasgow.

Duet singing of the song, "Griogal Cridhe" (Gaelic speakers)—1, Catherine Ann MacKay and Muriel MacDonald, Laxdale; 2, Alastair MacInnes and Duncan MacInnes, Glasgow.

Solo singing, girls—1 (£1, and the Silver Medal of An Comunn), Annie MacLean, Tobermory; 2, Morag Cameron, Oban High School; 3, Morag MacEachern, Glasgow.

Solo singing (boys and girls), open only to former first-prize winners (learners and native speakers)—Donald M. Ramsay, Greenock.

Solo singing of Gaelic song (own choice)—1, Miss Margaret M. M. MacQueen, Easdale; 2, Miss Iseabail Johnston, Glasgow; 3, Miss Rhona MacVicar, Southend.

Unison singing competition (Junior Choirs)—1 (£3, and retention for one year of the Mrs. Campbell Blair Trophy), Oban High School Choir; 2, Laxdale Junior Choir.

Choral singing in two-part harmony—1 (£5, and retention for a year of the *Oban Times* Challenge Trophy), Laxdale Junior Choir; 2, Portree School Choir.

WEDNESDAY.

Senior Section.

Large Hall—VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Music, Mr. Vincent Thomas, London. Gaelic, Mr. Angus L. MacDonald, H.M.I.S., Kilmacollm.

Solo singing of the Oran Mór, "Mort Ghlinne Comhann" (female voices). "The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize," £2 5s—1 (equal), Mrs. Catherine Grant, Ballachulish, and Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

Solo singing (district songs). Prizes presented by Mrs. Ryan, Roy Bridge—1, Miss Chrissie M. Nicolson, Glasgow; 2, Lachlan MacKinnon, Fort William; 3 (equal), Donald MacVicar, Glasgow; Miss Morag MacLellan, Glasgow; Duncan A. MacPherson, Tiroran; and Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

Oban and Lorn Association War Commemoration Medal (open), for the best rendering of one of the following songs by Lorn bards, "A' chailin na tàmh mu Loch Eite," "An Cagar," and "Nic Coisem." Prizes presented by the Glasgow Oban and Lorn Association—1, Miss Kitty MacLeod, Lewis; 2 (equal), Iain G. Ross, Edinburgh, and Duncan A. MacPherson, Tiroran.

Assembly Room—VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic, Rev. Alexander MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow. Music, Dr. J. Frederic Staton.

Solo singing of the Oran-mór, "Blàr na h-Eiphit" (male voices). "The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize," £2 5s — Hugh MacInnes, Ballachulish.

Solo singing of an unpublished Mull or Iona song (prizes presented by Glasgow Mull and Iona Association)—1, Duncan MacLellan, Greenock; 2, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

Competition for seniors in solo singing of "Puir à Beul"—1, Miss Kitty MacLeod, Lewis; 2, John M. Campbell, Greenock; 3, Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock.

Solo singing (female voices), confined to members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, its Branches, and Affiliated Societies (the "Bessie Campbell Memorial Prizes")—1, Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, Lawers; 2, Miss Chrissie M. Nicolson, Glasgow.

Solo singing (male voices), confined to members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, its Branches, and Affiliated Societies—1, Alasdair Matheson, Glasgow; 2, Donald MacVicar, Glasgow.

Gaelic Folk-Songs, best rendering of two unpublished Gaelic Folk-song airs—1, Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, Lawers; 2, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

THURSDAY.

ORAL DELIVERY.

Adjudicators—Rev. John Bain, Edinburgh; Rev. Donald Lamont, D.D., Blair Atholl; Rev. Alex. MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow.

Glasgow Skye Association Gold Medal—Miss Kitty MacLeod, Lewis.

Recitation of the poem, "Tobar a' Chreachain"—1, Nicol Campbell, Tobermory; 2 (equal), John Campbell, Easdale, and Miss Margaret Morrison, Perth.

Recitation of a prose piece from "Duathaireachd na Mara"—1, Miss Kitty MacLeod, Lewis; 2, Miss Chris. MacPherson, Ardgour.

Reading of an unfamiliar piece of prose chosen by the judges—1, Miss Kitty MacLeod; 2, Mrs. Mary I. Millar, Kingussie.

Best prepared original Gaelic speech—1, John Campbell, Easdale; 2, Miss Chris. MacPherson.

Recitation of piece of original poetry composed by the competitor—1, Mrs. C. MacLeod, Fortrose; 2, Miss Susan MacKenzie, Luing.

Ancient folk-tale—1, Miss Chris. MacPherson; 2, Miss Susan MacKenzie.

Best acted dialogue by two performers—1, Mrs. D. Stewart, Aros, and Miss Morag MacNeillage, Aros; 2, Mrs. Collie, Taynuilt, and Mrs. C. C. Bell, Taynuilt.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Adjudicators—Gaelic, Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow. Music, Dr. Frederic Staton, Chesterfield; Vincent Thomas, London; and Mrs. Garnock Paterson, L.R.A.M., Edinburgh.

Solo singing of a Gaelic song connected with the County of Inverness (James Grant Memorial Prize)—Women—1, Miss Kitty MacLeod; 2 (three equal), Miss Effie M. Watson, Greenock; Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, Lawers, and Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow. Men—1, Donald MacVicar, Glasgow; 2, Duncan A. MacPherson, Tiroran.

Best rendering of Mrs. Kennedy Fraser's songs, "The Birlinn of the White Shoulders" or "The Old Crone's Lilt"—1, Miss Catherine M. Clark; 2 (equal), Miss Marie W. Paton, Greenock, and Miss Effie M. Watson, Greenock.

Song, "Mi 'n so 'nam ònar," by John Cameron, with clarsach accompaniment from arrangements by H. M. Campbell, Airds—Mrs. Mollie E. Low, Iford.

Accompanying a singer with the clarsach. Prescribed song, "Mhnathan a' Ghlinne so" (Royal Celtic Society Prize) — Miss Janet MacAulay, Greenock.

Playing of two Gaelic airs on the clarsach (con-
fined to those who have played the clarsach for
under two years)—1, Miss Janet MacAulay; 2,
William Cameron, Ardgour.

Choral singing of the songs, "Nighean donn nan
Caorach" and "Eilean an Fhraoich" for the Lorn
Shield (confined to rural choirs)—1, Kinloch
Rannoch Gaelic Choir; 2, Taynuilt Gaelic Choir;
3, Grantown-on-Spey Gaelic Choir; 4, Lochgilphead
Senior Choir.

Best rendering of any song or melody, exclusive
of four, by the late Mr. Calum MacPharlain (the
Calum MacPharlain Memorial Prize, presented by
Paisley Highlanders' Association)—1 and 2 (equal),
Miss Kitty MacLeod and Miss Mollie E. Low,
Ifford.

Song (confined to natives of Glenmoriston, Glen-
urquhart, and Stratherrick)—1, Peter J. T. Grant;
2, John Tolmie, Drumnadrocht.

Gold Medal Finals.—Ladies—1, Miss Catherine
M. Clark, Glasgow; 2, Miss Kitty MacLeod,
Lewis. Men—1, Donald MacVicar, Glasgow; 2,
Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock.

GOLD MEDAL AWARDS.

Ladies—1, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow; 2,
Mrs Catherine Grant, Ballachulish; 3, Miss Kitty
MacLeod, Lewis.

Men—1, Hugh MacInnes, Ballachulish; 2,
Lachlan MacKinnon, Fort William; 3, Donald
MacVicar, Glasgow.

FRIDAY.

Adjudicators—Gaelic, Rev. Donald Lamont, D.D.,
Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A. Music, Dr. J.
Frederic Staton and Vincent Thomas.

Quartette—1, Keltic Quartette, Greenock; 2,
Ardgour Quartette.

Choral singing (female voices)—1, and Esme
Smyth Trophy, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2, Campbel-
town Gaelic Choir.

Choral singing of "Puir a Beul"—1 and
Greenock Gaelic Choir Cup, Greenock Gaelic Choir;
2, Campbeltown Gaelic Choir.

Duet singing of song—1, Miss Isa H. MacIntosh
and David Bell, Edinburgh; 2, Miss Helen Mac-
Diarmid and Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock.

Choral singing (male voices)—1 and Mull and
Iona Shield, Oban Gaelic Choir; 2, Campbeltown
Gaelic Choir.

Choral singing—1 and Lovat and Tullibardine
Trophy, Campbeltown Gaelic Choir; 2, Greenock
Gaelic Choir; 3, Oban Gaelic Choir.

INSTRUMENTAL SECTION.

Adjudicators—Mrs. Neil MacLean, Kilmichael-
Glassary; Pipe-Major Wm. Ross, Edinburgh.

Highland march, strathspey, and reel on piano-
forte (seniors)—1, Miss Mary MacDougall, Bow-
more; 2, Miss Muriel Brown, Glasgow; 3, Miss
Ivy Beaton, Laggan.

Slow Gaelic air and march (bagpipe setting) on
pianoforte (juniors)—1, Miss Margaret Sutherland,
Edinburgh; 2, Miss Helen C. MacLulich,
Lochgilphead; 3, Miss Nan M.C. Wilkie, Loch-
gilphead.

Highland march, strathspey, and reel on violin—1,
Lachlan Wynne, Fort-William; 2, Miss Elizabeth
Crawford, Dunoon; 3, Donald MacDonald, Morar.

Strathspey and reel on violin (confined)—1,
Lachlan Wynne; 2, Donald MacDonell, Morar.

LETTER TO EDITOR.

Dear Sir,—On behalf of Comunn na h-Oigridh,
I would like to acknowledge in your columns,
having received the following sums to be
applied to the project of getting up a Gaelic
Camp next Summer for some hundred of the
members of Comunn na h-Oigridh:—

From "Calum Seoladair"	- -	£25
„ "Caraid gun ainm"	- -	25
„ Profit on Dance at Port-Sonachan		5
„ Mr. Iain L. Campbell	- -	1
		£56

The receipt of these donations is a very great
encouragement to those responsible for the
organisation of this movement. From what I
saw of the Camps for Girls and Boys in the
Welsh Youth Movement, I am sure that there
is no other activity so immediately fruitful,
both in stimulating interest in the language, and
in training up future leaders and helpers for the
organisation. Such Camps need very long and
careful preparation, and it is an immense help
to have funds in hand now to enable these to be
begun. It strikes me, that there may be some
of your readers, particularly those who feel
that, not having Gaelic themselves, they are
unable to help in the actual running of Comunn
na h-Oigridh who might welcome an opportunity
of strengthening our hands, by contributing
to this, or any other of the many activities we
are planning for the movement during this
session.

It is true, that An Comunn Gaidhealach is
responsible financially for Comunn na h-Oigridh,
and no doubt it will do its part as far as its
resources admit. But An Comunn has already
its own host of activities to finance, with no
new sources of revenue to meet the requirements
of its latest offspring, and, if Comunn na
h-Oigridh is to accomplish all that it is setting
out to do, it should be made as independent as
possible of the ordinary revenues of the Parent
body. At least, the raising of an independent
Fund is a most desirable object, and the fact
of the fine example given by the above Friends
of our Highland Children may move others to
show their interest in a like practical way.

Yours truly,

G. MARJORIBANKS.

Sonachan, Dalmally,

Argyll, 17/9/35.

GAELIC BOOKS

Guide to Gaelic Conversation and Pronunciation.

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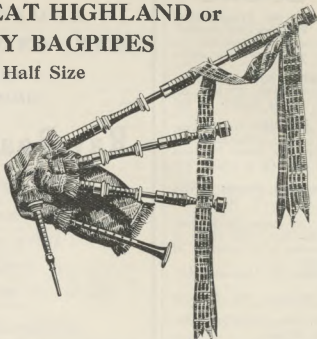
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Leabhar XXXI.]

An t-Samhuin, 1935.

[Earrann 2

COMHNADH DO'N GHAIHLIG.

Annas a' bhliadhna 1709 thugadh cead laghail fo laimh Bannrighinn Anna, do'n Chomunn airson Craobh Sgoileadh Eolas Criosdail, gu faodadh iad sgoilean a chur suas annas a' Ghaidhealtachd. Fhuair an Comunn ud mar an ceudna ughdarras laghail bho'n Ard Riaghladh, gu ionmhais a thional agus a ghabhail troimh thabhartais de chaochladh gnè—fearrann, sprèidh, bathar, dileab airgid no tiodhlac sam bith eile a dheanaicheadh luchd deagh-ghean. Agus bha am beartas sin gus a bhì 'ga chur a mach airson leas nan Gaidheal, a chum an teagas an eolas spioradail, agus cuideachd a chum foghlum coitichionn a thoirt dhaibh, leughadh, sgrìobhadh, cunntas, annas na cearnaibh annas nach robh a leithid sin de fhiosrachadh ri fhaotainn. An 1739, fo laimh Dheorsa II, chuir an t-Ard Riaghladh mar impidh air a' Chomunn ud, gun teagaisgeadh iad cuspairean eile do òigridh na Gaidhealtachd, eadhon eolas tuathanachais, obair-tìghe, maille ri teomachd is ealantas annas na ceairdean laimhe, mar tha an saor, an greusaiche, an clachair, agus na ceairdean eile. Bha *lamhan* nan Gaidheal gu bhì air an teagas cho math ri an cinn!

* * *

Chau ann airson na Gaidhealtachd a mhain a tha na sochairean sin. Tha cearnan eile 'g an gabhail a stigh.—Dun Breatann, Siorramachd Bhòid, is Mhoraidh, is Ghallaibh, co math ris na h-Arcaibh agus Sealtainn. Thainig an stiùireadh mu'n cuairt aig Urras an Fhoghlum airson Tìr Mor is Eileanan taobh tuath na h-Alba, air chor is gu robh an aon chothrom aig òigridh Shealtainn agus aig òigridh

Ghaidhealaich annas an deuchainn airson nan duaisean foghlum. Cha robh Gaidhlig an Leodhasaich no an Uibhistich ach air an aon ruith ris an Fhraingis aig fear a mhuinntir nan Arcaibh. Cha robh sin a' cur urram no luach sonruichte sam bith air Gaidhlig ged is i cànan na dùthcha. Ach air an laimh eile bha còig tasdain an ceann 'g a thairgsinn do sgoil sam bith air a' Ghaidhealtachd a chuireadh sgoilearan air an adhart gu deuchainn annas a' Ghaidhlig. Chan fheumadh tuilleadh is deich puinnidh Shasunnach dol gu aon sgoil. Is gann nach e sin uile an comhnadh a rinneadh leis a' chànan fo na riaghaltean aig Urras Foghlum na Gaidhealtachd is nan Eilean gus a nis. Cha robh ann ach aon bhursary Ghaidhlig air fad airson òigridh na Gaidhealtachd gu dhol air an adhart gu oil-thigh.

* * *

Mar is aithne do'n leughadair a cheana chuir Ard Riaghladh Bhreatunn air chois bho chionn beagan bhliadhnaichean Buidheann Ughdarras aig am bheil comas air sgrùdadh a dheanamh a thaobh ionmhais a chaidh a thiomnadh airson foghlum an ard-sgoilean agus an oil-thighean na h-Alba. An uair a mhothaicheadh a' Buidheann sin dad sam bith a shaoileas iad a bhì dochair tha ughdarras aca na nithean sin a chur ceart a réir am barail-san. Mar tha na bliadhnaichean a' ruith seachad is dù g'm' bi iomadh caochladh a' tighinn air àireamh au t-sluaigh, air gnìomhachas na dùthcha, agus eadhon air gnè an fhoghlum fein. Thachair sin uair no dha far an deachaidh suim airgid fhàgail airson foghlum bho chionn fhada. Is e a leithid sin a b'abhar air an Buidheann Ughdarras a chur air chois. Thug iad breith a réir an soluis, ged bha cuid gle dhiombach

dhiu ; ach a thaobh cothrom is comhnadh do 'n Ghaidhlig tha aobhar againne bhi bhuidheach gu leor dhiu. Thug iad breith fhialaidh is thoirbheartach air taobh na Gaidhlig.

* * *

Air do'n Bhuidheann Ughdarrais beachdachadh le geur aire, air gach teistean agus cor a thugadh fo 'n comhair, bhreithnich iad gu bheil caochladh mór an déidh tighinn air ard fhoghlum anns a' Ghaidhealtachd, anns na ginealaich bho chuireadh air leth an seann ionmhas, a tha fo stiùireadh an Urrais Foghlum airson na Gaidhealtachd. Tha e mar fhìachaibh a nis air Comhairlean ùra nan Siorramachd duaisean a bhuidheachadh air sgoilearan aig am bheil feum air cuideachadh. Mar sin dheonaich an Bhuidheann Ughdarrais, no an Commission mar theirear, gum bi tuilleadh de bhursaries air an suidheachadh airson nan oil-thighean ; gur e an luach leth-cheud punnd Sasunnach an t-aon ; ach is e so an cumhant ùr, eadhon gu bheil roghainn aig an luchd farpuis a sheasas deuchainn anns a' Ghaidhlig. Is còir beachd a ghabail air sin, oir tha e a' cur urram ùr air ar canain.

* * *

Thug an Commission faineair gu bheil Aehd an Fhoghlum 1918, ag orduchadh gum bi Gaidhlig 'g a teagasg far an iarr pàrantan gum bi an cuid cloinne a' faotainn teagasg anns a' Ghaidhlig. Air an aobhar sin dh'atharraich an Commission an cleachdadh mu na coig tasdain an ceann airson Gaidhlig ; agus mar an ceudna mu fhoghlum coitcheinn anns na sgoilean ; agus an àite sin rinn iad lagh ùr—gu'n teagaisgear *Gaidhlig* anns na h-ard sgoilean a bhios air an taghadh airson sin le Comhairle an Fhoghlum ; agus gu'n deanar sin le bhi ag àrdachadh tuarasadal an luchd teagaisg, agus a' coinneachadh cosgais leabhraichean Gaidhlig airson nan sgoilearan. A ris tha bursaries gu bhi 'g an cur air leth airson òigridh a chum a bhi a' foghlum dhreuchdan is cheairdean, tuathanachas is obair tighe, a réir toil an luchd-tiomnaidh ; ach is e an ni sonraichte an sin mar an ceudna, gu bheil *raghainn* thar chàch aig an òigridh a *sheasas deuchainn Ghaidhlig*.

THE CELTIC CONGRESS.

The venue of the Congress was happily chosen. In praise of Cardiff, much might be written. I had looked for coal, but saw none. I found a fair city encircling a romantic castle and keep, associations redolent of Rothesay and a Civic Centre which is the envy of the world.

Cameron and I travelled together as good companions. We reached Cardiff late in the evening, and Welsh hospitality met us at the station. We were immediately sorted out for hotel accommodation, escorted through the main streets, shown the sights of the illuminated city, and thrust into a lecture room of the University, where Dr. J. Lloyd Williams was delivering the opening lecture of the Congress on the subject of "Welsh Music."

Essential thoroughness characterised the undertakings of our Welsh friends. No leakage nor loopholes. At the Civic Reception, we were marshalled into formation, halted at intervals and advanced into the Reception room in relays. When all the guests were received and ushered into the Hall of Marble, the doors, guarded by attendants, were closed ; and a Concert party, equipped for action, held the field for our entertainment and delectation. No options—but the Committee had ordered well. The Concert was an inspiration. Arrayed in the national costume and led by Miss Dolan Evans, this ladies' choir was enchanting in the loveliness of its performance. Here was the musical magic of Welsh wizardry. I shall not readily forget it—nor will Cameron.

The official opening was performed under the Chairmanship of the Bishop of Llandaff with due dignity and decorum ; Gaelic and Cymric intermingling in the responses of the delegates to the cordial welcome extended by our Welsh hosts ; responses, which evoked from the Bishop the statement that when he heard those languages spoken, he felt that there was a certain affinity between them all and a certain comradeship.

A veritable plethora of lectures occupied the days which followed ; ranging from economics, music, art, history, and archæology to West Highland Folk Lore, by Mr. Hector Macdougall, than which no contribution did more to coordinate the kinship of the six nations.

There were some sixteen lectures in all ; a breathless week. Of these, the learned and scholarly papers of Miss Augusta Lamont, M.A., B.Sc., on "Historical Links between Scotland and Brittany," the Rev. John MacKechnie, M.A., B.D., on "Deirdre and the Sons of Uisneach" and Mr. J. Carmichael Watson, M.A., who gave as his subject, "Some Gaelic Poets of the Seventeenth Century" elicited much appreciation.

Other notable papers included, "The Gaeltacht Problem," by Mr. Michael Lennon, B.L. ; "Welsh Agriculture," by Mr. Moses Gruffydd, M.Sc. ; "The Old Miracle Plays in

Cornwall," by Mr. R. Morton Nance; "The Sources of Irish Tradition," by Dr. Robin Flower; "Future Relations among Celtic Peoples," by Professor J. E. Daniel; "Welsh and Manx Linguistics," by J. J. Kneen, M.A.; "Some Aspects of Welsh Literature," by Dr. Idris Bell; while "Present Day Breton Art," delivered by Mons. Bouillé was a welcome introduction to a phase of Celtic culture which was new to many. Among the speakers at the various sessions, informative contributions were made by the Rev. Dr. G. Hartwell Jones, Professor Agnes O'Farrelly, Mr. R. Pierce Jones, B.A., Professor O'Maille, Mr. Percy Kelly, Mr. John Cameron, LL.B., Miss Roisin Walsh, M.A., Miss Jenny Williams, and Mr. Angus Matheson, M.A.

Notwithstanding the intensive character of the week's programme, organised visits to Cardiff Central Library and to the National Museum of Wales were duly carried out and enjoyed. At the former, a comprehensive range of works extending over a wide field of Celtic Literature was displayed, including such rare exhibits as *Llyfr Aneirin*—the earliest literary manuscript in Welsh, and the *Laws of Hywel Dda*. I thank Mr. Farr, the City Librarian, for including "Leabhar na Ceilidh" in the collection. Is mi a bha toilicht' a' fhaicinn ann!

A sumptuous Banquet, provided by the Local Committee to guests and delegates, crowned the proceedings; and the speech of Hector Macdougall, in felicity of Gaelic phrase and idiom did credit to Scots Gaeldom.

Socially and culturally, the Congress was a pronounced success; and to our compatriots of Wales we owe a debt of gratitude for the extent and warmth of their generosity.

As to the aims and objects of the Congress, let me quote the words of the President, Dr. Hartwell Jones: "Great heights had been attained in diplomatic, military, intellectual, and literary worlds, by Celts through the ages, but to those at that Congress their ideal was to maintain their individuality, their power of self-expression, and self-development. That was the significance of the Celtic Congress."

Leaving the Congress I stepped out into the world and saw there the clamour of discord, and heard the rumours of wars. I listened for the voice of the Celtic nations assembled in conclave, imploring that the spirit of peace should descend upon the dwellers of the earth.

Is it not well that the achievements of the past should inspire the opportunities of the present?

C. S.

TIR NAN OG.

By DONALD GILLIES.

(First Prize, Mod 1933.)

Co'n Gaidheal an diugh, 'n ar measg nach urrainn a radh gu 'n do chual' e iomradh air chor-eigin air Tir nan Og? Gidheadh, cia lion Gaidheal is urrainn a radh gu 'n aithne dha an corr mu 'timchioll, no eadhon ciod tha 'n seanachas "Tir nan Og" a' ciallachadh? Co i—"Tir nan Og"? no, ce'ait' an robh i air a' suidheadhadh?—ceistean tha 'n diugh ag eiridh suas fo chomhair mothachadh a' Ghaidheil aig gach àm 's an toirear iomradh air a' chuspair so. Tha cuid a' smaoinichadh gur e dùthaich nan sìtiche, agus "Tir nan Og" an t-aon àite. Ach, tha cuid eile ag radh nach é—ach, gur h-é bha 'n "Tir nan Og," ach gnè de nèamh, no dachaidh shòlasach, anns an robh na seann Chéiltich a' creidsinn do 'n rachadh sàr-ghaisgich agus daoine treibhdhreach an déidh dhaibh an saoghal so fhàgail. A bharrachd air so, tha e air innseadh dhuinn gur e eilean, no aireamh de eileanan a bh'anns an tìr so, a bh'air a shuidh-eachadh cèin-a-mach 's a' chuan an iar. Ach, an corr air so, chan eil e furasd 'an diugh a bhì air fhiosrachadh an measg nan Gaidheal gu coitichinn. Is è easbhuidh an fhiosraichidh so, matà, a dh' aobhraich dhomhsa, air mo sgàth fhéin, sgrùdadh a dheanama air feadh obair nan seana bhard 's nan seanachaidh, a dh'amaibh aig amaibh sonraicht' air iomradh a thoirt dhuinn air fearann, no, air eileanan a bha 'n am barail-san air an suidheadhadh fada mach 's a' chuan an iar, far a' faodadh "Tir nan Og" a bhì.

Anns a' cheud àite—chan eil teagamh nach ann o gheur mhòthachadh nan seann druidhean a dh'èirich an t-ainm, agus an t-ionad "Tir nan Og" an toiseach, oir bha na seann druidhean 'n an daoine a bha anabarrach fiosrach a thaobh obair nàdair agus nithean aimsireil. Bha iad mar an ceudna min-eòlach air speuradaireachd. Cha robh reul an àird nan speur nach b'aithne dhaibh, agus bhiodh an sùil gach oidhche a' leantuinn an cùrsa gu an rachadh iad sìos as am fianuis, an diomhaireachd cùl a' chuain. Bha iad, mar na ceudna, eòlach air slighe na gréine, agus na gealaich. Dhubhadh iad a' ghrian air a' leithid so dè latha, no, a' ghealach air a' leithid sud a dh'oidhche—a' dearbhadh do 'n t-sluagh, am fiosrachadh, 's an cumhachd-riaghlaidh a bhùineadh dhoibh-san seach daoine air bith eile.

An uair a tha e air innseadh dhuinn gu 'n rachadh aca air sin a dheanamh air a' cheart latha, no 'n oidhche a chomharrachadh iad a mach, tha e' leigeil fhàicinn dhuinn gu 'n robh uiread de eòlas aca air speuradaireachd, 's gu 'n robh fhios aca air an dearbh latha a bhiodh a' ghealach a' dol seachad *seath-dhìreach* eadar an saoghal 's a' ghrian, no 'n oidhche 'bhiodh an saoghal a dol seachad *seath-dhìreach* eadar a' ghrian 's a' ghealach, mar is gnàth leo aig àman sònraichte de 'n bhliadhna, agus a tha 'g aobrachadh an dara h-aon a bhì air a dhubhadh leis an aon eile. Chan eil teagamb, a thaobh an eòlais aimsireil so, a bh'aca, nach robh an cearna de 'n t-saoghal 's an robh an ionad-comhnuidh (air iar-iomal an domhainn, mar theireadh iad aig an àm so) a' tabhairt dhàibh-san iomadh cothrom, air a bhì fiosrachadh mu nithean nàdurra nach robh idir an comas do 'n chuid eile de shlugh an domhainn; oir, 's an aimsir thràth so, bha e air agairt gu 'n robh 'mhòr-chuid de luchd-àiteachaidh an t-saoghail a' creidsinn gu 'n robh aghaidh na talmhuinn, 's na mara uile comhnard.

Ach, tha sinn a' foghlum gu bheil e coltach nach b'e so, idir, a' bhàrail a bh' aig na seann Chéiltich a bha aig an am so ag àiteachadh a' mhòr chuid de iar-iomal na Roinn-Bòrpa, 's nam eileanan siar; oir, 's e bha iad-san a' creidsinn gu 'n robh an saoghal cruinn-cothrom. Tha so air a nochdadh dhuinn le aon de fheallsanaich mhóra na Gréige, mar a tha Herodotus—far am bheil e 'g innseadh dhuinn an eachdraidh na "Scithia" mu eilean a tha air a shuidheachadh fada a mach 's a' chuan an iar ri 'n abradh iad "Eirthis" mòran mhlèthan taobh mach "ursnan Herculeis," (Gibraltar); agus gu bheil luchd-àiteach an eilein sin ag radh gu bheil an cuan-mór a sruthadh timchioll mu 'n t-saoghal, o 'n ear gu 'n iar. agus, eadhon, gu 'n chuir aon dhiu-fhein de ainm "Agabus" cuairt timchioll mu 'n t-saoghal air saighead. Ach, chan eil Herodotus e-fhein, idir, a' faicinn—ionnsaichte ge robh e, cionnus a b'urrainn daoine sam bith a bhì creidsinn gu 'm bheil an saoghal cruinn as eugmhais dearbhadh cinnteach a bhì aca gu 'n robh e de 'n chruth sin.

A thaobh barail dhaoine, mu thimchioll a chuain a bhì sruthadh timchioll mu 'n t-saoghal, chan urrainn dhuinn a' radh gur iad a' cheud dhaoine aig an robh am fiosrachadh so. Tha sinn a smaoinichadh gu 'n robh so air a leigeil fhàicinn do na h-Israelich corr agus mìle bliadhna roimh àm Herodotus—an uair a fhuair iad an lagh le Maois, tha e air iarraidh orra, gun iad-fein a chromadh sios,

na aoradh a dheanamh do nì air bith—a tha 's nan nèamhan shuas, no air an talamh a bhos "no anns na h-uisgeachan shìos fo 'n talamh."

Tha eadhon tuigse nàdair a' foillseachadh dhuinn gur e uisgeachan a' chuain-mhóir, a tha sruthadh timchioll, agus mar gu 'n abramaid, sìos fo 'n talamh, no fo 'n t-saoghal—a tha air a chiallachadh 's an dara àithne.

Mar sin, bha slighe agus siubhal na gréine, mar gu 'n abramaid, an comhnuidh 'na chùis ioghnaidh, agus 'na aobhar mothachaidh do na seann druidhean.

Bha iad a' faicinn a cumhachd agus a freasdail, agus mar sin a' deanamh aoraidh dhi, mar an dia mór a bha toirt dhàibh-san soluis, beatha agus tuigse. Bha iad, air an aobhar sin, eòlach air a bhì faicinn a cùrsa gach feasgar do 'n iar, far am biodh i a' ciaradh, agus a' fàs mall mar sheann duine, gus mu dheireadh gu'n sìoladh l sìos do 'n diomhaireachd, far an robh an cuan a' tachairt ris an athar. Anns a' mhaduinn, bha iad a ris 'g a faicinn 's an ear, a' nochdadh thar mullach nam beann, 's i air a h-ath-nuadhachadh 'na h-òg-ghrian na maidne le ùr-neart. Air an aobhar so bhiodh an inntinn aig iomadh uair a' cur riutha fhein 'na ceiste:—C' àite robh a' ghrian a triall o 'n am a rachadh i fodha 's an fheasgar, mar sheann ghréin gus an àm a dh'éireadh i 's a' mhaduinn 'na h-òg-ghreinn.

Bha e daonnan mar chleachdadh aig na seann druidhean a bhì suidheachadh am mac-meanmainn le bhì toirt faineir, agus a' fiosrachadh laghan a tha riaghladh nàdur, agus nithean aimsireil, agus uaithe sin, o 'n bhà e nàdurach do 'n ghreinn aig crioich a latha dhol do "Tir nan Og" chum a rithist a h-ath-nuadhachadh, gum biodh e nàdurach do 'n duine aig crioich a latha, no 'bheatha, dhol do Thir nan Og mar an ceudna, chum 's gu 'm biodh e air aiseag gu òige ris.

Bha "Tir nan Og" mar so, an inntinn nan seann Ghaidheal air a suidheachadh an diomhaireachd a' chuain—sìos fada seachad air ionad dol fodha na gréine. A réir 's mar a bha cumhachd macmeanmainn an duine a' meudachadh bha "Tir nan Og" a' leudachadh, gus mu dheireadh gu 'n d'fhàs i, o bhì 'na aon mhòr-thìr, gu bhì 'na tìr de mhóran eileanan.

Dheth 'n chuid a b'ainmeile de 'na h-eileanan so, bha Flàthinnis—is ann o ainm an eilein so a fhuair sinn an t-ainm, "Flathanas" an t-soisgeil.

B'e so an t-eilean do 'n rachadh gach flath agus sàr-ghaisgeach 'n uair a bhàsaicheadh e,

no, 'rachadh a mharbhadh an gnìomh tapaidh a' dion a dhùthcha. Bha eilean eile ann—ri 'n abradh iad Innis-Shona no “innis nan naomh” (Isles of the Blest). Bha rithist ann—“Tìr Tairngiri”—tìr shìtheil, shòlasach, a bha air a gealltuinn do na saoi. Tha cuid ag radh gur h-ann o ainm an eilein so a fhuair sinn am facal soisgeulach “tearnaichte.” Bha “Tìr Tairngiri” agus eilean eile ri 'n abradh iad “Innis Mhannain,” daonnan air an gabhail mar an t-aon àite.

A bharrachd orra so, bha àite eile ann ris an canadh iad “Tìr fo Thonn.” Bha 'n tìr so eadar-dhealaichte uile bho 'n a' chuid eile de “Thìr nan Og,” oir, ged is e gaisgich bu trice bhiodh a' dol innte, is ann a chogadh daonnan a bhiodh iad a' dol, ach, a chogadh an comhnuidh air taobh ceartais agus an aghaidh na h-eucoir. Ged a bha “Tìr fo Thonn” air a' suidheachadh thall fada fo dhrum a' chuain far an robh càch, thàinig i mu dheireadh an sgeulachd gu bhì 'na tìr dh'ionnsaidh an robh e comasach faighinn, le leum sios gu grunn do loch domhainn uige 's an dùthaich so fhein, agus ruigeadh air tìr “Tìr fo Thonn.” Chan eil teagamh nach ann o bhì creidsinn gu 'n robh an saoghal cruinn a thàinig na smuaintean so a stigh do intinn an duine—'s e sin gu 'n robh “Tìr nan Og” thall air taobh eile an t-saoghail, shìos fodhainn, 's gu 'm biodh e moran na b'aithe-ghearra, an uair a thigeadh cabhag, leum sios troimh 'n t-saoghal, mar gu 'n abramaid, na bhiodh e seoladh a null thairis air uachdar.

Bha àite briagha eile de “Tìr nan Og” ri 'n canadh iad “Màgh-Mell,” no, “Machair an t-Subhachais,” far an robh sòlas agus subhachas an comhnuidh ri am mealltuinn.

A reir nan sgeulachdan a's aosmhoire tha againn o bheul-aithris, mar tha e air a ghleidheadh an “Leabhar na h-Uidhri,” chaidh a sgrìobhadh an Eirinn timchioll mu'n bhliadhna 1100 A.D. 's e tìr anabarrach aobhneach, shòlasach, a bha 'n “Tìr nan Og”—Tìr anns nach robh bròn, no bàs, dòrainn no tinneas, no dorran, ach, òige, sìth, is sonas. Bha 'n samhradh ann fad na bliadhna, gun atharrachadh. Tìr anns an robh machraichean agus glinn fo thoradh trom le meas, a bhiodh a cur dhiu foghar abaich dà uair 'sa bhliadhna.

Air an aobhar so cha bhiodh e idir na ni iongantach ged a 'sgaoileadh iomradh air a leithid so de thìr shòlasaich a dh'ionnsaidh cuid de dhùthchannan eile na Roinn-Eòrpa. Ach, co-dhiu a fhuair eadh na sgeulachdan so, a thaobh eileanan sòlasach a' chuain shiar, bho 'na seann Cheiltich an toiseach, no gu 'n

d'èirich iad suas a mac-meanmainn luchd-àiteachaidh dùthchannan na h'airde an ear iad-fhein, chan urrainn dhuinn an so mòran a radh, ach, gu 'n robh na ceart bheachdan aig na seann Ghreugaich, agus aig cuid eile 's an ear, aig fìor thùs eachdraidh nan dùthchannan sin.

Bha na “Phòeniche” (Phoenicians) 's an t-sean aimsir 'nam maraichean cho ainmeil 's a bh'air an t-saoghal 'n an latha fhéin. Aig tùs an eachdraidh bha dlùth cheangal aca ris an iar, oir, bhiodh an luingeas gu tric a' seoladh fada mach an diomhaireachd a' chuain-mhóir, air na dh'fhàs iad eòlach. Tha e eadhon air aithris gu 'n do shiubhail dìthis de na diathan bu chumhachdaiche a bha aca, “El” agus “Cronos,” a mach do 'n iar far an deachaidh iad as an t-sealladh, agus gu 'n d'fhalbh “Malcearth” le aireamh mhór de eil-thìrich air an luirg. Dh'fhaodadh e bhì, le so, gu 'n do chuala na Phòeniche iomradh mu na h-eileanan siar bho na Ceiltich, no, gu 'n ràinig iad cho fada mach air aon de 'n cuairt-mhara is gu 'n do ruig iad na h-eileanan sòlasach so iad-fhein, agus gu 'n d'innis iad mu 'n timchioll do na Gréugaich.

(Ri Leantainn.)

AN LOSGANN SGIOBALT.

Latha bha an sin thainig sionnach 'na dhian ruith gun an linne a dh'òl. Bha an losgann 'na shuidhe an sin, agus thoisich e air ròcaill ris. “Gu dé an t-àrdan agus a' mhórchuis tha 'n so?” ars' an losgann. “Tha mise na's luaithe na sibhe.” An sin fhreagair an sionnach, “Ceart gu leoir, ruithidh sinn le cheile gu ruig am baile, agus chi sinn có is luaithe.

An sin thionndaidh an sionnach mu'n cuairt, agus an uair a rinn e so, leum an losgann suas 'na earball mòr dosanach. Sud an sionnach air falbh, agus 'n uair a rainig e geat' a' bhaile, thionndaidh e mu'n cuairt a ris dh'fheuch am faicheadh e an losgann a' tighinn; an uair a rinn e so, leum an losgann a mach as earball gus an lár. An deigh dha sealltuinn mu'n cuairt dha air gach taobh air son an losgann fhaicinn, thionndaidh an sionnach air ais gus a dhol a steach do'n bhaile. An sin ghlaodh an losgann ris: “Oho, tha sibh air tighinn mu dheireadh thall! Tha mise dìreach a dol air ais, oir bha mi smaoinichadh nach robh sibh idir a' tighinn.”—Eadar-theangachadh o'n Bheurla le

E. B. NICHILLEMHAOL.

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RUAIRIDH MACLEOID.

“*Caidil gu là.*”

Tha caoidh feadh nam fuar bheann, chan iognadh aig sluagh e,
Is fear a bha buadhmhòr 'na shuain fo na fòid;
'S e fear a bha dileas mar Gháidheal san linn so
Bhi cadal gu dilinn dh'fhag na mìltean fo bhron.

B'e Ruairidh an t-àrmunn an seinneadair àluinn,
An t-uasal a b'abhaist bhi bàigheil aig seòid,
An Leòdach a fhuaradh o'n dùthaich le'n dualchas
A dhearbha a bhi suairc a reir buaidh sin a sheòrs'.

An fhine bha cliùiteach is fearail 'nan giùlan,
D'am buin a bhi fùghail 's fo chliù air gach dòigh,
An dream ud bha ainmeil o thoiseach an t-seanchais,
An grinneas gan leanhuinn an sealbh a bhi còir.

Ach Asainn nan stuadhan, nam beann is nam buailtean,
Cha'n fhacas 's cha chualas air tuath aig do phòr
Fear a b'fhearr leinn na Ruairidh am fùran finn luachmhor
A nàdur gun bhruaillean, a bhudhan 'nan òr.

Fear seasamh na Gàidhlig 's a thogadh os àrd i
Le ceòl-guth a thàladh na bàird is na h-eòin,
An cridhe 's an céuman fìor thaitneas nan Gàidheal
An caraide tréubhach is éibhneas an t-slòigh.

Bha thu taitneach a dhiùlnaich, do phearsa deas ùrail,
Bu làn do dhà shùil thu air ùrlar 's aig bòrd,
An trugan an fhéilidh aig mòd is air céilidh
Bu sgiobalt do ghéum is tu 'g éirigh gu ceòl.

Bhiodh do chridhe 's do chàil leat 's cha mhilleadh tu bàrdachd
Bhiodh an saoghal mar bha e 'n uair bu ghnàth le MacLeòid
Bhiodh gach cridhe 'n co-ghléus leat 's tu 'g aithris do sgéula
'S bhiodh ciùneas is sèimheachd an céill 'na do chòir.

A Bhaile nan tréubhan nan Gall is nan Gàidheal Ionar-Nis a bha géimheach is léir e do nòs,
Chan ionann 's an dé thu oir chaill thu fear-féile Nach d'fhag dha reir fhéin na do chéudan tha beò.

A Thom ud na h-Iùbhraich gur pailt iad nach dùisgear
Gu séisdear an tròmpaid 's an cùntar na slòigh;
Ach cha nàr leam a ràidhtinn gu bheil duslach do bhàghain
Air cinntinn nas gràdhaicht o thàmh ann MacLeòid.

SEAN CHLEASAGAN

agus Dhuanagan Gàidhlig air son
Naoidheanan agus Cloinne Bige.

Ann an seann làithean bha naoidheanan air an glèidheadh an aodach fada geal, le currac grinn 's an latha agus currac beag 's an oidhche. Bha so a' marsainn fad sià no ochd mìosan a rùir àm na bliadhna. An sin bha'n t-aodach a' faotainn a' cheud ghiorrachaidh, agus bha an geal air a chur air leth-taobh. Bha'n ath ghiorrachadh air a dheanamh an uair a bhiodh iad mu bhliadhna dh'aois, agus a bhiodh iad a' tòiseachadh ri'n casan a ghabhail. Ach bha'n oilean a' tòiseachadh fada roimh 'n àm sin.

Ma's math mo bheachd, b'e 'cheud chleas:—
Bhà, bhà, bhà!

Dh'fhosglamaid ar beul, theireamaid "Ah—!" agus bhuaileamaid ar beul le ar bas trì uairean, nì a thug oirnn. "Bhà, bhà, bhà" a ràdh. An sin bhuaileamaid beul an leinibh trì uairean; an ùine ghlé ghoirid thuigeadh an leanabh gu'n robh esan ri bheul fhosgladh, agus an uair a dh'amaiseadh esan air na faicail a ràdh bha e toilichte.

GIUSAN, GEUSAN.

Air dha bhi beagan na bu shine chuireamaid e 'na shuidhe le aghaidh ruinn air ar glùinean; bheireamaid air a dhà ghàirdéan le ar dà làimh, ag cumail nam boiseagan a mach saor. An sin leigeamaid a sìos e 's bheireamaid a nìos e 'g a thulgadh gu socair, ag ràdh:—

Giùsan, geusan,
Mìr is deuran,
Cuid a' chait bhàin

'Na laighe air mèiseig *bhig, bhig, bhig, bhig!*
Ann an ràdh nan ceithir facal mu dheireadh bha sinn a' bualadh nam basan beaga ri chèile. Bha so a' toirt gàire air an leanabh. Mhair ùifeachd na cluiche so fad mhìosan. B'e an ath chleas aig an àm so:—

Cuir a' bhiodag, etc.

Le ar corrag a mach, chuireamaid ar làmh mu'n cuairt os cionn an leinibh trì no ceithir a dh'uairean, ag ràdh:—

Cuir a' bhiodag anns a' mharaig!
Cuir a' bhiodag anns a' mharaig!
Thuir a' mharag—

Purra-hù, -hù, -hù, -hù!—aig a' cheart àm a' toirt purradh thall 's a bhios do'n leanabh; bha so ag cur ciogailt ann.

BROCHAN BUIRN.

An uair a bhiodh an leanabh mu cheithir mìosan a dh'aois bhiodh e an inbhe brochan grinn a ghabhail. Rachadh a' mhìn choirce chriathradh, a' chuid gharbh a chumail as, agus brochan a dheanamh de'n chuid mhìn. Bha sinn 'g a thoirt dha a' cheud uair no dhà le siùcar, agus sheinneamaid:—

Brochan bùirn, brochan bùirn,
Brochan bùirn gheibh mo leanabh;
'Nuair a bheireas an crodh-laoigh
Gheibh mo ghaol brochan bainne!

SO MAR CHAIDH NA H-EICH, ETC.

An uair a bhiodh aodach an leinibh air a ghiorrachadh agus a gheibheamaid aig a chasan, rùisgeamaid iad, agus a' beirsinn air a dhà lurgainn chuireamaid aon seach a chèile gu h-athaiseach ag ràdh:—

So mar chaidh na h-eich do'n mhùileann,
So mar chaidh na h-eich do'n mhùileann,
So mar chaidh na h-eich do'n mhùileann,—
an sin ag cur nan casagan thar a chèile cho luath 's a b'urrainn duinn, theireamaid—
"So mar thig iad dhachaidh, so mar thig iad dhachaidh, so mar thig iad dhachaidh!"

HUP-HUP AIR AN EACH.

Aig àm eile chuireamaid an leanabh 'na throatan air ar glùn, ag ràdh:—

Hup-hup air an each;
C'fhad a ruigeas tuasa nochd?
Ruigidh mise baile Pheairt;
D'é gheibh thu ann?
Aran agus leann;
D'é bheir thu as?
Craiceann cùl a chinn;

Och, och! 's goirt sin, 's goirt sin!
Ann an ràdh 'Craiceann cùl a chinn 'bheireamaid sgleog bheag do chùl cinn an leinibh, agus theireamaid "Och, och, etc.," mar gu'n do ghortaich e sinn. 'S fheadar an sgleog a bhi glé mhaoth a' cheud uair no dhà gus an tuig am pàisde gur feala-dhà a tha ann.

ORDAG, COLGAG.

Bhiodh an t-àm a nìs ainmean a thoirt do na corragan, agus a' tòiseachadh leis an òrdaig, theireamaid, a' beirsinn air gach meur ma seach:—

"Ordag, Colgag, Fionnladh-fada, Mac-an Aba, Cuibhteag!"

Bha so air èisdeachd ris gu dill gus an robh e air ionnsachadh air an teangaidh, ged nach abradh e facal ceart.

DANNS A STAIGEIN.

Bhiodh an leanab a' tòiseachadh ri chasan fhaireachduin air dha seasamh air ar glùinean a nis agus bhiodh e air a dhannsadh ri duaragan le fonn, no as eugmhais; tha'n so h-aon no dhà dhiubh :—

Danns a staigein danns a staigein, rugadh tu 'sa gheamhradh, staigein!
 Danns a staigein, danns a staigein; cuir a stigh na gambna staigein!
 M'èudail an gille goirid; tha e beag ach tha e laghach!
 M'èudail an gille goirid, sùgh mo chridhe Samnd-an!
 Ceann ruadh, ceann gille! ceann ruadh fir a ghlinne!
 Ceann ruadh, ceann gille, sùgh mo chridhe Samnd-an!

AN T-SEAN RONG MHOR.

'S an caraich thu no'n tionndaidh thu 'shean rong mhóir?
 An caraich thu, no'n tionndaidh thu'n caraich thu no'n tionndaidh
 Is ciamar ni thu dannsadh a shean rong mhóir?
 Togaidh mi mo luideag-an is crathaidh mi mo sheireanan.
 Is sin mar ni mi dannsadh a shean rong mhóir
 'Sa shean rong mhóir, 'sa shean rong mhóir!

CUIR 'SA CHISTE MHOIR MI.

Cuir 's a chiste mhóir mi 's na cóig bonnach air mo cheann;
 Cuir 's a chiste mhine mi; 's beag is misde mi dol ann!

'S COMA LEAM BUNTATA CARRACH.

'S coma leam buntàta carrach mur a téid a sgrìobadh,
 'S coma leam buntàta carrach mur a téid a sgrìobadh,
 'S coma leam buntàta carrach mur a téid a sgrìobadh,
 'S coma leam e idir idir mur a téid an t-ìm air!

Ann an dol a mach air a' bhruthach bha na leanaban ag ionnsuchadh dhuaganan mu na h-uile ni a chitheadh no chluinneadh iad :—

“Sòbhragan, seamragan, sealbhagan, feada-coille;

Biadh na cloinne bige 's t-samhradh!”

A CHORRA-CHOSAG.

A Corra-chorra-chòsag,
 An innis thusa dhòmh-sa,
 Am bi là math am màireach ann,
 Is ni mi paidhir bhròg dhuit.

Threireadh iad sin cho cinnteach agus a choinnicheadh iad corra-chòsag. Na'm faigheadh iad nead eòin chumadh iad an anail bharr nan uighean agus an déidh a fàgail sheinneadh iad :—

Id-id-idein, có chreach mo nidein?
 Ma 's e duine mòr e, cuiridh mi le tòrr e;
 Ma 's e duine beag e cuiridh mi le creig e;
 Ma 's e duine gun chiall, gun nair' e
 Fàgaidh mi 'g a mhàthair fhéin e:
 Id-id-idein, có chreach mo nidein?

Na'n cluinneadh iad a' chuthag sheinneadh iad :—

Gug-ùg thuirt a' chuthag air géig
 Chan fhaca mi'n diugh thu na'n dé!
 Gug-ùg thuirt a' chuthag 's i falbh,
 Tha sealgair an doire so searbh!

CHAILL AN GILLE MAOL A BHOINEID

Chail an gille maol a bhoineid,
 Chail an gille maol a bhoineid,
 Chail an gille maol a bhoineid
 Buachailleachd nan gambna.

Sud mar chaidh an càl a dholaigh
 Sud mar chaidh an càl a dholaigh
 Sud mar chaidh an càl a dholaigh
 Air na bodaich ghallda;

Loisg a' mhin air màs a' chuire,
 Loisg a' mhin air màs a' chuire,
 Loisg a' mhin air màs a' chuire
 'S bean an tighe dannsadh!

Air dhuinn gille-guirmein a bhuaib, thoinneamaid a chas eadar cliathaich na h-òrdaig agus ar làimh, 'g a ghleidheadh teann leis an lùdaig; an uair a bhiodh e toinnta gu leòir, dh'fhuasglamaid an òrdag beagan los gu'n rachadh ceann a' bhlàith mu'n cuairt, agus theireamaid :—

“Gille, gille-guirmein, mur téid thusa mu'n cuairt *tàirgnìdh mise dòrn ort!*”
 aig a' cheart àm a' tighinn a nuas le dòrn trom air a' bhlàth, ged a bha e a' dol mu'n cuairt fad na h-ùine.

(Ri Leantainn.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

“Fir Bolg” agus “Belgae.”

Usail,—Is cinnteach gur beag a bha a lorg aig Gaidheil gun sgoil, an latha Mhic Ailpein, air Fir Bolg. Ach is soilleir mar a thainig MacAilpein gu bhí a’ cunntas gum b’iad na Belgae na Fir Bolg. Ann a latha-san is e sin am beachd a bha aig cuid mhath de luchd eachdraidh. Ma bheirear “o” á *Bolg* agus “e” á *Belg* ruigeair air an aon ní, agus bu leor sin. Chuir an t-ollamb Rhys stad air an obair sin an uair a thuir e so, “Neither the people nor its name had anything whatever to do with the Irish Fir Bolg.” Is iomadh oidheirp eile a thugadh air Fir Bolg a mhineachadh. A reir nan seann seanchaidhean Gaidhealach b’iad na Fir Bolg aon de cheithir seorsachan sluaigh aig an robh Eirinn mar oighreachd mun do ghlac na Gaidheil, na Clanna Míldid, i. Chuir na Lochlannaich a rithist na Gaidheil fo smachd, ach an uine ghearr dh’ eirich na Gaidheil agus chuir iad na Lochlannaich fo smachd agus air fogradh. An sin thainig na Normanaich, agus thug iadsan buaidh air Gaidheil an Eirinn; agus ri linn sin bha ceannas aig na Sasunnaich air Eirinn gu ruige an linn so fhein. Tha a nis ‘saorsa’ aig a’ chuid as motha a dh’Eirinn agus tha dochas aig na h-Eireannaich gum bi Eirinn ‘na Gaidhealtachd aon uair eile. Aig an am a tha lathair is i a’ bheurla shasunnach an cánan a tha coitcheann an Eirinn. Chan ‘eil luchd na Gaidhlig ach air an taobh bheag. Tha Sluagh Eirinn a nis, ma ta, de iomadh gne, ach faodaidh sinn a bhí cinnteach gu bheil sliochd nam Fear Bolg, agus sliochd nan treubhan eile a bha an Eirinn mun do thog na Gaidheil lann is ceann anns an tìr, lionmhor laidir gu ruige so. Is fìor am facal, “Is treise tuath na tighearna.”

Is e a’ cheud *oidheirp* a thugadh air Fir Bolg a mhineachadh an oidhirp a b’ionraice uile. Tha am facal *bolg* aig gach Gaidheal. Is e *bolg* a tha againne air an Alba. Is e *bolc* a bha aig na seana-Ghaidheil air. Is e *bag* a chanas na Sasunnaich ris. Mar sin theirte gum b’iad na Fir Bolg luchd an eallaich, daoine bochda a bha fo chuing agus fo uallach, fo smachd dhaoine eile. Tha an naidheachdan fhein aig na seann sgeulachdan air a’ chùis sin, agus co aige tha fhios nach e tha sin faoin-sgeul cosmhuil ri naidheachd na Caillich a thug ainm air Loch Nis, “Bu ghleann an raoir e,” arsa ise, “ach is *loch nis* e.” Gidheadh, tha iad ann a tha de’n lan bheachd gur e so frinn na cuise agus gum bu mheinnearan agus luchd obrach *mheitealan* na daoine agus luchd *ceairde* air feadh Eirinn agus gun robh an

seorsa ri am faotainn ri an ceaird am Breatann leis.

So an oidheirp mu dheireadh a thugadh air ciall a thoirt as an ainm aca! Is e am feile an t-earradh Gaidhealach. Is e na briogaisean, na na *bulg*, a bha air na Fir Bolg! Canaidh na Sasunnaich “bags” ri briogaisean, agus is math a dh-fhaodas iad sin a dheanamh an diugh, agus ma bha na briogaisean aig na Fir Bolg cho glugach riubha so cha do chailh na Gaidheil an suilean. Feumaidh mi innseadh gur ann an nall thar Caol na Fraing a thainig am beachd so. Tha e cho ‘rìs a’ gheamhradh a chaidh. Chan ‘eil pioc dheth a’ cur annais orm ach nach ann á *America* a thainig e.

Chuala sibh an t-ainm a bha air a’ mhadadh ruadh am *balgair*. Tha facal eile againn anns a’ Ghaidhlig, *balc*, a’ ciallach oic na do-bheairt; agus canar *balgair* ri droch dhaoine. Dean *bolc*, *bolg*, *balc*, *balg*, dheth. Agus, creid mise, sin am beachd a bha aig na Gaidheil air Fir Bolg, na *Fir Bolg*, beachd *Bhalgair*. Theid mise an urras gur iomadh latha bha ceannach aig Fir Bolg is Gaidheil air a cheile a cheall cho cinnteach agus a bha ceannach aig Ghoill is Gaidheil air a cheile ri linn ban-rìgh Ealasaid.

Tha cuid eile a’ cumail a mach gur e Cruithnich a bha anns na Fir Bolg. Mar a bha Boid is an t-òic, cha b’ann an Alba a mhaire a bha na Cruithnich. Ach ged a bhiodh fhios againn cinnteach gum bu Cruithnich *Fir bolg* cha bhiodh againn ach an gad air an robh an t-iasg, agus cha deanamaid ach cleas an eisg,—leum as a’ phana do’n teine! Oir chanadh m’ fhear cinnidh Eachann MacGilleathain, agus chanadh Mac Bheathain leis e, gur e Breatannaich a bha anns na Cruithnich an Alba. Is cinnteach, ma ta, ma bha iad nam Breatannaich an Alba nach robh iad nan Turcaich an Eirinn. Agus dìreach mar a bheir so oirnn a chomh-dhùnadh gu robh na Breatannaich an Alba roimh na Gaidheil bheir sid oirnn a chomh-dhùnadh gun robh iad an Eirinn roimh na Gaidheil math gu leor, ach c’ait’ as a nis an d’thainig na Gaidheil? Air a h-uile cor tha ceist nan Gaidheal a nis nas daora na ioma-cheist mhòr nan Cruithneach. Theirear gur e an gorm dath a’ Ghaidheil, ag innseadh gun d’thainig e as an adhar! Theirear gur e prìomh chiall an fhacail Scot, *Scath*, sgoilt, sgolb na gearr. Abair gun robh iad math air seathadh ma thainig iad air cul nam Breatannach agus troimh mhiltean Bhreatainn, gun fuigheall fhagail as an deidh gu fonn fionn Fodha. Tha aon bheachd eile ann, agus foghnaidh sin an so, agus is e so e, gu robh na Fir Bolg agus na Belgae mar aon de an t-sluagh sin a lion taobh an iar na

h-Eorpa, agus na h-Eileanan mora so, mun do thog Ceiltich de seorsa seach seorsa iollach anns an Roinn Eorpa. Agus co aige tha fhios nach 'eil firinn an sin. Ach co dhiu is leir nach bu Ghaidheil Fir Bolg air tus. Ma tha an t-armunn Van Den Broeck airson eolas cruinn, sgrìobhadh esan gu na h-Ollamhan Mac Alasdair agus Mac Neill, an Ollscoil Baile Atha Cliath, an Eìrinn.

CALUM MACGILLEATHAIN.

Gaelic Summer School.

Dear Sir,—We the undersigned students, past and present, of the Gaelic Summer School, organised under the auspices of An Comunn Gàidhealach, would like to take this opportunity to give expression in a public manner to our appreciation of the great services that are being rendered through the medium of the School to the cause of Gaelic studies. Many students who would otherwise have no opportunity of becoming acquainted with the Gaelic Language, Literature, Music, and Art are enabled year by year to gain a preliminary knowledge which in many cases has grown to ripe maturity by further study.

The main object of this letter is, however, to call attention to the fact that abundant evidence from time to time presents itself of the existence of a far wider body of students who would be glad to attend the School if greater publicity were given to its existence, aims, and objects. It is suggested, therefore, to An Comunn that notices should be inserted in the most important newspapers such as the Scotsman, Glasgow Herald, The Aberdeen Journal, The (London) Times, etc. at frequent intervals throughout the year, and that descriptive articles should also appear in the press stating at greater length the aims, object, and general activities of the School.

It is further suggested that bills of sufficient size and attractive appearance should be put up in the Universities, Colleges, and Schools throughout Scotland, England, Wales, France, etc. By these means a far larger body of people would have an opportunity of knowing about the School, and thus a knowledge of Gaelic life and scholarship would be spread over a wider area.—We are, Yours, etc. Charles Davidson, Edgar MacWilliam, William P. Milne, Mary McGregor MacLean, Helen E. C. MacColl, M. F. Pyfe, A. F. Pyfe, R. Greenhill Gardyne, Janet Macdonald, Stewart McIntyre, David Pyfe, Elizabeth Cameron Stewart,

Barbara Matheson, Mairi Orra, Caitriona W. Nic Ghriogair, Bertha M. Stewart of Achara, S. Greenhill Gardyne, M. Greenhill Gardyne, F. O'Donovan, James K. N. Doak, Anna MacBride, Mairi MacBride, Jessie C. Connor, Edith E. Mason, Mary Ritchie Thomson, Marion Cameron, Anne M. McKenzie, Annie MacLeod, Mary Stuart Macphail Holt, Gabrielle Barbara Ann Macphail Holt, Mary Stuart Deirdre Macphail Holt, Christian Murray Fisher, Malcolm Gillies, Cairistiona NicLeoid, S. MacKinnon, Ealasaid Nic Mhartainn, Greumach Croll, John McIntyre, W. Oliver Brown.

Tobermory, 30th July, 1935.

Comunn Cluichean Gàidhealach na Drealluinne.

A charaid,—Bhithinn mòran an comain bhur luchd-leughaidh na 'n innseadh feadhainn diubh dhomh ni 's am bith a 's aithne dhaibh mu dhéidhinn sean chomh-fharpuise no cleasa ris an d' thubhairteadh o chian "leum a' bhradain." Is coma leam có dhiubh is ann as eachdraidh no litir-fhoglum no as an eòlas pearsantail féin a tharruingeas iad na tha aca ri a radh: is ann air cleasachd bheo, dìreach mar a chleachdar i an dugh, a tha mi gu h-àraidh an tòir. Mar sin, bu mhaith leam ainm is seòladh a dh' fhiosrachadh o neach a ghabh pàirt anns a' chleas na a chunnaic e air a dheanamh; 'àirde, ma 's e leum ard e, no 'astar, ma 's e leum fada e, na féithean, air neo codaichean na collainn, a théid a dh'ùisinnneachadh ann; a riaghailtean, ma tha riaghailtean aige idir; cunnart 's am bith a dh' fhaodas a bhith comh-cheangailte ris; agus clip no dòigh 's am bith leis an gabh car toirt as na breitheamhan. Nach 'eil dad aig Seòras Gallda mu 'n chuspair?—Is mise, le mùirn,

A. M. MACLACHLAINN,
Rùnair,

Tobar-Mhoire,
19mh dhe 'n t-Sultuine.

Copies of "Voices from the Hills" can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

MOD OF 1936.

A meeting representative of the Town Council, Local Branch of An Comunn, Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis, the Kilt Society, the Inverness Gaelic Musical Association, and elected members of the Executive Council was held at Inverness on Saturday, 12th October. Mr. Donald MacDonald, Vice President of An Comunn presided. He explained that at the Annual General Meeting of An Comunn held recently at Edinburgh there had been no invitation for next year's Mod. A desire had been expressed that next year's Mod should be held at Inverness, and he undertook to call a meeting of the Local Associations to consider the matter. He was pleased to see such a representative attendance present. The various Halls in the town had been inspected that forenoon, and Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary, who was present, expressed himself satisfied with the accommodation available.

After favourable expressions of opinion had been given, Capt. William MacKay, President of the Local Branch, moved: "That this meeting of representatives of the Town Council of Inverness, the Local Branch of An Comunn, and kindred Societies extend a hearty invitation to the Mod and Music Committee of An Comunn to hold the 40th Annual Mod at Inverness in September, 1936." The Chairman seconded, and this became the unanimous finding of the meeting.

The Mod and Music Committee, at their meeting on 21st October, accepted the invitation from Inverness, and will report accordingly to the Executive Council. The dates recommended for the Mod are 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25th September, 1936.

At a subsequent meeting at Inverness the following office-bearers were appointed, subject to the approval of the Executive Council:— Mr. Donald MacDonald, Convener; Mr. John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill, Secretary; and Mr. J. M. Hunter, North of Scotland Bank, Treasurer.

The following contributions towards the cost of providing shinties for boys in Comunn na h-Oigridh have been received:—

Mr. John Cameron	£1 1 0
Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth	3 0 0

COMUNN BADGES.

Members can now be supplied with Badges direct from Head Office; price 2/7½, post free.

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Nis o'n a tha Mòd Mór Dhùn-Eideann seachd faodaidh sinn smuaineachadh air ni no dhà a bha buntainn gu dlùth dhuinn fein ann. Bha e 'na thoil eachadh do Chlann an Fhraoich fhaicinn gun robh grunnan math de Chomunn na h-Oigridh a' strìth anns na co-fharpaisean: rinn sealladh air na braistean "Ghàidheal" ar crìde a thogail agus ar tàladh a dh'ionnsaidh an t-seomair 'san robhas ag co-stri ann an beul-aithris. Bha Feachd Tobairmhoire fo an Ceann-Feachd Nic Dhomhnuill am broilleach na cuideachd sin: chualas gun tug iad seachd duaisean deug gu leir leo dhachaidh. Agus mo luaidh thu, Chatriona NicLeoid a Dumbheagan, a bhuidhinn ann an oirdheircas an labhairt na Gaidhlig! Nar leigeadh Comunn na h-Oigridh an ceart cho-fharpais sin bharr an lamhan gu brath. Agus thusa, Anna NicIlleathain, le do bhonn-suaicheantas airgid airson seinn—math a rinn thu!

Chunnacas foills eachadh gasda de dh'obair-làimhe nan Caileagan an seomar nan Ealdhainean. Bha obair nam Feachd a leanas sonruichte grinn:—Boghmór, Tobarmhoire, Cairrinn, Sgoil MhicDhiarmaid, Cornaig Mhór. Gun teagamh, dh'fhaodadh tuilleadh a bhi ann bho na Feachdan eile an deidh dhaibh ar stuth fhaotuin a nasgaidh: ach tha fhios nach do rinneadh tòiseachadh gus an robh crìoch an t-seisein am fagus. Le bhi sealltuinn air ais air a' Mhòd so gu léir, tha aobhar againn a bhi mór as na rinn Comunn na h-Oigridh ann. Fhuaras iomradh ceutach agus coimhionta air ar Comunn bho Cheann-suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich fhein, Fear na Brataich, 'na oraid-fhosglaidh: sin agaibh duine cho dian-togarrach air cùl Comunn na h-Oigridh 's a tha beo an diugh. Tha mi'n dòchas gun do leugh sibh a h-uile facal dheth anns an àireimh mu dheireadh de'n mhiosachan so.

CEASNACHADH AIRSON ÌNBHE LAN-GHÀIDHEAL.

Tha e 'na thoil eachadh dhomh deireadh a' cheasnachaidh sin a thoir dhuibh cho fad's a fhuair mi fios air gus a so. Chan 'eil a' chùis air a cur an dara taobh am Boghmór agus an Aisir fhathast. O 153 Buill a sheas na paipearan-ceasnachaidh, fhuair 142 buaidh annta. Agus tha mi cur meal-an-naigheachd aron air na Buill agus air na Cinn-Feachd a thaobh feabhas nam paipearan gu léir. Bha' cuid mhor anabarrach math agus fhuair aon ceithir fichead 90% no an còrr. Cornaig Mhór agus Tobarmhoire a fhuair na comharran as àirde. So an àireamh a fhuair buaidh:— Tobarmhoire 22; Ruaig 15; Ath-tharacail 14;

Cornaig Mhór 29; Bagh a Tuath 10; Lochdar 13; Hoghmór 11; Port nan Long 18; Buneasain 10.

A bharr air a sin fhuair 9 Buill de Fheachd Cornaig Mhór buaidh ann an Arcl-theisteanas na Sgoile-làtha an Gaidhlig agus choisinn iad mar sin inbhe "Làn-Ghaidheal." Fhuair ceathrar dhiubh sin buaidh ann an Deuchainn-sgoile na treas Bliadhna thar an t-Sreith Dheasachail, cuideachd, agus gheibh iad inbhe "Sàr-Ghaidheal" aig ceann an t-seisein so, gun ceasnachadh eile a sheasamh.

Gun teagamh, bithidh moran a bharrachd a' seasamh a' cheasnachaidh so an ath-bhliadhna agus tha dòchas agam gun seas a h-uile Làn-Ghaidheal aca sin an ceasnachadh airson Sàr-Ghaidheal.

Tha dòchas agam gum bi na Ceannardan agus na Bana-Cheannaird air an taghadh as ùr leis na Buill anns gach Feachd mu'n am so, agus an ainmean air an cur a dh'ionnsuidh Rùnaire a' Chomuinn. Air neo, guidheam air na Cinn-Feachd sin a dheanamh gun dàil. Far nach eil Ceannard no Bana-Cheannard ann, caillidh an Feachd sin trian de a brìgh—bithidh i car coltach ri gunna gun fùdar, no ri abhaig a dh'fhàg a sròn 'na déidh ann an talamh-toll a' bhruic: gun tighinn air gum bheil sin gu tur an aghaidh aon de phrìomh-riaghailtean ar Comuinn.

Dh'amais sinn air dòigh as fearr airson gum bi na Ceannaird agus na Bana-Cheannaird (nach tubaisteach nach dean aon fhacal an gnothach do'n dithis sin!) a' faotuin *An Gaidheal* gu cunbhalach o so a mach. Theid na trì leth-bhreacan, a chur an aon phaipear-suinidh a' dh'ionnsuidh a' Chinn-Feachd, agus bithidh esan cho math, is cinnteach, agus a dhà dhiubh a riarachadh mar is còir.

Gun toireadh na Cinn-Feachd an deagh aire do'n phunc so. Is dòcha gum bi Clann eile air ùr-thighinn do bhur Sgoil, agus feadhainn a bha innte an uridh a nis ochd bliadhna a dh'aois. Ma tha iad freagarrach faodaidh sibh an deanamh 'nam Buill de Comunn na h-Oigridh gun a bhi feitheamh Fir-dheilbhe no eile. Cuiribh fios gu Rùnaire a' Chomuinn ag innseadh dha co meud braiste a tha dhith oirbh airson nam Ball ùra sin. 'Nuair a gheibh sibh na braistean, guidheam oirbh Clann a' Chomuinn a thional ri chéile agus facal-brosnuchaidh a thoirt seachad mar a rinn sinn an uridh. An sin bheir gach Ball ùr a ghealladh seachd gu follaiseach:—"Tha mise gealltuinn gum bi mi a'm dheagh Ghaidheal (no Bana-Ghaidheal) cho fad's is beo mi": ni sibh-se an sin am braiste a phrìneachadh air agus an cumhnant a dhainneachadh le crathadh

làimhe. Cha bu mhaith le Clann an Fhraoich gun deantadh dearmad air aon ni anns an t-seirbhis sin.

Ma theid cuisean a reir ar miann is dòcha gun cuir Comunn na h-Oigridh uibhir eile ris fein air a' bhliadhna so tighinn, mur a cuir e a dhà. Tha Fear-deilbhe an Taoibh Tuath ag cur roimhe Feachdan a stéidheachadh an taobh an iar Chataibh, Rois agus Inir Nis. Thig iad sin gu còrr is fichead, gun guth air na bhios aige anns na h-eileanan siar; agus bithidh àireamh mhór aig Mgr. MacIlle Sheathanaich 'san Taobh Dheas cuideachd. Tha e furasda fhaicinn, 'nuair a bhios Feachdan againn 'nan ceudan, agus Buill 'nam miltean, nach bi e comasach dhuinn Comunn na h-Oigridh a stiuradh eadar Clann an Fhraoich agus na Cinn-Feachd a mhàin. Feumar Comhairlean beaga chur suas airson riaghladh gnothuichean gach Feachd fa leth, air am bi na Ceannaird agus na Bana-Cheannaird a' deanamh an cuid 'san obair: agus na Feachdan a ghrunnachadh 'nan "Roinnean," le Comhairle air ceann gach Roinne. Biodh Meuran a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich a' dùsgadh gu mothachadh air an deasanas a thaobh Comunn na h-Oigridh ma 's e gum bheil againn ri ruigheachd air làn-thoradh ar saothrach.

Ach an déidh sin 's 'na dhéidhinn, is sibh-se, a Chlanna mo rùin, a bheir buaidh, no a chaochladh, do bhur Comunn air a' cheann thall. Ma bhios sibh dìleas do'n ghealladh a thug sibh—ma bhios sibh 'nur deagh Ghaidheil, thig gach ni ceart, Dia 'na thoiseach.

SEORAS GALLDA.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Mary Macpherson (Mrs. Clark), the Religious Poetess of Badenoch: Her Poems and Life. Edited by Rev. Alexander Macrae. Published by the Herald Press, Arbroath. 72 pp. Cloth. Price 2/6.

The religious poems of Mrs. Clark still enjoy a wide vogue in Badenoch. It is evident at once to any reader that this remarkable woman possessed a saintly soul. In addition, however, to the deep religious spirit of the pieces, there is strong poetical power. She was able to wield her native Gaelic with ease and elegance. It is quite possible that much of her work died with herself. It was merely a coincidence that a few of her poems were taken down on stray sheets of paper in a phonetic spelling. Of the seven pieces contained in this edition, four were discovered by the late Dr. Sinton in the Cluny Charter Chest. Mr. Macrae follows Dr. Sinton's literary rendering of the phonetic script. The original MS. of these four poems is now in my possession. It was gifted to me by the late Cluny Macpherson a few months before his death. I do not believe that the last poem in Mr. Macrae's book is Mrs. Clark's at all. It is in a manner

different from hers entirely, and is not half so free and melodious in its flow as the genuine work of the poetess.

Mr. Macrae does not give us the dates of the birth and death of the poetess, both of which could be easily ascertained. It would be well if we could have had an accurate opinion as to the poetical merits of Mrs. Clark, apart altogether from her genuine and simple piety. This would have made the introduction more interesting from a literary point of view. Much trouble is taken to miscall the clergy of Badenoch in the latter part of the eighteenth century. It would have been more to the point if we could have had a more satisfactory critical estimate of the surviving poetry of Bean Thorra Dhamh.

Scottish American Year Book, 1935. Published at 777 Mission Street, San Francisco, California. Price 50c. 107 pp. 9 in. by 5 in.

This most informative handbook, beautifully printed and illustrated on art paper, must surely be a welcome visitor to many a Scot in the far flung regions of the west. The Scot carries with him wherever he goes the love of the old country, and a deep attachment to the old ways and ancient lore of Scotland. Such a book as this must prove a living link to bind together the folk of Scottish blood who cannot change their nature even when circumstances require that they change their nationality. The book contains brief, crisp articles on twenty-six topics, such as "The Daughters of Scotia," "Mo Dhùthaich Fhein," "The Order of Scottish Clans," "The Highland Bagpipe Abroad," "Native Dyes used by the Gael," "War Cries of the Claus." There are ten excellent illustrations. There are eight pages of Gaelic prose and verse. It is a most patriotic little book—an ideal companion for Scots in remote places. It should command a wide circulation.

N. R.

BRANCH REPORTS.

AYR.—The Ayr Branch held its first meeting of the session on Thursday, 17th October. The President, Mr. Donald Macphie, occupied the chair, and there was a large company of members and friends present. Miss Nora Morrison and Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Glasgow, were present, and sang several of the lesser known Gaelic songs. Miss Turner, Glasgow, was accompanist.

DUMBARTON.—The opening meeting of this Branch was held in the Masonic Halls on Thursday, 10th October. Mrs. Brock presided over a large gathering, and was supported by Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary. During the evening Mr. Shaw addressed the meeting in Gaelic and English, and made a strong appeal to those present to support the Gaelic Class, which had been a feature of the Branch since its inception. The Gaelic singers were Miss Margaret Duncan and Mr. Donald MacIsaac.

ELGIN.—The Elgin Branch opened its session on Wednesday, 9th October. Miss M. F. Simpson presided over a large gathering. Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, was present, and in the course of a stirring address, delivered in Gaelic and English, he made a strong appeal to Gaelic-speaking parents to teach their children the language of their forefathers. Mr. MacPhail was accompanied by Mrs. Colin MacLeod, Mr. John MacDonald, and Mr. Walter Ross, who sustained a high-class programme of Gaelic songs.

GOVAN.—This Branch was one of the first to open the new session. Mr. Wilson presided over a large

gathering in the I.L.P. Hall on Thursday, 3rd October, and he was supported by Mr. Hugh May, President, Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary, and Mr. Neil MacLean, past president. Mr. May appealed to those present to become members of the Branch, the only one in the city. Mr. Shaw gave a resume of the work of An Comunn, and supported Mr. May in his appeal for members.

TAIN.—Mr. Donald MacPhail attended the opening meeting of the Tain Branch on Friday, 18th October. He was accompanied by Mr. John MacDonald, and an all-Gaelic programme was submitted to an audience of over 70 people. This Branch is in a flourishing condition. The President is Mr. Campbell, and the Secretary Mr. Alasdair R. MacKenzie, Heathmount.

VALE OF LEVEN.—Mr. Hector MacDougall, President, presided at the opening meeting of this Branch on Wednesday, 9th October. There was a splendid turnout of members, and a fine programme was submitted by the Gaelic Choir. Sympathy was expressed with Miss Millar Weir in her illness, and the hope expressed that she would soon be back to the ceilidhs.

NEW MEMBERS.

LIFE.

Mrs. John M. Baumerman, Balmaha.
Wm. Beck Baxter, Esq., Sculthorpe.
Mrs. Beck Baxter, Sculthorpe.
William Forsyth, Esq., M.A., Granttown-on-Spey.
Miss Dorothy M. Henderson, Kilmelford.
Donald MacDonald, Esq., Inverness.
Mrs. D. MacDonald, London.
Miss J. C. MacDonald, Portree.
Miss Mary MacIntyre, Bridgend, Islay.
Stewart MacIntyre, Esq., Longmiddy.
Miss Adeline J. MacLean, Worplesdon.
Donald Smeaton Munro, Esq., Edinburgh.
William Nicolson, Esq., Rhu.
Miss Janet Reid, Colinton.
Provost Roderick Smith, Stornoway.
Mrs. Vera B. Stewart, Tarbert.
Dr. H. F. Watson, Edinburgh.

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FOUNDED 1891.

All Scottish Gaels, and all persons in sympathy with the Gaelic movement, are cordially invited to become members. The objects of the Association are to encourage and promote

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The study and cultivation of Gaelic Literature,
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Leabhar XXXI.]

An Dùlachd, 1935.

[Earrann 3

DEALBH CHLUICH AN UIDHIST.

Is e so an dara bliadhna bho chuireadh dealbh chluich Ghaidhlig air chois an Uidhist. Air a' mhìos so chaidh ghabh mi mo thurus a dh'ionnsuidh an eilean sin, mar thoradh air a' chuireadh a fhuair mi gu dhol a thoirt breith air comhfharpais na dealbh chluich. Is math is airidh an gnothuch air iomradh anns an earrainn-chinn so. Chumadh a' cheud fharpais anns a' Bhailesear. B'e an cuspair "*An Gaol a Bheir Buaidh.*" Thaitinn an dealbh chluich ris a' chuideachd, agus mar an ceudna ris a' bhreitheamh. Labhair an luchd-gnìomha gu poncail, blada, an Gaidhlig a bha air leth snasail. Riochdaich iad pearsachan na dealbh chluich gu h-eagnuidh is gu nadurra. Nochd cuid dhiu comas àbhachd a chuir sunnd air an luchd éisdeachd. Mar bheir sinn fairear nach d'fhuair an sgioba so stiùbheadh an alt na dràma is e tha ann ach cùis iongnaidh gu bheil iad cho ealanta agus cho foghainteach is a tha iad.

* * *

Air an dara h-oidhche chualas comhfharpais aig Cladach Circeboist. Is e so a' bhuidheann a choisinn an dara duais an uiridh. Ghabh iad "*Suiridhe Raoghail Mhaol*" mar chuspair, a' cheart aon a chleachd iad air a' bhliadhna so chaidh. Faodaidh gur e sin a dh'fhag iad gle eolach air na facail—cha robh iad a' deanamh na h-oidheirp airson a' cheud turuis

mar bha an sgioba eile. Air an aobhar sin thugadh comharradh a bharrachd airson riochdachaidh do sgioba Chirceboist. Mheas am breitheamh gu robh an dà bhuidhinn ionnan an ùr-labhradh is eagnuidheachd cainnte. Tha da chup' airgid mar gheall airson a' cheud is an dara h-àite anns a' chomhfharpais. Thug Comunn Uidhist is Bharraidh an Glascho seachad an cupa airson a' cheud àite; agus thug an t-uasal còir Alasdair Mac Fhearguis anns a' Chlachan an cupa eile mar thabhartas airson an dara h-àite. Theirear cupaichean dubhlain ris an da thabhartas. Gleidhear iad fad na bliadhna leis an sgioba a choisneas iad. Agus air dhomh a bhi a' sgrìobhadh mu dhuaisean is còir ainmeachadh gu'r airidh muinntir Bhailesear is Chirceboist air deagh mholadh airson na dealbh chluichean a chumail suas, agus airson mar an ceudna a' chosgais gu leir a sheasamh, gun an taic a leigil air neach sam bith. Is airidh Mgr. Domhnall Mac Illeathain A.M., 's a Bhailesear, air iomradh sonruichte.

* * *

Is aithne do'n leughadair cionnus a thainig ath-bheothachadh air alt na dealbh chluich am measg an t-sluaigh choitichionn. Thachair so bho am a' chogaidh mhóir. Tha buidhnean dràma a nis anns gach cearn de'n dùthaich. Agus is ni annasach a tha ann gu'n do rainig an dùsgadh so Eileanan siar na Gaidhealtachd.

Faodar a ràdh gun d'rinn an gluasad coitcheionn sin cuideachadh leis a' Ghaidhlig. Is math gur ann fo chùram A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich a tha stiùireadh nan dealbh-chluich an Uidhist. Tha cleachdadh an alt so 'g a chumntas mar obair dhligheach air clar-oibre nam meanglan. Is gann gu bheil dòigh idir air an urrainn labhairt na Gaidhlig misneachadh fhaotainn cho math ris an dòigh so. Tha fearas chuideachd anns an dealbh chluich gus an oigridh a thàladh, agus an deanamh foghainteach airson labhairt na cànan. Co dhù mhòthaich mi an Uidhist nach robh feum air Beurla aig na ceilidhean a bha aig an òigridh an déidh nam farpaisean.

* * *

Bu mhath leam an cothrom a ghabhail gus mo beachd innseadh gu goirid mu an dùsgadh ùr so am measg Ghaidheal nan Eilean. Bha e soilleir dhomh nach ann bho an cuid foghlum Beurla a fhuair an luchd cluiche an snas cainnte air aon laimh, no an teomachd riochdachaidh air an laimh eile. Is e tha an sin ach buaidh a tha dù dhaibh. Buinidh an labhradh blasta agus an giulan grinn, flathail, do sheann oilein an sinnisr. An uair a thainig crìoch air Rìoghachd nan Eilean mu dheireadh na coigeamh linn deug cha robh iomadh ceann cinnidh comasach air bàrd agus amadan a ghlèidheadh. (Mar bu trice b'e an t-amadan aig an triath fear cho sgaiteach teanga 's a bha anns an dùthaich). B'einn do na bàird is do na h-amadain an lòn a chosnadh le bhi ag aithris sgeulachdan is dhuan feadh an t-sluaigh chumanta. Is e sin is aobhar gu bheil tuath na Gaidhealtachd a bhùineas do'n t-seann treubh, cho fileanta, eirmeach, gus an latha an diugh. Agus tha a bhuil ann. Mar thoradh air na nithean sin tha òigridh Uidhist deas, teoma, gus dealbh chluich a nochdadh, gun chomhnadh no stiùireadh bho luchd na Beurla. Tha dòchas againn mar sin gu faigh an cleachdadh ionmholtas so deagh chothrom; agus nach cèadaich buill A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, gu'm bi dearmad 'g a dheanamb, gus mu dheireadh am faicear comhfharpais dealbh chluich air clar-iomairt a' Mhòid Nàiseanta.

A GAELIC-ENGLISH NEW TESTAMENT.

Some time ago the Rev. Dr. Frank Knight of the National Bible Society of Scotland brought forward a proposal that the Society might publish a Gaelic-English New Testament. Dr. Knight consulted a large number of persons in the Gaelic world whose opinion carries weight in a matter of this nature. Without exception, the individuals approached were enthusiastic in their approval of such a scheme. It was duly recognised that an edition of the New Testament, with Gaelic and English on opposite pages, like the Welsh-English edition used in Wales, would be readily welcomed by learners of Gaelic, and by readers whose Gaelic could be assisted by the English rendering on the opposite page.

It is a sad fact that copies of the Scripture in Gaelic are not now being printed at anything like the rate at which they were produced in recent years. Such a project as that under discussion would greatly encourage the publication of the New Testament in the Gaelic tongue. The diglot form would be an additional help to many students and readers. True, any one can take a Gaelic copy and an English copy and compare the versions in the different volumes. That, of course, is possible—but as a matter of fact very few persons go to the trouble of resorting to this simple device. But, the diglot version would overcome the difficulty, and encourage the reader to go on from verse to verse. The method of acquiring languages by the diglot method is growing in popularity. Examples are the Loeb classics, and recent publications in German, French, and other languages, with English translations.

The proposed version of the New Testament would be hailed by Gaels at home and abroad. Apart from the spiritual benefit, one can scarcely think of anything more likely to foster the maintenance of the Gaelic than the diglot version of the New Testament. An appeal is now earnestly made for funds and guarantees for this very desirable undertaking. It would be a great pity if the handsome guarantees already offered were not availed of. It is a valuable opportunity. Those who wish to render assistance are requested to communicate with the Rev. G. A. Frank Knight, D.D., National Bible Society of Scotland, 5 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh.

N. R.

DRAMATIC COMPETITION IN NORTH UIST.

By the EDITOR.

Readers who peruse the leading article in this issue will find an account of the contest in Drama held in North Uist towards the end of October. It will be recalled that last year a start was made in that Island on similar lines. This year two teams competed. The competitors at Baleshare took the play '*An Gaol a Bheir Buaidh*' by Mr. Hector Macdougall. Their work was marked by correctness of elocution, and a surprising ease and naturalness in their acting. A deep sense of humour was displayed by some of the performers, a feature which was clearly understood and appreciated by the audience. The team at Claddach Kirkebost, chose a play which they rendered last year. It was partly for this reason that an intimate familiarity with words and situation was shown. They were not better speakers than the Baleshare team, but they were a little more assured and convincing, in their acting, than the other team. The premier place was accordingly given to Claddach Kirkebost. They retain for one year the handsome trophy donated by the Glasgow Uist and Barra Association. Baleshare will hold the silver cup so generously given for that position by Mr. Alexander Ferguson, Clachan, North Uist.

I wish I could convey to the reader the refreshing uplift this competition gives to any one who really desires to see our language get a helping hand. It will be a sad misfortune if this movement is not encouraged. Local effort was equal to the defraying of all expense; but, the cause is so important that it deserves to be taken notice of, and materially aided from outside. Here you have perfect Gaelic, dignified acting in an amazing degree, and a rediscovery of native talent and capacity which should be carefully developed.

BRANCH CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

A new supply of Branch Constitution and Rules has been prepared in five different colours, so as to have them available for successive years. These are sold at 3/6 per 100, postage extra, and they may be had on application to the General Secretary.

TIR NAN OG.

By DONALD GILLIES.

II.

IOMRADH O NA GREIGICH.

Tha 'n seann bhàrd Homer a' nochdadh dhuinn 's an *Odyssey* gu 'n robh a leithid so de thir shòlasaich sa chuan an iar—dachaidd bhuan nan gaisgeach—far am bheil è ag radh mu 'n t-sàr-ghaisgeach Menelaus "nach robh è air orduchadh dhà-san bàs fhaotainn, ach, gu 'n giùlaineadh na diathan è dh'ionnsaidh Machair Elicium (Elysian Fields), aig iomal an t-saoghail far an robh beatha soirbheachail do 'n duine; far nach 'eil sneachda, no storm, no braon; ach an cuan-siar daonan a' séideadh oiteagan cùbhraidh o 'n iar a' fionnarachadh dhaoine."

Tha rithis, bàrd Greugach eile, Hesiod (800 B.C.) a toirt dhuinn iomradh air an ionad cheudna; ach, gu bheil "eileanan" againn an àite "machair," far a' bheil e a' labhairt mu ghaisgich a dhùthcha mar so:—"Ged a chaidh cuid de na gaisgich, a thaobh eas-aontachd do staid an dorchadais, gu'n d'òrdaich 'Zeus' an t-athair, do chuid eile de 'na gaisgich staid aig iomal an domhain, fad air falbh o ionad comhnuidh dhaoine bàs-mhór an t-saoghail so; far am beil Cronos a rìghachadh; 's an sin bithidh iad a' comhnuidh gu bràth an sìth, ri taobh tuinn a' chuain mhóir an eileanan nan naomh far a' bheil toradh baibh 'ga chur dheth trì uairean 's a' bhliadhna de mheasan a tha cho milis ri mìl."

Tha mar an ceudna am bàrd Gréugach Pindar a' deanamh aithris air an tìr so, ceudan bliadhna a deigh sin (522—443 B.C.), far a' bheil e foillseachadh,—nach e sàr-ghaisgich a mhàin a rachadh do na h-eileanan so, ach:—gach duine a sheasas "treibhdhireach trì uairean na bheatha, agus a chumas e-fhein saor o shannt, gu'n leamadh iad air lorg 'Zeus' a dh'ionnsaidh caisteal Chronois ann an eileanan nan naomh, far a' bheil oiteagan cùbhraidh a' chuain a' séideadh, agus fùraichean a' dealradh mar òr, a bhios iad a' figheadh 'nan dòrnanan air son an làmhan agus fleasgan air son an cinn."

Tha againn an so ceangal dlùth eadar "El" agus Cronos nam Phòniche, 's nan Gréugach agus Màgh Mell na Màgh m-El nan Ceilteach. Tha rithis iomradh againn mu "tìr mhór a' chuain-an-iar" bho "Plato" (427-347 B.C.), far a' bheil e 'g innseadh dhuinn mu thimchioll tìr mhór a bh'air a suidheachadh fada mach 's a' chuan.

Annas an “Timereus” tha Plato a’ toirt seachad sgeulachd a fhuair Solon bho Sais, sagart Eipheiteach, mu thimchioll sean eachdraidh na Gréige, ag radh:—gur e chuid a’s iomraidhe do shean eachdraidh na Gréige—léir-sgríos “Innis Atalanta,” b’è so tìr mhór a bha suidhichte ‘s a chuan-an-iar, fada mach air “Ursnan Herculis;” agus gu’n robh an tìr so; na bu mhòtha na’n Asia agus Libia air an cur cuideachd; ach, gu’n robh crith-thalmhuinn mhór ann, agus gu’n deachaidh Innis mór “Atalanta,” as fianuis sios do’n chuan; is bho’n uair sin gu’n d’ fhuair muinntir na Gréige slth, oir, bhiodh muinntir “Innis Atalanta” daonna na’ tighinn a chogadh riutha. Cha do sguir sgrìobhaichean de bhì toirt aithris air eileanan a’ chuain-an-iar as deigh so mar gheibh sinn, an sgeulachdan mu Thìr nam Merapas le Theopompus agus an sgeulachdan Tìr Saturnae le Plutarch (117 A.D.) corr agus còig ceud bliadhna as deidh Phlato.

A bharrachd orra so, tha sgeulachdan eile againn o litreachas na Gréige aig a’ bheil ceangal glé dhlùth ri eileanan a chuain-an-iar mar a tha sgeulachdan mu ghàradh-lios “Hesperides” far an robh na trì maighdeanan a’ gléidheadh nan ùbhlán-òir aig iomal an domhainn, aig àite dol fodha na gréine.

IOMRADH O SEAN SGEULACHD GAIDHEALACH.

Na sgeulachdan is traithe, ‘s is sine a th’againn o bheul-aithris nan Gaidheal mu eileanan diomhair a chuain mhoir tha gné chomh-chòrdaidh aca ri seann sgeulachdan nan Greugach mu thiomchioll Gàradh-lios “Hesperides,” oir, ‘n uair a chaidh Cian athair Lùgh a mharbhadh le triuir mhic Thuireann—Brian, Iuchar, agus Iucharba, chaidh an cur fo throm-dhltheadh le Lùgh; agus b’è aon de na càinean a chaidh a chur orra gu’n toireadh iad seachad trì ùbhlán a bha fàs an Gàradh-lios “Hisbernia” aig iomal an domhainn.

Chum gu’n rachadh an t-euchd mo so ‘chur an gnìomh b’èiginn do mhic Thuireann iosad fhaighinn de’n churrach aig Mannan Mac Lìr, agus an deigh dhoibh Gàradh-lios Hisbernia a ruigheachd thug iad leo trì ùbhlán as

Tha’n ath-sgeulachd againn mu Thìr nan Og no, Tìr nam Beò, o bheul-aithris an Leabhar na h-Uidhre (1100 A.D.), far a bheil iomradh againn mar a chaidh Connla Caoin an fhuil bhuidhe do Thìr nam Beò. Is e mac do’n rìgh air nùeil sin Conn Ceudchathach a bha’n Connla Caoin. Bha Conn Ceudchathach beò ‘s an dara linn (123-133).

Aon latha ‘bha “Connla caoin an fhuil bhuidhe” aig tigh athar, ‘n uair chunnaic è

boireannach òg, a bha anabarrach briagha a’ dìreadh suas far an robh è. Dh’fhiosraich e dhi cia àite as an tàinig i. Fhreagair i gu’n d’ tàinig as Tìr nam Beò. Tìr anns nach ‘eil bàs, no bròn, no briseadh-reachda” ars’ ise. Dh’àithris i gu’n tàinig i ‘g a iarraidh, air son gum falbhadh è cuid rithe gu Màgh M-eil, air son gu’n do thuit i ann trom-ghaol le ‘bhòidhchead. Sheinn i fo chomhair òran-molaidh air Tìr nam Beò a bha cho druidheil ‘s nach b’ urrainn do Chonlla Caoin fuireach na b’fhaide. Dh’fhalbh iad sios a chum na tràghad, agus leum Connla a stigh cuid rithe do’n bhàta leis an tàinig i ga iarraidh, agus a bha air a’ deanamh air gloine. Chunnaic an rìgh iad a’ fàgail na tràghad, agus chum e shùil orra agus an deachaidh iad as fianuis ‘s an iar aig àit-òirdhearca dol fodha na gréine; agus chàn fhacas Connla Caoin ‘s an dùthaich so gu brath tuilleadh.

Tha rithis iomradh againn mar ‘chaidh am bàrd ainmeil Oisein Mac Fhinn do Thìr nan Og. Is ann gnè air an aon dòigh a chaidh Oisein do Thìr nan Og is a chaidh Connla Caoin, ach an àite dhol innte am bàta, ‘s an a chaidh è innte air druim eich. Chunnaic Oisein aon làtha each mór geal a’ tighinn a nall air uachdar na mara. Bha maighdean òg bhriagha air muin an eich, le feasg mu ceann, agus a falt òr-bhuidhe asguabadh sios chun a’ làir. Thubhairt i ri Oisein, gum b’ ise “Niamh” nighean rìgh Tìr nan Og, agus na’n gealladh è falbh cuide rithe-se do Thìr nan Og agus a pòsadh, gu’n deanadh a h-athair rìgh Tìr nan Og dheth. Dh’fhalbh Oisein mar a dh’iarr i, cuide rithe air druim an eich a null do’n iar, a’ leum o thonn gu tonn gus na ràinig iad Tìr nan Og. Dh’fhuirich Oisein da cheud bliadhna an sin agus a rìgh na sgeulachd bha e cho òg a’ tighinn aise sa bha è nuair a chaidh è innte.

Chaidh fear eile de na Fianaichean, Diarmad O’Duibhne, do Thìr nan Og, ach a rìgh mar a thà è air aithris an sgeulachdan a’ Ghille Dheacair, ‘s ann a chaidh Diarmad do Thìr fo Thonn, agus ‘s e’n dòigh a chaidh è innte gu’n do leum e sios do ghruind loch domhain, agus ràinig è mu dheireadh Tìr fo Thonn.

(Ri Leantainn.)

Copies of “Voices from the Hills” can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

GNIOMH ORAN.

Leis a' Bhean Uasal NICLEOID, A' Chananaich.

A' cheud duais, Mod 1935.

“B'fhearr leam bhi 'nam phiobaire.”

(meadhonach luath.)

Don is C. Seist.

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Na'm bithinn 'na mo chibeir,
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 'Cur chaorach dha na chrò dhuit;
 Gu'n lomainn-sa gu h-aithghearr iad;
 Ag gearradh clòimh gu cabhagach;
 'S a h-uile té mar bhearrainn
 Rachadh 'sadh chum na mointich.

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 Na'm bithinn 'na mo bhreabadair,
 Na'm bithinn 'na mo bhreabadair
 Gu fighinn plaid' is clò dhuit.
 Gu fighinn breacan dathach dhuit
 Le dlùth is cur cho ealanta;
 'S le feile-beag mu d'aisnidhean
 'S ann ort a bhiodh a' mhòr-chuis.

Na'm bithinn 'na mo lighiche
 Na'm bithinn 'na mo lighiche
 Na'm bithinn 'na mo lighiche
 Cha chuireadh tinneas tòir ort.

Bheirinn botul milis dhuit
 Is acfhuinn dha do shlinneanan;
 'S an t-siataig a rinn crìpleach dhìot
 Cha chuireadh tuilleadh gròig ort.

Na'm bithinn 'na mo shaighdear,
 Na'm bithinn 'na mo shaighdear,
 Na'm bithinn 'na mo shaighdear
 Gu seasainn loinneil, còmharnad,
 Ag coiseachd sràid gu farumach,
 Is ceum air cheum a bragadaich;
 Cho sgiobalta 's cho aigeannach
 'S gu'n sealladh tu le pròis rium.

Na'm bithinn 'na mo theagaisgear,
 Na'm bithinn 'na mo theagaisgear,
 Na'm bithinn 'na mo theagaisgear
 Ri teagasg chloinn' an comhnuidh.
 'Toirt fòghlum glan gu smachdail dhaibh;
 'Toirt comhairl' dhaibh; toirt earail dhaibh;
 'S a chuid aca nach gabhadh iad
 Gu'n spailpinn fo na bhòrd iad.

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tá beirthe ort feasda,
a éin bhig, a éin bhig,
tá beirthe ort feasda,
fan farrainn go fóill.

Chun eitilt dhein Dia mé,
a leanbhaí, a leanbhaí,
chun eitilt dhein Dia mé,
le sciathain chum seóil.

Ach gheoidh tú uainn ciste,
a éin bhig, a éin bhig,
ach gheoidh tú uainn ciste
agus míleáin go léor.

Níl bia riamh do b'áil liom
a leanbhaí, a leanbhaí,
níl bia riamh do b'áil liom
na fasann am 'choir.

Ach beimid ad' ghárda,
a éin bhig, a éin bhig,
ach beimid ad' ghárda
a gcáisín buidhe óir.

An pálás is aoibhne,
a leanbhaí, a leanbhaí,
an pálás is aoibhne
is príosún dom shórt.

Is fíor mar a dubhrais,
a éin bhig, a éin bhig,
is fíor mar a dubhrais,
chun sibhal leat go deó.

Tha thu agam an sàs a nis,
eunain bhig, eunain bhig,
tha thu agam an sàs a nis,
bi sàmhach 's tu beo.

Thug Dia dhomh mo sgiathan,
a bhalachain, a bhalachain,
thug Dia dhomh mo sgiathan
gu bhí triall troimh na neòil.

Ach's falaidh a bhithar thu
eunain bhig, eunain bhig,
ach's falaidh a bhithar thu
an iarradh tu'n corr?

Do phailteas chan àil leam,
a bhalachain, a bhalachain,
do phailteas chan àil leam
's nas fhearr air na lòn.

Ach gléidhidh mi grinn thu,
eunain bhig, eunain bhig,
ach gléidhidh mi grinn thu
an slinn-thigh an óir.

An caisteal as àirde,
a bhalachain, a bhalachain,
an caisteal as àirde
is bàsair dhomhs'.

An fhirinn gu léir e,
eunain bhig, eunain bhig,
an fhirinn gu léir e—
as gu d' éubhnas a sheòid.

Fhuair mi na rainn so an là roimbe bho Ghaidheal dileas. Is cinnteach nach biodh aon bhalach an Comunn na h-Oigridh cruaidh air na h-èoin, ach cha mhìsd' sibh barail nan eun a chluinntinn, agus riochd na Gaidhlig an Eirinn thall fhaicinn aig a' cheart àm, taobh ri taobh ri ar Cànan fein.

Tha Comunn na h-Oigridh a' sìor-dhol am meud. Thug mi fhein agus Mgr. MacIlle Sheathanaich sgrìob do Mhuile o chionn goirid agus rinn sinn cuairt air a' chuid mhóir de sgoilean an Eilein. Chuireadh na Feachdan so air bonn:—Dearbhaig, Fanmor, Ulbha, Aros, Grioban, Peighinn-a-Ghaidheil agus Creich, le 77 buill gu léir. Ged nach eil na sgoilean sin ach beag tha coltas gealltanach air cuid de na Feachdan ùra. Tha aon "Ghaidheal" am Peighinn-a-Ghaidheil 'na làn-phiobaire cheana, ged nach eil e ach dona bliadhna deug a dh'aois. Rinneadh Ceannard dheth, agus air an fheasgar sin fhein bha e

cluich na pioba móire aig céilidh Bhuneasain. Cha bhí sinn riaraichte gus am bi piobaire an ceann gach Feachd de'n Chomunn so th'againn, agus buidheann de phiobairean aig cuid dhiubh co-dhiu.

Bha e 'na annas mór a bhi tadhal air Feachd Bhuneasain, a' cheud Fheachd anns am faca mi na Buill ag giùlan am braistean "Làn-Ghaidheal," rud a rinn mo chridhe a thogail. Biodh iad uile 'nan Sàr-Ghaidheil mu'n am so an ath-bhliadhna.

Is ann aig Tobarmhoire a tha'n t-urram gur h-iad a' cheud Fheachd de Comunn na h-Oigridh a chuir Comhairle-Feachd air bonn gus obair a' Chomuinn a stiuradh. Bithidh a leithid de Chomhairle aig Feachd Aros mu'n àm so, is cinnteach, agus bha a' h-uile coltas air gun rachadh muinntir an àite gu uehd an dtehill gus clar-eagair de dh'obair agus de shùgradh a thoirt fa chomhair nam Ball.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Tha naigheachd cheutach aig Mgr. Domhnall MacPhàil 'san Taobh Tuath. Chuir esan Feachdan air bonn 'san t-Sràth (Sgiathanach) agus an Dornaidh, 'sa Phloc, Loch Carran, 'sa Chlachan, Achd-ille-bhuidhe, Leacmeilm agus an t-Alltan Dubh—na ceud Fheachdan a th'againn gus a so an Siorramachd Ròis. Tha aon da cheud Ball anns na Feachdan sin. Tha Feachd an t-Sràth gu sonruichte gealltanach, fo Cheann-Feachd Mgr. Domhnall MacAoidh. Chuireadh Comhairle-Feachd bheag air bonn. Tha oidhche—cèilidh gu bhi aig na Buill an ceann tacain, anns am bi buidheann-dràma air cluich "Tea a Nasgaidh," a' cheud ionmsuidh air dealbh cluich a rinneadh le Comunn na h-Oigrìdh. Tha'n Fheachd so ag cur rompa banc beag a chur air bonn a chum agus gun teid aca air cuid de na Buill a chur a dh'ionnsuidh Camp Comunn na h-Oigrìdh an Sonachan air an t-Samhradh so tighinn. Gu ma luath bhios na Feachdan eile a' leantainn na deagh-eisimpleir so.

Tha Feachd Leacmeilm a' dol an greim gu dìchiollach cuideachd, 's iad ag cur rompa cèilidh nam Ball a chumail an ùine ghoirid, anns an dean iad "Little Red Riding-Hood," a dhealbh-chluich an Gaidhlig. Tha e 'na thoilreachadh mòr a bhi cluintinn gum bi seirbhis Ghaidhlig àraidh airson Comunn na h-Oigrìdh air a cumail o àm gu àm anns an Eaglais leis an Urr. Mgr. MacArtair; agus tha a' Chlann ag ionnsachadh nan salm agus an leasain roimh-làimh. Airson Feachd de Chloinn nach robh an Gaidhlig ro-laidir gu ruig so, tha'n sgeul so cho ionmholta ri aon a chuala mi fhathast. Gu ma luath bhios a' Chlann a' deanamh na seirbhis gu léir iad fhèin (ach an t-searmoin) mar a tha a' Chlann a' deanamh an Cuimridh air "Domhnach na h-Oigrìdh."

CAMPA COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Mu'm faigh sibh an litir so, is dòcha, bithidh sanas air a chur a dh'ionnsuidh gach Ceann de na Feachdan a chuireadh air bonn o thoiseach Comunn na h-Oigrìdh gu deireadh a' mhios so chaidh, ag innseadh dhaibh gum bi Campa air a chumail air an t-Samhradh so tighinn airson leth-cheud Balach as na Feachdan sin agus 'nan déidh-san, airson leth-cheud Caileag, an Sonachan, Earraghaidheal. Bithidh tuilleadh agam ri ràdh m'a dhéidhinn so air an ath-mhios. Slan leibh an drasda.

SEORAS GALLDA.

COMUNN BADGES.

Members can now be supplied with Badges direct from Head Office; price 2/7½, post free.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in Allan Park Lodge, Stirling, on Friday, 22nd November. The President, Mr. J. R. Bannerman presided and the following members were present:—John M. Bannerman, B.Sc., Balmaha; Mrs. Barron, Glasgow; Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormisdale, M.B.E.; Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Glasgow; Mrs. I. Campbell (Airds); Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Rev. David Duncan, Musselburgh; Alex. Fraser, Bishopton; Francis Cameron-Head of Inverailort; Niall Kennedy, Scotstoun; Miss Lamont of Knockdow; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Roderick MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Gilbert MacIntyre, Killin; Mrs. MacKintosh, Pitlochry; A. M. MacLachlainn, Tobermory; Allan MacLeod, Glasgow; Fred. T. MacLeod, Edinburgh; John D. MacLeod, Hamilton; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; John MacNicol, Stirling; Rev. J. W. MacPhail, M.A., Burnside; Miss Jean Mair, Dumbarton; George E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan; Alex. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; Rev. Neil Ross, C.B.E., D.Litt., Laggan; Donald Scott, Perth; H. S. Shield, Edinburgh; Dr. Colin Sinclair, Glasgow; A. M. Sweet, Skelmorlie; Miss E. L. O. Taylor, Dunblane. Attending:—Robert Macfarlane, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, General Secretary; Alister Matheson, Assistant to the Secretary; and Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser.

Minutes of Extraordinary and Preliminary Meetings were read and approved.

The Treasurer read a minute of the Finance Committee. The first draft of the Accounts of the Edinburgh Mod was submitted, and these show a balance of £1,894 18/- less commission to local secretaries. This surplus is the highest ever obtained from a Mod, and the committee expressed great satisfaction with the result and with the work of the Edinburgh Local Committee.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, on behalf of the members, thanked the Edinburgh Committee for their splendid achievement. The Rev. David Duncan, acknowledged the vote of thanks, and said they were very gratified with the result. The minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Alexander Fraser.

A minute of the Education Committee was read. The Convener, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, in moving the adoption of the minutes thanked the Teachers of the Summer School

for their splendid work each year. A special vote of thanks was recorded Mr. Neil Orr for his work as supervisor of the School.

Mrs. Burnley Campbell suggested that the School be advertised in the London papers. Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds) thanked the Education Committee for the facilities afforded the Clarsach Society, for holding a class for instruction in Clarsach playing. Mr. Neil Orr said that he had received a guinea from a well-wisher which he proposed using in advertising the Summer School. This was agreed to. Dr. Sinclair suggested that the B.B.C. might be approached with a view to having the venue and dates of the School announced during one of the Gaelic Broadcasts.

A letter in Gaelic from Provost MacGill, Tobermory, was read to the meeting. The letter conveyed the cordial thanks of the community of Tobermory to the Education Committee, and a hearty invitation to the School to return to the town was extended. The minute was adopted.

The Committee decided to hold next year's Summer School in Port Ellen, Islay, the dates being 14th July to 7th August.

A minute of the Publications Committee was read and adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

A minute of the Propaganda Committee was read and approved on the motion of Mr. Charles Campbell, Convener. Mr. John M. Bannerman thanked Mr. Campbell for the trouble he had taken in connection with the allocation of marks at Gaelic Drama Competitions.

Mr. A. M. MacLachlainn, Tobermory, referred to "Rules of the Road" issued by the Ministry of Transport in Welsh, and suggested, that the same might be done in Gaelic. The secretary was instructed to communicate with the Ministry on the subject.

A minute of the Mod and Music Committee was read and adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod. Dr. Sinclair suggested that the pianoforte and violin competitions at the Mod might be discontinued. Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds) supported the suggestion, and the matter was remitted to the Mod and Music Committee for consideration.

Minutes of two meetings of Clann an Fhraoich were read and adopted on the motion of Mr. George E. Marjoribanks, Convener.

At this stage, the President left to preside at the Annual Gathering of the Stirling Branch, and the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, Senior Vice-President, took the Chair.

A minute of the Advisory Committee was read. The Committee had considered a remit from the Executive Council on the advisability of instructing the Chairman on the interpretation of Rule 54 in the conduct of the Business Meeting. The Committee recommended that the interpretation of the Rule be left to the discretion of the Chairman. The adoption of the Minute was moved by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

Mr. A. M. MacLachlainn moved that the Chairman be instructed, and Mr. John A. Nicolson seconded. On a vote being taken the minute was adopted.

Dates of Meeting of the Council were arranged as follows:—24th January, 3rd April, 3rd July, 26th September, 20th November.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.



COMUNN NA CLARSACH.

(THE CLARSACH SOCIETY.)

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in Keith & Ralston's Rooms, Stirling, on Friday, 22nd November, 1935.

Revision of the Constitution and Rules, which included the raising of the Life Membership Fee from one guinea to three guineas, was passed unanimously. Reference was made to a scheme, which is being drawn up, in order to get into touch with the Rural Choirs, and it is hoped that the Society will be able to lend clarsachs, and to send a travelling teacher to the country districts.

The total membership of the Society has now risen to 374, of whom 212 are Life Members, 96 ordinary members 50 playing members, and 16 Honorary associate members. There are many young people who are learning to play the Clarsach, but have not yet joined the Society.

Makers of the clarsach are increasing their output of instruments. The very great improvement in the tonal quality is partly answerable for this increase. Throughout the year, the President has given seven lectures with clarsach illustrations. She was assisted at some of these by a member of the Executive, and by two Honorary Associates. Broadcasting by members has been much appreciated. It is believed that the clarsach will eventually be much used for accompaniment to the voice. Well written clarsach music is still an urgent requirement.

SEAN CHLEASAGAN
agus Dhuanagan Gàidhlig air son
Naoidheanan agus Cloinne Bige.

'SI MO CHAS CHRUBACH.

Air do'n leanabh tòiseachadh ri coiseachd, bheireamaid air làimh air, agus choisheamaid o cheann gu ceann de'n t-seòmar leis, ag gabhail oirnn gu'd robh sinn crùbach, agus ag cumail ceum ris na briathran:—

'Si mo chas chrùbach, chrùbach, chrùbach.
'Si mo chas chrùbach 'chum air deireadh mi!
'S i mo chas chrùbach, chrùbach, chrùbach,
'Si mo chas chrùbach 'chum air deireadh mi!

Bhiodh an leanabh a nis a' feuchainn "Cailleach a Chrùbain" a leum, mar a' chlann a bu shine. B'e sin a' crùban agus a' leumartaich mar mhùile-mhàg.

No, a' freagairt aon a bu shine a chuireadh a' cheisd:—

"An robh thu air an fhaidhir?"

FREAG—"Bhà, bhà, bhà,"—leis a' bhas a' bualadh a bheòil.

CEISD—"An do reic thu 'm mart odhar?"

FREAG—"Reic!"

CEISD—"Dè fhuair thu oirre?"

FREAG—"Pund, is pand, is neapaicin shioda,
'S Ui! horó, air Tulaichean!"

Ann an ràdh na sreith mu dheireadh, bha'n leannabh a' dol mu'n cuairt an leum a' chrùbain.

THA MI AIR DO CHRIOCH.

An uair a bhiodh a' chlann bheag ag cluich còmhladh, bha aon air a thaghadh gu bhi 'na bhodach; rachadh e às an rathad, agus thrusadh cach 'nan cròidhlean, chrùbaineadh iad agus am feadh a bhiodh iad ag gabhail orra bhì togail sil bhàrr an talaimh 's 'ga itheadh, theireadh iad:—

"Tha mi air do chrìoch, a bhodaich!
'g itheadh do chuid sil is fodair!"

Thigeadh am bodach g'an sgapadh 's 'gam fuadach, agus bhiodh an aon air am beireadh e 'n a "bhodach" 'n a 'àite.

THA MI AIR MO BHAILE.

No, rachadh aon de na balaich bheaga air tòm agus ghlaodhadh e:—

"Tha mi air mo bhaile mhór, có 'chuireas às mi?"

Rachadh cuid de chàch agus phùcadh iad dheth e, agus gheibheadh fear eile stigh 'n a àite, gus an cuireadh fear eile às esan mar an ceudna.

EIRICH A PHOCA SHALAINN!

Laigneadh fear 'n a spaigean air a dhrum air an làr. Thigeadh fear d'a chompanaich agus dh'fheuchadh e ri thogail, ag ràdh:—

"Eirich, a phoca shalainn!"

Theireadh am fear eile; "Chan éirich, mur a faigh mi ceannach!"

IM IS CAISE.

Bheireadh balachan air làimh fear eile le 'làimh chll; chumadh e sinte i am feadh a rubadh e a ghàirdean le cùl a làimhe a suas o chaol an dùirn gu a ghualainn, agus a nuas leis a' bhois fhosgailte, ag ràdh cho bitheanta. 'S a thoilicheadh e:—

"Im is caise, 's dà bhuntàta;

Im is caise, 's dà bhuntàta;

(*mu dheireadh*) *Is fuigheach an tàilleir!*"

A' tighinn a nuas air an alt le oir na làimh le neart. Cha leigeadh aon air an deachaidh so a dheanamh aon uair le companach a dheanamh an dara uair!

Na'm b'fheudar do dh'aon de'n chloinn tomhas ciod an làimh anns an robh putan, no nì eile aig fear eile, chuireadh am fear aig an robh e a dhà làimh air a chùlaobh agus theireadh e:—

"Aonrachdan, ònrachdan; cùl an dùirn air maid' an doruis; cia meud adharc th'air a' bhoc?"

Na'n abradh am fear a bha ri tomhas;—"A dhà," agus gu'm b'e aon chorr a bha suas, chailleadh e a chothrom, ach na'n abradh e an àireamh cheart, gheibheadh e am putan.

CNIDSEIN, CNEADSAIN.

B'e so cluich chailleagan. Rachadh àireamh dhiubh 'nan suidhe 'nan cuairt. Chuireadh aon duibh a bha ri dol mu'n cuairt a chròidhlein a basan paisgte air ceann gach té ag ràdh nam facal so gus an ruitheadh iad a mach:—

"Cnidsein, cneadsain,

Màiri buidsein,

Dh'ith thu mo chuid subh!

Thig am madadh-ruadh an màireach,

'S bheir e leis a' chaora b'fhèarr a bh'agam riamh"

Air dhi "riamh" a ràdh, theicheadh i; ruitheadh an té ris an do bhean i mu dheireadh às a déidh gus am beannadh i dhi, air neo a gheibheadh an té a bh'air a ruiga a stigh 'n a h-àite. Bha so a' dol air adhart gus am faigheadh gach té a cothrom.

Nam biodh aon de'n chloinn a' feuchainn tighinn a stigh air fear eile, no 'g a bhriòdal, theireadh e le guth min, ag amharc air, agus 'g a shliogadh :

"Shìogamaid am boc; Cha téid e 'n ghàradh-chàil a nochd!"

Nam bu mhath leò dìmeas a nochdadh da chèile, smèideadh iad le'n corraig, ag ràdh:—

"Do sheanmhair ag crathadh riut; do sheanmhair ag crathadh riut!"

Cha ghabhadh freagair a thoirt d'a leithid sin, agus bhreireadh e oibheum mòr seachad.

Is cinnteach gun toir an sgrìobhadh so toileachadh do mhòran. Fhuaradh a mach o chionn ghoird an tobar—mar a dh'fhaodar a ràdh—as an tàinig "Murchadh is Marachan," agus am Beurla "The House that Jack built," agus rannan eile de'n cheart sheòrsa. Tha e ri fhaotainn an Eabhra agus am Beurla anns an leabhar a bhios na h-lùdhaich ag gabhail g' an stiùradh gus na h-uile ni mu'n chaisg aca 'ghleidheadh a réir nan riaghailtean a tha an creideamh ag òrdachadh, "Passover." Tha mìneachadh goirid cràbhach air a thoirt an déigh gach tachartas, ach cha toirear iad sin, oir chan 'eil feum orra 'n so.

AIR EADAR THEANGACHADH.

"Air an dara h-Oidhche, tòisichear air cunntas an Omer."

(1) Aon mheann, aon mheann a cheannaich m'athair air dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(2) Agus thàinig cat agus ghlàm e am meann a cheannaich m'athair air dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(3) Agus thàinig cù agus thug e greim ás a' chat a ghlàm am meann a cheannaich m'athair air dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(4) Agus thàinig maide agus ghabh e air a' chù a thug greim ás a' chat a ghlàm am meann a cheannaich m'athair air son dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(5) Agus thàinig teine a loisg am maide 'ghabh air a' chù a thug greim as a' chat a ghlàm am meann a cheannaich m'athair air son dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(6) Agus thàinig uisge agus chuir e às an teine, a loisg am maide, a ghabh air a' chù, a thug greim ás a' chat, a ghlàm am meann a cheannaich m'athair air son dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(7) Agus thàinig damh agus dh'òl e'n t-uisge a bhàth an teine a loisg am maide a bhuail an cù a thug greim as a' chat a ghlàm am meann a

cheannaich m'athair air son dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(8) Agus thàinig fear-casgraidh agus mharbh e 'n damh a dh'òl an t-uisge a chuir ás an teine, a loisg am maide, a bhuail an cù, a thug greim as a' chat, a ghlàm am meann a cheannaich m'athair air son dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(9) Agus thàinig aingeal a' bhàis agus mharbh e 'm fear-casgraidh a mharbh an damh a dh'òl an t-uisge a bhàth an teine a loisg am maide, a bhuail an cù a thug greim ás a' chat, a dh'ith am meann a cheannaich m'athair air dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

(10) Agus thàinig an Tì Naomh, beannaichte gu'n robh e, agus mharbh e aingeal a' bhàis, a mharbh am fear-casgraidh, a marbh an damh, a dh'òl an t-uisge, a bhàth an teine, a loisg am maide a bhuail an cù a thug glamhsadh air a' chat a dh'ith am meann a cheannaich m'athair air dà *Shùsim*; aon mheann, aon mheann.

Is iad cinnich eadar-dhealaichte a tha na mìneachaidhean a' toirt fo ainm, no riochd nan ainmhidhean air leth.

[A' CHRIOCH.]

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

FOUNDED 1891.

All Scottish Gaels, and all persons in sympathy with the Gaelic movement, are cordially invited to become members. The objects of the Association are to encourage and promote

- The teaching and use of the Gaelic Language,
- The study and cultivation of Gaelic Literature, History, Music, and Art,
- The native industries of the Highlands of Scotland, and
- The wearing of the Highland Dress.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.

LIFE MEMBERS One Subscription of £3 3s.
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"AN GAIDHEAL."

(FREE TO ALL MEMBERS.)

The Monthly Magazine of the Association contains records of Meetings of the Association, its Branches, and Affiliated Societies.

Post Free, 2/6 per annum (Subscriptions to be sent to the Secretary).

Treasurer, ROBERT MACFARLANE, C.A.
Secretary, NEIL SHAW.

Office - 212 WEST GEORGE STREET, GLASGOW.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The winter session is now in full swing, and branch meetings are being well supported everywhere. Highland Societies, in the cities, are reaping the benefit of improvement in trade by having larger audiences at their Annual Gatherings. Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis continues to draw large audiences to the meetings, which are held monthly, and conducted entirely in Gaelic. There were fully 150 present at the opening meeting of the new session.

* * *

It was with pleasure we noted the Special prizes which were offered at the North Sutherland Provincial Mod, held at Tongue, last September. The Clan MacKay Society presented two prizes of £1 each, for the best singers in the Senior and Junior Sections of the Mod. The Royal Celtic Society presented prizes of equal value for those Competitors gaining highest marks in the Oral Section, Junior, and Senior.

* * *

The Provincial Mod Committee offered a prize of £1 to the mother of the boy or girl gaining the highest marks in the Literary and Oral Sections of the Mod. This prize was presented in the hope that greater interest would be taken by the parents in the use of the language in the homes. Needless to say, these Special prizes created keen interest in the districts, and the sincere thanks of all Gaelic people are due to the Donors.

* * *

Satisfaction is expressed in the Northern Area that the 1936 Mod is to be held in Inverness. Various Committees are now at work for the purpose of raising money to meet the expenses of the Mod. The Syllabus is now ready, and may be had, post free, from the Offices of An Comunn, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2.

* * *

Progress continues to be made with Comunn na h-Oigridh. In the Northern Area eight new Feachdan have been formed: seven in Ross-shire and one in Skye. Seven new Feachdan were formed in Mull recently, bringing the number in that island up to nine. It is encouraging to the Organisers to find so much enthusiasm for the Youth Movement in the homes and in the Schools and it is confidently anticipated that the forma-

tion of Feachdan in the rural areas will have far-reaching effects on the use and preservation of the language.

* * *

It is with deep regret, that we have to record the death of two of our oldest members and prominent Mod competitors. Mr. Arch. Munn passed to his rest, at his residence in Oban, a few days before the opening of the National Mod. He had been associated with An Comunn from its earliest days, and was a frequent and successful competitor at the National Mod. His most recent appearance was at the Dingwall Mod of 1931, when he gained first prize for reading prose and second for the best prepared Gaelic speech. He possessed a wide knowledge of local folk-lore, and will be greatly missed by the Gaelic-speaking people of Oban.

* * *

Mr. John MacFadyen, the well-known poet and seanachaidh passed away within a month of his Mod contemporary, Mr. Arch. Munn, at his home in Crookston, and was buried in Cathcart Cemetery, Glasgow. He had been a regular competitor, and prize-winner at National Mods for almost 40 years. At the Perth Mod of 1924 he was crowned Bard of the year for his poem "Aitealan o'n Iar." He published two volumes of his poems and sgeulachdan.—"An t-Eileanach" and "Sgeulaiche nan Caol," both of which are in their second edition. Mr. MacFadyen was a great favourite at ceilidh meetings. His ready wit and genuine Highland gentleness and courtesy made him a welcome guest. Dh'fhalbh iad 's bu laghach iad. Bidh sinn 'g an cuimhneachadh 's 'gan ionndrain.

* * *

On behalf of his fellow members we accord heartiest congratulations to Mr. John Cameron, LL.B. for the honour bestowed on him by his Alma Mater, Glasgow University, by conferring on him the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD.). Dr. Cameron's Thesis was:—"Celtic Law:—(1) with special reference to the Senchus Mór and the Book of Aicill, and (2) a critical examination of the traces of an early Gaelic system of law in Scotland." Dr. Cameron has acted for many years as Law Agent for An Comunn and we rejoice in the distinction which he has earned and wish him many years of health to carry it. His friends presented him with the appropriate robe at a recent meeting and also presented Mrs. Cameron with a memento of the occasion.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Tha Mòd mór Dhun Eideann a nis seachd agus tha toiseach-toiseachaidh air a dheanamh le obair a' Gheamhraidh airson Seisein ùr. Faodar anns an dol a mach iomradh beag a thoirt air Mòd Ceann a Tuath Chataibh. Chumadh am Mòd so air an 13mh là de'n t-Sultuin aig Tunga. Fhuaradh paipearan litreachail bho na sgoilean am Bad Call, Diuranais agus Mealanais. B'e so a cheud uair a fhuaradh obair-litreachail bho sgoilean Dhiuranais agus Bad Call, agus bha Mgr. Iain Mac Leoid, am breitheamh, làn riarachta leis an oidheirp a rinn a' chloinn 'nan ceud thòiseachd. A chum agus gum bi barrachd suim air a gabhail do'n Ghaidhlig anns na dachaidhean, thairg luchd-riaghlaidh a' Mhòid so duais sonruichte (E1) airson mathair a' ghille no na h-ighne, a choisneadh an t-urram a b' àirde, ann an leughadh, aithris agus an sgrìobhadh na Gaidhlig. Sheas aireamh mhath de'n chloinn an deuchainn so agus fhuair bean-uasal chòir am Mealanais an duais. Is cinnteach gum bi ise 'na h-eisimpleir do phàrantan eile gu gu bhi a' cleachdadh na Gaidhlig 'nan dachaidhean fhéin. Tha taing A' Chomuinn aig luchd-riaghlaidh a' Mhòid so, airson cho dileas is a tha iad air cùl na Gaidhlig.

Air an 9mh là de'n Damhair bha am Fear-deilbhe 'san lathair aig a' cheud choinneimh de'n t-Seisein, an Eilginn. Bha faisg air ceud cruinn agus an deidh do Mhgr. Mac Phàil labhairt an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla bha Ceilidh ghrinn ann. Chuidich triuir sheinneadairean á baile Inbhir Nis leis a' Cheilidh. Tha ochd-ball-deug anns a' chròilean Ghaidhlig a tha fodh stiùradh Ard Fhoghlum na Siorramachd.

Air an dara-la-deug chumadh coinneamh de'n Chomhairle Thuathach le Mgr. Domhnall Mac Dhomhnaill air a ceann.

Air a cheart là chumadh coinneamh de gach Comunn Ghaidhlig am baile Inbhir Nis agus thainig iad gus an co-dhunadh gu h-aon-sgeulach, —tairgse a thoirt do'n Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, Mòd na h-ath-bhliadhna a chumail an Inbhir Nis. Bha Mgr. Niall Mac Ille Sheathanaich, Runair A' Chomuinn 'san lathair, agus an ainm Comhairle A' Mhòid is a' Chiuil, thug e taing do'n chuideachd airson na tairgse.

Labhair am Fear-deilbhe aig coinneimh am Baile Dhubhthaich air an ochdamh-la-deug. Bha an oidhche garbh agus air an aobhar sin cha robh e comasach do na buill a bha fuireach fad as, a bhi 'san lathair. Rinneadh ullachadh airson Coisir o'n ionad so a bhi a' farpais aig Mòd Inbhir Nis. Chan eil a' Ghaidhlig 'g a cleachdadh mar chànan laitheil am Baile Dhubhthaich air an là 'n diugh, ach

tha Sàr-Ghaidheil ann a tha cumail suas bratach na Gaidhlig, gu h-àraidh, Mgr. Alasdair Mac Coinnich, Runair Meur Bhaile Dhubhthaich.

Air an la-ar-fhichead thog Mgr. Mac Phàil air gu Sgìre Loch Bhrain agus ré na seachdain sin chuir e air bhonn ceithir Feachdan de Chomunn na h-Oigridh,—s an Alltan Dubh, Achd Ghille Bhuidhe, Leac Meilme agus an Clachan. Anns na Feachdan sin tha aon deug is trì fichead ball. Is e so 'a cheud oidheirp a rinneadh air Comunn na h-Oigridh a steidheachadh an Siorrachd Rois. Fhuair Mgr. Mac Phàil gach cuideachadh bho na Maighstearan Sgoile ann a bhi ag cur air chois nam Feachdan sin agus bha a' Chlann uile làn deonach a bhi co-cheangailte ris a' Chomunn Og. Chumadh coinneamhan 's an fheasgar aig Achd 'Ille Bhuidhe, Ullabhol agus An Clachan.

Air feasgar Di-haoine bha am Fear-deilbhe 'na Fhear-Cathrach aig Ceilidh am Bail' Ur an t-Sleibhe. Bha aireamh gasda cruinn—mu cheud. Tha Cròilean Cànan agus Ciùil 'g an cur air adhart an so.

Ré an ath sheachdain, chuir am Fear-deilbhe air chois trì Feachdan ùra de Chomunn na h-Oigridh, aig Loch Carrunn, Ploc Loch Aillse agus An Dòirnìdh, agus Feachd eile 's an Ath Leathann, anns an Eilean Sgitheanach. Tha seachd is ceithir fichead ball anns na trì Feachdan an Siorramachd Rois agus ceithir is dà fhichead 's an Ath Leathann. Bha fìor dhroch thìde ann fad na seachdain ach a dh'aindeoin sin, bha aireamh laghas aig coinneamhan an Loch Carrunn, Uachdar Thre agus An Dòirnìdh.

Tha a' Mhgn. Peigi Nic Dhomhnaill a' teagas Cròilean Ciuil an Taobh an Ear Chataibh,—aig Dornoch, Euraboll, Brùra, Goillspidh, Bun Illidh, Raoghard agus Srath Halladail.

An Taobh Deas.

A thaobh is gu'n robh Mgr. MacMhathainn, a thainig an aite Mhgr. Mhic a Phi, 'na Choigreach air gnothaichean an dreuchd-lann a' Chomuinn cha d'fhuair Mgr. Mac Gille Sheathanaich air ghluasad cho tràth anns an t-seisinn 'sa b'abhaist dha, ach fhritheil e aig coinneamhan faisg air laimh. Bha e aig fosgladh na Ceilidh am Baile Ghobhainn (Govan) air an treas là de'n Dàmhar agus labhair ri cuideachd ghada an sin. Tha am meur so ag coinneachadh gach seachdain. Air an deicheadh là de'n Dàmhar bha e aig ceud choinneimh a' mheoir am baile Dhun Breatunn. Bha moran cruinn aig a' choinneimh so agus thagair an Runaire cuideachadh as leth a' Chròilein Ghaidhlig a tha gach bliadhna air a chumail fo ughdarras Comhairle Foghlum a' bhaile.

Dh'fhosgail Meur an Tairbeart, taobh Loch Fine, air an deicheamh na fichead de'n Damhar agus bha an Runaire 's an lathair. Bha faisg air ceud pearsa cruinn agus bha ceilidh shunndach aca. Tha Coisrean Oigrìdh is Inbheach air bonn anns a' bhaile agus tha dùil gu'n teid na h-Inbhich ga Mod Inbhir Nis.

Air ceud là na Samhna chaidh an Runaire agus 'fhear-cuidichidh, Mgr. Alasdair MacMhathainn, gus a' Chrithionn-làraich. Bha cruinneachadh gasda an sin fo bhratach a' Chomuinn agus b'e aobhar na cuir-m-chiùil airgid a thionail a chuidicheadh le cosdas fear teagaisg Gaidhlig car tacain. Tha dòchas gu'n teid aig a' Chomhairle air cuideachadh leis a' Mheur anns an doigh so. B'e an t-Urramac Alasdair MacDhomhnaill, Ardcathain, a bha 'na Fhear Cathrach.

Dh'fhalbh an Runaire air a' cheud sgrìobhadaidh gu Muile air a' cheathramh là de'n t-Samhainn. Bha Mgr. Seoras Marjoribanks comhla agus a thuilleadh air coinneamhan de chuid de na Meuran a fhrithealadh thadhail iad le cheile an deich de na sgoilean agus chuir iad seachd Feachdan ura de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh air bonn. Tha a nis naoi Feachdan am Muile. Bha a' cheud Ceilidh an Dearbhaig air Di-luain. Bha mu dheich ar fhichead cruinn agus chuireadh seachd oidhche thogarrach. Bha an ath Choinneamh anns an t-Sàilein. Cha robh uibhir cruinn an so 's a chleachd ach bha an oidhche fìor fhliuch agus bhac sin moran a' b'abhaist tighinn air astar gu fhrithealadh. Bha sinn duilich nach robh Uachdaran Ghlinn Forsa aig baile air an fheasgar so.

Tha ceum no dha eadar an Sàilein is Bun-easain ach cha bhi an carbad-ola fada a' deanamh an rathaid agus bha sinn aig cruinneachadh mòr ciatach am Bun-easain air feasgar an la-arn-a-mhàireach. Bha cho math ri ceud cruinn aig a' cheilidh so. Tha moran oigrìdh 's an Ros Mhuileach fhathast agus theid iad astar mor gu Ceilidhean a' Chomuinn.

Phìll Mgr. Marjoribanks ga tìr mòr air Di-haoine ach chaidh Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich gu I Cholùm Chille air an fheasgar sin. Bha còrr is ceithir fichead cruinn anns an talla agus chuireadh seachd Ceilidh shunndach. Bha Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich anns a' chathair agus thug e iomradh an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla, airobair a' Chomuinn.

Bha Coinneamh ghasda eile an Creich air feasgar Di-sathuirne agus chuireadh Comhairle bheag air bonn a ghiulan air aghaidh an Fheachd de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh a chaidh a staidheachadh anns an sgoil.

Is iad na Feachdan ura a staidhicheadh am Muile:—Aros, Creich, Dearbhaig, Fangmòr, Grìobunn, Peighinn a' Ghaidheil agus Ulbha.

Fhritheil an Runaire aig coinneimh de'n Chomhairle Dheasaich an Glaschu air an aona la deug de'n t-Samhainn agus thug e mion-chunntas air a thurasan.

Thòisich Mgr. Iain Mac Iomhair air teagasg chiul an Eilean Thiriodh air an ochdamh la deug de'n t-Samhainn.

BRANCH REPORTS.

CAMPBELTOWN.—This branch held its opening ceilidh on 20th November, and there was a large turnout of members and friends. Mr. Donald Galbraith, president, presided, and made a strong appeal for support of the local Mod, which has been an annual feature of the branch's activities since its formation.

GOVAN.—The Govan branch, which is the only branch within Glasgow boundaries An Comunn has, is having very fine attendances at its weekly meetings. This year they have secured a suitable hall in Govan Road (I.L.P. Rooms). On 14th November, Mr. Hector MacDougall, president of the Gaelic Society of Glasgow, and of the Coll Association, was in the chair, and congratulated the branch on their success. He assured them that as a branch of An Comunn they stood very high in the estimation of the Executive. He, however, emphasised, the necessity not only of attending the weekly ceilidhs, but also of becoming members, and thus strengthening the hands of the office-bearers.

INVERARAX.—The first meeting of the winter season was held in the St. Malieu Hall, on 7th November, Lady Elspeth Campbell, hon. president, in the chair. Her Ladyship was re-elected hon. president; Rev. Angus Gray and Provost A. J. MacIntyre, J.P., vice-presidents; Mr. George M. Sime, National Bank of Scotland, treasurer, and Mr. Hope MacArthur was appointed secretary in place of Provost MacIntyre, who resigned after a long period of service in that office. The following Management Committee was appointed—Mrs. Alex. Gillies, Mrs. Peter MacIntyre, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. John MacIntyre, Miss Flora Munro, Miss Peggy Ferguson, Miss Hebe MacGugan, and Miss Jessie Munro. Programme Committee—Miss P. Ferguson, and Messrs. H. MacArthur and A. Gillespie. Eleven voted to attend the Gaelic Class which Rev. Angus Gray proposed to take up on Wednesday evenings. Songs were sung by Miss Peggy Ferguson, Miss Hebe MacGugan, Miss Flora Munro, Miss Flora Hall, Miss Rena Bain, Provost A. J. MacIntyre, Mr. Alastair Munro, Mr. A. Gillespie, and Mr. Hope MacArthur. Tea was served by the ladies' committee. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Lady Elspeth, and to those who had sustained the programme.

INVERGARRY.—Twenty-two tables were taken up at a successful basket whist drive held in the Coronation Hall, Invergary, under the auspices, and in aid of, the local branch of An Comunn. Those present included Mr. John MacGillivray, the veteran president of the branch, who extended a cordial welcome to all in his usual genial manner. Mr. Wm. J. MacLean, Station House, was time-keeper, and the prizes were presented by Miss Tait, Faichemard. At the interval an excellent tea was served by the ladies.

KILLIN.—A meeting of the branch was held in the Public Hall on 20th November, the president, Mr. James MacCraw, M.A., in the chair. The annual business meeting was held, when all the retiring members were re-elected. The chairman introduced Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, and made reference to her successes at the recent Mod. A pleasant evening was spent in song, story, and instrumental music. Mrs. Christie made a welcome re-appearance after some years of absence, and was warmly welcomed. The gathering was one of the largest ever held under the auspices of the branch.

LEWIS.—The second ceildh of the session, under the auspices of the local branch of An Comunn, was held in the Town Hall on Friday, when there was a very large audience present. After tea had been served, the programme was opened with bagpipe selections from Messrs. Murdo MacLeod, Hugh Buchanan, and Donald MacLeod. A varied programme followed. Mr. J. Thomson, Bayble, president, proposed the votes of thanks at the close.

LISMORE.—The opening ceildh of the local branch was held in the Public Hall on Friday evening, the 25th October. The Rev. D. Bell, president, presided, and extended a cordial welcome to members and friends. There was a large attendance, and several new members were enrolled. The proceedings were opened with the audience singing, "Susas leis a' Ghaidhlig." A special feature of the evening was the fine rendering of several Gaelic songs by Mr. Angus Whyte, Mod Gold Medallist, who received a very cordial reception. During the interval, tea was served and much enjoyed. Votes of thanks to the artistes and to those who helped to make the ceildh a success were accorded.

VALE OF LEVEN.—This branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held their ceildh, at which Mr. George MacLeod was in the chair. The chairman extended a welcome to all present. It was pleasing to note that they had been able to open the session with a Gaelic Choir from the Vale of Leven, and he felt certain this choir before long would be among the leaders. Tea was served during an interval

NEW MEMBERS.

ORDINARY.

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Gaelic Without Groans. By John MacKechnie, M.A. New Edition, 2/- net. "The incredible has happened. The learning of Gaelic has been made not only easy but amusing as well"—*The Scotsman*.

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Leabhar XXXI.]

Am Faoilleach, 1936.

[Earrann 4

EARAIL BROSNAHAIDH.

Annas na laithean so tha an saoghal cho an-ghoiseil is gu bheil neul dorcha a' cur sgaill air aobhneas na Bliadhna Uire. Ach ged tha na laithean làn iomaguin tha sinn a' guidhe Bliadhna Mhath Ur do ar luchd leughaidh anns gach cearn. Tha mòran de ar cairdean thall thar chuantan; agus bu mhath leinn teachdaireachd a chur g' an ionnsaidh a' guidhe slàinte agus soirbheachadh dhaibh ge b'e tir am bheil iad a' comhnaidh. Aig an am so de'n bhliadhna is dualach gu'n teid an cuimhne air ais gu dùthaich an òige. Bu chiatach nan duisgeadh a leithid sin de chuimhne na fògaraich gu gnìomh—eadhon gu bhì 'n am buill de'n Chomunn air sgàth na cànan is a' chiùil—agus 'n am buill de Chomunn air bith eile mar an ceudna aig a bheil leas is buannachd na Gaidhealtachd anns an amharc.

* * *

Is cleachdte leinn anns a' cheud mhios de'n bhliadhna gearr iomradh a dheanamh air saothair A' Chomuinn feadh na bliadhna a tha air ùr thighinn gu crìch. Annas an t-seadh so is e sgeul taitmeach, misneachail a tha ri aithris. Is eòl do'n leughadair cho soirbheachail is a bha Mòd Dhunéideann. Thug sinn togail air leth do'n Chomunn a thaobh da nì—eadhon craobhsgeaoileadh agus ionmhas. Is mór an cothrom do'n aobhar gu'n crùinnicheadh am Mòd an ceann-bhaile na rìoghachd, far an cluinn na ceudan coigreach an ceòl Gaidhealach airson a' cheud uair. Mhothaich sinn gun fainig deagh aireamh de bhuill ùra a stigh do'n Chomunn ri linn am Mòd a bhi an Dunéideann. Is ceart gu'n biodh am Mòd air uairibh anns na

bailtean móra, far a bheil a leithid de Ghaideil a' fuireach, agus far am faigh Goill chàirde'l deagh chothrom air beachdachadh air a' cheòl co dhiu. Is e an dara toradh air Mod soirbheachail, gu bheil togail ga thoirt do ionmhas A' Chomuinn. Is tric a their sinn gum biodh An Comunn bochd gu leor a chion airgid, mur b'e an cuideachadh a tha a' tighinn bho na Moid bhliadhnaìl.

* * *

Tha obair gnathaichte A' Chomuinn a' dol air adhart gu sunndach. Tha na croileanan leughaidh a' coinneachadh an comhcheangal ri iomadh meanglan tuath is deas. Is e tha ann ach gnothach iongantach gu bheil cho liutha foghlumaiche ag ionnsachadh na cànan. Ma tha ar cainnt a' fulang a thaobh na h-aireamh a tha 'ga labhairt, tha i gu teagamh a' fàs a thaobh na h-aireamh a tha 'ga leughadh. Faodar a thaing sin a thoirt do'n Chomunn. Agus airson a' chiùil tha an luchd teagaisg ag oibreachadh gu sìrdail. Tha coisirean an iomadh cearn, eadar oigridh is inbhich, a' cleachdadh gu dian, agus ag ullachadh fa chomhair nam Mòd dhùthchail. Tha làn dùil gum bi àireamh mhath de choisirean an taoibh tuath comasach air Mòd Mór Inbhirmeis a fhrithealadh, oir tha ceann bhaile na Gaidhealtachd goireasach dhaibh an coimeas ri bailtean an taoibh deas.

* * *

Is comharradh cinnteach air beatha is spionnadh gu bheil Comunn na h-Oigridh an deidh greim daingean a dheanamh air aire agus meas an t-sluaigh. Is airidh an gluasad sin air deagh mholadh, oir is e crìoch àraidh a' ghluasaid, a' chànan a dheanamh urramach

an suilbh na h-òigridh. Ma bhios an ginealach òg suarach mu'n Ghaidhlig is deimhin gu faigh i bàs an ùine aithghearr. Ach air an laimh eile ma ghabhas an òigridh rithe le uail is tlachd is fìor gu faigh a' chainnt aonnda nuadh de bheatha. Tha an comunn ùr so a' deanamh feum de na h-innleachdan a ghlacas ùidh na h-òigridh, mar tha cluichean isampaichean; ach is i crìoch shonraichte nan nìtean sin uile gu'm bi an òigridh a' labhairt na Gaidhlig. Cumadh gach neach a' chrìoch sin anns an t-sealladh mus toir e breith chlaon air a' ghluasad ùr so.

* * *

Guidheamaid buaidh leis gach gluasad is oidheirp a ni strìth a chum leas nan Gaidheal a chuideachadh. Is tric a chluinnear nach mair a' chànan anns a' Ghaidhealtachd mur bi daoine anns an dùthaich gus a' chainnt a labhairt. Ach ged tha sin cinnteach, gidheadh chan eil dearbhadh sam bith againn gu labhradh an sluaigh Gaidhlig, ged a rachadh an suidheachadh anns na glinn gu socair comhfhurtail. Chan e cion an airgid gu leir a dh'fhàgas an Gaidheal gun Ghaidhlig. Ach is ann a chion ùid is uail a dhùthchais a chailleas e a chànan gu tur. Is e dreuchd A' Chomuinn an t-ùid sin a chumail beò. Thachair e anns na laithean a dh'fhalbh, gur ann mar gheibheadh òganach Gaidhealach air adhart 'na chraunchur, a thoisicheadh e air dimeas a dheanamh air a chainnt mhàthrail. Mar sin chan eil e idir a' leantainn gun gleidhear a' Ghaidhlig ged bhiodh tuath anns na glinn. Ach is e An Comunn, no a leithid, a chumas na Gaidheil cuimhneachail air na nìtibh a tha ullamh gu dol á sealladh mur cumair iad beò gu cùramach.

GAELIC-ENGLISH NEW TESTAMENT.

In the December number of this magazine I mentioned that the Gaelic would be on the one page, and the English on the *opposite* page of the forthcoming edition of the New Testament. My attention has, however, been drawn to the fact that both languages will be on the *same* page—two columns on each page, and the Gaelic and English beside each other on the same page. This will make the edition all the more readable and useful. All Gaels must feel grateful to the National Bible Society of Scotland for their enterprise in putting such a welcome book in the hands of readers of all ages. Whenever the volume appears, we trust it will be very extensively bought and read, as it deserves to be.

N.R.

TREASURE HILL.

By DR. ALEXANDER MACINTYRE.

In the leisure hours of evening who does not take pleasure in sitting down by the fireside thinking musingly of the days we have passed, of the people whom we knew, and of the happenings that came our way in that beautiful land in which we all spent our youth?

In such circumstances were written the following verses.

The first verse contains only a very simple truth, known to every one; but, is it not an impressive truth—the thought of that wonderful thing called memory, through which we can see the people, and scenes of the past, pass before us again in the present?

Closely allied to the memory is that other faculty which we call our imagination, through which, on hearing the simplest tale, we can form pictures of scenes and men of ancient times, as if they belonged to our own memory.

We might say that those mental pictures are really racial memories.

The memory of the Celtic peoples goes further back in time than that of any other people in Europe.

An old Greek, who lived over two thousand years ago, tells us of an old Celtic chief who was asked if there were anything that the Celts held in fear, and, who answered that they had fear of nothing except that the heavens might fall or the ocean sweep over the land.

From those few words we can form a dreadful picture of a fearsome happening, and, truly, we may say that that picture is really a memory, that belongs to the Celtic peoples, of some catastrophe that happened ages ago, long before any historical records were written in Europe, for geologists tell us that just such a calamity did actually take place in Europe.

The accompanying verses relate to legendary events the details of which are long forgotten.

Behind the farm of Achtercairn in Gairloch, Ross-shire, there is a little hill called Torr na h-Ulaidh, or the hill of the treasure.

Between it, and the higher hills, is a little glen through which one can climb to a pass that opens on to the corries and defiles of the hill-land.

In one of those corries lies a small loch called Lochan nan Arm, or the Loch of the arms (weapons).

Local folk-lore tells us that a treasure was once buried at the back of this hill by people fleeing from an enemy, and that it remains hidden to this day.

Similarly, it is said of Lochan nan Arm that a body of men in flight once threw their heavier arms into this loch in order to lighten themselves for the climb over the heights.

No detail is given as to how, or to whom, or when, or whence came those misfortunes, but there is every reason to believe, that an invasion of Vikings had been responsible for the flight.

Treasure Hill is directly on the path of flight from the coast to the hills, and the back of this tor is the first place where an opportunity could be found to bury treasure, out of view of sea and shore.

If the burdens were too heavy to carry quickly over the steep and high hillside, and the pursuit very rapid, this is the spot where they would have to be hidden.

TREASURE HILL.

A Tale of Gairloch.

(Translated from Gaelic.)

Though fades the bloom upon the brae ;
Though falls the mantle from the tree ;
And love and hate have had their day ;
Yet, all are there in memory.

In legend comes to us the tale
Of havoc robber bands have wrought ;
But, who or what can now avail
To lift the veil from scenes forgot ?
But—let us seek the silent grove :
There's dreamland in its stilly shade ;
And we shall see how legions strove,
Of old, and how they lived and played ;
While murmuring burns carol a lay
In muffled tone and crooning rhyme,
Like whispers from the land of fay,
Of far off hidden things of time.

Who, that has passed by thee, Loch Gair,
His boyhood keeps not sweet in mind
The wander-joy mid scenes so fair,
Where paths by strand or corrie wind ?
Wide, open to the ocean, free,
In blue and silver, miles on miles,
The lofty, rugged rocks thy sea
In strife or play forever wiles.
Upon a peerless summer's day
Superb the view upon thy strand—
Thy blue waves break in white to stray
In lacy lines on golden sand.
A mirror set in air, thy tide
From shore to distant ocean sweeps :
The fragrant meadow by its side
In peaceful slumber fastly sleeps.

Beyond, thy far side moors, caressed
In sunshine, glow in glittering hue :
The Misty Island, in the west,
But stains the sky a deeper blue ;
And high, the heaven's ardent glow
Strikes fire upon the mountain crags,
Be-hazing field and fen below,
And shimmering o'er thy rocks and crags.
And, when a calm steals o'er thy land,
All things in silence droop and peace,
Save where the waves break on the strand
In measured stroke, and never cease,
And, neath their banks, thy murmuring burns
Among the stones, in playful glee,
Entice them on through many turns
From mountain fastness to the sea.

At Achtercairn thy higher hills
To eastward form a guarding wall,
And from their clefts and upland hills
Come laughing streams in waterfall ;
And, southward, Boishven beholds
Thee from her throne, a very queen,
Her lower flanks in many folds
Of forest draped, in shades of green ;
Her head aloft and golden-crowned ;
Her shoulders even formed and spare ;
Her breast bejewelled, silken-gowned ;
Her sides so even moulded fair—
The ben of our desire and love,
Of most alluring, regal charm,
There ruling from her seat above
O'er fiord and ford and field and farm ;
While, on each side, the mountains join
To pay their homage to her grace—
Beinn Ailiginn and Beinn an Eoin
Upon her turn a smiling face ;
And, at her feet, hills offer her,
Each in its garment richly decked
Of heather green or stately fir,
Their lasting fealty and respect.

Our Gairloch—beautiful thou art ;
Thy people gentle, brave and kind :
Peace rules today o'er hearth and heart ;
But, thou hast sadder days in mind.
On Achtercairn's warm breast a band
Of boys, we often heard the tale :
By Loch nan Arm we'd often stand,
And Torr na h-Ulaidh's summit scale,
Our thoughts on things we had been told
Of far off days by loch and field—
How, yonder, men hid pots of gold,
And how their weapons they concealed,
And how there was no man alive
Who knew to whom or when or whence
There came such horrors that could drive
A race of hardy heroes hence ;

Or, where the gold lay underground,
That left us but a name behind :
As follows, perhaps, I may have found
The truth, as far as one can find.

(To be continued.)

TIR NAN OG.

By DONALD GILLIES.

First Prize, Mod 1935.

An deidh do'n t-soisgeul a bhi air a thoirt do 'na dùthchannan so, chaidh beachdan dhaoina a thaobh Tir nan Og atharrachadh gu mór. Bha eileanan a chuain-an-iar nis air an tuigsinn mar eileanan talmhaidh do'n robh e'n comas do neach 's am bith a dhòl, ach gu'n robh iad cho fada mach 's a' chuan 's nach robh daoine glè chinnteach c' àit 'an rachadh iad g' an iarraidh. Chaidh innseadh do Bhran Mac Feabail le fear Barantas, gu'n robh e air iomradh gu'n robh ceud gu leth de eileanan a mach fada thar druim a chuain-an-iar air Eirinn, agus gu'n robh gach aon aca cho mór ri dà uiread Eirinn. Rinn Bran Mac Feabail (dh'èug e 577 A.D.) deiseil bàta 's sgioba, tri fichead 's a còig deug de mhanaich, agus sheòl iad a mach fada do dhiomhaireadh a' chuain-an-iar a' dh'iarraidh "Tir nan Og." Thug iad seachd bliadhna a' seòladh air feadh a' chuain, agus fad na h-aimsir sin fhuair iad a' mach móran eileanan air an tug iad ainnean, mar a tha—"Eilean nam Ban": "Eilean Subhach" agus fear eile a bha iad a smaoineachadh, "Tir nan Og."

Timchioll air ceud bliadhna an deigh so rinn fear ri 'n abradh iad Mealduin deiseil air son taisdeal-cuain, a dh'iarraidh "Tir nan Og." Dh' fhalbh e le sgioba, tri-fichead fear, agus chuir iad sachad dà bhliadhna is seachd mìosan air a' chuan far an d'fhuair iad móran eileanan neonach. Thugadh dhuinn iomradh air deich thar fichead de na h'eileanan sin, mar a bha "Eilean nan Ian, aig a' robh còmhradh"; "Eilean nan Craobh-ùbhla"; "Eilean nan daoine air an robh craicinn dhubha"; "Eilean na Lasrach mora (Beinn theine) "Eilean Gloine" (carrag eithe); "Innis nan Saoi"; "Innis an Lochain Neonaich," anns an robh uisge a bheireadh neach air ais gu òige. Is e'n dòigh a fhuair iad gu'n robh a leithid so de chumhachd auns an loch, gu'n tug iad an aire do dhà sheann ian, 'gan nighe adh fhein 'san uisge, agus a ris a sponadh nan scan itean, as a chéile, gus mu dheireadh gu'n d'fhalbh iad air iteig mar coin òga.

An deidh taisdeal-cuain Mhealduin bithidh e coltach gu'n do sgaol iomraidhean mu na h-eileanan siar, air feadh iar-dhuthchannan

na h-Eorpa, oir aig an àm seo, thoisich cuid de mharaichean na Spain air deanamh dealbh-chlàr air sùidheachadh a' chuain-an-iar, anns a' bheil móran eileanan air an comharrachadh a mach leò mar a thà:—"Innis Bhranain," "Innis Bhrasail," "Innis Mhannain," "Innis Teirneiri," "Innis Antilla" agus cuid eile. Bha so timchioll mu dheireadh na còigeamh linn deug. Aig a' cheart àm ri so, thà sinn a' fiosrachadh gu'n robh cuid de mharaichean Shasuinn a' strì ri deanamh taisdeal-chuain a' dh'fhiachainn am faighdeadh iad a' mach eileanan iomraiteach a' chuain-an-iar. Tha fear de sgrìobhaichean Shasuinn "Uilleam Betoner" ag radh gu'n d'fhalbh a' bhrathair-céile fhéin "Iain Iai" air taisdeal cuain á "Bristol" an Sasuinn, air an 15mh la de mìos Iuli 1480, a dh'iarraidh Eilean "Bhrasail," agus cuid eile de eileanan a chuain-an-iar, ach, gu'm b'éiginn dhà tilleadh air an 18mh la de'n t-Sultuinn, as eugmhaist aon de na h-eileanan sin fhaighinn a mach. Tha ris Spainteach iomraiteach "Pedro De Ayala," ag aithris, an litir a sgrìobh e air 25mh Iuli 1498, 'n uair a bha e an Sasuinn;—gu'n deachaidh móran taisdeil-chuain a dheanamh anns na seachd bliadhna a chaidh seachad, le cuid de mharaichean a Breutainn a strì ri bhi deanamh oidheirp air "Innis Bhrasail" agus "Innis Antilla" fhaighinn a mach.

Tha e coltach gu'n do dhuaisg iomraidhean mu taisdeal-cuain nam Breatannach, suas maraichean na Spàine air son iad-féin strì a dheanamh gu bhi faighinn a mach eileanan diomhair a chuain-an-iar, oir tha sinn a' fiosrachadh gu'm bheil aon dhiu de 'n ainm "Màrtuinn" fear-iùil mara iomraiteach, ag aithris, timchioll mu'n àm so, gu'n do sheòl e-fhéin a mach do'n iar cho fada ri dà cheud-deug de mhiltean, far na thog e caoban do fhiogh neonach, a bha é dearbhte chaidh a shnaidheadh le faobhar iarunn geur.

Tha againn mar an ceudna "Pedro Correa" Spainteach eile, agus bràthair-céile do'n mharaiche ainneil sin "Columbus" ag radh gu'n do sheòl e fada mach do'n iar, far na thog e slatan mora fada snaimeach—a bha fosgailte nam broinn, 'sa bha comasach air ceithir seapain fiona a chumail eadar a h-uile snaim, agus a bharrachd air so, gu'n cuala e gu'n deachaidh dithis dhaoinè neònach a shéideadh a stigh air cladach eilein bhig a b'aithne dha, fada mach 's a' chuan, agus nach robh cruth nan daoine sin, idir, coltach ris na daoine a bha fuireach 's na dùthchannan so; oir, bha iad móran na bu leatha 'san adann na daoine "Criosdail" na tire so.

[A' CHRIOCH.]

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 1935.

Gaelic—Lower Grade.

Tuesday, 2nd April—9.30 A.M. to 12 NOON.

The value attached to each question is shown in brackets after the question.

N.B.—Begin the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

1. Translate into English, paying careful attention to idiom ;

Bha bothan beag tìghe an oir na coille mu thuairream dà mhìle dh' astar uainn. C' arson a thogadh am bothan so an tùs chan fhios domh, ach aig an àm air a bheil mi 'g iomradh, bha sinn a' dèanamh tìgh-sgoile dheth. A réir coltais, cha do thogadh òrd no inneal iaruin sam bith air clachan an teampull so ; ni mò a chaidh aol no làthach a thogail a bhallachan. Bha toll trì-chearnach air gach ballataoibh dheth a bha dèanamh gnothaich air son inneagan ; ach uinneag de sheòrsa sam bith cha deach riamh a chur annta, is bha iad mar sin fosgailte ris na siantan. Bha toll eile am mullach an tìghe, coltach gu leòir air son luidheir ; ach chan fhiosrach mi gun d' amais an toit riamh air dol a mach an rathad sin. Cha robh de dhorus air an fhàrdaich so ach sgathach bheithe nach cumadh a mach aon chuid gaoth no uisge. 'Nuair a bhiodh an sneachd 'ga chur 's 'ga chathadh chuireamaid sproth 'san uinneig taobh na gaoithe, ach bha cho beag dìon anns an sgathaich 's gum biodh an sneachd cho domhain air ùrlar an tìghe 's a bhiodh e air a' bhlàr a muigh. Bha am bothan so air a thughadh aon uair, ach bha e 'san àm so air cinntinn thairis le fear dosrach, uaine. A réir no chuimhne-sa air a' ghnòthach, chan urrainn domh ràdh gum b'e tìgh-sgoile comhfhurtachail a bha 'n so ; ach biodh sin 's a roghainn da, 's ann ann a fhuair mise a' mhór-chuid de'n fhòghlum leis an do chuir mi m'aghaidh ris an t-saoghal.

D. MacEacharn. (20)

2. Translate into English, paying careful attention to idiom :—

Marbhrann Coilich.

B 'e sud an coileach ceutach,
Bha coslach ris a' bheucaig ;
'S an uair a chaidh a reubadh
B 'e an dèisinn leam bhith 'g a fhaicinn,

Cha léighiseadh léigh e,
'S a chreuchdan a' dol am braisead,
Tonnan d' a fhuil chraobhaich
A' taomachadh as a chraiceann ;
An t-sealg a rinn na daoine
Gun saothrachadh fada air astar,
Gun uchdadh a dhreadh,
Ach eadar a' ghriosach 's an stairsneach.

'S an dithis thug am binne,
'S a dh'fhàg e an sin 'n a shlneadh,
B 'e am breitheamh rinn a diteadh,
'S b 'e an giomanach rinn a leagadh ;
'S chan fhàgadh iad slois e
Nam faigheadh e firinn is ceartas :
Cha d' rinn e riamh eucoir,
'S deagh bheusan aige mar fhasan.
Thèannadh e ri éigheach
Gu h-éifeachdach is sinn 'n ar cadal,
Is dhùisgeadh e gu léir sinn,
'S gun éireamaid anns a' mhaduinn.

Donnchadh Mac an t-Saoir. (20)

3. Translate into Gaelic :—

A herd-boy at the farm near my house puts his dog to a curious use. A great part of his flock are sent to pasture on the carse-ground* across the river, and when the boy does not want to go across to count them and see that they are all right, deterred from doing so by the water being flooded, or from any other reason, he sends his dog to swim across and collect the sheep on the opposite bank, where he can see them all distinctly. Though there are other sheep on the carse belonging to different people, the dog only brings his own flock. After they are counted and pronounced to be all right by the boy, the dog swims back again to his master.

C. St. John. (20)

4. Write in Gaelic a continuous story, based on the following summary, and complete it in your own way. Give it a title. The story should be about one and a half times the length of your answer to question 1, and should on no account exceed twice that length. *Failure to comply with this instruction may lead to a loss of marks.*

A blacksmith in a remote Highland village slew accidentally a near relative of the chief. The blacksmith was taken before the judge and condemned to death. The chief peasants and clansmen of the village joined together and begged the judge that the blacksmith should not suffer—he was necessary to the place, to shoe horses, mend wheels, sharpen swords, etc.

* carse—faiche, f.

But the judge said: "How then can justice be done?" The peasants answered that there were two weavers in the village—for so small a place one would be enough—

(Complete the story in your own way.) (20)

Gaelic

HIGHER GRADE—(FIRST PAPER).

Tuesday, 2nd April—9.30 A.M. to 11.30 A.M.

The value attached to each question is shown in brackets after the question.

N.B.—Begin the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

1. Translate into idiomatic English:—

Bha na h-Eileanan an-iar a' snàmh an teas-ghathan soilseach na gréine, is an cuan anns an robh an cuilbhstéidh air an suidheachadh mar loch boillsgeach de sheudan leaghte, a' dealradh is a' crònan le aiteas, bho'n ionad anns an robh fairge is adhar a' coinneachadh a chéile gu ruig gob gach rudha a bha 'gan tilgeadh féin mar bheòchreutairean am buillsgein na fairge gu faochadh a thoirt dhoibh bho'n ain-teas a bha a' sior dhòrtadh mu an cinn.

Bha duine is ainmhidh aig fois, is phaisg an unlaith féin an sgiathan siùbhlach, is leig iad dhiùbh an ceilear gu fionnarachd an tràth-fheasgair; cha robh deò á adhar, is bha eadhon Nàdur a' leigeil ris, mar mharbh na h-oidheche, gu bheil fois air a ceadachadh an teas a' mheadhon-là. B'e an cuan féin an aon chreutair oir is creutair e da rìreadh an beachd a' Ghàidheil, nach robh aig fois, ach cha do ghabh an cuan làn fhois riamh bho an là a thugadh fuasgladh dha bho cheanglaichean is a leigeadh ruith dha air aghaidh a' chruinne-ché. Tha e an diugh mar a bha e air an là àillidh ud a' taomadh is a' plogail ris gach rudha is ris gach geodha air cladach Eilearaig, mar a bha is mar a tha e ris gach rudha is geodha eile a bhàrr orra eadar sin is taobh eile an t-saoghail.

E. MacDhughail. (25)

2. Translate into idiomatic English:—

Cumha Chailein Ghleann Iubhair.

'S e do chadal gu siorruidh

A dh' fhàg m'aigne cho tiamhaidh;

Is tric smaointeana diomhain

A' tighinn gu dian orm as ùr;

Is trom a dh' fhàs orm an iargainn,
Is goirte t'àr-sa na 'm fiabhras:
Mo chomhdhalta àluinn deas ciatach
An déis a reubadh gu dlùth.

Mile mallachd do'n làmh sin
A ghabh cothrom is fàth ort,
A thug an comas do'n làmhach,
'N uair chuir e 'n Spàinteach r' a shùil;
Sgeula soilleir a b'àill leam
Gun chluinnta am follais aig càch,
E bhith dol ri cromaghe le fàradh,
Gus am miosa dhàsan na dhùinn.

Ge b'e neach a rinn plot ort
Le droch dhùrachd o thoiseach,
Bu dàna a' chùis dha tighinn ortsa,
Na do lotadh as ùr;
Bha 'n a rùn bhith gu h-olc dhuit,
'S gun de chridhe aig adann a nochdadh:
'S ann a thàin' e sàmhach mu 'n chnocan,
'S a ghabh ort socair o d' chùl.

'S e mo dhiùbhail a thachair
An am do 'n fhùdar ud lasadh,
Nach robh de d'chàirdean an taic riut
Na bheireadh aicheamhail diùbh;
'S a liuthad fùran deas tlachdmhor,
Nach gabhadh cùram roimh bhagrath,
A chuireadh smùid ris an Apuinn,
A chionn gun faiceadh iad thù.

Donnchadh Mac an t-Saoir. (25)

3. Translate into English, or turn carefully into Scottish Gaelic:—

Sgeul air Domhnall mac Eoin Mhùideartaich.

Do éirigh Alasdair mac Colla agus ráinig an lóisín ina raibhe Domhnall, agus do ráidh ris: "A Dhomhnaill, a mhic, déan ullmhughadh ar do mhuintir do chum creach do thabhairt do'n champa, agus ní racha leat acht do mhuintir féin agus lucht eòlais do'n tír am bi ar n-ordughadh." Tugadar creacha móra do'n champa a n-aimsir athghoirid. Do thaitin sin le Muntrós agus leis an arm uile, ionnus gur b'é Domhnall agus a mhuintir is mó do rinn de chreachuibh d'a raibh 'san arm uile. Do bhiodh móran de Ghaoidhealuibh eile do churthaoid do thogbháil chreach ag imtheacht leis na chreachuibh do-nídis d'ionnsaigh a dtíortha féin, gan chead d'an gínirál. Ní dhéanadh mac Eoin Mhùideartaigh an ní sin, oir ní léigfeadh neach d'a mhuintir le creich nó le cobhartach uadha. Agus adhbhar eile, nár bh'urusda do mhuintir d'fhearuibh na n-oileán teacht le chreachuibh d'ionnsaigh a dtíortha féin o'n mhachaire ghallda. Tug sé creach ó Mhachair Aonghuis, agus is é do chreach an Mhaoirne. Tarla sean duine

onórach dhóibh agus iad ar an chreic sin, agus a gecann gach sgéil eile dar innis dóibh, adubhairt nár chreachadh an Mhaoirne ó'n aimsir do creachadh le Domhnall a h-Ile an bhliadhain tug sé cath Gairbheach do Dhiúc Murchadh, "agus saoilim, a ógánaigh, gur ar sliocht nan daoine sin atá sibhse, masa sibh Caipdín Chloinn Raghnaill."

"The Book of Clan Ranald." (15)

Gaelic.

HIGHER GRADE—(SECOND PAPER).

Tuesday, 2nd April—1.45 P.M. to 3.45 P.M.

The value attached to each question is shown in brackets after the question.

N.B.—Begin the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

1. Write an essay in Gaelic, of not more than two pages in length, on any one of the following subjects:—

- Am baile againn fhéin.
- The attractions of the Highlands or Islands as tourist resorts.
- Describe as vividly as you can any scene from Highland History.
- Life in a Highland School Hostel.

(30)

2. Translate into Gaelic:—

In Glen Sligachan, Skye.

While I was brooding, the riders and their guide were getting well ahead. The ponies were little shaggy rascals, with short stumpy legs twisted like sticks of blackthorn, knees stiff as rusty hinges, and never on any account to be coaxed into a trot; small eyes, where drowsiness and mischief met; their invariable pace was a walk, slow but steady; and when left entirely to themselves, they could be relied on to pass safely where the most cautious foot-traveller stumbled. The little fellows seldom erred. They planted their feet alike on the rolling stone and the slippery rock, choosing sometimes the most unlikely passages, and avoiding by instinct the peat bog and the green morass. Only when the unskilled rider in his human vanity, fancied to improve matters by using the rein, and guiding the beast into what looked the right way, did rider and steed seem in danger of getting into trouble.

Robert Buchanan. (25)

3. Translate into Gaelic:—

- They suspect me of having stolen the eggs.
- It is all the same to us whether you come or go.
- It is hard to believe you, in view of the many lies you have told already.
- When half way up the rock, he became dizzy.
- Edinburgh is one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.
- Ask the man sitting opposite you for a match.
- I think four pence halfpenny too much for that loaf.
- In the early evening I met an old man who asked me the time.
- Well, did you manage to catch any fish today?
- Though I have only one eye, I see well with the eye I have.

(20)

Gaelic

HIGHER GRADE—(SECOND PAPER)

Tuesday, 2nd April—1.0 P.M. to 1.30 P.M.

This paper must not be seen by any candidate. To be read out by the Teacher at 1.0 P.M. in the presence of the Supervising Officer. To be written by the candidates on the separate sheets provided, which must be collected before the Second Gaelic Paper is distributed.

DIRECTIONS FOR TEACHER.

- Inform the candidates that they may not ask for the repetition of any word or phrase.
- Read the passage aloud distinctly and deliberately, but not slowly, the object being to bring out the meaning of the whole as clearly as possible.
- Then dictate the passage slowly, saying each group of words (as indicated by vertical lines) twice, and pronouncing every word very distinctly. The punctuation should be indicated.
- After an interval of five minutes read the text over again in the same manner as on the first occasion, but do not on any account repeat separate words at the request of individual candidates.

DICTIONARY.

Gun teagamh tha dlùth-cheangal | aig
faireachdaidhean chreutairean | ri an càil-

aighe, | ach air a shon sin | bidh sinn ag gabhail tlachd | ann a bhi ag creidsinn | gu bheil a' chuid as miosa air ar cùl. | Cha tig d'obradh | air a' ghealladh | tha an cois imeachd Nàduir, | ged bhios na siantan greannach. | Thig a' ghaoth an ear | bho chriochan Ruisia | cho gear is cho nimheil | 's a bha i an uiridh, | agus ar leinn gun giùlain i | air a' sgiathan | saighead na's nimheile, | ann an seagh eile, | na rinn i riamh; | oir tha aice ri séideadh | thairis air a' Ghearmailt | mun ruig i sinn. | Ach cumaidh sinn ar sròn dreach 'n a h-aghaidh | gu neo-sgàthach. | Bidh luchd nam bailtean móra | ag gearain gun cuir fuachd na gaoithe an ear | crith troimh an com, | ged bhios éideadh blàth | air a shuaineadh umpa; | ach ciod e an coimeas | a tha aig an staid | ri cor chroitèaran | air latha reothairt, | a' buain feamann; | am bogadh gus na cruachanan, | trang a' deanamh an ràtha deiseil | mun tig an lionadh?

D. Mac-a-Phi. (10)

AN SGOIL GHÀIDHLIG.

Bithidh an Sgoil Ghaidhlig air a cumail am bliadhna ann am Port Ilean an Ile.

Is ann air Di-màirt, an ceathramh là deug de'n Iuchar, a dh'fhosglar an Sgoil agus bithidh i a' dol air a h-adhart gus Di-haoine, an seachdamh là deug de'n Lùnasdal.

Tha trì clasaichean Gaidhlig gu bhi ann am bliadhna:—

- (a) Clas Tòisichidh, Fear Teagaisg, Mgr. Niall Orra, F.E.I.S.
 - (b) Clas Meadhonach, Fear Teagaisg, Mgr. Lachann MacFhionghainn, A.M.
 - (c) Clas Ard, Bean Theagaisg, A' Mhgn. Anna Nic Mhaolein, A.M.
- Clas Ealadhain Chèilteach, Bean Theagaisg, A' Mhgn. Mairi Nic Gille Bhrighde.
- Clas Seinn, Fear Teagaisg, Mgr. Niall Orra, F.E.I.S.

Clas na Clàrsaich.

Is e cosdas na Sgoile:—Na Clasaichean uile, 30/-; Gaidhlig a mhàin, 25/-; Ealadhain Chèilteach, 10/-; Seinn, 5/-; Clàrsach, 21/- airson bhall Comunn na Clàrsaich, agus 25/- airson muinntir eile.

BRANCH CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

A new supply of Branch Constitution and Rules has been prepared in five different colours, so as to have them available for successive years. These are sold at 3/6 per 100, postage extra, and they may be had on application to the General Secretary.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Nollaig Chridheil is Bliadhna Mhath Ur Sin ar guidhe dhuibh gu léir,

Biodh gach là dhi mar is math leibh

Le slainte 's fallaineachd 'nur cerr;

Gun ghainne pòir, no stòir, no earrais,

Ach sìth is maitheas fad bhur ré,

Comuinn chaidreach mu bhur cagailt,

Guth nam beannachd anns gach beul.

* * *

It is encouraging to record, that the various Branches of An Comunn are having well-attended meetings this session. There are also many Gaelic Classes in town and country, and this may be taken as a true indication of the real interest taken in the language. Provincial Mods are, to a large extent, responsible for the renewed interest in Gaelic matters in the rural areas. Local Committees are preparing for these Mods, and already Kintyre and Dailriada have issued their syllabus.

* * *

We have just received a copy of the Syllabus of the British Columbia Gaelic Mod to be held in Vancouver, on 5th, 6th, and 7th March. There are competitions for Juniors and Seniors, and the syllabus provides for four competitions in the Literary Section; eight in the Oral Section; fourteen in the Vocal Section, and six in the Instrumental Section. As yet, there is no provision made for Choirs, but no doubt these will follow as the influence of the Mod increases. We wish the British Columbia Mod Committee every success in their laudable efforts to stimulate interest in Gaelic.

* * *

Mr. John MacDougall, Glace Bay, N.S., is responsible for adding seven names to our roll of members, all from the Maritime Province of Nova Scotia. We are much indebted to Mr. MacDougall for this splendid piece of propaganda, and we thank him most cordially for his practical interest in An Comunn. The following are the members referred to:—J. J. MacInnes, Esq., Sydney; Capt. J. L. MacKinnon, Glace Bay; Rev. S. P. MacDonald, Sydney; Rev. Vincent MacDonald, Glace Bay; William S. MacDonald, Glace Bay; Donald MacDonald, Glace Bay; James H. MacNeil, Sydney.

Branches in the Northern Area are arranging for Flag Days in aid of National Mod Funds. The first of these was held at Latheronwheel on Saturday, 21st December. The Branch at Kilmuir, Skye, is arranging for a Flag Day towards the end of this month or beginning of February. Other Branches intending to organise Flag Days should communicate with the Mod Local Secretary, Mr. John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill, Inverness, or with the General Secretary in Glasgow.

* * *

The first of the Provincial Mods to be held in the Northern Area, in 1936, is that of Badenoch and Strathspey. This Mod is to be held at Newtonmore on Friday, 3rd April. It is expected that several Teams will compete in a Gaelic Drama Competition which is to be staged on the eve of the Mod. A similar competition held at Grantown, last year, proved very successful.

* * *

The Lochaber Mod has been arranged for Friday, 22nd May, at Fort William. Mr John MacDonald, An Comunn Music Teacher, is at present preparing Choirs at Arisaig, Morar, and Mallaig, and is meeting with much success. The thanks of all lovers of Gaelic are due to the Rev. Canon MacNeill, Morar, for the keen interest he takes in the work of An Comunn in the district. Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., is Secretary for this Mod, and he will be pleased to supply copies of the Mod Syllabus to intending Competitors.

* * *

The East Sutherland Provincial Mod enters on its fourth year, and will be held at Brora, as formerly, on Friday, 5th June. Mr. David Grant, the energetic Secretary, has arrangements well in hand, and Miss Margaret MacDonald is at present teaching Choirs in the area. Miss MacDonald is meeting with a splendid response, having seven Junior and five Senior Choirs in training for the Mod.

* * *

At a meeting of the North Sutherland Provincial Mod Committee, held at Tongue on Saturday, 14th December, it was decided to hold next year's Mod at Durness. Gaelic is the language of the home in Durness and we can look forward to a most successful Mod in this area. Miss Dolly Gunn, Sangamore, Durness, will be pleased to supply intending competitors with any particulars they may desire. The date arranged for this Mod is Friday, 11th September.

The Lewis Mod will be held at Stornoway on Thursday and Friday, 18th and 19th June, and following the success of the Laxdale Junior Choir at the National Mod, competition will no doubt be even keener this year. Thirteen Junior Choirs competed at last Mod in Stornoway.

* * *

It is pleasing to record that in the most of Sutherland, Gaelic is coming into its own. During the Organiser's visit to the Branches in the Kinlochbervie District, Chairmen's remarks, Organiser's addresses, songs, in fact, everything was in Gaelic. Very satisfactory progress is also being made with the teaching of Gaelic in the Schools of that district. The members of Comunn na h-Oigridh contributed largely to the success of the Ceilidhean.

* * *

Mr. MacPhail is at present experiencing a keen demand from Branches for suitable Gaelic Plays to be undertaken as part of the winter's work. This is most promising but Gaelic dramatists should follow the example set by Mr. Marjoribanks, and write short one-act plays to meet this demand. The need is clamant here.

* * *

The Gaelic people of Inverness, in general, learned with deep regret of the death of Miss Catriona Macfarlane, who was actively associated with the Gaelic cause in Inverness and District for many years. She died in a Nursing Home in Edinburgh. Her remains were taken to Portree, and on passing through Inverness, were met by a large body of friends in Inverness Station. A short service was held, after which, the various Gaelic Associations with which she was identified placed beautiful wreaths on the coffin.

Bidh sinn 'ga cuimhneachadh 's 'ga h-ionndrain.

* * *

The Syllabus for the Inverness Mod is now in the hands of most of last year's competitors and anyone interested in the Mod competitions may have a copy, post free, from the office of An Comunn. The attention of competitors is directed to the Entry Form enclosed with each copy. This Form must accompany each entry and should reach the General Secretary not later than 25th July. The Choral Booklet is now on sale, price 9d per copy, postage ½d. When ordering please state Staff or Solfa notation.

CAMPA COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH, 1936.

Tha Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich a' tairgseadh Campa uidheamachadh airson aon cheud de Bhuill Comunn na h-Oigridh, 50 Balach airson seachdain agus 50 Caileag airson seachdain eile, as na Feachdan a chuireadh air bonn 'san t-seisean so chaidh, agus a chuirear air bonn gu ruig deireadh na Samhna, 1935.

AITE A' CHAMPA.

Bithidh an Campa an Sonachan Uachdrach, Earraghaidheal, 9 mìle bho Dhail-Mhaillidh, air taobh Loch-Odha, agus dìreach fa chomhair Chruachan Beann, an dùthaich Dhonnachaidh Bhàin nan Oran. Seallaidhean as bregha air loch is monaidhean chan eil ri'm faighinn an Albainn.

AM A' CHAMPA.

Campa nam Balach—Di-haoine an 17mh. là—Dir-daoin an 23sa là de'n Iuchair.

Campa nan Caileagan—Di-haoine an 24mh. là—Dir-daoin an 30mh là de'n Iuchair.

UIDHEAMACHAIDH A' CHAMPA.

Caidlidh na Buill ann am pàillunan, suas ri sianar anns gach pàillun. Bithidh cainb-thearra air làr gach pàilluin; gheibh gach Ball leaba-champa, agus leaba-ìochdrach air a deagh-lionadh le connlach. Feumaidh gach Ball 2 phlancaid a thoirt leis.

AITREABHAN EILE.

Tha Talla a' bhaile air a threasdadh airson seomair-bidh, anns am bi trathbhidh air a sholar tri uairean 'san là. Cumar bùth beag anns an talla so anns am faod neach mìlsean, briosaidean agus ruadan eile a cheannach. Tha piano-cruit anns an t-seòmar so agus is iomadh cèilidh aighearach a bhios aig na Buill ann. Tha'n seomar cho mòr agus gun deanadh e àite-cadail do na h-uile nan èireadh na siantan gu garbh.

CURAM A' CHAMPA—LUCHD-DREUCHD.

Bithidh fear comasach de mhuintir a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich air cheann a' Champa, agus fodha-san bithidh dithis no trìùr de Chinn-Feachd Comunn na h-Oigridh 'ga chuideachadh. Bithidh Oilleanach-leighis, 'na threas bliadhna, a' sealltainn as déidh slainte nam Balach agus Bean-eiridnidh, aig am bheil teisteanas, airson nan Caileagan.

PRIS A' CHAMPA.

Paighidh gach Ball a thig, 17/6 airson buird: 's e sin, leth-chrun gach là. Paighidh an luchd-dreuchd an uiread sin cuideachd.

COIR AIR A' CHAMPA.

A chionn's nach bi aite an 1936 ach airson 100 Ball air fad, so an dòigh air am faod na Buill àite fhaotainn anns a' Champa:

Bithidh còir aig 25 balaich agus 25 Caileagan ann am Feachdan an Taoibh Tuath ('s e sin na Feachdan a tha fo stiùradh Mgr. Domhnall MacPhail) agus aig an uiread sin eile 'san Taobh Deas fo Mgr. MacIlle Sheathanaich), tighinn do'n Campa.

Cha ghabhar ach ri Buill a tha os cionn 12 bliadhna dh'aois.

Cha ghabhar ach suas ri sianar Bhall (eadar Balaich is Caileagan) as an aon Fheachd anns am bheil fo dhà fhichead Ball air fad: deichnear as an aon Fheachd anns am bheil dà fhichead no barrachd.

Air na cumhnantan sin, bheirear còir tighinn do'n Champa do na Buill as luaithe chuireas an iarrtus airson àite ann.

IARTUS AIR AITE 'SA CHAMPA—PAIGHEADH.

Cuireadh gach Ceann-Feachd ainm a' Bhuill, no ainmean nam Ball, a bhios ag iarraidh àite, a dh'ionnsuidh "Mgr. Seoras Marjori-banks, Sonachan, Argyll," ag innseadh aois gach Balaich no Caileig, agus ag cur 2/6 bho gach Ball mar earlas an coinneamh pris a' Champa. Ma's e nach eil àite airson Buill àraidh, cuirear a leth-chrun air ais: ma tharruingeas e air ais roimh dheireadh a' Ghiblein, bheirear 2/- air ais; ma tharruingeas e air ais an dèidh sin, cumar an lethchrun mar ùnlagh.

Bheirear na h-àitean do na Buill as luaithe thig an ainmean a steach. Feumaidh gach ainm a bhì ann roimh'n 15mh là de cheud mhios 1936: cha ghabhar ri ainm a thig as déidh sin.

DEANAMH SUAS AIREAMH AN LUCHD-CHAMPA.

Aitean sam bith nach eil air an lionadh a rèir na dòigh ud shuas, faodaidh Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich an lionadh le Buill eile mar a chi iad ìomchuidh, agus chan eisdear ri gearan sam bith a thaobh an taghaidh sin.

TURUS DO'N CHAMPA AGUS DHACHAIDH.

Bheirear min-chunntas mu a thurus do gach Ball fa leth a bhios a' tighinn, mu thoisich an Og-mhios. Cuirear gu feum gach ìsleachadh-faraidh a bheir Cuideachdan nan Rathad-iarruin, etc. Feumaidh gach Ball cosdas a thuruig gach rathad a phaigheadh; ach mar chuideachadh leo-san a thig as na h-àitean as fhaide mach, bheirear air ais do gach Ball na phaigheas e tharais air 10/-, suas gu crùn. Mar eisimpleir, ma phaigheas e 12/6, gheibh e leth-chrun air ais; ma's 17/6, gheibh e crùn air ais.

GOIREAS IS COIR DO NA BUILL A THOIRT LEO.

1. Aodach. Thoireadh na Buill leo atharrachadh gach buill-ao-daich agus caisbheirt.

2. Airson a' bhuird: sgian, gobhal agus spàin. (Gheibhear cupannan is truinne-searan 'sa Champa).

3. Dà phlancaid aig a' chuid is lugha: searadair agus siabunn: cir, brusfhiacal.

Is fearr còta-uisge na còta-droigaid.

Na fàgadh Balach sam bith a chaman aig an tigh!

RIAGHAILTEAN A' CHAMPA.

Fearchar ris a' Champa so ruith air a' chuid as lugha de riaghailtean, a chum's gum bi an cuid mhath de shaoresa aig na h-uile. Ach feumaidh gach Ball a bhi umhail do na bhios de riaghailtean, agus bithidh làn chòir aig Ceannard a' Champa Ball sam bith a bhreiseas riaghailt a chur dhachaidh. So na riaghailtean bunaiteach:

(i.) A' Ghaidhlig a bhruidhinn mar aona chaint a' Champa.

(ii.) Gach Ball a bhi taobh-stigh crìochan a' Champa an déidh suipearach, agus 'sa phàillium aig fhein an déidh 9.30.

(iii.) Gun dol ann am bàta's gun Fhear-dreuchd a bhi leis.

BUN IS BRÌGH A' CHAMPA.

Gum faigh na Buill a bhios ann seachdhuinn de laithean saora a bhios cho sona, aoibhneach agus nach dì-chuimhnich iad gu bràth iad: laithean fada, fallain a muigh 'san aileadh ghlan: biadh pailt, blasda: cluichean ait, ceòl is sùgradh gu am miann.

(ii.) Gum faigh Buill nan iomadach cearn eòlas air a chèile; air an dòighean-labhairt eugsamhail; air fiosrachadh is smuaintean càch a chèile—an compharteachadh-beatha sin a tha cho luachmhor a chum daingneachadh rùintean a' Chomuinn do'm buin iad.

(iii.) Nach bi ach Gaidhlig 'ga cleachdadh araon le Buill agus le Luchd-dreuchd fad na h-ùine, rud a neartaicheas an greim agus am meas air Cànanain choomh nam Beann.

(iv.) Biodh an Campa so 'na àite-àraich as an togar daoine agus mnathan a bhios 'nan cùl-taic foghainteach do Chomunn na h-Oigridh anns na laithean ri teachd.

Ma shoirbhicheas leinn 'san oidheirp so, is e ar dòchas gum bi Campa aig Comunn na h-Oigridh bliadhna an déidh bliadhna, agus e a' sior-dhol am meud.

SEORAS GALLDA.

SUGGESTED SCHEME OF SEWING, etc., for Girls in Comunn na h-Oigridh.

By Mrs. FLORA MACKINNON, Bearsden.

It must, by now, be generally understood that An Comunn Gaidhealach is providing materials, free of cost, to the various Feachdan of Comunn na h-Oigridh so that the girls may undertake needlework, embroidery, cutting out, and making garments and other articles, etc. Three prizes have also been offered by An Comunn for "The best article for personal use, with Celtic design." A form has recently been sent out to each Ceann-Feachd, to be filled in, showing the materials they would like sent to them by the Committee of Clann an Fhraoich for the above purpose. But, as some of the Cinn-Feachd appear to find difficulty in making up their minds what to ask for, the following few suggestions are offered, showing the kind of work that Girls of various ages might undertake and, it is hoped, that they may help the Cinn-Feachd to make their indents for materials, which, of course, should be done as soon as possible.

1.—6-7 years' old. Sewing, using tacking stitches in colours for ornamentation—square or oblong articles such as mats, tray-cloths, etc. Materials—unbleached calico, linen, lineen, derry-cloth. Thread—Coloured thread; Clark's D.C.M. or Coton à broder.

2.—8-9 years' old. Sewing bags such as lap-bags, dorothy bags, nightdress bags, knitting bags, book covers, etc. Materials and thread the same as first year.

3.—9-11 years' old. Afternoon apron, tea-cosy, curtains, etc. Materials and thread the same as 1 and 2.

4.—11-14 years' old. Fine sewing—knickers, petticoat, nightdress, overall, using suitable material such as white and pastel shades of calico, phildonna, nainsook, dorcas cambric, etc. These can be decorated with designs in coloured thread, preferably Celtic. Paper patterns for cutting out can be sent for these articles, costing from 3d. to 6d. each.

5.—Over 14 years' old. Tray-cloths, tea-cloths, cushion covers, table-scarfs, chair-back, curtains, etc. Materials—linen crash, Celtic or other canvas, etc. Thread—Coton à broder, D.C.M. or wool.

GENERAL.

Decorations should be original and Celtic, if possible, and should show originality in design, construction, and vegetable dyeing. (Miss Gordon, Needlework Dept. of Pettigrew & Stephen, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, will send patterns of materials if asked.)

Clark's cotton can be had in three varieties, stranded, Coton à broder, and a thicker matte cotton, and beautiful shades of tapestry wool for the older girls are made by Paton & Baldwin, and will be ordered from one of their agents if asked for.

For the personal article competition, Celtic design patterns are available in An Comunn's office, and will be supplied if asked for. Crash is a very effective and cheap material for Celtic design and can be had in many different widths.

Please remember that the total of materials supplied free is not to cost over 1/- per head. If more is required, the balance will have to be paid for.

CEILIDH CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Is cinnteach gu'm b'fhearr le luchd-frithealaidh na céilidh so, a chumadh an Aitreabh nan Gaidheal, Glaschu, air feasgar Di-Ceudaoin an aona-là-deug de'n Dùdhlachd, "coinneamh chaidreachd" a ràdh rithe oir sin mar a bha i da-rìreadh. Chruinnich aon trì fichead an "talla nam post" agus mar a thubhairt Fear na Brataich, Ceann-Suidhe A' Chomuinn, 'na òraid bhig bheothail, bha sinn dìreach mar aon teaghlach, 'nar suidhe mu na buird bheaga feadh an talla, ag cracaireachd, ag òl tea agus ag èisdeachd ris na h-òrain agus ris na bha aig corra fhear ri ràdh mu dhéidhinn beatha is obair Clann an Fhraoich.

Dh'fhosgladh am feasgar, a réir nòs na Cloinne, le facal ùrnuigh bho'n Urr. Calum MacLeod agus an sin thog Seòras Marjoribanks, Fear-gairm Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich, deich mionaidean ag inneadh do'n luchd-eisdeachd mu obair na Comhairle ann an stéidheachadh Comunn na h-Oigridh an sgoilean na Gaidhealtachd o'n àm so an uiridh. Dh'innis e dhuinn na bha a' Chomhairle a' deanamh a chum na Feachdan a bh'lathdheacadh le beothaileachd is dìchioll, agus mar a bha a' Chlann a' freagairt na cath-gairme sin. Leig e ris dhuinn gu'n gabhadh e saothair is ùine, innleachd agus foighidinn, mu'n bitheadh làn chlar-eagair de obair agus de dh'fhoghlum, cho math ri sùgradh, air a thoirt fa chomhair nam Feachd, agus mu'm bitheadh na Feachdan gu léir ag co-obireachadh le chéile mar is còir a chum prìomh-rùntean Comunn na h-Oigridh a thoirt gu làn-thoradh. Chuir e an cèill a mhòr-bhuidheachas do gach Ball de Chomhairle Clann an Fhraoich airson a' chùil-taic 's a' bhrosnachaidh a thug iad dha an obair Comunn

na h-Oigridh: gu h-àraidh Ceann-Suidhe a' Chomuinn a bha cur na h-inbhe àird 'san robh e gu feum a chum adhartachadh na h-oibre so.

Is ann air Fear na Brataich fhein a bha'm fonn a dhòl an ceann faicail. 'Nar là-ne, 'nuair a tha ar Canain air a truaileadh cho mòr le tuar na Beurla 'na gnàthsan-cainnt, 's e fìor thoilintinn a th'ann bhì 'g eisdeachd ri Gaidhlig ghlan, lùthmhor Fear na Brataich—chuir e fonn is ceol-gaire air gach aon d'a luchd-eisdeachd. Luaidh e air an obair ionmholta a bha "Athair na Cloinne" a' deanamh ann an Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Bha comhlan grinn de luchd-seinn againn—Eilinn NicCoinnich, Mairead M. NicDhonnchaidh, Eilidh NicMhaoilein agus Nora Nic Ghillemhòire agus bho na h-uaislean Domhnall Mac a' Bhiocair, Iain Og Mac 'Ille na Brataich, Alasdair MacMhathain, Iain Mac a' Phi agus Niall Mac Gille Sheathanaich. Bha a' Mhgn. Morag Nic 'Ille na Brataich aig an inneal chiuil. Thug Eachann Dughallach taing chridheil do'n luchd-ciùil, a' leigeil fhacinn gun robh Gaidhlig uile cearnan na Gaidhealtachd air a riochdachadh 'nam measg-san. Le so uile, fhuaras céilidh a bha anabarrach grinn, caidreamhail, agus is cinnteach, nan robh muinntir a' bhaile a' tuigsinn luach an tasdain a phaigh sinn airson oidhche Clann an Fhraoich, nach cumadh an talla as mò an Aitreabh nan Gaidheal a mheud's a thigeadh.

WICK.—Wick Branch's syllabus for the current winter session is being carried out successfully. It includes public ceilidhs, members' and friends' ceilidhs, and several lectures on Highland subjects by prominent northern personalities. The opening public ceilidh was largely attended. Rev. John McLunes, Halkirk, presided, and the musical programme was contributed for the most part, and mostly in Gaelic, by members of the Hallalade Branch. At one of the members' ceilidhs a lecture was given by Mr. Hugh McColl, headmaster, Canisbay, who dealt in an interesting manner with the question of the proposed Gaelic College. On 20th December the Branch had a visit from Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, who was on a round of visits to Northern Branches. He gave a rousing address to a large audience on the work of the Comunn in general, and spoke of the good progress being made in the neighbouring county of Sutherland. He expressed his appreciation of the vigorous manner in which the Wick Branch was being carried on, and explained and commended the aims and purposes of Comunn na h-Oigridh, the new department of the work of An Comunn for the young people. An excellent programme of solos, dances, and stories (to which Mr. MacPhail contributed), was gone through, and tea was served during the evening. On the call of Mr. Miller, president, Mr. MacPhail was very cordially thanked for his visit and address.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Mar a chithear an eachdraidh an Rùnaire 'sa chaintnt eile tha Meuran a' Chomuinn 's an Taobh Tuath a' deanamh ullachaidh airson nam Mòdan Dùthchail a tha ri an cumail air feadh na Gàidhealtachd mu thuath.

Bha Mgr. MacPhàil 's an lathair aig Ceilidh an Gleann Garaidh agus labhair e ri barrachd is ceud air cor na Gàidhlig. Labhair Mgr. Lachann Mac Fhionghainn mar an ceudna agus chuidich iad le chèile leis a' Cheilidh. Tha a' bhan-rùnaire, a Bhean Uasal Ghrannnach, a' deanamh, gach dìchioll a chum is gu'm bi Feachd de Chomunn na h-Oigridh air a stéidheachadh anns a' Ghleann.

Air an ochdamh là deug de'n t-Samhain thug am Fear Deilbhe sgrìob do Arasaig, Morar agus Mallaig agus rinn e an rathad rídh do Iain Mac Dhomhnaill, aon de fhir teagaisg ciuil a' Chomuinn. Tha cròileanan air leth grinn aig Iain agus tha iad a' deanamh adhartachadh a tha taitneach.

Air an là ar fhichead fhritheil Mgr. MacPhàil aig coinneimh de Chomhairle Clann an Fhraoich agus thug e iomradh air mar a bha pàrantan agus Maighstirean Sgoile ag gabhail ris a' ghluasad ùr—Comunn na h-Oigridh—anns an Taobh Tuath.

Thog am Fear Deilbhe air gu Cataibh air an treas là de'n Dùdhlachd agus ré na seachdain sin bha e 's an lathair aig coinneamhan ciatach an taobh siar na Siorramachd agus an Roghard. Aig na coinneamhan an Ceann Loch Biorbhaidh cha chualas facal Beurla 'ga labhairt. Tha dà Fheachd de Chomunn na h-Oigridh an sin agus chuidich iadsan gu pongail leis na ceilidhean.

Bha oidhche shunndach an Diùrnis aig ceilidh air feasgar Dior-daoin agus moch an ath mhàduinn rinn Mgr. MacPhàil air Roghard far an robh e 'na Fhear Cathrach aig ceilidh ghrrinn fo stiùradh a' Mheòir. Bha barrachd is ceud an lathair.

Moch Di-luain mach gu Sgìre Asaint ghabh am Fear Deilbhe agus air an oidhche sin labhair e aig cruinneachadh gasda 's an Druim Bheag. Air an ath latha chuir e air bonn 's an Stòir Feachd ùr de Chomunn na h-Oigridh anns am bheil fichead ball. Bha ceilidh laghach ann am feasgar sin agus mhìnich Mgr. MacPhàil bun is brìgh Comunn na h-Oigridh. Thug e stùil mu'n cuairt airson àite freagarrach airson Cuirm Chnuic na Cloinne agus thag e "Cathair a' Chuil Chinn" 's e cho boidheach! Cnocan

air leth grinn. Tha tràigh an so far am b' urrainn iomain a chluich leis na gillean agus cleasan eile a fhreagarradh do na caileagan. Os ceann na "Cathrach" tha r'a fhàicinn "Airigh a' Chuil Chinn" agus có nach cuala na h-òrain bhreagh a rinn Cloinn 'icLeoid air an dà aite sin a chumas cuimhne chubhraidh orra cho fad 's is maireann Gàidhlig 'sa bhuaileas tonn air tràigh.

Aig Loch an Inbhir bha ceilidh ghlasda agus chualas mòran de na sean òran a bhùneas do'n Sgìre sin. Faisg air an ionad so rugadh "Ruairidh" an sùr sheinneadair, nach maireann. Ged a dh'fhalbh Ruairidh còir tha iad fhathast 'ga chuimhneachadh 's 'ga ionndrain.

Is fhada an glaodh o Loch an Inbhir gu Mealanais ach ràinig an Fear Deilbhe am baile beag Gàidhealach sin 's an anmoch an ath feasgar, agus bha làn tighe a' feitheamh air. Chuireadh seachd trì uaircan a thide ag aithris sgeulachd 'sa seinn òran. Air an ath latha anns an sgoil chuir Mgr. MacPhàil air bonn Feachd ùr de Chomunn na h-Oigridh anns am bheil coig buill dheug ar fhichead. Anns an fheasgar labhair e ri buill Meur Thunga.

Air Di-sathuirne chumadh coinneamh de Chomhairle Mòd Ceann a Tuath Chataibh agus dh'aontaich iad gu h-aon-ghuthach gu'm biodh Mòd na h-ath bhliadhna air a chumail an Diùrnis, am baile as faisge air a' Pharbh. Is i a' Ghaidhlig cànan a' bhaile sin agus is cinnteach gu'm bi Mòd an da-rìreadh an Diurnis.

Mu'm bi an eachdraidh bheag so an clò bidh am Fear Deilbhe air ais an Inbhirnis an deidh tadhal air gach meur de'n Chomunn an Cataibh is an Gallaibh.

An Airde Deas.

Thug an Rùnaire òraid bhliadhnail do bhuilt Ceilidh Àrd Sgoil Ghlaschu air an treas là fichead de'n t-Samhain. Tha cuireadh fialaidh aig an Rùnaire gach bliadhna bho'n Cheilidh so airson òraid Ghaidhlig a thoirt seachad. Tha iad fhein cho dealasach ag cumail air aghaidh cròilean Gàidhlig anns am bheil an oigridh a' faotainn cothrom air a' Ghaidhlig ionnsachadh agus gur math leis gabhail ris a' chuireadh ged nach biodh ann da ach an cothrom a ghabhail air taing a thoirt dhoibh airson na tha iad a' deanamh ris an òigridh 'sa bhaile mhòr.

Air an naodhamh là fichead de'n t-Samhain chaidh an Rùnaire gu Dunomhainn agus labhair e ri còrr is ceud aig Coinneimh Ghaidhlig an sin. Tha am meur so ag cumail dà

choinneimh 'sa bhliadhna aig nach 'eil dad 'ga labhairt is 'ga sheinn ach Gaidhlig. Tha am meur so ag caoidh an Ceann Suidhe suairce, Calum MacNèill, a chaochail am mìos an Damhar.

Chaidh an Rùnaire gu Arainn air Di-luain, an dara la de'n Dùdlachd agus bha coinneamh aige air an fheasgar sin 's an t-Seasainn. Bha coinneamhan aige am Breadaig, 'sa Choire agus an loch Raonasaidh an deidh sin agus fhuaire e fàilte 's furan bhlàth bho na buill anns gach àite. Tha na meuran sin ag ullachadh fa chomhar cròileanan Gaidhlig is cùil mar a bha aca an uiridh agus tòisichidh Mgr. Iain MacIomhair an sin goirid an deidh na Bliadhn' Uire. Thadhail an Rùnaire air cuid de chairdean na Gaidhlig an Loch an Eilein is an Camus nam Bànaig ach tha an àireamh ro bheag 's na bailtean sin a chumail cròilean iad fhéin.

Fhrithheil Mgr. Mac Gille Sheathanaich aig ceilidh Clann an Fhraoich air an aona la deug de'n Dùdlachd agus aig coinneimh de'n Chomhairle Dheasaich air feasgar an t-seathamh là deug.

Chaidh an Rùnaire còmhla ri Mgr. Marjoribanks gu Ile air an t-seachdamh là deug agus bha coinneamh aca air an fheasgar sin le buill meoir Chill Daltain. Bha coinneamhan gasda aca am Beul an Ath, Port Charlotte is am Port na h-Aibhne, ach b'annas 'na Sgoilean a bha na coinneamhan cearta. B'ann an sin a bha a' nhisneach is an togradh. Thadhail iad anns na sgoilean am Port Eilidh, an Airdbheag, Gleann Eigeadail, Boghamor, Beul an Ath, Bun na h-Aibhne, a' Chill, Cill Mheanaidh, Muileannraidh, Cill Chomain, Taobh na Creige, an Goirtean, Port Charlotte agus Port na h-Aibhne. Tha nis da Fheachd dheug de Chomunn na h-Oigridh an Ile le 328 ball. Bha e fìor thogarrach a bhi ag cluinntinn na cloinne bige a' labhairt Gaidhlig cho siùbhlach, fileanta; agus tha muinntir Ile r'a shàr-mholadh airson mar a tha iad ag cumail suas na seann chànan an aghaidh nan cunnartan a tha 'ga bagairt thar chuan is adhar.

BRANCH REPORTS.

CONNEL.—A highly successful ceilidh was held by the local branch of An Comunn, in the Public Hall, on 6th December. The Rev. Duncan A. MacCallum presided. An excellent programme was submitted by a talented company, which included bagpipe selections, songs, dialogue, and a brightly acted sketch by the school children. Occasion was taken to make a marriage presentation to Mr. Clark Campbell, a well-known local Gaelic singer.

DUROR.—The first ceilidh of the session was held in November. The president, Mr. D. MacLean, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance. The proceedings opened with the Rallying Song, and the programme which followed consisted of Gaelic readings, songs, and instrumental music. The singing of "Oidheche Mhath Leibh" brought to a close a very happy ceilidh.

KINLOCH RANNOCH.—A highly successful concert was given by the local branch, in the Jubilee Hall, on 22nd November. Mr. Michael MacDiarmid, Fimmart, was in the chair, and he was accompanied on the platform by Mrs. de Sales la Terriere of Dunalastair, hon. president, and other office-bearers of the branch. The Gaelic Choir was led by Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, M.A., who conducted them so successfully at the Edinburgh Mod. Solos were rendered by well-known members. The concert was one of the most successful gatherings yet held by the branch.

SYRONTIAN.—A ceilidh was held in the Public Hall recently, presided over by Mr. A. Cameron, vice-president. A fine impromptu programme of sgulachdan, songs, and instrumental music was gone through, and afterwards tea was served.

TIREE.—A well attended ceilidh was held in Balemartin School on Friday, 29th November. In the absence of the president, Mr. Hector MacLean presided over the gathering. Songs were rendered by Misses Cathie MacKay, Cathie Sinclair, and Mary MacLean, Messrs. John MacKay, Dugald MacDonald, and Angus MacArthur. An amusing dialogue was acted by Misses Sara F. MacDonald and Annie Kennedy, while sgulachds were ably expounded by Mr. Hector MacLean.

TOBARMHOIRE.—Bha cèilidhean againn a h-uile ceithir-latha deug bho mheadhoin an Dàmhair, ach cha robh iad mar a b'èibhast. Cha robh mòran de na buill a' tionndadh a mach, ach tha sinn gu ceart a rithis, agus air son sin tha sinn an comaine Mgr. Niall Camshron. Bha cionneamh shòruichte againn 'na urram air an 18mh. là de'n t-Samhuinn, an oidheche mu'n deachaidh e air ais do Shasunn. 'S i cèilidh chridheil a bh'ann, na buill a' toirt bàrr air a chèile ann an òran, an ceòl agus an naidheachd, fear na cathrach fhéin — Iain Camshron — ag innsadh sgeul an deidh sgeòil mar gu'm biodh e a' di-chuimheachadh gu'n robh clàr aige 'na làimh. Bha seann sgeòil ghuaidh aig Niall cuideachd, agus an Gaidhlig fhileanta thug e taing air son na h-oidheche chridheil a thug sinn dha fhéin 's d'a mhnaoi. Ach 's ann a bha sinne a' cur urraim oirnn féin. Nach 'eil e fhéin 's a bhean 'n an cùl-taic anns gach oidheip a ni sinn air son ar cànan. Tha gaol mòr aig Niall air a' Ghàidhlig agus a ceòl. Gu cinnteach tha e a' fuireach far am bheil soirbheachadh aige — an Sunderland, ach bitheadh a chridhe gu bràth an Tobarmhoire, far an d' rugadh e. Chuireamaid ar lan aonta ris a' mhnaoi chòir a thuirnt an latha roimh "gu ma fada bhios lùths nan cas aige."

(Wick Branch Report will be found on page 60.)

Copies of "Voices from the Hills" can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

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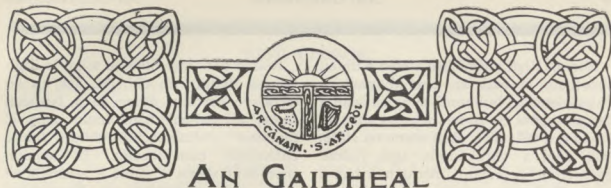
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Leabhar XXXI.]

An Gearran, 1936.

[Earrann 5

BAS AN RIGH.

Tha luchd àiteachaidh na h-Impir-eachd fo bhròn airson bàs an Rìgh. Is e a dh'fhàg am bron sin cho mór gu robh àite ionmhainn aig an Rìgh an aignidhean a chuid iochdaran. Fhuair e bho dhualchas an inbhe a bhuineas do 'n rìgh-chathair. Fhuair e le tuigse is gliocas an t-urram a dhleasas deadh rìgh. Ach an gràdh fìorghlan leis an robh an duine so air a thasgadh an aignidhean ar muinntir, cha b'ann bho dhualchas no gun aobhar a fhuair e sin. Mar bha na bliadhnaichean a' ruith bha an Rìgh ag abuchadh anns na beusan ionmholta anns an robh a nadur cho saoi bhir. Agus mar bha esan a' fàs anns na subhailcean oirdheirc, ann an coibhneas, an ceartas, is an irioslachd, anns an tomhas cheudna bha e a' fàs ann am meas agus mùirn an t-sluaigh. Chan ann a mhàin mar chall coitcheionn agus cinneachail a tha muinntir a' faireachadh a thaobh bàs an Rìgh. Tha iad mar an ceudna 'g a chunntas mar chall diomhair agus pearsanta.

* * *

Cha robh linn riamh an eachdraidh na h-Eorpa anns an tugadh a leithid de

chrathadh air rìgh-chathraichean agus a thugadh bho chionn fichead bliadhna air ais. Ach a dh'aindeoin luasgaidh is ann a chaidh neart na rìgh-chathrach Bhreatunnaich am meud. Ciod a b'aobhar air sin? Is e so an t-aobhar. Chathaich an sluagh fad iomadh linn airson ard-riaghladh anns am biodh saorsa is ceartas ag aonadh. Agus mar thainig deuchainn a' Chogaidh Mhóir thachair dhuinn am mathas Freasdail gu robh an Rìgh làn fhiosrach air dleasdanas a' chrùin. Mar choisiche smearail a chumas a cheum air slighe a tha aimhleathan is cunnartach is ann mar sin a ghluais an Rìgh le faiceall is dilseachd, a' labhairt gu glic, agus a' coimhionadh gach gnìomh rìoghail. Tha dreuchd an riaghlaidh ri a foghlum cosmhuil ri dreuchdan eile. Feumaidh an oifig ard ud eolas air lagh is rian na rìoghachd, agus air còirichean is cleachdaidhean nan iochdaran. Bha an Rìgh nach maireann deas anns an eolas sin. Is coltach gur tric a chuala e bho bheul a luchd-earail a' cheart chomhairle a bha a cheana 'n a inntinn fein.

Bha an Rìgh aithnichte airson a dhian shaothair is eud na coimhleanadh a dhleasdanais. Is lionmhor na cùisean a tha an earbsa ris an neach a tha anns an ionad ard ud; oir is esan ceann na stàta, fear dìon a' chreideimh, agus fuaran gach onair is urraim. An uair a bha e 'n a dhuine òg chuir e a stigh coig bliadhna deug anns a' Chabhlaich Rìoghail. Tha riaghailtean na seirbheis sin ag agairt umhlachd is cruadal. Is e Dleasdanas suaicheantas an t-seòladair ge b' e cìod a thachras. B'e sin an sgoil gun eisimeil anns an deachaidh an Rìgh a theagasg. Bha e dileas ri uchd teine is ri onfhath fairge, a' giùlan a chuid fein de uallach an latha. An uair a chaidh a ghairm gu bhì a' seòladh long mhór na Stata chleachd e an t-oilein a dh'ionnsaich e òg—duinealas is cruadal, a dh'aindeoin cho garbh 's gum biodh an uair.

* * *

Bha an Rìgh Deorsa baigheil 'na fhaireachaidhean. Bha a chridhe truasail ris na bochdan, agus iomaguineach mu 'n fheadhainn a bha a' fulang le gainne lòin is cìon oibreach. Thug e fhein seachad leth cheud mìle punnd Sasunnach 's a' bhliadhna air sgath feumnaich na rìoghachd. Leis a' ghnìomh aircheasach sin thug e eisimpleir do na daoine beartach. Is e a dh'fhàg a lathaireachd cho taitneach gu robh e iriosal an spiorad, gun uail dhìomhain gun mheudmhór as a chomasan fhéin. Bha e riamh deidheil air cloinn, agus a' chlann deidheil air. Bha a chrabhadh simplidh agus treibhdhìreach. Ge b'e cearn anns am bitheadh e bu ghnath leis an eaglais a fhrithéaladh, a dheanamh aoraidh gu follaiseach do 'n Tì anns a robh e fein a' cur a mhuinghin.

* * *

Riamh bho thùs 'òige bu toigh le Rìgh Deorsa tighinn do dh'Alba, far an do chaith e earrann mhòr de a laithean saora, a' siubhal nam frìth, agus a' faotainn fallaineachd bho fhaile cubhraidh nam beann. Is iomadh seachdain shona a chuir e seachd an Alba, an cuideachd na Banrighinn chaomh, a tha nis gu bronach 'g a chaidh. Chan eil aicheadh nach robh e measail air Alba, agus air Albannaich. Bu roghainiche leis gu mór tighinn mu thuath no dhòl gu tìr-mór na h-Eorpa. Bu nòs da an t-éideadh Gaidhealach a chaitheamh an Alba. Bha e de 'n bheachd gu robh nithean sonruichte ann a bhùineadh do dh'Alba mar chinneach; agus bha e ullamh gu bhì a nochdadh sin 'n a ghnìomh. Is e fein agus a' Bhanrighinn a dh'aisig air ais tomhas de ghreadhnachas na seann doigh do luchairt rìoghail Dhunéideann.

* * *

Ged tha ar n-aigneachd trom an déidh a' chinn oirdheirc a thugadh uainn, is ann le dìlseachd is meas a sheallas sinn ris an Rìgh ùr, oighre dligheach a' chrùin, Eamhar an t-Ochdamh; agus is ann le misneach is dochas a ghuidheas sinn *Dhia gleidh an Rìgh*. Mar Phrionnsa na Cuimrigh thug an Rìgh dearbhadh air a nadur cairdeil; agus is fiosrach na saigdearan cìod e cho treun 's a bha am Prionnsa ri uair gàbhaidh. Chan eil teagamh againn nach nochd an Rìgh ùr an coibhneas tlàth agus an spiorad gaisgeal a thaisbean e a cheana. Tha aon bhann sonruichte 'g ar ceangal-ne mar Chomunn ris an Rìgh. Is e an Rìgh ar Flath is ar n-Oide Urramach. Agus tha sinn ag earbsa gun toilich an Rìgh gu mair an t-urras agus an dìon do'n Chomunn a fhuair sinn a cheana leis an uile bhuidheachas bho Phrionnsa na Cuimrigh agus Tighearna nan Eilean.

KING GEORGE.

The universal sorrow evoked by the passing of King George has been a convincing proof of the deep affection in which he was held. The claim of the late sovereign on our attachment was two-fold. He claimed our esteem on account of his worth and competence as King; but he secured our love by reason of the rich human qualities and graces which adorned his life and character. The chief trait of the Tudor monarchs was an overbearing will. But King George led his subjects captive by the appeal of his gracious personality. The obsession of the Stuart sovereigns was the divine right of kings. But the secret of King George's power was a nature which abounded in humility and charity.

* * *

Our lamented sovereign was not only King of the United Kingdom. Familiarity with the title of King-Emperor may have prevented not a few from realising that our monarch was the head, not only of the young nations of our own blood that owe allegiance to the British Crown, but he was also the head of many sovereigns in the great Empire of India. He was the supreme governor of the rulers of eighty-eight independent states, some of which, as Hyderabad, for example, possess a population of fourteen and a half millions. The mere mention of these facts may well bring home to us how vast a multitude, so varied in colour and creed and language, looked to our beloved sovereign as their temporal chief, the great Emperor. And when the world commotion came and the crowns and thrones of so many kings and emperors were humbled in the dust, the throne of the British King-Emperor stood firm. It did not stand firm by the fiat of temporal force. It stood firm because upon the throne of the Empire sat a man whose human qualities drew the hearts of millions, commanding their loyalty and obedience.

It was in no conventional sense that King George shared the life and trials of his people. His sincerity was so great that his subjects felt the genuine interest he took in them. At no time was this fact more truly realised than in the anxious days of the Great War. It was a time when so many thousands of promising lives were sacrificed in the country's defence. The sympathy of the King was inexhaustible towards the homes that were bereaved in the War. Thus early in his reign the close human ties of fellow-feeling were welded between the monarch and citizens in distress and sorrow. It is quite possible that no British sovereign ever drew so near to the core of the sentiments of his people as King George in those trying days.

* * *

The rules of a constitutional monarchy such as ours have a long history behind them. The training of a constitutional king is a long process. He requires to be able to appreciate clearly the intricate relations that exist between the three constituents of government, the legislative, the executive, and the Crown. He needs to know the limitations of the royal prerogative, and to adapt his actions to the counsel of his ministers. Among these delicate matters the King always moved with instinctive correctness, as one who was to the manner born. This is indeed one of the advantages of a hereditary monarchy. The wisdom, tact, and king-craft of the father are not infrequently transmitted to the son. The noble personality of the late King radiated past the barriers of convention that usually hedge a throne. In his high station his humble spirit assumed a triumphant sway; the charm of simplicity adorned his conduct in life, and its influence will remain as an abiding grace to keep his memory fragrant.

N. R.

EIRE AGUS EIREANNAIGH I MUIRTHEACHT NA FRAINNCE.

Leis an Urr. CALUM MAC GILLEATHAIN, A.M.,
Drochaid Chonain.

Is e so fear de na leabhraichean ùra Gaidhlig, a tha ri am faotainn an Eirinn, leabhar snasail na chumadh, 's e air a dheagh chomhdach, a tha air a chlo-bhualadh an litrichean móra soilleir anns an doigh air a bheil sinne eolách an Albainn agus chan ann a reir an t-seann doigh Eireannaich. Tha e na aobhar gairdeachais a leithid fhacinn, comharra cinnteach air sgoimn nan Eireannach mar luchd Gaidhlig anns an latha anns a bheil sinne beo agus earlas air comas na cainnte sin air cuspairean as ùire agus as motha na "crodh laoigh nam bodach" a laimhseachadh gu deas agus gu cuimseach.

Chaidh an leabhar a sgrìobhadh air tus am Beurla agus is e an Dr. Ristead O h-Aodha ughdar an leabhair; agus is e Seamus Mac Grianna a rinn an t-eadartheangachadh. Tha an t-ughdar ri mholadh airson an dicheall leis na thionail e an t-eolas a tha cho cruinn agus cho mion aige, rinn e obair fear-eachdraidh agus obair an deagh sgoilear cuideachd. Airson an eadartheangair dheth is glan am fear-Gaidhlig esan, chan eil dith sgairt air leatha, agus is tearc a chuir a cho-math peann an dubh. Is ioghantach an gnìomh a rinn e agus sin an Gaidhlig cho slàn, cho ceart, agus chò cruaidh agus gun toisich an leughadair, as fhaireachduinn, air a bheil a lionadh le Gaidhlig reidh, ruidhteach, fhonnmhor. Os cionn gach ni, tha buaidh a' Ghaidheil ri Gaidhlig air, tha e furasda a thuigsinn. B' fhiach a dh' Eirinn an sgrìobhadair Gaidhlig so a chumail a' sior-sgrìobhadh air brod duais, agus b' fhiach do luchd Gaidhlig an Albainn suim a ghabhail ann agus leasan math a ghabhail buaidhe.

Uair dha robh an saoghal bha Albannaich is Eireannaich pailt anns an Fhraing. Tha sliochd nan Gaidheal fhathast anns an t-Suain, anns an Ollaind, agus anns a' Ghearmailt. Air an t-samhradh a chaidh, chuala mi naidheachd aig an Dr. MacLean Watt air mathair Albannach air an tainig cìoras a mac a bha na phrìosonach anns a' Ghearmailt fhacinn agus suil aice ris a' bhàs. Sgrìobh an Dr. MacLean Watt gu leighiche Gearmailteach air an robh sloinneadh Chlann Ghilleathain agus chaidh an Gearmailteach sin timchioll air a' chùis air sgath a chinnidh, agus fluair am prìosonach cead agus saorsa laithean agus chunnac e a mhathair agus thill e air ais do'n phrìoson Ghearmailteach. Agus bidh daoine ag radh, "De tha ann an ainm?"

Ged a chuir an t-Athleasachadh eadar an Fhraing agus Alba air a cheann mu dheireadh, cha do rinn an t-Athleasachadh sin air Eirinn. B'ann do Chaitlich na Roimhe iad, an da dhuthaich ud, agus bu cheangal sin eadar daoine. Bha an Fhraing a rithist dluth do chadaladh. Bha na h-Eireannaich air am marbhadh agus air an claoidh aig smachd Shasuinn, agus bha daoine a chail a chuille duil a bha aca ri leasachadh a' teicheadh an lion fear agus fear agus, aig amannan carraideach, nam mìle agus nan ceudan. Bu trugh an tìr a bha iad a' treigsinn,

Tìr bhocht bhuardhartha is uaigneach céasta!

Tìr gan fear, gan mac, gan céile!

Tìr gan lùth, gan fonn, gan éisteacht!

Tìr gan comhthrom do bhochtaibh le dhéanamh!

Eadhoin anns an Fhraing cha robh iad saor agus doiceall, agus bhithheadh luchd nam bailtean puirt agus an tuath a' cur nan aghaidh. Is e an aon ni a sheas iad gun tugeadh an sluagh Frangach an deidh laimhe nach robh aca anna ach daoine a bha nan naimhdean aig Sasuinn. Thainig sliochd nam fogarach, ma tha, air aghart anns an Fhraing. Rinn cuid aca ionndas nam marsantan móra agus nan luchd dlìghe. Rinn iad possaidhean matha a chuir an cleannas iad fhein agus aristocrates na tìre agus bha an cuid chairdean a' tighinn a nall á Eirinn agus an cairdean Frangach gan cur air 'bealach an leasa mar bu dual. Chaidh cuid aca do'n arm agus rinn iad saighdearan comasach a fluair ceannas agus a choisinn meas nam feachd mar chinn airm fhoghainteach. Bha feachd Eireannach anns an arm Frangach agus bu mhór a chliu airson calmachd is sgaiteachd. Bha Colaistean Eireannach anns an tìr agus oigridh ghleusda a' teachd airson foghlum thuca. Bha, rithist moran de phearsachan eaglais anns an tìr aig an robh ceangal cruaidh ri Eirinn.

An uair a thainig an Revolution ud agus Reim an Uamhais is e saoghal corrach a dh'fhagadh aig Eireannaich agus aig sliochd nan Eireannach anns an Fhraing. Bha cuid aca nan Rìoghalaich, ach bha cuid mhath aca nam Poblalach. A' chuid a bha nan Rìoghalaich thainig orra bualadh as, agus a' chuid nach do rinn sin na thrath rug a' Mhaighdean orra. A' chuid a chuidich na h-ìochdarain anns a' bhun-os-cionn a rinn na ceanaireich fluair iad aite is ainm airson tim ach an uair a thainig a' chùis gu deuchainn is dòrainn thoisich an t-amharus agus an sgrìos agus thuit an t-amharus luath no mall air na h-Eireannaich, eadhoin orra-san a rinn euchdan airson saorsa. Chuireadh na h-Eireannaich gu dìteadh agus gu

di-cheanadh gun moran truais, agus mlurtadh daoine nam measg a bha tur neo-chiontach. Sinealairean is sagartan agus inbich is uaislean, cha robh soradh air mac.

Fagar air clannaibh Eireann gu bheil e dualach dhaibh a bhi an aghaidh na Gobharmaint. Cha neonach ged a bhitheadh ! Is tric a bha Gobharmaint an aghaidh clannaibh Eireann. Co a bu mhotta a sharaicheadh le droch-dhlighce agus le claonadh certais na am por sin ? Tha an Dr. Ristead O' h-Aodha a' deanamh a mach gun robh lamh aig na h-Eireannaich o thus anns an obair uaigneach a thainig gu ire an uamhais agus an sgrios an Revolution ud na Frainge. Bha buaidh aig ar-mach na Frainge air duthchannan eile, agus bha buaidh mhór aig an ar-mach air Eirinn oir thug e ùr-mhisneachd agus dochas do dhaoine bha a' dol bàs le an-cothrom agus dhuigse agus dh'athbheothaich e anns na Gaidheil sin deoin-bhaigh ri saorsa agus ri bhi strì as ùr airson Gaidhealtachd is Eirinn. Tha nithean anns an t-saoghal air an tig bàs cho tur agus nach bi ath latha aca gu bràth : ach chan 'eil cinneadh air a thruaighead agus air a lughad agus air a laigead mar sin fhad agus a ghleidheas e a chuimhne agus roinn de na nithean a rinn cinneadh dheth agus gu seachd sonraichte a chanain fhein. Is tric a thainig tuar a' bhàis air Eirinn le bochdainn is daorsa ; ach tha tuar ùrachaidh agus athbheothachaidh oirre nis. Ghleidh i a canain agus tha i nis a' togail na seann chaint as ùr ; agus co a chanas nach dual do Ghaidhealtachd a bhi buan air thàilleamh sin ? Leasaichidh na leabhraichean ùra so cor nan Gaidheal. Agus leudaichidh leabhraichean matha solus !

TOBARMHOIRE.—Bha coinneamhan gasda againn air an 27mh. de'n t-Samhuinn agus air an 11mh. de'n Dùdhlachd. Chumadh cèilidh mhór na Nollaige an Talla Aròis air an 18mh. là de'n Dùdhlachd. 'S i oidhche gharbh a bh'ann. Ged a bha na rataidean-móra glé chunnartach le sneachd is eigh, thionndaidh ar càirdean a mach mar a gheall iad. Bhiodh Niall Moireasdan, Dearbhaig, ann cuideachd le phìob-mhóir agus ann an dealbh-chluich, ach cha 'burrainn da, chionn 's gu'n robh an cnatan-mór air. Bha an t-Urra. A. D. MacRath, An Sàilein, anna a' chathair. Dh'fheum e a charbad' fhàgail taobh an rathaid leis cho tiugh 's a bha na cuitheachan, ach bha e suas ri tìm, agus fhuaras òraid uaithe bha air leth comasach. Bha a' Bhean uasal Nic Griogair is Niall MacLeòid, An t-Oban, glé thaitneach ann an còmhraidhean agus òrain-aonach. Fhuaras òrain mhilis o'n mhaighdein D. Nic Comhainn, Dearbhaig, agus bho na seinneadairean òga againn fhéin — F. Medicott is Sine Chamsbron. Bha a' bhean uasal Nic Coinnich a' frithealadh aig a' phiano, agus chòrd na h-òrain aig Eòghann Mac Aonghais, Torloisg, anabarrach math ris a' chuideachd.

THE NEEDS OF THE HIGHLANDS.

By the EDITOR.

In many a Highland glen, long overgrown with bracken, may be seen a rowan tree here and there, among green mounds, marking the spots where homes once stood. On more than one occasion I have passed a poignant quarter of an hour, standing on a spot where once as a child I played around the hearth with other children, of whom the survivors are scattered far and wide. The story of Highland depopulation is a long and melancholy one. There is an ugly catalogue of evictions which forms one of the blackest chapters in the agrarian history of the Highlands. The land agitation of fifty years ago, needless to say, was the direct and immediate result of clearances from many glens and congestion in others. One feels like giving a practical illustration. I know a glen where in my earliest memory there were twenty-two households. I can recall how at one fell sweep nineteen of these households were cleared out, and the nineteen tenants were huddled on pendicles of land cut from other crofts on the same estate. The Report of Lord Napier's Commission shows that this is no isolated case. There were scores of such cases immediately before the close of the nineteenth century. All this took place within living memory. But it is only mild when compared with the shame and horror of the evictions of a former age, as for example in Sutherland. In addition, however, to the clearances which were made to create room for sheep there have been other causes at work to hasten the decline of the Highlands. These causes are so familiar—the trend to the city; the failure of agriculture consequent on the importation of cheaper cereals and animal produce; the remoteness from markets; the lack of roads; the prohibitive cost of transport; the destruction of fishing by poaching trawlers; these at any rate are some of the contributory causes which have helped to bring about the sorry pass at which we have now arrived.

It is indeed high time that some attempt were made to arrest this general decline. In a matter of this kind the recuperative power rests with public opinion. Not many weeks ago we have had in another connection a very convincing example of what public opinion can do. But public opinion requires to be moved and informed. This can best be done by a strong combination of responsible people emphasising by the proper means the crying

needs of the Highlands and the clamant urgency for attention. It is not a matter for one political party more than another. Indeed, the question seems to be more economic than political. It is vital; and unless a remedy can be found, the condition of the Highlands will be such as all right thinking persons must deplore.

It is on these grounds that Gaels, everywhere, will welcome the endeavour that is about to be made to achieve a New Deal for the Highlands. It is desirable that Gaels should not only welcome the new Association; but they should ally themselves with it, and help the movement with their influence and example, I have always been convinced that an Association, like some delicate instrument, is more useful and effective when it is employed to do its own special job. An Comunn Gàidhealach for instance is like a delicate instrument. If you were to use it for any other purpose than its proper and special function you would soon disrupt An Comunn. You would soon spoil your instrument. As I have said more than once, the task of our Society is a cultural one; the language and the music. But, that is no reason why every single member of An Comunn should not also be an equally ardent member of some other body whose object is the economic salvation of the Highlands.

There is surely such a thing as a wise division of labour. It is a patent truism that it is vain to preserve Gaelic unless there are Gaels in the glens to speak it. But even if there were crowds of Gaels in the glens to-morrow, there is no assurance that they would speak the Gaelic. Even if the people were once more settled on the land; and even if the Hebridean seas were fished by the hardy boatmen of the Isles and the western seaboard, there is still no certainty that they would maintain the Gaelic. While it is the task of the new Association to secure the desired economic conditions for the North, it will still remain the task of An Comunn to appeal to the racial instincts of the Gael, that he may retain the linguistic link that binds him to the worthiest things in the past of his people.

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Copies of "Voices from the Hills" can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bha mi 'nam thodam am mios mu dheireadh, chionn eadar sanas a' Chàmpa agus iomradh air obair-làimhe nan Caileagan, bha gu leòir anns a' "Ghaidheal" mu Chomunn na h-Oigridh air son aon tro. Ach cha robh sinn 'nar tàmh. Chuala sibh o'n Rùnaire mu ar cuairt a dh'Ìle agus mu'n dà Fheachd dheug a chuireadh air bonn 'san eilean bhoidheach sin. Le sud agus le Mgr. MacPhail a bhi gu trang 'san taobh tuath, tha nis dà Fheachd agus trì fichead aig Comunn na h-Oigridh agus nach math an dol air adhart sin?

A thaobh Càmpa Comunn na h-Oigridh, cuimhnichibh gum bheil an là mu dheireadh (am Faoilteach, 15mh.) air son ainmean luchd-iarraidh àite anns an dà Chàmpa tighinn a steach, a nis air dol seachad. Mar sin tha COIR AIG A' H-UILE BALACH IS CAILEAG AN COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH A NIS AITE IARRAIDH ANNS A' CHAMPA, ach iad a bhi dà bhliadhna dheug a dh'aois no na s' sine, agus gheibh suas ri leth-cheud Balach agus leth-cheud Caileag àite ann. Cuiribh bhur n-ainm, agus bhur leth-chrùn gam ionnsuidh cho luath 's is urrainn duibh, mu'm bi na h-àitean uile air an lionadh.

Tha sinn ag guidhe gum dùrachdach air na Cinn-Feachd iad a dheanamh an uile dhìchill a chum agus gum tig feadhainn as an cuid Feachdan a dh'ionnsuidh Càmpa 1936. Ma's e eigin airgid a tha 'gur cumail air ais, cuimhnichibh gur math is fhìach do bhur Feachd air fad oidhirp threun a dheanamh, a chum agus gum faigh co-dhiu aon Bhalach agus aon Chailleag, no barrachd, an cùideachadh a tha dhith orra. Dheanadh aon oidhche-céilidh an Fheachda faradh agus bòrd a phaigheadh air son dithis Bhall co-dhiu. Le sin a dheanamh leigidh sibh ris bhur n-eudmhorachd a thaobh leas Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Gach Feachd a bhios air a riochdachadh anns a' Chàmpa, tha i deanamh a cuid an da-rireadh gum inbhe Comunn na h-Oigridh àrdachadh. Agus is ann air an Fheachd fein a bhios a bhuil, oir is cinnteach gum fàg beatha a' Champa athailt buan, slàn-teil air aigne gach neach a chaitheas seachdainn ann, agus bitheadh a' bhuaidh sin—spiorad a' Champa—a' siubhal troimh 'n Fheachd air a thàilleamh.

Cuiribh na h-ainmean gum dail, mata, agus ma's e gum bheil tuilleadh eòlais a dhith oirbh mu'n rud a th'ann, cuiribh bhur comhairle rium-sa. An iad aimhreitean an turuis a tha cur oirbh?—oirbhidh sinn turus gach buil a mach gum a' phunc as crìne. An

e nach eil sibh ciunteach as a' chuideachd a bhios ann?—tha e mar dhleasanais air Clann an Fhraoich an luchd-dreuchd a thaghadh le ro-chùram, agus theid mi'n urras nach bi cuideachd as gasta cruinn an aon àite an Alba na iadsan a riaghlas Càmpa Comunn na h-Oigridh. An e gum bheil Balach no Caileag agaibh a tha gu h-airidh toilteanach, ach gum fairtlìch orra, an dèidh gach oidhirp is rannsachaidh, an cosdas a choinneachadh?—leigibh fios dhomh-sa, agus tha mi air mo mhealladh mur a faigh mi duine còir a ni na bhios feumail.

Tha ullachadh is uidheamachadh a' dol air aghaidh gu surdail. Tha'n tigh-stòrais, a dh'aindeoin cuilbheartan na side, brath bhi réidh agus cha bhi an tigh-cocaireachd fada air dheireadh air. Thugadh atharrachadh air roghainn nam pàillianan air comhairle fear-stiùiridh "Urdd Gobaiith Cymru" 's an dùthaich sin. Bithidh iad air an deanamh air aodach-cainbe uaine, as treise 's as dìonaiche ghabhas faotainn, agus cha bhi ach ceathrar anns gach pàillion. Tha iad air an ordughadh bho Bhuidhinn Albannaich an Goraig.

A réir coltais 's e Ceannard na Buidhne Camanachd an Oilthigh Ghlaschu a bhios againn mar lighiche òg, agus a bharr air an deagh theisteanas sin tha e 'na phìobaire agus deagh Ghaidhlig aige—ach cha leig mi ris a ainm gus am bi sinn ciunteach gun tig e. Ma thig, chan iarraidh na b'fhearr. Agus a thaobh cocaireachd, is math leam e bhi agam r'a in-seadh dhuibh gun d'fhuaireadh gealladh bho Bhean MhicCoinnich, Linn a' Ghlugain an Gleann Aora gun tig ise a bhi 'na ban-chocair dhuinn, agus a nighean laghach 'ga cuideachadh. Chan e mhàin gum bheil lùm air leth aice air gach biadh blasda dheasachadh—smior na fìor Bhana-Ghaidheil a th'innse, agus tha i cho grinn, beothail 'na dòigh's gun cuireadh i sund agus fonn air cuideachd sam bith.

Mo làmh dhuit-sa a fhrithealas Càmpa Comunn na h-Oigridh, nach bi e aithreach leat!

Tha sinn fada an comain air bana-charaid, a' Bhean-usal Fionnghal Mhic Fhionghuin, air son an iomraidh cheutaich a thug i dhuinn an "Gaidheal" an Fhaoiltich air iarrtas nan Caileagan a thaobh nithean air son obair-ghreise agus a leithid. Cha bhi lethsgèul a nis aig Feachd sam bith mur a faigh iad raghadh's taghadh gach stuth as feumaile na chéile. Cha d'iarr na Cinn-Feachd orm tuilleadh leth-bhreacan de'n dà dhealbhcùich a dh'fhàgadh leo a chur chuca fhathast.

Na biodh leig oirbh an iarraidh—tha pailteas ann. Is dòcha gum bi cluich-abhachd eile a' tighinn a mach an ùine gun bhi fada.

Mu'n sguir mi, innseam dhuibh facal glie a chuala mi an là roimhe aig Sgoilear Gaidhlig urramach, sgoilear cho pongail agus a tha beo an diugh. Thubhairt e "Is e am peann fear-dìona càinain, an uair is e an teanga gu tric a fear-millidh." Smaoinichibh air na facail sin—nach fìor iad? Is e aon aobhar air laigse na Gaidhlig an diugh, a lughad's a bha i air a sgrìobhadh 'san linn a chaidh seachad. Sin agaibh, a Chlanna, aon ni a tha agaibh-se r'a chur ceart: agus gach uair a sheasas sibh paipear-ceasnachaidh air son inbhe as àirde 'nur Comunn fhein, no a ni sibh cuid an cofharpuis litreachais aig Mòd sam bith, tha sibh ag cur as de'n laigse sin, beag air bheag.

SEORAS GALLDA.

AN SGOIL GHÀIDHLIG.

Bithidh an Sgoil Ghaidhlig air a cumail am bliadhna ann am Port Ilean an Ile.

Is ann air Di-màirt, an ceathramh là deug de'n Iuchar, a dh'fhosglar an Sgoil agus bithidh i a' dol air a h-adhart gus Di-haoine, an seachdamh là deug de'n Lùnasdal.

Tha trì clasaichean Gaidhlig gu bhi ann am bliadhna:—

(a) Clas Tòisichidh, Fear Teagaisg, Mgr. Niall Orra, F.E.I.S.

(b) Clas Mcadhonach, Fear Teagaisg, Mgr. Lachann MacFhionghainn, A.M.

(c) Clas Àrd, Bean Theagaisg, A' Mhgn. Anna Nic Mhaoilein, A.M.

Clas Ealadhain Cheilteach, Bean Theagaisg, A' Mhgn. Mairi Nic Gille Bhrìghde.

Clas Seinn, Fear Teagaisg, Mgr. Niall Orra, F.E.I.S.

Clas na Clàrsaich, A' Mhgn. C. Barry Milner.

Is e cosdas na Sgoile:—Na Clasaichean uile, 30/-; Gaidhlig a mhàin, 25/-; Ealadhain Cheilteach, 10/-; Seinn, 5/-; Clàrsaich, 21/- airson bhall Comunn na Clàrsaich, agus 26/- airson muinntir eile.

BRANCH CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

A new supply of Branch Constitution and Rules has been prepared in five different colours, so as to have them available for successive years. These are sold at 3/6 per 100, postage extra, and they may be had on application to the General Secretary.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC, 1936.

The Summer School will be held this year at Port Ellen from Tuesday, 14th July, to Friday, 7th August, inclusive. By kind permission of the Argyll County Education Committee, the classes will be held in the Public School, Port Ellen, Islay.

Owing to the Glasgow Fair holidays being held during the last fortnight of July, it will most probably be difficult to obtain lodgings during that period unless the matter is attended to as early as possible. All prospective students are requested to make arrangements for their rooms well in advance.

THE CLASSES.**Morning.**

Senior Gaelic Class—Miss Annie I. MacMillan, M.A., Glasgow.

Intermediate Gaelic Class—Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William.

Elementary Gaelic Class—Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh.

Afternoon.

Celtic Art Class—Miss Mairi MacBride, Glasgow.

Evening.

Gaelic Singing Class—Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh.

CLARSACH.

A Class for instruction in Clarsach playing will be held for a fortnight if a sufficient number of pupils enrol. Teacher—Miss K. Barry Milner, Aberdeen.

Application should be made to the Secretary of the Clarsach Society, Mrs. C. M. Fisher, 18 Learmonth Terrace, Edinburgh.

FEES.

Full Course, including morning, afternoon, and evening classes, 30/-. Gaelic Class only, 25/-. Celtic Art Class only, 10/-. Singing Class only, 5/-. Clarsach Class—Members of Comunn na Clarsaich, £1 1/-; non-members, £1 6/.

ENROLMENT.

Intending students are advised to enrol early, and to send their names and addresses to Mr. Neil Shaw, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2. Fees are preferably sent to him in advance, but may alternatively be paid to the teachers at the opening of the School.

LODGINGS.

Students must obtain their own lodgings in advance. They may obtain assistance in so doing by writing to the local Secretary, Miss Morag MacEachern, 29 Charlotte Street Port Ellen.

TEXT BOOKS.**SENIOR CLASS.**

Reid & MacLeod's Elementary Course, 2/6.
New Gaelic Reader, "An Seanachaidh,"

MacKinnon, 2/6.

An Cuairtear, 3d.

A Gaelic Dictionary.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS.

Reid & MacLeod's Elementary Course, 2/6.
Leabhar na Cloinne Bige, Blackie's, 7d.

ELEMENTARY CLASS.

Gaelic Self Taught, MacLarn's, 2/-.
An Ceud Cheum, Blackie's, 6d.

SINGING CLASS.

A' Chòisir Chiuil, 3/-.
Orain a' Mhòid XIII, 1/-.

1936 Mòd Choral Leaflet, 9d.

CLARSACH CLASS.

"Songs of the Hebrides for Voice and Celtic Harp." Vol. I, by P. Kennedy-Fraser.
Published by Boosey & Co. 3/6.

Tobermory, 1935.

Magic words are these, for they conjure up vistas of a lovely wooded Bay, upland roads, which yield, in evening sunlight, panoramas of breathtaking beauty, varied glens, Gribun rocks clad in low, swirling mists; Iona glowing like a jewel, Calgary sands as a flawless day when there was not a wisp of mist on Ben More—all the enchantment of Mull comes to enlure the spirit.

Memories of the Summer School of Gaelic come in rich confusion. Out of that richness stands forth a harmonious atmosphere of friendly relationships between kindred spirits, genial intercourse, refreshing laughter, enthusiasms generously shared, and the student mind in its most stimulating, patient and helpful aspect.

Standing forth equally, is the quality of the teaching which was available at the School. Perhaps the greatest glory of the School lies in its apartness from commercial considerations, but, it is fitting to state that all students were abundantly conscious of the fact that for the value no price was paid. Only a token of indebtedness passed to the treasurer.

No matter how wide the previous experience of sitting at the feet of teachers of varied subjects, all students of the School combined in paying appreciative, and grateful tribute, to the excellent power of lucid, and attractive, presentation possessed by Miss MacMillan and Mr. MacKinnon, and to the unstinted expenditure of those powers.

The writer of these impressions had no previous intention of entering upon the artistic sphere of the school. Before many days had passed, however, the oft repeated question, "Have you seen the wonderful work that is being done at the art class?" inspired a visit to that class. Thereupon, the decision to have the afternoons free went to the winds, and immediate recourse was had to the shops for a suitable material, so as to indulge in the alluring pleasure of putting thereon some aspect of those timeless designs left to us by our forebears, and which, in some way which eludes verbal imprisonment, satisfy that which is deep within us. Under the sympathetic and inspiring guidance of the Misses MacBride, one proceeded to imprint the colours of the Hebridean Seas, by means of needle or brush. Beautiful things—needlework, pewter, leather, rugs, pictures—were the outcome of this class.

One cannot leave this part of the subject without making reference to the happy memory of songs, of work and laughter which took a not unimportant place in the course of these afternoons at the Celtic Art Class. Nor was the place of song forgotten in the language class. It is a very special satisfaction to the beginner to get an introduction to the literature as well as to the music of the songs.

In the evenings, there was the opportunity of expert tuition in Gaelic song at the capable hands of Mr. Orr, whose continual, quiet emphasis on the beautiful constituted an influence of inestimable value. Advantage of this class was taken by several local enthusiasts as well as by members of the School. Prior to the senior music class, Mr. Orr had a class of about twenty children.

Those members of the School who studied the Clarsach added to the interest of musical programmes, and on one afternoon the teacher, Miss Mason, delivered an interesting lecture-recital upon her instrument.

On the social side of the School there were Ceilidhs. The happy spirit, the finished artistry generously expended on our behalf, together with that delightful and, to the urban minds, amazing ease with which talent is available in Highland places, made all of those occasions thoroughly enjoyable.

The enjoyment of the School was further enhanced by excursions through unforgettable scenery.

Especially memorable is the occasion when the ferry boat stopped for some time in the midst of the Sound of Iona, and the delay was whiled away by a delightful concert rendered by members of the School.

Then there was the concert, housed in the Aros Hall. The platform was beautified by a display of certain products of the Celtic Art Class by a beautiful old spinning wheel kindly lent by a good friend, and by a border of lovely sweet peas and glowing heather. It was abundantly evident that everyone, performer and listener alike, enjoyed the concert.

There are three significant points through which the writer views the School that is past and the Schools that are to come.

Firstly, a young man came to the concert, and was struck by the beauty of the songs and the enthusiasm of the singers and audience. He felt that he was in the presence of something big, and wished to be in touch with that which inspires that beauty and that enthusiasm.

Secondly, just after the School, the writer met, in Oban, a young American graduate who had been attempting to translate Gaelic songs with the sole aid of a Gaelic dictionary and grammar. She had just come from Sweden, where she had been attending a Summer course in folk culture (the extent of and attendance at this course made our School appear very tiny). This young American had a Scots grandfather; she had come to Scotland with a well conceived plan to walk through Mull and Iona, thence to Fort William and Skye; and she wished fervently that she had known that there was a Gaelic Summer School in Scotland. This raises the question of the possibility of advertising, so as to reach Americans with Scots sentiment, who might avail themselves of the School in the event of a trip to Britain.

Thirdly, Professor Milne, in an address, appealed to mothers to give to children Gaelic as the mother tongue—the only real hope in this cause. To this appeal, point is lent by knowledge of a small child who has duly received Gaelic as her mother tongue, and who, now that she is going out to play with other children in a Highland community, feels herself odd. This is a serious indictment of the situation, and a pregnant challenge.

To one and all who produced the School, and who contributed to its value, grateful thanks are recorded.

ELIZABETH CAMERON STEWART.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council was held in Stirling on Friday, 24th January. In the absence of the President, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Vice-President, presided.

The following members were present:— J. M. Bannerman, M.A., B.Sc., Balmaha; Capt. A. R. Campbell, O.B.E., Glasgow; Capt. G. I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth, Craae; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Alex. Fraser, Bishopton; Col. A. D. G. Gardyne of Glenforsa, Aros; Miss Lamont of Knockdow; Hugh MacCorquodale, Glasgow; K. MacDonald, Glasgow; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; R. MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; A. M. MacLachlainn, Tobermory; Miss Ann MacGillivray, Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Ibrox; Fred T. MacLeod, Edinburgh; John MacNicol, Stirling; Miss Jean Mair, Dumbarton; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Alex. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; Andrew Stewart, Glasgow; Miss W. Millar Weir, Vale of Leven.

Attending:—Robert MacFarlane, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, General Secretary; Alasdair Matheson, Assistant to the Secretary.

Before commencing the business of the evening, the Chairman called on the members to be upstanding, while a dutiful and touching reference was made to the death of H.M. King George V.

The Chairman, speaking first in Gaelic, said that the whole world knew that a great King had passed to his rest in King George V. Among all the peoples in the British Commonwealth of Nations there was none more loyal to their King than the Scottish Highlander. As a people we were, for many centuries, accustomed to our Chiefs and Kings being, not only Rulers but Fathers of their clan and people and we rejoiced to see that His late Majesty King George V., of happy memory, brought this into the wider sphere of the British Commonwealth of Nations. He was a real Father as well as a Ruler of his people. The Chairman also expressed the loyalty and devotion of the members to King Edward.

It was agreed that an expression of sorrow and sympathy be forwarded to H.M. King Edward and to Queen Mary.

Minute of previous meeting was read and signed, and apologies intimated from several members of the Council.

A minute of the Finance Committee was read and approved on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Alexander Fraser.

A minute of the Education Committee was read. On the suggestion of the Committee, the Council decided to write to the Secretary of the Carnegie University Trust, suggesting that they should establish a Chair, or at least a Celtic lectureship, in the University of St. Andrews. It was stated that, in the event of this being done, Dr. M'Gillivray, Dundee, was prepared to hand over all his Gaelic books to the University. The minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod.

A minute of the Publication Committee was read. The Committee reported that the New Gaelic Reader, edited by Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., was now in type and would be on sale shortly. The name of the Reader is to be *An Seanachaidh*. The minute was approved on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

Minute of Meeting of Propaganda Committee was read. On the suggestion of the Portree Branch, a Concert Party is proceeding to Skye to hold a series of Concerts. The Portree Branch will be responsible for all expenses. The minute was approved on the motion of Mrs. Dunlop.

Minute of meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read. Good progress was reported by the Local Committee at Inverness. Invitations for the 1937 Mod were reported from the Aberdeen and Dundee Branches, and these were passed on to the Annual Business Meeting. The minutes were approved on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

Minutes of two meetings of Clann an Fhraoich Committee were read. Arrangements for the Camp at Sonachan, in July, are proceeding satisfactorily, and already applications have been received from members of Comunn na h-Oigridh. The booklet "Cleasan Gaidhealach" will be issued shortly. The minutes were approved on the motion of the Rev. David Duncan.

The Minister of Transport, in reply to a question from the Executive Council as to whether he would consider the issuing of the Highway Code in Scottish Gaelic similar to that issued in the Welsh language, wrote that he did not propose at present to issue the Highway Code in Scottish Gaelic. It was agreed to write to Members of Parliament in the Gaelic areas in connection with this.

The views of the Executive Council and their kind offer to assist with any translation had, however, been noted.

The report of the Special Committee on the Teaching of Gaelic was submitted by Mr. Malcolm MacLeod. The recommendations of

the Committee, which are as follows, were unanimously approved.

1. That in the Elementary Schools, in which Gaelic is taught, more time be given—say, half-an-hour per day, within ordinary School hours, to the study of the language.

2. While many teachers complain of a lack of suitable books, it is suggested, that especially in the earlier stages of School life, much good work may be done by Oral instruction. A good teacher can be largely independent of books. Interest can be stimulated by the telling of tales, the recitation of suitable poems and rhymes, the singing of songs, the propounding of riddles, and the playing of native games. For such activities the whole School, if a small one, could be massed, and classes taught simultaneously.

3. Reading should be begun not later than the stage of Senior 2 (Age 10), so that by the time the Qualifying Examination has been reached the pupil should be able to read, and understand, a passage of moderate difficulty.

4. While it is admitted, that in many districts Gaelic is not now the speech of the children, this is no reason why they should not be taught the language of their parents. Indeed, from reading the reports from some Schools, one is constrained to make the observation, that the presence even of a minority of English speakers is made, too often, the pretext for neglecting the teaching of Gaelic altogether. Yet it is an established fact that, given tuition that is at once systematic and continuous, definite progress in acquiring Gaelic may be made by children originally ignorant of it, so long as they are associated even with a few who are native Gaelic speakers.

5. Gaelic should, if possible, be offered to all children whether native speakers or not in Elementary Schools, but in any case in Post Qualifying classes; in Secondary Schools even outwith the Highlands, it should be given equal status with any other language in the curriculum.

6. It is suggested, that the inspection of, and the reporting on Gaelic, be more regular than it is at present, as that might be the means of stimulating greater interest in its study, and that this be kept in view by the Department in the allocation to districts of the members of the Inspectorate.

7. The Committee is of opinion that in view of the fact that a considerable number of qualified teachers of Gaelic are at present unemployed, there is no justification for the assertion which comes from certain areas that the supply of Gaelic teachers is inadequate.

8. That by conference with teachers, parents, and otherwise, An Comunn should endeavour to impress on all concerned the value of bilingualism.

9. Experiments in the teaching of Gaelic by the direct method with as much time allotted to Gaelic as to English in the time-table, should be conducted in each Highland County in districts where the children have become anglicised.

10. That a deputation of selected teachers should be sent to Aberdare to study the Welsh method of teaching a second language; these would subsequently give the benefit of their experience to other teachers engaged in the experiment.

11. Education Committees in Highland Counties, Training Colleges, the Education Department should co-operate in setting up, and supporting a Gaelic Summer School for teachers already in service, to enable these teachers to extend their knowledge of Gaelic, and to become familiar with the technique of the direct method of teaching.

12. In Intermediate and Secondary Schools, staffing should be sufficient to provide separate classes for learners.

13. In Training Colleges Gaelic students should include in their course methods of teaching Gaelic to learners and native speakers; The Gaelic class should provide practice in lessons with Gaelic as the medium of instruction, *e.g.*, History, Geography, Nature Study.

14. In Theological Colleges, students should have facilities for practice in the conduct of Gaelic services, and should be required to write and preach discourses in Gaelic as well as in English as part of their course.

15. A knowledge of Gaelic should be required of officers in the public service in Highland districts.

16. That the Scotch Education Department be asked to issue a memorandum on the teaching of Gaelic as has been done in the case of other subjects of the curriculum.

17. That the Education Department be asked to receive a deputation with regard to those matters in which action by the Department seems to be called for.

18. That the Executive be asked to authorise the printing and circulation of this report, and that the Special Committee be continued in being to take such steps as may be necessary and practicable to carry out the recommendation of the report.

Notice of motion by Mr. A. M. MacLachlainn: That the Summer School's Accounts be printed separately in the Association's Annual Report.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

During the Northern Organiser's visit to Lewis, just completed, a beginning was made with the establishment of Comunn na h-Oigridh. Feachdan were formed in the four Schools in the Point Area, and 202 children were enrolled. With the aid of their Feachdan it is hoped to re-establish the National game of Shinty in Lewis, and to interest the girl members in Celtic Art. An outing in the early summer, when all the children will be gathered at one point and games engaged in, is another phase of the Youth Movement, which is being considered by a Committee in the Area in which those Feachdan have been formed. It is also hoped that the members may produce one of the plays written by Mr. Marjoribanks in the course of the session.

* * *

Arrangements are at present being made for Mr. John MacDonald to conduct Music Classes in Lewis, and in all the Areas at which he was engaged last year, a desire was expressed that he should again undertake this work. It is interesting to learn that the Feachd at Broadford, under the direction of Mr. D. R. MacKay, have already shown what can be done in the way of interesting the children in Gaelic drama. Last December, they very successfully performed one of Mr. Marjoribank's Plays, "A Chlann fo Gheasaibh." Here is an example to other Branches of Comunn na h-Oigridh.

* * *

Mr. Macphail, during his visit to Lewis was successful in having a number of Sgeulachdan recorded on the Dictaphone, recently purchased by An Comunn. Two of those who recorded are seventy-six and seventy-nine years of age respectively, but the voices have come through remarkably well. Much remains to be garnered in Lewis, but time did not permit of further recording on this occasion. The weather also was very severe and many of the older people were suffering from colds.

TREASURE HILL.

Owing to pressure on our space the continuation of the poem, "Treasure Hill," translated from the Gaelic by Dr. Alexander Macintyre, has been unavoidably held over until next month.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Ann's a' Mhiosachan mu dheireadh thug am Fear Deilbhe iomradh air a chuairt an Cataibh gu ruige Tunga.

Air feasgar Diluain, an 16mh la de'n Dùdhlachd bha e 's an lathair aig céilidh ghrrinn an Sgeireadh, agus cha robh dìth air sgeulachd no air òran. Fhuair eadh sgeulachdan fiosrachail o dhithis bhodach. Cha b'ann 'nan suidhe a bha iad ag cur an cèill an sgeulachd ach a' sràideamachd air an ùrlar a réir an t-seann chleachdadh an Cataibh. Bha e 'na thoilinntinn àireamh cho gasda de'n Oigridh fhaicinn 's an lathair agus ghabh Mgr. MacPhàil an cothrom air Feachd eile de Chomunn na h-Oigridh a chur air chois. Tha deich gillean agus naoi caileagan 'nam buill de'n Fheachd ùr so, le Domhnall MacLeod air an ceann.

Aig coinneimh de Mheur "A' Bhlàran Odhar" bha faisg air ceud an lathair an ath oidhche. B'e so Coinneamh Bhliadhnaile a' Mheoir so. Is e Uilleam MacAoidh an Cean Suidhe agus Sine Nic an Rothaich an Runaire. Thugadh taing chridheil do'n Bhean Usal Nic Aoidh airson cho dealasach is a bha i air cùl a' Mheoir bho cheann bhliadhnaichan. Bha céilidh laghach ann an deidh na Coinneimh.

Chum an Fear Deilbhe air a chuairt agus aig Mealbhaich rinn e ullachadh gu'm biodh an t-ionad so co-cheangailte ri Mòd Bhùrra, a thaobh is gu'm bheil an t-astar ro fhada airson cho-fharpaisich a dhòl gu Diurnis. Is ann 's a' bhaile sin a bhios Mod Cean Tuath Chataibh air a chumail am bliadhna. Air an ath feasgar bha e 's an lathair aig céilidh an Srath Alladail. Tha na co-fharpaisich a so a' dol gu Bhùrra mar an ceudna.

Chuir am Fear Deilbhe Cataibh 'na dheidh an ath mhaduinn agus 's an fheasgar bha e a' frithealadh aig céilidh an Inbhir-Uig, an Gallaibh. Bha an Cean Suidhe, Mgr. Mac a' Mhuilleir anns a' chathair agus fhuair eadh sgeul is òran bho chairdean a bha 'sa chuideachd.

Air an ath feasgar rainig am Fear Deilbhe Latharan a' Phuill, agus gu dé bha an Oigridh a' deanamh ach a' reic Bhrataichean airson ionmhais a' Mhòid Mhóir an Inbhirnis. Ged bha cur is cathadh sneachd ann cha do chuir sin dàil air a' chloinn agus reic iad gach aon a bh'aca mu'n do sguir iad. Ged nach eil a' chànan laidir 's an ionad so tha spiorad nan Gaidheal is na cànan ri fhaireachdainn gu soilleir agus tha am Meur so de'n Chomunn a' deanamh oibre ionmholta ag cumail beò an spioraid so.

Aig Bun-Ilidh labhair Mgr. MacPhàil ri làn an tìghe de luchd cèilidh agus an deidh na h-òraide fhluairleadh pailteas sgeulachd is òran. Bidh cèilidhean air an cumail am Bun-Ilidh gach mìos gu toiseach an Earraich.

Bha ath-bheothachadh ri fhlaireachdaim 's an Dòirneach nuair a thadhail am Fear Deilbhe. Bha Mgr. Uisdean F. Caimbeul 'na Fhear-tìghe aig cèilidh ghrinn air an 26mh la de'n Dùdlachd. A bharrachd air Oraid an Fhìr Dheilbhe, an Gaidhlig is am Bcùrla, labhair an Coirneal Gunnach, O.B.E., agus Uisdean MacRath. Is e Calum MacDhonnhaill is Rùnaire an so agus tha esan agus a Chomhairle a' deanamh obair mhaith 's an Dòirneach às leth na Gaidhlig.

Tha taing ri thairgse do Iain C. Ros, rùnaire Meur Ghoillspidh airson na h-òibre chiataich a tha e a' deanamh 'sa bhaile sin. Bha Mgr. Mac Phàil 'na Fhear Cathrach aig cèilidh ghrinn a chunadh air oidhche Di-haoine. Bha mu dha cheud cruinn. Tha cròileanan cànan is-ciuil 'gau cur air adhart 's an Dòirneach is an Goillspidh agus tha àircamh ghada a' frithealadh aig gach coinneimh. Thug a' chéilidh so gu crìch turas an Fhìr Dheilbhe gu Cataibh is Gallaibh.

Air an ochdamh là de'n Fhaoilteach thog am Fear Deilbhe air gu Eilean Leodhais agus ré seachdainn labhair e aig coinneamhan an Lional, Cros, Siadar, Barbhas, Bràgar, Siabost, Càrlabhagh, Aird an Rudha, Leurbost agus Steòrnabhagh. Le cuideachadh bho na Maighstirean Sgoile rinneadh ullachadh airson Cròileanan Ciuil an Sgìre Steòrnabhagh agus air an taobh an Iar de'n Eilean. Tha dùil gu'm bi Iain MacDhonnhaill, aon de luchd-teagaisg a' Chomuinn, a' tòiseachd 's an Eilean gu h-aith-ghearr.

Thadhail Mgr. MacPhàil air na ceithir sgoilean 's an Rudha agus chuir e air bonn Feachd de Chomunn na h-Oigridh anns gach aon diùb. Tha àireamh nam ball mar a leanas—Aird an Rudha, 72, An Cnoc, 28 Paibil 61, agus an Sann-dabhaig 41—202 uile gu léir. Is e so a' cheud oidheirp a rinneadh an Leòdhas air Comunn na h-Oigridh a' stéidheachadh ach uidh air n-uidh bidh a' chlànn gu léir air an gabhail a steach do'n Chomunn so.

B'i deasbaireachd a bha air a' chlàr-eagair 's an Rudha nuair a rainig am Fear Deilbhe am baile sin air Di-ciadain agus b' e an cuspair—“Am bheil a' Chailleach na 's miannaiche air an *Tea* na tha am Bodach air an Tombaca.” Chaidh a' chùis air adhart gu ciallach, réidh, agus air uairean bha a' chainnt gu math gear. Ghabh mòran de na bha 's an lathair pàirt anns an

deasbuid agus b'e an co-dhùnadh gu's an tainig iad gu bheil a' Chailleach na 's gaolaiche air an *Tea* na tha am Bodach air an Tombaca. Labhair Mgr. MacPhàil air cor na Gaidhlig agus gu h-àraidh air Comunn na h-Oigridh. Bha còrr is dà fhichead de bhuill a' Chomuinn Oig 's an lathair agus nach math an cleachdadh dhoibh a bhli ag cisdeachd ri deasbaireachd anns a' Ghaidhlig.

Thug am Fear Deilbhe a thurus gu crìch aig cèilidh mhóir an Talla a' Bhaile an Steòrnabhagh air oidhche Di-haoine agus bu chéilidh i gu dearbh!

Tha Mgr. Alasdair Urchadan, an Rùnaire, gu trang aig an àm so a' deanamh ullachaidh fa chomhar Mòd Leòdhais agus tha e fein is a Chomhairle ri am moladh airson na h-òibre shonraichte a tha iad a' deanamh air sgàth cànan agus ceòl nan Gaidheil an Eilean Leòdhais.

Dh'fhàg e Steòrnabhagh aig aon uair deug, làn riarachaidhe leis na chunna 's na chual e rc a thurus. Fhuair e coibhneas agus cairdeas anns gach ceàrn 's an do thadhail e agus foadar an t-ionachd so a chrìochnachadh leis an dùrachd—

“Gus an traoghar an cuan le eliabh
Nach bi am fear fial falamh.”

An Airdè Deas.

Choimich a' Chomhairle Dheasach an Seòmair Gnothaich a' Chomuinn air Di-luain, an treas la Deug de'n Fhaoilteach, agus bha am Fear Gairme, Mgr. Donnchadh MacCalum, anns a' chathair. Bha mòran de na buill 's an lathair agus chual iad le mòr thoilinnint mu'n chuart shoirbheachail a thug Mgr. Marjoribanks agus an Runaire do Ile air a' mhìos roimhe sin, mar a leugh sibh anns a' mhìosachan so cheana.

Thugadh fios gu'n robh Mgr. Iain MacIomhair an Arainn, mar a shonraicheadh aig a' choinneimh roimhe, an deidh dha cròileanan ciuil gasda bhi aige an Tiriodh. An deidh Arainn theid e gu Ard nam Murchan a dheasachadh cho-fharpaiseach fa chomhar a' Mhoid an sin. Bidh am Mòd air a' bhliadina so an Aird-Ghobhair agus tha dòchas nach caillear, ach gu'm buidhnear, air an atharrachadh ionaid. Thug an Rùnaire fios gu'n robh e 'na bheachd turus fada a ghabhail gu Barraidh, Colla, Tiriodh agus Ard nam Murchan air a' mhìos so.

COMUNN BADGES.

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BRANCH REPORTS.

ARISAIG.—A concert under the auspices of the local branch was held in the Astley Hall. Mr. S. MacDonald, headmaster, St. Mary's School, presided over a good attendance, and in his remarks entertained the audience with many humorous stories. Unison and part-songs were sung by the mixed choir and by the junior choir, under the leadership of Mr. John MacDonald, Abriachan, An Comunn music teacher. A pleasing item on the programme was the Highland dancing by Miss Marjory MacDonald. Mr. A. MacPhee acted as accompanist. The catering and concert arrangements were in the hands of Mrs. A. MacEachern, hon. secretary of the local branch of An Comunn.

BROADFORD.—A successful concert was held in the Public Hall on 18th December. There was a good attendance presided over by Mr. John MacPherson, headmaster, Broadford School. School children, as a choir and soloists, contributed to the programme. The items most enjoyed by the audience were two Gaelic plays, one by the school children and another by adults. Members of the recently formed Branch of Comunn Na h-Oigridh gave a good account of themselves in the presentation of the new Gaelic play "A' Chlann fo Gheasabh," by George Marjoribanks, and one presented by the seniors was "An rud a thair a' mhathair is e dh'fheumas a bhi deanta." Thanks were given to the performers for their excellent services. The Chairman was thanked on the call of Mr. D. R. MacKay.

CAMPBELTOWN.—This Branch celebrated the Old New Year by holding a ceilidh in the Town Hall. The Rev. T. S. Macpherson presided over a large attendance. A splendid programme of instrumental music and songs was gone through and the ceilidh was voted to be one of the best yet held by the Branch.

CARRADALE.—This Branch opened the New Year by having a ceilidh with "buata's sgadan" which attracted a large audience. The Rev. J. Argyll Baker, M.A., President, presided in his usual happy manner. A programme of songs was submitted, to which friends from Campbeltown contributed.

COLL.—The local branch held their second ceilidh of the session in Arinagour School. Mr. A. L. Thomson presided over a good attendance. The ceilidh opened with the rallying song "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig." Mr. Angus Kennedy played bagpipe selections and Miss Isa Irvine contributed violin selections. Songs were rendered by a number of members. Sgeulachdan, which were heartily applauded, were related by Mr. Alexander MacLean (Sandy Ban), and Rev. John Robertson.

KILCHOAN.—A highly successful ceilidh was held in the Kilchoan Hall. Rev. N. G. MacDonald presided over a full house, many being present from Salen, Acharacle, and Glenborrodale. Noticeable in the company was the Hon. Miss Ann Boote from Glenborrodale Castle. An attractive feature of the programme was a demonstration of spinning. Mrs. MacLennan, Mingary, manipulated the spinning-wheel, while Miss MacDonald, the Post Office, was carding, and Mrs. Fraser, Glenborrodale, attended to the teasing, additional interest being given to the display by lullabies rendered by Miss Margaret

MacLellan, Mingary, and Nurse Gillespie, Kilchoan. Thereafter a lengthy programme of Gaelic and English songs was sustained by members and friends. Recitations in English and Gaelic were pleasingly rendered by Miss Patricia MacLellan, Kilchoan Hotel.

LISMORE.—A successful ceilidh was held by the local branch in the Public Hall. The chair was taken by Captain James MacDonald, in the unavoidable absence of the President, Rev. D. Bell. Gaelic songs were sung by Mrs. MacDonald, Achnacroish; Misses Mary MacDougall, Margaret MacDonald (aged five years), Misses Black and MacCorquodale (duet), Captain MacDonald and Mr. Alexander MacColl. Miss Buchanan, Salen, gave a Gaelic talk on St. Columba and also recited a Gaelic poem composed by the late Captain Anderson, a gifted son of Lismore. Mr. Ewen Cameron contributed a humorous reading and Mr. William Stewart gave accordion selections. Thanks were accorded to the Chairman, performers, and all helpers.

INVERARAY.—The fortnightly meeting of the local branch was held in the St. Malieu Hall, Rev. Angus M. Gray, Vice-President, presiding. Mr. Henry Macintyre and Miss Macintyre, Tombreck, ably sustained the greater part of the programme, both as vocalists and instrumentalists. Others who figured on the programme were Miss Peggy Ferguson, Miss MacNiven, Miss Jeannie Gray, Miss Mary Martin, Miss Flora Halt, and Mr. Hope MacArthur. Tea was served by the committee. On the call of the Chairman, thanks were given to those who had contributed to the programme.

KINLOCHEIL.—The annual New Year ceilidh was held in the Kinlocheil Hall and Mr. MacKellaig, Stage House, Glenfinnan, presided over a large gathering. The Chairman was supported by Rev. Father MacLellan, Glenfinnan, and Mr. MacMillan, J.P., Corrybeg. The proceedings were opened with bagpipe selections by Mr. MacLennan, Mill House, and songs were sung by members. Mr. MacMillan (Bard), gave an interesting address on the topographical survey of the lands around Craegaig, and sgeulachdan were told by Mr. MacKellaig and Mr. MacDonnell, Drimsallie. It gave the office-bearers great pleasure to have Father MacLellan with them for the first time at a ceilidh in Kinlocheil. Tea was served by Mrs. MacMillan, Corrybeg, Mrs. D. Cameron, Miss MacEachern, and other ladies.

LOCHINVER.—At the monthly ceilidh of the local branch there was a good attendance of members and friends, including Mr. Donald MacPhail, organiser. Mr. Macintosh, who presided, extended a hearty welcome to all. The Comrades' Hall presented a festive appearance with tables set for about 100 guests, and arranged in horse-shoe fashion. The company joined in singing the rallying song, "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig," after which the proceedings were opened by Gaelic selections from the choir, led by Miss Ross. A Gaelic dialogue between Miss Graham and Mr. Duncan Urquhart received well-merited applause. Tea was served and a feast of good Highland fare provided, after which the members listened with interest to a Gaelic address from Mr. MacPhail, interspersed with selections of humorous Gaelic stories. Votes of thanks to all were proposed by the Chairman.

(Tobcmory Branch Report will be found on page 69.)

GAELIC BOOKS

Guide to Gaelic Conversation and Pronunciation.

By Lachlan MacBean. 1/6 net. An English-Gaelic Handbook of phrases and dialogues, in which English sentences are followed by Gaelic equivalents.

Elementary Lessons in Gaelic. By Lachlan MacBean. With Vocabulary and Key. 1/- net. An excellent handbook for anyone taking up the study of Gaelic.

Gaelic Without Groans. By John MacKechnie, M.A. New Edition, 2/- net. "The incredible has happened. The learning of Gaelic has been made not only easy but amusing as well"—*The Scotsman*.

Gaelic Proverbs and Proverbial Sayings. With English Translations. By T. D. MacDonald. 5/- net.

Gaelic English Dictionary. By Calum MacFarlane. 5/- net. Full supplement with wide range of matter. "None can surpass it in accuracy of definitions"—*The Scotsman*.

Outlines of Gaelic Etymology. By Alexander MacBean. 1/- net.

An Treoraiche (Gaelic Primer). By Malcolm MacFarlane. 1/- net.

An Smeorach (The Mavis). Song Book in Gaelic. By Malcolm MacFarlane. 6d net.

Am Bru-Dhearg (The Robin). Song Book in Gaelic. By Malcolm MacFarlane. 3d net.

Highland Legends. Paper 1/- net. Cloth 2/- net.
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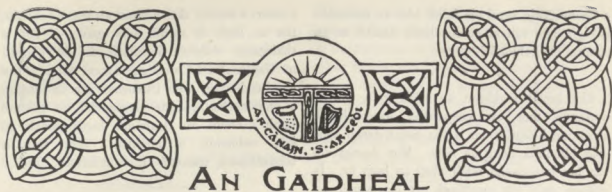
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AN GAIDHEAL

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TELEGRAMS.—*Runaire, Glasgow.*

TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXXI.]

An Màrt, 1936.

[Earrann 6

AOIS SGOILE.

Tha sinn a' cleachdadh nam facal sin *aois sgoile*, airson na h-aois anns an àbhaist do'n òigridh Albannach an sgoil fhàgail. A réir lagh na rìoghachd b'e ceithir bliadhna deug an t-am suidhichte. Cho luath 's 'a ruigeadh a' chlànn an aois sin bha iad aig saorsa bho fhrithealadh aig an sgoil choitichionn. Mar bu trice bha an cuid foghlum a' tighinn gu crìch an uair sin. An fheadhain aig an robh déidh air fiosrachadh, bhiodh iadsan a' leughadh air an laimh fhéin, agus a' fàs an còlas. Ach is ann tearc a gheibte an leithid sin. Faodar a ràdh gu bheil ginealach an la an diugh an earbsa ris na fluair iad anns a' sgoil gus an robh iad mu cheithir bliadhna deug de aois. Nas lugha na tha iad air leth teòma is e glé bheag de adhart a ni iad an deidh sin, cadhon ged leughadh iad sgeulachd no paipear naidheachd.

* * *

Ach mar tha feabhas a' tighinn a chuid 's a chuid air cranurchur is oilein an t-sluaigh tha an luchd riaghlaidh de'n bheachd gur còir tomhas an fhoghlum chumanta a leasachadh. Mhothaich muinntir gu bheil ceist air parantan gu tric mu thimchioll an cloinne, a sguireas de'n sgoil aig aois cheithir bliadhna deug. Tha tuilleadh 's a' chòir de ùine luachmhor na h-òigridh 'g a call mu an am ud. Agus

tha a' chlànn geur gu foghlum a thogail aig an ire sin, mas e is gu bheil an ùidh 's an aire air an dùsgadh. Chan eil sin am bitheantas farasda, ach gabhaidh e deanamh. Is e buil a tha ann, mata, gu bheil lagh ùr air an t-slighe, airson Alba agus Shasunn maraon, gum feumar aois sgoile a stéidheachadh aig còig bliadhna deug. Bidh corr is trì bliadhna mun toirear a stigh an lagh ùr; agus is e dleadanas Comhairlean nan Siorramachd, maille ri parantan is luchd teagaisg, ullachadh a dheanamh.

* * *

Is cinnteach gu'n tig cosgais an cois an lagha ùr. Tha e soilleir gur ceum cudthromach a tha ann. Feumaidh mòran de na sgoilean an deanamh nas mò a chum àite a thoirt do na sgoilearan, gu h-àraidh anns na bailtean. Tha sin a' ciallachadh gu'n tuit a' chosgais air an t-sluaigh, le cis 'g a h-ìocadh an cruth air chor eigin. Cuirear feum air tuilleadh de luchd oidichidh, eadar fhìr is mhnathan. Gun teagamh is deagh chothrom so do na ceudan luchd teagaisg a tha diamhain bho chionn bhliadhnaichean. Is coltach gu feumair àireamh de'n òigridh a ghleidheadh air falbh bho an dachaidhean; oir chan urrainn na Comhairlean ard-luchd-teagasg a shuidheachadh anns gach oisean de'n duthaich. Tha sin a' ciallachadh an tuilleadh cosgais. Agus far nach eil na parantan comasach air an cuid cloinne

a chumail aig sgoil air falbh bho an dachaidh is eigin gun toirear cuideachadh dhaibh as an sporan choitcheinn.

* * *

Tha luchd foghlum ag radh gu'n toirear muthadh mòr air cuspairean ionnsachaidh airson na h-òigridh sin a tha eadar dusan agus coig bliadhna deug de aois. Mur deanar sin cha bhi buannachd mhór anns an lagh ùr. Is coltach gu'n tig caochladh air clar-eagair na h-obair latha anns a' sgoil aig an aois sin. Bheirear tuilleadh aire do ghnìomhachas. Air do'n sgoilear fàs car ealanta an leughadh is an cunntas, is math mar an ath cheum gun tuigeadh e cia mar bu choir dha a làmhnan a chur gu feum. Tha an làmh ri bhì air a seòladh gu h-eaguidh. Tha sin fìor a thaobh ghillean is nigheanan; na gillean gu eòlas air innealan laimhe, agus na h-ingheanan gu teomachd air obair ghréis, is fuaghal, is banas tighe. Nach iomchuidh na nithean sin gus an òigridh uidheamachadh. Far am bheil astar fada aig sgoilearan ri dhol, cuirear luchd teagaisg air thurus; oir tha sin soirbh gu leòr an diugh le carbad ola cho deas air rathaidean ùra.

* * *

Is dualach do bhuill A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich fhearach ciod a' bhuaidh a bhios aig so gu léir air foghlum Gaidhlig anns na sgoilean. An am do chlair-eagair nan cuspairean a bhi air an atharrachadh, is mithich duinn beachd a ghabhail, is oidheirp a dheanamh, a chum gu faigh ar cànan is ar ceòl àite iomchuidh anns na sgoilean. An am do Chomunn na h-Oigridh cuideachd dol an òrdugh, tha an uair freagarrach gus an cothrom a ghabhail. Tha an fheadhain a tha an ughdarras anns a' Ghaidhealtachd fabharach do'n chaint; agus tha a luach mar mheur eòlais a' sìor fhàs. Gu h-àraidh bho thugadh raghainn do'n Ghaidhlig anns an fharpais airson bursaries sgoile is oilthigh an Urrais Ghaidhealaich, tha aobhar na cànan a' faotainn misneach as ùr. Agus mar is mo a chleachdar an t-seann chànan am measg na h-òigridh is ann is mò an comas air duais a bhuing a bheir air an adhart iad a chum tuilleadh foghlum

a thoirt a mach. Ach a bharr air leas na cànan, tha an lagh ùr so mu aois sgoile, a' dol a thairgsinn cothrom ionnsachaidh do òigridh na Gaidhealtachd anns gach meur eòlais a tha cho luachmhor, solus litreachais gus an intinn a chuideachadh, agus gleusdachd an gnìomh làmh a chum an deanamh foghainteach gu àite cubhaidh a ghabhail, mar fhìr is mhnathan, a' cosnadh an arain làthail.

AN IRISH PLAY.

A Children's two-act play of peculiar beauty, "Tonn Cliodna," comes in the Irish-Gaelic, from the pen of Sean Toibin, who is no stranger to the columns of *An Gaidheal*. (Messrs. Browne & Nolan, Dublin, 6d.) It is a tale of the fairies, of feud and reconciliation, of lovers and music. King Cairbre retaliates on Cliodna, goddess of the Munster sea since the beginning of time, for sinking his ships on her rocks, by breaking these to her intense disgust. His beautiful daughter Lasairina is abducted by Cliodna and her fairies, and none can get the better of them save the man who shall learn the lovely sea-music of "Tonn Cliodna" (Cliodna's Wave) on the clarsach. This the fisherman hero, Art, has been trying for years to do, and when the King promises his daughter's hand to the one who shall outwit Cliodna, his efforts are redoubled. For Art, who had sheltered Lasairina once in a storm, is love-sick for her. One day Cliodna herself, finding Art asleep, and in return for past services rendered to her by his ancestor Diarmaid, gives him the magic charm to accomplish whatever feat he most desires. When the fisherman finds he can vie with Cliodna at her own music, he plays "the wave" to her on Hallowe'en night when she has Lasairina in chains among the dancing fairies. The chains fall off, the princess is restored to her father, and Art in his gratitude gives back his gift to Cliodna, having effected a reconciliation between her and King Cairbre.

The strong feature of the play is the music, which is nearly all in the background. They have the pipe, the violin and the clarsach,

but it is the clarsach that plays the storm-wave of Clìodna. The little piece of music, even when rendered on the piano, is a fine imitation of that sound. The play would translate readily into our Gaelic. The setting might be somewhat difficult. But what a chance for the clarsach!

CELTIC FOUNDATIONS OF BRITISH HISTORY.

At a meeting of the Scottish Anthropological Society held in Edinburgh on the 4th of February, the Earl of Cassillis presiding, Miss Augusta Lamont, M.A., B.Sc., of Knockdow, delivered a lecture under the above title. Selecting for special consideration the question of the survival of the ancient British stock in England after the Saxon invasion, and the extent of the Gaelic colonisation of Scotland, the lecturer first alluded to wide-spread misconceptions regarding these two points. Evidence was adduced from the published writings of scholars, to show that instructed opinion is inclining to the belief that the native British population was not so thoroughly driven out or slaughtered as was at one time supposed. The findings of investigators in such various fields of work as Celtic elements in the English language, English place-names, systems of land-tenure, and the history of surnames, were summarised and quoted from, in order to show that the growing opinion in favour of British survival is arrived at independently from a variety of different standpoints. Much of this research work has yet to be pushed still further, but the results so far obtained indicate that Britons survived, not only as serfs on the estates of their conquerors, but also to some extent in little communities, maintaining their customs in separate villages of their own. From linguistic evidence, there is also reason to conclude that British women survived in not inconsiderable numbers to mate with their Saxon conquerors, and from the study of surnames, it can also be shown that, during the Middle Ages, there was an eastward movement of the native Celts, due to economic causes throughout the greater part of England.

Dealing with the Gaelic colonisation of Scotland, the lecturer went on then to show that the immigration of Scots from Ireland began in earlier times, and extended over a wider area of the country than is popularly believed. Irish history supplies evidence of very early intercourse between the two countries, and the establishment of the Dalriadic Kingdom about A.D. 500, which was the culmination of a series of Gaelic settlers to the eastward about the fifth century was also spoken of, and some of the findings of Prof. W. J. Watson, as given in his *History of the Celtic Place-Names of Scotland*, were quoted to show the one-time spread of the Gaelic language over the South of Scotland, and its long persistence in the Galloway district.

In conclusion, stress was laid on the need for collecting and collating evidence of the kind cited, in order to make more easily available to the writers and readers of popular history, the results of scholarship in the domain of Celtic research. It was pointed out how the Celtic view-point is ignored even by historians of repute, and a plea was entered for co-operation with experts in Celtic literature and history, in order that a more fair-minded outlook may be obtained, and fresh light thrown on the early and obscure pages of our history.

VARIA.

CUMHA NA BANTRAICH MIREAGAICH.

'S ann duit a b'uaibhreach basachadh—O 's ann A Luaidh—'s ann.

Bha do chiste mine air a stampadh fo do chasan—O, bha A Luaidh, bha.

Bha do bharraille ime air a stampadh fo do bhasaibh—O, bha, etc.

Tha cuimhne agam air a' cheud oidheche a chunnaic mi riamh thu—O, tha etc.

Agus b' e sin aig posadh Mhurchaidh Bhig—O, b' ann A luaidh, b' ann.

Bha thu fhein 's an oisinn shios, is bha mi fhein 's an oisinn shuas—O bha, A luaidh, bha.

Bha thu a' toirt damh-shuil agus damh-shuil orm, agus bha mi a' toirt damh-shuil agus damh-shuil ort—O, bha, A Luaidh, bha.

Dh'èirich thu 'n siod gu mo thoirt a dhannsa—
—O, dh'èirich, A Luaidh, etc.

(Tha a' bhantrach a nis a' fas aoidheil agus
fiamh-ghaire oirre)

'S math tha cuimhn' agam air a' phort a bh'
aig an fhuidhleir fhathast—O, tha, etc.

Agus b' e sin—An do ridil, do ridil, etc.

(An seo thoisich a' bhantrach air port-a-
beul agus, air fas dhith ghe aighearach
thoisich i air an dannsa.)

* * *

RABHADH A' MHINISTEIR SHURDAIL.

Is an-eibhinn dhuibhse air an lobhta shios!

Is an-eibhinn dhuibhse air an lobhta shuas!

Caithidh sibh bhur cuid airgid air pòit agus
air a h-uile seòrsa gòraiche is cha chuir sibh
sgillinn ruadh anns a' *collection* air son aobhar
na h-Eaglais; ach ma thig plubaire de phlòbair
Gaidhealach a mhan do'n dùthaich bheir sibh
sia sgillinn agus tasdan dha air son gun chuich
e dhuibh am port gràineil sin ris an can sinn—
"Toirt nan gabhar as a' chreig, etc.

(Agus nuair ghabh am port greim air teanga
a' mhinistear 's ann a dh'fhàs e cho aighearach,
sùrdail gun do thòisich e air an dannsa.)

* * *

DUANAG CHALLUINN.

'S mise mac Iain Duibh na Feannaig:

'S leir mo bhochdainn, 's mi gun aodach,

Le mo dha chois chaola, chruaidhe,

'S dath na luathainn air am faobhar.

Chaidh am buntata oirnn a dholaigh:

Cha robh toradh air a bharr;

'S cha robh againn ach beagan eòrna,

'S dh'ith a bho e' fhuair am bàs.

Fhuaradh an siod uair air a' chladach ann am
baile beag, taobh an iar Siorrachd Rois, far an
robh an sluagh comharraichte le cho romach,
dubh 's a bha na daoine, muc-mhara a thainig
air tìr marbh. 'S ann an siod a bha a' còmlstri
agus an airmheire eadar na teaghlachan,
agus an t-eud eadar iad agus muinntir nam
bailtean eile. Rinneadh òran mu'n seo. Chan
'eil cuimhn' agam ach air rann no dhà, agus,
na tha duine 'sam bith a leughas *An Gaidheal*
aig am bheil an corr, bhithinn deidheil air am
faicinn. Bha an seanachas gle gearra.

Ma 's sithionn cuain an ni bha uath',

Gun d'fhuair iad air a' chladach i;

'S na bha iad dubh, gun d'fhàs iad geal:

'S iad siod na fir a dh' atharraich.

THE SORROW OF ME.

My grief I must dree, unavailingly sigh
For the magic and wife of my dear native Isle,
The fair Isle of Skye; Ochone-a-rie, the sorrow
of me!

I no more can see the great peaks which soar,
Or hear the waves roar as they rush on the shore
In boisterous glee, or, with thunderous boom,
Resound through the gloom of some Erebus cave,
Where smugglers of old hid their ill-gotten gold,
And where wings flash and gleam, of sea-birds
a-scream,

As lost souls might rave, hurled deep to their
doom!

Och, my poor weary head! How the years
they have fled

Since the days we were wee, my playmates and
me,

When, like deer running free, up the hill-sides
we sped

To the fragrant allure of the heather-clad moor,
Where unwearied, we'd roam, nor, till dusk,
thought of home.

Och, my thoughts never tire as backwards
they're flung

To those ceilidhs of old, where strange tales
were told

Of weird ghosts by night, till we shivered with
fright

As we sat round the fire. There the sweet
songs were sung

By Sheila, the fair, of the corn-yellow hair,
Who my heart did ensnare:—Ah, blue were her
eyes

As the deep summer skies, but not for *me* did
she care!

Or, we joined the wild whirl of the reel, to the
skirl

Of the pipes' stirring strain, but such joys
come no more.

Now, my grief, and my pain, I'm forlorn by
far shore,

With my blood running cold, and my limbs
stiff with age;

Yet naught can assuage my heart's fierce desire
Just once, ere I die, to behold that dear Isle

Of beauty and wile,—the fair Isle of Skye:—
Unavailing my sigh! Ochone-a-rie, the sorrow
of me!

MORAG MACLEAN BANNATYNE.

COMUNN BADGES.

Members can now be supplied with Badges direct
from Head Office, price 2/7½, post free.

LETTER TO EDITOR.

Afrikaans and Gaelic.

Dear Sir,—I have seen a peasants' patois made into a cultured and cultural language within the last twenty years. Pretoria University teaches wholly through the medium of Afrikaans and all other S. African Universities use the same medium in at least 50 per cent of their teaching. It is impossible to get a job in S. Africa to-day unless one is proficient in Afrikaans and, the fact of the matter is English is on its knees to it. But a few years ago Afrikaans was held in derision, and it was considered a joke, that a language that was necessarily confined to the small number of white people in S. Africa should dare to challenge the world wide spoken English as a cultural and educational medium. As I have stated, English is now on its knees to it craving to be allowed a fifty-fifty share. How has this come about? It has come about because the leaders of the Afrikaans language movement believed in it. They advised all their people to use it on all occasions and particularly in buying. For a period there was but a faint response but you know how faint-hearted trade is. When they found that even a few Afrikaanders would not purchase unless they were spoken to in Afrikaans they soon got one or more assistants who could speak that language. Once this breach was made other more timorous Afrikaanders followed suit in using their own language on all occasions, and as you know, success follows success. They also insisted on it being the medium of teaching in the Schools, going so far at first, as to cease sending their children to the Government schools and founding their own schools. Nowadays at least 60 per cent of the children are taught through the medium of Afrikaans. Their leaders deliberately led them away from the false ideas that were drilled into them as well as into us: that it was bad manners to speak your own language unless every one in the company understood that language. They insisted that it was bad manners to be too deferential. The result is that the Afrikaanders now speak Afrikaans and Afrikaans only to one another, and if there is a group or company of people speaking both languages you will hear the Afrikaanders speaking English to the English speaking members of the group or company, but Afrikaans only, to their own people

A peasants' patois is necessarily deficient in

vocabulary; how was this remedied? By a small group of scholars mostly from Grey University College Bloemfontein making a vocabulary. They made words for all purposes and their people supported them by accepting these words as being the proper thing. They did not adopt Dutch (Nederlands) words as they wanted to get away from Dutch as well as from English, so that they really had to compile a new language in so far as the higher activities of the language were concerned and, they did so. They issued a dictionary and on the basis of that dictionary they translated and printed the Bible which, you may know, was published a couple of years ago. Many of their own ministers did not greatly favour the idea of an Afrikaans Bible, for the Bible in use, and the most of the theological training was in what was termed here High Dutch which was not the Nederlands of to-day but the language of Holland during the period of the Batavian Republic in the Seventeenth Century. They reminded me of the minister in Coll referred to by Dr. Johnson in his account of his journey to The Western Isles of Scotland. Nevertheless they had to give way, and Afrikaans is now the language of the church. Professors of the various faculties in the Universities expanded the language to meet the needs, and to-day, Pretoria University teaches through the medium of Afrikaans only.

Now, Dr. Ross, I think you will agree that Gaelic is losing ground owing to Gaelic speakers being too deferential. Their idea that it is bad manners to speak their own language should be dug out of their minds and it should be impressed on them that it is the English speaker who is lacking in courtesy when he does not learn to speak Gaelic. Gaelic should be the only language in which purchases are made; let these be of large or small volume. Gaelic speakers should go into shops to make their purchases, and speak in Gaelic only, and leave the shops where they cannot be understood.

The Comunn should long ago have insisted on Gaelic being not only compulsory in Highland Schools, but, that all Gaelic speaking children should be taught at first through the medium of Gaelic.

You may think these are vain words, but I have seen the thing done in this country in much more difficult circumstances than obtain in Scotland.—Yours faithfully,

HIGHLANDER.

Pretoria,

S. Africa, 22nd January, 1936.

HOW TO LEARN TO SPEAK GAELIC.

It gives me great delight every month to read in *An Gaidheal* about the efforts that are being made to get the children to speak Gaelic, and, it occurred to me, what a fine thing it would be if the hundreds of adults up and down the country, who attend Gaelic classes, and who spend their holidays in the Highlands, were able to speak it just a little. At present, all the tourists who go there speak English; the Highland child imitates them and refuses to revert to Gaelic when they have gone. If, however, the adult learner were able to understand and speak the Gaelic a little he or she would insist on using the language, and would rebuke the Highland woman for talking English to her children. The news would soon spread that lots of the tourists were keen on the Gaelic, and the children would then become proud of their knowledge of it and want to show it off.

Why are these adult learners unable to understand and speak the language? Because they have no practice in that, their whole time being taken up in translating. How can we remedy this? Very simply: **ABOLISH THE GRAMMAR.** A child of four who started to speak at two can chatter away fluently without having ever seen a grammar; and you, my dear fellow-students, will only be able to speak and understand Gaelic when you spend the **WHOLE** time of the lessons in listening to and speaking the language. The man is not yet born who can learn to understand and speak a language by spending his time in translating.

It is not a secret that not more than half the number of adults who start Gaelic persevere with it after the first few lessons. Grammar is a dry subject to most, and many a man draws the line at sitting down to study a grammar after a hard day's work. Besides, he finds it difficult to get enthusiastic over such sentences as: *Tha an cù anns a' bhàta.* *Tha an ciobair air a' mhonadh.*

Now, not everyone who is so good as to offer his services in the Gaelic cause is a born teacher. The ground should therefore be thoroughly prepared by a competent person. What is wanted is a book giving some hundreds of graded questions, which should be of the useful sort. I suggest that the first lesson should consist of a dozen questions based on the following vocabulary:

Tha e	Bha e
Am bheil e	An robh e
Chan eil e	Cha robh e
Fuar, blath, sìoch; an diugh, an dè—	
Ciamar a tha, Ciamar a bha.	

The Foreword in the book should warn the teacher to ask the questions slowly and clearly and to *continue repeating them* until the pupils have no difficulty in understanding them and giving the correct reply. When that stage has been reached the pupils should put the questions to the teacher. Would not that be more interesting and exciting than translating childish sentences?

To ensure that the pupils practise the questions and answers, during the rest of the week, the teacher should start each lesson by putting one of the old questions to each pupil. Anyone unable to answer correctly should be invited to put a penny into the fines' box. Touching a man's pocket acts like magic!

For the second lesson, I would suggest similar parts of *bithidh* and *biodh* as of *tha* and *bha* in the first lesson, with of course a vocabulary. The rest of the verb **TO BE** should be divided between the third and fourth lessons. Every question having been repeated over and over again, I feel confident that the pupil would be able to understand by then any one of forty to fifty questions and give the correct answer. I would repeat that the questions should be of a useful nature. I would add also that the pupil must write out the vocabulary every week in his notebook. That impresses better on the memory and teaches spelling.

Our Gaelic-speaking friends are so generous of their services, that, I am hoping that one of them will come forward and produce this book of a few hundred graded questions. He will be a real benefactor. Meantime, I should be very glad to read the comments of others interested.

I said "Abolish the grammar." Do not, however, put it in the dustbin. It will come in handy for reference.

ALEX. DUNCAN.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

FOUNDED 1891.

All Scottish Gaels, and all persons in sympathy with the Gaelic movement, are cordially invited to become members. The objects of the Association are to encourage and promote

- The teaching and use of the Gaelic Language,
- The study and cultivation of Gaelic Literature, History, Music, and Art,
- The native industries of the Highlands of Scotland, and
- The wearing of the Highland Dress.

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TREASURE HILL.

By Dr. ALEXANDER MACINTYRE.

(Continued)

One summer's day by Achtercairn
I strayed on sunny banks at noon,
And, as I rested mid the fern,
The murmuring burn's unceasing croon
And fragrant scents of blossom made
A slumbrous calm around me flow,
When, through my thoughts there slowly played
A dream of things of long ago.

Methought I saw the mountains move
And rocks turn slowly in their track,
And hollows form in ridge and groove,
And years, like mists, go rolling back.
A moment, and what hands had made
Dissolved and melted out of view,
Each house and wall, each wood and glade,
Each tree and herb and thing that grew ;
And, in a moment, there again
There stood the things that lasting be,
In brightness plain, each mountain chain,
The rocks, the meadows and the sea ;
And more, green woods I could espy,
And buildings that were new to me,
And things that startling struck the eye,
By reason of their novelty.
And, as I gazed, the knowledge grew—
The thing that was was there again :
A fairy wand had brought anew
What in the past had hidden lain.

A thousand years had, after all,
But little change brought o'er the scene :
I heard the self-same seabird call :
The day appeared the same serene ;
But—what was strangest to my eye—
Beyond the burn and lying low
There was a clachan and nearby
Were people walking to and fro.
The hunter to the forest hied ;
The herd-boys tended to the kine ;
And women there their knitting plied,
And fishers mended net and line ;
Each house upon its own fair croft,
Its own fowl pecking on its green,
Its byre and barn and, up aloft,
Its peat reek rising blue and clean.
The song-birds had the glades attuned
With gentle sweetness, chirp and trill :
The milkmaid hummed her song or crooned
Like fairy music from the hill.
In every house and round about
Were joy and love on every hand :
The children played with merry shout,
With peace and plenty in the land.

But in the twinkling of an eye,
As often falls their fate on men,
There came the end and there was nigh
The new that was beyond their ken ;
For, as I gazed beyond the tor,
There, from the north, there came a crew
Of men and from each clachan more,
And, as it neared, the army grew ;
And they were shouting as they ran,
And, leaping ditch and dyke, they cried
Of viking ships and Lochlan clan
Approaching quickly on the tide.

And, as a storm dispels the light,
There sudden fell on Achtercairn,
Where there was happiness, a blight,
And women moaned and men were stern.
The hunter from the chase returned :
The herd-boy from his herd of kine ;
And women ran, their knitting spurned :
The fisher left his net and line ;
And children came, a saddened band :
The milkmaid gave her cows release ;
And silence crept upon the land—
A silence—but it was not peace.

But—long that stillness did not last,
For soon the noble youths and true
Prepared their armour, firm and fast,
And older men took weapons too.
Of many kinds their weapons keen,
And each man waved a great claymore,
And axes of a glittering sheen,
And bows and arrows many bore.
Commanding was a haughty chief
Who led them quickly to the strand
And there they hid mid fern and leaf,
To meet the foe upon the sand.

And then, I saw each aged sire,
The women and the children pack
And leave the clachan, barn and byre,
Each with a burden on his back.
With lowing herds sped on before,
Long lines of cattle maids and men,
The dales and hillsides streaking o'er,
They sought the safety of the ben ;
And mothers led their young along ;
And there went feeble folk and ill,
The weak assisted by the strong,
To gain the summit of the hill.

Athwart the hillside to the tor
And o'er its shoulder steep they hied,
Till in its shelter there no more
Were they in view from shore or tide.
So vanished man and beast and gear :
The very song-birds ceased to trill,
And deathlike silence gripped like fear :
The very pulse of things was still.

Then—as I stood in dread alone,
 And nothing moved in dale or dell,
 Up roared the burn in angry tone,
 And fiercer, faster broke the swell ;
 And—gazing outward to the sea,
 What saw I there come from the north ?
 A broad beamed birlinn, fast and free
 And full and pulled with oars, come forth.
 Her many oars were glittering bright ;
 And, with each stroke, the water gleamed ;
 And, at her bows, the foam was white ;
 And, in her wake, a river streamed.
 And others came till there were eight :
 They followed her and hither stood ;
 A giant seabird with her mate
 Approaching swiftly with their brood.
 And soon there was of ships a row
 By Corran Dubh across the bay,
 Swung round to land and trim to go,
 For action ready in array.
 I heard the clang of spear on shield,
 The sound of oars and trampling feet,
 The rude commands as chieftains steered
 The ardour of the pirate fleet.

Then, after pausing for review,
 They sudden moved at one command :
 With fearsome shout and fierce halloo
 They beached their vessels on the sand.
 It was a shout to freeze the mind
 Of coward, could one coward name !
 Defiant as the rocks and wind
 Of Alba's shores the answer came.
 Of glittering steel I saw the flash,
 The clash of weapons in my ear :
 Of warring men I heard the crash,
 The clang of sword and shield and spear.
 I heard the wounded scream and yell :
 I heard the groans of dying men ;
 And echo answered, fell to fell,
 In angry cadence through the glen.
 Came then a cold gust from the west
 And through my creeping flesh a chill,
 And from the sea there came to rest
 Dark, gloomy clouds upon the hill.
 Brave men were stretched upon the sand,
 And with their blood the sands were red :
 Earth shook, as if to anger fanned,
 And rain, like tears, the dark clouds shed.
 Too many were the foe and brave,
 And soon the battle sounds were gone,
 No living soul remaining save
 A band of them, and them alone.
 Across the fields they quickly rushed
 To reach the clachan still and bare :
 The fields were empty ; all was hushed :
 The spoils of battle were not there.
 On, on they sped across the burn :
 They passed beside me on my brae :

They saw me not, nor did they turn,
 Although I called on them to stay.
 A grin of war their features bore :
 Their fiery eyes the world defied ;
 And, though I tried to shout the more,
 The sounds I uttered simply died.
 It was as if I were not there :
 They saw me not, nor heard my cry ;
 But, with a wild and barbarous air,
 They still went on and hurried by.

And then, I turned again to look
 Upon the homeland of the brave :
 Alas ! there was on field or nook
 Naught but the stillness of the grave.
 With grief and sorrow I could see
 The clachan homes go up in smoke ;
 But glowing embers on the lea,
 Where, but that morning, heroes woked.
 Again my thoughts with pity went
 To those poor folk beyond the tor,
 The women, young and old and bent,
 Who thus had lost their homes and store.
 And, as I thought of them, I found
 Myself above them on a ben,
 Beyond the tor, on higher ground,
 And looking down upon the glen ;
 And there I saw the people toil,
 Some plodding weary to the pass,
 And some were digging in the soil,
 To hide their treasures under grass ;
 For it was heavy, they were old,
 The hills beyond so steep and high :
 And then they hurried on to hold
 The pass the foe was drawing nigh.
 They led him through the steep defiles,
 Through corries dark, with false alarms :
 They tricked him through the fir wood aisles,
 Until they reached the loch of arms ;
 And, in its waters, there they threw
 The heavy weapons that they bore,
 And up the mountain side they flew,
 The foe upon their track no more.
 I saw them then go far away
 And, in the distance, fade from view :
 The foe was in the woods astray,
 And, as they went, the silence grew.
 And, stillness o'er the corries crept,
 And ghostly echoes came and died :
 A strange mist came and quickly swept
 And hid the view from ben to tide ;

And, as it ebbed, I found me there
 Again upon my flowery brae ;
 And, as I'd left things there they were
 Mid fragrant scent of flower and hay.
 Perhaps some day the little burn
 Again in dreams will tell to me
 Of how our people, in their turn,
 Came back to home and victory.

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

CAISMEACHD.

Thig iad as na h-Eileanan,
thig iad a tir-mór,
togaidd iad am brataichean
le tapachd mar is còir,
cluinnear fuaim na caismeachd
aig feachdan nam fear òg,
is thig piseach air a' bheo 's air a' Ghaidhlig.

Seist :

Suas i suas i hi-ho-ro
Suas i suas i hi-ho-ro
Suas i suas i hi-ho-ro
Hi-ho-ro bidh 'Ghaidhlig buan.

Thig iad feachdan Uibhisteach
fir urrasach nach sòr,
á Leodhas is na Hearadh,
á Dunbheagan Chlann MhicLeoid,
thig iad gasd' á Barraiddh
's iad cho fallain ris na ròin,
is cha chreid mi nach bi ceòl aig na h-armuinn.

Thig o thuath na Cataich
is na Carannaich le deòin,
Caoidhich agus Asainnich
is Coigich as gach òb,
Coinnich agus Crathaich
agus Srathaich air an dòigh,
agus chi thu gum bi treòir anns an àl ud.

Mullich agus Collaich
agus Tiristich gu bràth,
Leathanaich is Lathurnaich
is Abraich as gach àit',
Ilich agus Caimbeulaich,
is Domunullaich an àigh,
is eò chanadh nach biodh fàs air a' Ghaidhlig ?

Leumaidh iad is ruithidh iad
is snàmhaidh iad, na seòid ;
cha tig muir gun stiùreach orr'
's i sunndach ac' fo sheòl ;
bheir iad feidh á fireach dhuinn
is cinnidh iad gu mòr,
comunn tapaidd so na h-òigridh ri Gaidhlig.

Fhuair mi an t-òran so bho'n aon Ghaidheal
dhìleas a thug an t-òran dhuinn mu na h-eòin
dà mhios air ais, agus cho luath 's a bhuail mo
dhà shuil air thubhairt mi rium fhein, nach
math a ni so caismeachd do Chomunn na
h-Oigridh! Tha dòchas agam gun gabh mo
Chomhairle ris agus gun cuir iad an clò e, agus
am fonn leis. Ach is feairde na Feachdan e
bhi aca air ball a chum agus gun ionnsaich iad

na facail, mu'n tig na laithean 'sam bi na
Feachdan ag cruinneachadh air cnoc agus an
campa. Cha d'fhuair mi cead ainm an Ughdair
innseadh : bithidh sin againn fhathast, agus 's
e deagh charaid do Chomunn na h-Oigridh a
th'ann.

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Charnegie a' tighinn 'nar rathad air son
uidheamachadh a' Champa agus shaoil leinn
gum feumamaid beagan probhaid a dheanamh
air a' bhìadh, ach a nis chan 'eil feum air a
leithid.

LA A' CHAMPA.

Do bhrìgh is gum bi grunnan math de fheachd
a' Champa tighinn as na h-Eileanan siar—
Muile, Tiriodh, Uibhist, Beinn-nam-faoghla
agus mar sin sìos—is dòcha gum bi an Campa
a' tòiseachadh là na's tràithe, 's e sin Dir-daoin
an 16mh là de'n Iuchair an àite Di-haoine an
17mh latha, agus gum bi e a' dùnadh 'à na's
tràithe mar an ceudna. Bheir sin comas do
na h-Eileanaich tighinn le bàta Mhic a'
Bhriuthainn, a ruigeas an t-Oban Dir-daoin,
as am bi e furasda an toirt gu Sonachan le
carbadaid mòra an là ud. Bheirear fios
eagnaidh mu dhéidhinn so an àite gu bhì fada.

Tha àite gu leòir anns a' Champa fhathast :
cha tàinig an t-aon ainm a Barraiddh no Ard
nam Murchan gu ruig so, ach tha dòchas nach
fhada gus an tig. Mar a thubhairt fear rium an
là roimhe, chan ion fughair a bhì agad gun
smaoinich mòran air dol a champachadh agus
an dùthaich an glaic an reothaidh so—stad
thusa gus am bi na gucagan ag gobachadh a
mach gu duilleig, agus soirbheas blath an
Earraich a' teosainn cridhe na h-Oigridh, agus
an sin cha bhì ruith ach leum !

Tha beachd aig Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich
gur còir eachdraidh ghoird air obair Comunn
na h-Oigridh fhoillseachadh o am gu am aun
an paipear-naigheachd no dhà, a bharr air an
litir so anns a' Ghaidheal. Is dòcha gur h-iad
an *Oban Times* agus am *People's Journal* na
paipearan as freagarraiche a chum an t-ìomradh
so a chur 'gan ionnsuidh. Chan 'eil teagamh
nach dean so feum : mar as lionmhoire na
daoine a gheibh fios mu na tha dol air aghaidh
'nar Comunn is ann as fearr. Bu chòir
naigheachdan a bhì againn mu chàch a chéile :
cunntasan air nithean sonraichte a tha am
Feachd ud no am Feachd ud eile a' deanamh.
Bu ghlé chaomh leam na naigheachdan sin

fhaoitinn o am gu am. Faodaidh an Ceann-Feachd fhein an cur, an Ceannard no a' Bhana-Cheannard—is coma leam co dhiubbh. Chan eil ni as mo a dhùisgeas eudmhorachd a chum ghnìomhachas na bhì cluintinn mu euchdan feadhnaich eile.

Is dòcha gun d'fhuair sibh Riaghailtean Comunn na h-Oigridh mu'n am so. Mur an d'fhuair, cuiribh fios chun an Rùnaire 'gan iarraidh. Bha na Riaghailtean sin air an deanamh le ro-chùram le Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich, agus bu chòir làn-eolas a bhì aig a h-uile Ceann-Feachd orra.

Tha Comunn na h-Oigridh a nis air sgaoleadh bho cheann deas Ile cha mhòr gu ruig am Parbh agus air fhàrdach fhaoitinn eadhon ann an Leodhas. Mar is mo dh'fhàsas ar Comunn 's ann as truite bhios cudthrom ar freagarrachd. Cò a neartaicheas sinn gus an eallach a ghèillan? Sibh fhein, a Chlanna. Cha toir sinn sian gu crìoch mur dean sibh fhein bhur cuid 'sa ghnothuch. Ach tha eun beag daonnach ag cagasaidh 'am chluais, "Ni iad sin!"

Fuair mi fios bho Cheann-Feachd Bhàgh a' Chaifteil gun do chuir Alasdair MacEacharn, Lunnainn (am fear a bhreathnaich air Comunn na h-Oigridh air thus), pumnd Sassanach 'ga ionnsuidh airson feum an Fheachd sin. Bu deas a' chuimhne sin bhuaidhe.

SEORAS GALLDA.

CATRIONA NIC PHARLAIN.

(*A dh'eug air an t-Samhainn*, 1935).

Chaidh thu dhachaidh mo chruinneag do dh' Eilein a' Cheò,
Far 'eil anail nan luibhean na linne 's nan sgòrr,
Gach oidhch' agus latha le beannachd nam beò,
Ga d' phasgadh le caidreachan Innis na h-Oig.

Tha lion aodach geal air a' Chuifhionn 'na sgleò,
'S an ealtainn a crùbadh 's na raointibh le bròn,
Is ar sùilean a' sìleadh an sliغه 'nam beò,
Nach cluinnear leinn tuilleadh guth milis do bheòil.

Blàth thaisg sinn 'nar cridhe an ribhinn ghrinn chòir,
Bu shuilbhire snasail le falaidheachd stòir,
Caomh gasda ro chaidreach bu dualach a còir,
Air mùirn agus tùis agus saoghal de cheòil."

B'e roghainn do bheatha bhì banail glan stold',
'S an talla nam maireann gum b' aithneil do dhòigh,

Cha smuaislich do chadal 'nad' leabaidh chaoil bhòrd,
Cha duisg thu le caithream ged ghoireas na h-eòin.

Tha tobhta na Gaidhlig 'na beàrnau gun treòir,
'S a chailin chum taic rith' aig cathair na Glòir,
Ach tachraidh sinn fhathast 's bidh 'n t-aoibhneas cho mòr,
Aig dealradh do mhaise theid di-chuimhn' air bròn.

C. F. URQUHART.

BOOK REVIEW.

A Literary Enigma—The Canadian Boat Song: Its authorship and associations. By Edward MacCurdy. Published by Eneas Mackay, Stirling. 110 pages, 3/6.

"From the lone shieling of the misty island
Mountains divide us, and the waste of seas—
Yet still the blood is strong, the heart is Highland,
And we in dreams behold the Hebrides."

(The earliest version).

"A thing of beauty is a joy for ever; its loveliness increaseth . . ."

The charm of the Canadian Boat Song does not fade with the passing years. Its power to quicken the pulse is as strong as ever. But its authorship remains a literary puzzle. Not a few attempts have been made to solve the problem from internal evidence. Mr. MacCurdy has faithfully recorded all these endeavours, giving each its fair chance to speak for itself. It would appear that nothing was really known of this poem till it was published in *Blackwood's Magazine* in September, 1829. The claims of authorship made for the Earl of Eglinton, for Sir Walter Scott, for Galt, Dunlop, Hogg, as well as for Lockhart, and "Delta" (Dr. Moir) are exhaustively, and we think very fairly examined. While the poetic genius of several of these writers was quite equal to the composition of this famous lyric, yet Mr. MacCurdy narrows the argument finally to "Delta." This conclusion has been arrived at on several grounds. One is the sapphic metre used in the first and third lines of the verses in the song. This metre was used by Moir only of all the writers mentioned. Moir wrote other lines, in the same metre in *Blackwood's* in December, 1827. "Moir's poetry also presents similarities of subject and range of epithets, and shortly before what was presumably the probable date of the composition of the Boat Song he was undoubtedly receiving letters from Canada from John Galt suggesting Canadian scenes and incidents as subjects for verse composition."

The book is a most readable one; and apart from his full knowledge and critical acumen, the author shows a vivid appreciation of the condition of Canadian exiles, and their love for the old fatherland.

The printing is excellent, and the get-up is artistic. It is a pleasure to handle the book as well as to read it.

N. R.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The annual Mod promoted by the Glasgow High School Gaelic Class Ceilidh was held in the Berkeley Hall on Saturday, 8th February. Competitions were confined to juniors this year, and there were gratifying entries in both oral and vocal sections. The committee and members are to be highly commended for their enterprise, and we offer them our cordial thanks for the splendid work they are doing for the youth of the city. It was very encouraging to see the hall well filled with interested listeners.

* * *

There was a splendid turnout of members and friends at the ceilidh promoted by the Gaelic Section of the P.E.N. Club, in the Grosvenor Restaurant, Glasgow, on 8th February. Mr. James C. Watson, Lecturer in Celtic, Glasgow University, was the speaker, and he treated his audience to a scholarly and comprehensive survey of Gaelic literature from the earliest times. He impressed his hearers by his wide knowledge and by the simple and direct manner in which he delivered his discourse. Mr. William Power presided, and other speakers were Mr. John R. Bannerman, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., and Mr. Robert Bain, the well-known poet.

* * *

The Kintyre Provincial Mod will be held at Campbelltown on 2nd and 3rd April, fully one month earlier than for the past few years. It is hoped that the earlier date will be found more convenient for choir members and competitors generally. Competitions are open to those resident in the Dailriada Provincial Mod area. The Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod will be held this year at Ardgor. The date is 30th June. The Dailriada Provincial Mod will be held this year, as usual, in Lochgilphead on 9th and 10th June.

* * *

The Summer School of Gaelic, to be held this year at Port Ellen, Islay, is attracting much attention, and we anticipate a big increase in the number of students attending. We cannot impress too strongly on prospective students the necessity for early application for rooms. Port Ellen is a favourite holiday resort, and in the months of July and August accommodation is fully taxed. Miss Morag MacEachern, 29 Char-

lotte Street, Port Ellen, local secretary, will be pleased to assist students to secure rooms. The dates are 14th July to 7th August.

* * *

One of the first duties of the Northern Organiser, on his arrival in North Uist, was to present the trophies won by Cladach-Kirkbost and Baleshare Drama Teams at the Gaelic Drama Festival held there recently. The branches in Uist do not approve of the use of English at their meetings, and on this occasion also, the proceedings were entirely in Gaelic.

* * *

Debates still hold first place at the Ceilidhean held throughout the Long Island, and during the Organiser's visit, various subjects were debated in pure idiomatic Gaelic at Balivanich, Torlum, and Iochdar. At Lochmaddy, a Gaelic dialogue by Misses MacDonald and MacCorqudale evoked much applause. It is hoped that this talented couple may find it possible to compete at the National Mod at Inverness.

* * *

Very keen interest is being taken in Comunn na h-Oigridh in Uist, and a special effort is being made to raise funds to enable thirty of the members to enjoy the pleasures of the camp to be held at Sonachan, Argyle, in July. The children would thus have an opportunity of coming in contact with children from all parts of the Highlands and Islands, and this mixing would strengthen the bond of friendship between the various Feachdan. It would also help them to realise the great good the new movement is capable of doing among the youth of the Gaidhealtachd. Other three Feachdan of Comunn na h-Oigridh were formed at Torlum, Killerivagh, and Daliburgh, particulars of numbers enrolled are given in the Gaelic Notes in this issue.

* * *

The first of the Northern Provincial Mods to be held this year is that of Badenoch and Strathspey, at Newtonmore, on Friday, 3rd April. Arrangements are well advanced, and it is hoped that a Gaelic drama competition, as last year, will be held on the eve of the Mod. All information can be had from the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. M. Munro, Bank of Scotland, Newtonmore.

* * *

There will be no Mod at Kyle this year. As the National Mod is to be held at Inver-

ness, the South-West Ross Provincial Mod Committee decided that it would not be advisable to hold a local Mod, and that the district should support the National Mod instead.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Air do'n Fhear-dheilbhe tilleadh á Leodhas air Di-Sathuirne an 18mh là de'n Fhaoilteach, bha e a' frithealadh aig coinneimh de'n Chomhairle Thuathach an Inbhir Nis. Bha am Fear-Gairme, Mgr. Domhnall Mac Dhomhnaill anns a' chathair.

Thug am Fear-deilbhe iomradh air a chuirtean bho'n a choinnich a' Chomhairle roimhe agus chaidh gabhail ris an iomradh. Thugadh fios gun robh Mairead Nic Dhomhnaill a' teagasg Cròileanan Ciuil an Ceann a Tuath Chataibh agus air dhi an ionad sin fhagail gun gabh i fo a curam Cròileanan am Baideanach.

Tha Iain Mac Dhomhnaill air togail air do Leodhas agus tha esan a' teagasg anns gach clachan o Charlobhagh gu Nis air an taobh a Siar agus an Sgìre Steòrnabhagh.

Tha Bhaltar Ros gu trang air cùl a ghnòthaich faisg air A' Pharbh.

Air iarrtus Rùnairean nam Mòdan ionadail am Brùra, Baideanach agus Dùrnin, chaidh brìtheamhan a thaghadh air son 'nam Mòdan sin.

Air an là ar fhichead dh'fhalbh Am Fear-Deilbhe air a' chuairt bhliadhnail a dh'Uibhist. Aig a' cheud choinneimh aig Cladach-Chirceobost, thug e seachd na duaisean a choisinn na buidhnean am Fèill nan Dealbh-Chluichean aig deireadh na bliadhna. Ghabh a Mhdn. Mairi Nic Fhionghuinn cùram de Chupa Comunn Uibhist agus Bharraidh mar cheud dhuais, air tàilleamh buidheann a' Chladaich agus Domhnall G. Mac Illeathain Am Baile Sear, Cupa Alasdair 'Ic Fhearghuis mar an dara duais. Labhair A' Mhdn. Nic Fhionghuinn, Domhnall Mac Illeathain, agus Calum Mac Leoid, Loch nam Madadh, agus leig iad ris gun robh iad gu léir deònach an uile dhìchill a dheanamh an aobhar nan Dealbh-Chluichean. Air an dearbh latha thadhail Mgr. Mac Phàil an Sgoil Chair Innis agus ghabh e a steach 4 buill ùra do Chomunn na h-Oigridh. Is ann aig Teampull Chair Innis a bhitheas Cuirm-Shamhraidh Comunn na h-Oigridh air a cumail am bliadhna, agus cha b' urrainn na b'fhearr. Bidh na Feachdan a Loch nam Madadh, Am Baile Sear agus Cairinnis ag cruinneachadh

an sin air Sathurna aig deireadh an Ogmhios agus bidh sgaileadh air camain, is iomadh cleas eile' gan cur air an latha sin.

Bha Céilidh ghrrinn an Tigh Ghearraidh air an ochdamh là fichead. Labhair am Fear-Deilbhe agus Fear na Cathrach air cùisean a bhuneas do aobhar na Gaidhligte agus le oran is sgeul chuireadh seachad oidheche thlachdmhor.

Air an ath oidheche bha Mgr. Mac Phàil, an lathair aig coinneimh an Loch Eport. Tha am bàs air a bhì trang 's a' bhaile bheag so agus mar sin cha robh an aireamh a bha an lathair cho mór is a b'abhaist. Bha Céilidh laghach 's a Bhaile Shear air feasgar Dior-daoin. Tha am Meur so ag cumail gu daingeann ri rùintean A' Chomuinn. Leugh an rùnaire, Domhnall Mac Illeathain, iomradh na coinneimh roimhe ann an Gaidhlig bhlasda. Fhuairadh ceòl na pioba mòire is na fìdhle, Sgeulachdan is orain agus cha bu bheag an cuideachadh a rinn buill de Chomunn na h-Oigridh leis a' Chlàr-Eagar. Bha an Ceann-Suidhe, Gilleaspug Caimbeul, 'na Fhear-Tighe agus bha fion gasda air.

Air feasgar Di-haoine labhair am Fear-Deilbhe aig coinneamhan de na Meuran an Cairinnis agus Loch nam Madadh. Bha dà fhichead cruinn an Cairinnis agus deich 's trì fichead an Loch nam Madadh. Fhuairadh orain Ghaidhlig bho'n chloinn anns an dà choinneimh agus aig Loch nam Madadh chualas Comhradh air leth grinn. Tha dùil gum bi gillean agus nigeanan a' dol á Loch nam Madadh gu Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh an Sonachan. Buaidh leo.

Chaidh Mgr. Mac Phàil thar Faoghail na Comraich air maduinn Di-Sathuirne agus air an fheasgar sin bha e an lathair aig Ceilidh am Baile Mhanaich. Bha barrachd is coig fichead cruinn agus bha Ceilidh chiatach ann. Tha oidheirp 'ga dhanamh an so cuideachd fa chomhar Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Thadhail Am Fear-Deilbhe anns na sgoilean an Cìl Léir a' Bhàgh agus Cnoc na Mòna air maduinn Di-luain agus stéidhich e Feachdan ùra 's na Sgoilean sin. Tha 13 balach agus 12 caileag am Feachd Cìl Léir a' Bhàgh, agus 15 balaich agus 4 caileagan an Cnoc na Mòna. Anns an fheasgar bha e 's an lathair aig Ceilidh an Cnoc na Mòna agus a bharrachd air Orain agus Sgeulachdan, chaidh an cuspair so a dheasbuid, "Am bheil bòcain ann no nach 'eil?" A réir beachd na coinneimh tha bòcain a' spaidsearachd am Beinn nam Faoghla air an latha 'n diugh agus is math gun robh oidheche bhriagh ghealaich ann air neo bhiodh na caileagan air chrith leis an eagal a' dol dhachaidh, is gun fhios cuin a dh'fhaotadh fear dhiu sud tighinn 's an fhradhac. An deidh na

coinneimh chaidh Comhairle bheag a chur air bhonn gu bhi a' deanamh ullachaidh fa chomhar Camp Comunn na h-Oigridh. Is e Domhnall Iain Caimbeul is Rùnaire do'n Chomhairle so.

Air oidhe Di-Màirt labhair am Fear-Deilbhe ri làn an tìghe 's an Iochdar . . . Chan fhacas riamh àireamh cho mòr 's an Tìgh Sgoil. B'e an Deasbhad a bha air a' Chlar-Eagar, "An fhèarr a bhi pòsda na bhi gun phòsadh idir?" Bha a' chainnt geur air gach taobh ach bha a' mhòr-chuid de na bha 's an lathair de'n bheachd gum b' fhèarr, gun teagamh, a bhi pòsda. An deidh na Cèilidh labhair am Fear-Deilbhe ris a' chloinn is ri am pàrantan mu thimchioll a' Champ agus gheall iad buill a chur gu Sonachan. Air an ath latha ghabh Mgr. Mac Phàil a steach do Chomunn na h-Oigridh trì gillean agus ceithir caileagan 's an Iochdar. Tha Ochd deug ar fhichead anns an Fheachd so a nis.

Bha an t-Urr. Calum Laing 's a' chathair aig coinneimh de mheur Gheir-Iunis air feasgar Di-Ciadin agus ged a bha an oidheche fiuch agus fuar bha àireamh ghasda cruinn agus bha Cèilidh thaghte ann.

Cha robh an t-side dad na b'fhèarr an ath-oidheche nuair a rainig am Fear-Deilbhe an Togh-Mor. Ach cha do chum na siantan na Gaidheil aig taobh a' ghealbhainn. Bha barrachd is dà fhichead 's an lathair agus Calum Mac Neill air an ceann. Fhuaradh Orain is Sgeulachdan am pailteas agus sheinn gille òg orain a rinn e fhéin. Tha spiorad na bàrdachd anns a' ghille gun teagamh ged nach 'eil e ach sia bliadh'n deug a dh'aois.

Chum Mgr. Mac Phàil air a chuairt gu Loch Baosdail an déidh na Cèilidh agus air an ath mhàduinn, chuir e Feachd ùr de Chomunn na h-Oigridh air bonn an Dailibrog 's a bheil coig deug is da fhichead bh.

'S an fheasgar chuidich am Fear-Deilbhe aig Cuirm-Chiuil an Dailibrog le bhi aig innsèadh Sgeulachdan beaga a chuala e air a chuaritean air feadh na Gaidhealtachd. Bha an Dealbh Chluich "An t-Agh Odhar" air a' Chlar-Eagar agus chòrd i ris na h-uile.

Labhair am Fear-Deilbhe aig aon coinneimh deug 's an Eilean Fhada agus cha chualas facal ach Gaidhlig aig gach coinneimh. Ged a bha an t-side fuar agus air uairean fiuch agus stoirmeil, chruinnich mòran aig na coinneamhan. Ach c'ait am bheil sluagh a tha 'n as deidheile air seann chleachdaidhean nan Gaidheal na na h-Uibhistich. Tha iad air gabhail ris a' ghluasad ùr, Comunn na h-Oigridh, gu duineil, agus is dòcha gum faic sinn deich ar fhichead de'n Oigridh á Uibhist, anns a' Champ aig Sonachan, 's an Iuchair.

An Airde Deas.

Chumadh coinneamh de'n Chomhairle Dheasach an Seomar-gnothaich a' Chomuinn air feasgar Di-Iuin, an seachdamh la deug de'n Ghearran. Bha Mgr. Donnchadh Mac Caluin, am Fear Gairme, anns a' chathair—agus bha àireamh math de na buill 'san lathair.

Thugadh fios gu'n robh a' Mhgn. Ealasad NicMhàrtainn a' teagasg an Liosmor agus gu'n robh Mgr. Iain MacIomhar a' teagasg ceithir cròileanan ciuil is Gaidhlig an Arainn.

Thug an Rùnaire iomradh air a thurus gu meur Srathlachlainn air an 30mh la de'n Fhaoilteach. Bha mu cheithir fichead cruinn anns an tìgh-sgoil agus bha an Rùnaire 'na Fhear-cathrach. Tha am meur so ag cumail a suas an deagh ainm a bha aige bh'o'n a chuireadh air bonn e. Tha còisir-chiuil Gaidhlig aca a tha a' toirt cuideachaidh maith dhoibh aig na cèilidhean, agus a bhàrr air sin tha cròilean Gaidhlig aca agus tha na buill a' frithealadh an dòigh a tha leigeil ris gu bheil meas aca air a' chothrom 's air an teagasg a tha iad a' faotainn. Bha ceòl pioba is innealan eile air a' chlar-eagar, cho math ri òrain bh'o'n chòisir agus bh'o chuid de na buill. Chaidh sgeulachd Gaidhlig a leughadh gu blada agus bha e 'na aobhar toileachaidh fhaicinn cho fuireachail 'sa dh'èisd an cruinneachadh ris an fhear-labhairt.

Chaidh an Rùnaire gu Barraidh air an ochdamh la deug de'n Ghearran. Bidh coinneamhan aige an sin, an Tìriodh is an Colla mu'n till e gu tir-mór.

BRANCH REPORTS.

APPIN.—A Gaelic concert was held in the hall, when a large number attended. Mr. D. M'Pherson, Ardselma, was chairman. The programme included songs by Mr. White, Mod Medallist; Miss K. M'Innes, Arisogan; Captain M'Donald, Lismore; Miss F. M'Intyre, Shinnerview; Miss G. Boa, Taynribbie; Mr. A. Jackson, Portnacroish; Mr. A. M'Lean, Achosrigan, and Mr. D. Matheson, Inverfolla. Much credit is due to Mr. M'Pherson, who is an expert in Gaelic, and keeps the language prominent in the district. The proceeds go to An Comunn funds.

AYRSHIRE.—The Ayrshire Branch held a ceilidh in Ayr on 17th January. The inclemency of the weather proved a deterrent to a crowded house, but a very enjoyable evening was spent by those who did brave the elements. The official piper to the Branch, Mr. John Nicholson, roused the Highland spirit at the outset and a programme of Gaelic and English songs was ably and delightfully sustained by Miss Mary Macniven, Miss Margaret C. Fergusson, Mr. Donald MacVicar and Mr. Kirk, while Mr. James Gould, with his humorous readings, proved to be in his best vein. During the evening

a presentation in the form of a handsome chiming timepiece was made to Mr. Colin Fergusson in recognition of his services and on the occasion of his retirement from the office of Hon. Secretary, which he has held since the inauguration of the Branch in 1929. Mr. MacAskill, the Hon. President, in making the presentation, spoke in Gaelic and referred in glowing terms to Mr. Fergusson's association with the Branch, to which remarks Mr. Fergusson made modest but suitable reply. A letter was read from Mr. Malcolm MacPhee, Kilmarnock, the President of the Branch, excusing his absence on account of illness and wishing Mr. Fergusson all success in the future. A very sociable and enjoyable meeting concluded with the singing of "Oidhche Mhath Leibh."

COLL.—The Coll Branch held their fourth ceilidh of the session in Arinagour School—Mr. A. L. Thomson, president, in the chair. Mr. Angus Kennedy played bagpipe selections, and songs were sung by Mr. Donald Sutherland, Dr. David Mackie, Mr. Duncan MacFadyen, Mr. Hector Boyd, Mr. A. L. Thomson, Mr. James MacKinnon, Mr. Lachlan MacFadyen, Mr. James MacFadyen, Mr. Alex. Maclean, Mr. Coyler Fergusson, Mr. Dugald MacFadyen, and Mr. Duncan Maclean. Humorous stories were related by Rev. John Robertson, Mr. Dugald MacKinnon, and Mr. Duncan Maclean.

DURNES.—Under the auspices of the Durness Branch, a splendid ceilidh and dance was held in the Public Hall. The ceilidh was presided over by Mr. A. C. MacKenzie, Durine. After the Chairman addressed the audience, a splendid programme of instrumental music and songs (mostly Gaelic) was submitted by Messrs. Morrison, P.O.; Miss B. Stewart, Mr. G. MacKay, Miss A. Campbell, Mr. W. Ross, Mrs. Hames, Mr. D. S. MacKay, and the Senior and Junior Choirs. At the close of the ceilidh a splendid tea was served, which all enjoyed.

FORT AUGUSTUS.—A successful concert under the auspices and in aid of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Public Hall. The chair was occupied by Rev. Father Cyril Dieckoff. There was a fairly good attendance, and the artistes, who were all local, were loudly applauded in all their appearances. Bagpipe selections by Master John M'Lennan and piano and violin selections by Mrs. Tavish Cameron and Mr. Allan M'Donald were also very well received.

INVERARAY.—The fortnightly meeting of the Inveraray Branch of An Comunn was held in the St. Malieu Hall. Mr. Hope MacArthur, secretary, presided. Tea was served by the Ladies' Committee. On account of another entertainment in the town the attendance was smaller than usual. A programme of Gaelic and English songs was submitted. All the singers received enthusiastic applause.

KILLIN.—The monthly ceilidh was held in the Public Hall, Killin, on 29th January. Mr. James M'Raw, M.A., president, was in the chair, and he was supported by the vice-presidents, Rev. D. Thomson, B.D., and Mr. Duncan Strang. Tea was served by a committee of ladies, and, after the singing of the Rallying Song by the company and bagpipe selections by Mr. Dunn, a number of the members of the Branch gave a very excellent interpretation of the Gaelic play by John MacCormick, "Am fear chaila a Ghaidhlig." The stage was well set to represent an old Highland cottage, and a

feature of the play was the dancing of a Scotch reel to the accompaniment of songs sung by Mrs. M'Laren and Mr. Kennedy. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by a large company, and was brought to a close by the customary votes of thanks and the singing of a verse of the National Anthem.

MELVICH.—For the four weeks of January Miss M'Donald conducted a singing class three times a week both junior and senior. At its close there was a whist drive and dance in the Melvich Hall in aid of funds. Music for the dance was supplied by the Reay Band.

NEWTONMORE.—A small cup of jubilee silver, suitably inscribed, has been presented to Badenoch-Strathspey Provincial Mod by Miss Farquharson of Invercauld—the Annie Sinton Memorial Cup for Competition by Ladies' Choirs. Miss Sinton was secretary of the Newtonmore Branch of An Comunn and of the first two Badenoch-Strathspey Mods, 1929, 1930.

SKERRIAY.—A very enjoyable ceilidh was held in the Public Hall. Songs were sung by Misses Georgina Mackay, Christine Mackay, Edith Mackay, Joan Totlen, Mr. Ross Mr. MacLeod, and Messrs. Fred. Mackay and David Murray, Bettyhill. Mr. William Mackay gave selections on the bagpipes. Sgeulachdan, by Mr. John Murdo Mackay, and a Gaelic dialogue by Katie Mackay and John James Mackay, members of Comunn na h-Oigridh, were greatly appreciated.

TORARMHOIRE.—Air an 29mh. là de'n Fhaoilteach thàinig an t-Urra. A MacGill'Anndrais a h-uile ceum á Dail-mhàilidh agus labhair e ruinn air "Lathurna anna an ochdamh linn deug." Anns na làithean sin bha na bochdan agus na sgoilean fo chùram na h-Eaglais. Bha na ministearan comasach agus ionnsaichte, ach a réir coltais cha robh na dotairean cho sgileil no cho hionmhor. Shìubhail aon phàiseid anns gach trì mu'n robh iad deich làithean de dh'aois. Bha gu leòir de obair ann, ach cha robh an duais ach surarach. Mar eisemclair, is e an tuarasdal a bha aig maighstir-sgoile Dhail-mhàilidh dìreach dà fhichead pumnd Sasunnach 's a bhliadhna, le taigh is teine a nasgaidh. Ged a bha mòran de'n oigridh a' dol thairis, bha a thrì uiread de dhaoine an Lathurna aig an àm sin 's a tha ann a diugh. Cha bu mhath leinn na làithean ud a thilleadh 'nuair chluinneas sinn an fhìrinn mu' an déidhinn. Tha sinn mòran an comaine Mhgr. MacGill'Anndrais air son na h-òraid a thug e dhuinn. Cha robh facal Gàidhlig riann aig pàrantan an òraidiche seo, agus cha chuala e fhéid facal de'n chànan gus an robh e trì bliadhna deug a dh'aois, ach tha a Ghàidhlig fìleanta, foghlumte agus anns a' bhlas cheart. Air an aobhar sin, cha rug sinn a leas a bhì cho muladach mur bi a' chlànn a' faighinn ar cànan "aig glùn am màthar."

Copies of "Voices from the Hills" can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

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TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXXI.]

An Giblein, 1936.

[Earrann 7

URRAS CHARNEGIE.

Tha ceud bliadhna a nis air dol thairis bhò rugadh Andra Carnegie, an t-Albannach còir is tàlantach a rinn cuideachadh cho mòr le a luchd dùthcha. Smaoinichidh neach gun dàil air an tabhartas fhialaidh, dà mhuillein punnd Sasunnach, a dhèonaich an duine ainmeil sin do na h-Oilthighean Albannach, gu bhì a' dioladh an tomas mòr airson foghlum òigridh na h-Alba. Ach a thuilleadh air an tabhartas phrìseil sin thug e seachd airson leas na Rìoghachd Aonaichte suim eile cho tomadach is gu bheil i a' cosnadh de riadh mu shìa fichead mìle punnd Sasunnach 'sa bliadhna. Tha an riadh sin fo chùram buidheann de luchd-earbbsa, air am bheil an t-Iarla Eilgneach 'na cheann-suidhe. Is e dìleasnas na buidhne an t-airgead a roinn. cho cothromach agus is urrainn iad.

* * *

Tha e mar chleachdadh aig an luchd-earbbsa an clàr-iomairt atharrachadh gach còig bliadhna. Is e sin rì ràdh, na cùisean a bha iad a' misneachadh bhò 1930 gu 1935, chan iad sin na cùisean a chuidicheas iad fad nan còig bliadhna rì teachd, bhò 1936 gu 1940. Mar is cuimhneach leis an leughadair thug Urras Charnegie brosnuchadh anabarrach do fhiosrachadh is eòlas, le bhì a' suidheachadh iomadh leabhar lann feadh na dùthcha. Chan eil àicheadh nach deachadh oilean is foghlum an t-sluagh am meud leis na ficheadan leabhar lann a chaidh fhosgladh gu saor am bailtean mòra agus am bailtean beaga. Agus is luachmhor am feabhas a thainig air càil an t-sluagh airson ciùil leis na ceudan òrgan a bhuilich saibhreas Charnegie air eaglaisean is tallachan. Rinneadh

mar an ceudna cuideachadh le cloinn a' bhaile mhòir le bhì a' solar raontan cluiche dhaibh.

* * *

Aig coinneamh bhliadhna an luchd-earbbsa air a' mhìos so a chaidh, nochd an ceann suidhe gu'n tug Urras Charnegie togail nach bu bheag do na cuspairean sin anns na còig bliadhna mu dheireadh. Tha saorsa air a fàgail aig an luchd-earbbsa am breithneachadh féin a chleachdadh, agus an dòighean a stiùireadh a réir is mar dh'éireas cùisean ùra feadh na rìoghachd. Tha muinntir a' faicinn gur còir do'n t-sluagh féin a nis an lamh a ghluasad gu gnìomh, gus a bhì a' solar agus a' cumail suas òrgan is leabhar lann. Rinn Urras Charnegie a dhleasnas a thaobh nan gnòthuichean sin a cheana. Re nan còig bliadhna a tha air thoiseach oirnn is e an dùrachd an t-ionmhas a chur a mach air suidheachadh fearainn air tuathanaich bheaga; air misneachadh na h-òigridh anns na ceairdean; agus air teagasg na h-òigridh gu seinn an comhsheirm agus an còisirean.

* * *

Tha mi de'n bheachd gu bheil an ceann mu dheireadh dhiu sin—teagasg nan còisirean—gle luachmhor. Tha e soilleir gur i a' chrìoch shonruichte a tha faineard do Urras Charnegie, an sluagh ardachadh an càil oileinich, an eòlas agus an loinn is grinneas inntinn. Is coltach gu bheil iad a' meas a' chiùil mar mheadhon freagarrach gus am feabhas sin a choimhlionadh. An uair a thig eachdraidh foghlum an Alba anns an fhicheadamh linn gu bhì sgrìobhte, is cinnteach gu'n gabhair suim shonruichte de na fèisean ciùil a dh' éirich anns a' ghinealach so fhéin. Tha cèol 'na chuspair eìdichidh a tha anabarrach feumail gu bhì a' blàthachadh nan aignidhean,

agus gu bhì aig an am cheudna a dusgadh càil agus a' geurachadh nam mothaichidhean. Ma thug Freasdal do chuid talant gutha is cluas-chiùil, is dearbhte gum agair Freasdail gum bi na buadhan sin 'gan àiteachadh gu cùramach.

* * *

Tha an earrann sin de chlàr iomairt an Urrais, an earrann mu shaothair nan còisir, glé choltach ri aon de rùintean A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich. Tha dà thaobh air an obair a tha An Comunn a' deanamh as leth ciùil. Tha air tùs an taobh dùthchail ann—an oidhearp air a cheòl a ghlèidheadh air chuimhne a chionn gum buin e dhuinn fhein mar chinneadh. Ach tha taobh eile air ceòl na Gaidhlig—is e sin, an luach a tha ann mar chuspair oilein. Is e sin an taobh air am faodadh luchd earbsa Urrais Charnegie beachd fabharach a ghabhail. Nam biodh a' chiùis air a toirt fo an comhair gu pongail cò aige tha fios nach deanadh iad comhnadh leis na coisrean Gaidhlig, chan ann a mhain air sgàth eud is dicheall nan coisir, ach cuideachd air sgath maise is luach a' chiùil, a tha cho measail a nis aig na miltean feadh na tìre.

* * *

Tha sinn a' tuigsinn gum bi mu dheich mìle fichead punnd Sasunnach 'sa bhliadhna ri chur a mach air ceòl feadh na rìoghachd anns na còig bliadhna ri tighinn. Is còir dhuinn a h-uile meadhan a chleachdadh a chum aire an Urrais a tharruing gu luach a' chiùil Ghaidhealaich, agus an argumaid a leagadh gu sonruichte air maise a' chiùil sin mar chuspair oilein. Bha tuilleadh is aon Ollamh Ciùil a' breithneachadh aig na Moid Naiseanta. Bheireadh iadsan an teistean pearsanta air saibhreas ar ciùil; agus gniulaineadh am beachd-san creideas an sùilean an luchd earbsa. Tha Urras Charnegie a' dol a chuideachadh chòisearan air an aon laimh; agus air an laimh eile tha iad a dol a dh'ullachadh sgoil anns an faigh luchd teagaisg is stiùiridh nan còisir, làn eideachadh airson na h-oibreach sin.

THE CARNEGIE TRUST AND CHOIRS.

By the EDITOR.

The centenary of the birth of Dr. Andrew Carnegie reminds the thoughtful reader of the great debt which Scottish culture owes to that brilliant and generous financier. His benefaction to the Scottish Universities will mark an era in the history of Scottish education; in the past thirty years, hundreds of Gaelic students

have benefited by this endowment. But, while the interests of the academic side of culture are more closely associated with the Trust for Universities, there are other most important interests, which are the special concern of the Carnegie Trust for the United Kingdom.

The operations of this great institution are conducted on a system which may be described in very modern parlance as the Five Year Plan System. The trustees devote periods of five consecutive years to different kinds of undertaking; and the period of five years, affords sufficient time and concentration, generally speaking, in which to prove the effectiveness of any particular line of enterprise. For several periods of that kind, the Trust has had great and successful results in the instituting of libraries, as well as in other lines of public service. The trustees have recently intimated that the next quinquennial period, 1936 to 1940 inclusive, will be devoted to new lines of activity. The trustees have the power to exercise their judgment accordingly as needs arise. They consider that by this time the question of libraries ought to become a matter for the public.

It has been intimated, that one of the things to be included in the plan for the next five years is the training of choirs. The cultural value of music is wisely emphasised. An annual sum of £30,000 is to be set apart for this purpose. The moment is opportune for An Comunn to consider the relation of its own endeavours for choral work to the scheme which the United Kingdom Trust contemplates.

One element behind the interest of An Comunn in choral work is the desire to preserve Gaelic music. That, however, is a patriotic motive. The aspect of the matter that is more likely to appeal to the trustees of the United Kingdom Trust is the intrinsic beauty, and value of Gaelic music, as a cultural asset. As men of wide and liberal views, they might also conceivably regret that such a considerable body of lovely melodies should pass into oblivion. The popularity of this music throughout the whole country might be urged in its favour. The evidence of Doctors of Music, who have frequently acted as adjudicators at our Mods, would be likely to carry weight with the court of trustees. The example of An Comunn itself, struggling for a generation to form the institution of Gaelic choral competition, is a guarantee that both the material and the enthusiasm are there.

The matter should be most carefully considered without delay.

OIDHCHE DHONNCHAIDH BHAIN.

[*Oraid a bha air a deasachadh agus air a craobh-sgoileadh leis an Ollamh Domhnall Seumas MacLeòid, á Glaschu, air an 21mh là de'n Mhàrt.*]

Rugadh Donnchadh Bàn air co-ainm an latha'n diugh 's a bhliadhna 1724 an Druimliaghairt an Gleann Urchaidh, Siorramachd Earra-Ghàidheal, is chaochail e an Dun-Eideann 's a' bhliadhna 1812 aig aois cheithir fichead bliadhna 's a naoidh.

An nochd tha sinn a' deanamh oidhirp air beagan a radh mu bhàrdachd is mu bheatha a' Ghàidheil ainmeil so, is seinnear òrain shonruichte leis a nochdas a bhuidhean is a shubhailean, mar shàr-bhàrd, mar shealgair, mar fhear-gaoil is mar fhear-dùthcha, oir dleasnaidh e an inbhe as àirde measg bhàrd na Gàidhealtachd air son na dìleib phrìseil a dh'fhàg e aig a luchd-dùthcha.

Cha d'fhuair Donnchadh Bàn sgoil no foghlum. Is gann air a cheann mu dheireadh gu'n sgrìobhadh e ainm fhéin.

Rugadh is thogadh e mar gu'n canamaid am meadhan an fhàsaich, an Gleann Urchaidh. Bha a chaithe-beatha slàn, fallain ag imeachd nan sleibhte an "a' sealgair-eachd nam bealaichean." Cha robh nì air a t-saoghal ag cur dragh air ach gaol "Màiri Bhàn Og" is shoibrhich leis an sin mu dheireadh thall. Chinntich a bhuidhan mar sin, gu saorsainneil, dh'èirich 'na chridhe gaol is miann a bhi geur-bhreithneachadh air na bha fachomhair gach là, is dh'ionnsaich e bhi togail fhoghlum gu mionaideach as an leabhar phrìseil sin a dh'fhosgail Freasdal nàduir fhéin timchioll air, an

"Coire-Cheathaich nan aighean siùbhlach,
An coire rùnach as ùrar fonn."

Bha e an dàn do Dhonnchadh a bhi an lathair aig Blàr na h-Eaglaise Brice ach cha b'ann d'a dheòin. Cha robh iartras an inntinn Dhonnchaidh air strì muladach is cha do chuir nithean tìmeil lasair 'na uchd mar chuir iad an broilleach Mhic Mhaighstir Alasdair. Cha robh e 'na dhuine garg, buairesach air dhoigh air bith, is cha bu mhotha bha rùn a chridhe leis an taobh aig Deòrsa, ged thug an lagh air a làmh a thogail air a shon. Co-dhùit, cha mhòr cuideachaidh thug Donnchadh Bàn dha leis a "Bhall-teirmisg claidheamh Mhic an Leisdeir." Nuair a leig e seachd sealgair-eachd an Coire-Cheathaich is air Buachaille Eite, ionad far an robh e aig Dùc Earra-Ghàidheal, shaighdearaich e aig Iarla Bhraid-Albainn, àireamh bhliadhnaichean. Chaith e

greis eile d'a latha an Dun-Eideann 'na fhear-dìon air a' bhaile. As dèidh sin thug e cuairt do'n Ghàidhealtachd 'nuair a bha e trì fichead bliadhna 's a h-ochd deug, turus a dh'fhàg agagain "Cead Deireannach nam Beann," òran cho còimhlionta 's a gheibhear an litreachas nan Gàidheal.

Ri linn Dhonnchaidh Bhàin bha a' Ghàidhlig Albannach aig àird a neairt, fuaimneach is sùbailte, flachdmhor do'n chluais le a foghairean miorbhalteach agus deas gu gluasad-intinn sam bith fhoillseachadh. A bharrachd air sin, bha co-fhaireachduinn aig na Gàidheil ri an canain mhathaireil agus ge b'e air bith àite anns an coinnicheadh iad, bha dèidh air òran is sgeula, air òrain mu thachartasan chaidh seachad, mu nithean cumanta is mu'n caithe-beatha laitheil. Gu dearbh an fheadhainn aig an robh òran ri ghabhail no sgeul ri aithris bha iad air am meas gu mòr le uaislibh is le islibh. Bha àite aig na chuala Donnchadh mar so 'na oilean, agus, ged nach leughadh e, bha e air fhior-oileanachadh troimh chluais is troimh thuigse. Chan 'eil teagamh nach do neartaich so a chumhne is a chomas air cainnt thlachdmhor a chur an eagaibh a chèile oir dh'èisdeadh e le cluasan biorach. Feumaidh sinn cuideachd a thoirt fainear nach robh dòigh aige air feum a dheanamh de leabhar, bho nach robh aige ach a' Ghàidhlig, is 'nuair a chuir e ri chèile na dàin is fheàrr a rinn e, nach robh buaidh no cumhachd aig nì sam bith air ach aig nithean a bhuidhean do'n Ghàidhealtachd.

Bha e bliadhna air fhichead mus do dhùisg spiorad a' bhàird ann. Bha sia mìle sreath de bhàrdachd fhéin aig air chumhne 'nuair a sgrìobh an t-Urramach Dr. Stiubhairt sios a chuid òran a chum a bhi air an clo-bhualadh 's a' bhliadhna seachd ceud deug, trì fichead 's a h-ochd. Bha móran dhàn is òran aige air chumhne thuilleadh air òrain fhéin. Leis an t-saor dhuais a fhuair e mar fhear-dìon an Dun-Eideann is le airgid o'n treas clo-bhualadh tha e coltach gu'n robh bliadhnan Dhonnchaidh aig deireadh a bheatha socrach, neo-eisimeileach, is sìtheil anns gach dòigh. 'S e sin a dh'iarraidh na Gàidheil dha. Thog cairdean carragh-cuimhne briagha air uigh an Dun-Eideann is carragh-cuimhne eile ri Taobh Loch Odha. Ach air son sin, is iad na fìor chumhneachain air, Beinn Dòbhrain, a' bheinn a dh'fhàg a dhàn fhéin cho iomraideach measg Ghàidheil, is an leabhar òran ionmholta a dh'fhàg e aig a cho-Ghàidheil. Chan 'eil ach trì cunntais sgrìobhta bho fhianusean air coslais corporra a' bhàird. 'Na dhuin' òg bha choltas làidir, neartmhor fallain, is 'na

sheann aois, bha e 'na dhuine urramach air an robh mór mheas.

Chan 'eil e cur iognadh sam bith oirn gur h-e Donnchadh Bàn an bàrd da'n tug na Gàidheil gràdh is rùn cridhe nach tug iad do bhàrd sam bith eile.

Tha bàrdachd nan Gàidheal Albannach a' nochdadh gu soilleir trì feartan sònruichte, an gràdh-dùthcha, an gràdh-cinnidh agus am mór-mheas air oibridh a' chruthaichidh. Tha bàrdachd Dhonnchaidh Bhàin a' foillseachadh na subhailcean so uile agus sin le spionnadh is cifeachd eagnaich.

Tha sgrùdadh mionaideach air a phrìomh-dhàn " Moladh Beinn Dobhrain " a' taisbeanadh nàduir stéidh-inntinn a' bhàird; ch'ì sinn gu'n do dh'uisnich e, mar bhàrd is mar shealgair, uile bhuidhan 'san dàna phrìseil so. Tha sinn a' faicinn deòin is togradh a' bhàird anns an òran so agus 'na phrìomh òrain eile, de ghné cuspaireach, cùiseach: mar a bha a shìnsrean Ceilteach, tha e an trom-ghaol air oibrìb nàduir agus is ann glé ainneamh a shaoileas neach gu bheil e smuain-sheachranach no deacair r'a thuigsinn. Is iad buadhan bith-bhuan nàduir fhéin is fìor-bhonn do dheachdadh Dhonnchaidh Bhàin.

Siùbhlaidh e fa'r comhair measg bheanntan is bhealaichean òige, le sùilean d'an aithne faicinn is le tuigse bheò, agus ged a shaoileas cuid, faodaidh e bhì, nach do roghnaich e ach cuspairean gun chus stà anna fhéin, gidheadh sheinn e mu cuspairean a bha tlachdmhor dhàsan agus chan e mhàin dhàsan ach d'a cho-Ghàidheil, oir sheinn na mìltean' òrain nach do leugh sreath dhiubh riamh. Tha e riarachta ma nochdas e 'na bhàrdachd nithean mar ch'ì a shùil féin an dòigh chùiseach, aon-fhillte.

Chan 'eil feallsanachd air aire. Is e th'ann duine a' tha daonnan ri gnòmh agus is e gu'n robh e cho tèoma, deanadach, gnìomhach 'na chaithe-beatha a cho-òignich nàdur e fhéin foillseachadh dha, agus an deidh gach cùis is ann do nàdur is fheàrr a bhùneas intinn bàird a dhealbh. Bho chionn fhada sheall *Matthew Arnold* cho buileach is a shoirbhich deachdadh nan Ceilteach air eòlas air sgéim is grinneas a chur air clachan snaidhte no air deilbh nan seann làmh-sgrìobhaidhean an Albainn is an Eirinn. Leantainn an dòigh eòlais tha so gu gnéitheil, tha Donnchadh Bàn a' moirt dhuinn 'na dhàin deilbh chothromach is mhionaideach air gach aon de cuspairean.

Tha so gu gnéitheil daonnan air aire, cha do roghnaich e cuspair ach fear a tha uile imtinn-tharruingeach dha fhéin, tha e labhairt gu soilleir mu dheidhinn, oir chan urrainn e

chaochladh a dheanamh, agus sin gu saor le treibhdhìreas tha daonnan fallain is ùrail.

Tha a chainnt a' sealltuinn dhuinn, an dòigh chomharraichte cho ealanta is a bha e fhéin agus daoine cumanta de'n aon inbhe ris, anns a' Ghàidhlig. Is e mearachd a bhiodh ann a chreidsinn a chionn 's gu bheil a dhòigh-labhairt aon-fhillteach, gu bheil a chainnt, thaobh fhocal is gnàthasan-cainnte aon-fhillteach mar an ceudna. Tha iad le cheile, aig an latha'n diugh duilich gu leòir gu aire dlùth nan sgoilearan a 's ionnsuichte 's a' Ghàidhlig a chosnadh. O cheann gu ceann a phrìomh òran, " Moladh Beinn Dobhrain, " " Coir " a' Cheathaich, 's is " Màiri Bhàn Og, " tha oidhirp so-fhaicsinneach air son deilbh choimhlionta a thoirt dhuinn, air gach cuspair; deilbh a tha an bàrdachd òir-dheire agus a tha a' nochdadh gach dreach is tuar is cumadh a tha sùil a' bhàird fhéin a' faicinn. Tha am bàrd a' feuchainn le uile chridhe a chuspair a' rannsachadh cho mionaideach 's a ghabhas deanamh, air dhòigh, is bho thoiseach gu deireadh, nach urrainnear dad sam bith a bharrachd a chur ris an dealbh—tha e cho buileach, cho làn-chrìochnaichte, coimhlionta. Faodaidh cuid a radh gu bheil " Moladh Beinn Dobhrain " ro fhada, gu bheil an t-ùrlar car aonfhuaimneach. Ach iadsan d'an aithne a' Ghàidhlig o'n chiche agus tha a meas gu cothromach dòighean bàird eil 's a' Ghàidhlig, cha smaoinich iad mar sin.

Tha dàin fhada mar " Coir " a' Cheathaich 's is " Màiri Bhàn Og " a' dearbhadh dhaibh an gràdh a bha aig a' bhàrd d' a chuspair agus cho tìtheach is a bha e air ceartas a thoirt dha agus tha so a' beòthachadh co-fhearachdunn 'na oidhirp air a ghràdh a' chur an cèll. Ged tha " Moladh Beinn Dobhrain " fada cha sgithich e cluas a' Ghàidheil: 's ann a tha a chluas sin glé bhiorach is glé fhuarachail, 'l eantainn le cùil is mothachadh gnathas-cainnte a' bhàird bho ùrlar gu crunluath. Oir feumaidh sinn mothachadh gu'n robh òrain Dhonnchaidh Bhàin air an dealbh o thùs a chum a bhì air an seinn le bilean dhaoinè is a bhì air an eiseachd le'n chusan.

Tha " Moladh Beinn Dobhrain " anns gach sreath, fuaithe ri beatha is àile glan nam monaidhean. Air a dhealbh an sreathan goirid, aighearach, tha cumadh an òrain a' freagairt nàdur a' chuspair, ach tha an deachdadh a' tighinn dìreach bho thuar is bho dhreach na beinne; tha mar sin am beachd-smuain cho greimeil, cho ionadail, agus an sgrùdadh cho geur a chionn gu bheil mìon-eòlas a' bhàird cho tur-coimhlionta.

'S an aon dòigh tha am bàrd a' leudachadh le blaths, coibheas is caomhalachd air buadhan a mhath. Faodaidh gu'n can cuid gu bheil am moladh so dol seachad air reusan. Bha caraid do'n bhàrd fhéin anabarrach riarachta leis an òran so, ach beagan air a mhealladh 'nuair a chunnaic e Màiri Bhàn Og i fhéin, agus ghabh e air fhéin a radh ri Donnchadh nach robh Màiri cho briagha na cho bòidheach, is a bha an t-òran a' deanamh a mach, ach is e thubhairt Donnchadh Bàn air a shocair fhéin, "Chan fhaca tusa i leis na sùilean agam-sa." Mar gach fìor bhàrd eile, bha sùil Dhonnchaidh Bhàn a' faicinn nithean nach fhac an t-sùil choitcheinn, agus tha e intinn-tharruingeach a bhì rannsachadh a bhàrdachd fìach an lorg sinn mathair-aobhair a dheachdaidh agus aobhar an strì tha air a shùbhal air son àigh is sonais is toileachas-intinn a chosnadh.

O òige suas gu ìre duine bha Beinn Dobhrain am fradharc aige, agus chaith e ùine fad bliadhnaichean 'ga shùbhal gus am b'aithe dha gach lagan is gach fuaran, a daimh 's a h-èoin, a dithean is eadhon a creagan fhéin, mar gu'n b'iad nithean beò. Cha ghéill Donnchadh Bàn do bhàrd Gàidhealach sam bith air son bàrdachd air obair a' chruthachaidh. 'Na òrain seilg gu sònruichte tha sinn a' faicinn na daimh allail, na h-eilidean is na ruadhbbhuic, agus an greim a tha aca air intinn, le'n grad-charachd, le'n lùthmhoireachd. Bha e 'na fhìor shealgair, mar a bha e 'na fhìor-bhàrd. Tha an damh ceannardach, an eilid chaoil, eagach, a bheinn

"Gun choimeas 'ga falluinn,
Air thalamh na Crìosdachd :"

agus am fear fhéin grunn, misleanach, luiseanach. Tha an dearbh fheart so—meas air nithean cuimhir is earachdail an oibrìbh nàduir a' tachairt oirnn 'na òrain gaol.

Tha am meas so, air calmach is eireachdas, ann an daoine, am beathaichean, is an lusan, is an euchdan a chinnidh, a' toirt 'nar cuimhne dòigh-smuain nan Greugach am bàrdachd Homer. Cha chaoimh leis idir nithean cearbach mar bha claidheamh Ceannaird Chloinn an Leisdeir, agus a thilg e air falbh aig Blàr na h-Eaglaise Brice. Bha eadhon a sheann mhug, a ghunna air am bheil e deanamh mór-chunntas, dhàsan na nì tha taitneach, briagha, cuimhir agus anns am bheil bith cho math ri feum is fairbhe. Tha gach sreath de'n bhàrdachd so a' fìorbheachadh gach snuadh le taitneas anabarrach.

Tha na Dàin-chogaidh aige a' moladh curaidhean is laoch ama féin, arm nan Gàidheal, an éideadh is an canain.

Is ann tearc tha e ag ainmeachadh gaisgeach linn an àigh; b'aithe dha móran mu'n déidhinn oir tha bàrd Ghàidhlig na's fhaigse oirnn an tim na Donnchadh Bàn, a' deanamh iomraidh òrra am bàrdachd, ach fhuir esan ann an daoine, is tachartasan a latha fhéin, pailteas air son a rùintean a riarachadh. Air an aobhar sin chan 'eil a sheanachas a' call ann an éifeachd no an comas, gu aire dhaoine a dhùsgadh. Tha an t-òran a rinn e 'na sheann aois, *Ceal Deireannach nam Beann*. a' sealltuin gu'n do ghleidh Donnchadh Bàn spiorad na bàrdachd 'na làn neart ge b'òil leis na bliadhnaichean.

Nach tig plog an cridhe, is deur an sùil, gach Gàidheal a chluinneas an t-òran dùrachdach, tiamhaidh so, oir ann an smuain, an cainnt, agus am fonn Dhonnchaidh Bhàn tha fillte stigh aignidhean gach Gàidheal a tha mothachail gur Gàidheal e.

LECTURE BY THE PRESIDENT ON GAELIC SONG.

The members of the Gaelic Society of Glasgow enjoyed a rare treat at their last meeting when Mr. Bannerman discoursed to them, in his own inimitable and well-informed fashion, on the subject of Gaelic Song.

As our readers know, Mr. Bannerman's knowledge of Gaelic music and song is of the most intimate, and comprehensive character, and out of his well-filled treasury he brought forth things new and old. Gaelic music he thought, was even more Celtic than the Cymric. He paid tribute to the mothers of the Highlands from whose lullabies so many of our fine airs had come. The Gaelic bards found it more difficult to make airs than to make words, but where they found a good tune they appropriated it to their own purpose, hence the number of varying songs to be found to the same air.

He regretted that in certain parts the making and the singing of Gaelic songs had been so much discouraged, and, indeed, regarded as sinful. He humourously suggested that real sins were so rare that artificial ones, such as these, had to be invented.

A large part of the lecture was devoted to the less well-known songs, *Orain Bheaga*, which were so abundant in many districts in the Highlands. The lecture was illustrated by a great wealth of songs sung by Miss Margaret Duncan, Mr. John M. Bannerman and others.

A' BHEURLA BHRADACH.

Sgeul á Eilean Acaill air a togail o "Sliabh Charn" le "Fraoch Geal."

O chionn fichead bliadhna bu bheag Beurla a bha ri claidstinn an Acaill, agus urrad agus a bh'ann dhith b'ann aig an aois og a bha i agus acasan a chaith tamull thar cuan an tir eigin eile. Ach bha seann daoine ann, mar a tha an diudh fhein, agus gun dà fhacal Beurla aca. Thachair, an trath sin, gun robh triuir fhear am baile araidh an Acaill nach do dh'fhag an t-eilean riamh agus nach robh an aon fhacal a mhain Beurla aig duine aca, Bhiodh an triuir so a' toirt cluas gheur agus a' cur speis ioghantach anns na naidheachdan a bhiodh gan innseadh aca sid a chosg tamull an Sasuinn agus an tìrean eile mu na seallannan a bha ri'm faicinn agus na cleachdaidhean a bha aig muinntir nan tìrean sin. Mu dheireadh shocruch an triuir eatorra fhein nach robh rud a b'fhearr a dheanadh iad na dhol a null a Shasuinn an ath Shamhradh gu faiceadh iad na h-ìghnaidhean le an suilean fhein agus gum biodh iad cho math ri fear eile air tapachd innseadh an uair a thilleadh iad a bhaile. Thainig an t-am air son imeachd agus dh'imich an triuir. Bha an urrad muinghin aca asta fhein is nach deanadh iad suas ri aon neach eile air an tìre a null, ach ged nach do rinn dh'eirich dhaibh an taobh thall a thoirt a mach gun moran trioblaid; ach chuireadh an iuil dhaibh an sin gum biodh e cruaidh orra obair fhaighinn gun bheagan Beurla air a lughad. An uair a bha seachduin aca thall ag iarraidh obair, agus gun dad aca air a shon, shocruch iad nach deanadh iad feum air bith gu foghlumadh iad roinn Beurla.

A mach leotha an ath latha ach cha b'ann a lorg obair an latha so ach an tòir air beagan fhacail Bheurla a thogadh iad. Sgar iad o cheile an uair a thainig iad cho fada ri crois an rathaid, ach bha iad cinnteach a bhi air ais aig crois an rathaid cheudna thath an fhasgar agus beagan no moran Beurla foghlumte aig gach fear aca. An uair a thill iad air ais gu crois an rathaid a ribhist thuir a' cheud fhear gun d' fhoghlum e fhein dà fhacal Beurla.

"De na dhà a tha sin?," arsa an dithis eile à beul a cheile. "An Tigh a' phuist sin thall bha sgoath fhear a' bruidheann Beurla, agus an ceann tacain thog mi 'Three Achillmen' uatha."

"Cha d'fhuaras dona thu," arsa an dithis eile, "agus feuch nach cailt thu iad."

"Rinn mise na b'fhearr na sin," arsa an dara fear, "tha tri facail agam-sa air am foghlum." "De na facail a tha sin?," arsa an dithis eile.

"Thachair sgoath fhear orm, mu mhìle á so, agus iad mar gum biodh iad ag argumaid. Sheas mi greiseag ag eisdeachd riubha agus thog mi so leam 'good reason why' o an cuid cainnte agus chum mi greum air na tri facail sin."

"Gle mhath," arsa an treas fear, "ach b'fhearr a rinn mi fhein na fear seach fear agaibh agus ceithir facail foghlumte agam."

"Sin obair mhath deanta agad-sa," arsa na fir eile, "agus a nis de na ceithir facail iad sin?" "Chan innis mi dhuibh ca 'n d'fhuair mi iad, ach so iad, 'a box of matches.'"

"So an obair latha as fhearr a rinn sinn o thainig sinn an so, agus chi sinn am màireach de a theid againn air a thoirt a mach leis an urrad sin de Bheurla," arsa a' cheud fhear.

"Is e sin mur dean sinn dearmad orra," arsa an dara fear. "Chan 'eil aon eagal gun leig mise as mo chuimhne m' fhacail fhein le mar a tha iad raidhte agam tric gu leor o chuala mi iad, agus mholainn dhuibh-se a bhi ag radh nam facail nur n-inntinn fhein gu màireach." "Gu ta, chan 'eil an droch pleana agad," arsa an dithis eile, agus le sin shìn iad orra gu baile agus iad gu math riarachte leotha fhein.

Is gann a rinn iad mìle a choisceadh an uair a chunnaid iad fear ri taobh an rathaid agus e fuar marbh. Sheas an triuir a' beachdachadh air agus a bharail fhein aig gach fear aca ga toirt air de a thug a mach e. Bha urrad aca ri radh agus nach do mhothaich iad do thriuir phoilios is iad 'nan seasamh ri an taobh.

"De a thainig air an duine so, no co a mharbh e?" arsa fear de na poilios am Beurla.

"Three Achillmen," arsa cheud fhear. "Agus car son a mharbhadh e?" arsa am poilios a ribhist.

"Good reason why," arsa an dara fear. "Innis a mach e," arsa am poilios gu feargach, "de an t-aobhar a bha air?"

"A box of matches," arsa an treas fear.

Cha robh an corr air. Chuireadh a' ghlas-lamh air an triuir, agus thugadh air falbh iad, agus chuireadh a steach am prìosan iad gun tigeadh latha na cùrte. Aghmhor gu leor cha robh aon mharc air an fhear a bha marbh, agus an uair a rannsaich na dotairean an corp fhuair iad a mach gur ann le acadid cridhe a chailleadh e; agus leigeadh an triuir mu sgaol. An uair a fhuair iad cuideachd, an deidh a bhi saor, labhair a' cheud fhear agus thuir e, "A chuirein ort, na tig an latha bhios buaidh air a' Bheurla is mar a chaidh i cho dluth air mo chrochadh air son dà fhacal, ge b'e air bith de an ciall a bha leotha!" "Is coma, san tubaist, de an ciall a bha leotha;" arsa an dara

fear, “ach gun tacadh an t-àgh mise ma chluinnear facal Beurla as mo bheil gun duin am bàs e agus nach d’ thuir mi ach na tri facail, ach feumaidh e bhith gur h-uamhasach a bhrìgh a bha leatha an uair a shathadh am prìosan mi.”

“Chan e sin an rud as ioghantaiche,” arsa an treas fear, “ach seall air mar a chuireadh am prìosan sinne air son am beagan Beurla a bha againn—agus tha fios aig sealbh cho beag is a bha e—agus cia mar air an t-saoghal a tha na ceudan a’ stealladh Beurla mun cuairt oirnn an so agus gun dragh aig poilios na eile dhiubh. Sin an rud a tha deanamh an ioghantais dhomhsa.” “So, so,” arsa a cheud fear, togamaid oirnn dhachaidh far am faod sinn ar rogha rud a radh, is fur an tuig a chuide duine sinn, agus far nach cuir duine dragh oirnn.” “Sin dìreach an rud a ni sinn,” arsa an dara fear; agus rinn; agus b’ole am meas a bha aca air Sasuinn agus air a’ Bheurla riamh tuilleadh!

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha deagh chairdean aig Comunn na h-Oigrìdh far am bu lugha fughair riutha, seadh ann am baile mòr Lunnainn. Chuir cuideachd ris an abrar Ceilidh nan Gaidheal Lunnainn an cinn ri chèile feuch ciamar a dheanadh iad rud gu feum Comunn na h-Oigrìdh. ’S e thàinig as gun do rinn iad cuir-m-chiùil air an treas là deug de’n Mhart: thug iad cuireadh cridheil dhomh-sa thighinn agus a bhi an ceann na cuirme, rud a rinn. Bha aon tri cheud an sin, Gaidheil is Bana-Ghaidheil chun am bròg, a’ seòrsa bha a h-uile ni aca, mar an comhnuidh, ann an Gaidhlig. Bha e grinn a bhi faicinn àireamh mhòr de ghillean agus de nigheannan as na h-Eileanan siar, agus ag cluintinn na Gaidhlig ’ga spreigeadh cho nadurra air gach taobh. Thog iad deich notaichean fichead aig an dorus, agus thug iad seachad a h-uile sgillinn dheth do Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh: mur eil ’san ghniomh sin smior is smuais na h-uaisleachd, cha mhise am fear a th’ann. Chan e mhàin gun dean suim mhaith airgid mar sin feum mòr do Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh: tha e ’na bhrosnachadh àraidh, a leithid de chuideachd urramaich mar a tha Ceilidh nan Gaidheal Lunnainn a bhi toirt speis do ar Comunn ùr.

Tha nis deich’s tri fichead Feachd an Comunn na h-Oigrìdh, agus àireamh de Chloinn a tha streup suas ri dà mhìle. Airson bliadhna gu leth cha bheag an obair sin. Chan ’eil e coltach gun cuir sinn tuilleadh Fheachd air bonn an

seisean so; is fearr dhuinn na th’againn a dhaingneachadh mu’n sgaol sinn na’s fhaide mach.

PAIPEARAN-CEASNACHAIDH.

Gun toireadh na Cinn-Feachd fainear gum feum iad àireamh nam Paipearan a tha a’ Chlann ag iarraidh airson inbhe (i) Làn-Ghaidheal agus (ii) Sàr-Ghaidheal; innsadh do Rùnaire A’ Chomuinn (131 West Regent Street, C.2.) roimh dheireadh a’ Ghiblein— a’ mhios so. Cha bhi na Paipearan airson Sàr-Ghaidheal ri’m faotainn ach leo-san a mhàin a fhuair inbhe Làn-Ghaidheal an uiridh, agus tha dòchas gun dean a h-uile gin diubh sin oidhirp air mullach na craoibhe ruigsinn am bliadhna, eadhon an fheadhainn a tha air an sgoil fhàgail—faicibh Frith-lagh 5.

Rinneadh atharrachadh air an dòigh a bh’ againn an uiridh. Cha bhi ach aon Phaipear a nis airson Làn-Ghaidheal agus aon eile airson Sàr-Ghaidheal, a h-uile bliadhna. Tha an dara Paipear gu h-àraidh freagarrach airson aois 12 bhliadhna, agus am Paipear eile airson aois air bith os cionn sin. Ach faodaidh a h-uile Gaidheal, cho òg’s ’gam bi e, Paipear Làn-Ghaidheal fheuchainn ma thogras e, agus mar is mo a ni sin ’s ann as fhearr. Cha chùis nàire dha idir ged nach faigh e buaidh ann am bliadhna, agus bithidh e na’s fhasa dha bhuidhinn an ath bhliadhna ma ni e a cheud oidhirp a nis.

Bha Paipearan air an deasachadh fa chomhair gach aois an uiridh agus fhuaradh a mach nach robh an dòigh sin freagarrach. Ghabh iomadh Ball Paipear nach buineadh d’a aois idir agus bha troimh-chéile nach bu bheag an cuid de Fheachdan air a thàilleamh. Ach a bharr air a sin, chan ’eil e math gum fàs na Gaidheil ’nan Làn-Ghaidheil, agus na Làn-Ghaidheil ’nan Sàr-Ghaidheil, agus iad ro-òg. Bu chòir sealltainn air àrdachadh inbhe an Comunn na h-Oigrìdh mar ni cudthromach nach ruigear air gun chuibhrionn àraidh de dh’ fhoghlum. Leis an dòigh ùr, bu chòir e bhi an comas a h-uile sgoilear a bhi ’nan Sàr-Ghaidheil roimh aois fàgail na sgoile, agus foghnaidh sin.

Cha mthath an comharra air Feachd sam bith dearmad buileach a dheanamh air na Paipearan-ceasnachaidh so. Ghabh ochd Feachdan deug cuid ’san obair an uiridh, agus airson toiseach-tòiseachaidh bha sin gle mhath. Ach a nis bithidh fughair againn gun iarr a h-uile Ceann-Feachd àireamh chumseach de na Paipearan, rud a leigeas ris gum bheil foghlum na Gaidhlig e cumail a chuid fhein agus gum

bheil suim aig a' Chloinn do'n chothrom so th'aca air inbhe as àirde fhaotainn an Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Bha e mór agam a bhi 'san Ath-Leathain air a' mhios so chaidh 'nuair a chluich Comunn na h-Oigridh "A' Chlann fo Gheasaibh" air beulaibh sluaigh a' bhaile, fo stiùireadh a' Chinn-Feachd dhìchiollaich, Fionnaghal Chaimbeul. Sealladh bu chiataiche chan fhaca mi riamh, agus chuir a' Bhean-shith gu h-àraidh dreach is loinn air a cuid-sa de'n obair.

CUIRM-EAN-CNUIC AN t-SAMHRAIDH.

Tha e a nis air a shonrachadh, gu ire bhig, c'ait am bi Cruinneachaidhean nam Feachd air an t-Samhradh so tighinn; co iad na Feachdan a chruinneacheas le chèile, agus cia meud airgid a bhithneas sinn ag iarraidh o'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach airson gach cuirm-cnuic fa leth. O'n a tha na Feachdan air fàs cho lionmhor a nis tuigidh sibh nach urrainn do'n Chomunn a h-uile ni a phaigheadh mar a rinn iad roimhe, agus mar sin is eudair dhuinn iarraidh air a h-uile duine-cloinne sia ghilinn a phaigheadh mu choinneamh cosdas bidh. Is cinnteach gun dean iad sin gu togarrach, agus gum bi na Cinn-Feachd ag co-obrachadh le dà Fhear-dheibhe a' Chomuinn a chum agus gum bi là gasda aig a h-uile Feachd. Tha sinn a' sealltainn air na Cruinneachaidhean sin mar chùis cho feumail 's a tha ann an ghniomhachas Comunn na h-Oigridh fad na bliadhna.

Tha shùil againn gun dean na Feachdan am Barraidh, Ile agus Tiriodh an dìchioll fhathast ann an bhi cur ainmean a steach airson a' Champa. Fhreagair an dà Uibhist agus Beinn na Faoghla a' ghairm gu foghainteach ged a bhios an turus-san na's fhaide agus na's cosdaile. 'S e an rud as fhearr a dh'fhaodadh na Feachdan am Barraidh, Ile agus Tiriodh a dheanamh— an cinn a chur ri chèile agus dà Cheann-Feachd a thaghadh gu dol do'n Champa le sgioba gasda fa leth de Bhalach's de Chaileagan. Bheir sin muinghin do na Parantan, agus mo làmh-sa nach bi e aireach le Ceann-Feachd sam bith a bheir sgioba de Chloinn gu Campa Shonachain.

SEORAS GALDA.

Copies of "Voices from the Hills" can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Celtic Foundations of British History.

Sir,—In the synopsis of my lecture, given in your March issue, the omission of a line has given rise to a very confused statement. The passage in question should have read:—
" . . . the establishment of the Dalriadic Kingdom about A.D. 500 was the culmination of a series of settlements and no mere pioneer step. The penetration of Gaelic settlers to the eastward about the fifth century was also spoken of . . ." The words italicised were omitted from your report.—I am yours faithfully,

AUGUSTA LAMONT.

Inverchaolain, 5th March, 1936.

Fhir-Dheasachaidh,—Tha obair ionmholta air a deanamh leis A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach bho 'n chaidh a chur air bonn, agus tha sinn ro bhuidheach gum bheil e ag obair fhathast airson ar cànan bhlasda, bhinn, a ghléidheadh. Gidheadh, eadhon am meas àrd-sgoilearan Gaidhlig, an diugh, cluinnidh sinn gu tric, ann an cainnt Ghaidhlig, faclan Beurla gnathaichte airson nithean, air nach 'eil ainmean Gaidhlig. Mar eisimpleir, de na h-ainmean Gaidhlig air "wireless," "radiator," "tenement," "gas," "telephone," agus mòran eile?

Tha fios againn gun robh Gaidhlig 'ga labhairt air tús anns an duthaich, far nach robh bailtean mòra, no na nithean a bhuineas dhaibh, ach an diugh, tha mòran luchd-labhairt Gaidhlig a' fuireach anns na bailtean. Nach bu chòir dhuinn a bhi comasach air bruidhinn mu dheidhinn na nithean so a tha mu 'r timchioll, 'nar comhradh cumanta? Ma bhios a' Gaidhlig 'na cànan bheo, is fheudair dhuinn ainmean Gaidhlig a dheanamh airson na nithean so, aig a' bheil aite cho mór 'nar beatha an diugh.

Tha mi làn-chinnteach gum bheil àrd-sgoilearan gu leir ann, a bhithheadh deonach an obair so a dheanamh, agus a chur an clo-bhualadh. Chuirinn suas gum bitheadh comhairle sonruichte 'ga chur air bonn leis A' Chomunn, cuideachadh a thoirt dhuinn anns a' chuis so, agus crìoch a chur air droch bheus, a tha ro chumanta, a' cur faclan Beurla am measg càinte Ghaidhlig.

Bhithinn toilichte beachdan eile air a' ghnòthach so fhaighinn. A reir mo bhairail-sa, chan 'eil gnòthach cho cudthromach airson luchd-labhairt Gaidhlig an diugh 's a tha so.

Is mise, Le meas mor,

FILIP DUBH.

How to Learn to Speak Gaelic.

Dear Sir,—I should be much obliged, if you would allow me to make a few supplementary remarks to what I wrote in the March number of *An Gaidheal*.

My unknown friend, the future author of—shall we say?—*The Royal Road to Gaelic*, may very likely decide that there is no necessity to follow slavishly the orderly progression of the grammar. He will probably leave alone, for instance, the Conditional Tense, as well as *Ged a tha mi*, *Mur eil mi*, etc., etc., as being unsuitable for simple questions. He can introduce these later on, when he thinks the pupils are ready for longer questions.

A great point in favour of the system I advocate is, that the students can practise the questions on each other in the intervals between the lessons, especially during the long interregnum between the end of one season and the beginning of the next. There is no doubt that, interested as they are in Gaelic, they would find that a pleasant way of spending an hour together.

The French say: *Il n'y a que le premier pas qui coûte*—it is only the beginning that is hard; and I consider that this system is a simple, pleasant, and effective way of getting over the initial difficulties.—Yours faithfully,

ALEX. DUNCAN.

9th March, 1936.

A Charaid,—Leugh mi an litir a sgrìobh “Highlander” ann ur n’ aireamh a dh’fhoillsich sibh ‘sa mhios so chaidh agus, gu deimhinn, chuir i ioghnadh mór orm. Chan ‘eil coltas sam bith eadar suidheachadh an “Afrikaans” agus Gàidhlig na h-Alba airson na reusanan a leanas:—

1. Thainig na h-Afriacainich o’n Olaind do’n Afraic roimh na Sasunnaich agus bha daonnan barrachd dhìu ann. Bha iad ‘n an muinntir ùr ann an tìr nuadh agus thainig iad ‘n an fìr buadhach. O thoiseach teachd nan Sasunach dh’ fhuathaich na h-Afriacanaich iad, agus rinn iad an dìchioll na Sassunaich a sheachnadh. Eisimplear ceudna a tha fa chomhair ar sùilean an Eirinn, far am bheil an fheadhainn og air an togail leis a’ Ghaidhlig o’n chreithl airson am miann a shàsachadh cho maith ri am fuath do na Sasunach. Nach ceart gairm nan Eireannach: “Gun teanga gun Tìr” do gach duine a tha a’ cur suim agus spéis na dhuthaich fein?—Ach, anns a’

Ghàidhealtachd an diugh chan eil fuath againn do na Goill, agus tha a’ Ghàidhlig neo-fheumail airson ar teachd-an-tìr fhaotainn. ‘Nuair a dh’fhalbhas an spiorad dùthchasach ‘s e soraidh bhuan do’n bheul-aithris agus do’n chànan, de fhine sam bith a th’ann. Os barr sin thréig ar n-uachdarain fhéin cànan an sinnsir agus c’ àit am bheil na caoraich gun aodhairean?—Cha thréig na Herzogean, na Bothaen, na de Villiers gu brath teanga an daoine-san anns an Afraic.

2. Chan eil ar teanga ùr mar an “Afrikaans” ach sean, agus tre na linntean cha d’fhas i no cha do chuir fo bhlat mar na cànan eile. Ged a tha litreachas na h-Eirinn pailt agus saobhir ré na Linntean Meadhoinneach cha d’fhas i an deidh an Ath-Leasachaidh, agus tha an sgeul ceudna an Alba—ach na’s mìosa. Ma theid na Gaidheil as an t-sealladh am maireach cìod a dh’fhàgas iad?—Mo chreach!—ach gle bheag; moran òran bhrèagha, gun teagamh, ach chan fhàg dad sam bith eile. Tha an dream Afriacanaich ùr, làidir, teann, agus an t-am ri teachd rompa; ach tha na Gàidheil air an sgapadh, agus gun aca ach cuimhne an clìù roimh-ainmichte. Gu dearbh tha “Highlander” ceart, ag ràdh gu’m bheil sinn “Too deferential,” ach cìod is urrainn dhuinn a radd ‘nuair a smaoineas sinn nach eil ach aon phaipear sgrìobhte anns a’ Ghàidhlig, agus gu’m bheil *An Gaidheal* fein loma-lan Beurla . . . agus nach eil e a’ tighinn a mach ach uair ‘sa mhios, gun moran cuideachaidh o na Gàidheil.

Chum agus sgaol na h-Afriacanaich an teanga do bhrìgh gu’n robh agus gu’m bheil fìor ghràdh aca do an tìr agus an daoine. Chan eil iad toilichte a bhith ‘n an Goill. Co-dhìu, anns a’ Ghàidhealtachd tha na daoine co-shamhlachadh gach rud a thig d’an ionnsaigh o na bailtean mora agus tha mi cinnteach gu’m bi ar paisdean ‘n an Goill a dh’aithghearr mur tig atharrachadh beannaichte air gach aon dhinne.

C’ait’ am bheil an uail Ghàidhealach chliùteach a bh’aig ar sinnsirean?—Tha mi a’ smaoineachadh gu’m bheil i ‘s an uaigh comhla ri u. Co-dhìu, tha mi ‘n dùil gu’m bi Comunn na h-Oigridh ‘na thaic cumhachdach d’ar Foghlum, agus gu’n sàbhail sinn fathast a’ chanain bhinn. Ma’s comasach do na h-Eireannaich agus na h-Afriacainnich an teangain a theannadh suas is cinnteach gu’n teid aig ginealach nam fear a bhuaidhaich air na Romhanaich air an cànan a chumail agus fhoillseachadh.—Mise le meas,

ALEC. MCKECHNIE.

Sudbrook Cottage, Ham Common,
Surrey, 6th March, 1936.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

An Comunn teachers are employed at seven different centres, just now, preparing competitors and choirs for the forthcoming Provincial Mods. The regular staff of five has been augmented, by the appointment of two part-time teachers, viz.:—Mr. Neil MacLean, M.A., B.Sc., and Mr. J. L. Neil, F.E.I.S. The following is the full list of Provincial Mods to be held this year:—

Kintyre (Campbeltown), 2nd and 3rd April.
 Badenoch Strathspey (Newtonmore), 3rd April.
 Lochaber (Fort William), 22nd May.
 East Sutherland (Brora), 5th June.
 Dailriada (Lochgilhead), 9th and 10th June.
 Lorn (Oban), 11th June.
 Islay (Bowmore), 12th June.
 Lewis (Stornoway), 18th and 19th June.
 Perthshire (Pitlochry), 19th June.
 Skye (Portree), 23rd and 24th June.
 Ardnamurchan (Ardgour), 30th June.
 West Sutherland (Dunross), 11th September

* * *

At the Arran Musical Festival, held at Lamash, on 13th and 14th March, entries in the Gaelic Sections were larger than in the corresponding sections in English. Mr. John MacIver, who remained on the island to conduct the junior choirs, and assist individual competitors, had most successful classes at each of the four centres. His Gaelic reading classes were no less successful than the music ones, and, it is anticipated that other centres on the island will apply for his services next session. Mr. Angus L. MacDonald, H.M.I.S., was Gaelic adjudicator at the Arran Festival.

* * *

Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, and the members of the Gaelic Con. Class at Grantown on Spey, are to be congratulated on the success of their Gaelic Drama Team at the Morayshire Drama Festival, held at Elgin recently. Out of fourteen teams which competed, the Gaelic team secured second place, with only one mark less than the winning team—Elgin Academy F.Ps. Mr. Sladen Smith, the Adjudicator, stated that although the characters had used the Gaelic all through, he had been quite able to follow it and to appreciate its particular stagecraft. He had to congratulate the team on giving a good atmosphere with such a convincing unity. It was an achievement and a memorable contribution to the Festival.

At the finals of the Highland Division Section, held at Inverness, The Ardgour Players produced the first act from the Gaelic Play, "Beitidh," and thereby made history by having the first all-Gaelic team at a Divisional Final Festival. That the Adjudicator was pleased with the effort, was evident, although, Mr. Marks expressed the view that the Play suffered from the fact that nothing much happened in it. This was because the whole play was not produced. Dr. D. J. MacLeod and Mr. Donald Graham acted as Gaelic Assessors, at Elgin and Inverness, respectively, and both gentlemen gave valuable assistance to the Adjudicator.

* * *

The Broadford Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh produced the Gaelic Play, "A' Chlann foth gheasaibh," by Mr. Marjoribanks, at an All-Gaelic Concert held there recently. The presentation was very good, and the characterisation left nothing to be desired. Here is an example for other Branches of the Youth movement, and may we here make an appeal for other Plays suitable for children. There is no better way to encourage the use of Gaelic than through the medium of Drama.

* * *

North Sutherland has taken to Shinty. A letter from the Ceann Feachd of the Skerryay Branch, states that the boys now prefer Iomain to Football, and that Gaelic only is spoken during the course of play. In other areas also, the National Game has caught on, and Racks can be seen inside School buildings, where the Camain are stored during the hours of study.



THE HIGHLANDER'S CULTURE.

Mr. Hugh Munro, the well-known artist and writer, proposed the toast of "Tir Nam Beann," at the dinner of the Glasgow Highland Club, on the 16th March.

Mr. Munro said strong efforts were being made at the present time by certain publicists to place Scotland on what they were pleased to call the cultural map of Europe. All sorts of other efforts connected with Scotland were being made to-day, and one of the most important, it seemed to him, would be to utilise the background and the personality of the Highlander to create for Scotland a national figure.

After all, the Highlander still remained a picturesque figure because he had been true to his blood, true to his race, and to its psychology. That was the highest praise

he could give the Highlander, who had never trafficked in that psychology or in his background of history.

The fact was that the Gael had never been off the cultural map of Europe. His very garb was on that map; his battle record, his songs, were on that map.

The lamp of enlightenment was lit in Scotland in the sixth century in Iona, but an extraordinary thing was that in our histories of Scotland there was no real mention of what took place prior to Malcolm Canmore. What was needed for the repatriation of the Highlands was a real history of the Highlands taught to our youth that they might know the truth.

The art of Scotland was supposed to be of recent date. Before Scotland as a whole knew the first thing of art the Highlander had put his art on the map of Europe. It was that very wonderful thing we knew as Celtic Art. Far too much had been made of the militaristic background of the Highlander, whose contribution to the world had been far greater than his fighting qualities.

TOMHAISEACHAN.

Le PETIT BLANC.

Fear na h-aogaise bioraich,
labhraidh làidir,
chuireadh e 'Highlands' fo bheurla
's eug air Gàidhlig.

Thogadh e Baile nan niseach
le cliù Ghàidheal,
chuireadh e Gàidhealtachd sgiobalt
fo mhuir bàthte.

Bheireadh e chreidsinn air Gallaibh
gur e Mac Shimidh a bhràthair,
bheireadh e chreidsinn air Simidh
gun robh Picadilly le mhàthair.

Fear le feile gu guineach,
fear gun bhuil 's gun bhuaidh a' Ghàidheil,
fear nach iarr 's nach ardaich mise,
fear gun Ghàidhlig.

FUASGLADH.

Daoine bhios 'Highland' ann an Sasuinn,
daoine bhios Sasunnach air Gàidhealtachd
daoine chaill am meas 's an cineas,
daoine grànnda.

OBITUARY.

Dr. Duncan MacGillivray.

It is with deep regret we record the death, on 28th February, of Duncan MacGillivray, M.A., LL.D., F.E.I.S.

Dr. MacGillivray has been for half a century prominent in the Educational life of Scotland. Born in Inverness-shire, he spent part of his youth in Islay, coming afterwards to Glasgow where he trained for the teaching profession in the Free Church Training College and at the University. He was headmaster in succession of two of the largest Secondary Schools of Glasgow, Bellahouston Academy and Hillhead High School.

He early acquired a position of leadership among the teachers of Scotland and received from them every honour which was in their power to bestow. Dr. MacGillivray was a man of tireless energy and industry, of broad and generous sympathies and rare kindness of heart. He was a Gaelic speaker, a Life Member of An Comunn for many years, and though his absorption in educational affairs left him but little time for active participation in the work of An Comunn his interest in that work was deep and sincere. For more than forty years he was Elder and Session Clerk in one of our Gaelic Churches in Glasgow.

Dr. Alexander Fraser, Toronto.

The death of this distinguished Highlander has removed a well-known personality from the Gaelic field. Dr. Fraser was born in Inverness-shire but spent the great part of his life in Canada.

On both sides of the Atlantic he was known as an outstanding Gaelic scholar. Among his writings may be mentioned *Essays on Celtic Literature*, *The Mission of the Scot in Canada*, *The Clan Fraser in Canada*, *History of Ontario*, *Practice Lessons in Gaelic Grammar*, *Short Scottish-Canadian Biographies*, and *The Last Laird of MacNab*. To those may be added some twenty volumes of records of the Legislature and Courts.

Colonel Fraser's Highland interests went beyond the study. He was one of the sponsors and judges at Highland games both in Toronto and at Banff, Alberta, and founder and patron of the Gaelic Society of Canada. He was accepted as an authority on bagpipe music, though not himself a piper.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Thug Mgr. Marjoribanks agus am Fear-deilbhe sgrìob do'n Eilean Sgitheanach aig deireadh a' Ghearrain. Air oidhche Di-luain an 24mh la de'n mhìos bha iad an lathair aig Cuirm Chiuil Ghaidhlig 's an Ath Leathann. Bha am Maighstear-sgoile, Mgr. Iain Mac a-Phearsoin, anns a' chathair. A bharrachd air orain agus sgeulachdan leis a' chuideachd, chluich buill de Chomunn na h-Oigridh an Dealbh-chluich, *A' Chlann fodh gheasaibh*, le Mgr. Marjoribanks. Gu dearbh fhein, bha a' chlann pongail agus chunnacas gu soilleir gum bheil raon mòr anns na Dealbh-chluichean so, anns an urrainn clann na Gaidhlig dioghlum le dealas, ma bheirear cothrum na Feinne dhaibh anns a' chùis.

Ghabhadh a steach trì buill ùra 's an Fheachd so de Chomunn na h-Oigridh.

Air an ath latha thadhail iad an Cille Mhoire agus chuireadh 10 balaich agus aon chaileag ri aireimh an Fheachd sin. Fhuair iad le cheile oidheachd bhò'n Choirneillear Mac Dhomhnaill, Tobhta, agus air an ath latha bha an Coirneillear e fhein comhla rintha am Bearnasdail agus Carrabost. Chuireadh trì buill ùra ri Feachd Bearnasdail.

Bha Mgr. Marjoribanks 'na Fhear-cathrach aig Ceilidh mhór an Dun Bheagain air oidhche Di-ciadainn agus thug esan Oraid bhrosnachail seachd. Labhair e air cor na Gaidhlig an Albainn ach gu h-àraidh air a' ghluasad ùr. Comunn na h-Oigridh. Bha faisg air ceud gu leth cruinn agus a chionn is gun robh grunnan laghach de'n Oigridh 's an lathair, labhair Mgr. MacPhàil air dheasanas gach balach agus caileag a thaobh cànan, ceòl agus cleachdaidhean nan Gaidheal. Fhuaradh Orain agus Sgeulachdan am pailteas agus Comhradh air leth grinn le dithis nighean òg á Port Rìghtheadh. Thug am Maighstear-Sgoile, Mgr. Mac Fhionnlaigh, taing chridheil do Mgr. Marjoribanks agus thugadh a' Chuirm gu crìch le bhi a' seinn an Orain dhealachaidh.

Air feasgar Diar-daoin bha am Fear-deilbhe is Mgr. Marjoribanks a' frithealadh aig Ceilidh an Port Rìghtheadh. Bha Talla nan Clachairean loma-lan, an t-Urr. Iain Mac Aoidh 's a chathair, an Coirneillear còir air an dara taobh dheth agus Seòras air an taobh eile. Chuir Fear an Tighe fàilt is furan air a' chuideachd agus mu'n d'thainig a' Cheilidh gu crìch, thug e cothrum do Fhear-Gairme Clann an Fhraoich e bhi a' mineachadh do'n chuideachd gu dé a bha 's

an fhradhac aig A' Chomunn 'nuair a steidhich iad an gluasad ùr, Comunn na h-Oigridh. Thug Mgr. Marjoribanks dhaibh fiosrachadh mionaideach mu'n chùis ann an Gaidhlig choimhionta agus dh'earb e ri gach aon aig am bheil suim an aobhar na Gaidhlig a bhi a' deanamh an uile dhìchill gum a bhi a' treòrachadh na cloinne ann am foghlum na Gaidhlig agus anns gach deagh bheus agus cleachdadh a tha fuaighte ri cànan agus dùthchas a' Ghaidheil.

Ré a thurais 's an Eilean rinn am Fear-deilbhe ullachadh air son Cròilean Ciuil a shocrachadh anns an Ath Leathann, Sgoil Mhic Dhiarmaid, Cille Mhoire agus Dun Bheagain. Tha a nise Bhaltar Ros air ceann a ghnòthaich anns na h-ionadan sin.

Air oidhche Di-haoine bha am Fear-deilbhe an lathair aig Ceilidh an Deibhidh. Chaidh snim laghach a thional air son Mod Inbhir Nis.

Air iartus Comhairle Mod Bhaideanach fhritheal am Fear-deilbhe aig coinneimh de'n Chomhairle sin am Bail Ur an t-Sleibh, air oidhche Di-luain, an 16mh la de'n Mhàrt. Bha deichneair de na buill 's an lathair agus Mgr. Tomas Grand, an Ceann Suidhe, air an ceann. Tha a nise gach ni an ordugh air son a' Mhojd so, a tha ri chumail am Bail Ur an t-Sleibh, air an treas latha de'n Ghiblean. Bidh Còisearan a' farpais á Bail Ur an t-Sleibh, An Lagan, Cinn a' Ghiuthsaich, Ceann na Creige, Rath a Mhurchais, Obair Neithich, Baile nan Grandach agus Coit Ghartain.

An Airde Deas.

Mar a thugadh sanas air a' mhìos mu dheireadh chaidh an Runaire gu Barraidh air an ochdamh la deug de'n Ghearran agus bha e 's an lathair aig coinneamhan am Bàgh a' Chaisteil is am Baile na Creige. Bha cuideachd mhór cruinn aig gach coinneamh agus mar a dh'fhaodadh dùil a bhith cha do chleachdadh facal ach Gaidhlig. Tha moran bhall co-cheangailte ri meur Bhagh a' Chaisteil agus mu thuaiream da ceud aig gach ceilidh. Aig a' chruinneachadh am Baile na Creige bha an cluich Gaidhlig "Còir Samhna air Leannan" air fhòillsachadh an doigh fìor thaitneach. Thug triuir bhalach seachad comhradh agus seann sgeulachd gu tapaidh, pongail.

Thadhail an Runaire an sè sgoilean an eilein agus chuir e trì Feachdan ùra de Chomunn na h-Oigridh air bonn—am Baile na Creige, Eòlagairidh is Breabhaig—94 ball ùr uile gu leth.

Bha an ath choinneamh aig an Runaie an Sgairinnis (Tiriodh) air Di-luain, an 24mh le de'n Mhàrt. Chuireadh luchd-dreuchd is Comhairle ur air bonn an sin. Air feasgar Di-mairt chumadh coinneamh ghasda an Airigh nan Gobhar, an eilean Cholla. Bha mu cheithir fichead cruinn a dh'aoindeoin uisge is gaillionn. Tha cròilean Gaidhlig is Ciuil aca fo stiuradh a' Mhinisteir is an Lighche. Air tilleadh gu Tiriodh bha coinneamhan gasda air an cumail an Baile Mhartainn, Cornaigmór is an Ruaig. Tha na Maighstearan Sgoile ag cumail nan Coisirean r'a cheile an Còrnaig agus thug iad dearbhadh aig a' cheilidh air an dealas do thaobh ar n-obair agus air an meas air teagasg ar Fear-ciuil, Mgr. MacIomhair. Chuireadh meur ùr air bonn an Ruaig. Thadhail an Runaie air Feachdan Comunn na h-Oigridh agus chuir e ceithir ri aireamh nam Feachdan an Baile Mhartainn is an Sgairinnis.

Air an 16mh la de'n Mhàrt thog an Runaie air gu Ard nam Murchan agus air an 17mh la bha cruinneachadh math aige an Cille Chomhghain. Bu ionndrainn e nach robh am Ministear aig baile ged a bu rogha Fear na Cathrach Iain MacDhonnhaill.

Bha mu thri fichead cruinn an talla Shron-an t-Sithein air feasgar an 18mh la deug agus chuireadh seachad oidhche thogarrach. Bha coinneamh mhór eile an Ath-tharacail an oidhche an deidh sin. Bha cho math ri ceud cruinn ged a bha ceilidh aca seachdain roimhe sin.

A thuilleadh air na coinneamhan sin thadhail an Runaie air Feachdan Comunn na h-Oigridh an tri de na sgoilean agus bha comhradh aige ri na ban-sgoilearan 's an da sgoil eile.

Chriochnaich an Runaie a chuairt an Ceannlochmor (Kinlochleven) air feasgar Di-haoine. Bha 250 cruinn an so agus bha an Ceann Suidhe anns a' chathair. Tha esan ag giùlan air aghaidh cròilean Gaidhlig oidhche 's an t-seachdan re miosan a' Gheamhraidh agus tha dà fhichead air a' chlàr aige. Tha am meur so ag coinneachadh uair 's a mhios ré an t-sèisein agus tha os clonn da cheud aig gach coinneimh.

Tha an luchd-ciuil an ceann deasna is mar a leanas:—A' Mhgn. Nic Mhartainn, Ile; Iain Mac Iomhair, Aird nam Murchan.

BRANCH REPORTS.

ABERFELDY.—The annual concert of the Aberfeldy and district branch was held in the Town Hall recently. The chair was occupied by Colonel I. C. Stewart (Fa-naclach), who was accompanied by Mrs. Stewart, and supporting him were Mr. Alasdair Stewart, president; Rev. Iain MacLellan, Miss Calder, Mr. T. M. Stewart, Mr. Hamilton, and others. Major Stewart commended the members of the branch for the good work done in that part of Perthshire. The work of An Comunn was now not really confined to the Highlands, but was widespread throughout Scotland, and even commanded a wider field. The work of An Comunn was even spreading into England. The programme was mainly a Gaelic one. The singers were Misses Flora MacInnes, Millie Menzies, and Isabel Robertson, Messrs. Duncan MacLellan, Greenock; James Scott, Rannoch; Alasdair Carmichael, and Iain MacAskill. A dialogue, "A Friendly Gossip," was given by Miss Kate Howe and Mrs. Butters, Fearnan; violin and pianoforte selections were given by Misses Cameron; Highland dancing by Misses Chrissie Leitch and Janet Menzies with their troupe of dancers; Mr. Robert Irvine gave piping selections, and Mrs. Peterine M. Stewart played the accompaniments. Mrs. Stewart, who is a well-known Mod competitor and prize-winner, also, by special request, sang two Gaelic songs in addition to her duty as accompanist. A vote of thanks to the artistes, on the call of Major Stewart, was heartily responded to, and Rev. Iain MacLellan called for a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

BETHYHILL.—The usual fortnightly ceilidh was held in the public hall. Those who contributed to an excellent programme of Gaelic and English songs were:—Miss Nan Munro, Messrs. Neil Mackinnon, John Mackay, Wm. Mackay, Wm. Mackintosh, James Mackay, D. G. Murray, and M. Henderson. A humorous duet by Mr. Wm. Henderson and Mr. D. G. Murray proved highly entertaining, and was accorded much applause.

CAMPBELLTOWN.—The last ceilidh of the season under the auspices of An Comunn Gaidhealach Ceannloch was held in the Town Hall, and proved a most enjoyable function. Mr. Donald Galbraith, president of the local branch, occupied the chair, and intimated apologies for absence from Sheriff Macmaster Campbell and Mr. Archibald Stewart, procurator fiscal. The concert programme was sustained by the following artistes:—Misses M. McNeill, C. McSparran, E. MacFadyen, and Mrs. Ross, and Messrs. J. McKendrick and J. Lambic. In the course of the proceedings Mr. Donald Galbraith intimated that Sheriff and Mrs. Macmaster Campbell had promised to present silver medals to the best boy and girl singer of a Gaelic song.

GOVAN.—Govan branch, by their interesting bi-lingual concerts, continue to attract large audiences each week to their hall in Govan Road. On a recent Thursday the chair was occupied by Miss Mary C. MacNiven, the popular Glasgow Gaelic vocalist, who has a family connection with the Rhinns of Islay. Supporting Miss MacNiven were Mr. Hugh May, president; Mr. Coll MacDonald, vice-president; Mr. John Campbell, Mr. A. C. MacNaughton and Mr. Hugh MacCorquodale. Miss MacNiven, who was given a hearty reception, said the position she held that evening was a new experience and she thanked the office-bearers for the

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

The School will meet this year at Port Ellen, Islay, from 14th July to 7th August.

honour they had done her. She was very pleased to see the Highlanders of that part of the city so loyally supporting the Committee who were responsible for keeping the Gaelic flag flying in Govan. Miss MacNiven not only presided, but also provided the artistes for the concert, which in itself indicates that the talent was above the average. The Albyn Quartette Party, a well-known musical combination in the city, consisting of Messrs. Wilson Rae, William Thomson, Samuel Osborne and William Bryson, with Mr. Andrew Taylor as their accompanist, gave delightful renderings of various Scots songs, and Mr. Thomson and Mr. Rae as soloists, added to the success of the evening. The Gaelic vocalists were Misses Morag MacLellan, Chrissie Nicolson and Mr. Hume D. Robertson. Miss MacLellan and Mr. Robertson sang unpublished songs very effectively, while Miss Nicolson was up to her usual standard in "Gur Mìlis Morag" and various other songs. On the invitation of the president, Miss MacNiven, to the delight of the audience, sang "Moladh Na Lanndaigh" and several other songs.

INVERNESS.—A successful ceilidh was held in the Glenalbyn Hotel, presided over by Mr. Murdo Morrison, Director of Education. The organiser was Miss J. E. Mackenzie, who was supported by the following talented artistes:—Mrs. Matheson, Miss R. Macpherson, Miss A. Campbell, Miss R. Macleod, Nurse Macdonald, Drummadrochit; Messrs. J. Tolmie, Drummadrochit; D. Macdonald, Hugh Macrae, Lairg; and Bell and Tuach. Merkinch School pupils gave a dancing display, and Piper James Macdonald and Mr. Malcolm Macinnes, Ostaig, played bagpipe music. Miss Rhoda Macleod was accompanist at the piano.

KINLOCHLEVEN.—The Gaelic class held under the auspices of the local branch is making very good progress. These classes are held every Wednesday evening in the ante-hall, and are conducted by Mr. James Lawson, the president of the local branch. There are over 20 names on the roll, and the average weekly attendance is being well maintained, and a keen interest taken in learning the language. Mr. Lawson reports that the class is very keen and that good progress is being made in the art of conversation in Gaelic, and he looks forward to the day when an all-Gaelic ceilidh will be sustained by the members of the local branch of An Comunn.

KILLIN.—The monthly meeting of the Killin Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Public Hall on Friday, 28th February. Mr. James MacRaw, M.A., presided over a large attendance and on behalf of the Branch, extended a cordial invitation to Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Assistant Secretary of An Comunn, and Miss Norah Morrison, who had accompanied him from Glasgow. An excellent concert programme was submitted. Gaelic songs were sung by Mr. Matheson, Miss Morrison and Miss Katie MacNaughton. Other items were, readings by Miss B. MacPhail and Mr. D. Beaton, a Gaelic dialogue by Miss B. MacWilliam and Miss R. MacGregor, violin and pianoforte selections by Miss Bickerton and Mr. Ainslie, Highland dancing by Mr. A. Cattanaich, and bagpipe selections by Mr. James Dunn. At the close, Mr. Matheson, speaking in Gaelic, thanked the company for their kind welcome to Miss Morrison and himself. The customary votes of thanks were proposed by the Rev. Donald Thomson and the Chairman.

LEWIS.—The closing ceilidh for this session under the auspices of the local branch of An Comunn was

held in the Town Hall, Stornoway, on Friday, 13th March, when Mr. James Thomson presided over a large attendance. Proceedings were opened with bagpipe selections from Mr. Donald MacLeod, and thereafter a fine programme of Gaelic songs was submitted by Mrs. MacDonald and Messrs. Murdo MacLeod, Hugh MacIver, John Matheson, Duncan MacAulay, Kenneth Crichton, John MacDonald, and Master Donald MacLeod. Duets were sung by Misses M. MacDonald and C. A. MacKay. A play entitled "The Seasons" was performed by a party of schoolgirls from Knock. A vote of thanks to the artistes was proposed by Mr. Thomson, after which the singing of "Oidhche Mhath Leibh" by the company brought the ceilidh to a close.

LISMORE.—An enjoyable ceilidh was held in the Public Hall. For one evening Lismore reverted to days of yore, and a room of a Highland cottage was staged, where the performers, on entering, received a warm welcome from "Fear-an-Tighe" and "Bean-an-Tighe," Captain MacDonald and Mrs. Donald MacGregor, respectively. Much of the success of the evening was due to Miss MacMartin, teacher for An Comunn, who had trained the choir, which delighted the audience with various songs. An excellent programme was sustained by Captain MacDonald, who rendered bagpipe selections. Solos by Messrs. Peter MacDougall, Alex. MacColl, Ewen Cameron, Captain MacDonald, Misses MacMartin, MacLellan, and Mary MacDougall. Duets by Misses MacMartin and MacCorquodale, and Misses Jessie and M. MacIntyre. A humorous reading was given by Mr. Ewen Cameron. During the interval, after tea had been served, Miss MacColl, on behalf of the members of the choir, handed over to Miss MacMartin the gift of a fountain pen as a token of appreciation. Miss MacMartin made suitable acknowledgment. Towards the end of the ceilidh the ladies of the choir, assisted by Miss Buchanan, took part in a "Luadhadh," which they energetically performed to the accompaniment of old waulking songs. The dancing of a Highland reel by Messrs. Colthart and MacGregor and Misses MacCorquodale and MacColl to pìut-a-beul music was novel to the younger generation, and revived pleasant memories among many present. The piano accompaniments were played by Mrs. MacCorquodale and Miss MacMartin. A well attended dance followed.

NETHY BRIDGE.—The Gaelic continuation class taught in the public school during the winter season by Mr. Fraser, M.A., has been brought to a close. It has been well attended despite the rough weather, and the pupils have made considerable progress. Mr. Fraser is an enthusiast, and well versed in the language of the Gael.

TORARMOIRE.—Aig a' chéilidh air an 12mh. là de'n Ghearran bha deagh ghean air gach neach, cha robh fear no té ann nach d' fhuair rudeigin a chòrd riutha. Bha òrain gu leòir ann, agus cuideachd, ni a tha glé iomchuidh, dh' innis An t-Urr. C. Mac 'Ileathain ann am briathran blasda eachdraidh beatha a' bhaire Uilleam Ros, agus leughadh agus sheinneadh cuid de no dàin a b' fhearr aig a' bhàrd an oidhche so. Airson na feadhna air am bi sgeulachd mhath a dhith bha C. Mac Pharlain, agus e suas, mar a thubhairt e fhéin, air Beinn na h-òillich. Bha cuairt no dhà air a' phìob mhóir, agus ceòl sunndach gasda air a' phianna, agus air a' bhocsa chiuil. Leis an sin cha robh iongantas ann ged a bha sean is bg a mach air an ùrlar 's iad gu h-aotrom a' dannsadh. Nis dé eile a b' urrainn a bhith againn—cha robh uime air tèa òl ged a bhithheadh i amn.

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TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXXI.]

An Cèitein, 1936.

[Earrann 8

CAOCHLAIDHEAN.

Is còir beachd a ghabhail air na caochlaidhean mòra a tha a' tighinn mu'n cuairt ann ar latha. Is gann gu bheil ni nach eil fo dheuchainn. Tha mòran de na seann dòighean ag atharrachadh. Ghiorraich na h-innleachdan ùra ùine agus astar. Na rathaidean a bha cho feumail airson gnothuich na lion a chaidh seachad, tha iad a nis air fàs neo-fhreagarrach; agus tha mòran airgid ri chosg a chum an deanamh deas airson nan carbad ola is innleachdan nuadha eile. Tha na tighean combnuidh de gach seorsa fo bhinn cur as daibh—an fheadhainn mhóra gam fàgail fàs, agus an fheadhainn bheaga ri leasachadh. Is ann a thaobh thighean combnuidh is dachaidhean an t-sluaigh a tha an caochladh is sonruichte ri fhaicinn. Cha leigear a leas tim an leughadair a thogail le bhi a' sgrìobhadh mu na nithean ùra, laghannan is riaghailtean nach cualas riamh an leithid, mu obair air muir is tìr, na ghluacas an t-iasgair de iasg, na thogas an tuathanach de bhàrr.

* * *

Mar is gnàth leinn an am a bhi a' meabhrachadh na h-earrainn chinn so, cumaidh sinn ann ar sealladh cìod a' bheantainn a tha aig na h-atharraichean ùra gu léir ri beatha na Gaidhlig. Agus a' mothachadh do na nithean ùra, is ceart a chuimhneachadh gur ann am measg na sean chorán a thog ar cànan a ceann

air tùs. Cìod iad na corán a bha an sin? Bha air tùs ann tuath is tìghearna. Bha an dùthaich air a roinn 'na ceannan fo na Seann triathan Gaidhealach. Bha ceangal cinneachail blàth eadar an triath is a chineil. Tha saothair nan seann bhàrd ag innseadh sin gu soilleir. Bha biadh na dùthcha de ghné simplidh ach fallainn; toradh na mara, na h-aibhne, na talamhain agus na h-àirigh. Bha an t-éideadh breacain de chloimh nan treud dùthcheail, air an ullachadh le calanas nam ban. Lean gach aon a cheaird fein, air beinn is aig baile. Is iad sin mata na corán simplidh, nadurrach anns an d'fhàs a' Ghaidhlig; agus is i a' cheist an diugh, cia mar is urrainn duinn sean chànan mar a' Ghaidhlig a cheartachadh ris na corán ùra?

* * *

Ach a dh'aindeoin gach caochlaidh a thainig riamh, is e an caochladh a bu mhotha air fad, gum b'èigin do na Gaidheil, le reachd na rìoghachd, an cuid foghlum fhaotainn ann am Beurla. Is e so an lagh cruaidh neo-thuigseach a thug bàs obann air a' Ghaidhlig. Is ann rìghinn da rìreadh a bha i an uair a sheas i idir ris a' ghiollachd thàireil a fhuair i. Ach a nis, an déidh ùine cho fada, tha muinntir a' mosgladh suas agus a' faighneachd dhiu féin cìod an draoidheachd a thug orra an cànan fein a dhearmad cho tur. Is ni cinnteach gu bheil spiorad cinneachail a' dùsgadh ann an iomadh treubh feadh an t-saoghail. Is i

cànain combarradh cinnich. Is i a' Ghaidhlig suaicheantas nan Gaidheal. Agus mar is motha a lasas an teine so an cridhe nan Gaidheal Albannach is ann is teotha a dh'fhasas an lasair, gus mu dheireadh am bi meas aca orra fein, agus gum miannaich iad cainnt a chuireas an spiorad treubhach ud an cèill gu beothail mar bu dual. Tha a' Bheurla math gu leòr do'n t-Sasunnach. Chan 'eil innte ach cainnt choimheach do'n Ghaidheal. Ach mur las an lasair so, chan 'eil math a bhì strì ris !

* * *

Cia mar a dh'fhaodas sinn ar cànain a cheartachadh ri innleachdan ùra ach air an aon dòigh anns an d' rinn cainntean eile an rud eudna. Thoir fainear cionnus a tha a' Bheurla an comain chànainean eile airson ainm nan gnòthuichean nuadha. An uair a fhuaradh a mach an t-inleachd ris an can sinn am brath-clis cha robh aon fhacal anns a' Bheurla a fhreagrach; agus b'eigin facal ùr a chùineadh bho'n Ghrèugais agus is e sin am facal *telegram*, a tha cho cumanta a nis mar fhacal Beurla. Tha an cleas eudna fìor a thaobh fìchead is ceud ni eile, airson an do ghabh a' Bheurla iasad bho chainntean eile. Agus mar sin ciod a bhacas a' Ghaidhlig bho iasad a ghabhail mar bhitheas feum air. Is iomadh facal Beurla a chluinnear an diugh aig luchd Gaidhlig mar ainm air nithean ùra. Tha sin freagarrach gu leòr. Cha bhì a' Ghaidhlig fada a' cur a dath agus a blas fhein air facal coigreach. Tha a cheart urad de chòir aig a' Ghaidhlig air facal Laidiunn no Greugais agus a tha aig a' Bheurla fhein. Is combarradh beatha gu bheil ar cànain comasach air facail a ghabhail agus a shnaidheadh gus an chruth a tha iomchuidh airson a feumalachd.

ROINN A' GHEOIDH.

Sgeul beag a fhuair an Runaire bho Dhomhnall MacFhionghuin, am Bàgh a' Chaisteil.

Chaidh Gaidheal tapaidh uair-eigin de an t-saoghal air tòir cosnaidh do Ghlaschu agus fhuair e obair ann am bàta ach cha robh am bàta fada aig muir an uair a chaidh a bristeadh air taobh an iar Eirinn. Cha robh tigh no dachaidh 'nan sealladh far an deach iad agus bha iad 'nan coigrich 's an àite. Cha robh a nis ach a h-uile fear a' toirt sgarbhadh a creagan dha fhéin. Dh'fhalbh gach fear air rathad dha fhéin a dh'fheuch c'ait am faigheadh e biadh

agus fagadh ach cha robh an Gaidheal fada ag coiseachd an uair a chunnaic e tigh agus rinn e dìreach air. An uair a bha e suas a dh'ionnsuidh an tìghe bha an so bha am bodach agus a' chailleach agus aon nighean òg a bha aca, agus gille òg a bha a' dol a phòsadh na h-ìghinn, ag coimhead a mach air uinneig agus chunnaic iad an coigreach a suas a dh'ionnsuidh an tìghe.

Thubhairt an gille òg "Is e Gaidheal a tha so."

"Gu dé am fios a tha agad," ars an nighean.

"Tha" thuir e, "leis cho àrd 's a tha e a' togail a chasan. Tha na rathaidean tha aca 's a' Ghaidhealtachd cho garbh agus cho cnapach agus gu feum iad a bhì a' togail an casan cho àrd, agus seall cho àrd 's a tha am fear so 'g an togail. Tha iad a ràdh gu bheil na Gaidheil fuathasach aineolach mu bhìadh agus bho'n tha an dinneir againn deiseil is fhearr dhuinn a thoirt a stigh chun na dinnearach."

Thug iad a stigh an coigreach agus chuir iad sìos an dinneir agus chuir iad sìos geadh air clàr agus shuidh am bodach 's a' chailleach aig ceann a' bhùird agus an nighean is an gille air gach taobh agus shuidh an coigreach aig ceann eile a' bhùird.

"Is fhearr dhuit an geadh a roinn," thuir an gille òg ris a' choigreach. "Chan 'eil sinne ro mhath gus a roinn ach tha mi cinnteach gu bheil thusa glé mhath."

"Tha còir agamsa bhì glé mhath" ars an coigreach.

Rug e gu tapaidh le làimh chli air a' gheadh agus ghearr e an ceann dheth agus chuir e air truinnsear a' bhodaich e agus thuir e, "Bho'n is sibhse ceannard an tìghe is ann agaibh is còir an ceann a bhith."

Ghlac e an amhach agus chuir e air truinnsear na caillich i agus thuir e, "Bho'n is e amhach is faisge air a' cheann agus gur sibhse as faisge air ceannard an tìghe is ann agaibh is còir an amhach a bhith."

Ghearr e an dà sgéith dheth agus chuir e té do'n ghille og agus té do'n nighinn agus thuir e, "Bho 'nach 'eil annaibhse ach daoine òga bhios air sgiathaich a mach ag coimhead air rud dhuibh fhéin is ann agaibh is còir na sgiathan a bhith, agus bho nach 'eil annam-sa ach duine bochd a tha 'ga chosnadh le spionnadh a chum is ann agam is còir an com a bhith." An uair a ghabh e a dhòl thuir e riutha "Bidh mi nis a' falbh. Bheir sud pìos eile 's an rathad mi."

"Cha b'annasach geòl bheireadh" ars am bodach.

GEARRLOCH

agus a Sgenlachdan mu Thorr na h-Ulaidh agus Lochan nan Arm.

Leis an Ollamh ALASDAIR MAC-AN-T-SAOIR.

Nuair thig tràth athais an fheasgair nach taitneach an ni suidhe sios aig taobh an teine a' beachdsmaoineachadh air na laithean a chuir sinn seachad, air an t-sluagh a b'aithne dhuinn agus na nithean a thachair dhuinn anns an tìr ahunn sin anns an do chaith sinn uile ar n-òige ?

'S ann air a chor sin a sgrìobhadh na rainn a leanas.

Chan 'eil ni anns a' cheud rann ach firinn is aithne do gach neach ; ach, nach druidhteach an smuain i—a' chiumhne sin troimh 'm bheil e 'nar comas na fir is na cuisean a chunnaic sinn uair a thoirt fa chombair na h-inntinn a rithid mar gum bitheadh iad fhathasd ann ?

Ceangailte gle dhluth ris a' chiumhne tha an ni eile sin ris an can sinn mac-meanmairn, troimh 'm bheil sinn comasach na cuisean agus na fir a bh' ann o chian, air am faigh sinn an t-ìomradh a's lugha, a dhealbhadh 'nar n-inntinnean mar gum buineadh iad do ar cuimhne fhein.

Faodaidh sinn a radh gur cuimhne a bhuineas do ar fine a th' anns na dealbhan sin. Theid cuimhne nam fineachan Gàidhealach na's fhaide air ais an tim na cuimhne sluaigh 'sam bith eile 's an Roinn Eorpa.

Tha e air innse le sean Ghreigeach, a bha beo o chionn corr agus da mhìle bliadhna, mu cheannard Ceilteach, de an d'fheoraicheadh an robh ni 'sam bith ann a churadh eagal air na Ceiltich, gun do fhreagair esan nach robh eagal orra roimh ni 'sam bith ach nan tuiteadh na neamhan no nan sgrubadh an cuan mor thairis air an talamh. O 'n sgeul beag sin faodaidh sinn dealbh uamhasach a tharruing air an tachartas eagalach a bhiodh an sin, agus, gu dearbh, 's e th' anns an dealbh seo cuimhne a bhuineas do na Fineachan Gàidhealach air ni a thachair o chian nan cian, fada mus deach facal eachdraidh a sgrìobhadh 's an Roinn Eorpa, oir tha daoine foghlumta ag innse dhuinn gun do thachair a leithid seo de leirsgrìos anns an Roinn Eorpa anns na h-amannan fada as air nach 'eil ìomradh aig sluaigh.

Buinidh na rainn a leanas do sgeulachdan anns nach 'eil ach gle bheag min-chunntais.

Air cul tuathanas Achdacharn, ann an Gearrloch, Siorrachd Rois, tha torr beag ris

an can sinn Torr na h-Ulaidh. Eadar an torr agus na meallan arda tha gleann beag troimh an dean neach dìreadh gu bealach a tha fosgladh air coireachan agus glacan nam fireach. Ann an coire beag leis fhein aig bun nam meall tha lochan ris an abrar Lochan nan Arm.

Tha beul-aithris an aite ag innseadh dhuinn gun d'fhalaicheadh ulaidh uaireigin air cul an torra le muinntir air an d'thainig deuchainn air choreigin, agus nach do thill duine dhiubb riamh air a toir.

Mar an ceudna, mu Lochan nan Arm innsear gun do thig buidhean dhaoine, air an robh au ruaig uaireigin, an cuid arm anns an lochan so, a chum 's gum bitheadh e comasach dhaibh teicheadh as na bu luaithe.

Chan 'eil e air innseadh co ris, no co as, no cuin a dh'èirich na mi-shealbhann so, ach, tha iomadh ni an eachdraidh ar tìre a' nochdadh dhuinn gum bu bhrieadh a steach de luchd reubainn cuain (Lochlainnich) air an tìr a b' aobhar air an ruaig.

Is iomadh uair a thainig an sluaigh dàn agus borb sin 'nam birlinnean móra, agus a rinn iad dochannan eagalach an iomadh duthaich.

'S ann dìreach air Torr na h-Ulaidh a dh'fheumadh muinntir nan clachan a dheanamh agus iad a' teicheadh o 'n oirthir gu na mullaichean, agus 's e cul an torra so a cheud aite anns am faigheadh iad còthrom air ni 'sam bith fhalach, a fradharc air cuan is cladach.

Agus, nan robh an ulaidhean ro throm air son an giulan thar nam meall arda, casa, agus an ruaig a' tighinn ro theann orra, 's ann an so a dh'fheumadh iad an ìomhasan a chur fo thalamh.

TORR NA H-ULAI DH.

SGEULACHD A GEARRLOCH.

Ged chionas dìtehan ait nam bruch,
'S a thuiteas trusgan gorm nan craobh ;
Ged shiubhlhas cuspair gaol is fuath,
Is maireann ni an cuimhne dhaoin.'

Bidh 'n t-sean bheul-aithris tric ag inns'
Mu iomadh reubainneach is lochd ;
Ach, de a nis a bheir dhuinn brìgh
Nan sgeul no tharruingeas dealbh dhuinn orr' ?
Ach—rach' maid sios do'n ghleacan shamh :
'Na fhasgadh uaigneach gluaisidh 'n smuain
Mar aisling, 's chi sinn siubhal shàr,
Is triall nan linn a dhealaich uainn ;
'S thig séirm nan allt mar shanas sith
O linntean céin, air oiteig chaoin,
A' toirt dhuinn sgeul, ma dh' eisceas sinn,
Air nithean ceilt' mu dhàn nan daoin'.

Co dh' àraicheadh, A Ghearrloch, riamh
 Fo d' sgéith nach gléidh 'na chridhe blàth
 An tlachd mu d' chladach sàil bh' triall,
 No air do fhrithean aileach ard?
 Gur farsuing, fosgailte ri cuan
 Do chomhnard loinnreach, gorm, 's a muigh,
 Gur corrach ard do chreagan buan
 Ri cleas nan stuagh a' strìth 's a' cluich.
 Air latha samhraidh ciuin, gun smal,
 A Luaigh, b' e siod an sealladh grinn—
 Do thonnan gorm' a' tuiteam geal
 Air gaineimh ruaidh 'nam pleasgan min'—
 Do mhuir mar sgàthan sgaoilt' ri neamh,
 O 'n chladach sint' gu aird a chuain,
 'S gach fadhlaing 's mealbhan 's machair sheimh
 'S a' bhruthainn, sìtheil, trom 'nan suain—
 Taobh thall do ghorm thonn t' aonach liath
 'S an dearsadh dhian gun dìon, gun sgleo,
 'S air iomall seallaidh, fada siar,
 Mar fhaileas, Eilean Gorm a' Cheo.
 'S an speur bidh dearsadh gréine 's boillsge
 Mar chaoir air creagan ard' nam beann;
 Is t' achaidhean uaine bàit' 's an t-soillsge
 Le coileach-teas air cnoc is crann.
 'S nuair thuiteas feath air tìr 's air muir,
 Air feadh gach ni thig clos ach thall
 An siod tonn sgith a' chuain gun sgeur
 A' briseadh air an tràigh gu mall;
 'S na h-uillt r' an torman sìor fo d' chuic
 A' stealladh sìos am measg nam clach,
 'Gan táladh, turus fiar, le ruic,
 O 'n mhonadh shuas gu muir a mach.

Aig Achdacharn tha meallan mòr'
 Mar dhion-bhall' eadar thu 's an ear,
 Is as gach bealach, bearn is lòn
 Thig sruthan gàireach, easach, mear.
 Gu deas tha Baghais-bheinn nam buadh
 Mar bhan-rìgh air a cathair aird;
 O a crios am fireach gorm m' a cuairt,
 Mar bhreacan filteach, sgaoilt' gu làr;
 A ceann fo sgoth mar choron oir;
 A guailleann comhnarda ri speur;
 A broilleach neamhnadach 'na gloir,
 'S a shìos an caola, maola, réidh':
 Gur h-ise beinn ar tlachd 's ar gaol,
 A 's uaisle maisich' rioghail' cruth,
 'S i riaghladh sìos air loch is caol,
 Air monadh, aonach, maol is sruth;
 Na sleibhteann air gach taobh le deoin
 'S le aoigh a' tionndadh aghaidh rith'—
 Beinn Ailiginn is Beinn an Eoin
 A' tabhairt dìon is urram dhith;
 Na meallan beag' fo sgàil a cléibh,
 Gach fear 's e combaichte gu bhraigh
 Le a thrusgan fraoich na a choilltean fhein,
 A' toirt dhith umhlachd agus graidh.

A Ghearrloch 's àluinn thu gun dìth:
 Is cairdeil, fearail, fial do chlann:
 An diugh tha fois air t' uile chrioch;
 Ach, chunnaic thus' an truaigh a bh'ann.
 Is iomadh sgeul a dh' innseadh dhuinn
 Mar chlann air blàth uched Achdacharn:
 Is iomadh uair a bha sinn cruinn
 Mu Thorr na h-Ulaidh 's Loch nan Arm,
 Ar smuaintean air na chuala sinn
 'S a' toirt fa-near mar dh' inns' an sgeul,
 Mar chaidh 'n sud ulaidh chur fo 'n lic
 'S mar chaidh na h-airm a chur o fheum;
 Gun fhios an diugh aig duine beo
 Co ris no ciamar fhein no cuin
 A thainig deuchainnean is leoin,
 A dh'fhuaidhach tuath o'n tìr, gu buil,
 No c'ait' an robh an ulaidh taisgt',
 Nach d'fhag 'na deidh ach ainn an àit:
 Mar leanas, dh'fhaodadh, fhuair mi faisg,
 Cho dlùth 's a gheibh sinn air mar bha.

Air latha samhraidh 's mi leam fhein
 Air raonntan Achdacharn air chuairt,
 Air tàmh dhomh measg nam blàth 's a' ghréin,
 Bha 'n t-allt r' a ghàirich shìos fo 'n bhruaich,
 Is fàile cubhraidh lus is fhùr
 'Gam chur an dùiseal suain mar fhìon,
 Nuair dh' eirich cùisean 's fir a b'fhùr
 'Nam smuain, mar bh' ann o chian nan cian.

Ar leam gum faca mi na cnuic
 A' gluasad 's creagan a' cur char
 Gu sàmhach, 's dh'fhosgadh 's lionadh sluic:
 Mar cheo chaidh mìle bliadhna às.
 An tiota leagh gach ni rinn làmh;
 Gu buileach chaidh iad as gu léir,
 Gach balla 's taigh is ni a dh' fhàs,
 Gach craobh is preas is luibh is feur.
 An tiota rithisd dh' eirich suas
 Gach ni a mhaireas; creag is chuain,
 Gu soilleir, soilleach deas is tuath,
 Am monadh is na cnuic 's an cuan;
 'S a thuilleadh orra coilltean dlùth'
 Is doirean meanglanach is prìs,
 Gach aon diubh annasach do m' shùil,
 'Gam chur fo iongnadh mòr air chlisg.
 Gun fhios dhomh ciamar fhuair mi cinnt
 Gun robh an ni a bh' ann o chéin
 Gu soilleir, follaiseach a rithisd
 Fa m' chomhair, mar gun togte séun.

Ri Leantainn.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

The School will meet this year at Port Ellen,
 Islay, from 14th July to 7th August.

AN ARD CHOMHAIRLE.

Chumadh Coinneamh de Ard Chomhairle a' Chomuinn an Struibhle air Di-haoine, an treas là de'n Ghiblein. Bha an Ceann Suidhe, Mgr. Iain R. Mac Gille na Brataich, anns a' chathair agus bha na buill a leanas 's an lathair:—A' Bhean Usal Barron, Glaschu; A. R. Caimbeul, O.B.E., Glaschu; A' Bhean Usal Chaimbeul (na h-Airdean); A' Mhgn. Catriona B. Chamshron, Glaschu; A' Bhean Usal Dunlop, Glaschu; Alasdair Friseal, Baile an Easbaig; An t-Ollamh Cailean Mac na Ceardaidh, Glaschu; A' Bhean Usal Nic a' Chombaich, Glaschu; Coinneach Mac Dhomhnaill, Glaschu; Iain Mac Dhomhnaill, A.M., Glaschu; An t-Urramach Daibhidh Mac Dhonnchaidh, Baile nam Feusgan; Eachann Mac Dhughail, Glaschu; A.M. Mac Lachlainn, Tobarnhoire; Ailean Mac Leoid, Glaschu; An t-Urramach Calum Mac Leoid, A.M., Glaschu; Calum Mac Leoid, Glaschu; Iain Mac Leoid, Lunnain; Alasdair Mac Neacail, A.M., Glaschu; Iain Mac Neacail, Struibhle; Iain A. Mac Neacail, A.M., Glaschu; Gilbert Mac an t-Saoir, Cillfhinn; Eoghann Mac Thorcadail, Glaschu; An t-Urramach Iain U. Mac Phàil, A.M., Glaschu; Seoras E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan; Niall Orra, Dun Eidean. A' frithealadh, Niall Mac Gille Sheathanaich, Rùnaire, agus Alasdair Mac Mhathain, Fear Cuideachaidh. Chuir an Ceann Suidhe fàilte air a' chuideachd agus an sin leughar Gearr-sheanachas na Coinneimh roimhe agus ghabh a' Chomhairle ris. Leugh an Rùnaire fiosan bho àireamh de na buill nach bu chomasach air a bhi 's an lathair.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Iomhais. Leig so ris gu'n do chuireadh cunntasan Comhairle Carragh Cùmhne Nèill Mhic an Rothaich fa chomhar na Coinneimh. Tha £114 an làimh aig a' Chomhairle agus chomharraicheadh gu'm biodh £30 de'n t-sium so air a chur an dara taobh fa chomhar ùrachaidh sam bith a dh'fheumas an Carragh anns na bliadhnan ri teachd, agus gu'm biodh an còrr, £84, air a chur mu seach, agus gu'm biodh an riadh dheth sin aig a' Chomunn a thoirt seachad duaisean an Sgoil Inbhir Aora. Is iad na duaisean a bheirear seachad leabhraichean Nèill Mhic an Rothaich. Bheir Ard Chomhairle Sìorramachd Earraghaidheal gach fiosrachadh mu chloinn na sgoile an àm roghainn a dheanamh agus bha e air iarraidh gu'm biodh an dleasna na duaisean a thoirt seachad air fhagail an làmhain Comhairle an Fhoghlum aig a' Chomunn.

Air iartras Mhgr. Alasdair Friseal, Fear Gairme, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Chaidh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Fhoghlum a leughadh.

Tha gach na a nis an ordugh airson na Sgoil Shamhraidh a tha gu bhi air a cumail an Ìle bho'n 14mh là de'n Fuchar gus an 7mh là de'n Lùnasdal. Chaidh iomradh na Sgoil Shamhraidh a chraobh-sgaoleadh feadh na rìoghachd agus chaidh mar an ceudna fios gu Oilthighean na dùthcha gu léir. Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air litir a fhuaireadh bho Urras Charneigie mu dheidhinn Cathair Ghaidhlig a bhi air a steidheachadh an Cille Rìmhinn. Thuir iad nach d' iarr Oilthigh Chille Rìmhinn orrasan fhathast a leighid de na d'heanamh agus a bhàrr air sin nach biodh iad a roinn an airgid a rithis gu ceann còig bliadhna.

Bha an t-Iomradh Ur a chuireadh a mach leis a' Chomunn a chaidh a stéidheachadh leis a' Chrùn a rannsachadh mu mhodh riarachaidh airgid a dh' fhàgadh a chum cuideachaidh fòghluim fa chomhar na Coinneimh agus bha iad làn riarachaidh fhaicinn an àite is an inbhe a tha iad a' toirt do'n Ghaidhlig ann a bhi aig cur an Iomradh gu buil. Gu h-àraidh gu'm bheil e air iarraidh air a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach fear-ionaid a thaghadh gu bhi 'na bhall de'n Chomunn so.

Bha a' Chomhairle toilichte an cothrom fhaotainn air àite bhi aig guth a' Chomuinn air Bòrd Rìaghlaidh Oilthigh Abaid Newbattle agus chaidh Mgr. Niall Orra ainmeachadh mar fhear-ionaid a' Chomuinn.

Bha am Fear Gairme agus Mgr. Calum Mac Leoid aig Coinneimh de'n Chomunn Anthropological. Tha an Comunn so a' toirt oidhirp air cairt a dheanamh air gnàthas-cainnte feadh na dùthcha agus dh'iarraidh air a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach dithis ainmeachadh gu bhi 'g an stiùradh a thaobh gnàthas-cainnte na Gaidhlig. Chaidh iarraidh air an Fhear Gairme agus air Mgr. Alasdair Mac Neacail, A.M., àite a' Chomuinn a sheasamh.

Dh'ainmich an Rùnaire gu'n robh iarraidh aig a' Chomunn Oiseanach air bruidhinn ris a' Chomhairle mu dheidhinn inbhe Cathrach a thoirt do'n Ghaidhlig an Oilthigh Ghlaschu. Dh'aontaich a' Chomhairle cuireadh a thoirt dhoibh fir-ionaid a chur a dh'ionnsuidh ath choinneamh na Comhairle.

Air iartras an Urramaich Calum Mac Leoid, Fear Gairme na Comhairle, chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Chlò-bhuailidh.

Thugadh iomradh gu'n d'fhuaireadh litir bho'n Ollamh Niall Ros anns an robh e a'

toirt suas a dhreuchd mar Fhear-deasachaidh *A' Ghaidheil*. Ghabh a' Chomhairle ris an litir le duilichinn agus chuir iad air mhaireann an taing do 'n Ollamh Ros airson obrach mar Fhear-deasachaidh ré thri bliadhna deug. Thugadh fairear, mar an ceudna, iarraidh air an Ollamh Ros e a leanadh mar Fhear-deasachaidh gus an crìochnaichear leabhar na bliadhna so de'n *Ghaidheil*.

Air iartras an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Calum MacLeod, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Chaidh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Chraobh-sgaolìdh a leughadh. Thugadh fios gu'n do ghabh Mgr. Niall Mac Gilleathain ri tairgse na Comhairle agus gu'n robh e nis a' teagasg 's an Aird-fhearna is an Tigh a' Bhealaich.

Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air earrainn a bha aig an Fhear-dheasachaidh anns a' *Ghaidheil*, mios a Ghiblein, mu dheidhinn Uras Charnegie agus teagasg Chòisirean. Chliuthaich iad do'n Ard Chomhairle iarraidh air Comhairle an Earail sealltainn a steach anns a' chùis so agus uidhir 's is comasach a dheanamh a chum gu'm bi An Comunn a' faotainn seilbh anns a' chuideachadh so.

Air iartras na Mnà Uasal Dunlop, aon de bhuihl na Comhairle, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Mhòid is a' Chiuil.

Thugadh aithris air obair na Comhairle Ionadail an Inbhirnis agus thaitinn e ris a' Chomhairle gu'm bheil an oidhirpean a soirbheachadh cho math. Chuireadh Fochomhairlean air bonn aig a' choinneimh roimhe mu riarachadh cairtean cuirmean-ciuil a' Mhòid agus mu dheasachadh Clar-eagar Mòid na h-ath bhliadhna. Thug iad so an beachdan agus ghabh a' Chomhairle riutha. Theid modh riarachaidh nan cairtean fhollseachadh anns a' *Ghaidheil* ré mìosan Iuchair agus Lùnasdail. Rinneadh atharrachadh air Earrainn Litreachais na h-Oigrìdh agus thug a' Chomhairle taing chridheil do Mhgr. Aonghas Mac Leoid, Sgoil Ard an Obain, airson a dhealuis is a shaothrach mu obair a' Chomuinn agus teagasg na Gaidhlig. Thug a' Chomhairle taing do Mhgr. Iain Mac Dhomhnaill, an t-Oban, airson fuinn chòig òran a thoirt do'n Chomhairle. Tha a' Chomhairle fìor mheasail air an nì so agus is airidh Mgr. Mac Dhomhnaill air gach moladh airson feabhais is freagarrachd nam fonn.

Thug a' Chomhairle taing do bhuihl nam Fo-chomhairlean airson cho coimhionta 'sa rinn iad na gnòthaichean a dh'earbhadh riutha.

Ghabh a' Chomhairle ris an Ridire Uisdean

Robertson agus ris an Ollamh Goiridh Mac Gille Sheathanaich mar bhreitheamhan ciuil. Thug a' Chomhairle air aghaidh ainmean dhaoin-uaisle mar bhreitheamhan Gaidhlig agus dh'iarraidh air an Rùnaire sgrìobhadh thuca.

Air iartras Mhgr. Chalum MhicLeod, Fear Gairme, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Chaidh Iomraidhean dà Choinneamh de Chomhairle Chlann an Fhraoich a leughadh. Leig iad so ris gu'm bheil Comunn na h-Oigrìdh air deagh ghleus. Thug am Fear Gairme soillearachadh air obair a' Champa agus mu gach ullachadh is àirnis co-cheangailte ris. Tha an leabhran "Cleasan Gaidhealach" an làmhan nan Cinn Feachd agus tha Duilleag Òran a dheasaich Iain Og Mac Ghille na Braataich an uidheam agus tha dùil gu'm bi so aig làimh an ùine ghoirid. Tha ullachadh airson nan cuirmean-cnuic air a dheanamh le cuid de na Feachdan mar tha. Chaidh paipèaran ceasnachaidh uidheamachadh fa chomhar deuchainnean airson inbhean Làn Ghaidheal is Sàr Ghaidheal. Cumar na deuchainnean so 's an Og-mhios.

Air iartras an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Seoras E. Marjoribanks, ghabhadh ris an dà Iomradh.

Thug an Rùnaire fios gu'n d'fhuair e freagairt bho na Buill a tha riochdachadh na Gaidhealtachd anns a' Pharlamaid mu dheidhinn Leabhar Riaghailtean nan Rathaidean Móra a bhi air a chlà-bhualadh an Gaidhlig. Chan 'eil an Ard Ughdarras a' faicinn iomchuidh so a dheanamh aig an àm.

Thug Mgr. A. M. Mac Lachlainn air aghaidh an Rùn a sheas 'na ainm a thaobh cumtasan na Sgoil Shamhraidh a bhi air an clò-bhualadh air leth anns an Iomradh Bhliadhnail. Cha do chuir neach aonta ris agus mar sin cha do ghabhadh ris an Rùn.

Rinneadh gach gothach aig a' choinneimh so an Gaidhlig agus thugadh coinneimh shoirbheachail gu crìch le taing chridheil a thoirt do Fhear na Cathrach.

DR. NEIL ROSS HONOURED.

Cordial congratulations are offered to Dr. Neil Ross on the honour which is about to be conferred upon him by the Glasgow University. Readers of this magazine would observe with pleasure that his name is included among those who are to receive the degree of D.D. from that University. The academic and other distinctions which now attach to the name of Dr. Ross make a truly impressive list.

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

'Na bhuille trom do Chomunn na h-Oigridh an Ile thàinig naigheachd bàs Uisdein Mhic Dhughail oirn air a' mhios so chaidh. Bha e 'na Mhaighstir-sgoile an Port-na-h-Aibhne 'nuair a chuireadh Feachd air bonn an sin aig ceann na bliadhna, agus am measg nan Ceann-Feachd gu léir cha robh a h-aon a ghabh ris a' Ghluasad ùr le déineas bu togarraiche no le dòchas a b'áirde. Theireamaid "sith d'a anam," ach chan fhoghainn sin: feuchamaid ri duilleag a thoirt a leabhar beatha ar Caraide, chionn air an duilleig sin chi sinn gràdh do'n aois òg sgrìobhte an litrichean móra òir.

CRUINNEACHAIDHEAN AN OIG-MHIOS.

Tha na Feachdan ri'n sumachadh am bliadhna airson nan Cruinneachaidhean mar a leanas, agus mhol Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach an t-airgid so a chur fa chomhair cosdas gach Cruinneachaidh fa leth:—

An Taobh Tuath—Uidhist-a-Tuath (3 Feachdan), £1; Beinn na Faoghla (3), £2; Uidhist-a-Deas (Lochdar is Hoghmor), 15/-; Dalibrog, £1; Dunbheagan, 10/-; Cille-Mhoire, Bearnasdail, agus Mac Dhiarmaid, £3; Portnan-Long, 10/-; Athleathan, 10/-; Aisir agus Badcall, £1; Mealnais, 15/-; an Sgeir, 15/-; Ach-a' Ghille-bhuidhe agus an t-Altan Dubh, £1; Leacmailm agus an Clachan, £1; Loch Carran, £1; Am Ploc, £1; Dornaidh, 10/-; Gleann Eilg, 10/-; Drochaid Ruadh, 10/-; Sandaibheag, Pable, An Cnoc, Aird an Rudha, (Leodhas), £4.

An Taobh Deas—Tiriodh (5 Feachdan), £5 (bho sheann ionmhas Moid); Berraidh (6), £5; Muile (Tuath) (5), £4; Muile (an Ros) (2), £2; Tobarmhoire, (tha airgid air fhàgail o'n uiridh); Ile (12), £5; Ard-nam-Murchan (5), £3; Duror agus An Leitir Mhór, £1.

Is e Di-Sathuirn an 13sa là de'n Ogmhios an là is freagarraiche airson nan Cruinneachaidhean sin; mar is mò bhios air an aon là, 's ann as fhearr. An dean Cinn-Feachd nan grunnan sin an cinn a chur ri chèile agus là cho gasda, Gaidhealach 's a ghabhas a bhi a shoerachadh fa chomhair Comunn na h-Oigridh? Tha sinn duilich nach teid againn air barrachd Fheachdan a thionail fo aon bhrataich, ach bhiodh an cosdas ro-mhór, agus is iomadh Feachd sonaranach do'n éigin a Cruinneachadh a bhi aice leatha fhèin mar a tha. Deanamaid a' chuid as fearr dheimar. Co aig tha fios nach tig an là 'sam bi e 'nar comas

uile Feachdan Comunn na h-Oigridh a thoirt cruinn 'nan aon Cruinneachadh mór?

Tha'n Cruinneachadh Ileach gu bhi 'na rud air leth am bliadhna: nach do ghabh ar deagh Charaid, Niall Orra, os làimh cur m' a reir airson Cruinneachadh mór a bhi aig an dà Fheachd dheug an ám na Sgoile Gaidhlig; agus an rud a ghabhas esan 'na cheann, cuiridh e 'na chasan e. Is bochd nach bi na Cinn-Feachd, mòran diubh co-dhiu, 'san Eilein aig an ám sin. 'S eudair dhuinn gairm air na Comhairlean-Feachd agus Cairdean eile feadh an Eilein, a' Chlann a thionail agus cuideachadh a thoirt dhuinn a chum agus gun soirbhich leinn 'san oidhirp so.

Tha rud ag cur orm, agus o nach eil math dhomh a cheiltinn oirbh, so e. Fhuair mi dearbhadh nach robh ann an aon no dha de Cruinneachaidhean Comunn na h-Oigridh an uiridh ach fìor chuirmean-cnuic Gallda—nach e mhàin gun robh a' Chlann a' bruidhinn na Beurla fad an latha, ach nach robh duine a' toirt orra a chaochladh a dheanamh. Sin naigheachd cho bochd agus a chualas bho thoiseach ar Comuinn: ach tha sòlas anns an smuain gur "mur-bhith" a tha'n so, 's nach e an àbhaist. Nis, chan abair mi a bheag air an ám, ach so:—ma's Goill a tha sinn gus a bhi, mar is luaithe chuireas sinn crìoch air Comunn na h-Oigridh 's ann as fhearr, seach a bhi caitheamh airgid a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, na Cloinne agus ar Cairdean air ni gun stàth, gun fhaitheam. Biodh a h-uile Cruinneachadh am bliadhna cho Gaidhlig 's ged nach biodh cànan ach sin 'ga labhairt an Albainn.

Is math leam e bhi agam ri innseadh dhuibh gum bheil a' Mhgn. Mairead Nic Dhomhnuill (Ban-sgoilear Chiuil aig a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach) a' tighinn chun a' Champa a chuideachadh leis an t-seinn. Nach ann againn a bhios na ceilidhean?

Tha Clar-orain Comunn na h-Oigridh, air a dheasachadh le Iain Og na Brataich, a nis ann an clò, air pris sgillinn. Gheibh a h-uile Ceann-Feachd a chuir ainmean luchd-campachaidh a steach, lethbhreac a nasgaidh. Ach faodaidh Cinn-Feachd sam bith, Campa ann no as, an uiread 's a thogras iad orudhadh bho Runaire a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, le pris sgillinn an t-aon a chur. Gum faigh na Balaich 's na Caileagan a tha tighinn do'n Champa greim math air na facail.

Tha dealbh-chluich beag eile, freagarach do Chomunn na h-Oigridh, air ur-thighinn a mach—"Dealbh mo Sheanar," le Seoras Gallda, aig Alasdair Mac Labhrainn 's a Mhic, 268 Sraid Earraghaidheal, Glaschu.

NA CAMPADAIREAN.

An ám sgrìobhadh na litreach so, tha ainmean 26 Balaich a stigh, agus ma ni dà Cheann-Feachd mar a gheall iad, chan fhada gus am bi ar lethcheud againn. Ach chan eil ach 13 Caileagan chuire so—ciod a tha 'gur cumail air ais?

So am faradh-bàta mar a tha e air isleachadh le Mac a' Bhruthainn airson Comunn na h-Oigridh:—(an so agus air ais)

Ballo-Puirt.	Clann fo 16 sois.	Clann 16-18 sois.	Luchd- coimheadachd (1 do gach 8 mar Clòinne.)
Lochboasdal—an t-Oban	7/10	15/8	15/8
Tiriodh „ „	3/10	7/8	7/8
Tobar-mhoire „ „	1/10	3/7	3/7
An Sailean „ „	1/4	2/7	2/7
Craig-an Iubhair „ „	0/8	1/3	1/3
Ile—an Tairbeart „ „	2/11	5/9	5/9
Port-Rìgh—Mallaig	3/3	6/6	6/6
An Caol—Mallaig	1/10	3/8	3/8

Agus so pris nan tràithean-bidh air bòrd:—
Trath-maidne, 1/3; Dinneir, 2/-; Tea, 1/-.

Mur eil so uile saor gu leòir, ithidh mi mo bhoineid.

SEORAS GALLDA.

◆

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A charaid,—Thaitinn litir “Philip Dhuibh” ann bhur-n àireimh mu dheireadh gu mòr rium; oir is fhada o'n a thòisich mi fhéin air beachdachadh mu'n aon rud a rinn esan iomradh air. (Is ann mar fhear-ionnsuchaidh a mhothaich mi e: oir chan aithich na “fhor Ghàidheil” gun gabh a' chànanin milleadh no leasachadh.) O'n tha “Filip Dubh” ag iarraidh beachdan feadhach eile mu'n chuspair chan abair mi ach so a mhàin: gu'm bheil mi a' cur romham an t-adhbhar-rùn a leanas a chur suas aig Coinneimh Bhliadhnaid a' Chomuinn:—

“Gu'n cuirteadh ris an Riaghailt a bhùneas do dhleasdanas Frith-chomhairle an Fhoghlum (35 (2h), 1911) na faicail, *dealbhaidh i no rannsachaidh i a mach faicail agus dòighean-labhairt a chomh-fhreagras gu cothromach nòsan agus innleachdan nuadha, agus foillsichidh i na mholas i o àm gu àm am mìosachan a' Chomuinn, uair 's a' bhliadhna air a' chuid is lugha.*”

A chionn 's gur anns an Fhrith-chomhairle sin a gheibhear a réir coltais na h-àrd-sgoilearan araon a's fhoghlumte agus a 's déidheile air a'

Ghàidhlig, chan eil frith-chomhairle ùr a dhìth oirnn.

Tha mi 'n dòchas gu'm bi “Filip Dubh” an làthair agus gu'n cum e taic rium; a chum 's nach bi am fàsach gun dà pheilioan ann!—Is mise le mùirn,

ALASTAIR M. MAC LACHLAINN.

“Bad-daraich,”

Tobar-Mhoire, An-t Eilean Muileach.

Dear Sir,—I have read with much interest the letters of “Highlander” and of Filip Dubh, which appear in your last two issues, on the question of forming new words in order to keep a language abreast of the times.

If Gaelic is to remain a living language it must be able to produce names for new ideas.

“Highlander,” in his letter, states that in the case of Afrikaans the work was carried out by a group of scholars from University College, Bloemfontein.

Now I suggest that if ever such work be undertaken for Gaelic that both Scottish and Irish scholars should jointly take part in it, so that any new words adopted be the same (differing slightly in spelling perhaps) for the two kindred tongues. Anything that keeps these two languages together is good. The Irish have made more progress in forming new words, because all Government correspondence and notices are in Irish, also there is a weekly paper in Irish, an t-Eireannach, which has now been running for nearly two years. In this paper there is usually a leading article on some important world event together with notices of local interest. One finds such words as guthán, telephone; eiteallán, aeroplane; tógacán, lift, etc.

I do not know whether this useful termination án=English er, instrumental (not personal) exists in Scottish Gaelic, but if not it might be adopted. Telegram is “sreangsceal”. There does not seem to be any Gaelic word for wire as distinct from “String” or “thread,” cigarettes are “toitíni, i.e.—little smokes.

I do not suggest that the Irish word should in all cases be adopted but that any new words should be practically the same for both peoples. An Comunn might perhaps approach the Gaelic League on the matter.—Mise, le meas mor,

WALTER F. ROBINS.

19 Grove Hill, Woodford,
London, 11th April, 1936.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

We regret to record the death at Campbelltown last month of John MacLeod Campbell of Saddell. He had been a Life Member of An Comunn for twenty-six years, and frequently contributed to the pages of this magazine. Many of our readers will remember some of his tales, such as "The Black Peat of Glen Lussa," all full of Celtic mysticism and real Gaelic spirit. He was a man of wide culture, versed in archæology and Gaelic literature, as one might expect of a direct descendant of "Caraid nan Gaidheal" and the noted theologian, Dr. John MacLeod Campbell of Row. That he should devote time and care to the preservation of the ancient Abbey of Saddell shows a real spirituality of mind in thus wishing to preserve a memorial to the simple piety of bygone days.

* * *

We desire to draw the attention of intending competitors in the Celtic Art Section of the National Mod Syllabus to a brochure, "Interlacing Celtic Designing in Six Easy Steps," arranged by Miss Mairi MacBride, and published under the auspices of the Art and Industry Committee. The brochure is intended as a guide for the designer, craftworker, and others who wish to work out and apply their own designs. It deals with interlacing only, and consists of detachable graded diagrams which reduce the intricate knots of Celtic design to simplicity itself. To simplify matters further, the one unit has been used throughout, showing a few of its many possibilities. The booklet may be had from this office, price 1/1 post free.

* * *

In a letter just received from the secretary of the Vancouver Mod thanking the Mod and Music Committee for two parcels of books and a message of goodwill, it is stated that the second Mod was even a greater success than the first. There was an increase of 25 per cent. in entries, and of 50 per cent. in attendance at all competitions and grand concert. The Mod competitions lasted three days, and it is now considered to be firmly established as the principal Highland event of the year in the city.

* * *

The first of the Provincial Mods in the Southern Area was held at Campbelltown on 2nd and 3rd April. Although the dates

unfortunately coincided with those of meetings of the Standing Committees and Executive Council, the local Committee feel that they were justified in reverting to the earlier dates. The entries were more numerous than on any previous occasion, and attendances at competition proceedings and concerts were also in excess of previous years. We congratulate Mr. Peter J. Campbell, secretary, and his willing helpers, on the success of the thirteenth Kintyre Mod.

* * *

The Northern Area also opened their Provincial Mod season at Newtonmore on Friday, 3rd April, with a most successful gathering. The musical adjudicator, Mr. L. J. Owen, L.R.A.M., expressed delight at the exceptionally high standard throughout the day, and complimented the school teachers and also An Comunn music teacher, Miss MacDonald, on the careful way in which the young voices were being trained. This point, he said, could not be too much stressed, and as a teacher of music he felt that those young voices were in good hands. He appealed to An Comunn to prepare more action songs for children, as many of these, as at present presented, were merely singing games.

* * *

The Gaelic adjudicators at Newtonmore declared that all the pieces were well prepared, although it was evident that many of the competitors were learners of the language. Rev. Malcolm MacLean, one of the judges, appealed to the parents to take advantage of the Gaelic Clause in the 1918 Education (Scotland) Act and to approach the Education Authority with a view to having Gaelic taught in all the schools of Badenoch. In the literary section, many good papers were submitted, and one of these, confined to learners attending Gaelic classes, obtained 95 per cent. This is most encouraging. This pupil, Miss L. J. Rattray, is a student of Mr. Iain F. Steele, M.A., Gaelic Master in Kingussie Secondary School. General regret was felt at the absence of Miss Farquharson, of Invercauld, owing to the recent death of her brother, Col. Farquharson, of Invercauld.

* * *

The next of the Provincial Mods will be that of Lochaber at Fort William, on 22nd May, and already arrangements are well in hand. Choirs and competitors will be forward from a wide area, including Glen-

urquhart, Fort Augustus, Invergarry, Arisaig, Morar, Mallaig, Ardgour, Kinlochleven, Roybridge, etc. All information can be had from Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., hon secretary, Queen Anne House, Fort William. Entries close on 8th May.

* * *

Gaelic Scholarship has again been honoured in the person of Dr. George Calder, who is about to receive the degree of D.D. from Glasgow University. We trust the Doctor may be long spared to enjoy this honour.

* * *

The many friends of Mr. James C. Campbell will be delighted to learn of his appointment as Assistant Manager of the Commercial Bank in London. Mr. Campbell's promotion in the service of the Bank has been rapid, and indicates outstanding professional ability. Tha do chairdean toilichte an sgeul aoibhneach so a chluinntinn, a Sheumais, agus tha iad ag guidhe saoghal fada dhuit agus an tuilleadh urrainn 'na lorg.

INVERNESS NATIONAL MOD, 1936.

LIST OF HOTELS IN INVERNESS

offering

Accommodation for Mod Visitors.

- COUNTY HOTEL, Bridge Street.—Bed and breakfast, 7/-; per day, 9/-.
- ROYAL HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 10/- to 12/-; lunch, 2/6 to 4/-; dinner, 3/6 to 6/-.
- CALEDONIAN HOTEL.—Bed and Breakfast, 8/-; lunch, 3/-; dinner, 5/-.
- CENTRAL TEMPERANCE HOTEL, Academy Street.—Bed and breakfast, 6/6; per day, 10/6.
- WATT'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 25 Bridge Street.—Bed and breakfast, 5/6; high tea, supper, bed and breakfast, 8/-.
- BRUAR PRIVATE HOTEL, Old Edinburgh Road.—Bed and Breakfast, 8/6; per day, 9/-.
- STATION HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 8/6.
- STRATHNESS HOTEL, 4 Ardross Terrace.—Bed and breakfast, 7/-; per day, 10/6.
- WINDSOR HOTEL, Ness Bank.—Bed and breakfast, 6/6; per day, 10/-.
- IMPERIAL HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 8/6; per day, 14/6.
- QUEENSGATE HOTEL.—High tea or supper, bed and breakfast, 10/-.
- HOTEL ROSSAL, Island Bank Road.—Bed and breakfast, 10/-; per day, 18/-.

WAVERLEY HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 7/6; lunch, 2/- to 3/-; high tea, 3/-; dinner, 4/-.

MACDOUGALL'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 39 Church Street.—Bed and breakfast, 6/-; high tea, bed, and breakfast, 8/-.

COLUMBA HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast for members of choirs, 6/-; per day, 10/-.

For outside visitors, bed and breakfast, 6/6; per day, 11/-.

PALACE HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 10/6.

BUGHT HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 6/6; lunch, 3/-; tea, 1/6; dinner, 5/-; supper, 3/-.

ALBERT HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 7/-; high tea, bed, and breakfast, 10/-; lunch, 3/-.

BENVUE HOTEL, Church Street.—High tea, bed, and breakfast, 7/6; lunch, 2/6; full board for week, £2 10/-.

NORTHERN HOTEL.—Bed and breakfast, 6/-; per day, 11/-.

GLEN MHOR PRIVATE HOTEL, Ness Bank.—Bedroom, single, 5/- per day; double, 10/- per day. Breakfast, 2/6; lunch, 2/6; dinner, 3/6; per day, 12/6.

GLENMORISTON PRIVATE HOTEL, Ness Bank.—Bed and breakfast, 7/6; lunch, 2/6; dinner, 3/6.

BALLIFEARY HOUSE.—Bed and breakfast, 5/6; per day, 8/6.

REAY HOUSE, Old Edinburgh Road.—£4 10/- per week.

MACKENZIE'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 83 Church Street. Bed and breakfast, 6/6; per day, 10/-.

COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Church Street.—Supper, bed, and breakfast, 10/-; per day, 12/6.

BOOK REVIEW.

DEALBH MO SHEANAR: Dealbh Chluich beag ann an da Shealladh. Le SEORAS GALLDA (Mr. George E. Marjoribanks). Price, 6d. Alexander MacLaren & Sons.

This is a welcome addition to the very small existing stock of short plays for children. It will be specially welcome to the growing ranks of Comunn na h-Oigridh, whose activities include dramatic sketches of this very type; and surely one cannot think of a better means of making both actors and audience more familiar with the use of Gaelic. The language is clear and idiomatic, as we have now learned to expect from the accomplished Gaelic scholar who writes the play. The dialogue is easy and most natural, and avoids the tendency so common in Gaelic plays, the tendency to use long, involved sentences.

The topic is most humorous. In a short review it is not usual to recapitulate the points of the plot; but the situations are extremely natural and at the same time ludicrous. The setting is very skillfully arranged. Altogether this little play will not only answer its purpose of amusing the young. It will likewise prove interesting to adults.

By this literary contribution the author has put the youth movement under a fresh debt of gratitude. He has already done great work for that cause through his untiring energy, enthusiasm, and kindly personality.

N. R.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Air an 25mh là de'n Mhàrt bha am Fear-deilbhe an lathair aig Ceilidh an Rudh' aonach Breacaidh, Siorrachd Rois, Bha an t-Urramach Mgr. Mac Caluim anns a' chathair agus thug e Oraid thaitneach seachd. Labhair Mgr. Mac Phàil, an Gaidhlig is am Beurla, agus thug e taing do luchd An Rudha airson na h-oidhirp a rinn iad gu bhi ag cur ri ionmhais Moid Inbhir Nis.

Air Di-haoine bha e ag cuideachadh aig Ceilidh ghrinn am Baile Eoghainn. Chuir Bain-Tighearna Dhoire urram air a' Cheilidh le bhi ag gabhail ceann na cuideachd agus bha an Talla cho làn is a chumadh e. Chaidh suim laghach a thional fa chomhar Moid Inbhir Nis. Chaidh earbsa ris an Fhear-dheilbhe taing na cuideachd a chuir an céill do'n Bhain-Tighearna agus rinn e sin an Gaidhlig's am Beurla.

Bha Mgr. Mac Phàil an lathair aig coinneimh de luchd-comhairle a' Mhoid air Di-Sathuirne, an ochdamh là fichead agus aig coinneimh de Chomhairle nam Ban air a' cheud là de'n Ghiblein.

Air an dara là de'n Ghiblein thog e air gu Baideanach a chuideachadh na Comhairle Ionadail gu bhi a' deanamh cùisean reidh fa chomhar Moid Bhaideanach is Shrath Speidh. Aig naoi uairean an ath mhaduinn bha còig breitheamhan trang aig cùl an gnothaich agus bha ciaradh an fheasgair ann mu'n do chrìochnaich a h-uile rud a bh' ann. Bha Mòd anabarrach ann agus mhol breitheamhan na canain is a' chiuil gach oidhirp a rinn na Co-fharpuisich. Aig a' Chuirm Chiuil 's an fheasgair bha Mgr. Murchadh Moireastan, A.M., Fear-stiuraidh an Fhoghlum an Siorrachd Inbhir Nis 's a chathair agus thug a Bhain-Tighearna Nic Mhuirich seachd na duaisean. Thugadh Mod 1936 gu crìch le bhi seinn an Orain-dhealachaidh agus Laoidh na Rìoghachd.

Thadhail am Fear-deilbhe aig Cille Chuimein, Inbhir Gharadh, agus an Tom Donn air Di-màirt agus rinn e ullachadh airson Cròileanan Ciuil fa chomhar Mod Loch Abar. Bidh ceathrar Chòisirean as na h-ionadan so a' farpuis anns a' Ghearasdan air an 22mh là de'n Chéitein.

Is e am Fear-deilbhe is Rùnaire do Cheilidh an Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis agus aig an dara coinneimh bhliadhnaile a chumadh o chionn ghoirid bha iomradh gasda aige do'n cuideachd. Chaidh a' Cheilidh so a stéidheachadh a chum agus gu'm biodh cothrom aig luchd na Gaidhlig

a bhi ag cruinneachadh an ceann a cheile agus gu'm biodh Gaidhlig a mhain air a labhairt aig gach coinneimh. Chum a' Cheilidh ris na rùintean sin agus bha barrachd is ceud cruinn aig gach coinneimh ré an t-Seisein a dh'fhalbh. Tha a' Cheilidh co-cheangailte ris A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach.

An Airde Deas.

Tha coinneamhan is céilidhean nam Meur a' tighinn gu crìch airson Seisein eile agus, an roinnean sònraichte, tha ullachadh airson nam Mòdan Dùthchail ag gabhail an àite. Tha na Meuran a' strìth ri bhi ag cumail fa chomhar an t-sluaigh rùintean a' Chomuinn do thaobh cleachdadh na canain anns na dachaidean, far am freumhaich i mar nach dean i an àite air bith eile. Rinn cuid de na Meuran oidhirp shoirbheachail ann a bhi ag altruim cròileanan leughaidh agus tha ar taing aca air a shon sin. Is e ar dùrachd gu'm bi tuilleadh dhiubh a' deanamh na h-oidhirp cheudna aig toiseach a' Gheamhraidh so tighinn.

Fhrithheil an Rùnaire aig coinneimh an Càradail air an 27mh là de'n Mhàrt agus bha mòran cruinn fo stiùradh a' Chinn Suidhe, an t-Urramach I. A. Argyll Baker. Cha robh uidhir choinneamhan 'sa b' àbhaist aig a' Mheur so am bliadhna agus is e a b' aobhar dha sin gu'n taing teachdaireachd a' bhàis gu àireamh theaghlachan 'sa chlachan. Tha a' Chòisir Inbheach am bith agus a' deanamh feuma fo làimh Sheumais Mhic an t-Sagairt.

Cha robh e comasach do'n Rùnaire a bhi aig Mòd Chinntire am bliadhna a thaobh is gu'n robh coinneamh na h-Ard Chomhairle ag gabhail àite an Struibhle aig an aon àm. Tha e taitneach is misneachail ri aithris gur e rinn na Mòd as soirbheachaile a bha an Ceannloch fhathast. Tha a thaing so aig Mgr. Paraig Caimbeul, an clèireach, agus aig an Urramach T.S. Mac a' Phearsain. Tha iadsan, le cairdean eile, a' deanamh seirbhis shonraichte as leth an aobhair an Ceanntire. Thug an Siormar còir is a chéile suairce buinn airgid do'n bhalach is do'n chailleig a choisinn na h-àrd dhuaisean an seinn orain Ghaidhlig. Mòran taing dhoibh.

Bha an Rùnaire 's an lathair aig cruinneachadh gasda an Tigh an Uillt air an 10mh là de'n Ghiblein. Bha Comhraidhean, an Gaidhlig is am Beurla ann, agus òran no dha. Ach b'ann a dh'fhaicinn is a chluinntinn "Beitidh" a thaing an slugh am mach, agus bha sin ann cuideachd mhór. Rinn gach aon gu h-eireachdail anns an Dealbh-chluich so agus is math is airidh iad air an sàr-mholadh airson cho riochdail 's a chuir iad na pearsachan fa leth fa chomhar na cuideachd.

KINTYRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The 13th annual Kintyre Provincial Mod, under the auspices of An Comunn Gaidhealach Ceannloch, which was held in Campbeltown, once again proved an outstandingly successful festival. Both Senior and Junior Sections showed increases over last year's figures, and the standard in the various competitions was on the usual high level.

Two days were occupied, the first being devoted to the Junior Competitions and the second to the Senior Competitions.

During both days the Town Hall and the Christian Institute were filled to overflowing while the competitions were in progress and on the evening of each day large audiences were present at the closing concerts.

The judges were:—Music—Dr. Robert Macleod, Edinburgh. Gaelic—Rev. Dr. MacKinnon, Fort-William, and Rev. A. J. MacVicar, M.A., Southend.

The following are the first-prize winners:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Gaelic Literature—Letter, Gillesbuig K. Cameron, Lochgilphead. Writing from Dictation, Alison H. Ross, Lochgilphead. Translation, Betty Henderson, Whitehouse. Short Story, Jean K. Ross, Lochgilphead.

Oral Delivery—Reading Poetry, G. K. Cameron. Reading Prose, Johan Livingstone, Lochgilphead. Reciting Poetry, Jean K. Ross. Acted Dialogue, Jean Richardson and Annie MacDonald, Tayinloan. Reciting from Memory, Betty Henderson.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing—Girls, competitors' choice, Mary McKinven, Campbeltown. Solo Singing, Boys, competitors' choice, Archie Paterson, Carradale. Solo Singing, Girls and Boys, Mary McKinven. Solo Singing, Girls and Boys, confined to former first prize-winners, Helen C. McLulich. Solo Singing, Girls and Boys, under 12 years, Cathie McNeill, Campbeltown. Duet Singing, Joan Blair and Cathie McFarlane, Tarbert.

Choral Singing in Unison, confined to choirs under 12 years, Grammar School Primary A. Singing in Unison, Grammar School Primary B. Choral Singing in Two-part Harmony (Retention for one year of the Tangy Shield), Drumlemble.

English—Solo Singing, Girls under 12, Isa Graham, Campbeltown. Solo Singing, Boys under 12, Iain MacDonald. Solo Singing, Girls over 12 but not over 16, Mary McKinven. Solo Singing, Boys over 12 but not over 16, Donald McLachlan.

Choral Singing in Unison, Drumlemble. Unison Singing, choirs led by pupil conductors, confined to Classes from School Primary Departments, Grammar School Girls. Unison Singing, choirs led by pupil conductors, confined to Classes over 12 years, Grammar School B.

Aggregate—Gillesbuig K. Cameron, Lochgilphead, 668 out of possible 700. Macmaster Campbell Silver Medals, for best boy and girl singers of Gaelic solos—Helen C. McLulich, Lochgilphead, and Donald McLachlan, Lochgilphead.

SENIOR SECTION.

Gaelic Composition, Edward Pursell, Campbeltown. Oral Delivery—Reading, Isa MacDonald. Reciting from Memory, Charles Reppke. Recitation of Prose Piece, Isa MacDonald and Charles Reppke (equal). Best Original Gaelic Speech, Isa MacDonald. Scripture Reading, Mrs Campbell, Lochgilphead.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing—Female voices, Effie Fisher, Carradale. Solo Singing—Male Voices, James Lambie, Campbeltown. Solo Singing—Male and Female voices, James Lambie. Solo Singing—Male and Female voices, confined to former first prize-winners, Duncan McIntosh, Carradale. Solo Singing—"Puirt a' Beul," A. M. Beaton, Lochgilphead.

Duet Singing—Beth McFadyen and Archd. Rankine, Campbeltown. Quartette Singing—Mixed Voices, Carradale. Ladies' Choirs—Tarbert. Choral Singing in Four-part Harmony (Retention for one year of the Campbeltown Cuach)—Carradale. Choral Singing of the "Puirt a' Beul"—Carradale.

English—Solo Singing, female voices, Mrs Campbell. Solo Singing, male voices, James Lambie. Choral Singing, Tarbert.

Instrumental Music—Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey, and Reel on the Piano—Juniors, Helen C. McLulich; Seniors, Rhona MacVicar, Southend. Aggregate—Charles Reppke, Campbeltown, 691 out of possible 800.

BADENOCH AND STRATHSPEY MOD.

The eighth annual Provincial Mod of the Badenoch and Strathspey Area was held at Newtonmore. A slight decrease in the Senior Division was more than made up by an increased entry in the Junior Competitions.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Rev. Alistair Maclean, Daviot; Rev. Malcolm Maclean, Conon Bridge, and Rev. Hector Cameron, Moy. Vocal Music—Mr. Lewis J. Owen, Inverness; Mr. J. A. Mallison, Inverness. Instrumental Music—Mr. L. J. Owen and Mr. J. A. Mallison. Bagpipe Playing Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, Laggan. Gaelic Literature—Mr. D. Graham, Inverness.

Mr. John Campbell, Newtoning, Kingussie, acted as chairman, while the opening ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, Laggan. Several of the adjudicators commented on the improved standard in Gaelic and music as compared with last year's Mod.

At a concert sustained by the prize-winners, assisted by the Badenoch Strathspey and Reel Society, Mr. M. Morrison, Director of Education for Inverness-shire, presided, and the prize-winners were presented with their awards by Lady Macpherson, wife of the Hon. Sir Thomas Stewart Macpherson, Puisne Judge, Patna High Court, a native of Newtonmore.

The first-prize winners were :—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Gaelic Reading—Jane Grant, Laggan. Reciting from Memory—Jane Grant.

Solo Singing—Girls under 11, John Munro, Newtonmore, and Grace MacDonald, Laggan (equal). Girls 11 to 16, Muriel Cattanaich, Newtonmore.

Solo Singing—Boys under 11, James Forbes, Newtonmore. Boys 11 to 16, Alister Ross, Newtonmore.

Duets—Muriel Cattanaich and Alister Ross, Newtonmore.

Choral Singing—Newtonmore School Choir. Unison Singing—Abernethy School. Action Songs—Newtonmore "A" and Abernethy (equal).

Violin Playing—Peter Thomson.

Bagpipe Playing, under 18—Ian J. MacDonald, Laggan.

SENIOR SECTION.

Oral Delivery—Reading at Sight—Angus MacLean, Newtonmore; Learners—Lizzie MacDonald, Newtonmore, and Margaret Cameron, Newtonmore (equal).

Recitations—Dugald Campbell, Newtonmore. Sgeulachd—Malcolm MacDonald.

Solo Singing—Female Voices, Miss Rhoda Asher, Abernethy; Male Voices, Donald Grant, Abernethy.

Solo Singing—Former First Prize-winners—Females, Mrs. MacKerrall, Abernethy; Males, Malcolm MacDonald, Newtonmore.

Duet Singing—Mrs. Rose Stewart, Newtonmore, and Miss M. MacDonald, Aviewear.

Songs by Local Bards—Rhoda Asher.

Choral Singing—Newtonmore Gaelic Choir.

Unison Singing—Grantown Gaelic Choir.

Choral Singing—Female Voices, Abernethy Ladies' Choir.

Violin Playing—Marjorie Gordon, Newtonmore. Bagpipe Playing—Dugald Campbell, Craighdu.

Literature—Old Place Names, Lily J. Rattray, Kingussie. Gaelic Essay—Miss L. Rattray.

AN COMUNN GAIÐHEALACH.

FOUNDED 1891.

All Scottish Gaels, and all persons in sympathy with the Gaelic movement, are cordially invited to become members. The objects of the Association are to encourage and promote

- The teaching and use of the Gaelic Language,
- The study and cultivation of Gaelic Literature, History, Music, and Art,
- The native industries of the Highlands of Scotland, and
- The wearing of the Highland Dress.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.

LIFE MEMBERS One Subscription of £3 3s.
ORDINARY MEMBERS, An Annual Subscription of 5s.

"AN GAIÐHEAL."
(FREE TO ALL MEMBERS.)

The Monthly Magazine of the Association contains records of Meetings of the Association, its Branches, and Affiliated Societies.

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BRANCH REPORTS.

DALMALLY.—The Glenorchy branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held a ceilidh in the Drill Hall. There was a splendid turnout, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. G. Marjoribanks was in the chair, and the following contributed to the evening's enjoyment—Mr. P. McDougall, Mr. A. Sinclair, Mr. Marjoribanks, and members of the Killin branch of An Comunn, who gave a play entitled "Am Fear a Chailh a Ghaidhlig." Tea was served by the ladies' committee, under the guidance of Mrs. Nicholson.

HALLADALE.—A concert of high standard was given by members of the Wick An Comunn Gaidhealach. Mr. R. G. Miller presided, and also took part in the programme, and Mr. C. Campbell (gold medallist), Melvich, and "Jenny Horne" also helped. The audience was large and appreciative, and the artistes were warmly thanked.

KILCHOAN.—An enjoyable ceilidh, arranged to welcome Mr. Neil Shaw, secretary of An Comunn Gaidhealach, was held in the Kilchoan Public Hall, Mr. John MacDonald presiding. Mr. Shaw gave a spirited and encouraging address, and complimented the Kilchoan branch upon its continued progress. Gaelic songs were rendered by Miss Morag McColl, Kilchoan; Messrs John N. Henderson, Swordale; Duncaun Carmichael, Sanna; Hugh Cameron, Portuairc; Donald McCallum, Ormsaigbeg; John MacDonald, Kilchoan; Neil Shaw, and others.

KINGUSSIE.—Mr. John Campbell, Town Clerk, presided as fear an tìghe at another very successful ceilidh held in the Parish Church Hall under the auspices of the local branch of An Comunn. An interesting programme was arranged for the occasion, and was opened with bagpipe music by Piper D. S. MacKenzie, followed by the singing of the Gaels' rallying song, "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig." The Misses MacRae, Brahan, made their debut to a Kingussie audience with Gaelic duets, which were heartily received. The Mod test pieces were effectively rendered by the Gaelic Choir under the conductorship of Mr. A. Cameron, while the local Strathspey and Reel Society, led by Mrs. Whyte, Kingussie, contributed much appreciated selections.

KINLOCHLEVEN.—Over 300 people turned out to the monthly meeting of the local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach to hear Mr. Neil Shaw, general secretary of An Comunn, speak. He was introduced by Mr. James Lawson, president of the local branch, who occupied the chair. In his opening remarks, Mr. Lawson made reference to the loss the Gaelic cause had suffered in Kinlochleven by the death of Mr. Robert MacDonald. A fine programme was sustained by Messrs. Hugh MacInnes, Mod medallist, and Joseph MacColl, Ballachulish; James Frew, Kinlochleven, and Hector Kennedy, Fort-William; the girl dancers and the Arcadians Dance Orchestra. Miss A. MacDougall was accompanist. Tea was served by Mrs. H. Campbell, Leven House.

LOCHINVER.—To conclude a successful session the Lochinver branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held a ceilidh. Mr. Hugh MacIntosh presided. There was a good attendance of members and friends from all parts of the parish. A special welcome was extended to Mr. Hugh Macrae, Lairg, and friends, also to Miss Chrissie MacLeod and other members of the Stoer branch. The proceedings were opened by bagpipe selections from Mr. George Davidson, Lochinver branch. The usual business preliminaries and the singing of the rallying song by the company

(standing) was followed by two Gaelic songs from Miss Chrissie MacLeod, and the programme carried through as follows — Violin selections, Mr. Forrester, Lochinver; Gaelic songs, Mr. John Macaskill; Gaelic songs, Mr. Murdo Ross; song, Miss Sandison. A delightful tea was handed round by the Misses Graham, Ross, and Matheson, after which the company enjoyed a Gaelic dialogue between Miss Graham and Mr. Urquhart; songs, Mr. Simpson, Mr. William Dickson, Mr. Donald MacLeod, Mr. McLean; an address and Gaelic sgeulachd, Mr. Hugh Macrae; song, Mr. Duncan MacLeod; violin selections, Mr. Hugh Ross.

PITLOCHRY.—A well attended ceilidh was held in Pitlochry Public Hall, in aid of Provincial Mod Funds. The Rev. Coll A. MacDonald, D.D., Logierait, presided. He referred to the death of Major Stewart of Balnakeilly, a fine old type of Highlander. The branch membership is 290, and the finances are quite satisfactory. A fine programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs was submitted. Votes of thanks to all who assisted, including the secretary, Mr. John Anderson, were proposed by Mr. A. Scott Rankin, president of the Pitlochry branch of An Comunn.

ROGART.—At the annual business meeting of the Rogart Branch of An Comunn, held in the Torbreck Reading Room, on the evening of 17th April, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Angus MacDonell; vice-president, Mr. MacKay MacKay; treasurer, Mr. Alexander MacDonald; secretary, Mr. William Gunn. The retiring members of Committee were re-elected, which comprises, in addition to members of the choir, Miss Grant (music teacher), Mr. Donald Sutherland, Mr. George Campbell, and Mr. A. M. MacKay.

RUAG.—A very successful ceilidh took place at Ruag School on Friday evening, 20th March, when the president, Mr. M. MacLean, Salum, conducted the meeting in his usual homely fashion. The proceedings opened by the entire company singing "Suas leis a Ghaidhlig." The vocalists were Misses Lizzie Barr, Ena MacDonald, Jessie McGill, and Messrs J. McDougall, Alfred Walker, J. Curran, H. A. and D. McArthur. The outstanding item on the programme was a debate, "Co is fhearr an saoghal a bha no an saoghal a tha." Miss S. F. MacDonald led off by upholding "An saoghal a bha," seconded by Mr. W. McIntosh, while the present day was sustained by Mrs. H. MacLean, seconded by Miss M. MacLean. Several others expressed their views before a vote was taken, which resulted in a win with six of a majority for "An saoghal a tha." A dialogue, "Na Fasain Ura," by L. Barr and E. MacDonald, added to the pleasure of the evening. The singing of "Oidhe mhath leibh" terminated one of the most enjoyable gatherings of the session.

SALEN (MULL).—The closing ceilidh of the session was held in the School on 4th April. There was a crowded attendance, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Hugh MacInnes, Torloisk, presided, and in addition to local talent of a high order, solos were rendered by Miss Bessie Campbell (gold medalist) and Allan MacLean (National Mod prizewinner). Songs sung in unison by members of Comunn na h-Oigridh were greatly enjoyed. An amusing sketch, "Domhnall Ciobair," was acted by Mrs. Stewart and Miss MacNeilage. Mr. MacFarlane, vice-president, moved votes of thanks at the close.

SCARINISH.—At their closing ceilidh the Scarinish branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach presented a fine

reproduction of the Gaelic play, "Coir Samhna Air Leannan." All members of the cast had their parts off well, and there was some clever acting. Miss Nina MacLean was a most realistic Bean-an-Tighe, and Miss Kate MacCailum was an ideal Ana. Misses Annie Kennedy, Ena MacDonald, and Annie MacMaster excelled in the difficult masculine parts of Calum Niall and Uileam. Other minor parts were taken by Miss Catherine MacLean and Miss Rosie MacIntyre, Messrs. Archie MacLean, Neil MacPhail, and Master Donald MacLean. Mrs. D. M. MacLean was a most efficient stage manager. In the supporting programme of songs, recitations, and sgeulachdan the female element also predominated. The participants were Misses Mary MacKinnon, Nina MacLean, Ena MacDonald, Lizzie Barr, and Messrs. Alex. MacIntosh and John Lamont. Ex-Pipe-Major John P. MacDonald gave stirring bagpipe selections.

TAIN.—Dingwall Gaelic Choir made a welcome reappearance in Queen Street Church Hall on the occasion of the monthly ceilidh of the local branch of An Comunn. As one of the purposes of the ceilidh was the raising of funds for the forthcoming Mod at Inverness, an "open night" was declared, and a very large attendance of the general public resulted. A delightful programme included Gaelic and English solos and choral items, all rendered in most pleasing manner. The interval produced an excellent tea served by the enthusiastic ladies' committee, and the close evoked cordial votes of thanks, happily proposed by Mr. K. MacLeod. Mr. Campbell, conductor of the choir, and Provost Macrae replied on behalf of the visitors. A contribution of £5 will be available for the Mod funds.

TOBARNMOIRE.—Choir sinn Iain Camshron (Lochiall) anns a' chathair air an 11mh là deug de'n Mhàrt, agus fhuair sinn oidhe cho sona 's a bha againn riamh. Thug D. MacLeòid cuairt air a' phob mhòir. Bha òrain aig bean MhicLeòid, F. Medicott, Mìrag Nic-a-Phearsain, Iain Camshron (Aros), Nòral Peuton, Capt. MacAonghais, agus D. MacIll' Iosa (an t-Sailein). Fhuaras col air a' phiano bho S. Chamshron, agus bha sgeulachdan a bha air leth taitneach agus Sìusaich Nic Coinnich, & Luinn. Thug fear na cathrach taing do A. M. MacLachlainn is Iain MacIll'Iosa 'aig an robh a' ceilidh,' agus do gach neach a thug dhuinn a leithid de fhearas-chuideach.

WICK.—The annual general meeting of Wick Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Academy on Friday evening, 3rd April. Mr. Millar presided over a large attendance of members and friends. The financial report submitted by Mr. F. R. Cochran, treasurer, showed that the balance at credit in the funds of the branch was about £3 10s more than at the same date last year. All office-bearers were re-elected, with one or two changes in the committee. In the ceilidh part of the proceedings, Mrs. Sutherland and Miss K. McKenzie sang solos and Miss Henderson and Mrs. Tweedie played violin selections. Mrs. Gilbertson was accompanist. Four young pupils of Mr. Lyall—Peter Glass, Robert Sutherland, Cathie Lyall, and Margaret Gunn—danced Highland dances in costume to bagpipe music by Piper Christie. Tea, provided by the ladies of the branch, was served to the company in the Cookery Room of the Academy, and a happy half-hour was thus passed in social fellowship. Votes of thanks to all who had provided such a pleasant evening's enjoyment were cordially passed, and the session closed with the singing of the parting song and the National Anthem.

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TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXXI.]

An t-Og-Mhòs, 1936.

[Earrann 9

MOD INBHIR NIS.

Nach eil fhios gu bheil buaidh aig cuid de dh'àiteachan air inntinn an fhir thadhail. Tha ionadan sonruichte de'n dùthaich anns am fairich sinn ar cridhe a' blàthachadh, mar a chuimhnichas sinn air eachdraidh an àite. An uair a thig luchd turais mu thuath gu raon Chulodair, is fìor gu'n dùisg iomadh smuain ann ar broilleach mu bhliadhna Thearlaich agus na nithean a thainig gu crìch anns a' chearn so de'n Ghaidhealtachd. Is beothail an t-inndrigeadh gu seachdainn a' Mhòid, gu'm biodh do smuain a' mosgladh aig Culodair eadhon leis an dealas leis an cuimhnich Rìgh Eamhar e féin air gaisge nan laoch a dh'fhuiling airson Thearlaich. Biodh an seann spiorad a' lasadh mu chuspair eile; agus is e sin ar ceann gnothuich gu Mòd—a bhi ag ùrachadh eud is eòlais mu sheann chànan air dùthcha.

* * *

Is gann gu leigear a leas iomradh a dheanamh air maise an àite so; cho taitneach 's a tha e an aimsir thiorail na Sultuinn; cho maiseach 's a tha an abhainn ainmeil a tha a' ruith tre theis meadhon a' bhaile, le drochaidean cho deiseil, agus leis na h-eileanan cho oirdhearc; suidheachadh a' bhaile cho gasda cuimte, le cnoc a' Chaisteil air an dara laimh agus Tom na h-Tubhraich air an laimh eile; aillidheachd na duillich cho sèimh do'n t-sùil, agus fàile glan an adhair cho cubhraidh do'n chàil—mar a bheir thu fainean na nithean sin a' comblachadh nan òran Gaidhlig do'n chluais, an b'ìoghmhadh ged theirinn gur freagarrach an t-ionad Inbhir Nis airson Mòd Gaidhealach. Tha am baile mar astar cuibheasach bho gach iomall de'n

dùthaich. Mar so tha cothrom aig clann an taoibh tuath dol an sin gu Mod an uair nach b'urrainn dhaibh dol cho fada ri bailtean an taoibh deas.

* * *

Cluinnear air uairibh nach eil tallachan móra an Inbhir Nis gus àite suidhe a thoirt do'n luchd éisdeachd. Ged nach eil aon talla mór ann, gidheadh tha trì no ceithir de sheomraichean an sud anns am faodar na farpaisean a chumail gu comhfhurtail. Chan 'eil am baile ach beag agus tha na togalaichean a tha sinn a' ciallachadh gu math dlùth air a chèile. Le bhi a' roinn na cuirm-chiùil Di-haoine 'n a h-earrannan, theid aig an luchd stiùraidh air an gnothuch a dheanamh gu réidh, mar chaidh aca a cheana anns an àite cheudna. A thuilleadh air tallachan, is fortunach gu bheil tighean-òsda am pailteas an Inbhir Nis, gus àite fuirich a sholar do na ceudan luchd tadhail a thig a dh'ionnsaidh a' Mhòid. Tha e iomchuidh gu'm biodh còisirean coigreach a' faotainn aoidheachd comhla ri chèile; agus mar sin bi àite gu leòr is ri sheachnadh airson comhfhurtachd nam farpaiseach, agus cuideachd airson céilidhean sundach nam feasgar.

* * *

Chan 'eil e reusanta gum biodh dùil ri cuideachd cho lionmhor am baile Inbhir Nis aig Mòd, agus a chithear an Glaschu no an Dùnèideann. Tha na mìltean Gaidheal anns na bailtean móra sin, agus tha e furasda dhaibh tallachan a lìonadh. Ach feumaidh sinn smuain a chleachdadh anns a' chùis so. Ciod e a ni Mod soirbheachail? An e cruinnichidhean móra, agus an lorg sin suim throm airgid a' tighinn a stigh? Tha sin uile gu math; ach faodaidh sin a bhi agad gum toradh dealais

is dùrachd 'n a dhéidh. Is e am prìomh riaghailt gu luach Mòid a bhreithneachadh cìod an dùsgadh a rinn e air spiorad an t-sluaigh anns a' cheart ionad anns an do chumadh e. Mur beothaich Mòd eud is dìchioll; mur bi gnìomh 'g a leantainn; mur bi toradh cubhaidh ri fhaicinn an déidh saothair cho dian is a tha am Mòd bliadhnaig ag air; mur bi an éifeachd sin ri fhaotainn a' sruthadh bhò Mhòd nàisiunta tha sinn de'n bheachd nach eil am feabhas cho mór 's a bu mhath leinn. Bho chionn ochd bliadhna air ais is e Inbhir Nis a thug eisimpleir air Mòd a bha aig an aon àm pailt an ionmhas agus an deagh thoradh. Is ann air an turus ud a thoisich strì chàireil feuch co bheireadh barr urram air a chéile bhò bliadhna gu bliadhna. Ach ged thug so togail mhór do'n Chomunn an sùrd gnìomha agus meudachadh ionmhais, gidheadh chan fheumar a bhì an dùil gu mair sin an comhnuidh. A ris feumar reusan a chleachdadh. Ciamar idir a tha e comasach do'n Ghaidhealtachd aig an àm, a bhì toirt barr air Glaschu is Dùnéideann a thaobh airgid, ged bhios sinn pailt cho saibhir an dùrachd, an dealas, agus an gnìomh ?

* * *

Tha sinn a nis air fàs èolach air féisdean ciùil feadh Alba, eadar Ghalldachd is Ghaidhealtachd. Faodaidh gu'n amhaire muinntir air Mòd mar aon de na cuirmean móra sin a mhaireas fad seachdainn. Ach is còir ainmeachadh as ùr gur e tha anns a' Mhòd ach tionail aig a bheil seadh cudthromach. Ged tha tlachd ri fhaighinn bhò sheinn; ged tha urram ri chosnadh le duais; ged tha gàirdeachas ri mhealtainn aig na céilidhean is na cuirmean ciùil, an cuideachd ar càirdean; gidheadh tha Mòd a' gabhail a stigh nìthean is luachmhoire na iad sin gu léir. Tha e a' samhlachadh na h-oidheirp a tha Gaidheil a' deanamh air cànan is ceòl an dùthcha a chumail beò. Is e a' chrìoch àraidh sin a tha a' cur eadar-dhealachadh mór eadar am Mòd is féis ciùil sam bith eile. Is còir do'n Chomunn sin a chumail a ghnàth ri aghaidh nam meanglan, a chum agus gu'n gléidh iadsan a' chrìoch ard sin anns an t-sealladh an comhnuidh. Mar sin tha am mìosachan so, le guth is ughdarras A' Chomuinn, a' guidhe air gach meanglan, gur dean iad gach nì tha 'n an comas gus Mòd Inbhir Nis a chuideachadh air gach dòigh a gabhas sin deanamh.

“GEARRLOCH.”

Owing to pressure of space this month, the final instalment of “Treasure Hill” in Gaelic has had to be omitted.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 1936.

LOWER GRADE.

Tuesday, 31st March, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

The value attached to each question is shown in brackets after the question.

N.B.—Begin the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

1. Translate into English, paying careful attention to idiom:—

Calum Sheòrais.

Chan 'eil sòlas anns a' bheatha so as motha bheir de thoil-inntinn dha na bhì 'na shuidhe an deireadh *Reult na Mara* agus e ag iomairt na cuibhle le tìr agus léirsinn. Chan 'eil òb, no caolas, no rudha timchioll Eilean Leòdhais air nach 'eil e cho èolach ri radan, agus is e mo bheachd fhéin ged bhuaileadh doille Calum Sheòrais am maireach gun stiùireadh e *Reult na Mara* gu caladh, ge b'è taobh a bhiodh i seòladh. Tha e dol do na h-Eileanan Flannach trì uairean anns a' bhliadhna a dh'farraidh chaorach, agus tha mise ag ràdh ribh nach e an sùgradh idir eathar fosgailte a stiùireadh le sàbhailteachd dh'ionnsaigh nan eilean sin; ach is e an turus ud a chòrdas ri Calum Sheòrais agus cha tàinig sgiorradh no éigin 'na lùib, ged is iomadh uair a rinn e an turus ri aimsir chunnartaich. Is i *Reult na Mara*, eathar Chalum Sheòrais, am bàta aig a tha againn anns a' bhaile so, agus chan 'eil cunntas an eachdraidh Bhearnraidh gun do dhiùlt an sgiobair aice aiseag riamh do dhiùc no do cheàrd, agus sin gun airgid no gun luach. Nam biodh pùnd Sasunnach aig Calum Sheòrais mu choinneamh gach aig a rinn e a null air a' Chaolas gu Carlobhagh agus gu Breascleit, bhiodh e ceart cho beartach ris an rìgh, ach tha na's fheàrr aige: tha aghaidh an t-sluaigh air, agus bithidh; is esan a dhleas sin.

Iain N. Mac Leòid. (20)

2. Translate into English, paying careful attention to idiom:—

Toimhseagan

Tha nigheanag òg a' tighinn do'n bhaile so,
Is earball fada 'na déidh;
Is léir dhi na ceudan mìle air deireadh,
Is air thoiseach cha léir dhi ceum.

Tha ultach 'na h-uchd nach innis i dhuinne,
Is nach faca dùil tha fo'n ghréin,
Gus an latha am fuasgail i a sgùird :
An sin gheibh sinn uile ar cuid féin.

Tha feadhain tha an dràsda lan àigh is othail,
le fàilte toirt furain d'a chéir,
Nam faiceadh an nì tha sgrìobhta mu'n
coinneamh,
Bhiodh slor a' sìleadh nan deur.

Tha cuid a tha ìosal, dìblidh, falamh,
Is an cridhe air leaghadh mar chéir,
A thogas i a nìos gun strì le a slataig, (*)
'G an cur air rathad glan réidh.

Is maith do gach neach gur dìomhair, paisgte,
An nì tha feitheamh air féin ;
Neo chuireadh e sìos ar cridhe gu talamh,
Is rachamaid buileach bho fheum.

An Fhreagairt—A' Bhliadhna Ur.

Iain Caimbeul, Bàrd na Leideig. (20)
* Magic wand.

3. Translate into Gaelic, paying careful attention to idiom:—

Once a hedgehog(†) and a hare arranged a race. But the hedgehog had his wife with him, and he used her in order to play a trick on the careless hare. "You stay here hidden in this furrow," said he to his wife; "and when the hare arrives, you will show yourself, and say 'Here I am!'" All being arranged, the race began. The hare started off like a whirlwind, and the cunning hedgehog took two or three steps and remained in his furrow. When the hare reached the other end, he heard the wife of the hedgehog cry, "Here I am!" and as the two were just alike, he thought he was listening to the hedgehog himself. "Oh, well," said the hare, "let us start again." When he had reached the starting-place, the hedgehog himself appeared and said calmly, "Here I am." "Once more," said the hare, "Certainly," replied the hedgehog, "I am ready to continue as long as you like."

A. J. Parman. (20)

† Hedgehog: gràineag, fem.

4. Write in Gaelic a continuous story, based on the following summary, and complete it in your own way. Give it a title. *The story should be about the same length as your answer to question 1, and should on no account exceed 250 words in length.* Failure to comply

with this instruction may lead to a loss of marks.

A certain king called together his learned men, and asked them to tell him why a bucket of water did not increase in weight when a fish was placed in it. The learned men asked for time to consider the question. After some days they came to the king with long and learned explanations. The king had a bucket of water brought in, with a fish and a pair of scales. The bucket was placed in one scale and balanced by a weight Everyone saw the bucket go down bucket had become heavier

(Complete the story in your own way.) (20)

Gaelic.

HIGHER GRADE—(FIRST PAPER).

Tuesday, 31st March—9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

The Value attached to each question is shown in brackets after the question.

N.B.—Begin the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

1. Translate into idiomatic English:—

Cha tug ar cinneadh 'nam bàrdachd no 'nam eachdraidh dearbhadh cho làidir air an gràdh d'an dùthaich is a dh'earbamaid a daoine a nochd, air cho luitha dòigh, spéis cho mór agus gràdh cho teth d'an daoine is d'an dachaidh. Their sinn "dùthchas" ris a' cheangal the eadar duine is a aithrichean; agus chan ann ris a' cheangal tha eadar duine is a dhùthaich. Chan fhaighear dearbhadh as làidire air gràdh sluaigh d'an dùthaich na gheibhear 'nam bàrdachd. Ciod an teagasg a gheibh sinn o na Bàird Ghàidhealach air gràdh-dùthcha? Lugh thairis saothair nam bàrd as ainmeile tha againn, agus feòraich dhìot fhéin cia meud d'an rann a tha comasach air smuaintean cothromach a ghintinn 'nad inntinn mu thimchioll do dhùthcha agus do dhleasdanas di? A mach o Oisein, agus maith dh'fhaoidte os cionn Oisein, is iad Donnchadh Bàn agus Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair as mò a fhuair de bhuaidh thairis air inntinn ar luchd-dùthcha a sheinn an Gàidhlig. Gheibh sinn gun teagamh, am measg mòran de ramtachd gun toinns, greadhnachas is àillidheachd na Tìre air an cur an céill am bàrdachd òirdheire. Gheibh sinn ar cànan, ar ceòl, is ar cleachdain air am moladh air son buaidhean a tha dìgheach dhoibh, agus air son iomadh buaidh nach 'eil.

Ach c'áite a bheil e air a sparradh oirnn gur e ar dleasdanas, agus gum bu chòir gum b'è ar miann, cliù ar dùthcha a bhì luachmhor 'nar sùilean do bhrìgh gur i ar dùthaich i? Agus ar cànan, is ar ceòl, is ar cleachdain altrum do bhrìgh gur iad dileab ar n-Aithrichean dhuinn?

An t-Ard Ollamh Domhnall Mac Fhionghuin.

(25)

2. Translate into idiomatic English:—

Tha Mac-alla fo ghruaim

Annas an talla am biodh fuaim a' cheoil,

An ionad tathaich nan clìar,

Gun aighear gun mhiadh gun phòit,

Gun mhìre gun mhùirn,

Gun iomrachadh dlùth nan còrn,

Gun chùirn gun phailteas ri dàimh,

Gun mhacnas gun mhànran beoil.

Is mi Mac-alla bha uair

Ag éisdeachd farum nan duan gu tiugh,

Far am bu mhùirneach am beus

An am dùbhradh do'n ghréin 'san t-sruth;

Far am b'fhoirmeil na seoid,

Iad gu h-organach còlmhor cluth:

Ge nach fhaicte mo ghnùis,

Chluinntea aca 'san Dùn mo ghuth.

An am éirigh gu moch

Ann an teaghlach gun sprochd gun ghruaim,

Chluinntea gleadhraich nan dos

Is an céile 'nan cois a'n t-suain;

An tràth ghabhadh i làn;

Is i chuireadh os àird na fhuair,

Le meoir fhileanta ghnìomhach,

Dhrithleannach dhònach luath.

Is bhiodh a rianadair féin

Ag cur an ire gur h-è bhiodh ann,

Is e ag éirigh 'nam measg

Is an éigheadh gu tric 'na cheanu;

Ge do b' àrd leinn a fuaim,

Cha tuairgneadh e sinn gu teann,

Chuireadh tagradh 'nam chluais,

Le h-aidmheil gu luath 's gu mall.

Ruairidh Mac Mhuirich. (Oran Mór MhicLeoid.)

(25)

3. Translate into English, or turn carefully into Scottish Gaelic:—

Féadar na daoine mórdha agus na fo-dhaoine do choimhmeas ris an seabhadh agus ris an gceir re linn a mbeathadh agus d'éis a mbáis: do bhrìgh go mbí onóir ar an seabhadh re linn a bheathadh, agus go dteiltgear 'san gcamra i ndiaidh a bháis e; an chearc iomorro, léigtgear 'san laithigh dhi re linn a beathadh, ag buain oileamhna as an aoileach; gidheadh an tan marbhlthar í, doghnithear a h-ullmhughadh go

honórach, go gcuirtear ar bhord na n-uasal í. Mar an gcéadna, bí onóir ar na daoine mórdha re linn a mbeathadh; acht cheana, an tan éagaid, teiltgear go minic i gcamra na cruinne .i. i n-iomdhomhain ifrinn iad, go mbíd ag onfais innte. Gidheadh bí tár agus tarcuinne ar na fo-dhaoineibh re linn a mbeathadh, agus bíd ar n-a suidhughadh go minic i ndiaidh an bháis ar bhord bheannaighthe na beathadh suthaine. Uch, is truagh nach tuigid lucht na honóra saoghalta na saobh-chrotha-so chuireas an sealgaire úd .i. an bás díobh!

Seathrun Céitinn. (Trí Bior-ghaoilte an Bháis.)

(15)

oileamhain .i. biadhadh, beòshlainte.

camra .i. òtrach.

saobh-chruth .i. cruth meallta.

onfais .i. luasgadh.

(To be continued.)

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

TEACHDAIREACHD-CAIRDEIS.

A Chlanna,—Fhuair Comunn na h-Oigridh an litir a leanas bho'n Sàr Dhuinn 'Uasal Owen ab Ifan Edwards, Fear-stiùiridh Urdd Gobaith Cymru (Dream Dòchas Cuimridh), Comunn anns am bheil corr agus 70,000 de Chlann na dùthcha sin an geall air an cuid Cànan agus Gnàthas a shabhaladh dìreach mar a tha sinn fein:—

“To the Members of Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Fellow Celts,—We are inspired by the news that you are fighting to save your ancient language.

We know your difficulties, for we are fighting the same fight too.

We belong to two Celtic Nations whose traditions are as ancient as the mountains of our lands.

Let us be strengthened by the traditions of our forefathers to face the difficulties that beset our languages, and to keep them alive.

We offer you the warmest right hand of friendship. We would welcome any of your boys and girls to our camps as our guests. Will you come?

Let us cement a friendship between Scotland and Wales, by making the youth of the two countries friends: keeping alive the ancient languages of our lands, inspired by the traditions of our nations, let us devote ourselves to the ideals of citizenship, to serve Scotland and to serve Wales.”

Nach gasda bhì smuaineachadh gum bheil an litir so air a seòladh, mar gum b'eadh, a dh'ionnsuidh gach aon againn fa leth, agus gum

bheil a h-uile Ball de Chomunn na h-Oigridh mar so a' factainn deagh-gheana agus brosnachaidh bho chairdean a tha an dearg dha-rreadh mu na nithean ris an do chuir iad an làmh. Saoilbh, nach 'eil an teachdaireachd so 'gar comh-eigneachadh as ùr gu bheil dol gu uchd ar dìchill anns na nithean a gheall sinn an àm gabhail ann an Comunn na h-Oigridh.

PONGALACHD.

Tha aon rud anns am faod Comunn na h-Oigridh feum mór a dheanamh mar a dh'fhàsas iad suas am bliadhnaichean. Ma tha leth-sgod r'a chur as leth a' Ghaidheil is e sin cho buailteach 's a tha e do bhi air dheireadh, gu sonruichte aig coinneamhan agus an leithdean sin. Nach 'eil an seanfalach ag ràdh

“Tha an Gaidheal coltach ri earbull an t-seanna mhairt, Daonnan air dheireadh!”

(Ma tha, tha e 'na dheagh fhear-marsuinn cuideachd, ach 's e sgeul eile a tha'n sin.)

Chan 'eil fhios agam co-meud uair a chunnaic mi luchd-dreuchd a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich a' breadingh an sailtean, na tuaghain, aig doras talla air oidheche fhuar Gheamhraidh, agus na Gaidheil a' slaodaireachd a steach, aon an déidh aoin, leth-uair no barrachd thar an àm cheart. Tha e 'na chleachdadh agam-sa bhi comhdachadh nam fìdhleirean air a' phianochruit, 'nuair a bhios nigheanan is gillean a' bhaile so air son a bhi crathadh an casan aig ball-dannsaich, agus 's iomadh oidheche a thug mi feitheamh orra fad uairean an uaireadair mu'm bitheadh cruinn na dheanadh surd air Ruidhlie Thulachain. Tha cuimhne agam air oidheche dh'fhàs mi sgith a' feitheamh: thug mi ionnsuidh air na tighean dh'fheuchainn ciod a bha cearr, agus fhuair mi an fheadhainn òg 'nan suidhe mu'n chagailt. Dh'fheòraich mi dhiubh ciod a bha 'gan cumail a stigh air oidheche dannsaidh. “O,” ars' iadsan, “de'm feum sinne thighinn gus am bi càch ann?” “Gleidh mise,” arsa mi fhein, “Co tha ann an “Càch” ach sibh fhein?”

Cuiridh so blas a' chragain air an duine as dùrachdaiche. Chan abair mi gum faighear a leithid anns gach àite, ach tha e ro-chumanta, agus iarraidh mi air Comunn na h-Oigridh, le'n deagh eisimpleir, stad a chur air cleachdadh nach 'eil ann ach feinealachd—cìon mothachaidh air faireachduinnean dhaoin' eile, rud nach 'eil 's nach bi a chaidh air a chur as leth muinntir ar Comuinn. Bithibh pongail.

NA PAIPEARAN-CEASNACHAIDH.

Gu deireadh a' Ghiblein (faicibh frith-lagh 4) cha tàinig iarraidh air paipearan-ceasnachaidh

ach a mhàin bho aon leth-dusan de Fheachdan, agus b'èigin do'n Rùnaire “S.O.S.” a chur a mach do na Cinn-Feachd eile a' sneedh na h-ùine gus an dara là fichead de Mhàigh. Gus an cluinnear ciod a thàinig as a' ghairm sin chan abair mi a bheag air a' phunc so.

Dh'iarr Cean-Feachd àraidh orm an là roimhe dealbh-cluich a chur chuige (no choice): chaidh an litir air chall agus cha chumhe leam an t-ainm. Cuiribh dìreach cairt-phostachd agus gheibh sibh na tha dhith oirbh le tilleadh a' phuist.

AN CAMPA.

Gun fhios nach bi cuid de Pharantan na Gaidhealtachd a' saoilinn nach aithne do luchd-stiuridh a' Champa so cùram a ghabhail de'n Chloinn a thig, faodaidh mi ràdh gu'n do dh'fhiosraich sinn beachdan na muinntir sin a tha làn-eolach air na doighean as fhearr, anns gach seadh, air campaichean de'n t-seòrsa so a riaghladh.

Tha àite againn fathast airson fichead balach agus fichead caileag, agus cha dùilt sinn gin dhiubh sin gu là meadhonach a' Cheitein. Greasaibh oirbh!

Faicibh riaghailtean a' Champa: cha ruig sibh a leas a nis sgian, greimiche agus spàin a thoirt leibh, tha h-uile sian sin againn. Bithidh brògan-gaineimh, briogais chutach agus “Jersey” air leth uiseil. Tha sinn ag cur romhainn stoc a chumail de na nithean sin, agus an reic air phris-chodais. Thoiribh beagan airgid tioram leibh. Cumaidh sinn slàn e ann am banca gus am bi feum agaibh air.

Ma bheir balach slat-iasgaich agus acfhuinn leis, chan abair mi nach faigh e “cur àird air mealladh an eisg”—breac no muc-locha, an Loch-Odha no an Allt na Cuil-riabhaich.

SANAS DO NA CINN FEACHD. *Chan aithne dhomh co tha tighinn do'n Champa comhla ri Cloinn, agus as eugmhais an eolais sin chan urrainn domh na tìocaiden air bheag pris orduchadh. Cuiridh gach Cean-Feachd a tha tighinn cairt-phostachd chugam gun dàil a dh'innseadh sin.*

SEORAS GALLDA.

CONTRIBUTION TO COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

A contribution of £25 to the funds of Comunn na h-Oigridh has been received from a Friend of the Order who calls himself “Caraid-gun-ainm.” This is the same Friend who subscribed an equal sum in September last.

EOGHAN MACLACHLAINN.

Oraid a bha air a craobh sgaoleadh air an 31mh là de'n Mhàrt le Iain Mac Gilleathan, M.A., LL.B.

Air croiteig bhig an Coir Uanain rugadh gille bho chionn ochd fichead bliadhna is a trì dha'n robh e an dàn a bhi air àireamh am measg àrd sgoilearan na h-Alba, agus a bha 'na bhàrd barraichte. B'e so Eoghan Mac Lachlainn. Ged is fhada bhuanain an latha 's an d'rugadh e, tha iadsan a tha comasach air breith choimhlionta, de'n bheachd gur ann ainmrig, ma tha iad idir ann, aig an robh mion eòlas cho eagnaigh air litreachas nan Gaidheal, agus air seann chànanan na Roinn Eorpa, is a bh'aise-san. Tha so 'na dhearbhadh dhuinn air buadhan intinn shònruichte Mhic Lachlainn, gu h-àraidh ma mhòthaicheas sinn a luthad brnach a bha aige ri dhireadh agus gach iomadh cnap-starradh a thàinig 'na rathad mu'n d'ràinig e a cheann uidhe, mu's e gu'n do rinn e sin, oir chaochail e ann an teis-meadhan a chuid oibre ann an àird a chliù is a neirt.

B'e breabadair a bha 'na athair, agus b'e Eoghan an còigeamh neach de'n teaghlach anns an robh naoinear chloinne. Cha robh nì sgoile aig a' bhreabadair fhéin ach, air son sin, bha e 'na dhuine tuigseach, adhartach, agus chuir e roimhe gu'm faigheadh a chuid cloinne sgoil cho math 's a b'urrainn dha-san. Air an aobhar sin, chuir e gach neach dhiubh gu Sgoil-na-Sgìreachd an Cill-Mhàillidh. Ged a rinn iad uile buil mbath dheth 'n cuid foghlum, cha robh gin aca a bha cho geur-intinneach ri Eoghan. Cha robh an t-ionnsachadh 'na thrioblaid sam bith dhàsan. Bha buaidh mhór aig seann chànanain na Roinn Eorpa air intinn agus air gach cothrom bha e an cuideachd nan laoch is nan cuiridh a thug cuspair do'n luchd sgrìobhaidh a choisinn a leithid de àrd chliù do litreachas na Roimh is nan Greugach. Gu dearbh b'e cion leabhraichean an t-aon éis a bh'air. Bha athair bochd, is bha an teaghlach lag, feumach, air chor 's nach robh mòran airgid mu seach a cheannaicheadh leabhraichean do neach sam bith dhiubh. Ach bha Eoghan cho geur sgiobalta is gu'm faigheadh e iasad de leabhraichean bho chloinn eile na sgoile air sgàth is gu'n tugadh e cobhair dhoibh le'n cuid leasan. Rinn Eoghan mar so a leithid de dh'adhartas 's nach robh e ach beag thar ceithir bliadhna deug 'nuair a thòisich e air teagasg ann an tìghean nan uaislean an Loch-Abar. Tha iomradh fhathast air cho math 's a thàinig sin dha, agus air cho déidhe is a bha na parantan 's a chloinn air. Bha Mac 'Ic

Alasdair Ghlinne-Garaidh fìor mheasail air agus mar a chli sinn 'na fhìor charaid dha.

Ged a bha Eoghan a nis a' teagasg feadhainn eile cha do leig e dheth a bhì 'ga oileanachadh fhéin. Aig gach cothrom bha e aig a leabharaichean; lean e gu trang air na seann chànanain. Dhùisg spiorad na bàrdachd ann, agus le intinnn bheochar fhosgailte, chuir e an céill a smuaintean air bòichead is maise na dùthcha ann am briathran drùiteach milis, ionnas gu'n robh e mu dheireadh ainmeil air feadh na sgìre air son a thuigse agus eòlais air na cuspairean sin uile.

Mar is fhuasda thuigsinn b'e miann a chridhe a dhol gu Colaiste. Ach cia mar a ghabhadh sin a dheanamh. Bha cairdean aige a bha an uachdar air còmhnaidh a thoirt dha, ach dhùilt iad sin a dheanamh; agus an àite a chuideachadh, is ann a thug iad comhairle air athair, is b'e sin, e a dheanamh breabadair de'n bhalach 's gu'n a bhì strì ri fòghlum duin' uasail a thoirt dha rud nach buineadh dha 's nach ruigeadh air. Coma leibh, chuala Mac 'Ic Alasdair mar a bha. B'aithe dhàsan am balach, agus a chomasan agus gun dàil no urras thug e de dh'airgid d'a athair na bheireadh Eoghan do dh'Obair Dheathainn, oir b'e Colaiste an Rìgh 's a bhaile sin, a ròghnaich e, a chionn gur h-ann an sin a fhuair a luchd-teagaisg am fòghlum.

Cha robh e fada anns a' bhaile 'nuair a fhuair e fios gu'n do choisinn e a' cheud duais anns an deuchainn sgoilearachd a chuireadh orra-san a bha ag iarraidh fòghlum a Cholaisde. B'e an "First Bursar" mar a theirear 'sa chaint eile. Nach cinnteach sinn gur e athair a bhiodh toilichte a' tilleadh dhachaidh is fios aige nach robh sgoilear òg eile an sud a bha cho sgiobalta ri mhac-san ?

Tha e air aithris 'nuair a chaidh Eoghan am measg chàich an toiseach, 'na ghille òg Gàidhealach, le fhéileadh glas de'n chlo a rinn athair agus le a bhonaid leathainn gu'n do thòisich cuid dhiubh air fanaid air ach ma thòisich, cha b'fhada gus an robh port eile aca. Choisinn e urram is chuireadh urram air. Cho luath is a chuala iad gu'm b'e am prìomh sgoilear dh'fhalbh fanaid is thàinig cairdeas is companas, agus tha dealbh eile againn air a nis, mar ghille òg a bha tlàth, teò-chridheach, aig an robh eòlas neo-chumanta. Bha e ri fìdhlearachd, sheinneadh e òran agus dheanadh e dàn shnasmhor ann an Gàidhlig no Beurla, no eadhon an Laidionn no Greugais. Ged a bha e dichìollach, aig a leasain, bha e bharrachd air a sin 'na dheagh fhèar cuideachd. B'ann mar sin a chaidh e troimh an Cholaisde agus fàgaidh sinn e gus am faigh sinn an ath shealladh

air 'na Ard Mhaighistir Sgoile ann an sgoil Sgìreachd na Seann Mhachrach (Old Machar), 'an Obair Dheathainn.

Tha e nis 'na làn dhuine. Tha cuideachd a' ghille òig air an d'rinneadh tàir air dha tighinn gu Obair Dheathainn a nis air iarraidh am measg feallsanach na dùthcha. Tha ainm Eoghain Mhic Lachlainn air dol am fad 's am farsuingeachd mar shàr sgoilear. Bha fear-coimhid air iarraidh air son Leabhar-Lann a' Cholaisde agus b'ann dha-san a chaidh an dreuchd urramach so a thairgse. Ach ged a bha urram 'g a chur air a nis, cha do dhi-chuimhnich e tir a dhùthchais. Bha sonas is soirbheas na Gàidhealtachd 's a cuideachd gu léir glé fhaig air a chridhe. 'S ann mar so a thubhairt e fhéin:—"Lionmhor bitheadh 'ur sliochd mar reulta nèimhe, cruadalach mar an Darach nach closnaich Slàn a' gheamhradh; 's gu'n robh saorsa, agus sonas, gu brath, ag àiteachadh Tìr nam Beann, 's nan Gleann, 's nan Breacan!" Agus b'e sin an rùn-aobhar a bh'aige 'san amhare, 'nuair a thèid e an deigh dha dol do'n Cholaisde an toiseach air an 'Iliad' aig Homer eadar-theangachadh o'n Ghrèugais. Bha stùil aige ris an sgeulachd briaghna so a chur gu h-iomlan an Gàidhlig, ach cha d'èirmis e ach air seachd duain eadar-theangachadh, oir bha móran dhleasanais chudthromach eile an urra ris. Chaidh earrann dhiubh sin a chlo-bhualadh an leabhraichean Gàidhlig thall 's a bhos, ach tha fuighar gu'n teid idir uile a chur an clò an tìne ghoirid. Nach bu mhath an gnothach e gu'm biodh cothrom aig sgoilearan an latha'n diugh air eòlas a chur air obair cho chudthromach a so 'n an cànan fhéin.

Chan 'eil fios agam a bheil e cho aithnichte is a bu chòir, gu'n robh oidhirp air a dheanamh anns a' bhliadhna oched ceud deug is a h-aon deug a chum Cathair na Gàidhlig a' stéidheachadh ann an Ard Oil Thigh Dhun-Eidjinn. Ghabh an Comunn Gàidhealach, a bha 's an ám sin ro mheasail air cor nan Gàidheal is air an litreachas, mór shuim de'n gnothach, ged is duilich a radh gur e ainmhidhean na machrach ris am motha am meas an diugh na h-aobharan urramach anns an do ghabhadh thlach an toiseach. Ged nach do shoirbhich leotha aig an ám, a thaobh Cathair na Gàidhlig, oir cha robh a' Ghàidhlig cho àrd inbheach an sin is a tha i an diugh, nach 'eil e 'na chomharradh dhuinn air luach saothrach Eoghain Mhic Lachlainn, gu'n robh ughdarras na cathrach sin ri thoirt dhàsan.

Tha mi toilichte an cothrom so a bhi agam air beagan a radh mu'n fhoclair a chuireadh a

mach fo ainm a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach so. A reir luchd-eachdraidh Mhic Lachlainn shaoileadh neach gur e an Comunn so a bheachd-smuaintich air iomchuidheachd leabhar de'n t-seòrsa so an toiseach, agus an sin gu'n d' iarr iad air Mac Lachlainn cuideachadh leotha. Cha b' ann mar sin idir a bha. Is ann a theann Mac Lachlainn ris an obair air a làimh fhéin, agus bha e air adhart gu math mu'n do thairg an Comunn cuideachadh leis. Ghabh e ris an tairgse a chionn gu'n robh e a' faicinn nach biodh e furasda dhàsan leabhar mór mar a bha 'na bheachd a chur an clò. B' e a b' aobhar dha toiseachadh air an fhoclair, a ghràdh do chànan a dhùthcha, agus a mhiann air an t-slighe a dheanamh na's fhasa is na's réidhe do na h-oileanaich a thigeadh 'na dheidh na bha i aigesan. Ged nach d' amais e air an obair fheumail so a thoirt gu crìch, is ann dhàsan a bhuineas a' mhór chuid de'n chliu, oir chan e a mhàin gu'n do chuir e earrann mhath de'n fhoclair ri chéile, ach b' e a bha mar mheadhon air gu'n do thòisichear air a leithid idir.

Tha móran tuille a dh'fhaodainn a radh mu'n Ghàidheal chluiteach so ach cha ghabh cunntas mionaideach a thoirt air fhéin is air uile oibreen ann an òraid ghoirid mar so. Is e leabhar a ghabhadh e a chum ceartas a dheanamh dha agus is duilich nach deach an leabhar sin a sgrìobhadh fhathast. Bu mhath leam ge ta focal no dhà a radh mu a bhàrdachd.

Their cuid nach robh e air àireamh am measg nan sàr bhàrd ach cha ghabh mi ris a sin uile gu léir. Ann a bhi ag cur an t-slàit thomhais thar oibre bhiodh e cho math gu'n cumamaid 's an amhare gu'n do'rinn e "Orain nan Aimsir" a tha ann an Sàr Obair nam Bàrd mu'n d'fhàg e riamh a dhachaidh. So agaihb rann no dhà de "Oran an t-Samhraidh"

"Moch 's mi'g éiridh maduinn chéitein,
'S d'riuchd air fear nan lóintean;
Bu shuntach éibhinn càil gach creutair,
'Tighinn le gleus a'm frògaibh,
Gu blàths na gréine b' àgh'or éiridh,
Suas air sgeith nam mòr-bheann;
'S e teachd o'n chuan gu dreachmhor buadhach,
Rioghail, uasal, òr-bhuidh.

Bu chùrteil, prìseil, foirm gach eòin,
An cunntal òrdail, greannar,
Cuir sios an sgeòil is blasta glòir,
Air bhàrr nan òg mheur shamhraidh,
Le'n ribheid chiùil gu fonnar dlù,
Na puirt bu shùbhlaich ranntachd;
'S mac-talla freagairt fuaim am feadain,
Shuas 'sna creagan gleanntach.

A Shàmhraidh, gheugaich, ghrianaich, cheutaich
Dhullich, fheuraich, chiùin-ghil!

Bho t-anail fhéin thig neart a's speurad,

Do gach creutair dùidi,

Bha'n sàs an slabhraidh reòt a' Gheamhraidh,

Ann an àm na dùdhlachd,

'S tha na nis a' danna's feadh ghlac a's ghleann,

M' ad theachd a nall as ùir oirn."

Nach briagha an obair sin do ghille òg sam bith?
Cha ghabh e àicheadh nach robh làn tomhas
de fhìor spiorad na bàrdachd ann.

Seallaidh sinn a nis air a' mharbhrann a
rinn e do a charaid is d'a chompanach daimheil
dileas, 's e sin Cumha do Sheumas Beattie,
Fear-Teagaisg chànaicnean 's a' Cholaisde, a
bha mar a bha Eoghan e fhéin, 'na bhàrd
ro-ainmeil agus na fhìdhleir grunn. Tha am
marbhrann so, anns a bheil e a' leigeil ris meud
a bhàrd air son bàs a charaid, cho briagha ri
leithid a gheibhear an cainnt sam bith—gach
facal mar gu'm biodh air a sgrìobhadh le deoir,
agus fuaim gach rann mar osnadh bho'n
chridhe leònta.

"Och nan och, mar atà mi,

Thréig mo shùgradh mo mhànrann 's mo cheòl,

Is trom an acaid tha am chràdhlot,

Is goirt am beum a rinn sgàinteach am fheòil;

Mi mar ànrach nan cuaintean,

A chailleas astar feadh stuadhan 's a' cheò,

O'n bhuail teachdair a' bhàis thu,

A charaid chaoimh bu neo-fhailteamach glòir.

Och nan och, mar atà mi,

Mo chridh an impis bhith sgàinte le bròn;

Tha an caraid-chuirte an déidh m'fhàgail,

A sheasadh dùrachdach dàna air mo chòir;

Bidh sud am chliabh 'na bheum chnàmhain
Gus an uair anns an t-àr mi fo'n fhòd;

Ach 's glic an t-Aon a thug cis dhinn,

Is d'a òrdugh naomh biomaid strìochda gach lò."

Sin agaih Eoghan Mac Lachlainn. Nach
duilich gu'n do bhris air a shlàinte is e an teis-
meadhon oibre. Chaochail e air an naoidheamh
latha fichead de'n Mhàrt 's a' bhliadhna och
ceud deug is a dhà air fhichead, 'se sin coig
fichead bhliadhna 's a ceithir deug, Di-Sathurna
s) chaidh.

Mar chomharradh air an luach 's an urram
a choisinn gu'n do bhris air a shlàinte is e an teis-
meadhon oibre. Chaochail e air an naoidheamh
latha fichead de'n Mhàrt 's a' bhliadhna och
ceud deug is a dhà air fhichead, 'se sin coig
fichead bhliadhna 's a ceithir deug, Di-Sathurna
s) chaidh.

Mar chomharradh air an luach 's an urram
a choisinn e dha fhéin—an duin' usal fòghluimte
—chaidh a dhùslach a ghiùlan gu Seòmair-
aoraidh a Cholaisde. Timchioll air ann an sin,
thional àrd luchd fòghluim, uaislean, agus
uachdaranan a' bhaile, oir b'e duine cho ainmeil
is a thàinig riamh 'nam measg bho'n a'
ghàidhealtachd. An déidh dhaibh an ùmhachd
fa dheireadh a chuir an céill, lean iad an ghiùlan
gu ruig ceann a muigh a' bhaile. B'e a
dhùrachd a bhi air a thiodhlacadh 'an Cill-

Mhaodain 'an Aird-Ghobhar, far am bheil a
shinnsreachd 'nan cadal. Fad na slighe bho
Obar-Dheathain, agus gu h-àraidh 'nuair a
ràinigear Loch Abar, nochdadh mòr urram
d'a chuimhne, leis na ciadan—usail agus
iosal—a lean an ghiùlan, gus an do chàradh e
fo'n fhòd, ri taobh athar 's a mhatbar.

Thog sinn ainm, 's nach gabh sinn beannachd
leis ann am briathran a' bhàird a thubhairt:—

"Mo leòn gu'n do strìoch thu cho tràth!

Mo bhronn gu'n do thàmh cho luath!

Dh'fhàg so sinn fo airtneal 's fo phràmh

'S fo smalan 's an àirde tuath.

Gu'n d'fhàg thu Loch Abar fo bhronn,

Cha leighis ar leòn ri luath 's,

Gur geur so a chreidh a laidh oirn,

O'n mheath thu ar Dòchas 'uainn.

Thig Earrach, thig Samhradh mu'n cuairt,

'S thig Foghar nan sgab 'nan déidh,

Thig Geamhradh, le ghaillbhinnean fuar,

Ach cò rannas duan g'an seinn?

Tha mulad, tha mulad 'gam chràdh,

O'n chàireadh thu'n tàmh nan leac,

A chaoimhnic 'bu dealasaich gràdh,

Mhic Lachlainn nan Dàn làn beachd."

SOME EARLY CELTIC NATURE POEMS.

The following verses are metrical and
rhymed versions of literal translations of
fragments of Irish poetry dating from the
ninth to the thirteenth century. The
originals will be found in *Studies of Early
Celtic Nature Poetry*, recently published by
the Cambridge University Press. The
poems number 41 in all. Many of them are
only single stanzas which have survived
from longer poems long since lost and for-
gotten. I have ventured, perhaps rashly,
to put the eight which follow into ordered
metrical guise, and to give them the added
grace of rhyme, in the hope that in this
form they may interest readers of *An
Gaidheal*. They show, even in those far-off
times, that love of Nature and natural
objects which is so characteristic a feature
of Celtic poetry. The poems selected fall
into three groups: Hermit, Monastic, and
Seasonal.

LATIMER McINNES.

HERMIT.

1.

O blackbird, leaf-hid and alone in thy
thicket of green,

It is joy to sit there in thy nest unheard
and unseen:

And here, far away and aloof from the call
of a bell,
Undisturbed and secure do I sit in the
peace of my cell.

2.

High o'er my head a spreading tree;
The blackbird pipes his song of praise;
His woodland mates, as fain as he,
To heaven their trilling matins raise.
And far and near, o'er all the land,
From copse and brake the cuckoos call;
And I, with unread book in hand,
Sit rapt and listen to them all.

3.

My little hut with ivy green,
No palace court is half so dear
When moonlight floods the silent scene,
Or summer sunshine lingers here.
Though these rude walls my work may be,
The fruit of many a toilsome hour,
'Twas God who reared this sheltering tree,
Who clothed my thatch with moss and
flower.
No spear affrights: the winter rain,
The winds that strip the woodlands bare,
Beat on these wattled walls in vain:
This haunt of peace, this home of prayer.

MONASTIC.

4.

Under a yew tree that towered glossy-green
in the sun
Sit the brotherhood wrapped in its gloom
now that daytime is done;
Ah, clear and melodious the voice of the
bell far away,
The bell of Columba's dear church as it calls
us to pray.

5.

The lark on its tireless wings
Sings as it soars and soars as it sings,
And here, earth-bound, stand I,
Agaze as it mounts to the sky.
My psalms with a loftier flight,
They plead for me day and night,
That my sins may be purged and my love
Fixed fast on my home above.

SEASONAL.

6.

SPRING.

The blackbird with his golden bill
From leafless boughs pours out his strain,
And vale and echoing woodland thrill
To hear those mellow notes again.

7.

SUMMER.

Summer has come healthy and free;
The trees are bowed with their weight of
leaves,
The path of the seal is smooth on the sea,
And the swallow builds in the sheltering
eaves.

On the slopes of the hills the brown stags
stray
Or rest from the heat mid the fern unseen,
The cuckoo calls through the livelong day,
And the small birds flit where the knolls
are green.

The lit strand smiles when the winds are
astir,
Its long stretch fringed with a ribbon of
white;
The blackbird is piping in oak tree and fir,
And the hound in the hunt has his fill of
delight.

The salmon fights with the fierce cascade,
The brown trout lurks when the sun is high;
There's a flutter of life in thicket and glade,
And the lark is lost in the blue of the sky.
And my heart leaps high with the joy of it
all,
Gone are my cares and my fears are dumb;
For the birds and the hounds and the wild
deer call

That winter's away and summer has come.

8.

WINTER.

I have tidings for you to-day;
The gaunt stag bells
On the wintry fells;
Summer's away.

The clouds are in flight o'er the sky;
Low is the sun,
The brief day is done,
The sea runs high.

The wind whirls the leaves as they fall;
High overhead,
When the stars are spread,
The wild geese call.

The bracken lies ruddy and sere;
Cold is the wing
Of each feathered thing,
Ice on the mere.

I have tidings for you to-day;
Winter with woe
Of hardship and snow;
Summer's away.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Convener, Mod and Music Committee, Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun and the General Secretary were welcomed at a meeting of the Mod Executive held at Inverness recently. Arrangements for the forthcoming Mod were discussed and the deputation declared themselves pleased with the progress made so far. Subscriptions, large or small, may be sent to Mr. J. M. Hunter, Hon. Treasurer, North of Scotland Bank, Inverness, or to Mr. Robert MacFarlane, An Comunn Treasurer, 212 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2.

* * *

Miss Margaret Winifred Simpson who has just resigned from the Presidentship of the Elgin Branch of An Comunn, owing to pressure of business, will be much missed. She was a keen enthusiast for the language as well as the music of the Gael. The Branch is fortunate in having as her successor a Fìor-Ghaidheal, in the person of Mr. F. MacKenzie, a native of Gairloch. Mr. MacKenzie is a most convincing speaker and he is equally at home in Gaelic and English. Miss Catriona MacLean, Gartmhor, Lossiemouth, has again been appointed Secretary, and the financial side of the work has been entrusted to Mr. Iain Grant.

* * *

The Brora Mod is to be held on Friday, 5th June, and Mr. Grant, the indefatigable Secretary, has arrangements well in hand. Mr. Owen, Inverness is to be the Music Adjudicator Col. Gilbert Gunn, O.B.E. is to be chairman during the proceedings, and Sir Alfred N. MacAulay is to preside at the Grand Concert. The Gaelic Judges are Rev. Malcolm MacLean, Conon and Rev. D. Carmichael, Reay.

* * *

During the past two years, the Senior Section of the Skye Provincial Mod has not been so well supported, possibly, owing to so many of the young people having to leave the Island to seek employment. There are very large entries for the Junior Section however and especially in the Oral Section. The standard in this particular section is very high at Provincial Mods in general, and testifies to the good work done in the Schools.

* * *

The Northern Organiser presided over A Ceilidh in the Commercial Hotel, Inverness, on Friday, 15th May, in aid of the Mod funds. There was a large attendance and a substantial sum will be handed to the Mod Treasurer. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. Donald Cumming,

the Proprietor, who so very kindly placed the Hotel at the disposal of those present, and also supplied a splendid supper at his own expense.

* * *

Mr. Archibald Sinclair of the *Celtic Press*, Glasgow, has just issued a new handbook to the Isle of Skye by Mr. Alexander Nicolson, M.A. In this neatly bound volume of 120 pages, Mr. Nicolson deals with the derivations of the various place-names. This adds greatly to the value of the book, and the reader must feel indebted to the author for supplying what most guide-books lack. The book is published at 1/6 per copy and may be had from the *Celtic Press*, 27a Cadogan Street, Glasgow.

CUIRM-CHNUIC BHARRAIDH.

Chumadh a' Chuirm-chnuic so air machair Alasdail air Diardaoin, an là ar fhichead de'n Chéitein agus bha faisg air da chhad de bhuill Chomunn na h-Oigridh air an raon. Bha Ceann Feachd ás na sè sgoilean air ceann an grunnan fhéin agus còmhla riutha bha an luchd-teagaisg eile a thug cuideachadh mòr seachad air an là iomraiteach so.

Bha caman an làimh gach gille beag agus cha do sguir iad a dh'iomain ach an tacan a bha iad ag gabhail na *tea*. Bha cluichean eile aig na caileagan, mar a tha dallan dà is a leithid sin. Bha iad a' dannsadh gu h-aotrom air a' mhachair agus Calum ag cumail piobaireachd riutha. Riarach na h-inbhich *tea* is aran am pailteas agus bu shunnach an còmhlan sin a shuidh mu'n cuairt na bruaich mhóir ghainmhich far an do ghoileadh na coireachan.

An deidh so bha tuilleadh iomain is réisean agus cuairtean air a' phìob mhóir le clann Néill, piobairean barraichte an eilein. Ach bho'n is crìoch gach Comunn dealachadh thugadh a' chlànn an ceann a chéile agus labhair Rùnaire a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich riutha beagan bhriathran brosnachaidh is taing. 'Na dheidh sin sheinn iad uile "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig" is dh'fhalbh iad dhachaidh làn toilichte. Cha dàn e a ràdh gu'm bi fadal air gach aon diubh agus an tig an latha mòr mu'n cuairt a rithis.

B'e aobhar misneachaidh e da-rìreadh a leithid de chruinneachadh fhaicinn agus a' Ghaidhlig a' tighinn cho rèidh sibhlach bho bhilean gach gille is nighean a bha iad ann. Tha An Comunn fo mhór chomain na muinntir sin a rinn comasach a leithid de Chuirm a thoirt gu buil. Airson an saothrach agus an dealais tha sinn a' toirt mìle taing dhoibh agus gu ma fada slàn iad.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Tha obair an t-Seisein a nis a' teannadh gu crìch ach anns na h-ionadan sin anns am bheil Mòdan dùthchail 'g an cur air adhart.

A thaobh is gu'm b'fheadar do Bhaltar Ros agus Mairead Nic Dhomhnaill le tinneas toirt thairis tha Iain Mac Iomhair gu trang 's an Taobh Tuath. Tha e aig an àm so an Loch Abar agus as deidh a' Mhoid sin air an 22mh là de'n mhios so bidh e a' togail air gu Cataibh a chur cùisean air ghleus fa chomhar Mòd Bhùra.

Air a choigeamh tha deug de'n mhios so chaidh thug am Fear-deilbhe sgrìob gu Mallaig, Mòrar agus Arasaig. Bha coinneamh aige am Mòrar air an oidheche sin agus bha an t-Urr. Canon Mac Nèill anns a' chathair. Rinneadh ullachadh airson Fear-teagasg Cìuil a chur do na h-ionadan sin fa chomhar Mòd Loch Abar.

Air an ath mhaduinn thall Mgr. Mac Phàil gu Inbhir Nis agus an deidh meadhan latha thog e air gu bhì an lathair aig coinneimh an Abairdeibain. Cha deachaidh leis mar bu mhiann oir dlùth do Huntly dh'fhàg an carbad an rathad, is cha b'urrainn dha dol na b'fhaide air an fheasgar sin agus b'fheadar tilleadh dhachaidh. Bha e latha na dha gun chomas dol a mach ach tha e nis gu dòigheil aig cùl a ghnòthaich a rithist.

Bha am Fear-deilbhe 'na Fhear-tighe aig Ceilidh ghrinn an Tigh Osda Dhomhnaill Chuimeinich, an Inbhir Nis, o chionn ghoirid. Phaigh Mgr. Cuimeanach gach cosdas a bha ceangailte ris a' Cheilidh agus tha dùil gu'm bi dusan *not* co-dhiu a' dol ri ionmhais Mòd Inbhir Nis. Tha ar taing aig an Sgitheanach chòir so, a tha cho dealasach ann an aobhar na Gaidhlighe.

Air an ath latha bha am Fear-deilbhe a' frittheadh aig Fèill a chuireadh air doigh leis a' bhean usal Ghrannnd, Ard Làraich. Chaidh suim laghach a thional fa chomhar Mòd Inbhir Nis.

Cha d'fhuaras Feachd de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh a chur air chois an Arasaig fhathast ach tha dùil gu'm bi sin air a dheanamh gu h'aithghearr.

An Airde Deas.

Bha an Runaire an lathair aig Mòd Ghrianaig air an 18mh là de'n Ghiblein agus ghiulain e deagh-ghuidhe bho'n Chomhairle Dheasaich do'n chuideachd. Bha Mgr. Calum MacLeod 'na Fhear Cathrach agus b' iad na breitheamhnan a' Bhean Usal Nic a' Chombaich agus a' Mhgn. Anna Nic Mhailein, A.M. Bha na

balaich òga fìor choimhionta, an dà chuid an Gaidhlig is an ceòl agus b' fhiach e dol astar math g' an eisdeachd.

Chaidh a' Bhean Usal Dunlop agus an Runaire gu Dun Eideann air an dara là de'n Chéitein a chum a bhì an lathair, an ainm na Comhairle Dheasaich, aig a' Mhòd a tha Comunn Tir nam Beann aig cumail gach bliadhna. Dh' fhaodadh am barrachd de cho-fharpaisich a bhì aig a' Mhòd oir rinneadh ullachadh math leis a' Chomhairle. Cha do thionndaidh neach am mach airson na h-aithris, ach fhuair eadh seinn mhath bho chuid de na co-fharpaisich 's an earrainn sin, gu h-àraidh mìth-òrain. B' iad na breitheamhnan an t-Urra. Mgr. Mac Calmain, Murchadh Mac Leoid, Calum Iain M. Mac Leoid agus Seoras Short. Chuir an Ceann Suidhe, Mgr. Ros, fàilte fhurannach air riochdairean a' Chomuinn agus thug e taing dhoibh airson frittheadh.

Chumadh Mòd Phaislig air an dara là deug de'n Chéitein. Bha mòran an lathair a dh'eisdeachd ri aireamh gasda de cho-fharpaisich agus fhuair iad rogha is taghadh nan òran bho òg is inbheach. Bha a' Bhean Usal Nic a' Phì agus Eachann Mac Dhughail 'nam breitheamhnan aig a' Mhòd air a' bhliadhna so rithis. Bha an Runaire an lathair air iarrtas na Comhairle Dheasaich.

Is airdh na Comuinn a tha aig cumail nam Mòd so gach bliadhna air an sàr-mholadh. Tha iad a' deanamh obair mhath am bailtean móra na Galldachd agus tha luchd-comhairle gach Comuinn fa leth dlìgheach air gach cuideachadh bhuathasan aig am bheil ùgh an adhartachadh is craobh-sgaoileadh na Gaidhlig.

Bha an Runaire an lathair aig Coinneimh Bhliadhnaidh a' mheoir am baile Dhum-fris air an 23mh là de'n Ghiblein. Tha am meur so a' deanamh feum maith 'san roinn so de'n Ghalldachd agus bha e taitneach uibhir Ghaidheal fhaicinn cruinn. Bha cuideachd an lathair a' baile Chaer-leoil agus bho mheur a' Chomuinn am baile Inbhir-àir. Thug an lathaireachd misneach is brosnachadh do luchd na Comhairle. Sheinn a' Choisir Cìuil òrain Ghaidhlig gu fonnmhor agus chuidich cuid eile de na buill mar an ceudna. Tha ar taing aig an luchd-riaghlaidh airson an dealais is an saothrach.

Chum meur Inbhir-àir a' Choinneimh Bhliadhnaidh air an 7mh là de'n Chéitein agus bha còrr is trì fichead ball an lathair. Bha an Runaire am measg na cuideachd agus labhair e riu an Gaidhlig is am Beurla. Tha an cròilean Gaidhlig an deagh ghleus agus tha na buill a'

frithealadh gu gasda. Tha an luchd-dreuchd is an luchd-comhairle mar a bha iad an uraidh.

Fhritheil a' Bhean Uasal Nic a' Chombaich, Mgr. Calum Mac Leoid agus an Runaire aig coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Mhòid an Inbhir Nis air an 8mh là de'n Chéitein. Tha a' Chomhairle ag obair gu treun a chum am Mòd a dheanamh cho soirbheachail agus is comasach a dheanamh, agus gu ruige so shoirbhich leo 'nan oidhirpean uile.

AN UISEAG.

Uiseag bheag eibhinn
Gur moch rinn thu eirigh,
Do ribheid bha gleuste
'Nuair leum thu bho d' thàmh.
Direadh gun éislean
Do liath bhraat nan speuran
'S tu 'n ceud ghath na gréine
Mar reult anns an àird.
'S ceolmhor do laoidh leam
'S an og-mhaduinn chubhraidh
'Is comhdach de'n ùr dhealt
Ri lùbadh gach blàth.
Coisir a ghlinne
Ri ceol air gach spiris,
'S na neoil a tha t' ionads'
Eoin 's binne na càch !

'S lachdunn do chòta
Gun daithean gad' chomhdach,
Gur iosal do chomhnuidh
Air comhnard an làir;
Céile do shòlais
Gu dileas 'sa chòinntich
Bho mhi-mhodh na ròcais
Ag comhdach a h'àil.
'S geur ort a h' iolla,
'S i 'g eisdeachd ri d' bhinneas
A taomadh cho milis
Bho d' chridhe beag blàth;
Gràdh agus dlìghe
Gad' thàladh gu tilleadh
'S tu 'tearnadh mar spitheig
Gu d' nid anns a' chàr.

Uiseag bheag shundach
'S neo-choireach do ghiulan,
'S gach àird gum bheil cliu ort
'S tu mùirneach aig bàird.
'S iriosal diùid thu
'San iollain gad chrùbadh
Le dichìoll ri sgrùdadh
'Measg fuighleach a ghràin.

'S tearc a tha 'n t-umaidh
Nach ceadaich dhuit cuibhrionn
Is sneachda na dùbhlachd
A' smùradh nam blàr.
'Se 'n Ti rinn sinn uile
Thug bith agus cruth dhuit
Gun ionndrainn e'n uiseag
'Ni tuiteam gu làr.

Uiseag bheag riabhach
An spiorad no'n eun thu ?
Tha feartan neo-chrìochnach
A riaghladh do chàil.
Fasgadh chan iarr thu
Bho an-ìochd nan siantan
'S tu 'fasgnadh na h'iarmaid
Gu ciaradh nan tràth.
'S eibhneas do m' chridhe
('S mo leirsinn gad shireadh)
Bhi 'g eisdeachd do ribheid
Ri crith cheol gun tàmh.
'Toirt ùmhlachd 'is urram
Do Chruithear na cruinne
'S tu 'direadh le d' luinneig
Gu uinneagan Neimh.

AONGHAS MAC EACHARN.

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LOCHABER PROVINCIAL MOD.

The fifth Provincial Mod for the Lochaber area was held at Fort William on Friday, 22nd May. There were record entries in the various classes, and the attendance of the public at the sessions was very satisfactory. Provost MacDonald presided over the closing concert, and Mrs. Ryan presented the prizes to the winners.

The following were the adjudicators:—Literary, Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Inverness. Oral and Vocal (Gaelic), Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow, and Mr. Donald MacPhail, Inverness. Music, Mr. Lewis J. Owen, L.R.A.M., Inverness, and Mr. James Murray, L.R.A.M., Kingussie. First prize-winners were:—

Junior Section.—Literature—Essay on any subject—Valerie Mackinnon and Mary Macphee, Fort William Secondary School (equal). Writing from Dictation—Mary Macphee. Translation of English Prose into Gaelic—Valerie Mackinnon. Oral Delivery.—Reading—Valerie Mackinnon. Reading Test Piece, Learners—Flora Macphee. Reading Unfamiliar Prose—Jessie Cameron, Fort William Secondary School. Reading Scripture—Valerie Mackinnon. Learners—Margaret Cameron, Ard-gour. Conversation—Valerie Mackinnon and Jessie Cameron (equal). Recitation—Ronald MacLellan, Morar. Kilmallie Trophy, awarded to competitor with highest aggregate marks—Valerie Mackinnon.

Vocal Music.—Unpublished song—Mary Cameron, South Laggan. Solo Singing (boys under 12)—Ronald MacLellan, Morar. Girls under 12—Christie MacLean, Inshlaggan. Boys, 12-16 years—Donald J. MacDonald, Arisaig. Girls, 12-16 years—Margaret Smith, Conaglen. Song, own choice (open)—John Cameron, Morar. Lochaber Medal—John Cameron, Morar, and Margaret Smith, Conaglen. Duet—John MacEachern and Ronald MacLellan, Morar.

Choral Singing for Shield presented by Lochaber and District Co-operative Society—Arisaig R.C. School Choir. Unison and Puirt-a-beul Competition—Roybridge School Choir. Singing of Unpublished Song—Mrs M. MacDonald, Arisaig. Inverness-shire Song (Men)—W. Grant and E. Fraser, Glenurquhart (equal). Solo singing (Women)—Mrs MacDonald, Arisaig. Men—P. Cameron, Glenurquhart. Glengarry Cup—E. Fraser, Glenurquhart. The Lochaber Quitch, for woman with highest aggregate marks was withheld, as two (Mrs MacDonald and Miss Joan MacDonald, Arisaig) tied.

Quartette Singing—Glenurquhart Quartette (A). Choral Singing (Female Voices)—Glenurquhart Gaelic Choir. Challenge Shield Competition—Mallaig and Morar Gaelic Choir.

Literature.—Gaelic Poem—Donald MacDonald, Essay—Flora Fletcher, Mallaig. Collection of Place-Names—Miss Morag Fletcher, Mallaig. Short Gaelic Story—Peggy McIntyre, Fort William Secondary School.

Oral Delivery.—Reading Unfamiliar Prose Piece—Helen O'Reilly, Fort William Secondary School. Recitation—Alexander Macphee, Fort William Secondary School. Recitation of Prose Piece—Alexander Macphee. Dialogue—Peggy McIntyre and

Janet Mackinnon, Fort William Secondary School. Sgeulachd—Miss Morag Fletcher, Mallaig. Instrumental Music (Violin), playing of Gaelic Song, Air, Strathspey, and Reel—Neil MacDougall, Morar.

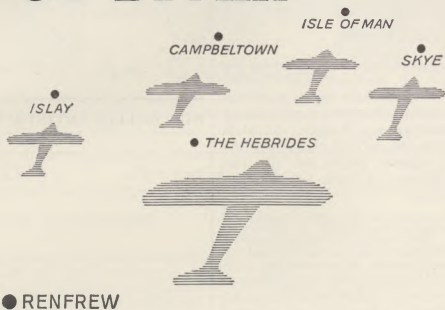
BRANCH REPORTS.

GLENGARRY.—One of the most successful and enjoyable functions held in the Invergarry Coronation Hall in recent months was that which took place when the Glengarry entertainers gave a splendid concert in aid of the Mod funds. Mr Russell Ellice, of Glengarry, presided. Soloists were Miss P. MacAskill, Mandally; Miss M. MacDonell, Polmonochan; Miss Jean Ross, Drynahan; Master Archie and Miss Flora MacLean, Inshlaggan; and Mr. Wm. Cuthbertson, Leac. Miss Tait, Faichemard, was accompanist. Three sketches were also presented and were much enjoyed. Mr Russell Ellice intimated, amid applause, that £5 6s 6d had been taken at the door, and that several donations had come to hand. The dance which followed was also very successful, and among those present were parties from Fort-William and Spean Bridge. The Glengarry Band, with Miss Tait as pianist, played excellent music, and the M.C.'s were Messrs. Wm. MacDonald, A. MacAskill, and A. Macrae. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell catered, and the door-keepers were Messrs. Wm. J. MacLean and T. Fraser. The sum of £3 14s was realised.

PITLOCHRY.—Mr. A. Scott Rankin, presiding at the annual meeting of Pitlochry branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach in the Lesser Public Hall, congratulated the branch on having reached the fine membership of 245, and expressed appreciation of the work of the secretary, treasurer, and committee. Mrs. MacIntosh expressed appreciation of the services of Mr. Scott Rankin as president. A ceilidh followed, with a programme carried through under the direction of Mr. John Anderson. Songs were rendered by Messrs. A. M. Ewing, K. MacKenzie, J. Anderson, and E. Fergusson; a duet by Messrs. Ewing and Matheson; and pianoforte selections by Miss May Anderson. Recitals were contributed by Miss MacGregor, and dances by Misses M. Cameron, J. Anderson, and Dorothy Seaton, with instrumental selections by Mrs. MacLeish, Mr. John Preston, and Mr. A. M. Ewing. Dancing was also engaged in, and the artistes were thanked on the call of the chairman.

ULLAPPOOL.—A varied and much enjoyed programme was presented by Ullapool branch of Lochbroom An Comunn, at a concert held in the Village Hall, in aid of the funds of the branch. Mr. J. Stewart, J.P., president, occupied the chair, and in the course of an address in Gaelic and English prior to the commencement of the programme, thanked the large audience for their support of the movement. The choirs, under the able and energetic leadership of Miss Grant and Mr. Rintoul, had already attained high standards, and he felt sure they would do well at the national competition. Besides performances by the choirs, the programme was sustained by Miss Grant, Mrs. Rintoul, Mrs. M. MacKenzie, Miss Matheson, Mrs. and Miss MacLean, Miss MacKenzie, Messrs. James MacKenzie, Roderick MacLeod, D. MacLeod, Sutherland, Rintoul, and Kenneth MacDonald, jun., all of whom acquitted themselves in excellent manner. A humorous Gaelic sketch caused much amusement.

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Leabhar XXXI.]

An t-Iuchar, 1936.

[Earrann 10

IOMRADH SONRUICHTÈ.

Bho chionn bliadhna gu leth chaidh Comhairle àraidh a thaghadh an ainm A' Chomuinn, a chum fathunn no sgeul ullachadh mu theagas na Gaidhlig an Sgoiltean agus an Collaisdean. Tha am fathunn sin deas, agus tha e air ùr thighinn a mach an clò, fo ughdarras is chosgais A' Chomuinn. Mar sin is cubhaidh gu'n sgrìobhamaid beagan an Gaidhlig agus am Beurla mu iomradh cho luachmhor do theagas na cànan. Tha naoi buill dheug anns a' chomhairle. Is e Morair Srathcharronn am fear-gairme. Ghabh iad dòigh mhath air fiosrachadh a thional mu'n cheist a bha iad a' cnuasach. Chuir iad clarcheist a mach leis a' phost a dh'ionnsaidh mhaighstearan sgoile agus luchd stiùraidh foghlum air feadh na Gaidhealtachd. Is ann a réir nam freagairtean a thug na mhaighstearan agus an luchd stiùraidh do na ceistean, a dheasaich a' Chomhairle an t-iomradh. Chan eil teagamh nach ann troimh an luchd dreuchd sin, aig am bheil gnothuch ri teagas na Gaidhlig is fhearr a gheibhear seoladh is eòlas air am faodar taic a leigeil.

* * *

Anns a' cheud dol a mach tha am fathunn a' tairgse buidheachais do gach aon a thug cuideachadh do'n Chomhairle. Tha àireamh mhór de mhaighstearan sgoile, agus cuid mhath de'n luchd stiùraidh anabarrach dùrachdach anns an aobhar so. Tha an oidheirp ro phriseil ann a bhi a' nochdadh eud air taobh na cànan. Is ann le bhi a' faotainn aithne air staid na cainnt, a bheireadh idir ceum air aghart. Eadhon ged fhiodh cùisean nas miosa na tha iad, chan 'eil aobhar airson call misnich. B' fhearr leam

gu'n robh a' Chomhairle so comhla rium bho chionn sia seachdainean air ais. Thug mi turus do shia de ard-sgoiltean na Gaidhealtachd, mar fhear-sgrùdaidh le ughdarras bho'n Department, a' ceasnachadh na h-òigridh an Gaidhlig, a tha a' sìreadh Teisteanas na Fàgail. Is ann sin a chitheadh a' Chomhairle air an son féin agus chan ann bho aithris neach eile, cho deas agus a tha Gaidhlig na h-òigridh sin, agus cho fìor airidh air moladh agus a tha an teagas a tha iad a' faotainn. Their mi sin a chum misneach a chumail, agus a chum ceartas a sheasamh ris na sgoiltean a tha a' teagas Gaidhlig feadh shia sreathan, sia bliadhna air an ceann, bho am bheil an òigridh a' buileachadh tuilleadh oilein is grinneis imntinn na gheibheadh iad bho Fhraingis no Gearmailtich anns an ùine cheudna.

* * *

Chan 'eil faisg gu leòr de dh'ùine 'g a thoirt do'n chuspair anns na sgoiltean iosal. Chan e coire sgioba an teagaisg a tha an sin, ach coire ard luchd riaghlaidh is stiùraidh an fhoghlum. Tha a' Chomhairle gu dian de'n bheachd, gu feumar cathachadh gu treun airson tuilleadh ùine do'n chànan air Clar-ùine na sgoile. Gu h-àraidh far nach eil ach aon oide, agus àireamh mhór de shreathan is de chuspairean a thuilleadh air Gaidhlig, ciamar idir is urrainnear Gaidhlig a theagasg. Tha cath cruaidh ri chur fathast mu'n chùis. Feumaidh sinn strì gu bràth agus am faigh ar cànan àite cho pailt is cho inbheach air a' Chlar-ùine ri cuspair sam bith eile. Agus tha sgrùdadh glic bho am gu am gle iomchuidh. Ged a tha cuid de na fir sgrùdaidh foghainteach is bàigheil air taobh na cainnt gidheadh tha cuid eile dhiu aig nach eil Gaidhlig idir; agus is e

sin a' bhochdainn thrugh. Nach bu ghasda nam biodh luchd deuchainn nan sgaoiltean anns a' Gaidhealtachd comasach air a' chlann a cheasnachadh an cainnt na duthcha eadhon mar tha luchd sgrùdaidh an ard-riaghlaidh an Eirinn agus anns a' Chumrigh.

* * *

Tha a' Chomhairle a' gabhail beachd gu mìnèadach air nithean a bhuineas mar sin do theagasg na cànan. Thug iad aire do leabhraichean leughaidh. Tha cuid de na maighstearan a' gearan nach eil na leabhraichean aig A' Chomunn cothroman idir a thaobh òrduigh—'s e sin gu bheil rosg anns an cheud leabhair cho duilich ach beag ri rosg an treas leabhair. Feumar a leithid sin a cheartachadh ma tha so fìor. A rithist cia mar gheibhear an pailteas de luchd teagaisg Gaidhlig? Cha bhi eaghlach nach faighear sin mas e is gu'n dean sinn suas ar n-intinn gu feum ar cànan ceartas fhaotainn am muigh 's a mach. Ach mur dean sinne sin—mur dean sinn cathachadh, ciod am feum a bhi a' bruidheann. As eugmhais stri is deimhinn nach faigh a' chainnt a h-àite fèin bho choigrich a tha caoin shuarach mu a deidhinn. Agus cha mhò na sin a thairgeas òigrìdh iad fein mar luchd teagaisg air cànan mu bheil a' mhòr chuid meadh-bhlàth.

* * *

Dh'ainmich a' Chomhairle àireamh de rùintean a bu chòir do'n Chomunn is do Ghaidheil a chumail anns an amhar, agus a sparradh air an ard-riaghladh. Buinidh na rùintean sin do'n chlar-ùine mar thug sinn a cheana faineir; do leabhraichean; do luchd teagaisg; do'n chànan mar chuspair foghlum; do luchd sgrùdaidh; do dhòigh-theagasg; agus do Sgoiltean Samhraidh. Thug iad faineir mar an ceudna nithean a thaobh leas na cànan an ard-sgoiltean, an collaisdean is an oil-thighean. Tha iad a' cur air shùilean gun bu chòir do'n Department leabharan fhoillseachadh mu'n Ghaidhlig eadhon mar thatar a' deanamh mu chainntean eile. Agus a thuilleadh air sin gu'n iarrae air a' Bhuidhinn cheudna gabhail ri sgioba de luchd tagraidh a chum cùisean a tha air aithreit a cheartachadh. Tha a' Chomhairle ri mairsinn am bith gus na rùintean sin a dhaigneachadh an intinn an t-sluaigh agus am breitheachadh luchd stiuraidh an Fhoghlum Albannaich an Dun Eideann.

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GÆLIC.

HIGHER GRADE—(SECOND PAPER).

Tuesday, 31st March—1.0 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

*This paper must not be seen by any candidate.
To be read out by the Teacher at 1.0 p.m. in the presence of the Supervising Officer.
To be written by the candidates on the separate sheets provided, which must be collected before the Second Gaelic Paper is distributed.*

DIRECTIONS FOR TEACHER.

1. Inform the candidates that they may not ask for the repetition of any word or phrase.
2. Read the passage aloud distinctly and deliberately, but not slowly, the object being to bring out the meaning of the whole as clearly as possible.
3. Then dictate the passage slowly, saying each group of words (as indicated by vertical lines) twice, and pronouncing every word very distinctly. The punctuation should be indicated.
4. After an interval of five minutes read the text over again in the same manner as on the first occasion, but do not on any account repeat separate words at the request of individual candidates.

DICTATION.

Chan ann a mhàin | a chum feuman a riarachadh | tha an duine a' bùrach sìos | gu mionach na talmhainn, | ach mar an ceudna | a shìreadh solus | air an dorchadas sin | a tha ag cuairteachadh | toiseach a eachdraidh fhéin. | Chan 'eil eachdraidh sgrìobhta | a' toirt dà ach pronnagan beaga | de 'n chuid mu dheireadh | de sgeul iongantach a thuruis air thalamh. | Tha an eachdraidh so, | dhoibh-san as urrainn a leughadh, | air a cur fa'n comhair | an uamhan na talmhainn, | am bruchan aibhnichean, | an grunn lochan, am blàran mòna agus am mèinean guail, | agus tha i a' nochdadh | gun tàinig iomadh caochladh | air an t-saoghal | bho'n chaidh a chumadh air tùs. |

Tha iomadh seòrsa stuth | a' dèanamh suas | sgròth uachdrach na talmhainn, | ach tha roinn mhòr dhith dèanta de luibhean | a chnàmh agus a thionail | gu doimhne mhóir | troimh bhliadhnaichean gun àireimh, | agus is ann mar so | a chruthaicheadh an gual agus a' mhòine.

Daibhidh Urchadan. (20)

GAELIC.

HIGHER GRADE—(SECOND PAPER)

Tuesday, 31st March—1.45 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.

The value attached to each question is shown in brackets after the question.

N.B.—Begin the answer (or fair copy of an answer) to each question on a fresh page. Write legibly and neatly, and leave a space of half an inch between the lines. Marks may be deducted for bad or crowded writing and for bad spelling.

SECTION I.

All the questions in this Section should be attempted.

1. Write an essay in Gaelic, of not more than two pages in length, on any one of the following subjects:—

- (a) “Ged a gheibhinn-se mo thagha,
B’e mo rogha de’n Eòrpa
Aite tuinidh an cois na tuinne
An Eilean grunn na h-Oige.”
- (b) The contribution that aviation and the wireless are making to Highland life.
- (c) The harvest of the sea in the Highlands and Islands.
- (d) Latha anns a’ bheinn. (30)

2. Translate into Gaelic:—

Down in the glens, rain, sleet and soft snow had fallen continuously for many days, carried on a raw north-easter. The glass steadily crept backwards. Then, without warning, the air cleared one evening, and next morning broke with the ground in the grip of frost, the air clear and still, and all the high hills free of mist almost to their summits. Even the lower hills carried a thick covering of fresh snow, and their slopes were of an unbroken white, except where moving herds of deer showed up as black specks against the surrounding expanse of whiteness. In the big glen the larches were still golden, and some of the birches retained their brilliant autumn colouring. The river here was faintly peat-coloured, and no breath of wind disturbed the calm of the deep placid pools.

Seton Gordon. (*Wanderings of a Naturalist.*) (25)

3. Translate into Gaelic:—

- (a) Gaelic should be taught in the schools of the Highlands, but English should not be neglected.
- (b) The boy whose leg was broken by the motor car is in hospital.

- (c) The discoveries of the present day should add to our reverence for the Creator of the world. (6)

SECTION II.

Two questions should be attempted from this Section. The answers may be either in Gaelic or in English, except when otherwise indicated.

4. At what periods did Gaelic borrow from Latin and Norse? Give examples. (7)
5. Give a short account of the main home industries of the Highlands or Islands. (7)
6. Locate and give in each case the English equivalent of the following:—Bun Ildh, Cill Chuimein, Dùn Chailleann, Baile Bhóid, A’ Mhaoil, Obar Bhrothaig, Arcaibh. (7)
7. Give a short account of one of the following:—Eoghan Mac Lachlainn, Iain Mac Codruim, Màirínighean Alasdair Ruaidh. (7)

BOOK REVIEW.

An *Seanachaidh*: Sgeulachdan Gaidhlig, air a dheasachadh le Lachlann Macfionnghuin, A.M. 163 pp. Prìs, 2/6. An Comunn Gaidhealach.

This welcome collection from *Campbell's West Highland Tales* is issued as the Fifth Reader of An Comunn's series of Gaelic School Text-books. It is intended to fill the gap between Reader IV, which has been for some time in use, and Professor Watson's standard work, *Rosgy*, a collection of classical Gaelic prose. I am of opinion that this new volume will fill the gap most admirably. The fourteen old tales which have been selected are divided into 318 paragraphs averaging about twelve or fifteen lines each. The arrangement bears the mark of an experienced teacher who realises the advantage to be derived by pupils from precision and ready reference. There is a commendable space between the paragraphs; there are most helpful notes, and a good vocabulary extending to more than twenty pages. I note that the vocabulary has two excellent features—the head words are printed in heavy type, which readily photographs itself on the pupil's eye, and another feature, quite unique is this—that every head word is immediately followed by the number of the paragraph in which it occurs.

The printing strikes me as being a triumph of workmanship; the paper is very strong—altogether an acceptable text-book, which should find a ready and general vogue.

I venture the opinion that the effect of their English education can be traced in all writers of Gaelic prose during the past fifty years. I can trace that effect in occasional employment of English idiom; but more especially in a mode of thinking which is sometimes entirely foreign to the Gaelic point of view. But the old tales are the native product both in idiom and mental approach. In these respects the new book is a very Gaelic one. The popular tales reflect the chaste linguistic style of the old reciters; their novelistic charm; their pictorial art in words; their creative power; and their glowing imagination. N. R.

GEARRLOCH

agus a Sgeulachdan mu Thorr na
h-Ulaidh agus Lochan nan Arm.

Leis an Ollamh ALASDAIR MAC-AN-T-SAOIR.

Ach caochladh mor cha d'rinn an t-am
Air tir no cuan no air na la
An t-aon ghlaodh faoileig os mo cheann,
'S cha mhor a bh' ann nach robh mar bha ;
Is 's e bu mho chuir iongnadh orm
Taobh thall an alltain air an raon
Bha clachan beag 's an lagan ghorm
Is sluagh a' gluasad air a mhaol.

Bha sealgairean a' falbh gu frith :
Bha gillean og' ri spreidh 's a' chro,
Is dheasaich iasgairean an lin,
'S bha mnathan aosd' ann ris a' chlo ;
Gach taigh air lianaig uaine, reidh,
Le chearcan sgròbach air a lòn ;
'Na thaic a shaihbhean 's bathaich spreidh,
'S a' claonadh suas dheth ceo na mòn'.
'S an doire thall bha ceilear binn,
Is thainig guthan ciuin do m' chluais
Nam banarach is iad a' seinn
Mar chaol cheol sith' a' mhonaidh shuas.
Bha saibhreas agus maoin gu leoir
Is aoigh is gradh an taigh gach fir :
Bha fois is sith 's an tir is treoir,
'S a' ehlann a' cluich le iolaich mhir.

Ach—ann am priobadh beag na sul'
Mar 's tric a thuiteas dàn air sluagh,
Gun tainig crìoch 's chaidh sìod air chul,
'S troimh amhghar thainig nithean nuadh'.
Mo shuil air monadh ard nan torr,
An sud o thuath bha daoine teachd ;
Is as gach clachan thainig corr,
Is mar a dhluthaich dh'fhas am feachd.
'Nan luath's bha iad ri glaothaich aird,
'Nan leum thar ghàradh agus chlais,
Mu longan Lochlainneach air sàl
Is iad air tir a' teannadh faisg.

Mar dh'fhuaicheadas na siantan soills'
Na greine thuit air Achdacharn
An aite subhachais an t-oillt,
'S an sluagh a' tional as gach cearn.
Is thilg na mnathan uath' an clò :
Is threig na h-iasgairean an lin :
Is dh'fhag na buachaille an crò :
Is thill an sealgair as an fhrith :
Is shiubhail banarach a' chruidh :
Is thainig paisdean as gach crìch :
Is thainig tosd air ceol is cluich—
B' i sud an t-samhchair nach bu shith.

Ach—cha do mhair ach gearr an tàmh,
Nuair chunnaic mi gach gille treun
'S gach duine calma, fearail, dàn,
An uidheam cath' 'gan gleusadh fhein.
Bha iomadh seorsa inneal gearr'
Is claidheamh mor an laimh gach neach,
Is tuaghan cruadh' a ghearradh beum,
Is boghan iubhair ac' mu seach,
'S bha ceannard mor 'gan cur air seol
A' siubhal sìos gu oir na tragh'd
Dh'am falach measg nam mealbhan feoir,
A dh'fheitheamh 'n sin ri teachd nan nàmh.

'N sin chunnaic mi gach seanair còir,
Na mnathan 's paisdean a' tighinn cruinn,
A' fagail chlachan agus chrò,
Gach neach le ealach air a dhruim.
Ag iomain rompa an cuid cruidh,
'Nan sreathan bheathach, 's dhaoine 's nigh'n,
A' riochadh suas troimh 'n dail 'nan ruith,
A shireadh tearuinteachd 's na glinn.
Is threoirich mathraichean an clann :
Bha cuid ann a bha easlan, craidht':
Bha cobhair an laidir aig an fhann
A' dìreadh thar an aonaich aird ;
Air fiaradh suas gu gualainn chais
An torr' ud thall, gu h-ard thar chluan,
Is air a chulaibh a' dol as
A sealladh dhaoin' air raon no cuan.
A follais chaidh gach mor is crion :
Chaidh ceilear fhein nan eun a dhith ;
'S bu truum' air cluais na toirm nan sian
An t-samhchair bàis a bh' air an tir.

'S nuair bha mi 'n sìod fo gheilt 'nam aon
Gun ni air ghluasad air an fhonn,
Ghrad thog an t-alltan guth mar ghaoir,
'S na's luaithe, feargach, bhris an tonn.
Is—suil a thug mi air a' mhuir—
Cìod e bha 'n sìod a' tighinn o thuath
Ach birlinn leathann, làn 'gan cur
Le raimh, 's i teannadh orm gu luath !
Bha a h-ìomadh ràmh le buille bhrais
A' boillsgeadh le gach sath 's a' ghrein,
An fhaire gearr' m' a toiseach geal,
Is sliغه shruthanach 'na deidh ;
'Ga leantuinn te 's te eile rithid ;
An aireamh h-ochd dhiubh air an t-sàl,
Mar mhor eun-mara air a shlighe
A' teachd air astar luath le àl.
Is bha iad romham shìos air ball
Mu choinneamh Corran Dubh an Uillt,
'Nan sreath air tighinn mu'n cuairt a nall,
An t-uisge tana, lom fo 'n druim.
Is chluinnteadh caitheam shleagh air sgiath
Is farum ràmh is chas air rìng,
Is guthan borb' nan ceannard fiadh'
A' cur an ordugh feachd nan long.

Air gabhail beachd an sin gun dàil,
 Gun mhaile rithisd thog iad orr',
 'S le iolaich bhuirb is sadadh sàil
 Gu cladach rinn iad air a mhol.
 B' i sin an iolach chuireadh geilt
 Air gealtair, nan robh gealtair ann ;
 Ach, b' ann le dùbhlán cruaidh na creig'
 A fhreagair oighshir Tir nam Beann.

Le toirm is caismeachd shin an cath,
 Is bhoillsge le lasradh lann an tràigh ;
 An t-sleagh a' slachdadh 's guin air gath,
 'S an claidbeamh sgoltadh sìos gun bhàigh.
 Is lionadh speur le sgál nan leont':
 Bha sgread a' bhàis 'gam fhagail tinn ;
 Is dhuisg mac-tall mar ni beo :
 Le corruich dh'eigh gach creag 's a' bheinn.
 'N sin thainig oiteag fhuar o 'n iar,
 Is chlisg mo chrìdhe, 's gris troimh m' fheoil,
 Is air an iarmailt dh'èirich ciar
 Mor sgothan gruamach, dùbh' de neoil.
 Bha daoine sint' air gaineimh dheirg
 'S i dait' gu pailt le fuil nan treun ;
 Is chrith an talamh mar le feirg ;
 Is shìl na neoil mar shìleadh dheur.

Bu ghearr an cath : ro lionmhor, garg
 Na naimhdean borba, treun', gun iochd ;
 'S cha b' fhada gus nach robh air blàr
 Ach buidheann dhiubh 's an corr a' teachd.
 Is theann iad air a chlachan fhàs,
 Mar shruth 'nan leum an measg nam buail :
 Ach, ann cha d'fhuaradh leo an sàth
 De'n chreic a mhianaich iad 'nan uail.

Is, rompa thar an uilt 's an raoin,
 A' dìreadh dluth dhomh air mo chnoc,
 Ghrad ghabh iad seachad ri mo thaobh,
 Gun suil no aire thabhairt dhomh.
 Bha greann a' chatha air an craos :
 Bha 'n lasradh sul' mar theine spor ;
 Is ged a dh'eigh mi chlaoidh'dh mo ghlaodh,
 'S cha d'thainig guth a ruigeadh orr'.
 Bha mise mar nach robh mi ann :
 Chan fhac' 's cha chual' iad mise riamh,
 Is seathan orra suas do'n ghleann
 Le cabhaig sgariteil 's iomairt fhiadh.

An sin, a rithisd, thug mi suil
 Air raonntan 's dachaidhean nan sàr—
 Mo thruaigh—chan fhaict' air lom no cuil
 Ach sgrios is masladh 's tosd a bhàis.
 Le mulad 's uambann chunnaic mis'
 An clachan beag dol suas 'na cheo,
 Gun ni ach eibhlean dearg' air lic,
 An aite thaigh is bataich bhò.
 Is chaidh mo smuain a mach le iochd
 Do'n mhuinntir bhochd 's a' ghleann ud shuas

'S le truas air oigridh agus aosd'
 A chaill cho tur an cuid 's a' chruas.
 'S am priobadh sul' 's mo smuaintean orr'
 Gun d'fhuair mi 'n sìod mi fhein gu h-ard
 Air binnean mill, taobh thall an torr',
 A' coimhead sìos orr' anns an dail.
 An sìod air cul an torrain bhig
 Bha cuid dhiubh sìubhal suas gu trom
 Is cuid a' cladhach, taobh na lic'
 A' cur an ionmhasan fo thom ;
 Oir bha so trom is iadsan fann,
 'S am monadh thall cho ard 's cho cas :
 'N sin ghabh iad rompa suas an gleann,
 'S a mach troimh 'n bhealach thar iad as.
 Is thàlaidh iad an namhaid borb
 Troimh choireachan is ghleann garbh'
 'Gan càradh troimh na coiltean gorm'
 Gu ruig taobh Lochan beag nan Àrm ;
 'S an sin 'na mheadhon thilig iad uath'
 Na h-airm bu truum' a bha 'nan èis,
 Is theann iad suas ri dìreadh bruach
 Nam meallan casa, grad 'nan ceum.
 Is chunnaic mi iad thar nam meall
 Dol fad' air falbh 's a' crìonadh as :
 Bha 'n namhaid measg nan coir' air chail :
 Chan fhaicteadh creubh 's cha chluinnteadh cas.

Is shiubhail, mar shanas thaibhs' air gaoith,
 Mac-talla fann troimh thod na m frith ;
 Is sgaoil ciar cheo, mar sgleo an aoig,
 Air aird' nam beann is isle glinn ;

'S air traoghadh dha bha mise rithisd
 Leam fhein air cnoc an uilt mar bha,
 'S mar dh'fhag mi fhuair mi 'n sìod gach ni
 Measg tlath's is cubhraidheachd nam blàth.

Is, dh'fhaodadh, uaireigin, gum faigh
 Mi naidheachd ur o 'n allt 'nam shuain,
 Mar thill ar sinnsear is mar chaidh
 Mu dheireadh ruaig air Clann a' Chuain.

Copies of "Voices from the Hills" can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

BRANCH CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

A new supply of Branch Constitution and Rules has been prepared in five different colours, so as to have them available for successive years. These are sold at 3/6 per 100, postage extra, and they may be had on application to the General Secretary.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

By the EDITOR.

At the time of the Oban Mod of 1934, it was suggested that a Special Committee under the auspices of An Comunn should be appointed to investigate and report on the teaching of Gaelic in Schools and Colleges. A Committee of nineteen was duly formed with Lord Strathcarron as Convener. The Committee have completed their work. That portion of the Report which includes the Committee's Recommendations was printed in the February issue of this magazine.

The test of a skilful physician is the correct diagnosis of disease. It is said to be one of the most difficult things in medical science to put the finger on the spot. When the physician has located the seat of trouble, then the good surgeon goes to work, if so be that the surgeon's aid is called for. In all these things their lies a parable. The Special Committee is our careful physician who has taken pains to discover the symptoms, and to put in clear simple language the things that at this moment are sources of weakness in the teaching of the Gaelic language. To drop the medical analogy, the Committee have collected the necessary information, at first hand, from the official and professional people, the teachers and the directors of education, who are immediately concerned with the imparting of Gaelic instruction in schools and colleges.

After perusing the Report with close attention, one is forced to the conclusion, that the most disastrous fact in the whole Report is the very fact which the Committee themselves have placed in the forefront of their findings and that is the absolutely inadequate amount of time devoted to Gaelic in the elementary schools. "Many schools make a profession of only half-an-hour a week." What is the cause for this primary omission? Why is the language shoved aside in this way? The answer must surely be that those who are responsible for the allocation of its proportion of time to each subject have not yet taken Gaelic seriously. This certainly is the first thing to be done—to get the responsible parties to realise that Gaelic shall be taken seriously, and that it shall not continue to be, according to the forceful though familiar phrase, the Cinderella of all school subjects. In subsequent sections of the Report the Committee have urged with eloquence the reasons why Gaelic, with its native interest, and educational values should by this time have received a little more consideration at the hands of our educational

dictators than it has done. The time is long due; and it remains for us to see that this reform becomes a reality.

Then comes the matter of Inspection. "Many declare that reports on Gaelic are made, while others state that no report is made." One answer to the questionnaire says: "Gaelic is not regularly inspected; the visiting Inspector is often ignorant of the language." Another says: "It is not regularly examined," while a third says: "There is a regular examination by the inspector of Religious Knowledge, never by H.M.I." Now here again emerges the attitude of the educational governors to Gaelic. If Gaelic is worth the grants of public money that are being given in its behalf so far, it is surely worth the while of the Government to ascertain through their official inspectorate that the public money is spent to the best advantage. This is not sentiment, it is ordinary common sense. It will be found that Government officials are generally very watchful as to the standard attained in almost all other subjects included in the school curriculum. There are some inspectors and directors of education in the Highlands who are doing all that is humanly possible. But these are the exception. The system of inspection in this subject needs great improvement. The desirable thing is that Government Inspectors of Schools, in the northern area, should be able to examine in Gaelic.

The qualification and supply of teachers is the next topic touched upon. The Director of Education for Argyll says: "The supply of teachers qualified in Gaelic is becoming increasingly difficult." There is a similar difficulty in the county of Sutherland. There is an adequate supply in Ross and Inverness counties. It may be said at once that as soon as the subject is put on a satisfactory basis as a school subject there will be no lack of teachers. At this moment there is a great crowd of teachers with a qualification in Gaelic who are working in Schools where Gaelic is not required. And further, there is at this moment far too many young teachers with excellent qualifications in Gaelic, who are, unfortunately, among the unemployed. Let other conditions be rectified, and the question of teachers will very soon adjust itself. At this moment there is a splendid organisation for creating good teachers—Secondary Schools putting brilliant young people, by dozens, through the Higher Leaving in Gaelic—Training Colleges to provide them with professional equipment; and Universities to furnish them

with knowledge of the subject on the best academic standard.

As regards text books for schools, most schools assert that the text books in use are not suitable. The following are some of the replies sent in to queries: "Completely unsuitable as regards grading;" "A graded series of general readers is urgently required;" "Blackie's Book I. is more difficult than Book III.;" "Compared with books in other languages Gaelic books leave much to be desired." A cheap dictionary seems to be a felt want in most schools. Such a dictionary is on the point of being issued. The dearth of books has been a difficulty, but it is being generally overcome.

Then, there is an interesting paragraph on the question of teaching Gaelic to pupils who are not native speakers. In some counties provision is made for teaching Gaelic to children who are not native speakers when the parents desire that they should receive instruction in Gaelic. But owing to the difficulty of the present standard in the Leaving Certificate, such pupils find it practically impossible to make use of Gaelic as a subject in their Group Certificate. The observation from the Royal Academy, Inverness, on this question is: "The present standard of Gaelic is so high that non-Gaelic pupils cannot in justice be encouraged to take the subject." Kingussie says: "Non-Gaelic speakers are not encouraged to take the language as the standard is too high." Bowmore (Islay) says: "The scheme is too high for children commencing Gaelic as a new language;" and Oban High School points out that "the examination for learners is uniform with that for native speakers." Now it is clear that the position is very discouraging to learners of the language. A few weeks ago I saw the whole difficulty illustrated while doing oral work for Leaving Certificate in the Secondary Schools of Inverness-shire and Ross-shire. The Committee might well make the following special recommendation to the Department: "that the present searching examination for the Leaving Certificate be retained for native speakers; but that another examination not quite so difficult, be instituted for the Leaving Certificate, for such candidates as have started Gaelic in school as a school subject." Pupils who begin Latin or French in school, can usually pass the Leaving Certificate in due course. Not so Gaelic: which makes it evident that the standard is too high for learners.

After noting other important facts bearing on the question, the Committee proceed to make Recommendations under eighteen heads. These refer to many of the points considered in

the general finding, such as, the amount of time given to the subject in elementary schools; text books, and the desirable capacity in teachers to do a good deal without books, such as practise in suitable poems, songs, rhymes, riddles, native games, etc. There are remarks upon the stages at which pupils should practise reading; as well as on the question of teaching the language to non-Gaelic children. One teacher says: "I am convinced that where English is methodically taught the young speak English with more correctness and fluency than they do where its study is neglected."

It is suggested that the inspection of Gaelic should be more regular than at present, and, that this be kept in view by the Department in the allocation to districts of the members of the Inspectorate.

The Committee suggest that Education Committees, in areas where the supply of Gaelic teachers is inadequate, should go outwith their own Districts for teachers of Gaelic as they do for teachers of other subjects. They stress the value of bi-lingualism; and they consider that experiments in the direct method should be conducted in Highland districts where children have become anglicised. To gain familiarity with the direct method in Gaelic, a deputation of teachers should be sent to Ireland to study their method of teaching a second language.

There are suggestions, that Education Committees in Highland counties, Training Colleges, and the Education Department should co-operate in setting up and supporting a Gaelic Summer School for teachers already in service.

There are suggestions that in Training Colleges the Gaelic class should provide practice with Gaelic as the medium of instruction in History, Geography, and Nature Study.

A knowledge of Gaelic should be required of officers in the public service in Gaelic-speaking areas.

The Education Department should be asked to receive a deputation with regard to those matters in which action by the Department seems to be called for.

The Recommendations of the Committee are clearly set forth. The Committee continues in being to take such steps as may be necessary, and practicable, to carry out the Recommendations of the Report.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC.

The School will meet this year at Port Ellen, Islay, from 14th July to 7th August.

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

CEANN-FEACHD DICHIOLLACH.

Is iongantach na ghabhas deanamh le Ceann-Feachd aig am bheil a chridhe an obair Comunn na h-Oigridh, a dh'aindeoin iomadh ana-cothruim. Thug mi sgrìob an là roimhe gu Leac-meilm an Sìorrachd Ròs. Chuireadh am Feachd so air bonn le Domhnall còir am bliadhna so fhein, agus is i as Ceann-Feachd, a' Bhan-sgoilear Nic Amhluidh. Bha sinn ann, mi fhein's Domhnall, gu bhì a lathair aig a' chuirme-cnuic eadar Feachdan Leac-meilm agus an Clachan an déidh meadhoin-latha. Ach anns a' mhadauin fhuair sinn cuirm ris nach robh suil agam-sa co-dhiu. B'e sin dealbhan-cluich Gaidhlig an sgoil Leac-meilm, agus dhiubh sin 's e a b'fhearr a chòrd rium "Currag Bheag Dhearg," no Little Red Ridinghood 'na riochd Ghaidhealaich. 'S iomadh uair a leugh mi an naigheachd sin an laithean m' òige, ach cha robh fhios agam gun robh ise cho laghach, tapaidh, agus idir a' bheist Madadh-alluidh sin cho oilteil, greannach. Chluich sianar Chlann an drama bheag sin air dòigh a bha cho nadurrach agus a bha i cho coimhlionta. An sin, chaidh iad an greim an Oran-luadhaidh agus chan fhacas na b'fhearr aig mòd no aig céilidh. Rinn iad cluich eile an sin, cha chumhine leam an t-ainm air an àm. Bhruidhinn a' Chlann cho pongail, soilleir agus nach deachaidh aon fhacal thar mo chluasan. Ach 's e bu mhòd chuir an t-ìoghnadh orm, nach robh Gaidhlig aig an luchd-cluich idir dà bhliadhna air ais; agus so gaibh Ban-sgoilear a tha teagasg co-dhiu leth-dusan "standards" leatha fhein, agus a' ruith Comunn nam Ban agus iomadh nì eile 'san àite. Rinn so mo chridhe a thogail mar nach do rinn nì eile o chionn fada. Chan eagal do Fheachd Leac-meilm an lamhan Nic Amhluidh.

Bha cuirme-cnuic air leth taitneach 'san Lagadh taobh thall Locha-Bhraoin, air tràigh chomhnaird, rèidh, 's a' ghrian a' dearsadh oirn fad na h-ùine. Fhuair sinn iomian is ball-coise, leum àrd is leum fada, cho math ri h-uile seòrsa reis a chualas iomradh air, agus mòran nach cualas. 'S e an tea fhein a thug barr air gach nì: a bharr air pitheanan mairt-fheoil fhuair gach aon pòca mór de dh'aran milis, agus mo làmh-sa dhuit, cha robh fios agam roimhe gun robh uiread rùm an goile balaich dà bhliadhna deug!

Tha e coltach gun do chumadh a' chuid is mo de Chruinneachaidhean Comunn na h-Oigridh air an là sin fhein, an treas là deug de'n Ogmhios, agus ma chumadh, fhuair iad là ceutach a

thaobh aimsir Dh'fheith mi cho fad's a b'urrainn domh feuch an tigeadh cunntas chugam bho na Feachdan eile airson na litreach so, ach cha tàinig fhastast.

Tha aon nì a' tachairt aig cuid de na cuirmean-cnuic so as eudair dhomb iomradh air. Is abhaist le Ceann-Feachd an sud is an so leigeil le clann nan sgoilean a bhì lathair, nach eil 'nam buill de Chomunn na h-Oigridh. Tha fhios gur h-e caomhneas a mhàin a tha toirt orra sin a dheanamh, agus tha ar co-mhòthachadh aca. Ach tha so a' dol an aghaidh ceud-faithean ar Comunn. Tha Comunn na h-Oigridh airson na feadhach aig am bheil Gaidhlig—cha diùltar aon dhiubh sin mar Bhall. Ma tha clann eile airson àite fhaotainn 's a' Chomunn, gun ionnsuich iad Gaidhlig; an sin faodaidh iad co-phairteachadh anns gach obair is sugradh a bhùineas do Chomunn na h-Oigridh. Chan 'eil e ceart gun toirear airgid a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich seachad airson cloinne nach eil de smuais aca, no gaol do an Cànan, a bheir orra a h-ionnsuchadh.

'Nuair a bhios na sgoilean dùinte tha e car duilich do na Ceannaird agus na Bana-Cheannaird "An Gaidheal" fhaotainn aig toiseach a' mhios, a chionn e bhì air a sheòladh a dh' ionnsuidh nan Ceann-Feachd agus iad, mar is bitheanta, air falbh mu'n àm sin. Ma bheir na Cinn-Feachd an aire, mu'm fàg iad am baile, gum bhì "An Gaidheal" air a lùbhradh do na Ceannaird agus na Bana-Cheannaird, cuiridh iad comain mhór oirn.

Air a' cheann thall, dh'iarr 26 Feachdan na paip-aran-ceasnachaidh air son Làn-Ghaidheal agus Sàr-Ghaidheal Buaidh is piseach leo-san. A réir na h-inbhe a tha teagasg na Gaidhlig a' mealtainn anns na bun-sgoilean an diugh, chan 'eil aobhar gearain anns an àireimh so. Ach is aithne dhomh-sa iomadh Feachd eile a dh'fhaodadh cuid a ghabhail anns an deuchainn so nan togradh iad, agus le sin a dheanamh, an dilseachd fhòillsachadh a thaobh rùintean Comunn na h-Oigridh. Chan 'eil math do neach suidhe aig bun craoibhe 'nuair a dh'fhaodas e bhì air a mullach.

Tha Comunn na h-Oigridh a nis air dà bhliadhna chur as a dheidh; ràinig sinn ceann ar dara seisein. Ciamar a chaidh leinn 's an ùine sin?

CO-FHARPUIS COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH AIG NA MODAN DUTECHAIL.

Ghabhadh tlachd mhór anns a' cho-stri so, anns am feum na Buill cunntas a thoirt an Gaidhlig fhileanta air cuspair sam bith a thogras iad, agus ceistean a' Bhreitheimh a fhreagairt

cuideachd. Aig Mòd an Obain rinn sgioba 'san Ard-sgoil a bha 'nam Buill de Fheachdan Tiriodh is Tobarmhoire euchd mhór anns a' cho-stri so, gu h-àraidh Alasdair MacArtair, a bha 'na Cheannard an Tobarmhoire, agus Iseabail Nic Fhionghuin a bha'n Cornaigmor. Ach is ann a' Mòd Ile a thàinig an sgeul as fearr uile—bha 34 co-fharpaiseach anns gach comhlan, Balaich agus Caileagan. 'S ann aig na Breitheamhan a bha'n obair! Ach bha iad ro-thoilichte leis an obair a rinn Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Fhuair sin forcadh coise an iomadh cearn de'n Ghaidhealtachd, an dà chuid anns na h-eileanan agus air tìr mór. Tha trì fichead Feachd's a dhà dheug againn, cuid dhiubh beo da-rìreadh, cuid eile, 's eudair aideachadh, ag imeachd le meanbh cheummann. Ach cho fad's a chi mise, tha iad uile falbh air an rathad cheart. Rathad creagach, cas a th'ann: cha léir dhuinn a Cheann-uidhe, tha e falaichte an ceo air mullach nam beann. Saidhearan-tochlaidh a th'annainn uile, agus a bhios gu ceann iomadh bliadhna fhathast: cha bhui e dhuinn mar sin a bhi feòraich "Cìod e cho fada?" Is aithne dhuinn ar dleasdanas—rathad réidh fhàgail dhàibh-san a thig 'nàr déidh. Buidheachas Clann an Fhraoich do na Cinn-Feachd a ghabh tromlach na h-oibre air an guailnean.

SEORAS GALLDA.

UIDHIST A TUATH.

B'ann an Cairninnis a chumadh cuirm-chnuic Comunn na h-Oigridh air an t-samhradh so. B'è an dara cruinneachadh a rinneadh leis a mheur ùr so de'n Chomunn. Air Di-Sathuirne, an treas la deug de'n Og-mhios, thainig buidheann de chloinn as a' Bhaile-shear, gu chùram an luchd-teagaisg, gu latha aigeannach, toilintinneach a chaitheamh comhla ri Comunn sgoile Chairinnis.

Bha an latha tioram socair, agus b'fhada a chluinntea fuaim nam pioban 'n uair a chaidh a cheud sgioba air tìr am Bagh a' Ghreusaiche, dluth air Teampull na Trianaid, agus làmh ris a cheart làrach air an do chuireadh Blàr Chairinnis (1601), eadar Domhnullaich Uidhist agus Clann Mhicleoid na h-Earradh. Bha còrr agus leth-cheud de chloinn an làthair maille ri grunnan gasda de phàrantan agus de chairdean. Thòisich farpuis an latha le iomain air raon a bha air a chur air doigh gu h-òrdail airson na deuchainn so. Leig an dà sgioba còig so fhàicinn nach b'ann gu aobhar a bha na òmair aca air teannadh ri cnàmh, oir is math a b' aithne dhoibh an cluich. Fhuair sgioba

a' Bhaile-shear a' chuid a b'fhearr de'n chleas so, ach cha do leig Cairninnis as iad, agus an d'fhuair iad fhéin a bhuaidh le fìor spàirn ann an draghadh-na-saill. (Tug-of-war). Bha mòran de chleasan eile air a chlàr, agus bha adhartas soilleir ri fhàicinn anns gach nì, a tha leigeil ris am feum a nì na farpaisean so do'n chloinn, mà chumr a dol iad gu bliadhnaill. Bha diota mhór air a h-ullachadh gu pailt-lamhach, le nigheanan Comunn Chairinnis, fo stiùireadh na Mgn. uasail Nic Dhomhnuill, ard bhan-sgoileir, sgoil Chairinnis, agus fhuair gach aon—beag 'us mór—an sàth. Bha gu leoir de luchd cuideachaidh am measg nan gillean mar an ceudna, ann a bhi cur nan cleasan Gaidhealach air ghleus.

Chaidh na duaisean a thoirt seachad leis a' bhean-uasail Nic Gilleathain, an Tigh an Aiseig, Cairinnis.

Thug Mgr. Mac Gilleathain, Baile-sear, taing do Chomunn òigridh Chairinnis airson gach coibheas agus toileachadh a thug iad do'n chloinn a thainig thar na mara. Ma bha iad a fàs sgith, b' ann leis cho fìor mhath is a ghabh iad cothrom air an latha a bhuilceadh. Bha gach aon lan-thoilichte le'n cuairt.

CLUICHEAN GAIDHEALACH NA DREOLLAINNE, TOBAR-MHOIRE,

Diardaoin, an 23s: dhe 'n Iuchar, 1936.

Reul Pìobairean na h-Alba, Buinn-shuaicheantais, Pìosan agus duaisean eile ri 'bhith air an cosnadh.

(Dùinear an clàr-eagair air a' 14mh là de 'n Iuchar. Sgrìobhaibh airson mion-dearbhadh gus an Rùnair, "Bad-daraich," Tobar-Mhoire.)

Sealladh o 'n fhàiche cho bòidheach 's a tha 'n Earraghaidheal.

"Chaidh na diobaraibh an àbhaist, Cluich air pìob nam feadan àrda. Breacan guail is boinneid dhùbh-ghorm, Osan, gartan, 's féile cuachach, Tilgeadh chlach, an t-òrd, 's an cabar, Ruith, a' leum, a' sealg nan càrn, Dannsaibh tullaichean gu làghar, Ruidhe ceathrar air an ùrlar. Gille-Calum agus seann-triubhas, 'S bithidh sinn mar bha iad."

I. MacColla.

Fàgaibh an t-Oban Lathurnach aig 9 uairean 's a' mhaduinn: ruigidh sibh e a rithidh aig 8 uairean 's an fheasgar.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Local Committee at Inverness are sparing no effort in their endeavour to make the 1936 Mod a success. Already, many functions have been held to augment the funds, and these have all proved successful. Their biggest effort, a Feill, will be held in the Rose Street Drill Hall, Inverness, on 4th and 5th September. The Conveners are the Hon. Mrs. Smyth, Ness Castle, and Lady MacEwen, Lethington, Inverness. The opening ceremony on the first day will be performed by the Marchioness of Londonderry, and on the second day by the Countess of Cromartie. There are no less than ten stalls, and also attractive side shows, games, and amusements.

* * *

MOD CONCERTS.

As has been already indicated, members of An Comunn are to have first claim on tickets for these concerts, and the following are the arrangements which have been made to give effect to this decision:—

(1) Tickets shall be available for members wishing to attend the Friday evening Concerts, up to, and including 1st September. The prices of tickets are 5/-, 3/6, and 2/6, and members are restricted to a maximum of four tickets each. Allocation between the two halls will be made in accordance with the order of applications.

(2) Up to and including 15th September, seats shall be reserved in the Main Concert Hall for members of An Comunn Executive and members of the Local Committee. Each member can apply for a maximum of two seats.

The following Concerts have been arranged on the usual lines:—

Junior Concert, 22nd September, Empire Theatre. Tickets, 2/- (Reserved) and 1/-.

Rural Choir Concerts, 24th September, Empire Theatre, 6.30 and 9 p.m. Tickets, 3/6 (Reserved) and 2/6.

Grand Concerts, 26th September, Empire Theatre and Playhouse, 7.45 p.m. Tickets, 5/- (Reserved), 3/6, and 2/6.

Applications for tickets, from members only, must be made direct to the Secretary, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Remittance must be enclosed with each application.

A Holiday Course in Music Teaching and Conducting for Music Teachers and Conductors of Choirs will be held at the Royal Academy, Inverness, from 14th to 24th July. Lecturers are Mr. A. J. Irvine, L.R.A.M.; Dr. Robert MacLeod, Mr. James, Murray, F.T.S.C., and Mr. Lewis J. Owen, L.R.A.M. The Course will include lectures on the Art of teaching Class singing, Sight-singing, Aural training and conducting. The Course has been arranged specially to train conductors for Rural Choirs, and should be of immense help to teachers of singing. Mr. James Murray, Dellifour House, Kingussie, is Secretary, and he will be pleased to hear from anyone interested in the Course. The fee for the full Course is £1; Class Books extra.

* * *

In the *Stornoway Gazette* of 27th June the leading article appears in Gaelic, and is devoted to a cordial appreciation of the Lewis Mod held in the previous week, and of the valuable purpose such Mods are fitted to serve. This is a most interesting and welcome departure, and furnishes an example which other provincial newspapers might well follow.

* * *

NOTE.

The dates of the Inverness Mod are 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th September. Competitors are reminded that entries close on 25th July, at the Office in Glasgow.

AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH.

FOUNDED 1891.

All Scottish Gaels, and all persons in sympathy with the Gaelic movement, are cordially invited to become members. The objects of the Association are to encourage and promote

The teaching and use of the Gaelic Language,
The study and cultivation of Gaelic Literature,
History, Music, and Art,

The native industries of the Highlands of Scotland, and

The wearing of the Highland Dress.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP.

LIFE MEMBERS One Subscription of £3 3s.
ORDINARY MEMBERS, An Annual Subscription of 5s.

“AN GAIDHEAL.”

(FREE TO ALL MEMBERS.)

The Monthly Magazine of the Association contains records of Meetings of the Association, its Branches, and Affiliated Societies.

Post Free, 2/6 per annum (Subscriptions to be sent to the Secretary).

Treasurer, ROBERT MACFARLANE, C.A.

Secretary, NEIL SHAW.

Office - - - 131 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Bho'n a sgrìobhadh an t-ìomradh mu dheireadh chuireadh dà Mhòd duthchail an dara taobh, 's an Taobh-Tuath—Lochabar agus Cataibh a Sear.

B'e so an coigeamh Mòd a chumadh 's a Ghearasdan agus bha Co-fharpuisich cruinn á Mallaig, Mòrar, Arasaig, Gleann Garadh, Cille Chuimein, Gleann Urchadan, An Drochaid Ruadh agus Ard Ghobhar, a bharrachd air aireamh laghach às a' Ghearasdan.

Bha na britheamhan làn riarachta leis na chuala iad agus bha am Probhaiste e fhéin air ceann na Cuirm-Chiuil a chumadh 's an fheasgar.

Tha taing A' Chomuinn aig Lachlann Mac Fhionghuinn, an Rùnaire, agus a chomhairle airson na h-obrach ionmholta a tha iad a' deanamh an aobhar na Gaidhlig an Lochabar.

Bha am Fear-deilbhe an Cataibh fad seachduinn roimh'n Mhod a chumadh am Brùra air a' choigeamh latha de'n Ogmhios. Bha so iomchuidh a chionn agus nach robh ach dà sheachduinn aig Iain Mac Iomhair agus Seumas L. Mac Nèill gu bhì ag cur dà Choisir dheug 'nan uidheam airson A' Mhòid. Bha carbad an Fhìr-dheilbhe ro-fheumail aig an àm so agus o mhoch gu dubh rè na seachduinne bha e a' ruith le a charbad o bhaile gu baile leis na Fìr-theagaisg. As eugmhais a' charbaid cha bhiodh e idir comasach gach Coisir is Co-fharpuiseach a chur air ghleus ann an ùine cho goirid.

B'e so Mòd a b'fhearr a chumadh am Brùra fhathast agus bha e 'na thoileachas-intinn a bhì a' faicinn an Talla Mhòr loma-làn rè an latha, ag eisdeachd ri aithris agus ri seinn.

Aig a' Chuirm-Chiuil 's an fheasgar bha an Ridire Mac Amhlaidh 's a chathair agus labhair e an Gaidhlig is am Beurla. Bha an Talla cho làn is gun robh mòran nach d-fhuair a steach idir.

Tha Daibhidh Grannd, an Rùnaire, is a Chomhairle ri an sàr-mholadh airson gach uile oidheirp a tha iad a' deanamh, chan ann a mhàin aig àm a' Mhòid ach rè an t-Seisein, ann an aobhar na Gaidhligé.

Bha am Fear-deilbhe an lathair aig Cuirm-Chnuic de'n Oigrìdh 's a Chóigich air an 30mh la de'n Chéitein. Bha an t-side fuar agus frasán sneachda ag cur moille air cleasan an drásid is a rithist. A dh'aindeoin sin chuir an Oigrìdh seachad feasgar aighearrach le ruith, leum agus iomadh cleas eile. An deidh sin chruinnich

iad san Tigh-Sgoile far an d'fhuair iad pailteas ri itheadh 's ri òl agus chuireadh crìoch air a' Chuirm le Ceilidh ghrinn. Mu'n do dhealaich iad thug an Ceann Feachd taing chridheil do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach airson an coibheis do'n chloinn.

Air an 13mh la de'n Ogmhios bha Mgr. Marjoribanks agus am Fear-deilbhe an lathair aig Cuirm-Chnuic de Fheachdan Leac-meilm agus A' Chlachain, aig Bàgh an Lagain, air taobh Locha Bhraoin. Bha latha ciatach ann agus is ainneamh a laidheas sùil air àite cho boidheach ris an oisean bheag uaine so aig taobh Locha Bhraoin.

Bha na Cinn-Feachd agus cairdean eile a' toirt gach cuideachaidh agus tha sinn fada, fada an comain Ministear na Sgìre, An t-Urr. Donnchadh Mac Artair agus a bhean chaomh, airson an ùidh a tha iadsan a' gabhail anns a' ghluasad ùr so.

Leig na buill á Leac-meilm ris dhuinn nach robh iadsan a' deanamh dearmaid air a' chànan, le bhì ag clujd dà dhealbhadh-chuic ann an deagh Ghaidhlig.

Tha a' bhean-usal Friseal, Leac-meilm, agus a' bhan-Sgoilear Mairead Nic Amhlaidh a' deanamh obrach shonruichte am measg na cloinne agus chualas aig a' Chuirm balaich agus caileagan a' labhairt Gaidhlig choimhlintea, ged nach robh ach gann facal aca o chionn trì bliadhna air ais.

Nach eil eisimpleir an so do aitean eile a tha ag caoidh gum bheil a' Ghaidhlig air dol bàs?

Sheinn a' chuideachd Oran dealachaidh A' Chomuinn an cìradh an fheasgair agus o nach eil rathad mòr, no frith rathad thun an oisein àluinn so, thog an coithional dìreach air na bàtaichean aca, gach buidheann ag gabhail thun an cladaich fhéin. 'Nuair a sgap sinn o cheile, chluinnteadh na seann Orain Ghaidhlig ag éirigh le osag na gaioithe, a' toirt 'n ar cuimhne na seann laithean anns an robh ar sinnsirean beo.

An Airde Deas.

B' e mlos chaidh seachad mios nam Mòdan Dùthchail agus mar is gnàth fhrithheil an Rùnaire aig na Mòid a chumadh 's an Airde Deas ach a mhàin Mòd Ile. Cha robh e comasach dha an t-cìlean sin a ruigheachd an deidh Mòd an Obain.

Chumadh Mòd fìor shoirbheachail an Ceann Loch Gilb air an naodhamh 's an deicheamh la de'n Ogmhios. Bha mòran barrachd de cho-fharpaisich an làthair na bha ann bho cheann beagan bhliadhnan air ais agus thug so

misneach nach bu beag do'n Chomhairle Ionadail agus dhoibhsan a tha ag ullachadh airson a' chruinneachaidh so. Bha Còisir Inbheach ann á baile Inbhir-aora airson na ceud uaire agus tha fughar gu'm bi iad fhéin agus Còisir Cheann Loch Gilb a' dol gu Mòd Inbhirnis.

An là-arn-a-mhàireach bha Mòd Lathurna is Mhuile air a chumail am baile an Obain agus flurthair an Runaire an sin. Chuidich e le Mgr. Marjoribanks ann a bhi a' toirt breith an co-fharpaisèan na h-aithris is an leughaidh. Ged nach robh an aireamh cho-fharpaisèach cho lionmhor uile gu léir am bliadhna bha feabhas na h-obrach cho math ri dad a chualas 'san Oban bho cheann ioma latha. Bha Gaidhlig bhlasda aig an oigridh agus bha na còisirean binn, ceòlmhor.

An deidh Mòd an Obain chaidh an Rùnaire comhla ri Mgr. Marjoribanks, 'na charbad gu Inbhirnis. Choinnich e an sin ri cuid de bhuill na Comhairle Ionadail agus chuir iad air doigh mu na tallachan ciuil agus nithean eile an coinneamh a' Mhòid mhòid.

Chumadh Mòd Siorramachd Pheairt am Baile Chloichridh air a' bhliadhna so. Bha e misneachail uibhir de'n òigridh fhaicinn am mach agus ag gabhail àite an earrannan an leughaidh is an aithris. Chan 'eil an òigridh 's an t-siorramachd so a' faotainn cothrom air Gaidhlig a chluinntinn 'ga labhairt agus is ann is treun a ni iad air a seinn 'sa h-aithris. Is airidh an luchd-teagaisg air an sàr mholadh airson an dragha is an dealais ann a bhi ag ullachadh na cloinne—agus inbhich cuideachd—fa chomhar latha mòr a' Mhòid.

A réir an sgeoil a chualas bha Mòd soirbheachail an Ille air an dara la deug de'n Ògmhios. Bha earrannan na h-oigridh gu sonraichte togarrach agus bha mòran cloinne 's an làthair.

Tha taing a' Chomuinn acasan a tha ag giùlan nam Mòdan so air an aghaidh gach bliadhna. Tha iad a' deanamb seirbhis mhaith 'nan ionadan fa leth agus ag cur ri luach na cànan am measg am muinntir féin.

Chriochnaich a' Mhgn. Nic 'Ille Mhartainn an seisean an Ille agus tha Mgr. Iain MacIomhar a' saothrachadh an Ard nam Murchan.

BRANCH REPORT.

ELGIN.—A highly successful season was brought to a close on 31st March with the last of a series of Ceilidhs held in the Grand Hotel, Elgin, which have attracted increasingly crowded attendances. Miss

M. W. Simpson, President, who has been since the formation of the Branch organiser of all ceilidhs and producer of all musical programmes, has introduced upon each occasion some outstanding feature, notably examples of the music and poetry of many branches of the Celtic race, her aim being to encourage the international rather than the parochial outlook, and so help towards the raising of the artistic standard amongst Scottish Gaels. At the close of the Ceilidh, Miss Simpson intimated that she was resigning from all official position and work in connection with the Branch, the foundations of which she was happy to have been able to make so secure, and to which she wished all success. Responding to a vote of thanks by Mr. F. Mackenzie, Elgin, she expressed regret that she could not, as he suggested, reconsider her decision, and warmly thanked the artistes of the district and all who had supported the Ceilidhs.

DONATIONS TO INVERNESS NATIONAL MOD.

Previously acknowledged £334 6 5

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£380 19 9

EAST SUTHERLAND MOD.

The fourth Provincial Mod for this area was held at Brora on 5th June. Melvich was included for the first time. The entries were highly satisfactory and the high standard attained by competitors was commented on by the adjudicators. Sir Alfred N. MacAnulay presided over the closing concert, and Mrs. Gilmour, Rosehall, presented the prizes.

The adjudicators were:—Rev. Dugald Carmichael, M.A., Reay; Rev. Malcolm MacLean, M.A., Conon; John MacIver, F.E.I.S., and Donald MacPhail for Gaelic, and Lewis J. Owen, L.R.A.M., and J. L. Neil, F.E.I.S., for music.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Literature.—Translation of a Gaelic Passage into English—1, Wm. Mackenzie, S.T.S., Golspie. Oral Delivery.—Reading piece of poetry—1, Margaret A. Mackay, Melvich. Reading at sight piece of prose—Wm. Mackenzie. Reciting from memory—1, Peter MacLean, S.T.S., Golspie. Gaelic conversation—1, Peter MacLean. Repeating psalm and Lord's Prayer (children under 12)—1, Lindsay Mackay, Embo. Repeating psalm and Lord's Prayer (girls under 12)—1, Bessie Mackay.

Vocal Music.—Solo singing (girls under 11)—1, Jessie A. Grant, Embo. Boys (under 11)—1, Lindsay Mackay, Embo. Girls (over 11 and under 16)—1, Sarah Ross, Embo. Boys (over 11 and under 16)—1, Edward A. MacRae, Brora.

Duet Singing.—1, Jean Mackay and Bettie Sutherland, Golspie.

Choral Singing.—1, Melvich Junior Choir.

Puirt-a-Beul—1, Helmsdale H.G. School Choir.

SENIOR SECTION.

Literature.—Gaelic poem—H. M. MacRae, Lairg. Place names—Jessie MacDonald, Cheadle House, Dornoch.

Oral Delivery.—Reading at sight—1, D. Mackay, Halladale. Recitation—Mrs. J. Mackay, Oman's House, Golspie. Family Gaelic conversation—Mrs. Roderick Mackay and family, Melvich. Bible reading—1, Peter MacLean, S.T.S., Golspie.

Vocal Music.—Solo (female voices)—1, Chrissie MacLaren, Helmsdale. Solo (male voices)—1, Kenneth H. MacPherson, Helmsdale. Traditional singing—1, Christopher Campbell. Duet singing of a song—1, Christopher Campbell and Catherine Moodie. Quartette—1, Helmsdale B. Gaelic folk-songs—1, (equal) John Mackay, Halladale, and Kenneth H. MacPherson, Helmsdale. Solo singing—Puirt-a-Beul—1, Christopher Campbell. Choral singing—1, Brora Senior Choir.

Instrumental Music.—Violin (open)—Duncan Kerr, High Street, Dornoch. Pianoforte (open)—1, Bunty Fraser, Beachview, Golspie. Pianoforte—Confined to Girl Guides and Boy Scouts—1, (equal) Christine Johnstone, Pitgrudy House, Dornoch, and Andrew MacLeod, Pitgrudy House, Dornoch.

DAILRIADA MOD.

The fifteenth Mid Argyll Provincial Mod was held at Lochgilphead on 8th and 10th June. There was a gratifying increase in the entries this year and the Standard was very satisfactory. Rev. Angus MacVicar, M.A., Southend presided over the Junior Concert, and the Lady Elspeth Campbell over the Senior Concert. In addition to the prize winners, Miss Margaret Duncan, and Mr. Donald MacVicar helped to sustain high class programmes.

The adjudicators on this occasion were:—Rev. George Mackenzie, B.D., Greenock; Rev. Angus J. MacVicar, M.A., Southend, Mr. J. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow, for Gaelic. Mr. Gilbert Esplin, Glasgow, for vocal music. Mr. Angus McMillan, Meall Mor, for instrumental music. Mr. Michael Noble of Ardkinglas for dancing; and Mr. Colin Sinclair, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.I.B.A., for Celtic art.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Literature (under 16)—Letter.—1, Neilina McVicar H.G. School. Dictation—1, Gillesbuig Cameron. Translation into English—1, Alison Ross. Translation into Gaelic—1, Gillesbuig Cameron. Most points in Literature Section—(girls) Alison Ross, 361 out of 400; (boys) Gillesbuig Cameron, 360 out of 400. Collection of Wild Flowers—1, Alison Ross, 110 correctly named; Oral Delivery (under 14)—Reading poetry—1, Alasdair McLachlan, Tayvallich. Reading (prose)—1, Alasdair McLachlan. Reciting poetry—1, Alastair MacArthur. Most points in Oral Delivery (under 14)—(boys) Alasdair McLachlan and Alastair MacArthur (equal); (girls) Mary McNicol. Oral Delivery (under 16)—Reading unfamiliar prose—1, Johan Livingstone, H.G. School. Reciting poetry (prescribed)—1, Julia Sinclair, H.G. School. Reciting poetry—1, Johan Livingstone. Sgeulachd—1, Alison Ross. Acted Dialogue—1, Alison Ross and Isabell Cameron. Conversation—1, Johan Livingstone. Most points in Oral Delivery (under 16)—(girls) Johan Livingstone (boys) Tom McGill.

Vocal Music (under 16).—Solo Singing (girls)—1, Jean McCallum, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing (boys)—1, Donald McLachlan, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing (boys and girls)—1, Donald McLachlan. Gold Pendant for highest aggregate in singing—Donald McLachlan, Vocal Music (under 12)—Solo Singing—1, Harry Fyfe, Tayvallich. Solo Singing (confined to former first prize winners)—1, Jean McCallum. Puirt-a-Beul—1, Cathie Stewart. Unison Singing—1, Tayvallich Junior Gaelic Choir.

Instrumental Music (under 16).—March on bagpipes—1, Donald McLachlan. Strathspey and Reel—1, Donald McLachlan. March on chanter—1, Duncan Cameron, Minard. March, Strathspey and Reel on the pianoforte—(Juniors) 1, Molly Campbell; (Seniors)—1, Miss Nellie McLulloch, Lochgilphead.

Dancing (under 16).—Highland Fling—1, Jessie Bruce, Lochgilphead. Sword Dance—1, Jessie Bruce. Reel of Four—1, Jessie Bruce. Highland Fling, Sword Dance and Reel of Four (Gold Medal presented by Mrs. Graham-Campbell, Yr. of Shirvan)—1, Johan Livingstone. Country Dances—1, Team II.

Literature.—Letter—1, Miss Cathie Martin, Lochgilphead. Translation—1, Miss Jean Ross, Lochgilphead. Oral Delivery—Reading—1, Mr. Duncan Ferguson. Recitation—1, Mr. Iain McLullich. Sgeulachd—1, Mr. John N. McKay, Inveraray. Dialogue—1, Mrs. C. Bruce and Mrs. C. McIntyre, Ardrishaig.

Vocal Music.—Solo Singing (Female Voices)—1, Miss Nellie McLullich, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing (Male Voices)—1, Mr. J. Barriskell, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing (confined to boys and girls over 16 and under 18 years of age)—1, Miss Nellie McLullich. Solo Singing, prescribed (Male and Female Voices)—1, Mr. Alasdair Carmichael. Puirt-a-Beul (Male and Female Voices)—1, Mrs. Campbell. Oran Mor (Male and Female Voices)—1, Mr. Alasdair Carmichael. Gold Pendant for competitor securing highest aggregate of marks in singing—Mr. Alasdair Carmichael. Duets—1, Mrs. Crawford and Miss Susan MacAllister, Lochgilphead. Quartettes—1, The Dalriada Quartette.

Waulking Song in traditional manner—1, Lochgilphead Team.

Celtic Art.—Design for poster—1, Mr. Niven Crawford, Minard.

LORN & MULL PROVINCIAL MOD.

This Mod was held at Oban on 11th June, and although there was a slight falling off in the number of entries the standard was very high, and the public attendance during the session was very satisfactory. Col. MacDougall of MacDougall presided over the evening concert, and Mrs. MacDougall of MacDougall presented the prizes.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Rev. Alex. MacDonald, Ardochattan; Rev. John MacPherson, M.A., Taynuilt; Mrs. MacGregor, Oban; G. Marjoribanks, Sonachan; Neil Shaw, An Comunn, and Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban. Music—Martin Hobkirk, Hon. A.R.C.M., Edinburgh.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Translating Poetry (under 16 years)—1, Flora Campbell, Oban. Gaelic-English and English-Gaelic—1, Flora Campbell, Oban. Translation (learners under 14)—1, Isabel Macphail, Oban. Translation (pupils 1st year post-qualifying classes)—1, Mary MacArthur, Oban. Reading (with expression)—1, Catherine Black, Lochnell. Reading Prose—1, Cathie MacColl, Oban. Reading at sight—1, Charles McCormick, Oban. Reciting—1, Minnie Stewart.

Solos (boys and girls)—1, Mary Black, Oban. Solos (girls)—1, Mary Black. Solos (boys and girls under 12)—1, Christina MacNaughton, Oban. Solos (boys)—1, David D. MacQueen, Easdale. Unison Singing—Oban High School. Choral Singing—Oban High School,

SENIOR SECTION.

Reading Prose at Sight—1, Iain MacDuffie, Oban. Reciting—1, Hugh Lamont, Pennyghael. Solos

(female)—1, Miss Isobel Stewart. Solos (male)—1, Duncan Cameron, Oban. Solos (open)—1, Neil Campbell, Luing. Puirt-a-Beul—1, Capt. Macdonald, Lismore. Duets—1, Misses M. Campbell and May MacIntyre, Easdale.

Choral Singing—1, Taynuilt. Lorn and Mull Shield—1, Taynuilt.

INVERNESS NATIONAL MOD, 1936.

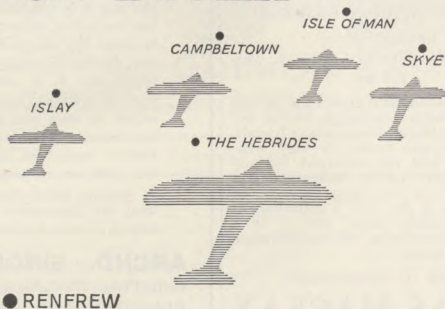
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AN GAIDHEAL

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TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXXI.]

An Lùnasdal, 1936.

[Earrann 11

ORAIN GNIOMHA.

Ann an naodhamh linn deug dh'éirich beachd mearachdach a thaobh nadur a' Ghaidheil. Tha coigrich a' creidsinn gu bheil sinne mar shluagh de nadur muladach. Ach mar dhearbhadh gu bheil am beachd sin cearr, faodar a ràdh gu robh ar sinnsir a' seinn aig an obair làitheil. Tha sin a' nochdadh cho déidheil 's a bha iad air cèil. Gheibhear seann òrain a b'abhaist do na Gaidheil a bhi a' gabhail an uair a bhiodh iad ri saothar no ri gnìomh. Bha an obair na b'fhuasda, agus an t-uallach na b'eufrume mar bha sin 'g a chomlachadh le cèil. Tuigear uaith so gu robh càil a' chiùil anabarrach dlùth do chridhe ar n-athraichean; agus ged tha na ceudan bliadhna bho rinneadh na seann luinneagan so, tha e soilleir nach robh ar sluaigh cho borb idir, 's a tha cuid an dùil. Tha alt is loinn nan luinneag air leth gleusda, a' taisbeanadh gu robh oilein a' chiùil aig ìre aird anns an t-seann aimsir.

* * *

Is iomadh linn bho thoisich cleachdadh na h-àiridh am measg ar sinnsir. Mu'n do theann ar muinntir ri dol gu Galldachd a chosnadh an lòin b'abhaist dhaibh an teachd an tìr a chothachadh 'nan dùthaich féin. Bha iad an crochadh air toradh an fhearainn agus na mara. Is lionmhor gleann fàsail an diugh anns a bheil iomairean fo fhraoch is raineach, a tha a' togail fianuis

gu robh am fearann 'g a àiteach gu farsuinn. Mar sin bha spréidh phailt 'g am beathachadh troimh an gheamhradh; ach aig deireadh an earraich dh'fheumte an crodh-laoigh le an cuid àil ionain do 'n t-sliabh fada o'n bhaile, far am faigheadh iad sult is neart le feur an t-samhraidh. Bhiodh bothagan na h-àiridh de cheapan réisg, agus air an tughadh le muran is luachair. Bhiodh na taighean beaga so mar bu trice an lagan fasgach laimh ri sruthan uisge. Bhiodh sòrn cloiche ri bruaich an uillt, agus an sin bhiodh teine 'g a chàradh, gealbhan suilbhearra, gu bruich a' bhìdh. Bu chleachdadh do shean is òg dol do 'n àiridh fad thrì mìosan, eadhon gu toiseach an fhoghar. Bu bhìadh air an àiridh aran coirce is eòrna; iasg is feòil is uighean. Ach b'e toradh na h-àiridh fhein am biadh sonraichte — bainne is uachdar is miug; slaman is Ìm, gruth is càise.

* * *

Thoir fainear obair-latha na h-àiridh. B'e ceud churam a' bhuachaille, cho luath 's a ghoireadh an smeòrach, na h-uain òga a chur mu sgaoil as a' mhainnir, na minn a thoirt a mach as a' chrò, agus na laoiqh as a' bhuaile. Chruinnichidh na h-òganaich an crodh bainne, agus chiteadh banarach le cuman a' bleedhainn, no a' leigeil nam bò, agus a' seinn nan òran. Far am biodh an crodh-laoigh lionmhor bhiodh cuinneag is cùdainn làn de bhainne blàth fo chròic. Rachadh imideal craicinn gu teann mu

bheul gach soithich gus a ghiùlan do'n àiridh. Shuidhicheadh a bhanarach am bainne blàth am miasan staoine fiodha; agus air an ath latha thogadh i an t-uachdar bharr a bhainne. Dhòirteadh iad an t-uachdar am muidhe no crannachan. Chuireadh òganaich an lamh 's an lonaid gus an cé a mhaistreadh, agus bu chubhraidh an t-Ìm ùr an am a bhì 'g a nigheadh am fìor uisge.

* * *

A thuilleadh air beo-shlainte bha an àbhaist so priseil air dòigean eile. Bha cruadal is fallaineachd anns an oigridh le bhì a ghnath anns an adhar fhosgailte, agus a' cadal air a' bhàr a muigh. Bha càirdeas is caoibhneas aca ann an co-chomunn sunndach. Mar chomharradh gu robh dòigh bheatha nan àireach gun fhuath chan eil againn ach smaoineachadh air na h-òrain a bhuineas do 'n àiridh. Tha mòran de na lunnagan sin a' nochdadh suairceis is bàigh. Bhiodh òganaich is maighdeanan a' cur eòlas air a chèile mar bu dual. Tha na seann duanagan a' toirt dealbh eagnuidh air nòs na linn a dh'fhalbh. Ged chaidh foghlum Gallda am farsuinneachd ann ar measg is ann a chaidh am foghlum Gaidhealach air ais. Chan eil ar muinntir an diugh nas modhaile no nas fallaine na bha ar sinnsir a thug trì mìosan de 'n bhliadhna air an àiridh anns na laithean sona samhraidh.

* * *

Bha na Gaidheil an earbsa ri obair an lamh fhein mar an ceudna airson aodaich, eadar anart linn is chlò is bhreacan. Dh'fheumte a' chloimh a dhath air tùs le dathan nadurra bho iomadh lus nach eil ùine againn aig an am gus an àireamh. Is minic a chualas fuaim na cuibhle-sniamha a' measgachadh le fonn òrain. An euala sibh riamh an sean fhacal "Chan e sin tlàm a tha air mo chuigeil." Tha sin a' ciallachadh gur ann a tha m' àire air gnothach eile gu sonraichte. Tha a' chuigeal nas sine na a' chuibheal. Is e so dealbh na cuigeil, slat chaol mu thrì traighean air fàid. Tha tlàm cloimhe 'g a cheangal air bharr na slaithe. Chuireadh a bhean chalanais a' chuigeal fo a h-achlais chli agus ghabhadh i fearsaid 'n a laimh dheis. Chuireadh i an fearsaid mu'n cuairt le gailleag de a meòirean, agus an sin leis an dà laimh, bhithadh i an fearsaid le snàth o'n tlàm. Agus bhiodh duanag 'g a seinn aig a' cheart am. Bha snàth na cuigeil grinn, teann, agus feumail airson anart linn no breacan caol.

NATURE'S GIFT.

BY THE EDITOR.

Scenic beauty is Nature's own gift to the Highlands of Scotland. There are two sides to this beauty. There is the side which is emotional, and appeals to poetic taste — the side that has for centuries been the theme of bards, the ample fountain of song, the lure that ever draws the wandering Gael to the hills of home. But there is also another side to this beauty. I must draw a sudden contrast, and make a cold-blooded remark. I declare my belief that in these days of stress and economic decline, the natural beauty of the Highlands could be made a source of material profit. I know the traditional prejudice of our folk; how many a conservative Gael would scorn to associate the romantic charm of his country with such a sordid thing as money and material benefit.

It is surely evident that we have got to that stage when we must ask a practical question — what can be done to arrest in some measure the backward movement, the decline and desolation that are so clear on every hand? The Highland Development League, a non-sectarian body which includes persons of different political views, is trying to do something towards the stopping of that waning tendency in so many things that concern the well-being of the Highlands. Greatly as it is to be desired, the apportioning of land and the utilisation of its fruit, is a long process. These things will take some time to materialise. But the scenic beauty of the Highlands is ever present. It is all there, ready to be availed of. The proper husbanding of that beauty can be made as profitable at least as the exploitation of our lakes and streams for water-power. When our civilised nation shall have reached the conception of a National Park, where can we look for finer territory than this land, so richly endowed with picturesque beauty. With a more worthy estimate of the requirements of public health, and the need for restoring the jaded energies of the urban population, the recuperative virtue of the pure Highland air will be more fully realised.

It was not in the twentieth century that Highland lochs were first used for practical ends. Well over a century ago, the construction of the Caledonian Canal was simplified by the natural position of the three lakes, which extend in a straight line along the Great Glen. The natural beauty

of these lakes has not been marred by the locks which join them together, or by the vessels which sail on their waters. But in recent years industrial companies have cast their eyes on some lochs that are found at a high elevation. Here is indeed "white coal," to be used for generating power. We could quote a case where the local benefit is negligible, while the harm to scenery is permanent. Who is going to reap the benefit of these colossal schemes? There are two points on which our County Councils must be satisfied, and these are: that if the water power of our Highland area is to be appropriated for industrial ends, the Councils shall make sure that the area shall reap a reasonable benefit; and, further, that if the lochs are to be interfered with in the interest of any factory, the Councils shall be satisfied that the natural beauty of the lochs is conserved.

The native trees of the Highlands grow wild in glens and sheltered places, and even on the face of rocks, where one might least expect a tree to grow. The abundance of birch and mountain ash, of hazel and willow, lend a sense of sylvan profusion to many a picturesque valley. But there is also a considerable amount of wood that has been planted by hand. Where deep soil has been collected by rain into the hollows, and conditions are good as regards moisture and light, several types of imported trees have grown to unexpected dimensions. Variegated belts of forest in the glens, and choice trees in policies and private grounds have enhanced the charm of the countryside. During the war, large tracts of such woods had unhappily to be cut down. The bare slopes now detract from the good appearance of the land. Here there is need to push on with afforestation. These spots were shorn of their beauty for the country's sake; and it is only fair that the country should now enable them to regain their former amenity. The restoration of rural areas is a thing of national importance.

Till the beginning of the eighteenth century, the remoteness of the Highlands was aggravated by the lack of roads. The country was accordingly hindered by the disadvantage of isolation. Travel and transport were difficult. Law and order were impeded. Some means must be found whereby the King's soldiers could more quickly suppress any sign of disaffection. The work of constructing roads was entrusted to General Wade in 1728; and in the course of a few years he made two

hundred and forty-five miles of road, and several hundreds of bridges, of which not a few are still in use. Towards the close of the eighteenth century, a considerable share of the money derived from estates that were forfeit after the Forty-five, was devoted to the further construction of roads. Telford accordingly made nine hundred and twenty miles of road and twelve hundred bridges in the Highlands. And the making of roads is still going on. Some of the loveliest scenery in the Highlands is being yearly made accessible by new roads. Take a place like Glenaffric, a paradise where the rowan berry runs riot by many a swirling pool. It is only recently that Glenaffric has been discovered, so to speak. The traveller may now pass in comfort through gloomy Glencoe; and ere long he may be able to cross in less than two hours from romantic Badenoch through lonely Glenfeshie and the Cairngorms to the wilds of Braemar. So the making of new roads is in a way the making of the Highlands.

Of late years much has been said and done regarding the "Come to Scotland" movement. A society of those interested in popularising the Highlands is urgently required. A strong society of that kind could do a great deal to advertise truthfully and intelligently the real charms of Gaeldom. It could arrange, for example, that beauty spots could be furnished with paths and rails. Many a verdant gorge and deep ravine is never admired just because the brinks and ledges are not made safe for the spectator. And if the Highlands are ever to be an area for health and holiday, there must be co-ordination of the tourist traffic. Let not the hasty reader imagine that we contend that to be a mere playground is all that the Highlands are good for. Let our logic be clear. That the land in the Highlands may be more fully utilised for cultivation than it is, I do not for a moment question. But I contend that in addition to cultivation, the Highlands can also be utilised as a glorious and healthy playground for our friends in the cities of the kingdom. The matter of transport by road and rail must be thoroughly organised. Punctuality and efficiency must be aimed at. The tariff of hotels and boarding-houses should be fixed on equitable lines by the leaders of the tourist industry. The art of catering for the holiday-maker has been highly developed on the Continent. Our promoters might do worse than borrow a leaf from the book of Continental experts.

BUAIDH NA MARA AIR A' GHÀIDHEAL.

Le CALUM IAIN N. MACLEOID.

(*Ceud duais, Mod an Obain, 1934.*)

“ An am dhomh bhi suaint’
Am fuachd ’s an cadal a’ bhàis
Mo leabaidh dean suas
Ri fuainn na h-ataireachd àird.”

Nach iongantach a’ bhuaidh a bh’ aig a’ mhuir air aighe Dhòmhnuill Mhìc Iomhair an uair a chuir e ri chèile na facail sin. Dh’ fhàg am bàrd a dhachaidh an uair a bha e glé òg agus an déidh dha a bhi dluth air dà fhichead bliadhna air falbh thainig e air ais gu baile òige. Chunnaic e atharrachadh mór, bha a dhachaidh fhéin fàs, cha robh air sgeul ach na tobhtaichean, ach, bha an ataireachd bhuan fhatbast “a’ sluaisreadh gaineamh na tràghad,” bha na tonnan uaibhreach ’g an cosg féin ris an tràigh dìreach mar a chunnaic e iad o shean. Bha seirm na mara riomh an cluasan a’ bhàird ged a shiubhail e cian fada, bha éigh agus tàladh a’ chuain ’n a fhuil agus an uair a sheall e thairis air aghaidh na fairge ’n a shean aois thug e sàmhchair d’ a chridhe, chan fhaigheadh e àite na b’ fhearr air son cadal séimh na h-uaighe na tràigh mhór Uige. Chan ’eil teagamh nach e seòrsa de chianalas a thainig air a’ bhàrd aig an am so, ach cha mhór nach ’eil mi cinnteach gur e buainead na mara a b’ aobhar do ’n bhàrdachd so. Chan ’eil teagamh nach eil buaidh mar so aig na beanntan cuideachd, ach tha rud-éigin eadar-dhealaichte aig buaidh na mara a bharrachd air buaidh nam beann. Tha mi a’ deanamh a nach gur e duatharachd na mara aobhar na buaidhe so. Ar leam nam bitheadh sinn a’ faicinn a h-uile ni a tha ag èaladh fo thuinn cha bhiodh an gnothach mar so idir ach cho fada agus a tha duatharachd ceangailte ri rud ’s am bith, théid daoine gu uchd an dìchill feuch am faigh iad beagan a mach mu dhéidhinn na diòmhaireachd so. Is fhada o thòisich ollamhan ainmeil breithneachail ri sgrùdadh a dheanamh air nithean diomhair an aigein ach tha fear an déidh fir aca a’ dol air na sgeirean; dh’fhairtlich orra a dhol air fuarachd na Sgeire Bàire. Air an aobhar sin chan eil an Salmadair cearr an uair a thuir e :—

“ Mar sin an cuan tha farsuing mór,
’S gach ni a shnàgas ann,
Na beathaichean tha beag is mór,
Gun orra cunntas cheann.”

A rithist seall air farsuingeachd a’ chuain, seall air na caoil, na geòdhachan, na sgeirean, có air uachdar na talmhainn nach biodh ’n a thosd air dhà sealltuinn air maise agus fìor-àilleachd obair nàduir—cuan nan garbh-thonn air a chumadh le cumhachd Dhe nan Dùl.

Am beachd nan Gàidheal bu bheò-chreutair an cuan agus bha iad ag ràdh nach robh creutair beò air uachdar an domhain nach robh a leth-bhreac an uchd uamhalta an aigein, mar a tha an seanfhacal ag ràdh :—“ Chan ’eil beò air uachdar fuinn gun a mhac-samhuil an cois an tuinn.” Mar sin bha taobh aig na Gàidheil ris a’ mhuir :—

“ Tha an cuan domh-sa mar fhear-èolais,
Tighinn am chòmhdhail air an tràigh;
Fiamh a’ ghàire air aodann preasach,
’S a thuinn bheaga cur orm fàilt.”

Ach ged a bha na Gàidheil a’ tagairt càirdeis ris a’ mhuir na creid nach robh fios aca air duatnarachd an taibh. Is ainneamh a dh’ fhàgadh iad caladh gu a dhol an ceann facal ùrnuigh no rann no dhà a ghabhail de bheannachadh cuain :—

“ Séun agus saor agus naomhaich sinne,
Bi-sa Rìgh nan Dùl, air ar stiùir ’na d’shuidhe,
’S treoirich an sìth sinn gu ceann-crich’ ar
n-uidhe.”

Is iomadh uair a rinn na daoine tréuna sin ùrnuigh an cois na mara agus na tonnan gàireach ’g an cosg féin ris an tràigh; an iarmailt air a còmhdach le bratach thrum de neòil bhuidhe agus a’ ghrian le ceuman mall a’ tearnadh o ghorm astar nan spéur. Nach b’ eireachdail an sealladh e; nach miorbhuileach an creideamh a bha aig na maraichean sin ann an Dia; nach iongantach a’ bhuaidh a bh’ aig a’ mhuir air inntinn spioradail an duine. Tha e soilleir gu bheil a’ mhuir agus creideamh ann an dlùth-chàirdeas ri chèile, cha b’urrainn da a bhi air dòigh eile.

Cha chualas riomh fhatbast iomradh air duine ’sam bith a bha air a bhreith ri taobh na mara a bha na bu déidheile air na beanntan na air a’ mhuir, ach chuala sinn iomadh uair mu dhéidhinn duine a bha an caidreabh nan cnoc agus nan gleann a phill a shùil a chaoidh air falbh o na nithean sin agus a chuir roimhe, urram a thoirt do’n chuan o sin a mach.

Tha buaidh àraidh aig caochlaidheachd a’ chuain cuideachd air inntinn a’ Ghàidheil. Air uairibh tha an lear an sàimh shuain, chan ’eil tonn a’ falpanaich air an tràigh; ach, ann am prìoba na sùla thig dùbhradh air an iarmailt, thig an uspag a’ sgùmadh nan tonn agus glé aithghearr bithidh fàbhradh de chop geal timchioll air an oitir; có a shaoileadh e; ach,

is ann mar sin a bhitheas. Nach eil beatha agus réis an duine glé choltach ri caochlaidheachd an taibh. Nach iomadh uair a tha sinne air ar tilgeadh air oitir aineoil, àird, chreagaich, agus is iomadh cruaidh-chàs a thig 'n ar car, ach an ciar aimsir nan aisling thig sàmhair cho ciùin ri aiteal na maidne, agus cho caoin ri balbh dhùr-chd mhaidne. Chan 'eil iongnadh 's am bith ann ged a bhiodh an duine a' coimhead air a' mhuir mar fhear-eòlais.

A rithist bha an Gàidheal a' cumail a mach gu robh dìon air chor-eigin ceangailte ris an aigeann. Tha e air a ràdh nach fhaigh bròn na mara a chaidh furtachd; ach ma tha béal aithris fìor tha e coltach nach eil na daoine fo thuinid idir cho dona dheth agus a tha sinn a' smaoinichadh. Tha rìoghachd agus àite fàsagaidh aca air an son fhéin. Nach 'eil an t-Athair Urramach Ailean Mac Dhòmhnail nach maireann ag ràdh anns a' bhàrdachd eireachdail ud, "Eilean na h-Oige":

"Ach 's e chuir air barrachd lurachd,
Air gach tulach 's glèann deth,
Dìon na tuinne a bhi uime,
Cumail muigh na h-antlachd."

An am na h-airce agus a' bhàis bha na Gàidheil gu tric a' faighinn spionnaidh as ùr o' n mhuir. Is ann thairis air lear, fada am muigh anns an airde an iar a bha Tìr Nan Og, agus is ann o'n àite so a thàinig an long gheal le siuil gheala a dh' aisig na mairbh a null do'n àros chiatlach sin far an robh a h-uile duine chò òg, iollagach. Is e glé bheag a chunnaic an long faisg air cladach; ach tha e coltach gu robh i ann ceart gu leòir:—

"Chunnacas bàrca bréid-gheal fo m' rosg
Mar cheathach air ossaig a' chuain."

Is ann sios do'n tràigh a chaidh nigheanag bheag a' bhròin a nighe ais-léine nam marbh. Is tric a chualas i a' dùrdan leatha fhéin ann am marbhan na h-oidheche, sruth an Ionaich a' lùbadh agus a' sloisreachd mu mhulla-chlachain a' chaolaich a' toirt freagairt do chumba na h-ighne. Is ann aig an am so a bu chòir do chreutairean eigre an t-saoghail tadhal air cuan dòbhaidh nan tonn béucach. Tha sàmhair neònach, ag iathadh timchioll air a' chladach mu mheadhon-oidheche. Tha cuimhne agam fhéin a bhi a' glanadh bhreac aon oidheche air mol ri taobh Locha Ròg agus gu dearbh cha téid e às mo chumhine gu là luain. Bha eathar a' tighinn dachaidh gu port agus bha na raimh a' slaiprach anns a' mhuir; shaoileadh tu gun robh iad a' treabhadh linne airgid leis a h-uile buille. Chaidh an eathar seachad; chuala mi a' bhuille mu dheireadh; bha a' ghealach ag éirigh cùl na beinne; chunnaic mi ceò an anmoich a' sgaoilleadh 'n

a stiallan bàna mu ghuaillibh Chràgam; bha a h-uile nì 'n a thosd an uair a phill mi o'n tràigh; ach a mach o'n là sin fluaire mi eòlas ùr air a' mhuir, eòlas dìomhair nach urrainn domh a chur ann an cainnt. Is ann aig an tràigh mu mheadhon-oidheche a dh'fhairicheas duine agus is dòcha a chuimhnicheas duine gu bheil an leithid de spiorad an làthair ris an can iad Dia:—

"O! Thusa a chruthaich an cuan,
'S a luaisgeas a thonna trom;
'S Tu chaisgeas an onfhadh a ris
'S a nì iad ciùin mar am fonn."

Tha buaidh aig a' mhuir cuideachd air a' Ghàidheal air son gur ann bh'uaithe a tha e a' faighinn mòran de theachd-an-tìr; ach tha e coltach gu bheil na bàtaichean sgrìobaidh a' feuchainn ri sin fhéin a thoirt air falbh an dràsda. Cò-dhìubbh, chan ann gun mhòd, gun seadh, a rinn na Gàidheil o shean an cuid iasgaich; bha eadhon ùrnuigh no beannachd iasgaich air a ràdh mun rachadh iad air sàl:—

"A Rìgh nam Fear' 's nan neart tha shuas,
Do bheannachd iasgaich doirt a nuas"

"Tilgidh mi mo dhubhan sios,
'S an ciad iasg a bheir mi nìos,
An ainm Chrìosda Rìgh nan sian,
Gheibh an deòr' e mar a mhiann."

Tha e neònach nach robh na bàird ainmeil idir air son bàrdachd a dheanamh air a' mhuir mar chuspair. Is dòcha gur e aobhar dha sin nach eil ann an litreachas na mara ach beul-aithris agus air dòigh tha e a' cheart cho math nach do ghabh na sàr-bhàird gnothuch ri bàrdachd na mara. Tha bàrdachd na beinne air uairibh ro-thorach mar gum b'eadh; chan eil ri faighinn innte simplidheachd bàrdachd na mara; agus rud eile, bha bàird na mara a' cur ri chèile ruinn air cuspair a bha glé fhaig air an cridhe. Cha d'rinn iad-san bàrdachd dreach air son na ruinn a thàhadh ri chèile a réir deilbh air chor-éigin; bha a leithid de bhuaidh aig a' mhuir air an intinn agus gu robh aca ri tuil-dhorsan an cridheachan fhosgladh agus gràdh na mara a leigeil ma sgaoil. Cìod e a dh'fhaodadh a bhi cho simplidh ris a' cheathramh a tha so:—

"Is iomadh latha bha mi 'g iasgach,
Eadar an sgeir is càrn na riabhaig,
Tràghadh mara is gaoth an iar-dheas,
A' cur siabain as na tuinn."

A rithist seall air staid Mhurchaidh Mhoir mac Mhic Mhurchaidh an uair a bha e air falbh o chaidreach a' chuain:—

"Tha mise fo ghruaim
'S gun mi 'n caidreach a' chuain;
Cha chaidil mi uair air chòir."

Bithidh sinn a' guidhe o so a mach nach bi buaidh na mara air a' Ghàidheal a' dol an lughad; ach gum bi i a sìor-dhol am mothad gach là; nach cuir a' mhuir làn bacadh; ach gum téid an long air fuaradh na sgeire, gun leag i na siuil aig béul a' bhàigh agus gum ruig i laimrig an cridhe na tràghad.

NIGHEAN IARRLA BHRAID- ALBANN.

Le DAIBHIDH URCHADAN, A.M.

Mar bu dual do sheoladairean na h-àird an iar, bha Murchadh Mac Coinnich, an Ullabol, 'na mharaidhe cho gleusda is a rug air ailm, is cha robh rudha, òb no caolas eadar Baile-feirsid an Eirinn agus caol Lìte an Alba air nach robh e mìneolach. Bu e a dhreuchd a bhi a' malairt le soitheach eadar a dhachaidh agus bailtean is eileanan na dùthcha. Air turus dhachaidh le luchd de ghoireasan thàinig an oidheche an uair a bha an soitheach faisg air Eilean Luìng, agus chur an sgioba rompa an oidheche chur seachd an Tobair-Dhonnachaidh.

An uair a chaidh gabhail aig an t-soithich chaidh na fir air trì air son an aimsir a chaitheamh gu taitneach, agus is ann a fhuair na Braonaich iad fhéin aig cuirm bhliadhnail a bha Iarla Bhraid-Albann, uachdaran an eilein, a' toirt do an tuath. A reir seann chleachaidh nan Gaidheal chuireadh fáilt is furan air na coigrich. Bha Murchadh 'na ghille eireachdail mar bu dual do fhear de fhìor fhuil Chlann Choinnich. Ann a bhi conaltradh ris na h-ìghean a bha anns a' chòmhlán nach ann a thuit Murchadh ann an gaol air òigh mhaisich, agus cha tug an ribhinn cluas bhodhar dha'n òganach dheas. An ùine ghoird chuir Mhurchadh a' cheist rithe an posadh i e. Dh'aicidh i gun robh i làn-deonach ach gum bu nigean an iarla i agus nach fhaigheadh i cead a h-athar falbh leis.

Anns a' chàs seo chuir iad rompa gun teicheadh i le fear a gràidh. Thug Murchadh sanas d'a sgioba, agus shnàig iad do'n aon-chrannaich, agus mun do bhlais an t-euan t-uisge an la-arn-mhàireach cha robh robhas air an t-soithich, agus bha nigean an uachdaran air chall. Bha amharus air Murchadh, ach a chionn nach robh ainm air soithichean de an t-seorsa an latha

ud agus nach b'aithne do mhuinntir an eilein na daoine cha robh rian air dol air an tòir.

Bha an t-iarla a' cumha a nighinn, agus rinn e gearan ris an rìgh; ach dad cha b'urrainn rìgh no a chomharlaichean a dheanamh ach lagh ùr a dheachdadh gu feumadh bho sud a mach, gach soitheach-malairt an Alba a h-ainm a bhi gu soilleir air a clàr-beoil.

Cha do rinn Murchadh agus an ribhinn cheanalta ach pòsadh gu daingean le beannachd na cléir an uair a thàinig fathunn gun robh Iarla Bhraid-Albann a' tairgseadh cùig ceud punn Sasunnach do neach sam bith a dh'innseadh dha càite an robh a nigean. Sgeadaich Murchadh e fhéin 'na dheise Ghaidhealach agus thog e air gu Caisteal a' Bhealach. An uair a ràinig e, cha chuireadh e an céill a ghnòthach do an dorsair, agus thainig an duine mòr fhein chun an doruis. "Cìod e do ghnòthach riumsa?" dh'fheoraich e. "Thàinig mi a dh'iarraidh na duaise a gheall sibh air son sgeul air an nighinn agaibh," fhreagair Murchadh, "Bheil thu comasach air sin innseadh?" thubhairt an t-iarla. "Is mi tha," arsa an t-òganach, "agus an uair a chunntas sibh an t-airgead air mo bhois, innsidh mi dhuibh am bad anns a bheil i." Phaigh an duine-usal gach sgillinn a gheall e, agus an sin dh'fhaighnich e "Càite a nis a bheil mo nigean?" "Tha i ann an Ullabol an Siorramachd Rois," arsa Murchadh, "agus ma bheir sibh dhomh cuig ceud punn eile, cuiridh mi ann bhur dòrn làmh an fhìr a ghoid i." "Gheibh thu sin cuideachd," arsa 'n duine mòr. An uair a bha am pasgan an sporan Mhurchaidh, "Fosglaibh bhur dòrn," thubhairt e, agus an uair a rinn an t-iarla sud bhuail Mhurchadh a làmh fhéin an làmh an iarla. "Sin agaibh an dearbh làmh a ghoid an nigean agaibh." Sheall an t-iarla air a' ghille bha m'a choinneimh agus fhreagair e, "Cha chreid mi nach e gille tapaidh, duine a tha annad. A bheil thu de theaghlach ainmeil idir 'san taobh tuath?" "Tha mi," arsa Murchadh, "le cead bhur mòrachd, de fhìor fhuil Clann Choinnich Chinntàile agus Ghearrloch, agus chan 'eil na's fhearr an Alba." "Foghnaidh sin," fhreagair an t-iarla, "tha do choltas agus do chleachdadh a' taitinn gu math rium, agus is i mo bhàireil gum bi thu 'na do chéile airidh do mo nighinn. Bheir mi dhuit tochradh dligeach. Agus a nis fan air aoi gheachd maille rium beagan laithean." An ùine ghoird thog Murchadh air dhachaidh le sporan trom is cridhe aotrom. Chaith e fhéin agus nigean an iarla am beatha gu sona sòlasach air cladach Loch Braoin, agus cha robh iad idir 'nan coigrich an Caisteal a' Bhealach.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council was held in Allan Park Lodge, Stirling, on Friday, 3rd July. The President, Mr. John R. Bannerman occupied the chair and the following members were present:—John M. Bannerman, M.A., B.Sc., Balmaha; Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow; Miss Catriona B. Cameron, Glasgow; P. Cameron, Abernethy; Miss Campbell of Inverneil, M.B.E., Ardrishaig; Capt. A. R. Campbell, O.B.E., Glasgow; Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Glasgow; Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr. of Succoth; Rev. David Duncan, Musselburgh; Mrs. C. M. Fisher, Edinburgh; Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Niall C. Kennedy, Glasgow; Miss Lamont of Knockdow; Hugh MacCorquodale, Glasgow; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Mrs. Mackintosh, Pitlochrie; A. M. MacLachlainn, Tobermory; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Donald MacNair, B.Sc., Motherwell; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh; Dr. Donald Ross, Lochgilphead; Dr. Colin Sinclair, Glasgow; Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban; Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria. Attending—Robert Macfarlane, C.A., treasurer; Neil Shaw, General Secretary; Alasdair Matheson, assistant to the Secretary, and Donald Macphail, Northern Organiser.

Minute of previous meeting was read and approved and apologies intimated from several members.

The President referred to the honour conferred on Dr. Neil Ross, Laggan, by the University of Glasgow, and congratulated him on receiving the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Minute of the Finance Committee was read. The Committee reported that as a result of the very successful Mod held at Edinburgh last year the surplus for the year amounted to £840 13/2. On the motion of the Convener, Mr. Alexander Fraser, the minute was approved with the exception of the paragraph regarding the allocation of the Rural Choir Concert proceeds, and the transference of £50 from the Propaganda Committee to the credit of the Magazine account which was referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

The Treasurer's Annual Statement and Balance-Sheet were gone over and questions answered. On the motion of Mr. Alexander Fraser, seconded by Capt. A. R. Campbell, O.B.E., the Financial Statement and Annual Reports were unanimously adopted.

Minute of Education Committee was read. The Committee recommended that if the Draft

Scheme for the administration of the Highland Trust is approved, and if An Comunn is given representation on the governing Board, Sir Alexander MacEwen be invited to act as An Comunn's representative.

The minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A.

Minute of Publication Committee was read. Regarding the vacancy in the editorship of the magazine the Committee was authorised to invite the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow, to accept the position.

The minute was adopted on the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Convener.

Minute of Propaganda Committee was read. The Committee recommended that a grant of £5 should be made to Mr. Archibald MacLean, Inshlaggan, to enable him to attend the Summer School of Music, to be held at Inverness, during the last fortnight of July, 1936, to study choir conducting.

The minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Charles Campbell, M.B.E.

Minute of Art and Industry Committee was read. The Committee expressed their high appreciation of the services rendered by Miss Mairi MacBride, in preparing the booklet entitled, *Interlacing Celtic Designing in Six Easy Steps*. The syllabus for the Mod of 1937 had been arranged.

The minute was adopted on the motion of Miss Campbell of Inverneil, M.B.E., Convener.

Minute of Mod and Music Committee was read. The approval of the minute was moved by the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Mr. Neil Orr. The minute, among other things, recommended that the request of Mrs. Bain for a further written statement of the explanations already given her regarding the disqualification of her boys in one of the Oral Competitions at the last Mod should not be entertained. Mr. John A. Nicolson moved as an amendment that the request be granted. Miss Katherine B. Cameron seconded. On a vote being taken, the minute was approved by a large majority.

Minutes of two meetings of Clann an Fhraoich Committee were read. The President made sympathetic reference to the Convener, Mr. George E. Marjoribanks, who had met with an accident, and expressed the hope that he would soon be able to resume his activities in connection with the Comunn na h-Oigridh Camp.

On the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Mr. Charles Campbell, the minutes were approved.

A report by the Advisory Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod.

It was reported that two meetings of the Special Committee on the teaching of Gaelic had been held.

Copies of the Report of the Committee have been sent to members of Education Committees, and copies will be sent to teachers throughout the Highlands. Deputations have been appointed to meet with the Scottish Education Department and also with the Education Committees of Argyll, Inverness, Ross and Sutherland.

It is suggested that the Publication Committee be asked to appoint a Sub-Committee with a view to the compiling of text books for use in Elementary Schools, special regard being had to the material produced in Wales and Ireland, and that teachers be co-opted to this Sub-Committee.

Education Committees are to be asked to make grants towards the cost of sending selected teachers to Ireland to study the "Direct" method of teaching a second language, as recommended on the Special Committee's Report.

The Report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

Nominations were received for the offices of President, Vice-President, and ten members of Executive Council.

Notices of motions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting were received as follows:—

By Alexander MacKechnie, London: "That An Comunn should investigate the possibility of changing *An Gaidheal* into a weekly illustrated paper on the lines of *An t-Eireannach* or *Y Cymro*, entirely in Gaelic, and that the assistance of the Churches, State, and the branches of An Comunn be seriously invoked to enable as large a circulation as possible to be obtained, to enable the paper to be entirely self supporting."

By the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association: "That to Rule 12 as it now stands be added— "This representative shall have two votes at the Annual General Meeting, one as the Society representative and one as an individual."

By The Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association: "That choirs competing at National Mods shall be granted, if they so desire, a percentage of the expense incurred."

By Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow: "That An Comunn refund 15 per cent of the expenses of all choirs competing in the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield Class."

By Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow: "That An Comunn consider the advisability of extending and increasing the money prizes for choirs competing in the Lovat and Tullibardine Shield Class, and also Ladies' and Male Voice Choirs."

By Mr. A. M. MacLachlaine, Tobermory: "Gu'n cuirte ris an Rìghailt a bhuineas do dhleasnas Frith-chomhairle an Fhoghlum (35 (2), 1911) na faicail a leanas—dealbaidh i no rannsaichidh i a mach faicail is doighean-labhairt a chomh-fheagras gu cothromach nòsan is innleachdan nuadha; agus foillsichidh i na mholas i o am gu am ann am miosachan a' Chomuinn, uair 's a' bhliadhna air a' chuid as lugha."

By Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow: Amendment to Rule 49 of the Constitution: "The Mod shall be held every year at such place as may be determined two years in advance at each Annual Meeting of An Comunn, held during the year before the Mod. The date to be fixed by the Annual Meeting or remitted by it to the Executive Council for determination."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

LETTER TO EDITOR.

Sir,—I would feel obliged if any of your readers could inform me where can I get any information regarding the *Drummond Missal* now in the Morgan Library, New York.

It has been described by a writer who saw it there as the oldest Scottish Missal in existence and as having several lines of poetry in Irish written on the vellum.

Has the Drummond Missal ever been reproduced?—I am, Yours sincerely,

ALEX. ROSE.

28 High Street,
Nairn, 10th July, 1936.

TEACHING OF GAELIC IN SCHOOLS.

Deputations representing An Comunn have met with the Education Committees of Inverness and Ross. The deputations were cordially received, and were listened to courteously and sympathetically. It is understood that in each case a Sub-Committee was appointed to consider and report on the representations made. The Committees of Argyll and Sutherland will be interviewed shortly.

SEANACHAS MU CHOMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Le SEORAS E. MARJORIBANKS.

Air a chraobh-sgoaoileadh air an 15mh là de'n Iuchar, 1936, à Glaschu.

A mhuintir chòir na Gàidhealtachd.

Leugh sibh gun teagamh iomradh anns na paipèaran-naigheachd air Comunn na h-Oigridh ach math dh'fhaoidte gu'm bu mhath leibh beagan fhacal a chluinntinn bhuam-sa mu'n Chomunn sin—ciod a tha 'san t-sealladh againn ann a bhi stéidheachadh a leithid de Chomunn, air a' Ghàidhealtachd, ciomar a tha dol leinn 'san obair agus ciod an dòchas a th'againn mu dhéidhinn fàs is cinneas Comunn na h-Oigridh anns na laithean a tha ri teachd. Tha mi saolsinn gur h-i an oidhe an nochd ám air leth freagarrach air son sgeul ar Comuinn innseadh do'n Ghàidhealtachd, a chionn gum bheil ceud Champa bliadhnail Comunn na h-Oigridh a' tòiseachadh am maireach féin an Sonachan, Earraghaidheal.

Chan eil dà bhliadhna buileach o thòisich sinn air a' Chomunn so a chur air bonn, agus mu'n ám so tha dà Fheachd deug's trì fichead againn agus àireamh de chloinn a tha streap suas ri dà mhìle. Ach chan 'eil 's cha bhi sinn a' tomhas soirbheachadh Comunn na h-Oigridh aig ám 'sam bith a réir àireamh nam Feachd 's nam Ball a bhios ann. So an aon dearbhadh ris an gabh sin—ciamar a tha na Buill fa-leth ag coimhlionadh a' gheallaidh a thug iad seachad an ám faotainn braiste Comunn na h-Oigridh—"Tha mise gealltainn gu'm bi mi a'm dheagh Ghàidheal (no Bhana-Ghàidheal) cho fad's is beò mi."

Tha fhios agaibh gur h-e An Comunn Gàidhealach a tha stiùireadh obair Comunn na h-Oigridh troimh dheanachadh Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich, agus dà Fhear-dheilbhe a' Chomuinn. Is e am Maighstir-sgoile, no a' Bhan-sgoilear, am bitheantas a tha riaghladh obair na Feachd anns gach àite. Nis, dh'fhaodamaid sealltainn car mionaid air a' ghnòthuch so bho dhà stéidh-amhairc-dleasanas na Cloinne a thaobh obair Comunn na h-Oigridh, agus dleasan Clann an Fhraoich a thaobh na cloinne. Cha dean réiteachadh leth-taobhach an ghnòthuch 'na leithid a dh'obair. Tha sinn mar gum bitheamaid a' deanamh cumhnant leis a' Chloinn, mar gu'm bitheamaid ag radh riutha. "Ma thig sibh-se a steach leinn air taobh na Gàidhlig agus air taobh gach deagh bheus agus cleachdadh tha faughte rithe, ni sinne na's urrainn duinn a chum's gu'm bi bhur

beatha nas sona agus nas làine d'a chionn." Nach gasda a leithid de chumhnant a bhi eadarainn?

Innsidh mi nis ciamar a rinn sinn tòiseachadh air a' chumhnant sin, obair is fearas-chuideachd air feadh a chéile. Tha sinn ag cur innbe "Gàidheal" air gach Ball de Chomunn na h-Oigridh air thoiseach. Bithidh sinn 'g a bhrosnachadh gus na paipèaran-ceasnachaidh Gàidhlig a sheasamh troimh am faigh e àrdachadh innbe 'na Chomunn—Làn-Ghàidheal agus Sàr-Ghàidheal. Tha h-uile Ceanntach, cho math ri Ceanndard agus Bana-Cheannard gach Feachd, a' faotainn leth-bhrec de mhiosachan a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich a nasgaidh, anns am bheil litir do'n aos og; agus tha siun 'gam brosnachadh gu bhi leughadh eachdraidh Comunn na h-Oigridh mar sin o mhios gu mios. Tha e mar fhiachaibh air Comunn na h-Oigridh an cuid a gabhail ann an co-fharpaisean nam Modan Dùthcheail cho math ris a' Mhod chinneadail, agus tha sinn ag cur romhainn gum bi co-fharpaisean sònruichte air son Comunn na h-Oigridh aig na Modan sin. Air a' Gheamhradh so chaidh, chuir sinn am mach leabhar de "Chleasan Gàidhealach" cho math ri dealbh-chluich no dhà, agus is taitneach ri ràdh gu'n do chum iomadh Feachd oidheche céilidh le dealbh-chluich Gàidhlig, a' tionail mar sin beagan airgid fa chomhair gnìomhachas na Feachd.

Tha An Comunn Gàidhealach a' toirt seachd CAMAN a nasgaidh do na h-uile Balach a thig 'na Bhall, agus is gasda leam e bhi agam ri innseadh dhuibh gu'm bheil seann chleas nan Gàidheal, Iomain, a' faotainn 'àite dlìgheach féin a rithist an iomadh cearn de'n Ghàidhealtachd air thàilleamh Comunn na h-Oigridh. Is taitneach da rìreadh bhi faicinn nan caman uair eile anns na sgoilean mar ni cumanta nàdurach am beatha na Cloinne.

Ann an gnìomhachas Comunn na h-Oigridh chan eil ni as cudthromaiche na na cuirmean-cnuic. Bithidh na Feachdan a tha mar astar cuimseach d'a chéile ag cruinneachadh uair 's a' bhliadhna agus ag cur seachd latha fìor-Ghàidhealach an cuideachd a chéile le iomain, cleasachd, piobaireachd, òraid-bhrosnachaidh agus Tea mhòr 'nan cois. Ged nach biodh ann ach gu'm faigh na sgoilean eòlas air a chéile, b'fhìach na cruinneachaidhean sin. Bithidh air uairean suas ri dà cheud cruinn 'san aon àite, agus theodhaicheadh an cridhe as fuaire bhi faicinn suilbhreachd air gach gnìus, agus ag cluinntinn na Gàidhlig còir 'g a spreagadh air gach taobh.

Sin agaibh cuid de gnìomhachas Comunn na h-Oigridh. Air son toiseach-tòiseachaidh,

aontaichidh sibh-se nach olc an obair a rinneadh. Ach chan eil sinn riarachta fhathast. Tha comb-stri mhór romhain mu'm bi gnothuichean gach Feachd air an riaghladh mar is còir, mu'n bi làn chlar-eagair de dh'obair cho math ri fearas-chuideachd air a thoirt fa chomhair na Cloinne agus mar sin prìomh-rùintean Comunn na h-Oigridh air an toirt gu làn-thoradh. An t-urram thar gach neach aig na Maighstirean-sgoile agus na Ban-Sgoilearan a rinn obair nan Ceann-Feachd cho dian-thogarrach an aghaidh gach doirbheachd. Ach chan 'eil e ceart no cothromach a bhi 'g iarraidh orra-san a h-uile ni a dheanamh : feumaidh gach aon aig a bheil leas na Gàidhealtachd 'na chridhe tighinn a steach agus cuideachadh leinn gus Comunn na h-Oigridh a dheanamh 'na ni daingeann, soirbheachail air feadh na Gàidhealtachd.

Sguiridh mi le aon fhacal a radh mu'n oidheirp is mò a rinn sinn fathast, ceud Champa bliadhnaid Comunn na h-Oigridh, a tha fosgladh, Dia 'na thoiseach, an Sonachan am maireach. Tha'n Campa air uidheamachadh leis gach fuirneis as fhèarr a cheannaicheas airgid, agus le sgoiba thaghte de Chinn-Feachd agus luchd-cuideachaidh eile. Nach 'eil Domhnall Mac Phail, fear-deilbhe an Taoibh Tuath, air ceann a' g'ghnothuich uile, agus cò as comasaiche na e fhèin ? Nach eil Eilidh Nic 'Ille Mhaoil, a' bhan-sheinneadair ainmeil, leinn gus fonn a' chur air cèilidh : Raibeart Caimbeul ar lighiche òg—'s e is Ceannard Buidheann Camanachd Oilthigh Ghlaschu : Nurse Nic Dhomhnuill a Druim-na-drochaid, agus leth-dusan eile. Tha còig Balaich ar fhichead a' tighinn air son na ceud sheachduinne, is uiread eile de chaileagan an dèidh sin. Bithidh na Feachdan ag iomain an aghaidh a chèile, agus le chèile an aghaidh muinntir Shonachain : bith cleasachd, turusan beaga, air loch is monadh, cluichean 'san là, agus cèilidhean feasgar ; comunn caidreach eadar sean is òg ; biadh blasda agus suain cadal. Is cinnteach gu'm fàg seachduinn 's a' Champa so athaith buan air aigne gach aon a tha lathair : agus mo làmh-sa dhuit, cha bhi ruith ach leum air son àite anns a' Champa an ath-bhlaidhna.

Sin agaibh sgeul Comunn na h-Oigridh, agus mo bhuidheachas dhuibh-se a dh'èisd ris.

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

An am dhomh bhi sgrìobhadh na litreach so tha sinn an teas-meadhon Campa nam Balach an Sonachan, agus is cinnteach gun gabh sibh mo lethsguel ma tha i car mu-làimh an trobh so. Ma tha duine airson fios fhaoitainn ciod is ciall do'n fhacal "dripeil" faodaidh e a chuid a ghabhail an Campa Comunn na h-Oigridh, agus tha mi air mo mhealladh mur faigh e na tha dhith air.

Is dòcha nach eil Campa as fearr uidheam an Alba na th'againn an so. Tha paillium speurgorm, dà-throigh-dheug ceithir-chearnach aig gach ceathrar bhalach, agus a leaba "spring" (thoir dhomh facal Gàidhlig airson sin's bithidh mi buidheachd dhìot) aig gach aon dhiubh 'na a shac-connlaich. Tha dà phaillium airson ionnlaid ach fhad 's a tha'n turadh ann is fearr leinn ionnlaid 'san Allt Bhan a tha ruith seachd oirn. Tha talla a' bhaile—"Talla Sona Shonachain" mar a rinn Iain Og na Brataich a bhaisteadh—againn mar sheomar-bidh, tigh-chèilidh agus àite-fasgaidh ma thig na siantan garbh oirn.

Chan iarrainn sgoiba a b'fhearr na th'againn de luchd-cuideachaidh anns a' Champa so. Tha Domhnall MacPhail 'na Cheannard oirn, agus co as comasaiche na e fhèin—am bheil caraid as fearr aig òigridh na Gàidhealtachd an diugh ? Agus 's e mo laochan ar Lighiche og, Rob Caimbeul, Ceannard Buidheann Iomain an Oilthigh Ghlaschu, fear a bheil làmh air obair sam bith fhad's a tha i gu feum na h-òigridh : Nurse NicDhomhnuill a Dhrum-na-Drochaid, Eilidh NicMhaoilein a' bhan-sheinneadair ainmeil, an Greumach Croll, Seumas Dubhag agus Eoghann Mac-a'-Ghobhainn (an triùir sin an dèidh ionnsuchadh na Gàidhlig) : a h-uile h-aon a' toirt suas an cuid laithean saora 's a' deanamh a dhìchill, agus barrachd, a' frithealadh do'n aos òg—an t-urram aca, agus mo bhuidheachas.

'S ann air Dir-daoin an 16mh là a bha'm fire-faire 's an othail, a h-uile fear aig an obair carbad a' ruith thall's a bhos ag coinneachadh grunnan de Chloinn an sud is an so, 's an Oban, Tairbheart, a' Chrionlarach, 's mar sin sìos. As na h-Eileanan a thàinig iad : cha tàinig gin a tir-mòr—mo bàire ! Co-dhiu, chan fhada gus an robh na Balaich air an dòigh fhein, a' sìnneadh air dinneir bhlasda fo làimh ar deagh Bhanachocaire, Bean MhicCoinnich.

So mar a tha an là air a riaghladh. Duisgear an Campa aig leth uair an dèidh seachd le sgál de'n fhiob-mhóir aig Rob Caimbeul, agus an dèidh ionnlaid is cuir-umainn gheibh sinn còig mionaidean deug de luth-chleasachd mach

BRANCH CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

A new supply of Branch Constitution and Rules has been prepared in five different colours, so as to have them available for successive years. These are sold at 3/6 per 100, postage extra, and they may be had on application to the General Secretary.

air an raon, agus mo lámh dhuit, cha robh fhios aig cuid de na Balaich ciod an astar a bha eadar meòir an casan agus barr 'an corragan gus an tug Rob a thuigsinn orra. Biadh-maidne 8.30 : buth is banca fosgailte : sgrìobhadh dhachaidh (an Gaidhlig a mhàin) : agus air falbh gach mac-mathar a dh'ionnsuidh machair na h-ìomaine, no cleas eile, gu àm na dinneireach. An sin beagan fois, glanadh nan soitheachan, dol troimh na sailm airson Di-Domhnuich : cleasan eile agus Tea. Cuirear seachad beul an anmoich air caochladh dòigh : tha fuighair againn sgrìob a thoirt gu coilltean òga Shonachain an dugh agus eòlas fhaotainn air cur-coille is forsaireachd. Bithidh greim is cupan aig 8.30 agus an sin toisichidh an ceòl's an seanachas. Tha gach anam beo 'na leaba— agus taingeil a bhi—mu leth-uair an deidh deich.

Bha seirbhis Ghaidhlig an raoir an Eaglais Phortsonachain airson Comunn na h-Oigridh, agus thàinig an t-Urr. Alasdair MacDhomhnuill, Eaglais Chaluin Chille, a h-uile ceum a Glaschu a shearmonachadh. Thàinig Fear na Brataich, Ceann-Suidhe a' Chomuinn agus Iain Og chun na seirbhis. Bha'n Eaglais loma làm. Thàinig Alasdair MacLabhrainn a Sacadh a chur a mach an t-sreath, agus leugh dà bhalach as an Eilean Sgitheanach na leasan. Is cinnteach nach d'chumhnicidh aon a bha lathair an t-searmoin sin. Agus bha e sonruichte ri fhacinn mar a ghabh balaich a' Champa ri ar Ceann-Suidhe an oidheche ud. Theannaich iad mu'n cuairt air ag eisdeachd gu dùrachdach ris na bh'aige ri ràdh riu, gus am b'fheudar dhùinn an saodachadh chun an leapaichean.

O'n am a sgrìobh mi mu dheireadh, fhuaras iomradh air iomadh cuir-m-cnuic eile a bha aig na Feachdan roimh dheireadh an Og-mhios ; agus, rud ùr, bha cunntas gasda air a chur a dh'ionnsuidh nam paipearan-naigheachd air cuid de na cruinneachaidhean sin, gu h-àraidh am Muile, Tiriodh Uibhist a Tuath agus Leodhas. Choisinn Comunn na h-Oigridh urram prìomh-earrann-cunntais (leading article) anns an *Stormoray Gazette* air a thàilleamh sin, rud a tha leigeil fhacinn gum bheil muinntir na dùthcha ag gabhail suim do'n Chomunn againn. Bha là fìor ghasda aig Feachdan Sgoil Mhic-Dhiarmaid, Bearnasdaill agus Cille-Mhuire 'san Eilean Sgitheanach, taing do'n Choirneil chòir an Tobhta. Bu mhaith leam mo sbàr-bhuidheachas a chur an cèill do na h-uile Cheann-Feachd a rinn ullachadh fa chomhair nan cuirmean sin, obair iomagaineach mar is math a tha fios agam : agus ma leig mi seachad cruinneachadh gun iomradh air, cha mhise is coireach chionn is gann a fhuair mi cothrom air paipear fhacinn fad a' mhios a chaidh seachad.

SEORAS GALLDA.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

MOD CONCERTS.

As has been already indicated, members of An Comunn are to have first claim on tickets for these concerts, and the following are the arrangements which have been made to give effect to this decision:—

(1) Tickets shall be available for members wishing to attend the Friday evening concerts, up to, and including 1st September. The prices of tickets are 5/-, 3/6, and 2/6, and members are restricted to a maximum of four tickets each. Allocation between the two halls will be made in accordance with the order of applications.

(2) Up to and including 15th September, seats shall be reserved in the Main Concert Hall for members of An Comunn Executive and members of the Local Committee. Each member can apply for a maximum of two seats.

The following concerts have been arranged on the usual lines:—

Junior Concert, 22nd September, Empire Theatre. Tickets, 2/- (Reserved) and 1/-.

Rural Choir Concerts, 24th September, Empire Theatre, 6.30 and 9 p.m. Tickets, 3/6 (Reserved) and 2/6.

Grand Concerts, 25th September, Empire Theatre and Playhouse, 7.45 p.m. Tickets, 5/- (Reserved), 3/6, and 2/6.

Applications for tickets, from members only, must be made direct to the Secretary, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow. Remittance must be enclosed with each application. * * *

The Gaelic Bursary of the value of £50 for three years offered by the Trust for Education in the Highlands and Islands has been won by Ronald Lamont, Portree. We congratulate Ronald on his success, and we shall watch his progress in Gaelic studies with interest. He has made a promising start, and we wish him every success.

* * *

We are always pleased to hear of our Gaelic friends across the seas, and the following extracts from a letter received by Mr. Duncan MacCallum, who represents Comunn Gaidhealach Wellington, on the Executive Council, will be of much interest to our members and readers:—

“You will be pleased to know that our membership continues to show an increase, and our activities on behalf of

the preservation of the Gaelic tongue are being gradually extended. We are endeavouring in particular to do what we can in the way of encouraging the younger generation in the study of it, both in the weekly Junior Gaelic Class and in the Juvenile Gaelic Choir. We are also taking every opportunity of making the Gaelic known over the air, and in this direction we have met with every assistance from the Broadcasting Board.

"The visits of Miss Russell Fergusson and Messrs. MacEwan and Morrison have done much to remind listeners that the old language is not yet extinct, and we are in hopes that the bringing out of Gaelic artists will be continued by the Board.

"As our representative on the Executive of An Comunn you will no doubt let that body know of our work in this far-off land, and it may perhaps be of some encouragement to them in the splendid work they are doing in the home country. I might add that for the first time in the history of the Competitions Society here, we have had a section for Gaelic singing, and though the entries were not very large, we are hoping that the interest excited this time will have the effect of bringing along more entrants next year."

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For the information of members I have to intimate that no election of members to the Executive Council will be necessary this year, as only the number required to fill the vacancies have accepted nomination.

CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

An Airde Tuath.

Bha am Fear-deilbhe ag cuideachadh aig Mòdan Leòdhais is an Eilean Sgitheanaich mar is àbhaist agus tha àireamh na cloinne a' dol na's motha gach bliadhna. Chan urrainnear sin a ràdh mu na h-inbhich ach is dòcha gur e is coireach nach 'eil obair latha r'a fhaighinn aig na dachaidhean agus gur fheudair do na gillean is do na h-igheanan na bailtean móra a thoirt orra.

Aig Mòd Leòdhais, a bharrachd air na còisirean a bha fo stiùireadh Mhgr. Iain Mhic Dhomhnaill, fear teagais ciuil a' Chomuinn, bha còisirean an lathair a sgoil mhór Steornabhagh fo stiùireadh Mhgr. Smart agus na Maighdinn Nic Iomhair.

Chumadh da chuirme-chiuil ghrinn an talla a' Bhaile agus bha àireamh ghasda an lathair aig

gach cuirme. Thug am Fear-deilbhe taing a' Chomuinn do gach aon a chuidich ann an doigh sam bith agus gu h-àraidh do Sheumas Mac Thomais, Ceann-suidhe na Comhairle agus do Alasdair Urchadan, an Rùnaire. Chan 'eil eagal do'n Ghaidhlig airson ioma latha an Leòdhas.

Air dha Leòdhas fhagail rinn Mgr. Mac Phàil air an Eilean Sgitheanach far an do fhritheil e aig a' Mhòd an baile Phort Rìgh. Chaidh gach ni gu réidh fad an dà latha agus bha am Mòd so soirbheachail anns na h-uile dòigh. Aig na cuirmean-ciuil, Oigridh agus Inbhich, bha an talla cho làn is a chumadh e, agus air an dara oidhche bha cuid nach d' fhuair a steachd idir. Aig a' cheud chuirme bha a' Bhean Uasal Fionghal Nic Leoid, Ceann-cinnidh nan Leòdach, anns a' chathair, agus aig an dara cuirme bha an t-Ollamh Niall Ros as an Lagan air ceann na cuideachd.

Tha luchd-comhairle a' Mhòid a' deanamh obair shonraichte an aobhar na Gaidhlig 's an Eilean, agus chaidh Raonall Mac Leoid, an Rùnaire, agus Mgr. Donnchadh Mac Mhaoilein, an t-Iomhasar gu uchd an dèhill air a' bhliadhna so. Is math is airidh iad air gach taing a ghabhas a thairgse dhoibh.

Tha am Fear-deilbhe a nis ag cuideachadh aig Campa Comunn na h-Oigridh aig Sonachan, taobh Loch Odha, an Earraghaidheal. Is e so a' cheud uair a chaidh Campa Gaidhlig uidheamachadh airson luchd na Gaidhlig a mhàin agus is cinnteach gu'm bi soirbheachadh a' leantuinn na h-oidheirp so.

Ma tha aon neach ri shàr-mholadh anns an aobhar so is e sin an t-uasal Seòras Marjoribanks, Fear Gairme Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich, agus athair Comunn na h-Oigridh. Aig an àm so an uiridh chuir e roimhe gu'm biodh Camp aig Sonachan am bliadhna agus tha nis an gnìomh air a thoirt gu buil.

An Airde Deas.

Thugadh Mòdan Duthchail a Chinn Deas gu crìch le Mòd Aird nam Murchan air an latha mu dheireadh de'n Og-mhìos. Chumadh am Mòd air a' bhliadhna so an Aird-ghobhair, ann an Talla Cuimhneachain an Triath fhialthail a chuir am Mòd air bhonn an toiseach. Bha luchd-farpais an lathair á Muideart, ás an Fhaodhail Dhuibh, á Ath-tharacail, á Sròn an t-Sithein, á Dubhaisgidh agus ás na clachain bheaga mu'n cuairt air Clò-mhuilinn fhéin.

Bu chiatach a bhi ag eisdeachd ris a' chloinne bheag a' bruidhinn na Gaidhlig cho blada, fhileanta 'nam measg fhéin; agus ag aithris bàrdachd is a leughadh rosg cho réidh, shiubhlach 's a dh'arradh neach eisdeachd.

Bha Baintighearna Aird-ghobhair fhéin air ceann na cuideachd agus is dileas, tréibhdhreach i a chumail suas nan cleachdadh gan gasda a bha cho miadhail aig a céile suairce nach maireann. Is cinnteach gu'n robh ioma súil a' síleadh an uair a bha Iain Og Mac Ghille na Brataich a' seinn a' chumha dhruidhtich a rinn Seumas Mac Mhaoilein mar chuibhneachan air Fear Aird-ghobhair, agus airson an do rinn Iain Mac Dhomhnaill 's an Oban fonn breagha, faireachail.

Tha ar taing acasan a chuidich am Mod so a thoir ri gu bheil cho soirbheachail. Gu ma fada slàn iad a chuideachadh leis an aobhar.

ISLAY PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Islay Provincial Mod was held at Bowmore on 12th June, and there were encouraging entries in the Junior Section. The general public turned out in large numbers to support the Mod. Dr. Hugh Ferguson Watson, Edinburgh, presided over the closing concert. The following were the adjudicators:—Gaelic—Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow. Music—Mr. Hugh Hunter, Mus. Bac., Rothersey, and Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:

JUNIOR SECTION.

Reading—Jean Ferguson, Ardbeg (Mr Christie's Pendant).

Reciting—Jessie Campbell, Port Ellen.

Comunn na h-Oigrìdh (Girls)—I, Bella MacLean, Portcharlotte (Prize from Mr. Marjoribanks). Boys—Angus MacAffer, Ardbeg (Prize from Mr. Marjoribanks).

Solo Singing—Girls—Lily Ferguson, Bridgend (Committee's Gold Pendant). Boys—Hugh Duncan, Bridgend (Committee's Gold Pendant).

Canntaireachd—Hugh Duncan, Bridgend.

Duet Singing—Hugh Duncan and Duncan Gray, Bridgend.

Choral Singing—Portcharlotte School Choir (Mr. Morrison's Challenge Cup).

Unison Singing—Port Ellen School Choir (Mr. McIntyre's Challenge Cup).

Pianoforte—Mattie Winnard, Bowmore.

SENIOR SECTION.

Reading—Jane McIndeor, Ballygrant.

Recitation—Duncan McNiven, Rockside. Recitation (Original)—Duncan McNiven, Rockside.

Sgeulachd—Duncan McNiven, Rockside.

Solo Singing—Female Voices—Esther Miller, Portwemyss (Committee's Gold Pendant). Male Voices—Alasdair McIndeor, Portcharlotte (Committee's Gold Pendant).

Solo Singing of Song composed by Duncan Ban MacIntyre—Mary Clark, Portcharlotte (Miss McIntyre's Prize).

Canntaireachd—Neil Gillespie, Portnahaven.

Duet Singing—Morag MacEachern and Mrs. Carmichael, Port Ellen.

Quartette—Leodamus "Faith" Quartette.

Trio—Male Voices—Portcharlotte Trio. Female Voices—Portcharlotte Trio.

Solo Singing of last three verses of Psalm 72 (Tune "Coleshill)—Archibald McLean, Kentra (Prize by Rev. Neil Ross, B.D., Bowmore).

Violin—Albert Currie, Portnahaven.

Pianoforte—Cissie McMillan, Bowmore.

Choral Singing—Four-part Harmony—Port Ellen Choir (Mr Morrison's Challenge Cup). Female Voices only—Port Ellen Ladies' Choir (Mr. Cameron's Challenge Cup).

Unison Singing—Port Ellen Choir (Greenock Gaelic Choir's Challenge Cup).

LEWIS PROVINCIAL MOD.

The thirteenth Lewis Provincial Mod was held at Stornoway on 18th and 19th June, and was very successful. The standard generally was very high, and the adjudicators were well pleased with the performances. Councillor J. S. MacLean presided over the junior concert, and Mr. James Thomson, M.A., over the senior concert. The adjudicators this year were:—Mr. Malcolm MacCallum, Campbeltown, for music, with Rev. Lachlan MacLeod, Stornoway, and Mr. Donald MacPhail, northern organiser of An Comunn, as Gaelic assessors. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Knock, was adjudicator for the oral competitions.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:

JUNIOR SECTION.

Oral Competitions—Acted Dialogue in Gaelic—Katie M. Mackenzie and Katie M. Macaulay, Aird. Discussion between competitors and adjudicator (open to members of Comunn na h-Oigrìdh only)—Willena Macleod, Knock. Telling an Unpublished Gaelic Story (prizes by Royal Celtic Society)—Alex. D. MacDonald, Aird.

Vocal Music—Solo Singing (girls 12-16), prescribed song—Morag Watt. Girls under 12, prescribed song—Christie Murray. Boys, 12-16, prescribed song—Roderick Yorston. Girls, 12-16, own choice—Katie B. MacDonald. Girls under 12, own choice—Dolly Mackay. Boys, 12-16, own choice—Murdo Ferguson. Boys under 12, own choice—Norman Macsween. Boys under 12, prescribed song—Angus MacLeod.

Duet Singing—Morag Watt and Murdina MacMillan.

Best rendering of local traditional song (Girls)—Katie B. MacDonald and Morag Watt (equal).

SENIOR SECTION.

Vocal Music—Solo Singing—Female Voices, own choice, Dolina Smith. Male Voices, own choice—William MacLeau. Female Voices, prescribed song—Annabella MacLeod. Male Voices, prescribed song—Malcolm Smith.

Duet Singing—Mary A. MacDonald (b) and Greta Stewart.

Gaelic Folk Song—Annabella MacLeod.

CHORAL MUSIC.

Junior Section—Choral Singing in Unison—Laxdale Junior Choir. Choral Singing of a Two-part Song—Lionel Junior Choir.

Senior Section—Choral Singing—Female Voices—Laxdale Senior Choir. Mixed Voices—Stornoway Gaelic Choir.

PERTSHIRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Mod was held this year at Pitlochry on 19th June, and the entries totalled 200. The judges were:—Gaelic—Mr. John R. Bannerman, Glasgow; Rev. Alex. MacDonald, Glasgow, and Mr. John A. Nicolson, Glasgow. Music—Miss Margaret Duncan, Glasgow, and Mr. Iain MacPherson, Glasgow. Instrumental—Mr. Arch. Adamson, Edinburgh. Piping—Mr. Neil Shaw, organising secretary, An Comunn Gàidhealach.

Dr. G. F. Barbour, of Bonskeid, presided, and the programme was sustained by Mod first-prize winners, assisted by Miss Margaret Duncan and Mr. Alasdair Matheson, Glasgow.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:

Junior Section — Reading — Piece of Gaelic Prose (learners) — Margaret Duff, Grandtully School. Reciting from Memory (children under 10 years) — Moira Forbes, Glenerrachty School. Reciting from Memory (10 and under 16, native speakers) — Jemima Robertson, Fincastle. Recitation (learners, as distinct from native speakers, 10 and under 16 — Margaret Duff, Grandtully School. Narrative (based on local incident, tradition, or legend) and Simple Conversation) — Jean Blair, Calbraur.

Special Prizes to mothers or guardians of children under 10 who speak Gaelic (best native speaker) — Catriona Fletcher, Dunalastair. Gaelic conversation (over 10 and under 18 years of age) — Jemima Robertson, Fincastle. Repetition Prose Psalm 100 or Verses 1 to 11 of St. John's Gospel (native speakers under 16) — Marion Cameron, Dall, Rannoch. Repetition Paraphrase 11 (learners under 16, as distinct from native speakers) — John Gow, Dalnamein. Reading (16 to 18 years) — Jean Blair, Calbraur.

Literary Section (oral) — Gaelic Place Names — John Gow, Dalnamein. Gaelic Names of Plants — W. Gow, Dalnamein.

Junior Section — Solo Singing (competitors' own choice, girls under 10) — Catriona Fletcher, Dunalastair. Solo Singing (girls over 10 and under 16) — Euphemia Scott, Dunally Hostel, Aberfeldy. Solo Singing (boys over 10 and under 16) — Struan Robertson, Aberfeldy.

Solo Singing, selected (girls or boys) — Euphemia W. Scott, Aberfeldy. Duet Singing (song chosen by competitors, boys or girls) — Margaret Forrest and Frances Henderson, Pitlochry. Solo Singing, selected (girls or boys, 6 to 18) — Jean M. Blair, Calbraur.

Senior Section — Solo Singing, female voices (competitors' own choice) — Miss Isobel Robertson, Aberfeldy. Solo Singing, male voices (competitors' own choice) — Alastair Carmichael, Killiecrankie. Solo Singing, male or female voices — Miss Cathie McDougall, Kinloch-Rannoch.

Solo Singing (former first-prize winners), own choice — Mr. James D. Scott, Kinloch-Rannoch. Duet Singing, own choice — Misses E. and M. Robertson, Pitlochry. Quartette Singing, mixed voices — Kinloch-Rannoch Quartette.

Junior and Senior Sections — Vocal, Choral, and Oral — Solo Singing, dance measure — Miss E. Robertson, Pitlochry. Junior Choral Singing (two-part harmony) — Pitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir. Junior Unison Choral Singing — Pitlochry Junior Gaelic

Senior Choral Singing (harmony), Ladies' Voices — Pitlochry Ladies' Gaelic Choir. Senior Choral Singing (harmony), Mixed Voices — Kinloch-Rannoch Gaelic Choir.

Senior Oral — Recitation — D. McLeod, Dall. Narrating of an Unpublished Historical or Traditional Gaelic Story — Miss M. Morrison, Perth. Acted Dialogue — Miss Ellen MacKay and Miss M. Morrison, Perth.

Reading Unfamiliar Prose (open) — Donald McLeod, Dall. Reading Passages selected by the judge from "Tuireadh Aird Ghobhar," followed by Conversations — Mrs. T. M. Stewart, Aberfeldy.

Instrumental — Violin, playing Gaelic Song or Strathspey and Reel — Junior — Margaret Murdoch, Dalguise; Senior — Archie Cameron, Kinloch-Rannoch.

Pianoforte — March, Strathspey, and Reel — Juniors — Christina Seaton, Dunkeld; Seniors — Miss Margaret Douglas, Bankfoot. Bagpipe Playing — March, Strathspey, and Reel, lads under 19 — Alan Cameron, Pitlochry.

Senior — Gaelic Story — Miss Margaret Morrison, Perth. Gaelic Poem — Miss Margaret Morrison, Perth. Place Names (Royal Celtic Society's prize) — Mrs. J. MacDougall, Aberfeldy, and Miss Ellen MacKay, Dalguise (equal). Gaelic Letter Writing — Miss M. Morrison, Perth.

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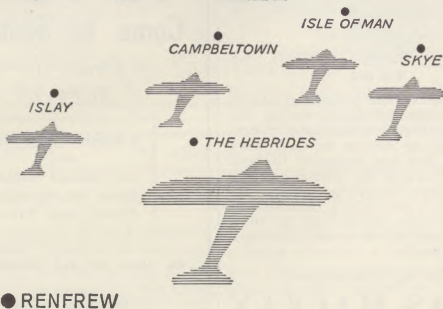
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Leabhar XXXI.]

An t-Sultuin, 1936.

[Earrann 12

AN DE IS AN DIUGH.

Leis an fhacal sin an dé, tha mi a' ciallachadh an am a dh'fhalbh. Buinidh sin do eachdraidh. Dh'fhalbh an la an dé air sgiathan agus cha till e ruinn. Dh'fhalbh cuideachd na coran air an robh gnìomh an la an dé an crochadh. Mar Gaidheil tha sinne deidheil air an am a chaidh seachad. Nach iomadh oidhche fhada gheamhraidh a chuir sinn thairis a' moladh na seann timean. Nach iomadh facal fileanta a chuala tu mu dheidhinn cliù do shinnsir, an eireachdas ri sith agus an cruadal ri cogadh. Ged tha cuibheas de sin iomchuidh, gidheadh tha cus dheth cronail, a' tarrainn t'aire air falbh bho iarrtas an am a tha làthair. Faodaidh gu bheil cuid againn gu mór air ar tàladh le cliù is ceòl ar sluaigh agus nach eil sinn furachail gu leòr gu bhi a' gabhail beachd gu h-iomaguineach air na caochlaidhean a thainig le làithean ùra. Chan e a mhain gu'n deachaidh na bliadhnaichean thairis mar sgàile; ach maille ris na bliadhnaichean theich na nithean anns an robh taic is brìgh a chum feum ar muinntir; an eachd gnìomhachas, is saothair fearainn is mara; an son fhacal theich na nithean bunasach air an robh beatha is teachd an tìr a' seasamh.

* * *

Ach cuide ris na coran aimsireil anns am faighte biadh is aodach theich maraon na cothroman a bha aig ar n-òigridh gu bhi a' glacadh an oilein a bha dualach dhaibh. Thoir

fainear ciod a rinn Achd an Fhoghlum 1871 ri ar fir, ri ar mnathan, is ri ar cloinn. Rinn e creutairean leth-sgodach dhinn. Dh'àichidh e dhuinn an t-oilein a bu dual duinn, agus spàrr e sìos ann ar n-amhaich, a dheoin no dh'aindeoin, oilein coigreach airson nach robh càil no blas againn. Agus am b'iongnadh ged thilgeamaid as ar beul a leithid. Is e tha ann ach dearbhadh air teomachd spioradail ar muinntir gu'n d'rinn sinn feum idir de ghnè foghlum leis an deachaidh ar comh-éigheachadh an aghaidh ar toile. Buinidh an fhoirmeirt ud do'n la an dé. Agus is ann a nis tha toradh na foirmeirt ud follaiseach. Is ann a nis a chi sinn gu soilleir ciod e am milleadh a rinn ainneirt spioradail cho borb, air inntinn nan Gaidheil. Is e is toradh do'n chomh-éigheachadh ud gu bheil sinn a nis an cunnart ar cànan dùthchail a chall; agus comhla ris a' chànan ar ceusan agus ar nòsan dùthchail a chall mar an ceudna.

* * *

Mar dh'fhoglas sinn ar sùilean mata air madainn an la an diugh is ann a chuireas e cianalas oirnn mar thachair; cudthrom cridhe gu'n tigeadh an la anns am faicimid staid cho truagh a' breith air ar dùthaich. Chan fhaodar misneach a chall. Ged tha an tuath air fàs tearc anns na glinn, faodaidh gu'n tig an uair anns am feumar am fearann aiteach air feadh na dùthcha; agus an sin is coltach gu'n tig tomhas de shoirbheachadh air ais do'n

Ghaidhealtachd. Ach a bharrachd air ana-cothrom crannchuir is cion cosnaidh is mór a' bhochdainn air a' Ghaidheil gu bheil a spiorad dùthchail air fannachadh. Is mór am beud gu bheil e cho buailteach air gabhail rinnean Gallda, agus air a nìthean dùthchail fein a dhearmad. Is e so a dh'fhàg obair A'Chomuinn cho fìor dhuilich, gu bheil a mhór chuid de Ghaidheil cho deas gu bhì leigeil ruith le gnothuichean mar thogras iad, gun strì gun oidheirp a chum cùisean a leasachadh. Chan ann air tachartas bho 'n leth am mach a thig beatha do 'n Ghaidhlig. Cha sàbhail ni ar cainnt ach deagh-ghean is dùrachd nan Gaidheal gus a gleidheadh beò cìod air bith a dh'èireas dhaibh fein a thaobh an cor saoghalta.

* * *

Is coltach gur i so an earrann chinn mu dheireadh a sgrìobhas mise airson *An Gaidheal*. Agus ann a dealachadh tairgidh mi earail dhùrachdach do bhuill A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich. Is i m' earail dhaibh gu feum iad a' Ghaidhlig a chleachdadh anns na coinneamhan gnothuich air fad. Bho chionn fichead bliadhna air ais bha mise an aghaidh a' bheachd so. Bha mi an dùil gu'n ionnsuicheadh luchd na Beurla a bheag no mhór de Ghaidhlig gus an cuid fein de ghnòthuch A' Chomuinn a ghiulan air aghaidh ann an Gaidhlig. Ach an deidh fichead bliadhna tha luchd na Beurla cho fada air an ais an Gaidhlig 's a bha iad riamh. Fhuair iad an toil fein—pàiteas Beurla le fìor bheagan Gaidhlig an coinneimhean A' Chomuinn. *Is e tha ann ach amaideas a bhì an dùil gu'n cumair ar cànan beò le bhì a' bruidhinn mu 'deidhinn am Beurla*. Faodaidh gu'n cail sibh ball no dha aig nach eil Gaidhlig, ach cìod e dha sin—cha bhì sibh dad nas laige. Ach is e aobhar laige tha ann gu'n gleidheadh sibh luchd na Beurla, ma tha sin g' ar comh-èigneachadh gus ur cànan fein àicheadh. Seall air na Cuimrich agus na h-Eireannaich. Is fhada mas deanadh iadsan dearmad air an cainntean fein air sgàth chàirdèan sam bith nach gabhadh trioblaid gus an cànan ionnsuchadh. Chan fhaigh a' Ghaidhlig a h-aite fein gu bràth am beachd an t-sluagh, gus am faigh i a h-àite fein air tùs an teis meadhon A' Chomuinn. Thugaibh gun dàil do'n Ghaidhlig an t-aite urramach a thug sibh do'n Bheurla gus an so.

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PRESTIGE.

By THE EDITOR.

On consulting the dictionary, I find that the definition of prestige is—the influence arising from past conduct, or from reputation. In the modern world, the idea of prestige has come into prominence in several directions, whether it be the advantage derived from the possession of worldly power; the influence obtained through integrity of conduct; or the dignity that accrues from other forms of merit, such as the inherent beauty of a racial music as that of the Gaels, or the glamour and romance of an ancient and venerable tongue like Gaelic.

Now this last clause about the old language and music must be the basis of what I have to say as regards prestige. I am at this moment writing my final item as Editor of *An Gaidheal*, and the following remarks are therefore in the nature of an editorial farewell:—

The first great blow to the prestige of Scottish Gaelic was struck by the Education (Scotland) Act of 1872. Granted that much benefit was conferred in the imparting of knowledge and the spread of education. But the blow struck at Gaelic was shameful. No provision was made for the teaching of the native speech. If any child spoke Gaelic, even in the playground, he was punished severely. Under these circumstances no argument is required to show how Gaelic suffered in prestige. The language of Columba and Canmore was not good enough for our enlightened educationists of 1872.

A few years ago, however, honourable amends were made for this official hurt to the dignity of Gaelic. The Act of 1918 goes far to enable our people, if they wish, to restore the prestige of the language. It now lies with ourselves to bring forward the old speech, and not to leave it always in the back seat to which it has been relegated. I have written a great deal on this idea in these pages during the past fourteen years. Gaelic is acquiring a little prestige gradually. An Comunn is the champion of the language. In our hands is the guardianship of its privileges, and we should be zealous to protect them. Every member should realise that he has his own share to do in furthering the use and practice of Gaelic on every possible occasion. This is a counsel that Mod goers are slow to adopt. We hear far too much English at Mods, from the lips of many who should be using their mother

tongue. The English speakers will not be offended if you speak your own language. They will only envy you your faculty of speaking two languages. By using Gaelic extensively you will heighten its prestige. There is no other way of honouring the language than by speaking it.

Twenty years ago I used to fight against a motion which was constantly on the agenda in those days—to have Gaelic only at all our business meetings. I deferred to the inability of those who were ignorant of Gaelic. I was full of hope that they might acquire the language, and so be able to take part in the transaction of business in Gaelic. But to-day, after twenty years, they are still unable to speak Gaelic. Now you cannot expect the outside world to honour Gaelic as long as you do not honour it yourselves. You should use Gaelic exclusively in your business meetings, and give it the place of honour and the prestige which you have hitherto accorded to English. The cultivation of public speaking in Gaelic is one of the objects of the existence of An Comunn; and it is absurd that you should continue to neglect, at your public meetings, the frequent opportunities you have of realising that aim, and of proving so effectively the competence of Gaelic as an instrument for the conduct of business, as well as being the vehicle of sentiment and song.

FOIRBEASACH CHUILODAIR.

A rùn a thaobh agus a bhuaidh air Bliadhna Thearlaich.

Le DOMHNALL MAC GILL' IOSA.

Tha cuid de dhaoine ag cumail a mach gun d' thàinig bochdainn agus ànradh mór air a' Ghàidhealtachd ri linn Phrionnsa Tearlach an làtha' a chall aig Culodair,—gun deachaidh suidheachadh nan Gàidheal a tharruing a nuas a dh'ionnsaigh staid a bha cho ìosal 's nach mór nach robh iad air an claoidh, as eugmhais saorsa agus ceartais. A bharrachd air so, tha iad ag connasachadh nan robh am Prionnsa air an làtha sin a chosnadh gun robh na Gàidheil air an t-sean staid shaorsail a bha aca roimhe sin a gheidheil, air chor is gum biodh a' Ghàidhealtachd an diugh, ann an suidheachadh, moran na's shearr na tha i againn fhein an dràsda.

Gidheadh, air an laimh eile tha moran Ghàidheal a' dearbhadh dhuinn, nach biodh,—

oir, am beagan saorsa a tha da-rìreadh, a nis againn, gur h-ann, eadhon, o aobhar thuairreap Chulodair fhéin a fhuair sinn—oir, nan robh am Prionnsa air a bhuaidh fhaotainn, nach robh uiread idir de adhargas air a thighinn air a' Ghàidhealtachd is a thàinig oirre. Agus, ma fhuair, no, ma choisinn na Gàidheil dad de shaorsa, no de mhaitheas, le aobhar Chulodair, gur h-ann le'n tapachd fhéin a fhuair iad e,—oir, gun robh a' cheart uidhir dhù, no eadhon, barrachd, ag cogadh an aghaidh a' Phrionnsa 's a bha cogadh leis.

Is e so, matà, dà thaobh na cùise, agus, có, a nis, dhe'n dà bhuidhinn so, a tha sinne a' 'dol a chreidsinn, an uair a tha gach aon cho dian 'n am barail agus 'n am beachdan fhéin. Air an aobhar sin, chan aithne dhuinn gum bheil dòigh eile againn air,—ach sinn a dhòl a rannsachadh a mach a ghnòthaich air ar son fhéin.

Chan ann, le sin, bho shean iomraidhean, a chaidh a thoirt a nuas chugainn le luchd-cogaidh, no luchd-riaghlaidh, a bhuineadh do'n taobh so, no'n taobh ud eile, a bu mhaith leinn a dhòl a shreadh seòlaidh chum foillseachadh firinneach a thoirt duinn mu'n chuspair so, a tha fa ar comhair, ach, bho dhaoine coir urramach, aig nach robh ni anns an t-sealladh, aig an am, ach a bhi foillseachadh an dearbh shuidheachaidh anns an robh an sluagh gu coitcheann, air feadh nan sgìreachdan anns an robh iad fhéin ag comhnaidh, roimh, agus an déidh aimsir Chulodair.

Timchioll air dà fhichead, no, leth-cheud bliadhna an déidh Bliadhna Thearlaich, mar theireadh cuid rithe, chaidh òrdugh a thoirt do gach ministear parraiste an Alba, cunntas iomraiteach a thoirt seachad mu thimchioll an t-suidheachadh anns an robh na sgìreachdan air an robh iad-fhéin a' coimhead thairis. A mach as an iomlan dhù so, a thug seachad iomradh, chan aithne dhuinn gu bheil barrachd air ceathrar dhù, a thug seachad coimeas, a thaobh an eadar-dhealachaidh a bha air cor, agus suidheachadh an t-sluaigh, anns na sgìreachdan sin, roimh, agus an déidh, am Chulodair. Gidheadh, tha na gearr-iomraidhean sin, a thug a' cheathrar so dhuinn, ag cur a' ghnòthaich cho fìor shoilleir, 's nach 'eil teagamh sam bith air fhàgail againn, a thaobh co-dhù, a bha 'm barrachd saorsa aig na Gàidheil roimh am Chulodair no 'na dhéidh.

Tha an t-urramach Donnchadh Stiùbhard, ministear Baile-Chuidir, an siorramachd Pheart,—a' sgrìobhadh mu thimchioll na sgìre aige-fhéin (1790-3) ag radh:—“Tha'n sluagh 's an pharraist so, gu coitcheann, beòchanta, fìosrach, déidheil air naidheachdan, agus

aidheil ri coigrich. Tha beagan dhiù beartach, agus, chan 'eil móran dhiù bochd. 'G an gabhail comhla, tha iad a' faighinn am beò-làin gu comhfhurtail. Tha e air aithris, le gach uile cheartas, gur e chrìoch àraid, a chaidh a chur air a' chogadh an 1746, a dh'aoibhraich dhaibh an t-siobhaltachd so, or, a nuas a dh'ionnsaigh na h-aimsir sin bha móran shuaicheantasan de lagh a' Bhàillidh 's an Uachdrain, le'n cuid anacothroman eucoireach, ri'm faicinn an iomadh àite." (Faic cunntas iomraiteach nam parraistean, Leabhar, VI., 97).

Tha an dara iomradh againn mu thimchioll an t-suidheachadh 's an robh parraiste Obar-thairbh 's an am cheudna, 's an t-seanchas a leanas:—"Nuas o'n bhliadhna 1746, tha dòighean an t-sluaigh 's an sgìre so, an déidh tionndadh eadar-dhealaichte a ghabhail, seach mar a bha iad roimh sin. Tha na h-uachdrain, aig a bheil am fearann air a shuidheachadh le aonta, a' faicinn, a nis, nach eil na's fhaide, fèum aca air croitearan, no coitearan, a' tarraing uapa-san an t-sean dàimh, agus uachdranachd a bh'aca thairis orra, agus, tha iadsan a dh'ainmicheadh mu dheireadh, le bhì air an gluasad le spiorad na saorsa, ag earbsa as an saothair fhéin, air chor 's gum bheil moran dhiù an déidh an t-àite-dàimh fhàgail, air son beò-làin nì's fhearr fhaotainn an àitean eile. Agus, tha'n chuid dhiù a tha air fuireach, a nis, le iad a bhì air an co-éigneachadh air son màl airgid a phàidheadh, an àite màl seirbhis air tòiseachadh air an intinn a leageadh, nas fhearr air oibreachadh an cuid fearainn. Agus tha e gu mòr ri fhaicinn gu bheil an t-atharrachadh so, an déidh eadar-dhealachadh mór a thoirt air coslas an t-sluaigh. A bharr air so nas fhaide, chan fhaicear iad aig Eaglais, no aig Féill, air an còmhach le aodaichean de chloimh an caorach fhéin, air an niomh le'm mnathan agus nighean, agus tha biadh simplidh an sinnsir, daibh-san an déidh a bhlas a chall." (Faic Leabhar XX., 25) *ibid.*

Tha an treas iomradh againn a thaobh parraist Feartairchill, siorramachd Pheairt, bho'n Urramach Donnchadh Mac-Ara, a dh'èug 's an bhliadhna 1804, aig aois trì-fichead bliadhna 's a h-ochd-deug. Bhiodh Mgr. Mac-Ara, air an aobhar so, timchioll air fichead bliadhna a dh'aois aig am Chulodair, air chor is gu'm biodh deagh fhios aige air an t-suidheachadh 's an robh an sluagh 's an sgìre sin, roimh, agus an déidh, Bliadhna Thearlaich.

Muthimchioll cor a' pharraist, tha e ag radh, mar so:—"Roimh 'n bhliadhna, 1745, bha sgìre Raineach an staid neo-shlòbhailta

agus borb, gun bhì fo chuing, no smachd, a thaobh géill a thoirt do'n lagh.

A' toirt fianuis air nithean de'n t-seorsa sin, cha robh e eadhon an comas an luchd-riaghlaidh, fear de phrìomh uachdrain na sgìre so, a cho-éigneachadh air son a chuid fhianuis a phàidheadh.

Chaidh dà fhear-turais aon uair a chur gu' ionnsaigh a Peairt, air son rabhadh a thoirt dha. Thug e òrdugh do dhusan de a chuid daoine, an dithis fhear-turais a cheangal air dà bhara-laimhe, agus 's an t-suidheachadh so an giùlan gu drochaid Chaineachan, naoi mìle air falbh uapa. Cha robh 's an oighreachd aig an uachdran so ach nead mheirleach, a leag an dùthaich fo chis eadar Struidhlaidh agus sear-thaobh Pheairt—a' co-éigneachadh an t-sluaigh air son màl-dubh a phàidheadh dhaibh-san (mar theirte ris aig an am so), air son gu'm b'è iadsan, mar a bha iad-fhéin ag radh, a bha gleidheadh an cuid spréidh agus maoin, gun a bhì air an goid le mèirlich. B'è an sgìre so an t-àite bu mhotha 's an robh a leithid so de cheaird a' dol air adhart. Chruinnicheadh iad an so, aig àm an fhoghair, mu àireamh trì cheud duine, a' deanamh suas chunntaisean, agus a' goid spréidhe. Bha gach duine aig an am so ag giùlan airm.

Ghabhadh e réisimeid air son meirleach a thoirt a mach as an sgìre so, ach, an déidh do'n luchd riaghlaidh còmhlan shaihdéaran a chur 'nam measg, agus meirleach a' chrochadh aig an dorsan b'èiginn dhaibh an dòighean atharrachadh, air chor 's gu bheil muinntir na sgìre so, an diugh (1790-3), a thaobh onarach de'n t-seorsa sin, cho dileas, agus cho nitheach ri sluagh sam bith a tha anns an rìoghachd."

Tha an ceathramh iomradh a tha againn, mu thimchioll an suidheachaidh 's an robh parraist Aber-Nethidh, an Srath-Spéidh, bho'n urramach Mgr. Iain Grand a dh'èug 's an bhliadhna 1820, aig aois ceithir fichead bliadhna 's a h-aon. Cha bhiodh Mgr. Grand, air an aobhar so, ach seachd bliadhna dh'aois, aig àm Chulodair, air chor's nach biodh moran fios aige air mar a bha gothaichean roimh Bhliadhna Thearlaich. Ach, gidheadh, bha athair, is a sheanair, agus a shinn-seanair, 'n am ministearan 's an sgìre so, air chor 's gu'm faodadh e iomradh glé chomh-lionta fhaighinn o bheul-aithris, mu thimchioll an suidheachadh 's an robh an dùthaich sin roimh àm Chulodair.

(Ri leantainn.)

HIGHLAND DEVELOPMENT AND THE GAELIC RENAISSANCE.

By the Rev. THOMAS MACKENZIE DONN, M.A.

Among sincere lovers of Gaelic and of the Scottish Highlands there exists a regrettable but very real divergence of belief on the connection between Highland Development and Gaelic Culture. But the ultimate success of the Highland Development League will be assured if its membership becomes sufficiently strong, and for this to take place many require to be persuaded of the benefits which would accrue to Gaelic Culture if the aims of the League were realised; as far as possible there must be unity of thought as well as unity of effort. At present it cannot be claimed that unity of thought in this connection prevails. The value of economic reconstruction to the Gaelic cause is more than denied on the one side, and more than admitted on the other.

PROGRESS AND CULTURE.

If it were true that Highland Development has been, is, and would be inimical to Gaelic Culture, then we should be left with nothing better than a "counsel of despair" and a testimony to the intrinsic poverty of that culture. Vain is the hope of reverting to economic and social conditions formerly existing: the tide of economic and topographical change has already gone too far for it to be swept back. Forward must be direction not backward. Further, a Culture which cannot outlive the inevitable changes of economic and social progress does not deserve to survive; the glory of the ancient Greek Culture is that it has outlived all vicissitudes. So is it with every contribution to the mental, moral, social and spiritual truth acquired by man: it is imperishable. Thus "if there be any virtue and if there be any praise" in Gaelic Culture it, too, will remain. The question, however, is whether the contraction of the scope of Gaelic is, or is not, due largely to the economic improvements which have taken place. All readily admit that social ills, such as depopulation, war, etc., are detrimental to culture, but many feel that progress has likewise a baneful influence.

THE CASE AGAINST HIGHLAND DEVELOPMENT.

Opposition to the League takes the form of protest against the "modernisation" of the Highlands. It is declared that the results of

scientific progress and invention have been applied to the detriment of Highland life and culture. The diagnosis here is generally correct, but the cure prescribed is wrong. The reasoning runs thus: a multitude of so-called improvements have taken place, such as smooth wide roads as at Glencece, increased and speedier transport facilities by road, rail, sea and air, rapid delivery of newspapers, the advent of cinemas and radio broadcasting, but their cumulative effect has been the disturbing of Highland life and habits. Then follows a list of prevalent evils which all must admit do exist. Gaelic is on the decline every year; depopulation continues; rural life is becoming distasteful, and town or city life preferred; a distressing secularity of behaviour characterises many, both young and old; Church attendance is meagre; Sabbath-observance is less and less regarded, and the day is wasted in the unspiritual and unintelligent idleness of a pagan holiday, or devoted to work neither of necessity nor of mercy; the pernicious evil of football pool-betting is rampant wherever coupon-papers circulate; many waste on personal pleasure a disproportionate amount of their scanty resources; cultural taste is on the decline, and its place taken by the follies of fashion and general insipidity of personality.

Beneficial economic and scientific changes are not intrinsically the causes of any deterioration which has taken place in Highland life and culture, but rather the cause is the misuse of the gifts received in the forms of scientific progress. Such evils as exist are certainly not due merely to the disappearance of "the good old days" (which, as history shows, were not so very good!) when roads were bad or non-existent and general conditions unsatisfactory. To think so is to lack acumen and contradict the facts of history and experience.

The unprogressive outlook on Highland conditions is futile as a method of promoting either the Gaelic Renaissance or any other mental, moral, or spiritual ideal. Not less Highland Development, but more, and this controlled by elevating influences, cultural and religious, to avoid the potential evils which ever threaten mankind is what is required.

THE GAELIC RENAISSANCE.

The enthusiasm for Gaelic hitherto has been, and still is, much too secular. Without its spiritual foundation in the study of the

Gaelic Bible and in devout Gaelic worship, Gaelic cannot survive. Those who think that concerts and classes, to the exclusion of the Church and of the duty of Highland Development, will suffice to keep Gaelic alive are cherishing an illusion. The proof thereof is in the failure of the efforts already made to arrest the decline in the use of Gaelic. It is true that Gaelic as an academic study will survive in any case by reason of its intellectual interest for scholars of the wider subject of Celtic Language and Literature involving Philology, Semantics, Grammar and Syntax, but for this the average person has neither the time, inclination, opportunity, nor interest; very few indeed are those who read the writings of Zeuss, Windisch, Thurneysen, Dottin, Ebel, de Joubainville, etc. But this is not the aim of the Gaelic Societies, but rather the conservation and promotion of Gaelic as a spoken tongue in the Highlands. If spiritual mindedness be lacking in the efforts to further that aim, then they are destined to fail, since the very power and motive to speak the language will be absent. Gaelic speakers who depreciate the value of their own language are, unfortunately, not unknown. They ask sceptically what is the use of it? But culture simply cannot be judged by utilitarian tests which are subsidiary; its mental, moral, and spiritual values are its justification. "Where there is no vision the people perish," and also their language, if it does not serve to keep them spiritually minded. A complaint was made recently about too many people playing at being Highlanders. I say that too many are playing at not being Highlanders by not using, and by actually depreciating, their native language.

THE NEED FOR HIGHLAND DEVELOPMENT.

It is clear that satisfactory economic conditions are necessary to cultural development. A dwindling and impoverished population reacts unfavourably on the native culture. This is the present malady of the Highlands. Yet the Highlander has demonstrated, in almost every part of the world, the comprehensiveness and effectiveness of his abilities, administrative and otherwise; he is fully equal to the task of the economic reconstruction of his native Highlands given the opportunity and means. But he will not be given these unless he demands them, and this he should do when contemplating the economically backward condition of the Highlands in contrast to the progressive methods of other small

countries and areas such as Denmark. There is urgent need for Highland Development, but much preparatory work in the way of scientific survey and planning requires to be done. Adequate Governmental attention to the needs of the Highlands is required. Subsidies and grants are mere palliatives without a comprehensive Planned Policy of Development.

Recent Governments have not been entirely unsympathetic nor insensible to the Highland Problem; they have been pre-occupied with more clamant problems. After all, Governments have to look to the practical side of the matter, and must be persuaded not merely that such development is feasible, but that all Highlanders earnestly desire it, and are prepared so to work that the Reconstruction Plan will be successfully carried out. Nowadays, Governments need all the revenue they have for the various items of their expenditure. It is for all Highlanders to prove their zeal for the cultural, spiritual, and economic improvement of the Highlands by co-operating in this great united movement—the Highland Development League. Everyone participating in this cause should feel that

" 'Tis not in mortals to command success,
But we'll do more, Sempronius; we'll
deserve it."

If this be the conviction of every member, the movement will succeed.

AN IRISH SINGER.

In recent years at Mod ceilidhs, the audience on several occasions have listened with intense pleasure to the singing of Miss Mary Scully. Readers will therefore be interested in a Gaelic reference to Miss Scully in *The Irish Press* to the following effect:—

The singing of Miss Scully has given great delight to Gaels. The reason for this is not only the quality of her voice and the charm of her manner, but her intimate knowledge of the language and of the traditional style enables her to enter with success into the spirit of every number she renders. Her husband, Liam Ua Buachalla, B.Com., is a Professor in the University College of Galway. This talented lady takes a prominent part in the musical life of that College, and in the teaching of Irish songs to juniors. Miss Scully has won various prizes and trophies for Gaelic singing at Musical Festivals.

IOMRADH AIR INNLEACHDAN AN LA'N DIUGH AIR NACH B'EOLACH MO SHEANAIR.

Le ISEABEIL NIC COINNICH, Sroth'n t-Sithein.

Air dhomh fhein a bhi 'n am shuidhe gu socrach taobh an teine air feasgar dorch, fuar, anns a' gheamhradh a chaidh seachad, chuimhnich mi gu'n robh an Comunn Ieach a' cumail céilidh mhór ann an Glaschu, agus airson tiota bha aithreachas orm nach do dh'fhan mi là no dhà na b'fhaidhe 's a' bhaile mhór chum gu'n cluinninn na seinneadairean gasda a bha ri bhì aca. Ach cha b' fhada mhair an t-aithreachas! Ghradh chuimhnich mi nach robh agam ach putan beag a ghlusad, agus gum bitheadh mo ghnòthuch agam. Mo mhille beannachd air an neach a thug do'n t-saoghal an innealachd sin air an d' thug sinne, a chionn nach robh na b' fhearr againn, mar ainm an dìth dhealg! Trid na h-innealachd sin, tha mar gum b' eadh, iomall na talmhainn air an toirt còmhla, agus cluinnear ceòl, òraid, céilidh, no eadhon searmon aig taobh ar teineachan fein, ma tha an aimsir cho mì-thaitneach 's nach togair sinn teannadh a mach. Ma ta, bha mise ag éisdeachd gu socrach ri fonn "Peigi 's a' Mhonadh" is e a' tighinn mar gum b' eadh troimh 'n adhar an ionnsaidh. ach, ge taitneach an t-òran, agus, mar an ceudna ceòl na fìdhle, bha mise a' fàs car cadalach. 'S tric a thubhairt mo chàirdean rium, "Chaidleadh tusa is an greim 'nad bheil!" Cò dhìu bha seo fìor no nach robh, tha e coltach nach cumadh céilidh a' Chomuinn Ilich o chadal mi, agus thuit mi thairis.

Leis gu'n robh mi a' sìor smuaineachadh air mo sheanair mu'n do chaidh mi, cha b' iongnadh ged a bhrudair mi gu'n robh e 'na sheamsam ri m' thaobh. "A ghràidh mo chridhe," ars' esan, "cò as tha'n ceòl a' tighinn? Am bheil banais an tigh Alasdair a' Ghlinne?"

"Cha d'fhairich mi," arsa mi fhein ach dh'fhaodadh sin a bhi, oir chan 'eil mise "ach là no dhà air tighinn dachaidh."

Thug an seann duine ceum a dh'ionnsaidh an doruis, agus thachair dha dol seachad air a' bhocsa bheag a bha a' tilgeil a mach a' chiùil. Stad e.

"Cìod e so a tha thu feuchainn orm a nis? 'Sann tha'n ceòl anns an dearbh sheòmar so fhein!" "Ud, ud" arsa mi fhein, "an e so mar tha cùisean. Cha tug mi cuimhne nach robh fhios agaibhse gu'n robh an Dìth dhealg againn a nis." "An Dìth dhealg! Cha chuala mise mu dheidhinn a' bheathaich sin riamh. An

ann às na h-Innseachan a thainig e, neo am bheil cleamhnas aige ri uilebheist a bh'ann an Loch-Nis an uair bha mi 'm bhalach."

"Sibhse tha 'feuchainn ormsa a nis, ach co-dhiùbh, chan e eun, no iasg a tha so, ach inneal cho innealachdach 's a chaidh riamh a dhèanamh. Cluinnibh an ceol a rithis. Sud agaibh Andra Mòr, a' bhealach a' seinn 'Coille Chaoil' aig co-chruinneachadh a' chomuinn Ilich an Glaschu. Cluinnidh sibh slugh a' bhruidhinn eadhon thall an Astralia. Nach mlor-bhuileach an ni sin."

"Seadh gu dearbh. Mur tu fhein a bha 'g a innseadh dhomh, cha chreidinn smid. Saoil thu 'an cluinninn Lachann mòr nan ceist a' searmonachadh thall an Canada?" "Cluinnidh sibh sin Di-domhnaich. Feuch gu'n tig sibh a nuas."

An so sguir an ceòl, agus smuainich mi fhein gu'n seolainn mi-eigin eile do m' sheanair air nach robh esan eòlach. Leis a' sin thug mi air lóm a' bhàr-chiùil, agus fhuair mi clàr air an robh port math plobaireachd.

"Sud agaibh Para Mòr nach maireann a' cluich na pioba. Nach maith tha e' cumail ris!"

"A ghràidh, fhreagair an seann fhear, nach ann air saoghal an là 'n diugh a thàinig e. Ciamar a b'urrainn duit-sa no dhomh-sa Para Mòr a chluinntinn, is e air triall 'o chionn bhliadhnaich!" An so rinn mi mo dhìchioll gu cùisean innseadh dha, los nach bitheadh e 'n dùil gun do chuir am baile mòr air seachran mi.

Bha, mar a chunnaic mi 'nam chadal, mo sheanair a nis airson dol dachaidh, agus is ann dh'fhalbh mi fhein leis. Cha deachaidh sinn fada 'nuair a chunnaic sinn solus dealrach ag éiridh air mullach a' bhruthaich. "Nach i ghealach a tha brèagha an nochd," arsa mo sheanair. "Chan i tha sid, fhreagair mi fhéin, ach solus carbad ùr an doctair. Fhuair e carbad-hilidh snasail an là roimhe." "A ghràidh mo chridhe," arsa mo sheanair, "cha b'iongantach ged a bhiodh Coinneach Odhar ri fiosachd gu'n robh e faicinn charbadan gun eich a' siubhal na Gàidhealtachd. Am bheil thu ag ràdh rium nach 'eil feum aig an doctair air each airson an t-uamhas ud a tharruing, oir, ged a chaidh an rud seachad, cha'n fhaca mi an t-each idir."

"O chan eil," arsa mi fhein. "'S ann tha mi creidsinn nach fhada gum am faic sibh muinntir an Tighe Mhoir a' tighinn troimh 'n adhar, an uair thig iad à Lunnainn."

"Mo chreach! nach uamhasach na nithean a tha ann an cinn òigridh an là 'n diugh. Cha bhiodh 'sin nàdurra."

“Ged tha, tha sin mar sin, agus thainig fear an là roimhe ann an carbad-adhair o Astralia gu Lunnainn. 'S i 'n fhìrinn a th'agam ceart gu leoir. Chan i sin a mhàin, ach tha long-tumaidh aca cuideachd a theid fo na tuinn cleas na tunneig.

Leis a' so dhùisg mi, agus is tric 'na dhéidh sin, an uair a their iad ruim is mi a' deanamh rud-eigin cearbach.

“B' eolach do sheanair air!” a tha mo bhrùdar a tighinn air ais gu m' ionnsaidh, agus bithidh mi a' smuaineachadh gu geur air cìod an dà-rìreadh a theireadh ar seanairean ri inleachdan an là an ùigh.

LETTER TO EDITOR.

Fhir-Dheasachaidh,—Le'r ceud, bu toigh leam freagairt a thoirt do an luchd-sgrìobhaidh a chuir litrichean ugaibh mu'n chuspair air an robh mi a' sgrìobhadh an toiseach, bho chionn mìos no dha—faclan Beurla am meas Gaidhlig. Bha mi lan-thoilichte na litrichean so fhacinn, a' nochdadh nach e “guth a' glaothas anns an fhasach” a tha annam.

Chord litir Mhgr. Mac Lachlainn rium gu sonraichte, agus, mar an ceudna, an t-adhbhar-ruin a tha e 'cur suas aig a' Choinneamh Bhliadhnail. Tha mi anabarrach duilich nach bi mi-fhein an sin—cha leig nadur m' obrach leam—ach is cinnteach gum bi feadhann eile ann aig am bi a' cheart smuain tha againn fhein. Co dhiu, tha mise eolach air moran Ghaidheil a tha ag aontachadh leam anns a' ghnothach so.

Bho chionn beagan laithean, thill caraid dhomh-fhein bho na h-Eileanan, far an do chuir e seachd a laithean-saora. Thubhairt e rium, “Is gann a chuala mi Gaidhlig nach robh sgeadaichte le faclan Beurla. A charaid” ars e fhein, “mur cuirear stad air a' chleachdadh dhona sin, cha bhi a' Gaidhlig ann idir, an uine ghoirid, ach a' Bheurla a mhain.”

A Dhuine-Uasail, cha chreid mi nach robh beachd mo charaid ceart. Bha e ag innseadh dhomh gun robh eadhon na ministearan a' cur faclan Beurla 'nan searmoinean Gaidhlig. Chuala mi-fhein, anns a' lehaile so, bho chionn seachduinn no dha, ministear Gaidhealach a' cur na faclan “student” “University” “evolution” “cinema” agus “concert” an searmoin Gaidhlig.

Tha mi a' creidsinn gum bheil ar cansain an cunnart. An dean An Comunn an ni feumail?—Le spéis mhór,

FILIP DUBH.

Duneideann, 10th August, 1936.

COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH, ILE.

DI-HAOINE AN 24MH LA DE'N IUCHAR.

Chaidh a' ghairm a mach air feadh Eilean Uain' Ile air fad, o na Rinn gu Bun-na h-Abhainne gun robh cuirm-cnuic gu bhith air a thoirt do gach ball de Chomunn na h-Oigridh anns an Eilean. Chaidh a' ghairm so a chur a mach an ainm Mgr. Niall Orra a bha air ceann na Sgoil Shamhraidh Ghaidhlig agus bu mhaith a chaidh a freagairt. Cha robh aon de na chuireadh a dh'iarr lethsgul. Thàinig iad 'nam buidhnean as gach cearn, corr agus dà cheud dhiubh—bu bhreagha an cruinneachadh e—gu faiche Beul na h-Atha.

D'a chionn sin bha ullachadh mór air a dheanamh gu cluichean agus iomairtean a chumail, agus greim agus balgam a thoirt do gach neach. Ach mo thruaighe! Shil na neòil, mar nach robh gnothuch mór an Ile idir an là sin, agus b'fheudar fagadh fhaotuinn an talla farsaing Beul na h-Atha.

Ach ged chathaich na dùilean cha do chuir sin an Oigridh fo phràmh. Ruithe is leum is bhochd iad gu an toil. Chaidh mòran cluichean a chumail, agus bu mhór an strì a bh'ann.

An déidh na h-iomairt sin fhuair gach balach is caileag biadh is balgam gu an sàth, a bha air ullachadh le Mgr. Caskie as a' Bhogha Mhór. 'Na dhéidh sin sheinneadh orain le cuid de na balaich is de na caileagan, agus is maith a thigeadh sin dhaibh. Chaidh duaisean a liubhairt airson na reisean agus mu shia uairean feasgar sgaoil a' chuideachd.

Tha taing ro mhór ri toirt do Mgr. Niall Orra agus do Mgr. Stiubhart Mac-an t-Saoir a Dun Eideann airson na saothrach a ghabh iad ann a bhith ag ullachadh airson na cuirme. Tha buidheachas cuideachd ri thoirt do mhòran de dhaoine coibhneil air feadh an Eilein Ilich a thug airgid no innealan-giulain dhuinn mar chuideachadh. Tha taing ri thoirt mar an ceudna do gach ball de'n Sgoil Shamhraidh airson mar a chuidich iad le airgid agus an gnìomh.

OUR ROYAL PATRON.

We have pleasure in announcing that H.R.H. the Duke of York, K.G., K.T., has been graciously pleased to indicate his willingness to become Patron of An Comunn in succession to His Majesty who, as Prince of Wales and Lord of the Isles, occupied that position for many years.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The entries for the Inverness Mod are very gratifying and again testify to the popularity of our Annual Gaelic Festival. Compared with Edinburgh there is an increase of 20 over all without taking into account the entries in the Celtic Art section. It is most encouraging to have so many entries in the Junior Section, and it is also interesting to note that in this section Literary and Oral entries number 715 as against 177 in the Solo and Choral events. The splendid entry of 64 for the recitation of "An Dileab" is most encouraging.

* * *

In the Senior Section the outstanding features are the following entries:—20 for the Bardic Crown, 28 for the recitation of "Oran do Bhàta," and 19 Rural Choirs competing for the "Lorn" Shield. As showing the widespread interest taken in the latter class, the five counties are represented as follows:—Argyle, 9; Inverness, 6; Sutherland, 2; Perth, 1; Ross, 1.

* * *

The Literary and Oral entries are the highest since Fort William in 1932, and higher than many years previous to that splendid record of 180. Senior Solo and Duet entries remain steady about the 400 figure, and this year it has to be borne in mind that there is one competition less than Edinburgh and two less than Oban. Choirs are much the same as in former years. Clydebank and Inverness have dropped out of the major competition, but the ranks have been filled by the return of Nairn and Stornoway.

* * *

The following are the entries:—Junior—Literary, 491; Oral, 225; Solo and Duet, 147; Choral, 30. Senior—Literary, 54; Oral, 94; Solo and Duet, 390; Choral, 69; Instrumental, 28; Musical Competition, 4—a grand total of 1532.

* * *

Arrangements for the competitions are on the same lines as previous years, viz., Junior competitions on Tuesday, Senior Solos on Wednesday, Oral, Solo, and Rural Choirs on Thursday, and Duet and Choral on Friday.

* * *

Concerts this year will be held in the Empire Theatre, with a duplicate concert in the Playhouse on Friday evening, proceeding simultaneously with that in the Empire Theatre. Both concerts begin at 7.45 p.m., and the programmes will be identical. It would be a gracious gesture on the part of

those resident in the town of Inverness if they would book for the second concert on Thursday evening, and thus allow patrons from the outlying parts to attend the first concert and enable them to take advantage of the train and bus facilities provided.

* * *

Booking for all concerts commences on 4th September, and early application should be made to the Manager, Empire Theatre, Inverness. Stamped addressed envelope should accompany each application. The hours for booking locally are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

* * *

The Railway Company is providing cheap day fares within a radius of 60 miles of Inverness, and Messrs MacBrayne, Messrs MacCallum, Orme, and the Campbelltown Steam Packet Coy. are granting the usual reduction in fares to those attending the Mod. To obtain these concessions, signed vouchers must be procured from the offices of An Comunn, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

* * *

Members of Executive Council and of the Mod Local Committee who have not provided themselves with concert tickets, should apply to the General Secretary not later than 15th September.

* * *

NOTE.—Members who intend being present at the Civic Reception at Inverness on 23rd September, should notify the General Secretary at the earliest opportunity.



DONATIONS TO INVERNESS NATIONAL MOD.

Previously acknowledged	... ..	£446 0 0
Received at Head Office:—		
Highland Society of London	... ..	21 10 0
James MacLean, Esq., Sheffield	... ..	0 10 0
Dr. H. Ferguson-Watson, M.D., Ph.D., Edinburgh	... ..	1 1 0
Miss W. Millar-Weir, Alexandria	... ..	1 1 0
Received at Inverness:—		
Highland Transport Co., Ltd.	... ..	3 3 0
A. Robertson, Esq., Ardnish	... ..	5 5 0
Nairn Branch	... ..	30 0 0
Mrs. MacLeod of MacLeod	... ..	10 0 0
Angus MacLeod, Esq., Oban	... ..	1 0 0
Sub. Card No. 141, per Col. Gilbert Gunn, Bonar Bridge	... ..	6 7 0
Viscount Rothermere, of Birichen	... ..	10 10 0
Sub. Card No. 378, per Mrs. de Cleron, Perth	... ..	0 12 6
J. M. Sinclair, Esq., Inverness	... ..	0 5 0
Dr. Donald Duff, Denbigh, N. Wales	... ..	2 0 0
		£536 4 6

Litir Comunn na h-Oigrìdh.



Campa nan Caileagan, 1936.

Tha ceud Champa Comunn na h-Oigrìdh seachad. Bha sinn am meadhan seachduinn nam Balach 'nuair a sgrìobh mi mu dheireadh, agus innsidh mi dhuibh a nis mar a chaidh sgioba thaghte dhiubh am badaibh gillean Phortsonachain air machair na h-ìomaineach. B'ann an sin a bha "blàr na h-eigin." Ged a b'i am beatha bha an éiric cha deantadh teugmhail bu teotha. Bhuidhinn Portsonachan, ochd tadhail gu seachd, ach ma bhuidhinn, cha chùis naire sin do na Gaidheil, 's iad ag cluich an aghaidh ach gann dà uiread an cudthruim. B'e Iain Grann, Feachd an Athleathain, a rinn na h-euchdan bu mhòtha air ar taobh an oidheche ud. Chruinnich slugh mòr a dh'amhairc, agus air do'n bhaire bhi seachad chum Comunn na h-Oigrìdh céilidh fhosgailte 'nar seòmar-bidh, a bha làn gu na sparran.

Chaidh na laithean seachad air sgiath na cabhaig agus mu'n gann a bha sinn 'nar mothachadh, sud na Balaich air an sgapadh gu ceithir rannan ruadha na h-Alba, agus sinne 'cur fàilt is furan air na Caileagan a Uibhist Deas is Tuath, Ile agus Muile, dà-archichead gu leir. 'S iad a bha mi-fhortanach a thaobh na side, bha co-dhiu trì laithean as an t-seachduinn gu bog fiuch. Ach cha do chuir sin a bheag orra, neo-ar-thaing bha iad air an dòigh ag ionnsachadh nan dannsaich-

ean Gaidhealach 's a'seinn nan oran fad fin foinneach an latha, agus ag iomain air a'mhachair eadar na frasán. Rinn aon là aluinn suas air son iomadh dile-bhàit'—Di-Luain, 'nuair a fhuair iad sgrìob am bàta moduir Mhic a Phi, Osd-thigh Phortsonachain, sìos an Loch gu Eilean Aird-Chonhuil, far an robh cuir-m-cnuic 'san t-seann Chaisteal nach dì-chuimhnich iad gu h-ealamh. Tha toll dubh an sin fo thalamh, far an do chumadh duine bochd, uair a bha sud, fad ochd bliadhna fichead. Chan fhoghnadh leis na Caileagan bu dana ach an leigeil sìos do tholl an uamhais so le ropal Chan fhacas le sùil sealladh a b'aluinne na fhuair sinn air Loch Odha 'san dol dachaidh, faileas coille is monaidh 'san uisge chiùin, thridshoilair agus seachd mullaich Chruachan Beann "bìor-tholladh uchd nan speur."

B'i cùis-ìoghnaidh mar a chaidh an dannsadh 's an t-seinn am feobhas 's a' Champa fo threòrachadh Eilidh Nic Mhaolinn agus Catriona Chaimbeul, air chor's 'nuair a chumadh céilidh fhosgailte nan Caileagan gun robh còisir cho grinn's a chualas riamh aig Mod, agus clareagair de nithean air leth a chuir blathas-intinn is sunnd gu leir air muinntir an àite. Bha "Fionn" fhein leinn an oidheche ud, agus an Lìgliche Adhall Macdhonnachaidh as an

Oban. Thadhail Fionnghal Chaimbeul, Ceann-Feachd an Athleathain le a mathair air a'Champa, agus thàinig a'Bhean-usal Malloch, Ceann-suidhe Comunn na Crion-laraich, a theagasg ealdhainean Gaidhealach do na Caileagan.

Chan 'eil fhios nach bu phrìomh annas a'Champa "Lorg-an-Ionmhais." Bha sin an dà chuid aig Balaich is Caileagan, agus is dòcha nach robh a leithid riamh roimhe ann an Gaidhlig. Bha aig a'Chloinn ri sealg 'nan càraidean. Fhuair iad an seòladh o àite gu àite le rannan Gaidhlig agus b'iad sin na h-àitean doirbh, uaigneach. Bha meall de dhuaisean am falach a'feitheamh nan càraidean bu seolta's a b'aotruime cas, agus chuir e ioghnadh oirnn uile cho ealamh's a thog eadhon an fheadhainn a b'òige brìgh nan dubh-fhacal.

'S e fìor Champa *Gaidhlig* a bh'againn. Cha robh feala-dha 's a' chùis. Bho thus gu deis rinn gach aon, Clann agus Luchd-dreuchd a' Champa, an dleasanas gu h-ìomlan a thaobh ar Cànain. An t-urram aca uile airson so. Bu shuarach an obair 's an cosdas o ràinig sinn prìomh chuspair-stiùiridh ar n-ìomairt air dòigh cho coimhlionta. Bu ghrinn ri éisdeachd, an Campa ag co-fhreagairt air fad do fhuaim binn na Gaidhlig, agus bu chaidreach an comunn a bh' ann eadar sean is òg air a thàilleamh. Nach b'i an fhìor sheòltachd a stiùir ar Ceannard Domhnall agus gach pailliuin fa leth a dheanamh 'na chomhthlamadh de

dhòighean-labhairt as gach cearn de'n Ghaidhealtachd?

Ann an seadh, cha bu mhise sinn laithean agus oidheannan fliucha fiadhaich a bhì againn anns a'cheud Champa so, chionn dhearbh sinn gun robh a'Chlann cho blath, seasgar 'nam pàilliuann 's ged a bhithheadh iad 'nan dachaidhean fhein. Cha do leig aon phàilliuin boinne uisge troimhe. Dh'fhàs Balaich is Caileagan na bu reamhaire agus na b'fhallaine coltas a h-uile là; cha b'ìoghnadh sin, eadar luth-chleasachd, gaoth fhallain, suain chadal agus biadh pailt, blasda.

A bharr air na nithean sin fhuair sinn rud a bu phriseile uile, fìor spiorad Comunn na h-Oigridh anns a'Champa bho thùs gu deireadh. Ma rinn an Luchd-dreuchd an dleasanas agus barrachd (rud a rinn), chuidich an fheadhainn òg ri'n obair a dheanamh cho aotrom 's a ghabhadh a bhì. Chan fhacas sgioba de'n oigridh cho beusail, modhail, sunndach. Le'm bruidhinn 's le'n giùlan rinn iad drùdhadh àraidh air slughadh na dùthcha, agus mar sin dh'àrdaich iad deagh-aime Comunn na h-Oigridh gu inbhe nach robh aige roimhe. Fhuair sinn fìos-dealain brosnuchaidh bho Chéilidh nan Gaidheal, Lunnainn, agus fear eile bho 'n Sgoil Shamhradh an Ile, là a bha uile Fheadhan Comunn na h-Oigridh 'san Eilean sin cruinn aca aig cuirm-cnuic.

Co a their nach b'fhìach an Campa so a chumail?

SEORAS GALDA.



Campa nam Balaich, 1936.

GAELIC SUMMER SCHOOL.

To An Comunn Gaidhealach.

The students of the Summer School at present in session, wish to take the opportunity of re-affirming the great importance of the Summer School as a means of spreading a knowledge of the Gaelic Language, Literature, Art, and Music, particularly among those who would not otherwise have an opportunity of acquiring at first-hand an intimate acquaintance with these branches of human culture. They would also desire to bring to the notice of An Comunn the very great increase in efficiency in this year's Summer School due to the institution of the Intermediate Class, in addition to the Junior and Senior Classes already existing. It has thus been possible for the students to grade themselves thoroughly, and to enter that particular class appropriate to their knowledge of the Gaelic tongue. A very great advance in the intensiveness of the instruction has thus been made.

Edgar MacWilliam, William P. Milne, Robert Bain, Walter F. Robins, Mary F. Robertson, Alastair Duncan, Stewart McIntyre, Marrion MacKay, Fionnbharr O'Donnubhain, Elizabeth MacKay MacKechnie, Christina MacKay, Christina Macleod, Jessie C. Connor, Alex. Cameron, Janet Macdonald, A. L. Swinton, Myra MacIver, Helen L. Donald, M. P. MacEwen, Katharine Edwards, Marguerite Mackenzie, Agnes C. Waterston, Isobel F. Morton, Catherine M. Campbell, Dorothy Robertson, Violet Cooper, Jean C. Campbell, Elizabeth Cameron Stewart, and Isobel J. J. Stewart.

Port Ellen,
Isle of Islay, July, 1936.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE GAELIC SCHOOL IN ISLAY.

By ROBERT BAIN.

My general impression of the month I spent in Islay is one of work. I went prepared for that, for I had practically no experience in hearing Gaelic, and I was staggered and humiliated by the fact that words which were quite familiar to me and with whose sound I was perfectly acquainted were quite unintelligible when spoken by someone else. So there I was plunged overhead in deep waters from which I was just emerging when the 7th of August came. It will be many a day before full comprehension comes, but, what I have, I hold.

At this point it is best that I set down one element in the course that I found unexpectedly valuable to myself. It was doubtless equally valuable to many another. I am no singer, though not deaf to musical sound as a lovely thing in itself. Yet I attended the singing class and missed no session. There I had one pleasure that never failed, the listening to the Gaelic melodies regardless of words; and one great immeasurable gain, the reading of the words in unison with the class where the whole purpose was to obtain purity of tone and absolute correctness and uniformity of pronunciation. And here I may adventure the opinion that the wide spreading of choir singing is probably destined to create a standard of pronunciation still non-existent so far as I can see. As a beginner I had often felt myself quite unable to discover the right pronunciation of many a simple word. At Islay I advanced a long way in that respect. And song taught me, too, many an elision and taught me how one word might slide into another and yet leave its meaning marked. But my ear will still require a lot of practice before it notes such delicate things. Of definite occasions where all these things met, one stands out pre-eminent, the ceilidh of Saturday, July 11th.

It was held in a school-room, bare of adornment. The seats were school seats: nothing need be added to that. We were arranged along three sides; the fourth held the fire, which burned very hesitatingly at first, so that those facing it felt dubious about it. But I knew—for was not I the kindler? And half-way through the peat caught, a blaze of sorts came and at last burned triumphantly. By that time the one hanging

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lamp was lit, kilts were whirling in a hilarious reel, and something of the spirit of a genuine ceilidh transformed the bare room. Here was the true setting of Highland intimacy.

Where I sat the setting sun had shone straight on me, dazzling but welcome. It went down, but music replaced it and made the half-dark tender, and total darkness, but for the lamp and the fire, lovely. I can say nothing about the music, being, as I have said, no singer. I just sat and listened to beautiful Celtic songs being sung by folk who felt their beauty and could express it—sat and listened, wholly content.

My third impression is that made by the gathering of the children at Bridgend. It was a wild wet day—unfavourable for field sports—but once things were set agoing in the hall granted us, the boys and girls got, I fancy, as much fun out of it as Glasgow folks can get at the Fair, even if it rains cats and dogs. The young ones took a time to let their voices go at the singing, but one incident stands out in my memory. A boy had sung alone, the least bit shyly at first, but when all the rest joined in the chorus, I think he got a mild shock of pleased surprise, for he smiled and started his second verse more gallantly. That smile remains with me. Where I sat, all the young ones were talking in Gaelic. I made feeble attempts to join in, but common sense bade me hold my tongue, and be content to know that the new generation was still growing up in the old tongue and that for them it was not old but young. May it ever be so.

Of the infinite patience of our teachers—I am speaking for the two with whom I came into closest touch—what can I say? Nothing that would be adequate. For some of us it was a first experience in continuous listening to Gaelic and I, for one, felt at times like one learning to swim and going out of his depth every other moment. But ever a kindly hand rescued me from drowning and now—well, I can swim a few strokes.

As I write this the sun is shining on Port-Allen, a fresh warm wind is blowing, and all is well with the world. To-morrow most of us will depart—north, east and south—but we shall carry with us the recollection of the wonderful fellowship that made complete strangers friends, a fellowship that had not a cloud in its sky, whose light-heartedness the

wildest rain could not even disturb, and whose members will part with a great deal of regret, for it has been a memorable month.

However, there is one hope left—there are Summer Schools to come. May they match ours! They can never surpass it. I have only one regret—I cannot write this in the Gaelic. But you just wait, and—

P.S.—The Summer School did not close with that last formal day at Port Ellen, nor did it end till we parted at Tarbert. Friday morning, the 7th of August, was a miracle of a morning, and as the "Pioneer" made its way northward over a blue sea that had scarce a ripple, the Summer School gathered in the bow and held its last Ceilidh. And wasn't it a long one? It lasted from Port Ellen to Gigha—with an interval there to discuss the doom of live lobsters destined for London—and continued with little break all up West Loch Tarbert. Had there been any more sea there's no saying when it would have stopped. But what a glorious finale it made!

By MAIRI P. NICEOGHAINN.

Having attended the recent Summer School of Gaelic, I would like to say how I have enjoyed meeting students from various parts of the country, all keen on combining study with recreation. It has been one of the best holidays I have ever spent. One of the chief characteristics of the School, is the spirit of kindness which pervades it, and the teachers combine helpfulness with most excellent teaching. No one wants to miss a Gaelic lesson, and in the Celtic Art class, Miss MacBride opens up great possibilities. Her lectures are most interesting, as they combine Arts with Crafts, and the result is that lovely work has been carried out by the pupils in designs, needle, metal and leather work; this happy combination developing the hands with the brains. Besides the classes there is the social side of the School, with its jolly picnics, and ceilidhs full of fun, music and song in the lovely setting of a Western Isle.

Copies of "Voices from the Hills" can still be obtained from the Secretary. A compilation of articles on living topics bearing on the work of An Comunn and kindred subjects, this volume is one of the most varied and attractive books ever offered to the Gaelic public. No member should be without a copy. An excellent present for friends overseas. Price, 6/6; postage, 9d.

ARDNAMURCHAN PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod was held this year at Ardgour, on Tuesday, 30th June. The Gaelic, in the opinion of the adjudicators, was of a high standard. A successful concert at night was sustained by the principal first-prize winners. The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Mr. John M. Bannerman, Mr. John R. Bannerman, Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Rev. John MacPherson, M.A. Vocal and Instrumental Music—Mr. Malcolm G. MacCallum, L.R.A.M., and Mr. D. T. Yacimini. Piping—Mr. J. Macfarlane, Barrow. The following are the first-prize winners:—

JUNIOR ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading at Sight—Margaret Simpson, Strontian. Recitation (Native Speakers)—Anne MacDonald, Ardgour. Recitation (Learners)—Jack Fullerton, Strontian. Gaelic Conversation—James MacDonald, Mingarry.

JUNIOR VOCAL MUSIC.

Girls (Solo)—Nan MacKinnon, Mingarry. Boys (Solo)—John Stewart, Acharacle. Solo (Learners)—Alasdair MacCalman, Strontian. Duet Singing—Margaret Smith and Margaret Fraser, Conagien. Choral Singing—Acharacle Junior Choir.

SENIOR ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading at Sight Mr. A. Cameron and Miss C. MacPherson, Strontian (equal). Recitation—Miss C. MacPherson, Strontian.

SENIOR VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo (Female Voices), Own Choice—Miss Mary MacKinnon, Acharacle. Solo (Male Voices), Own Choice—Mr. Stewart Cunningham, Kingairloch. Solo (Unpublished)—Mr. Neil Cameron, Lochsheil. Ardnamurchan Silver Pendant (Female Voices)—Miss C. Cameron, Acharacle. Ardnamurchan Silver Pendant (Male Voices)—Mr. Neil Cameron, Lochsheil. Solo (Learners)—Miss Mary Lachie, Ardgour. Duet Singing—Miss MacLean and Mr. MacDiarmid, Strontian. Quartette Singing—Strontian Quartette. Peurt a' Beul—Mr. Stewart Cunningham, Kingairloch. Solo (Former First-prize Winners)—Miss Anne Scott Rae, Ardgour. Choral Singing (Unison)—Ardgour Ladies' Choir. Choral Singing (Harmony)—Ardgour Senior Choir.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

Pipes (March)—Mr. Neil Smart, Acharacle. Pipes (Strathspey and Reel)—Mr. J. Kinghorn, Acharacle. Violin—Miss Mary MacKinnon, Acharacle. Piano-forte—Mr. Stewart Cunningham, Kingairloch.

SKYE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Skye Provincial Mod was held at Portree on 23rd and 24th June. There were splendid entries in the Junior Section, and the standard of Gaelic was very high. Flora, Mrs. MacLeod of MacLeod, presided over the concert on the 23rd; and Dr. Neil Ross on the 24th. The adjudicators were:—Mr. Yacimini, Perth; Miss Margaret M. Duncan, Dr. Neil Ross, Rev. Mr. MacLean, Mr. MacPhail (Northern Organiser), Rev. Mr.

Murchison, and Mr. Mathieson. The following is a list of first-prize winners:—

JUNIOR SECTION.

Reproduction of a Short Story—Agnes MacLean, Kilmuir School. Translation of a Gaelic Prose Passage—John MacDonald, Borrudale School. Essay, for pupils in first year post-qualifying, Writing from Dictation—Christina A. MacLean, Portree School. Translation, English-Gaelic—Archena R. MacInnes, Broadford School. Pupils in second and third year post-qualifying, Writing from Dictation—Mary Murray, Portree School. Translation, English-Gaelic, Gaelic English—Murdina MacSween, Portree School. Reading with Expression—Flora MacDonald, Dunvegan School. Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Prose Piece—Peggy Campbell, Dunvegan School. Reciting from Memory—Toby MacLean, Dunvegan. Reciting a Sgeulachd, Peggy MacDonald, Dunvegan School. Original Gaelic Talk—Donald N. Nicholson, Bernisdale School.

VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing, Girls under 13—Christie MacPherson, Portree School. Solo Singing, Boys under 12—Neil Finlayson, Macdiarmid School. Solo Singing of a Song, Girls 12 to 16—Joan Campbell, Dunvegan School. Solo Singing, Boys 12 to 16—Donald A. MacInnes, Macdiarmid School. Duet Singing—Christie Ferguson and Toby MacLean, Dunvegan.

Choral Singing—Portree. Unison Singing—Broadford. Action Song—Dunvegan.

Violin Playing, second session members—Andie MacColl. Violin Playing—Christie MacPherson, Portree.

SENIOR SECTION—LITERATURE.

Gaelic Poem—John A. MacLeod, Portree Secondary School. Essay—George Buchanan, Portree Secondary School. Collection of Unpublished Skye Songs—Mordo Stewart, Duntulm. Original Gaelic Play—Christina Lynn. Essay, Pupils who have left School—Katie A. MacDonald, Valtos, Staffin. Essays—Cathie MacDonald, Portree Secondary School. Oral Delivery, Reading—Christie Campbell. Recitation—Christie Campbell.

Telling of an Unpublished Skye Story—Calum Robertson. Acted Dialogue—Ena MacDonald and John Nicolson. Higher Aggregates in Competitions 28, 29, and 30—Christie Campbell, 112, Portree Secondary School; Calum Robertson, 112, Portree Secondary School.

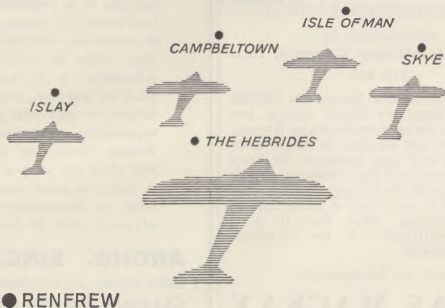
VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing (Female Voices)—Margaret A. Nicolson, Portree Secondary School. Solo Singing (Male Voices)—Adam Robertson, Watnish. Solo Singing (Female Voices), Test Song—Sybil MacLeod, Portree. Solo Singing (Female Voices), Former First-prize Winners—Mary MacPherson. Solo Singing (Male Voices), Test Song—Peter MacDonald, Edinbane. Solo Singing of a Song (Male Voices), Former First-prize Winners—Duncan Corbett. Duets—Mary MacPherson and Betty Steele.

Unison Singing—Portree Secondary School Choir. Choral Singing—Portree Senior Choir.

Instrumental Section—Bagpipes—Ian MacPherson, Portree. Piano-forte—Ena MacDonald.

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