

# An Gaidheal.



U. 417.

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# An Gaidheal:

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AN COMUNN GAIDHEALACH,

131 WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW.

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Leabhar XXX.]

*An Dàmhar, 1934.*

[Earrann 1

## THE ANNUAL MOD, 1934.

### PRESIDENT'S GAELIC ADDRESS.

A Mhnathan is a Dhaoinè Uaisle,—Is taitneach a bhi turus eile aig Mòd anns an Oban Iathurnach, agus a bhi 'cur fàilte air na Gaidheil chòire, a rinn saothair chò mór, agus ullachadh cho gasda. Is fada bho fhuaras dearbhadh air an deagh ghean do 'n Ghaidhlig; agus tha an ginealach òg a cheart cho dileas ris an fheadhain a shuidhich am Mòd anns a' bhaile so bho chionn corr is da fhichead bliadhna.

Faodaidh sinn misneach a ghlacadh a chionn gu bheil An Comunn a' sior dhol air aghart am meud is an inbhe. Tha na buill, na meanglain, agus na Mòid dhùthcheail a' fàs an àireamh. Tha foghlum na cànan a' faotainn tuilleadh aire anns na sgoilean; agus tha àireamh ghasda de na h-oileanaich Ghaidhealach a toirt ceum Ghaidhlig a mach anns na h-oilthighean. A thaobh a' chiùil tha e soilleir gu bheil an luchd seinn nas lionmhoire; gu bheil òrain Ghaidhlig gu tric air guth-adhair; agus gu bheil càil is beachd an t-sluaigh a thaobh a' chiùil a' sior thighinn gu feabhas.

Thug mi cuairt bho chionn ghoirid feadh na Gaidhealtachd, agus chunnaic mi iomadh carragh cuimhne airson nan saighdearan a thuit anns a Chogadh. Chan eil sgrì anns nach faic thu carragh le ainm nan laoch air

a ghearradh anns a' chlaich. Mar is trice chi thu faicil Ghaidhlig a thuilleadh air an ainm. Chuir mi ceist orm féin a thaobh beatha na cànan. Chuir mi a' cheist mar so—leth cheud bliadhna an déidh an la an diugh cia lion de 'n òigridh is urrainn na faicil Ghaidhlig a leughadh? Thàinig tioma air mo chridhe an uair a smuainich mi gu bheil sgrì no dha ann ar dùthaich anns nach bi aon òganach no maighdeann a leughas na briathran an uair a bhitheas an leth cheud bliadhna thairis. Tha so a' nochdadh ciod e cho dian 's a bu chòir dhuinn a bhi a chum a' chainnt a theagasg do 'n òigridh.

Tha An Comunn coltach ri feachd a tha a' cogadh as leth na Gaidhlig. Tha cuid de na buill cò dìchiollach 's is urrainn daibh. Gidheadh tha àireamh mhór nach eil ach meadh-bhlàth. A nis cha toirear buaidh anns an strì so gun dealas dian. Tha neart làidir 'n ar n-aghaidh; agus ma tha sinn gùs ar cainnt a chumail bèo feumaidh rian agus eud a bhi am measg nan Gaidheal air fad. Is minic a bha cion ordugh 'n a aobhar laigse do na Gaidheil. Bha na fineachan roinnte an aghaidh a cheile; agus is tric a thainig fuath gu aimhreit. B'e sin a dh'aoibhraich, nach tàinig na Gaidheil riamh gu inbhe an

cùisean stàit. Bha gach treubh ag iarraidh an còirichean féin, gun chùram cìod dh'èireadh do chàch. Bha a' mhòr-chuid a' fulang mar thoradh air cion cordaidh eadar na fineachan.

Agus bha easaontachd ann mar an ceudna a thaobh creidiemh is aoraidh. Tha sinn duilich a radh gu bheil sin fir fathast. A nis ma bha na Gaidheil a dh'easbhuidh rian is òrduigh a thaobh cùisean stàit agus eaglais, am bheil mallachd na h-easaontachd a' dol g' an leantainn gu bràth? Am bheil sinn gu bhi a ghnàth a dh'easbhuidh rian is òrduigh a thaobh gleidheadh na cànan? Cuin a bheir tùr is toineisg buaidh? Cuin idir a leigeas sinn seachad a' mhearachd a mhill ar sluaigh?

Ach ciamar dh'fhaodas sinn an rian sin a chur an cèill? Faodaidh le bhi ag aonadh ri chéile nan Gaidheil uile. Is iad na Gaidheil air fad, feadh an t-saoghail, a dh'fheumar a chur an òrdugh mar aon armailt a chum buaidh a chosnadh airson na cànan. Ach tha na Gaidheil sgapte feadh gach tìr mu 'n iadh a' ghrian. Ged dh'fhàg iad dùthaich am breith cha do chaill iad am meas air an tìr no air an cànan. Mar dhearbhadh air sin tha na Gaidheil an Canada an iar a' dol a chumail Mòd dhaibh fean air an ath earrach an Vancouver.

Agus sinne tha fathast anns an t-seann dachaibh, cìod a nis is mithich dhuinn a dheanamh? Is ann uaine an Alba is còir a cheud ghiuasad tighinn. Is mithich dhuinn na Gaidheil gu léir a ghabhail a stigh mar bhui' de 'n aon Chomunn. Feumaidh aontachd is òrdugh a bhi an armailt nan Gaidheil, a chum gu 'n seas iad ri am a' chruadail. Cha toirear buaidh gun mhisnich agus gun chosgais. Cosgaidh e suim aingid a bhi 'cur buidheann am mach gus na Gaidheil anns gach cearn a bhrosnachadh. Bha ionradh bho chionn ghoirid air teachdairean a chur do Chanada. Is e a leithid sin a bhiodh feumail a chum dealas a dhùsgadh.

C'àite bheil Clann na Gaidheil an diugh? Chan eil ach an àireamh is lugha dhuibh ri fhaotainn an glinn na Gaidhealtachd. Is ann a tha iad anns na bailtean móra agus anns na tìrean thall thar chuantan. Tha an cuid Gaidhlig cho fallain ris a' Ghaidhlig againne. Tha iad a cheart cho measail ruinne air a' chànan oir tha i 'n a cainnt mhàtharail dhaibhsan cho math 's a tha i dhuinn féin. Is e so an aon bhann beò a cheanglais na Gaidheil mar aon teaghlach. Feumar mar sin an ruigheachd far am bheil iad, agus an tarruing dlùth dhuinn féin air sgàth an deòin-bhaigh do 'n chànan is do 'n cheòl.

## PRESIDENT'S ENGLISH ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—Like a man who has travelled far, and who desires to re-visit the home which still retains the first place in his memory and affection, so the National Mod has come back to Oban, the scene of its origin. Seeing that the aim of the Mod is to preserve the Gaelic speech and music, nothing could be more inspiring than to gather in Oban, a centre where the love of Gaelic speech and music is genuine, a spot where the Mod can feel that it has returned to the home of its youth. We feel grateful to the Provost and Magistrates for their cordial welcome, and to the local committee for their loyalty and goodwill in the arduous work of preparation.

Our hope and courage rise in proportion to the progress of the Gaelic movement, which is going from strength to strength. Despite the dark times of recent years, An Comunn has continued to grow in every direction. There has been a steady increase in the membership, the branches, and the provincial mods. At no previous time were there so many serious students of the language, and often in quarters where you might least expect it. The cultivation of the music is going on apace. Among the singers there is a growing realization of the difficulties of Gaelic singing; and the public have now a more critical appreciation of the native melodies. All this is not the result of a passing sentiment. It is rather the fruit of an earnest and sustained enthusiasm.

In the autumn days, when you pass through some richly wooded country, you soon realise how much the beauty of the scene is enhanced by its variety of trees—the lofty pine, the copper-beech, the spreading ash, and the stalwart oak. Differing from each other in form and foliage, they contribute their distinctive touch to the charm of the landscape. And so with the races of our country. Each race is most effective when it brings its own qualities and culture into the larger combination which includes them all. We think that the Gaelic language and the treasure of art, song and tradition enshrined in it are the distinctive contribution of the Gael to modern life.

A few weeks ago I happened to be a spectator at one of our open-air Highland gatherings. Beside me was an English gentleman on his first visit to Scotland. He was greatly impressed by the stately deportment of the pipers. He asked me in

all seriousness: "Why are these pipers so proud in their bearing?" My answer was: "Because they belong to a race which has never been conquered." That reply, which sounds like boasting, is only the statement of an actual fact. But there is great danger that the spirit which was never broken by force of arms may be gradually subdued by less war-like means.

Ever since the process of decay began in the Gaelic language over a century ago, there has also been a gradual fading away of our native tradition. The general opinion about our intellectual standing has been fixed by English writers who were usually ignorant of Gaelic culture. That is why an English visitor, quite friendly and well disposed, expected to see on the platform a craven and uncouth savage, instead of a dignified and consummate performer. This challenge to our national pride might well rouse us to lay hold on those things which are ours by right of birth. Many of the airs we hear at the Mod have come down from feudal times. They suggest the atmosphere of the older days, of wonder and adventure, of passion and romance. These things not only preserve the racial spirit, but they are a most refreshing cordial in these days of din and haste. That is why the old songs fall with soothing effect on ears that are already growing tired of the new industrial music, the hooting of the motor car, and the whirr of aeroplanes. The Gaelic melodies are more restful indeed than even the "zones of silence."

In this campaign it is a source of encouragement to know that we are not alone. The recent Celtic Congress in Dublin is like a bugle call. It is a call to the Celtic remnant in every land. While one Celtic branch, struggling alone, might feel a sense of weakness and isolation, yet this call to unity joins the Celtic peoples, and they all take up their tasks with renewed hope. There is a growing conviction among the nations that the Celt is not yet played out; that he has qualities and gifts which are yet to come into prominence as they have never done before. There is a kindling of hope when the rallying song of the Congress is heard in six different Celtic tongues, and every one of these older than the greater European tongues of to-day.

In the matter of saving our language, the important thing is not what you may feel or think. The important thing is what you do. During Mod week, when crowd psychology is much alive, and when the

emotion of an audience goes down to the roots of our being it is quite easy to feel patriotic, and to respond to the thrill of language or of music. But the vital question is what we do. What is the special bit of work or task undertaken by each individual to further the practice of the Gaelic language. Let each person resolve that he will make some progress with the language during the coming weeks. Let him make up his mind to proceed immediately with the reading and speaking of Gaelic. The study is one in which you will soon find intellectual pleasure.

In the early part of this year a Society was formed which is going to have a vital effect on the study of Gaelic language and literature. That is the Scottish Gaelic Text Society, which has been formed for the editing and publishing of the principal Gaelic authors, with English translations, in scholarly and up-to-date editions. An Comunn has extended its official support to the new Society; but it is fitting now to emphasise the practical importance of the undertaking. The larger the membership, the greater will be its influence; and every well-wisher of the language ought to join the Gaelic Text Society, whose aims are in perfect accord with those of An Comunn itself.

Within the memory of people who are not yet old, great progress has been made in the means of transport and communication. One looks for a corresponding advance in things of the mind. In our own case we are fostering the capacity to speak a second language. It is true that our main aim is the preservation of the Gaelic tongue. But at the same time we are encouraging our young people to cultivate the bilingual faculty. Educationists praise the alertness of mind which is produced by an easy control of two or more languages. One hears of important business posts to which candidates are appointed because they are good linguists, emphasis being placed on the mental dexterity which a knowledge of several tongues can give.

In other times an awakening of thought has followed a period of struggle. There was a revival of art in Greece after the war with Persia, and of drama in England after the war with Spain. In Scotland there has lately been a new development in rural drama and in rural pageants. Hardly a week passes but you read of contests between dramatic teams, and pageants of Common Riding and Riding of the Marches.

The latest poetry expresses itself by spectacular romance. A few months ago a dramatic contest on a large scale took place in the Outer Hebrides, and in the Gaelic language. It was from the Western Isles that gems of song were recently collected which have intrigued our musical public. It would be an excellent thing if a school of drama were to arise in the Hebrides which would reveal the talent of the Gael and extend the practice of the Gaelic tongue. Be it ours to utilise the means at our disposal to unite all Gaels at home and abroad in one common effort to retain the speech of our fathers and to preserve those melodies in which our race will continue to find, under Providence, a message of cheer and hope.

---

### THE LATE MR. RODERICK MACLEOD.

In the passing hence of Roderick Macleod, the Gaelic movement has been deprived of one of its leading pioneers and chief ornaments. A native of Western Sutherland, Gaelic was his first language; and he early imbibed the local lore, and especially the musical traditions of his native district. The west of Sutherland is remote from those influences which undermine the language and music in other areas on the borderline, so that Mr. Macleod as a youth had the benefit of receiving the old culture from the unmixed source of tradition as it had been handed down. There is no doubt at all but he was endowed with one of the finest tenor voices of his day in this country—but along with that gift he also possessed a fine intellect and lively imagination. It was the evidence of a brilliant mind behind the rich voice that gave such power and charm to his singing.

This outstanding personality was bestowed by Providence on the people of the Highlands at a time when their language and music were about to suffer an eclipse for lack of a first-class exponent. And often when the need exists the necessary pioneer arises. So it was in this case. Gifted as Roderick Macleod was in the social graces, yet in addition to his personal charm and urbanity we cannot but remember his function and faculties as the champion of Gaelic song, to expound its beauty to the great outside world. An Comunn and all Gaels deplore his going from our midst; and would wish to extend to his bereaved family the most sincere and tender expression of sympathy.

N. R.

### THE MOD DAY BY DAY.

With the passing of the years the National Mod has attained the status of a festival on a large scale. The almost unwieldy proportions, and the amazing variety of this annual gathering, have created a new problem for the Executive. The problem is to fix each year on some centre which will be suitable as a venue for the great assembly. Oban is the ideal setting. The early history of the movement may be traced back to the picturesque capital of the West Highlands. The Gaels of Oban have always shown a genuine interest in the revival of Gaelic, and their enthusiasm in the good cause was never more thoroughly displayed than on the present occasion.

#### TUESDAY.

The first day of the Mod is now taken up exclusively with the junior competitions. The number of entries in this department, including literature, vocal, and oral, was impressive, and compares favourably with any previous Mod. The gradual improvement in the general standard of quality is a noticeable feature. It seems hardly necessary to say that concentration on the junior department means a great deal for the Gaelic movement. Needless to say, the destinies of the language and music rest in the hands of the young. It is therefore evident that the attention and prizes bestowed on the children are among the most commendable aims of An Comunn. If this part of the programme goes on growing as it has been recently doing it will be necessary to devote more than one day to the young folks.

In the vocal section the blue ribbon of the day is the silver medal of An Comunn. The silver medal for girls was won by Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan, who also secured two firsts and a second in the oral competitions. The silver medal for boys was secured by Duncan Macinnes, Glasgow. The oral side of the competitions was keenly contested. The listener is frequently surprised at the remarkable grasp which these youthful competitors have obtained of the Gaelic language.

In the evening the children's concert was attended by a full house, and the chair was taken by the Captain of Dunstaffnage who made an able and appropriate speech. The prize winners carried out a long programme. The junior choir from Barra created much interest and their singing and movement in the action song evoked well-deserved applause. The Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir gained three of the four choral trophies.

## WEDNESDAY.

The principal vocal classes for this day were the Oran Mór, the Mull and Iona unpublished, and the Oban and Lorne medal. The official opening took place at noon when Provost MacAlister welcomed the Mod to Oban the place of its birth. He expressed in generous terms the kindly attitude of the Oban people to the Mod, an attitude which has been amply shown, not only by the welcome of the Provost but by the friendly hospitality of the inhabitants of the town. The President delivered a Gaelic and English address, of which a summary is contained in this issue. In the evening a Ceilidh on a large scale was organised by the local committee, when tea was served, and a musical programme was sustained by many former medallists and prize winners. At this Ceilidh the President called for a vote of thanks to the committee of which the convener was Mr. Macleod, Rector of the High School, and the secretary, Mr. John Macdonald, the conductor of the Oban Gaelic choir, a man who imparts no small share of his strong purpose to those who associate themselves with him in work for An Comunn.

## THURSDAY.

The senior oral section was an outstanding feature for this day, when excellent work was done in elocution, in ancient tales, and in dramatic dialogue. There were also a considerable number of vocal competitions such as district songs, the Kennedy Fraser songs, puirt-a-beul, songs with clarsach accompaniment, and the James Grant which decides the gold medals. The lady gold medallist was Miss Mary Macniven, while the winner of the medal for males was Mr. Gilbert Macphail. The afternoon was taken up by the contest among rural choirs for the Lorne shield, the winner being Abernethy. The musical judge, Dr. Staton, warned some of the singers against the fault of "scooping" which appears to be a very objectionable fault in the estimation of important musicians.

The rural choir concerts in the evening were presided over by Mr. Matheson of Kilmartin and by Colonel Ian Campbell (Airds), C.B.E., T.D. who both commended the important work of the rural choirs. The latter who is one of the donors of the Lorne Shield made a particularly enjoyable speech which was marked by eloquence, wisdom, and humour.

## FRIDAY.

The syllabus for the closing day included classes in duet, quartette, and choral singing as well as contests in violin and pianoforte

music. The musical adjudicators on this, as on other days, were Dr. Staton and Mr. Vincent Thomas for the vocal sections and Mrs. Neil MacLean, Kilmichael-Glassary, and Mr. John Macdonald, M.B.E., Inverness for the instrumental. Ten senior choirs appeared. The Lovat and Tulliebardine Shield remains with the Greenock choir, who showed a mastery which it must have taken years to attain. First place in march, strathspey, and reel on piano went to Mrs. Margaret Campbell, Aberdeen; on violin to Miss Agnes Chisholm, Oban; and first in strathspey and reel to Mr. Lachlan Wynne, Fort William.

On Friday evening there were three separate concerts, the chair being taken by Colonel Lloyd of Minard, C.M.G.; Sheriff MacMaster Campbell, C.B.E.; and the Duke of Argyll. In each case the chairman gratified the audience with a racy address, the Sheriff's speech on the history and growth of the Mod being broadcast. The triple concerts were a fitting finale to a Mod which has been eminently successful. The contiguity of so many hotels to each other made it possible to hold hotel ceilidhs on an unprecedented scale; and the cordiality and glamour of these unconventional gatherings will long remain as a delightful memory with all who had the good fortune to take part in them. The hotel proprietors were most generous and hospitable hosts.

N. R.

## 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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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of An Comunn was held in the Argyllshire Gathering Hall, Oban, on Saturday, 29th September, 1934.

The Rev. Neil Ross, C.B.E., D.Litt., President, occupied the chair.

The minute of the previous annual meeting was held as read.

Dr. Ross thanked the local committee for their splendid effort in raising funds to meet the prize list, and for the excellent arrangements made for the Mod proceedings. Special mention was made of Mr. Angus Macleod, convener, and Mr. John Macdonald, secretary, in connection with the work of the local committee at Oban. Dr. Ross also thanked the Stewards of the Argyllshire Gathering for giving the use of the Hall gratuitously, and the newspaper press for their excellent and sympathetic reports of the Mod proceedings. Mr. Angus Macleod, convener, replied on behalf of the local committee, and paid tribute to the excellent services rendered by each member and to the success of the Mod which had just closed.

The result of the election of office-bearers and members of the executive was declared as follows:—

*President*—Mr. John R. Bannerman, Meikle Rahane. (Unopposed.)

*Vice-President*—Dr. Colin Sinclair, Glasgow. (Unopposed.)

Members of the executive council in the following order:—Rev. Neil Ross, C.B.E., D. Litt., Laggan; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Ibrox; Miss Augusta Lamont of Knockdow; Captain A. R. Campbell, O.B.E.; Mr. Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Lord James Stewart Murray, Ballinluig; Col. A. D. Greenhill Gardyne of Glenforsa; Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow, and Col. Kenneth MacLeod of Tote, D.S.O.

Two casual vacancies were filled by the election of Mr. Fred. T. MacLeod, Edinburgh, for two years, and Mr. Stewart MacInnes, Inverness, for one year.

In demitting office, Dr. Ross thanked the members for their help during his four years' term of office as President and said with how much pleasure he had been able to carry on the work of An Comunn during these years. He also paid a tribute to the work which Mr. Bannerman had done in connection with An Comunn.

On taking the chair as President, Mr. Bannerman was given a very cordial reception from the members, and he made a generous

acknowledgment on behalf of An Comunn of the retiring President's valuable work for the last four years.

Letters were read from the secretary of the Gaelic Society of Perth, and from the secretary of the Celtic Union, Edinburgh, inviting the Mod of 1935 to be held in their respective cities.

Captain Colin Campbell, Ardrossan, seconded by Mrs. Colquhoun, Glasgow, proposed that the Mod be held in Perth.

Mr. Malcolm MacKay, Tobermory, seconded by Mrs. Dunlop, Glasgow, proposed that next year's Mod be held in Edinburgh.

Rev. David Duncan spoke on behalf of the Celtic Union, and thereafter several members voiced their opinions.

On a vote being taken, there was a large majority in favour of the Mod being held in Edinburgh, and this became the finding of the meeting—the Mod to be held in Edinburgh during the last week of September, 1935.

A motion submitted in the name of Mr. A. M. MacLauchlan, Tobermory, regarding the alteration of Rule 54, was remitted to the executive council for consideration and report.

A motion submitted by Mr. Donald MacDonald, Inverness, "that a Northern and a Southern Sub-Committee of the Education Committee be appointed," was considered. Mr. MacDonald having spoken to his motion, and being seconded by the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, convener of the education committee, the motion was unanimously adopted.

A motion by Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Inverness, "that a Committee be appointed to consider the whole question of Gaelic teaching in schools and to make reports, interim or final, thereon to the executive Council," was submitted. In speaking to his motion, Sir Alexander said, it was time they were beginning to take stock of the working of the Gaelic clause in the 1918 Act. It was 16 years since the Act was passed. They were told that 10,000 pupils in 300 Scottish schools were being taught to read and write Gaelic. That sounded very satisfactory, and they knew that a good deal of good work was being done in various ways. On the other hand, he was told that to-day less Gaelic was being spoken than 20 years ago. Unless the system was changed and efforts were made to provide full-time Gaelic teachers and lecturers in all Scottish training colleges and Universities for the bilingual teaching of Gaelic and English in schools Gaelic would be forgotten in another generation. It was now possible to take a University degree in Celtic, but what did that

amount to? In Wales no teacher was appointed unless he or she could teach Welsh. In Belgium the old Flemish tongue had been revived through systematic teaching of that language as well as French in school. Gaelic ought to be taught in school from the very earliest.

The motion was unanimously adopted, and it was remitted to the Executive to appoint the Special Committee.

A motion was submitted by Mr. Charles Campbell, Glasgow, "that Rule 12 be amended by the insertion of the following words after the word 'Members' in the fifth line, 'who must be a member of the Association,'" Mr. Neil Orr, seconded.

Mr. Alexander Fraser, Bishopton, seconded by Mr. J. M. Macpherson, London, moved the previous question, and on a vote being taken, Mr. Campbell's motion was carried by 76 votes to 26.

On the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, seconded by Captain George Campbell of Succoth, Sir Norman Lamont, Bart., of Knockdow, was unanimously appointed to succeed the late Sir Donald McAllister as one of the Trustees of the Feill Trust of An Comunn.

Col. Iain Campbell (Airds) suggested that in order to give more time for competitions at the Mod, the Festival should begin on a Wednesday and continue over the week-end. Mr. Charles Campbell, supported, and the suggestion was remitted to the Mod and Music Committee for consideration.

Miss Katherine Cameron referred to the fact that there was no permanent teacher of Gaelic at any of the Training Colleges for Teachers. It was pointed out that this would be considered by the committee to be appointed under Sir Alexander MacEwen's motion.

Mrs. Colquhoun referred to the system of supplying competitors with their marks, and remarks by the adjudicators. This also was referred to the Mod and Music Committee for consideration and report.

This completed the business, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

## PRELIMINARY MEETING.

The preliminary meeting of the executive council followed immediately, and there were 26 members present. Mr. John R. Bannerman, President, presided.

Standing committees for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—

## STANDING COMMITTEES, 1934-35.

*Finance Committee.*—Alexander Fraser (convener), Robert Bain, W. D. Barclay, Captain A. R. Campbell, Charles Campbell, Captain G. I. Campbell, Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Mrs. S. C. B. Edgar, John MacIntyre, Hugh MacLean, Malcolm MacLeod, James C. MacPhee, The President (*ex-officio*).

*Education Committee.*—Rev. Malcolm MacLeod (convener), John M. Bannerman, Mrs. Burnley-Campbell, Captain G. I. Campbell, Miss Lamont of Knockdow, John Macdonald, Sir Alex. N. MacEwen, Malcolm MacLeod, John A. Nicolson, Neil Orr, Colin Sinclair, Mrs. Wilson, The President (*ex-officio*).

*Publication Committee.*—Malcolm MacLeod (convener), Miss Campbell of Inverneill, Col. Kenneth MacDonald, John MacDonald, Hector MacDougall, John MacIntyre, Fred T. MacLeod, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, James C. MacPhee, Dr. Donald Ross, Colin Sinclair, George Thomson, The President (*ex-officio*), The Editor (*ex-officio*).

*Propaganda Committee.*—Charles Campbell (convener), George I. Campbell, Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Mrs. S. C. B. Edgar, Col. Greenhill Gardyne, Donald Graham, Col. Gilbert Gunn, Hugh MacCorquodale, Donald MacDonald (Inverness), Col. Kenneth MacDonald of Tote, Sir Alex. N. MacEwen, George E. Marjoribanks, The President (*ex-officio*).

*Art and Industry Committee.*—Miss Campbell of Inverneill (convener), Mrs. Burnley Campbell, Mrs. E. Barron, Captain George I. Campbell, Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds), Sheriff J. MacMaster Campbell, Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Col. Gilbert Gunn, Miss Lamont of Knockdow, Hugh MacLean, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, Colin Sinclair, The President (*ex-officio*).

*Mod and Music Committee.*—Malcolm MacLeod (convener), Rev. John Bain, John M. Bannerman, Charles Campbell, Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds), Mrs. Colquhoun, Alexander Fraser, Donald Graham, Rev. Alexander MacDonald, Dr. R. R. MacNicol, John A. Nicolson, Neil Orr, The President (*ex-officio*).

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Seoras E. Marjoribanks (Fear Gairme), Tearlach Caimbeul, A'Bhean Uasal Edgar, Domhnall Greumach, Iain M. MacGille-na-Brataich, Domhnall MacDhomhnaill, Iain Mac Dhomhnaill, Eachann MacDhughail, An t-Urra Calum MacLeoid, Calum MacLeoid, Seumas Mac a' Phi, A'Bhean Uasal Stiubhart (Fasnaclòich), An Ceann Suidhe (*ex-officio*).

## MOD PRIZE-LIST.

### JUNIOR SECTION.

#### WRITTEN COMPETITIONS.

Adjudicators—Rev. Gillespie Campbell, Paisley; Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow; Miss Grace MacKenzie, M.A., Campbeltown; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Angus MacMillan, Glasgow; Murdo MacRae, Glasgow; Angus Matheson, M.A., Glasgow; George Morrison, M.A., Glasgow; Alexander Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow.

The following is the list of Schools entered:—Badcall-Inchard, Baleshare, Bowmore H.G. School, Castlebay, Daliburgh, Dingwall Academy, Fort William H.G. School, Inverness Royal Academy, Iochdar, Jordanhill Training College, Lionel Nicolson Institute (Stornoway), Oban High School, Oldshore, Portree Secondary School, Sir E. Scott School (Harris), Tobermory H.G. School.

Group A.—Pupils in or below the Qualifying Class—Reproduction in Gaelic of a short, simple Gaelic story read twice by the teacher—1, Roderick MacLeod, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 2, K. S. MacDonald, do.; 3, Rodina MacLeod, do.; 4, Mary MacLeod, do.; 5, James Morrison, do.; 6, Charles MacLeod, do.; 7, Mary Margaret MacPhee, Iochdar, S. Uist; 8, Chrissie MacKenzie, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 9, Archibald MacDonald, do.; 10, James MacLeod, do.

Group B.—Pupils in the First and Second Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—Reproduction in Gaelic of a short Gaelic story read twice by the teacher, followed by a rendering of the same story in English—1, Murdo D. MacLeod, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 2, George Buchanan, Portree Secondary School; 3, Agnes Morrison, Lionel Public School; 4, Mary Matheson, Portree Secondary School; 5, Ronald MacDonald, Daliburgh; 6, Christy MacLeod, Portree Secondary School; 7, John A. MacDonald, do.

Group C.—Pupils in the Third and Fourth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—(1) Writing from Dictation of a Gaelic prose passage, read once by the teacher—1, Donald D. Morrison, Portree Secondary School; 2 (equal), Christina L. MacAskill and Mary MacPherson, Portree Secondary School; 3 (equal), John MacKay, Inverness Royal Academy; Chrissie MacDonald, Nicolson Institute; Mary MacDonald, do., and Catherine MacSween, Oban High School.

Group C (2)—Reproduction in Gaelic of a short story in English, read three times by the teacher—1, Malcolm Robertson, Portree Secondary School; 2, Mary MacRae, Nicolson Institute; 3, Janet MacKinnon, Fort William H.G. School; 4, Helen O'Reilly, do.; 5, John MacKay, Inverness Royal Academy; 6, Mary MacPherson, Portree Secondary School.

Group D.—Pupils in the Fifth and Sixth Years of Post-Qualifying Courses—(1) Translation of an English prose passage into Gaelic—1, Annie MacDonald, Portree Secondary School; 2, Chrissie Cameron, Oban High School; 3, Rachael MacDonald, Portree Secondary School; 4, Dolina MacLennan, Nicolson Institute; 5, John A. Robertson, Portree Secondary School; 6 (equal), Annie MacLellan, do., and Helen Murphy, Inverness Royal Academy.

Group D (2)—Translation of a Gaelic prose passage into English, followed by a rendering into English of ten Gaelic idioms—1, Donald MacColl, Oban High School; 2, Annie MacDonald, Portree Secondary School; 3, Angus MacTavish, Oban

High School; 4, Flora MacMillan, Fort William H.G. School; 5, John A. Robertson, Portree Secondary School; 6, Marjory McCuish, do.

Group D (3)—A Gaelic Essay, choice of three subjects—1, Angus MacTavish, Oban High School; 2, Chris. M. MacDougall, do.; 3, Helen Murphy, Inverness Royal Academy; 4, Peggy Lowe, Oban High School; 5, Mary MacKenzie, Dingwall Academy; 6 (equal), Alex. Ferguson, Portree Secondary School, and Marion MacCuish, do.

Group E.—University or Training College Students—(1) Translation into English of a Gaelic prose passage or poem—1, Katie MacLeod, Cheesbay, Lochmaddy; 2, Annie MacLeod, Daliburgh; 3, Dolina R. Morrison, North Galson, Lewis; 4, Margaret C. Matheson, Sollas, N. Uist; 5, Henrietta MacDonald, Lower Shader, Lewis (all of Jordanhill Training College).

Group E (2)—Gaelic Essay on a literary or an historical subject, choice of four subjects—1, Isabella L. MacKenzie, Strontian; 2, Ann C. MacIntyre, Breakish; 3, Johanna Morrison, Point, Lewis; 4, Catherine Murray, Ness, Lewis; 5, Margaret MacKechnie, Tirree (all of Jordanhill Training College).

Group E (3)—Gaelic Essay of 2000 words (subject, "The Effect of the-Sea on the Gael")—1, Iain N. MacLeod, Kirkhill.

Group F.—Evening Continuation Classes or Special Classes—(1) Reproduction in Gaelic of a short Gaelic story read twice by the teacher—1, John Morrison, Lionel Public School; 2, Morag Cameron, Oban High School; 3, Angus Campbell, Lionel Public School; 4, Isabel M. M. Ross, Badcall Inchard School; 5, Donald H. Mackay, Oldshore Public School.

Group F (2)—Writing from Dictation of a Gaelic prose passage, read once by the teacher—Oldshore Public School—1, Donald H. MacKay; 2, John MacLeod; 3, Miss Joan Morrison. Badcall-Inchard Public School—1, Isabel M. M. Ross; 2, Joan MacKenzie; 3, Davidina Morrison. Oban High School—1, Morag Cameron; 2, Neil MacLeod; 3, Catherine L. Rankin. Lionel Public School—1, John Morrison; 2, William Morrison; 3, Angus Campbell.

Group G.—Special Competitions (conditions laid down by the donor of prizes)—(1) For Boys—Essay in Gaelic on the Life of Isaac—1, Malcolm MacLeod, Tarbert, Harris; 2, Peter MacLennan, Tarbert, Harris.

Group G (2)—For Girls (subject, conditions, and prizes as in No. 1)—1, Jessie Morrison, Tarbert, Harris; 2, Annie MacLeod, Tarbert, Harris.

#### SPECIAL PRIZES FOR TEACHERS.

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

For the Highest Aggregate Marks—Group A—1, Angus MacDonald, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 2, Miss G. L. MacDonald, M.A., Tobermory H.G. School; 3, A. C. Smith, M.A., Iochdar Public School. Group B—1, Ronald MacLeod, M.A.,



Portree Secondary School; 2, Miss J. A. MacKenzie, Nicolson Institute, Stornoway; 3, P. J. Martin, M.A., Castlebay Public School. Group C—1, Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, Alex. Urquhart, M.A., Nicolson Institute; 3, Alex. Fraser, M.A., Daliburgh Public School. Group D—1, Ronald MacLeod, M.A., Portree Secondary School; 2, Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban High School; 3, Alex. Urquhart, M.A., Nicolson Institute, Stornoway.

## Tuesday.

### ORAL DELIVERY.

Argyllshire Gathering Hall Drawing Room.

Adjudicators—Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock, and Mr. D. MacPherson, M.A., Appin.

Reading with expression a piece of Prose or Poetry, by Native Speakers—1, Christina Campbell, Dunvegan; 2, Donald P. Sinclair, Castlebay; 3, Roddie Gillies, Castlebay; 4, Katie MacKinnon, Tobermory; 5, Kate MacPherson, Castlebay.

For Excellence in Gaelic Conversation, Boys and Girls—1, Christina Campbell, Dunvegan; 2, Margt. Bain, Glasgow.

Reciting from Memory "Do Leanabh" (Iain MacLachlainn)—1, Anne MacLean of Ardgour; 2, Jack Cameron, Ardgour; 3, Isobel C. MacCord, Rothesay.

Episcopal Church Hall.

Adjudicators—Rev. John Bain, F.S.A.Scot., Edinburgh, and Rev. John MacPherson, M.A., Taynuilt.

Reading with expression a piece of Prose or Poetry by Learners—1, Margaret Bain, Glasgow; 2 and 3 (equal), James C. Bain, Glasgow, and Catriona L. MacLean of Ardgour; 4, Anne MacLean of Ardgour; 5, Donald MacKechnie, Oban High School.

Reading at Sight an unfamiliar Prose Piece, chosen by the Judges—1, Katie MacKinnon, Tobermory; 2, Christina Campbell, Dunvegan; 3 (equal), Morag Cameron, Oban High School; Donald MacKechnie, Oban High School, and Katie Faulds, Tobermory.

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 (equal), Thomas Black, Oban High School, and Margaret Darroch, Tobermory; 3, Jean Kennedy, Tobermory.

Repeating the 46th Prose Psalm or Verses 1 to 11 of Chapter 13 of St. John's Gospel—Boys under 12 years of age—1, Archie Black, Oban High School; 2, James C. Bain, Glasgow; 3, Donald MacLean, Tobermory.

Repeating the 46th Prose Psalm or Verses 1 to 11 of Chapter 13 of St. John's Gospel—Girls under 12 years of age—1, Morag Faulds, Tobermory; 2, Sine Campbell, Tobermory; 3, Mary Campbell, Duror.

### VOCAL MUSIC.

Argyllshire Gathering Hall.

Adjudicators—Music—J. Frederic Staton, Mus.Doc., Chesterfield. Gaelic—Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song—Girls—1, Effie Fisher, Carradale; 2, Jean Cameron Greer, Glasgow; 3, Anna B. MacQueen, Easdale.

Duet Singing of the Song, "Boch Oirinn O"—1, Iain Johnston, Glasgow, and Duncan Johnston, Glasgow; 2, Isobel MacDonald, Glasgow, and Margaret MacDonald, Glasgow.

Action Song—1, and "Shiant Shield" (presented by Mr. Compton MacKenzie), Castlebay School Choir.

Solo Singing of a Song—Boys—1 and Silver Medal, Duncan MacInnes, Glasgow; 2 (equal), Archie Carmichael, Lismore, and Iain Johnston, Glasgow.

Unison Singing Competition for Junior Choirs—1, and Mrs. Campbell Blair Trophy, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir; 2, Castlebay School Choir.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in Two-part Harmony—1, and "Oban Times" Challenge Trophy, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir; 2, Oban High School Junior Choir (A).

St. Columba Church Hall.

Adjudicators—Music—Mr. Vincent Thomas, London. Gaelic—Rev. Colin MacPherson, M.A., Johnstone.

Solo Singing of a Song, "Shuidh mi air Cnoc" or "Seinn an duan so"—Boys—1, David D. MacQueen, Easdale; 2, Munro MacCannell, Glasgow; 3 (equal), Domhnall Stewart, Benderloch, and John Brown, Luim Public School.

Duet Singing of the Song, "Cuir a chinn dlis"—1, Jenny Lindsay, Glasgow, and Mary MacSween, Glasgow; 2, Flora MacDonald, Greenock, and Campbell Kerr, Greenock.

Traditional Singing of an Unpublished Gaelic Song—1, Iain Johnston, Glasgow; 2, Margaret MacQueen, Oban High School; 3, Duncan Johnston, Glasgow.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in Two-part Harmony—1, and Mrs. Miller's Trophy, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Junior Choir; 2, Drumbleton Junior Choir.

Solo Singing of a Song, "Do'n Chuthaig" or "Caidil gu lè" — Girls — 1 and Silver Medal, Christina Campbell, Dunvegan; 2, Bunty Steele, Dunvegan; 3, Anna Bain, Glasgow.

Solo Singing of a Song, "Gur gile mo leannan"—Boys and Girls—1, Nan Brown, Luim Public School; 2 (equal), Effie Fisher, Carradale, and Campbell Kerr, Greenock.

Solo Singing of a Gaelic Song (own choice)—Girls over 16 and under 18 years of age—1, Kathleen R. MacDonald, Kilmacollm; 2, Jemima MacDougall, Oban.

## SENIOR SECTION.

### LITERATURE.

Adjudicators—Alex. Thomson, M.C., D.C.M., Glasgow; J. Matheson, M.A., Motherwell; Archibald MacLean, M.A., Logierait; Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William; Rev. Colin MacPherson, M.A., Johnstone; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., F.S.A.Scot., Glasgow; John R. Bannerman, Meikle Rahane; Rev. T. S. MacPherson, Campbeltown; Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock; Rev. Malcolm MacLean, M.A., Conon.

Gold Pendant given to the most distinguished prize-winner in the Literary Competitions. Medal presented by Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria—David Urquhart, N. Kessock.

Poem on any subject—1, Mrs. Catherine F. Urquhart, N. Kessock; 2, Mrs. C. MacRae, Whauphill.

Essay on "Forbes of Culloden: His attitude to and influence on the '45"—Prize (£5) presented by Mr. Duncan MacInnes, Royal Chief, Order of Scottish Clans of America—Donald Gillies, Glasgow.

One Short Story, not exceeding 600 words—David Urquhart, N. Kessock.

Gaelic Play of three scenes—Prize (£5, "Archd. MacCulloch Memorial") presented by Ceilidh nan Gaidheal—Donald Gillies, Glasgow.

Action Songs for Children—Prize (£5) by Mr. Robert MacMillan—Mrs. MacLeod, Fortrose.

Essay on any Subject—John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill.

Compilation of Unpublished Gaelic Vocal Music—Mrs. Catherine Douglas, Kilmuir.

### Wednesday.

#### VOCAL MUSIC.

Argyllshire Gathering Hall.

Adjudicators—Music—Mr. Vincent Thomas, London. Gaelic—Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow, and Rev. Colin MacPherson, M.A., Johnstone.

Solo Singing of the Oran-mór, "Ailean Donn"—Female Voices—1, and "The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize," Mrs. Catherine Grant, Ballachulish.

Gaelic Folk Songs—1, Gilbert MacPhail, Islay; 2 (equal), Hugh MacInnes, Ballachulish, and Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock.

Solo Singing of an Unpublished Mull or Iona Song—1, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow; 2 (equal), Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock, and Duncan MacPherson, Bunnassan.

Oban and Lorn Association War Commemoration Medal.—For the best rendering of one of the following songs by Lorn Bards, "Chi mi na morbheanna," "Taobh mo theine fein," and "Mo Ribhinn Donn"—1, Gilbert MacPhail, Islay; 2, (equal), Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow, and Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow.

St. Columba Church Hall.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock. Music—J. Frederic Staton, Mus.Doc., Chesterfield.

Solo Singing of the Oran-mór, "Comhairle Oisein d'a mhathair"—Male Voices—1, and "The Jessie N. MacLachlan Memorial Prize," Gilbert MacPhail, Islay.

Solo Singing of a Song—Female Voices—1, Miss Nan M. Greenshields, Lochgilphead; 2 (equal), Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, Lawers, and Miss Effie M. Watson, Greenock.

Solo Singing of a Song—Male Voices—1, John MacLean, Yoker; 2, Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock.

Solo Singing of the Song, "Fàilte Bhruid-Albainn"—1, Donald D. MacIsaac, Jura; 2, Gilbert MacPhail, Islay; 3, Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, Lawers.

### Thursday.

#### ORAL DELIVERY.

Argyllshire Gathering Hall Drawing Room.

Adjudicators—Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock, and Rev. Colin MacPherson, M.A., Johnstone.

Gold Medal, presented by the Glasgow Skye Association, for the competitor gaining the highest aggregate marks in Competitions 39, 40, 41, and 44—Miss Peggie Lowe, Tobermory.

Recitation of the Poem, "An Àtairreachd Ard"—1, John Campbell, Easdale; 2, Miss Peggie Lowe, Tobermory.

Recitation of a Piece of Original Poetry specially composed by the Competitor—1, Calum MacIntyre, Colonsay; 2, Miss Susan MacKenzie, Luing.

Ancient Folk Tale, preferably unpublished, narrated in the traditional style—1, Allan MacLean, Greenock; 2, Calum MacIntyre, Colonsay.

Episcopal Church Hall.

Adjudicators—Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow, and Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow.

Recitation of a Prose Piece from "Litrichean Alasdair Mhoir"—1, Allan MacLean, Greenock; 2, John MacLeod, Harris.

Reading of an Unfamiliar Piece of Prose chosen by the Judges—1, Miss Mary Cameron, Morvern; 2, Miss Chrissie Cameron, Morvern.

For the best Prepared Original Gaelic Speech on any Subject—1, Calum MacIntyre, Colonsay; 2, Miss Chrissie MacPherson, Ardgour.

Best Acted Dialogue by Two Performers—1, Mrs. C. MacGregor, Oban, and Neil MacLeod, Oban; 2, Miss Sadie Kennedy, Tobermory, and Colin Palmer, Morvern; 3 (equal), Mrs. Bell, Taynuilt, and Mrs. Collie, Taynuilt, and Miss Isa A. MacDonald, Tayinloan, and Miss Susan B. MacDonald, Tayinloan.

#### VOCAL MUSIC.

Argyllshire Gathering Hall.

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

Solo Singing of a Song—To encourage the revival of the older or less known district songs—1, Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow; 2, Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock; 2, Gilbert MacPhail, Islay; 3, Miss Chrissie M. Nicolson, Glasgow; 3, Duncan M. MacKenzie, Inverness; 3, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow.

Two Songs from Mrs. Kennedy Fraser's "Songs of the Hebrides"—Male and Female Voices—1, Miss Effie M. Watson, Greenock; 2 (equal), Miss Elizabeth MacMartin, Lawers, and Duncan M. MacKenzie, Inverness.

Solo Singing of a Gaelic Song connected with the County of Inverness to be known as the "James Grant Memorial" Prize—Ladies—1, Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow; 2, Miss Johan Boyd, Ardgour. Gentlemen—1, Gilbert MacPhail; 2 (equal), Hugh MacInnes, Ballachulish, and Allan MacLean, Fionphort.

Mod Gold Medals—Ladies—1, Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow; 2, Miss Catherine M. Clark, Glasgow; 3, Miss May MacArthur, Glasgow. Gentlemen—1, Gilbert MacPhail; 2, Hugh MacInnes, Ballachulish; 3, Allan MacLean, Fionphort.

Choral Singing of the Songs, "Mi 'm shuidhe 'm ònair" and "Far an robh 'n raoir"—1, and "Lorn Shield" (presented by Colonel and Mrs. Iain Campbell, Airds)—1, Abernethy Gaelic Choir; 2, Graitown on Spey Gaelic Choir; 3, Easdale Gaelic Choir; 4, Taynuilt Gaelic Choir.

St. Columba Church Hall.

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

Solo Singing of Song or Melody by the late Mr. Calum MacPharlain. Prizes presented by the Paisley Highlanders' Association—1, Gilbert MacPhail, Islay; 2, Mrs. Catherine Grant, Ballachulish.

Solo Singing of Puir à Beul—1, Hugh MacInnes, Ballachulish; 2, H. Crawford MacAlpine, Ardshraig; 3, Donald Campbell, Easdale.

Solo Singing of a Song, confined to natives of Glenmoriston, Glenurquhart, and Stratherrick districts—1, Miss Amy Gollan, Drumnadrochit; 2, Duncan Fraser, Drumnadrochit.

Solo Singing of Two Songs with Clarsach Accompaniment (Prizes presented by Mrs. Iain Campbell, Airds), open to all—1, Mrs. Mollie E. Low, Ilford.

Solo Singing of Two Songs with Clarsach accompaniment, confined to those who have played the Clarsach for under two years—1, Miss May F. Hunter, Bearsden; 2, Miss Marion F. MacNeill, Edinburgh.

Accompanying of a singer with the Clarsach—1, Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, Dunblane; 2, Miss Lexy Matheson, Plockton.

### Friday.

#### QUARTETTE AND CHORAL SINGING.

Argyllshire Gathering Hall.

Adjudicators—Gaelic, Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Music—Mr. Vincent Thomas, London.

Quartette Singing of the Song, "Mi 'n so 'nam ònar"—Male voices only (prizes presented by the Edinburgh Gaelic Choir)—1, Inverness Gaelic Musical Association (1); 2, Govan Gaelic Choir Quartette.

Choral Singing of the Songs, "Cagaran Gaolach" and "Mac og an Iarla Ruaidh"—Female voices only (£5 presented by Mr. Duncan MacInnes, Royal Chief, Order of Scottish Clans of America)—1, and Esme Smyth Trophy, Campbeltown Gaelic Choir; 2, Govan Gaelic Choir.

#### VOCAL MUSIC.

Argyllshire Gathering Hall.

Adjudicators—Gaelic—Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow, and Mr. Angus L. MacDonald, M.A., H.M.I.S., Kilmaccolm. Music—J. Frederic Staton, Mus.Doc., Chesterfield, and Mr. Vincent Thomas, London.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in Four-part Harmony—1, and the Lovat and Tullibardine Trophy, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 2, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association; 3, Oban Gaelic Choir.

St. Columba Church Hall.

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

Duet Singing of a Song—1, Miss Effie M. Watson, Greenock, and Mrs. W. D. Kerr, Greenock; 2 (equal), Miss Chrissie Nicolson, Glasgow, and Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Glasgow; Miss Helen MacDiarmid, Greenock, and Duncan C. MacLellan, Greenock; Miss Marion T. MacAllister, Lochgilphead, and Miss Susan MacAllister, Lochgilphead.

Choral Singing of a Song, with or without Chorus, in Three or Four-part Harmony—Male voices only—1, and Mull and Iona Shield, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association; 2, Greenock Gaelic Choir.

Choral Singing of "Puir-t-a-beul"—1 and Greenock Gaelic Choir Cup, Govan Gaelic Choir; 2, Greenock Gaelic Choir.

#### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

St. Columba Church Hall.

Adjudicators—Mrs. Neil MacLean, Kilmichael-Glassary, and Pipe-Major John MacDonald, M.B.E., Inverness.

Playing of a Highland March, Strathspey, and Reel on the Pianoforte—Seniors—1, Mrs. Margaret Campbell, Aberdeen; 2, Miss Mairi MacDougall, Bowmore; 3 (equal), Miss May M. MacDonald, Killin Junction, and Miss Chris. A. MacDougall, Oban.

Playing of a Slow Gaelic Air and March (bagpipe setting) on the Pianoforte—Juniors—1, Miss Billie Greenshields, Lochgilphead; 2, Miss Margaret Lindsay, Easdale School; 3 (equal), Miss Catherine MacInnes, Dunoon, and Victor MacKay, Glasgow.

Playing of Highland March, Strathspey, and Reel on the Violin—1, Miss Agnes Chisholm, Oban; 2, Lachlan Wynne, Fort William; 3, Donald Bannatyne, Taynuilt.

Playing of a Strathspey and Reel on the Violin—Natives of Glenmoriston, Glenurquhart, and Stratherrick districts—1, Lachlan Wynne, Fort William; 2, Miss Johan C. Grant, Drumnaidochit.

### CELTIC ART COMPETITIONS.

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

#### Section A—DESIGN.

Notice or Poster to direct attention to Exhibition of Celtic Art at the Mod—1 and 2 (equal), Miss Joan MacDonald, Arisaig Hotel, Arisaig (2 entries).

Full-size Drawings in Pencil, Chalk, or Ink, Shaded or Washed, of whole or part of any old Celtic Sculptured Stone or Stones to which competitors may have access—1, Stewart Cunningham, Kingairloch, Argyll; 2, Miss Elizabeth Mair, High School, Oban; 3, Miss M. J. D. MacKinnon, Ardreoch, Kilchrenan.

#### Section B—HANDICRAFT.

Metal Work—Any article in Pewter, Copper, Brass, or Silver, with Celtic ornamentation to specified design, No. 171 B—1, Mrs. W. D. MacDonald, Ashbank, Shawlands, Glasgow, S.1; 2, Ann S. Semple, Rugharbh, 79 Crookston Avenue, Glasgow, S.W.2.

#### Section C—WOOL WORK.

Door Mat in Wool Work, size approximately 30 inches by 12 inches. Celtic design of competitor's choice—1, Miss Lamont of Knockdow, Inverchaulain, Argyll; 2, Miss Winnie Murchie, 67 Russell Street, Ayr.

### BUAIN AN ARBHAIR.

Tha am Fogharadh a nis air tighinn, agus tha tuathanaich trang aig a' bhuaib. B'e an corran an ceud inneal a bha aig ar sinnsearan airson na h-oibre so, ach chan eil e an duigh air a ghnathachadh ach ainneamh, ach airson gearradh dheanteagan is chluaranan. Ri linn na buana leis a chorrann bha tuille mór dhaoine air an dùthaich na tha ann a nis, agus bha seirbhis is teachd-an-tir na bu shaoire. Bhitheadh mórán de na Gàidheil a' dol gu Galltachd chun na buana anns na laithean ud.

An deidh a chorrain thainig an speal, agus bhithheadh mórán de na Gàidheil a' dol gu Galltachd chun na buana anns na laithean ud.

An deidh a chorrain thainig an speal, agus tha moran buana air a deanamh leis an inneal sin fhathast air fearainn bheaga agus gu sònruichte far am bheil coirce na laidhe.

Air fearainn mhóra a nis is ann le inneal-buana tha an obair sin air a deanamh. Tha an t-inneal so air a tharruing le dha no tri eich, agus ni e uiread oibre le aon duine 'ga stiuradh's a dheanadh moran dhaoine le corran no le speal. Gearraidh agus ceanglaidh e an t-arbhar 'na sguaban, agus chan fhàg e dias na dhéidh.

Tha e air a radh gu 'm b'ann air achadh

bhuana a bha Rob Dónn is e na bhalach 'nuair a dh' aithnich daoine an toiseach gur h-e bàrd a bh'ann. Bha a bhan-altrum aige a buain le corran air imir far an robh an coirce tana. A' r dhi gearan a dheanamh ri Rob airson nach tugadh dhise imir air an robh coirce cho tigh' s a bha aig càch thuir e rithe r'ar so :—

Bi-sa 'dol a nunn 's a nall,  
Gus an ruig thu grunnn na clais ;  
Chan eil agad air ma tha e gann,  
Ach na gheibh thu ann a thoirt as.

EILEANACH.

## RUAIRIDH MAC LEOID, INBHIR-NIS. (Nach Maireann).

Le IAIN N. MAC LEOID, Cnoc-mhoire.

Is e sgiala brònach do Ghaidheil air feadh gach cearnaidh de 'n t-saoghal a tha am bàs Ruairidh Mhic Leoid, a chaochail an Inbhirnis air Di-ciadain, 29 de 'n Lùnasdal.

Rugadh Ruairidh an Eilbhinn an Cataibh anns a' bhliadhna 1867. Bha athair agus màthair dhiadhaidh aige a chuir roimhe deagh eisempleir Criosduidheil o làithean a òige. Bha a athair aithnichte 'n a là mar neach air an robh gràsan spiorad Chriosda air am buileachadh am paitheas, agus is iomadh uair a rinn Ruairidh fhéin luaidh air an neart agus a' chomhfhurtachd a bhiodh a' tighinn 'g a ionnsuidh troimh a bheatha an cois nan ùrnuighean dùrachdach a bhiodh a athair a' cur suas gu cathair gràis air a shon.

Ghlac Ruairidh aire a luchd-dùthcha mar sheinneadair Gaidhlig an uair nach robh e ach glé òg, agus an uair a thòisich e ri a ghairm làitheil am bùth aodaichean am baile Inbhirpheopharain, chuir e a aghaidh air ball ri meòrachadh air ceòl. Bha a chridhe agus a intinn gu h-iomlan làn de bheò-thogradh airson maise nan òran Gaidhlig a chur an cèill do a luchd-dùthcha. Tha fhios againn uile gun do chum e ris a' ghealladh sin a rinn e dha fhéin, agus nach buadhach do ar ceòl gun d' rinn e sin. Is ann beag suarach a bha am meas a bha air òran Gaidhlig aig cuirm-chiùil no fleadhachas an là a thòisich Ruairidh ri an seinn, ach chuir esan loinn agus sgéimh orra nach do chuir duine eile riamh roimhe; thog e gu inbhe mhòralach iad le binneas a a chiùil agus tlachdwhorachd a phearsa air an àrd-ùrlar, agus ma tha meas agus mùirn air na h-òrain Gaidhlig an cuirtibh àrda an diugh, is e Ruairidh Mac Leoid do am buin mòran de 'n ghlòir airson sin. Thug e seachad a shaothair gu togarach agus a nasgaidh: cha do sheinn e a chionn gum biodh uibhir de

dhuais òir a' feitheamh air aig deireadh na h-oidhche, ach chuir e an cèill binneas an òrain Gaidhlig a chionn gu robh a chridhe fhéin làn de 'n cheòl sin, agus gum b'e a aoibhneas an còmhnuidh a bhi a' toirt cuideachaidh do gach aobhar a bha chum leas muinntir a' chlachain do an robh e a' toirt toil-intinn le bhi 'g a éisdeachd. Sin aon de na h-aobharan àraidh airson a bheil sinn an diugh a' cur luach cho mòr air an obair fhéin-àicheil a rinn Ruairidh Mac Leoid.

Wed tha ar caraid marbh, tha a ghuth fhathast a' labhairt ruinn anns na h-òrain a sheinn e air clàraibh na gréis-labhrais. (gramophone). Is e mo bheachd gur h-e a' chiad sheinneadair Gaidhlig a sheinn anns an uidheam-chiùil sin a bha aig an àm ud gu math annasach anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. Ghabh na Gaidheil le tlachd mòr ris na h-òrain sin agus sgaoilleadh iad air feadh gach tìre anns an robh mic agus nigheanan tìr nam beann a' gabhail còmhnuidh; chualas na ciadan a ghuth nach fhaca e fhéin riamh anns an fheòil, agus is iomadh neach a dh' àraicheadh air a' Gaidhlig agus a bha fo speuran coimheach fada o eòlas a fhuair toil-intinn le bhi cluinntinn "An gleann 's an robh mi òg" air a sheinn aig an teallach fhéin an iomall tìre le Ruairidh Mac Leoid. Bha clàran nan salm Gaidhlig a chuir e mach iongantach taitneach, agus chuir Gaidheil an tìrean céin luach a bha mòr orra a chionn gu robh iad ag ùrachadh dhoibh eaglais ghràdhach na sgrìre anns am b' àbhaist dhoibh, an uair a bha iad òg, a bhi seinn nan salm anns an t-seann dòigh Ghaidhealaich.

Cha robh Ruairidh Mac Leoid riamh gun a làmh a bhi a' furtachd gach deagh aobhair a bha air iomairt airson leas nan Gaidheal. Is iomadh crevtòir bochd a chuir e seachad air éigin agus teanntachd, agus ma bha neach sam bith ann a thuit le aimlisg air slighe na còrach, bha caraid anns a' chùirt aige an uair a leigeadh e ris a chàs do Ruairidh. Cha b'ann a' deanarh bòsd as gach cobhair a thug e bu nòs dha idir: is e clachan a' bhalla a chluinneadh sin. Bha e caomhail càirdeil, carthannach ris gach neach, agus cha robh mì-fhéin riamh greis 'n a chuideachd nach d'fhàg mi e air mo mhisneachadh le gràsan ùra. Bha an aon àite inbheil aige am measg slean agus uaislean, agus chuir iad gach leth meas air na gibhtean móra a bha air am buileachadh air. Tha tùrsa oirnn uile as a dhéidh, ach dh'fhàg e cuimhne chùbhraidh againn, agus fhad agus a bhios pongan na Gaidhlig air an cluinntinn an Albainn ar rùin, bidh cuimhne agus moladh air Ruairidh MacLeoid a Eilbhinn.

## CO LEIS AN DIOGHALTAS?

Mod Ghlascho - - 1933.  
*An Dara Duais (Ionnan).*

Le DOMHINALE GRANDD, Gluschu.

Long nan Lochlannach air sàl,  
 Cò do 'n dàn riu 'm bliadhna strith?  
 C'ait an toir iad nuas na siùil?  
 Chaidh an cliù air feadh gach tìr.

Gaoth a tuath 'ga greasad dìon,  
 Seachad sìos air Sealtainn chiar;  
 Tha nis na h-Arcaibh air a càr,  
 Chum i a siùil 'san àird an iùl.

Dh'riach a' mhuir cho àrd ri 'beul.  
 Cha d'thug i géill do ghàir nan tonn,  
 Shnàmh i mar fhaoleig air a' chuan,  
 Ni bheireadh buaidh oir' cha robh ann.

Bha curaidh threuna innt' a 'tàmh,  
 Bu tric a sàs iad ann am blàr;  
 Bha geilt air Albannaich gu mór;  
 Oir thàinig dòruinn leo a ghnàth.

Bha àit an sin nach fhac iad riamh.  
 An taobh an iar dheth leag iad seòl,  
 Chaidh iad air tìr air maduinn bhriagh,  
 Air eilean Sgiathanach a' cheò.

Leum an ceannad air an tràigh,  
 Fearghus dàna, lann 'ga dhìon.  
 A mhac-san Iomhar as a dhéidh,  
 Is ceud fear treun, air creich am miann.

Bu fhleasgach ciatach Iomhar féin,  
 Mar dharach treun, mar ghiuthas àrd.  
 Dath an òir air falt a' chinn,  
 'S math do na chì air fiamh a' ghàir.

Bhuail oillt is uamhann luchd an àit,  
 Gun fhios dé 'n nàmhaid 'bha 'nan còir.  
 Sheall iad gu dùrachdach an àird  
 A' guidh' gum fàgteadh iadsan beò.

Ri taobh a' chladaich bha a' tàmh  
 Gaisgeach làidir, àrd an cliù:  
 Iain a b' ainm dha, ri a taobh  
 Bha 'chéile chaomh 's a nighean chiùin.

Bu nighean Màiri b' àillidh snuadh.  
 Dearg a gruidh mar fhuil 'ruith beò;  
 Dubh mar fhitheach tuar a ciabh;  
 A cneas fìor-gheal mar shneachda leo.

Ruith Fearghus is a mhac gu luath.  
 Am prìobadh bha iad fad o chàch.  
 Sheas Iain air beulaobh a luchd-dàimh;  
 Thug Fearghus dha-na buille-bhàis.

Bu latha brònach sin do-n t-sluagh.  
 Am beag a fhuair as sabhailt beò.  
 B' aobhneach na Lochlannaich 's bu dbian.  
 Chaill iomadh Sgiathanach an deò.

Dh' fhan iad fad rèithe anns an tìr.  
 Ach 's ann air Iomhar' tha mo sgeul.  
 B' ionmhuinn leis Màiri thar gach tè,  
 Bu tric a beusan-se 'na bheul.

Thàinig an t-am do 'n bhrlinn triall  
 Bu bhrònach Iomhar 'n àm bhith falbh.  
 Dh' asluich e 'n òigh gun rachadh i  
 Dha féin mar mhnaoi a null thar sàl.

Ciamar ghabhadh i mar fhear-pòs  
 Nèach' thug bròn dìth féin 's d' a sluagh?  
 Cò leag a h-athair fuar air làr  
 Ach 'athair, an t-ard-thriath: truaigh nan  
 truaigh.

Bha' màthair fiosrach air a' chùis:  
 'S bu mhór a dùrachd' cur an oéill,  
 "Ma' s e 's gun téid thu leis a' phrionns,  
 Mo mhallachd a' d ionnsaidh bheir thu fhéin."

Bha' smuaintean air fad oidhch' is là.  
 Mu dheireadh dh' fhàs a beachdan réidh.  
 'S an fheasgar Iomhar choinnich i,  
 Chuir i a h-intinn dha an oéill.

"Ma tha do ghràdh mar thubhairt thu  
 Tha fios gur dlùth an dearbhadh dhùinn.  
 Marbh thusa d' athair féin gun dàil,  
 'S do Lochlainn a màireach seòlaidh sinn."

Bha uamhas follaiseach 'na ghnùis  
 Ach cha do ghluais e i bhò' miann.  
 Chuimhnich i bàs a h-athar dha.  
 Dh' aontaich e 'n tràth sin ris a' ghlomh.

Bha 'n oidheche ciùin 's gach ni air dòigh.  
 Bha dùil ri seòladh ris an là.  
 Luidh Fearghus sìos an cadal trom  
 Gun amharus ann dé bha 'na dhàil.

Gu feallta dh' ialaidh Iomhar suas  
 Airsan bu chruaidh so 'thoirt gu crìch.  
 Thog e an sgian a bha 'na làimh  
 Diog cha d' fhàg Fearghus: chaidh e 'dhith.

A muigh a' feitheamh sheas an òigh,  
 Ag altrun dòchais, neart do' làimh,  
 An tiotadh bha e 'g ràdh ri 'taobh,  
 "Nis creididh tu, faodaidh' bhith, mo ghràdh."

Ghlaodh Màiri, "Tha na fiachan paight'.  
 Théid mise leat do d' thir mu thuath."  
 Dhì-chuimhnich i a cunnart mór.  
 Cha-n fhac i cò lean iad gu luath.

Bha 'mathair amharusach m' a déigh;  
 Is chual i dé bha' m beachd na h-òigh.  
 Dh' éisd an luchd-faire ri a sgeul.  
 'S an ceannad treun, cha robh e beò.

Ghlac iad an dithis ud gun dàil  
 Bàs obann b' àill leo 'thoirt roimh là.  
 Thuir aon fhear, " Bheir a' chailleach binn "—  
 B'e sin an inntinn 'bha aig càch.

" Cuiribh an geòla iad le chéil,  
 'S am fuadach 's fheadar sa' Chuan Sgith,  
 Seòl na biodh aca, crann no ràmh."  
 Binn na màthar, le fuath 'na cridh.

An là-r na-mhàireach shéid a' ghaoth,  
 O'n ear gu cruaidh is ole 'na rùn.  
 Chaidh bàta beag a chur air dòigh,  
 A réir a' chòrdaidh 'bh' ac' air tùs.

Cha dubhairt Iomhar facal riu.  
 Bu chalm a shùil, 's bu deas a cheum.  
 Ach ri a màthair ghlaodh an òigh,  
 Le glaothaibh bròin 'n àm éirigh gréin'.

Thionndaidh a mathair null a ceann.  
 Sheòl iad gu mall air ais gu tìr,  
 Chaidh 'm bàta à sealladh-san gu luath  
 Guth cha chualas air neach' bha innt'.

Chaidh làithean seach, is smuain a' fàs  
 Blàth aig càirdean air an tòir.  
 Bha iad, aig neach, " a measg nan ròn,"  
 Fear eile fòs, " an Tìr-nan-Og."

### COMUNN GAIDHLIG, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

Bha àireamh mhath de bhuil agus cairdean  
 aig cruinneachadh a' Chomuinn a' cheud  
 Sathurna de Lunasdal. Re an fheasgair bha  
 iomradh gasda air a thoirt le Mgr. Filib  
 Mac Bhaltaire mu na crìochan a tha dealachadh  
 Gaidhachd agus Gaidhealtachd na h-Alba.

Bha an seann triubhas air a dhannsadh le  
 Tearlach Stiubhard. B'e na pio-bairean air son  
 an fheasgair, Aonghas Greumach agus Uilleam  
 Mac Leoid. Bha na h-orain a bha uile sa  
 chànan Ghaidhealach air an cuideachadh leis  
 a bhean-uasail Nic Leoid, (Hi oro 's na h-oro  
 eile); Aonghas Mac Aoidh (Suas leis a Ghaidhlig);  
 Aonghas Mac Ghougain (an Rathad do na  
 h-Eileanan), agus a choisir-chiuil (An cluinn  
 thu leannain). Be na maighdeannan ciùil,  
 Dail-chuach Nic Bheathain agus Anna Nic  
 'Illeathain, agus na fìdhleirean Peadair Ros  
 agus Seoras Guinn. Bha Donnachaidh Mac  
 Dhìarmaid, na Mhaighstir-Urlair taitneach.

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The instalment of Colonel Alex. Fraser's article  
 has been unavoidably held over this month.

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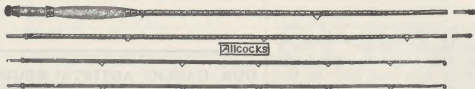
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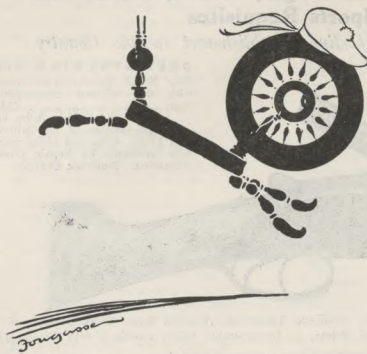


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# AN GÀIDHEAL

EDITOR.—Rev. NEIL ROSS, C.B.E., D.Litt., *The Manse, Laggan, Kingussie, to whom all literary communications should be addressed; business and other communications to 212 West George Street, Glasgow.*

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Leabhar XXX.]

An t-Samhuin, 1934.

[Earrann 2

## SEARGADH.

Nach lionmhor na nithean a tha an aghaidh na Gaidhlig! Mar shuidheas tu slios gus cuid de na nithean sin àireamh, smuainichidh tu air tùs air neart na Beurla; an sin air fàsachadh nan gleann agus an sluagh a' treigsinn na Gaidhealtachd. Agus an deidh sin faodaidh gum beachdaich thu air rud no dha eile—mar tha mòran de 'n òigridh aineolach air a' Ghaidhlig ged a tha am pàrantan fileanta gu leòr innte; mar tha àireamh mhór de chloinn na Gaidhealtachd an diugh air an toirt a mach as na sràidean is bochda de bhailtean mòra na Gaidhealtachd; mar tha iomadh Gall a' tighinn a stigh do 'n Taobh Tuath agus a' fuireach an sin aig cosnadh air rathad iarainn no aig obair sam bith eile mar thachras gu tric. Tha na nithean sin uile ag oibreachadh an aghaidh na Gaidhlig. Agus an uair a chuireas tu meadh-bhlàths nan Gaidheal féin a thaobh an cànanain comhla ris na gnothuichean eile, chan eil iongnadh ged bhiodh a' Ghaidhlig a' fulang.

\* \* \*

A thuilleadh air na cùisean a chaidh ainmeachadh thoir faineart cuideachd gu 'n deachadh a' chuid as motha de na ceàirdean air dhì-chuimhne ann ar tìr. Bho chionn beagan bhliadhnaichean air ais sgrìobh mi earrann chinn anns a' mhìosachan so, a' tarraing aire gu dearmad nan ceàirdean mar tha goibhneachd is greusachd agus iomadh ceàird eile a bha coitcheionn aig ar sinnsir. Bha àireamh de fhacail shonraichte an coimhcheangal ris gach dreuchd: Agus mar chaidh na dreuchdan fein a chall chaidh na facail sin a chall mar an ceudna. Tha saothair fearainn a' dol air ais, agus an lorg sin tha ficheadan fhacail a bhùineas

do shaothair fearainn a' sìor dhol a cleachdadh. Thachair an cleas ceudna do iasgach agus saothair mara. Tha briathran sgiobaireachd is seòlaidh a' dol as an t-sealladh. Agus có an neach òg an diugh aig a bheil làn thuigse air na ficheadan fhacail sonraichte a tha fuaighte ri calanas is cloimh, ri sinnean is fighe, agus ri daithean a gheibhear bho lusan na talmhainn.

\* \* \*

Ach tha cleachdadh eile ann nach eil idir a chum cuideachaidh leis a' chànain. Is e sin a bhi ag uisneachadh facail Bheurla am measg na Gaidhlig an uair nach eil riatanas air sin. Gle thric chluinnidh tu facail Bheurla 'g an cur am feum gun reusan sam bith, ged a dheanadh facail chumanta Ghaidhlig a' chùis gu math. Chan eil fhios ciod an t-aobhar air a' chleachdadh neonach so. Gheibh thu facail Bheurla le earball Gaidhlig orra. Is ann mar sin a tha a' chànain a' seargadh, mar tha Bheurla a' faotainn greim an cridhe na Gaidhlig, agus le cion cleachdaidh na h-ainmean Gaidhlig féin a' sìor dhol an dearmad. Aig a cheart am chan e mhain gu bheil briathran air an tarraing o 'n Bheurla, ach tha gnàths labhairt na Beurla 'g a thionndadh gu Gaidhlig, agus gnàths na Gaidhlig mar sin a' dol air dhì-chuimhne. Air an doigh ud tha call dùbait a' tachairt, call nam facal agus call a' ghnàiths.

\* \* \*

Bhiodh e chum feuma nan tugainn eisimpleir de 'n chleachdadh dhona so. Chualaidh mi mu chroitear a chaidh gu féill le gamhainn gus a reic. Is coltach gu 'n d'fhuair e tairgse choig puinnnd Shasunnach air an ainmhidh, agus cha do ghabh e an tairgse. Is ann mar so a dh'innis an croitear mu 'n chùis do a nàbuidh: "cho

luath 's a dh' *approachig* mi an *sale* fhuair mi *offer* choig *notaichean* agus cha do dh' *acceptig* mi an *t-offer*." Tha cuimhne agam air freagradh annasach eile mu dheidhinn fir nach robh idir an deagh shlàinte. Thainig coimhearsnach a dh'fheòraich cionnus a bha e. Fhreagar banaltrum Ghaidhealach a' cheist mar so, ged a b' i Gaidhlig bu chainnt mhatharail dhi: ars' ise—"than an *constitution* aig Lachie *completely gone*." Agus tha eagal ormsa ma leanas an galar fasanta so anns a' Ghaidhlig, nach fhada an ùine gus am bi an *constitution* aig a' Ghaidhlig *completely gone* mar an ceudna.

\* \* \*

Is e so an t-eisimpleir mu dheireadh. Chualas an comhradh so aig banais anns na cearnaibh mu thuath de ar dùthaich. Thachair nach b'ann idir de 'n aon eaglais a bha fear na bainnse agus a' bhean òg. An déidh do 'n bhanaid suidhe cha robh òran no ceòl ri chluinntinn. Ach ged bha ceòl air a thoirmeasg cho robh sòradh no caomhnadh air mac na bracha. Chaidh glaineachan làna mu 'n cuairt cha b'ann aon uair no dà uair. Mu dheireadh is ann a thubhairt cuid-eigin ris an fhear nuadh phòsda—"Is neonach leam fhéin duine cho glie riut a dhol a phòsadh té nach eil de 'n aon eaglais riut fein." Is ann an uair sin a fhreagair fear na bainnse, agus glaine làn 'n a laimh: "Chan eil mi fhéin 'n mo *hectarian* cho mór agus gu bheil mi de 'n *opinion* gu bheil *Christianity* air a *confineadh* ri *denomination* sam bith." Nach bocht a' bharail a ghabhas coigreach air cànan nan Gaidheal an uair a chluinnear a leithid sin de chomhradh. Is e an earail a leanas bho na naidheachdan beaga so gur còir dhuinn uile a leithid sin de "Ghaidhlig" a sheachnadh.

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### CORRECTION.

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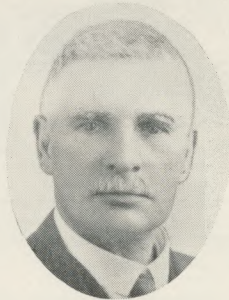
In the report of the annual meeting in last number of this magazine, a slight correction falls to be noted. It was stated in the report that the proposal to hold the next National Mod in Edinburgh had been seconded by Mrs. Dunlop, Glasgow. It was, however, the other motion, that the Mod be held in Perth, which was seconded by Mrs. Dunlop.

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### COMUNN BADGES.

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

## OUR NEW PRESIDENT.



Mr. John R. Bannerman.

The remarkable warmth of the reception given to Mr. Bannerman when he took his seat in the President's chair in succession to Dr. Ross, afforded unmistakable evidence of the esteem and affection with which he is regarded by his fellow-members of An Comunn Ghaidhealach. It was a spontaneous and striking tribute to his work for Gaelic and his worth as a man.

To be President of An Comunn is an honour any Highlander might well covet, and there are few more worthy of the honour than Mr. Bannerman. His appointment is a recognition of devoted and unselfish and most useful service to the cause of Gaelic over a long period of years. He would be the last to claim recognition for such service; he is, himself, the one who is least conscious of the value and extent of the influence he has exerted by precept and example in promoting love for the language and all the language stands for.

Though Mr. Bannerman has spent virtually all his life in Glasgow, he had his birth in the Outer Hebrides. In his own person he is a shining example of how the spirit and speech of the Gael can be maintained in vigorous activity amid the adverse influences of a great Lowland City. His Gaelic is as pure and flowing, as little affected by English, as if he had spent his life in the heart of a Gaelic community. Gaelic has had the place of honour in his home, with the result that his family have grown up with a command of the language only too rarely to be found in the members of Highland families reared in Glasgow.

Mr. Bannerman has had a life-long connection with St. Columba Church, Glasgow, in which he is a highly respected Elder. St. Columba is to him a veritable "Tigh mo chridhe, tigh mo ghraidh," and its interests lie very close to his heart. Although living on the shores of the Gareloch, he travels to Glasgow every week-end in order to have the privilege of worshipping there at the Gaelic Services. What more convincing evidence could one wish of the depth and sincerity of his loyalties? It is a fine thing to hear the affectionate admiration with which he speaks of his Minister, the Rev. Alexander MacDonald (a member of our Executive Council) not only as a powerful and earnest preacher, but as a man of the most engaging human qualities.

Mr. Bannerman was one of the founders of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal in Glasgow, a Society all the proceedings of which are conducted in Gaelic, and he is still one of its most active members. There is no more acceptable speaker at its weekly meetings. It is interesting to observe the expression of pleased expectancy which shows in the faces of members when he rises to speak. It is as if they were saying to themselves, "Now we shall get something good," and they always do. His contributions to the discussions are invariably relevant, racy, well-informed, and lit up by bright flashes of humour.

Our new President was for some years the highly competent Convener of the Mod and Music Committee of An Comunn. For this office his wide and accurate knowledge of Gaelic literature, song and music ideally fitted him, and it was indeed fortunate that when that cultured and accomplished Gael the late Rev. M. N. Munro found himself compelled to resign the Convenship a successor so eminently qualified should have been available in the person of Mr. Bannerman. His heart is deeply engaged in the work of An Comunn. He was at the first Mod, as a member of the St. Columba Gaelic Choir, and he has seen the seed then sown grow, like the mustard seed in the Parable, into a great tree affording shelter under its widespread branches to all lovers of the old tongue and the precious things therewith associated. He has acted as Language Adjudicator at the National and Provincial Mods, and he was chosen to adjudicate at the recent Gaelic Dramatic Festival in the Outer Isles of which he gave a most interesting account in *An Gaidheal*. He has written dialogues which have won the highest awards at the Mod; he has wedded new words to old airs—he is an expert improviser of Gaelic verse; the

simple and dignified ceremony with which the Bard is crowned at the Mod is of his devising; and he has done a myriad other things for the cause of Gaelic known only to himself and a very few others, and for which he has never thought of seeking reward or acknowledgment.

An Comunn is happy in having guiding its affairs men and women who serve it with loyal and unselfish devotion, and among these Mr. Bannerman takes a high place. The honour which has come to him in being chosen as President is richly merited. There is complete confidence in his ability to occupy the office with credit to himself and satisfaction to members. His intimate knowledge of, and sincere sympathy with the varied work of An Comunn, his experience of affairs, his sound common sense, his ready wit and genial humour, fit him in no ordinary fashion for the proud position in which he now finds himself.

---

“SOILLSE AGUS SGLEO.”

Mod an Obain, 1934.

A' Cheud Duais.

A' BHEAN UASAL CATRIONA URCHADAN,  
PORT CHEISEIG.

A com na h-oidhch' tha combaist Dhé  
'Na caoir gheal brùchdadh dhéo,  
'S am bolg a' sgaioleadh air gach taobh  
'Na lasair dheirg is òir;  
'Na rionnachas nach sgeadaich rìgh  
Rì tìm an tìr nam beò  
'Cur loinn mar chluigean diamanta  
Le driùchd air luibh is pòr.

Tha 'ghaoth a' seirm 'na h-osaig chiùin  
Air stùcan àrd nam beann,  
A' togail iorraim mholaidd dhuit  
Air cruit na maidne fann;  
Na neoil mar obainn glanadair  
'Nam fillidh mu do cheann,  
Do ghloir a' dearrsadh oirn le àgh  
Is fàs na slàint' nach gannt.

Cha d'chruthaicheadh an sgrìobhaich' sin  
Ni iomradh loinn do ghloir,  
No sùil bha fosgailt uile ris  
Gach dath tha toinnt' nad sgòid,  
A' teagas dhuinn gu 'n bhuing sin  
Gu ullag air do stòl,  
Ait, aobhneach, cridheil, m'raigach  
Le mìleis bhinn nan eoin.

Gach faileas uile a' teicheadh uat,  
Is a' lùgadh bho do shùil,  
Na reultan fhéin do chùrtean  
'Toirt ùmhlaich dhuit 'nan cùil;  
Is faire-thùr do 'n chruinne thu,  
Gus siolaidh thu 'san Iar,  
Air cluasaig cuain, le cùibhric òidhch'  
'Ga d' dhruideadh mu do ghial.

Tha brat na h-òidhche dhuirch air bhoillg'  
Le lòchrain gheal nan soills'  
'San Grioglachan cho lainnreach  
A' priobadh oirn le aoibh;  
'S a' ghealach a' cur fasain oirr'  
Cho finealt ri bean-bainns',  
'S mo Bhénus ghaoil 'gam thaladh thuic'  
Le sméideadh geal a làmh'.

Cho luath ri iolair shiùbhlaich òg  
Air astar sgéith 'na deann,  
Mo chridh'sa cho togarrach  
Air sùgradh riut gach am.  
'S cir-mheal is fìor ol-ungaidh dhomh  
Do bhriathran còibhneil baidn'.  
'S do thrusgan tha cho ùrail cùbhr'  
Ri spisiridh abaich gheann.

Mo chridhe làn de shonas dhith  
Is fosgarr' mar am bùrn,  
'Se 'seirm le sólas carthannach  
Air m' eallach trom de ghaol,  
Nach caochail fhad's is maireann sinn  
No idir anns an ùir;  
Do bhathais chaomh, mhìn, bhanail, mar  
Chlàr aingeil fiamh mo rùin.

Gun d' rinn a càirdean fineachail  
Mo sgaradh bho mo ghaol,  
'S gu 'n chàirich iad an caibeal i  
Le pràiseach umha dùint';  
'S an dubh-thrath 'nuair a chaidleas mi  
Fo sgàilean blàth nan craobh,  
A dus mo ghaoil thig meanglan ùr  
Ni pòsadh blath ri m'chraoibh's.

'San òg-mhios 'nuair a sgeadaicheas  
A' ghrian na meanglan chùbhr',  
Bidh briodal gaoil a sanas ri  
Mo leannan anns a 'chraoibh.  
Na h-eoin bheag bhios a' neadachadh,  
'Seirm caithreim dhunn le mùirn,  
'S e gaol bheir buaidh 's cha chaochail e  
Fhad's shnámhas grian 's na neoil.

Mar thùis á bruaich nan sobhraichean,  
Tha spiorad fìor mo ghràidh,  
An dùthaich dhealraich oirdheirce,  
Gun leòn oirr' no cion-fàth,

Gun seacadh air a bòidhchead-se  
Le aois no crionadh bàis,  
No gaiseadh air a leirsinn chaoimh  
A chòmhdach mi le bàigh.

Air stuaidh ghil mar' gun bhruaillean air  
Ni 'n eala rìomhach snámh,  
'Na cuimhe dhomh mar bhruadar faoin  
Air Bhénus ionmhuinn àilt;  
Marchathadhsneachda' Gheamhraidhfhuaire,  
No deigh air allt 'na clàr  
Mo chridhe brùite aig ionndrainn truagh  
A guth nach till gu bràth.

'S a' chamhanaich 's mi 'turraban  
Gu h-éigeach, tiamhaidh, leòint,  
Air sgeith an fheasgair thugam-sa  
Thig teachdaireachd nam beò;  
'Ged bhriseas còrd na beath' a dhuail  
'S 'na chlàr an copan òir,  
Sior mheallaidh tu an sólas buan  
Gun smal an Tir nan Og."

Ged thig am bròn 'na làn air uair,  
Is tiota gearr a réis;  
Bidh 'm bogha frois 'na urras duinn,  
Gur tearmann freasdal Dé,  
'S nach ciurrar is nach drùidhear leis,  
A leanabh ionmhuinn fhéin  
A dh' iomaineair le cùram glic  
An cois nan caoin-shruth sèimh.

Dhùisg òran binn na ceolraidhe,  
Am preasan dlùth nan geug,  
Mactalla ann mo chridhe-sa,  
A' freagairt do gach séis,  
'S a' sguabadh dall-bhrat talmhainn dhìomh  
A laigh gu balbh ri m'chéill,  
Mar thrusas grian na sgeòthan tiugh  
Air maduinn bhoidhich chéit.

Rinn lùreach throm a' pheacaidh mis'  
A chromadh ris an làr,  
A' feitheamh ris an aiseag air  
Do sheol mo Bhénus ghràidh;  
Tha creideamh agus misneach 'ga  
Mo ghluasad-sa mar ràmh.  
Is iobairt Chrìosd 'na churaich dhomh  
'S a ghaol 'na stiuir gach là.

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.

## IMPRESSIONS OF THE 1934 MOD.

By VINCENT THOMAS.

I have been asked by several influential members of the Mod Executive to set down a few of my impressions of this Highland Festival. I do so gladly, for I came to it with an open mind, eager to receive a new experience. I found it a movement of National importance, possessing features quite individual. It has beauty and simplicity and that quality one can only describe as racial and fundamental.

The practical side of so complicated an enterprise is the least spectacular, and one generally lost sight of by visitors. Let me begin with this: the smooth running of the Festival was admirable; details were handled with ease; the organisation was first-rate. I never noticed a trace of nervous petulance in any of the responsible persons; all was calm, competent and serene.

The Mod has, to a stranger, features which are unique. Here is a gathering having for its chief object the preservation and cultivation of an ancient language. With this is united the gift of song, and in the unaccompanied Folk-Tunes, the Mod possesses something peculiarly its own. When first I heard these old melodies, it seemed that they would admit of development on advanced Choral and Orchestral lines. Now I am not so sure; perhaps they are better left as they are, so wild, so sweet they sound. Technical expansion might detract from their originality and charm.

I think I got my first thrill when I heard an old song sung with great expression and accompanied with sympathetic skill on the clarsach. Now the harp is the National instrument of my own land and it may be that its gracious sounds contributed to my delight. It was an artistic performance, and this branch of the musical tree should be encouraged to grow.

Enquiry was often made by enthusiastic friends as to whether I found the standard of Choral singing at the Mod equal to that of the Welsh Eisteddfod: frankly, at present, it does not. Let nobody be hurt at this blunt statement. It is better to record what I believe to be the truth rather than indulge in terms of flattery which would be an insult to a proud and great people. You must remember that the Mod is only about forty years of age, whilst the Eisteddfod has had the advantage of nearly one thousand in which to work and develop. Again, the Gael's genius lies particularly in unison singing, whilst, to the Cymro,

harmony has always been the method of expression. Nevertheless, I heard at least two choirs whose standard fell little short of what we expect at the Eisteddfod.

And here I must be permitted a word to my Highland cousins of the London Gaelic Choir. I offer them a Welshman's homage for their splendid courage in travelling over 500 miles to fight the good fight in this Tournament of Song. They sang so well that I am persuaded that, with their ability and determination, rapid progress may be expected, and I hope to hear one day that they have been placed first in the Competition.

Of that delightful function, the Ceilidh, one can only speak in terms of eulogy. I attended every evening and enjoyed each item, staying to the last moment, unable to tear myself away. Should anyone enquire what time of night I went to bed, please say I decline to answer that question in print. The Ceilidh is unique; a lovable thing. Spontaneity, devoid of self-consciousness, is its characteristic. There one may hear many old songs of long ago. I shall never forget "Macrimmon's Lament"; it haunts me now, and were I worthy of the task I would wish to enshrine that noble music in a symphony for Chorus and orchestra. Long may the Mod and its Ceilidh flourish and may both Church and layman support so worthy a cause.

I count my visit to this Gaelic Festival as one of the happy experiences of a professional career. The kindness and the unflinching courtesy which I received from everyone with whom I came in contact has enabled me to penetrate a little way into the heart of the Gael, and for this privilege I am grateful. I think I have left a wee bit of my heart behind me in the Highlands.

By Dr. J. FREDERIC STATON.

What a wonderful experience! To me all was novel. The setting Oban—which awakened pictures of vivid history. Duart Castle, ancient stronghold of the MacLeans, Dunolly Castle, with its memories of the Lords of Lorne, Dunstaffnage Castle, recalling Kenneth II and the stone of destiny.

I have judged Feis in Ireland, Eisteddfod in Wales, and many festivals in Great Britain and the colonies, but, I found the Mod something different.

First of all the whole of the solo work was unaccompanied, and I must confess, when one heard a beautiful rendering, there was something to be said for 'Beauty unadorned.'

I confess also I never realised the beauty of the 'Pentatonic' scale so forcibly.

Another thing which impressed me was that the whole of the inhabitants go Mod, and the town by night seemed to be one vast Ceilidh. These impromptu gatherings were a great joy. Here one met competitors who forgot judges, competitions, marks, and made one feel all aglow with their Highland warmth.

It was most refreshing to hear one stalwart say, apropos the judges that, "He had met dafter men than both of them." Listening to and judging the mouth music also was another experience. What a wonderful exercise for developing diction and rhythm in choral work.

Some of the best choirs were really first rate, and the rural choirs were a joy.

Speaking critically I would suggest to conductors one or two things which require attention :—

1. Don't overconduct.
2. Don't stamp the feet.
3. Don't sing with your choirs.
4. Express your soft passages, don't repress them.
5. When expanding to f and ff see that beauty of tone is retained.
6. Train your boys at first on downward scales.

Many were forcing the chest register upwards. Cases of the above constantly appeared.

What shall I say of the hospitality ?

My colleague was a Celt, and was of course received as a brother as was to be expected, but the warmth of his reception could not exceed that extended to me, the poor "Sassenach."

Whenever in the future I see the word Mod, I shall think of Oban, Laments, Ceilidhs, Pentatonic scales, Plaids, Giant men, Lovely women, Highland Hospitality and warmth which I hope to enjoy again on some future occasion.

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### THE CAMPBELL OF ISLAY MS. COLLECTIONS OF GAELIC FOLK-TALES.

As all know, the late John Francis Campbell of Islay, Iain Og Ile, in 1860-62 published in four volumes a very famous book called, "Popular Tales of the West Highlands." This work will for all time be one of the classics of its kind. The publication of it raised its author to the front rank among Folk-Lorists.

But Islay left behind him in Manuscript a considerably larger amount of Gaelic Folk-Tales and Highland lore, which he did not live

to publish. The number of these unpublished items must be close upon one thousand.

To Anthropologists, Ethnologists, and to all students of Celtic and particularly Gaelic and to all Folk-Lorists, the value of this vast mass of treasure cannot be over-estimated. It clamours for publication.

Transcriptions and translations of about two hundred of these tales, taken from the original MSS., have been laid before the Scottish Anthropological Society at The Institute of Anthropology, 15 North Bank Street, Edinburgh, and the Society is, provisionally, accepting them. The Secretary of the Society is Mr. Robert Kerr, M.A., Lecturer in the Anthropological Institute and Keeper of The Department of Ethnography, Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

The Scottish Anthropological Society has sought and is seeking advice in the matter from scholars all over the world, with the result that a considerable number of replies have been received, all of which urge the publication of these MSS. They include the Universities of Copenhagen, Lund, Upsala, and Oslo, and representatives of other Universities in Europe and America.

As a result, the Scottish Anthropological Society has taken the necessary steps which it is hoped will lead to the publication of these MSS.

It is expected that some of the most eminent scholars of the day, Celticists, and Anthropologists and Folk-Lorists, will accept office on the Editorial Board. J. G. McKAY.

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Preparations have now been commenced for the 1935 National Mod at Edinburgh. At a meeting in the Gartshore Hall, on 20th October, which was largely attended by members of An Comunn residing in the Edinburgh district and representatives from affiliated societies, a local Committee was formed. The Earl of Cassillis and Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., two of our life members were appointed Hon. Conveners. The duties of Convener will be carried out by the Rev. David Duncan, F.S.A., Scot. assisted by the Rev. John Bain, F.S.A. Scot. and Mr. Donald S. MacKinnon as Vice-Conveners. The office of Secretary is jointly held by Mr. Alister Duncan, a member of the Legal profession and by Mr. Donald MacIndeor, who, for many years, performed the secretarial duties for the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association. The Treasurer is Mr. Euan MacDiarmid, C.A. The meeting was very enthusiastic and the friends of the movement in the Capital seem very keen to bring their efforts to a successful issue.

## COMHRADH EADAR CATRIONA AGUS DOMHNULL RUAIRIDH.

Le IAIN N. MACLEOID.

Tha Catriona 'n a seann chaillich is i fuireach leatha fhein am Bostadh an eilean Bhearnaraidh, agus 's e an tigh aice rogha tigh-ceilidh a' bhaile. Tha Domhnull Ruairidh a Circebst, agus e air ùr thighinn dachaidh bho iasgach Cheann-Phadruig,

DOMHNULL—(a' tighinn a steach agus a' tilgeadh gad mor eisg air an urlar.) Faighte stigh.

CATRIONA—Faighte ort fhein gu dearbh, a Dhomhnull, a charaid. 'S mise bha 'g ad ionndrainn bho 'n dh' fhalbh thu, ged nach robh gainne luchd-ceilidh orm idir.

DOMHNULL—Gu dearbh, a Chatriona, bha fadachd orm fhein gus a faighinn do naidheachd; sud agad saoihean na dha a chuireas an t-annas dhìot.

CATRIONA—Ma tha, 's tu fhein nach tigeadh le laimh fhalmh, a Dhomhnull. Bheil fhios agad gu robh an cat bochd a' nigheadh an eisg fad an fheasgair.

DOMHNULL—Nach math sin, a Chatriona: Choinnich mi ort an uair a bha mi-fhein agus Tormod Iseabail a' cur nan lin-bheaga an muigh aig Cràgam feasgar. Bheil fhios agad gu bheil an cladach lan eisg air an t-seachdain so.

CATRIONA—O nach math sin, a Dhomhnull, agus tha e coltach gu robh mo chuid-sa ann cuideachd. Cuiridh mi dìreach fear no dhà dhiubh air an teine airson mo shuipearach, 's iad cho ùr àluinn. 'S de mar a chaidh dhiubh ann an Ceann-Phadruig am bliadhna, a Dhomhnull?

DOMHNULL—O gle mhath gu dearbh, a Chatriona. Rinn sinn moran sgadain, agus bha prìsean ciatach ann.

CATRIONA—Moladh do 'n Ti mhath airson sin. Gu dearbh cha b' ann mar sin a thachair dhiubh an uiridh, ach nach math nach treabh gach bliadhna dha cheile mar a thuit an sean-fhacal. 'S an robh ministerean mora agaibh, a Dhomhnull?

DOMHNULL—Abair thusa gu robh, daoine sgairteil. Ah! bhoirionnach, chunnaic mi aon fhear Gallda a' searmonachadh air an t-sràid air oidhche Shàbaid, agus cha chreid mi gu robh Fionn na Feinne fhein na bu chalma. Tha mi deimhinn gu robh 'n ceann a bh' air uibhir ri cliabh-maoraich, agus an uair a dh' fhoghladh e a bhial, chluinneadh tu air sheachd bealaichean e.

CATRIONA—Dhuine chridhe! bu mhath a bhi 'g a eisdeachd.

DOMHNULL.—'S mor a thuigeadh tu de a shearmon, a Chatriona—thuigeadh dìreach a' cheart uibhir 's a thuigeadh tu de Laidiunn an t-sagairt. Cha robh facal aige ach Beurla.

CATRIONA—O chuirein, bu cheart cho math dhomh-sa gun teagamh a bhi 'g eisdeachd na Laidinn ris a' Bheurla sin. Ach bha duil agam gu robh beagan de Bheurla Shasuinn agad-sa, Dhomhnull, 's tu cho tric as aonais na duthcha.

DOMHNULL—Tha Beurla nam Bucach agam, ach, a mhic, cha b' e sin an strutan cainnte a bh' aige-san, agus a bhial a' dol cho luath ris a' ghaoith. Chluinneadh tu fear thall agus a bhos ag eigeach "Hallelujah," agus cha b' urrainn mi-fhein gun "Hallelujah" a ràdh as am bial—bha e deanamh feuma do m' anam.

CATRIONA—O 's e facal math a tha sin gun teagamh. Nach bithinn fhein a' cluinntinn Bean Iain Domhnullaich a bha 's a' chaolas a' seinn an fhacail mhóir sin an uair a bhiodh i a' cluich na laoidhean air a' phiano. 'S am bitheadh tu dol faisg air aon de na h-eaglaisean mora idir, a Dhomhnull. 'S cinnteach gu bheil eaglaisean briagha an Ceann-Phadruig.

DOMHNULL—O Chatriona, ghràidh, stad gus an innis mi dhuit mu 'n chuis sin. Chaidh mi-fhein agus Tormod Bhràgair a mach cuairt air maduinn Sàbaid, agus thòisich cluig nan eaglaisean. Smaoinich sinn gu rachamaid a steach do 'n chiad eaglais a thachradh ruinn, co dhiu b'e daoine dubha no daoine buidhe bhiodh ag aoradh innte, agus a steach gu 'n deachaidh sinn gu eaglais aluinn a bha sin, agus bheirinn mo mhionnan, a Chatriona, gu robh i a cheart cho mor ri caisteal Steornabhagh; air an starsaich nach cuala sinn an ceol mor cruaidh sin, mar gu 'm biodh piobairean Steornabhagh a' cluich còmhla air beulaimh buth Sheumais Chalum.

CATRIONA—Mo chreach, a Dhomhnull, ta chan e piobairean a bh' ann—'s cinnteach as an fhreasdal.

DOMHNULL—Na cuir casg air mo sheachas mar sin, a Chatriona. Suas gu'n deachaidh sinn ceum air cheum troimh 'n eaglais bhriagha bha sin, agus smeid duine mor àrd oirnn a bha 'n a sheasamh aig ceann suidheachain agus chuir e cagar air chor-eigin 'n am chluais fhein, ach, a Chatriona, cha do thog mi e le fuaim an orgain—.

CATRIONA—Ud, ud, a charaid, an e 'n t-organ grànda bha ann—Seadh, a Dhomhnull.

DOMHNULL—Mo mhionnan, a Chatriona, gu robh duil agam-sa gur h-ann ag iarraidh orm a dhol a dhannsa a bha am bodach, leis

na bha de cheol 's an àite. "No dancers," arsa mi-fhein ris a' bhodach, agus a mach air ar sàil gu'n deachaidh mi-fhein agus Tormod.

CATRIONA—Bheil thu 'g ràdh, a Dhomhnuill! Sàoil thusa an ann a' d'ol a dhannsa bha iad air latha na Sàbaid—ubh, ubh fheine!

DOMHNUL—Aig sealbh mor a tha brath, ach sud na chunnaic mi-fhein agus Tormod de eaglaisean Cheann-Phadruig.

CATRIONA—An do phòs duine a Leodhas an Ceann-Phadruig am bliadhna?

DOMHNUL—Cha do phòs duine, a Chatriona, ach eadar mi-fhein 's tu fhein, nach do theab mi-fhein a bhi pòsda.

CATRIONA—(*'g a gorradh fhein na b' fhaigse air.*) De tha thu 'g ràdh? Nach innis thu dhomh, a Dhomhnuill, facal air an fhacal, agus fios agad fhein gu 'm bu mhath leam an deagh bhean a bhi agad air do chluasaig. Siuthad, 's cuiridh mi 'n dealan air an dorus, agus chan fhaigh sròn a stigh gus an togair mise.

DOMHNUL—(a' tarraing osnaidh thiamhaidh) Nach sleamhuinn a' chlach a tha 'n dorus an tighe-mhoir, a Chatriona—agus is mise dh' fhaireich sin.

CATRIONA—O, nach b'fhirinneach an sean-fhacal riamh—ach siuthad—air adhart le do sheanachas.

DOMHNUL—O, ma tha, a bhan-nàbuidh chòir, theann mise ri suirghe air nighean na caillich aig an robh mi air aoidheachd, agus bha gaol agam oirre gun teagamh—'s ann agam a bha. Bha a' chailleach, a màthair, 'n a sgeir airgid, agus thuir i rium uair no dhà gu faighinn mìle air mo bhois an latha phosainn Medley.

CATRIONA—Cha toigh leam an t-ainm a th'oirre, mar a thuir Murchadh Moireasdan an uair a bha iad ag iarraidh air oladh choinghuir ol—Seadh, chan ann a' cur casg air do sheanachas.

DOMHNUL—Co dhiu, bha mi-fhein agus i fhein am muigh air cuairt oidheche àraidh, agus bha sinn airson beagan còmhraidh a bhi againn leinn fhein. An uair a bha sinn sgèth de shràidearachd chaidh sinn a stigh do chlobhsa bha an sin—agus, a Chatriona, bho 'n is tu fhein a th' ann, tha mise 'g aideachadh dhuit-se gur h-i sin a' chlobhsa a chuir sgiotadh buileach air a' ghaol a bha eadar mise agus Medley.

CATRIONA—Ach, air m' onair 's air m' fhacal fhein, a Dhomhnuill, chan eil fhios agam air an talamh de seorsa criche tha gu bhì air an t-suirghe agaibh. Tha mi air mhìre gus an cluinn mi e.

DOMHNUL—Criche bhochd, criche bhochd, —dhomh-sa co dhiu, a thainig air suirghe na

h-oidheche ud, a Chatriona. Chuir mi mo làmh mu h-ambaich airson pòg a thoirt uaipe, agus 's an iomairt a bh' ann, 's ann a dh'fhalbh an ad dhith, agus an ath shuil a thug mi, a Chatriona, chan e mhain an ad ach gach bile fuil a bh' air a ceann mu mo choinneamh air an urlar, agus bha a ceann cho lom ri ceann Eoghain Oig a bha 'n Choc a' Charamaig. 'S e gruag a bh' oirre, agus dh' fhoghainn sin fhein dhomh-sa de shuirghe Medley. A' chreach, a' chreach, a dh' eirich dhomh-sa 's mi fàs car sean a nise airson sùgradh a dheanamh ri caileg.

CATRIONA—A Dhomhnuill, a ghràidh! nach e Dia mor a gheidh thu gun cheangal-pòsaidh a dheanamh ris an té mhaol sin. Rachadh do mhaslachadh gu bràth na 'n tigeadh tu dhachaidh do Bhearnaraidh le creitair gun bhile fuil air a ceann. A bhiasd, 's b' e sud i, nach d' innis dhuit gu robh 'n easbhuidh sin oirre. 'S i bha coma, ach duine fhaighinn leis an airgidòr ghrànda.

DOMHNUL—Nach garbh a nis mar thachair dhomh-sa, Chatriona: chuir sud eadar mise 's na boirionnaich gu tur, 's cha chreid mi gu 'm bi gnòthach agam ri gin tuilleadh. Nach eil iad uile cho meallta!

CATRIONA—Uisid, a Dhomhnuill, na dean, na dean. Pòs thusa Peigi Sheumais, do bhan-nàbuidh, caileag bhoidheach, charthannach, a tha cho fallain ris a' bhreac, agus mo lumb-sa nach' eil gruag oirre, ach falt buidhe cuachach a dh'fhàs oirre gu nadurach.

DOMHNUL—Chi sinn, a Chatriona: cha dona do chomhairle idir, ach chum am briogadh a ghabh mise an oidheche ud iomadh norradh cadail uam, ged a tha mi faighinn thairis air a nise. Feumaidh mi tarraing, ged tha, agus e fàs amnoch. Oidheche mhath leibh, a Chatriona.

CATRIONA—Do chuir dhachaidh gu sàbhailte, a Dhomhnuill, agus cum do shuil air Peigi. Tha iasg anns a' mhuir fhathast a cheart cho math ri deargadh a thainig riamh as.

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Aig coinneimh de Chomhairle "Clan an Fhraoich" dh'aontaicheadh ri Ceilidh a chumail air Di-ciadaoin, an 13mh là de'n Dùdhlachd, ann an "Aitreach na Gaidheal." Bithidh òrain, beul-athris, sgeulachdan agus ceòl-inneil, cho math ri cupa 's greim aig a' Cheilidh so. Tha cuireadh fialaidh air a thoirt do na h-uile a bhi 'san làthair, agus is e pris na cuirme tasdan. Bithidh oidheche chridheil, shamhdach an so, agus tha dòchas nach dean aon sam bith is urrainn tighinn di-chuimhne air a' Choinneimh so.



## PERTSHIRE SETTLERS IN CANADA ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

By COLONEL ALEX. FRASER, LL.D., Toronto,  
Canada.

### II.

Canada, which had afforded a home for the surplus population in the British Isles, chiefly from the North of Scotland, half-a-century earlier, was still open for migration to help the home situation and at the same time to benefit itself by an addition to its very sparse population. The country was of vast extent, and, with the exception of a fringe along the banks of the River St. Lawrence and Lakes Ontario and Erie, was still in a state of nature; that is, it was covered by a dense primeval forest: and here is the real beginning of our story:

Officers and men of the disbanded British regiments were given grants of land in Canada and many of them located in the Perth Military Settlement, centreing on the townsite of Perth. To anticipate a little, comparatively few of them settled on their lands. The major part of them had neither the desire nor the capacity for successful pioneer settlers. They lived in the town till they sold their lands, and, after spending their money, they left the vicinity. But a number of the officers, retired on half-pay, remained, amongst whom were M'Millan, Robertson, Powell, M'Kay, Satche, Allston, Fraser and Nichol. Few of them engaged in any business, preferring to live on their pensions, and take the world easy, and on the whole they managed to have a good time.

In 1815, a proclamation was issued in Great Britain offering free passage, etc., to such natives of Great Britain as might be desirous of proceeding to Canada for the purpose of settling therein. As a further inducement to intending settlers, this offer was supplemented by that of free provisions not only during the voyage, but also after their arrival in the colony, until such time as the land, which was also to be given free to each male immigrant over the legal age, or those under that age when they should attain their majority, could be made to support them; and, as though to put a gloss upon administrative liberality, the adventurers were provided, at Government expense, with a cash bonus of £10 sterling as a loan. Then to each group of four families was given a grindstone, a cross-cut and a whip-saw, while each family received an adze, hand-saw, drawing-knife, one shell augur, two gimlets, door-lock and hinges, scythe and

sled, reaping-hook, two hoes, hay-fork, skillet, camp kettle, and a blanket for each of its members.

The result of this official proclamation was that many Perthshire people were among those who responded; and in the summer of 1815 the British Government sent out three shiploads of emigrants, the "Atlas," "Dorothy," and the "Baptiste Merchant," sailing from Greenock. The ships were slow-going, and did not reach Quebec until the middle of September. They were further delayed by grounding on shoals before reaching Sorel on the way to Montreal. There is a tradition handed down from those early days that the transports purposely lengthened out the voyage as they were chartered by the Government at so much per month till their return to Greenock. By the time the immigrants reached Prescott and Brockville, it was too late in the season to continue their journey into the backwoods. They were quartered for the winter in those two towns. The stone buildings, which they occupied in Prescott, are still standing at Buckley's wharf. Next spring (1816) they followed, with great hardship, a blazed trail, on foot, dragging sleds loaded with provision for some 40 miles to the River Tay, the location of their lands, arriving on the 22nd of March. The river was formerly known as the Pike River, but the name was changed by the settlers to the Tay, and the town retained the name Perth given it by Drummond. They set to work at once to make clearings so as to grow something against the coming winter. They hoed in potatoes, sowed wheat and oats, and planted some garden stuff. To William M'Pherson belongs the honour of being the man who wielded the axe that felled the first tree on the site of the future town of Perth. In June, the Glengarry fencibles, the Canadian fencibles and the De Watteville regiments arrived. The Tay was bridged, and the woods rang with the sound of the axe and hammer.

Such was the birth of this new settlement composed at first largely of Perthshire and other Highlanders, with a sprinkling of Irish and a few English. The community grew and prospered so well during the summer of their first year that the Deputy Quarter Master General was able to report to the Government in October, 1816, a population of 840 men, 207 women, and 458 children, or 1505 in all. They had only 80 head of cattle. They had some 800 bushels of fall wheat in the ground, which means that they had about 500 acres under wheat in the district. The settlement for some years laboured under a serious disadvantage,

the scarcity of young women. There were four men to each woman. Every woman was at a premium. I am informed by Mr. Neil Robertson, that his grandfather, John Robertson, from Loch Tayside, with a family of sons and daughters, arrived in 1818. There was a regular scramble to get possession of the girls in that contingent, his own daughter among the rest, one of whom helped the man of her choice to carry her off. The old proverb, "Might is right," was often illustrated on those occasions.

The Deputy Quarter Master General also stated that in his opinion the settlers of Perth and neighbourhood were not in a state to provide for themselves during the winter (1816-17) and recommended that rations of provisions be issued to them until next June. Further indulgence, he thought, would be absolutely necessary. We are, thus, enabled, from official sources, to form some estimate of the hardships those pioneers had to face, dependent, as they were, on Government help. "Flour was twenty-two dollars a barrel, potatoes two; the four-pound loaf half-a-dollar, and other things in proportion."

Mr. A. Bell, son of the Rev. Wm. Bell of Perth gives the following interesting description, slightly abridged, of actual labour involved in clearing the primeval forest such as the Perthshire settlers had to do:

"Having pitched upon a lot to please him, the emigrant receives a location ticket. This contains the number of the lot, empowers him to take possession of it, and tells what are the conditions on which it is to be his. All those who settle together, in the same place will join together and clear a road. All that is done to the road in the first instance is to clear away the brushwood, and perhaps throw down a tree, to walk on, across a wet place. Proper construction follows in due course.

"He may take his family to his land, either then or wait till he has built a house. He can erect a wigwam in a few hours, with poles, brush, and bark, in which the family may reside for a short time, till a better habitation is ready. For the dwelling-house, he will cut a number of straight logs, at the length required, and have them drawn to the spot with oxen, or be assisted by his neighbours to carry them in. He will next raise what is called a "bee," that is, a number of his neighbours to assist him in raising his house. Whenever a person needs help, he gets all his neighbours to assist him, and repays the favour by giving them his help when they need it. The house is built, by laying the logs across one another at the corners, and notching

them about half through, so that they are let down close to each other, and hold one another firm in their places. The next step is to get a roof upon it: Basswood logs are cut as long as the house is broad; these are split in two, and hollowed out in the middle, and laid close, side by side, with the hollow sides uppermost, across the house, the front of which is made rather higher than the back. Others with the round side uppermost are laid upon these, so as to cover the seams between them, and thus not only a strong, but a completely water-tight, roof is formed. A hole is next cut through the logs for a door, and a door hung in it. windows are seldom or never thought of at first in the woods. Stones are built up against a chimney which is made of boards or wicker work and plastered over with clay to carry off the smoke. The fires are all burnt on the hearth, at least on iron or stones only so far raised off it as to admit the air below the wood. A floor of split planks is then laid, the interstices of the logs in the wall are filled with moss or clay, and thus is completed, what is called by new settlers a "shanty." As soon as the emigrant has got a place to live in, he must begin to clear land for crop. In the first place, the underbrush, and all the small trees, less than four or five inches thick, are cut close by the ground, sawn into pieces, and thrown into heaps. Those of the logs that are most easily split, are split into rails and drawn off. A good workman will cut down and prepare for burning an acre a week. For newcomers, a fortnight is a fair average. When the timber is all chopped upon new land, the work of clearing is considered half done. The putting of the logs in heaps, burning them off, and making the land ready for the seed, takes as much labour as the chopping. The chopping, burning and fencing of an acre then cost upwards of twenty dollars.

"The larger trees are cut about three feet from the ground and the stumps are left standing till they rot. Hardwood stumps take seven or eight years, pine stumps from thirty to forty years to decay. The new soil, enriched by the mould formed of decayed leaves, roots and underbrush, rarely needs other manure for several years."

*(To be continued.)*

## 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.

Now that the Mod is over Mr. Shaw and Mr. MacPhail have commenced their branch visitations. Mr. Shaw has just completed a very successful tour of the Arran branches, and a very heartening feature of the movement in this area is the desire that was experienced last session for Gaelic classes. When in the district last year the music teacher gave language lessons at the various centres and at each of these a large number of students availed themselves of this opportunity to become acquainted with the language. This same enthusiasm is evident this year and a teacher will shortly be sent to the island. On returning from Arran Mr. Shaw took the long sea journey to Barra, and before returning to the office he hopes to visit Coll, Tiree, Mull, Iona, and Morvern districts.

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Mr. MacPhail who has the Northern Area as his province, made his first call of the season at Brora where he attended a meeting of the East Sutherland Provincial Mod Committee; no fewer than three centres were forward with claims for housing this Mod, which will take place in June, but Brora was again favoured. An effort is to be made to institute a Mod at Lochinver also, to serve the Western Area of the county. Should it not be possible to organise such a Mod the East Sutherland (Brora) Mod territory will be extended to include the Assynt district.

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An epidemic of measles at Tongue, the North Sutherland Provincial Mod Centre, necessitated the cancelling of this year's Mod for that area. This decision gave rise to much disappointment as this Mod being now so firmly established, is looked forward to with keen anticipation. The Committee are, however, in no way deterred by this set back and are already making preparations for the 1935 Mod.

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It is pleasing to report that in the Northern Area much progress is being made with the institution of Gaelic Continuation Classes. In Sutherland alone, it is hoped to have such classes in ten centres while in the Badenoch district nearly all the branches have arranged for Gaelic instruction. It is interesting to note that quite a number of non-Gaelic speaking choir conductors are taking advantage of these classes to become familiar with the language. This is a very gratifying feature of the progress of the movement in these districts.

Arrangements are already well advanced for the 1935 Badenoch Strathspey Provincial Mod. At a meeting held at Kingussie it was decided that next year's Mod be held at Grantown-on-Spey, where there is much enthusiasm for Gaelic matters. It may be recalled that the representatives from this village who took part in the Rural Choir Competition at the National Mod, were highly commended for their Gaelic. Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., who teaches the continuation class, is to be commended for his work.

\* \* \*

The establishment of Gaelic Community Drama Festivals seems to find much favour among the branches. Quite a number of them have already made arrangements to include the presentation of at least one Gaelic play among their activities this season. It is hoped to establish a Gaelic Drama Festival at Inverness next year and with so many branches being within easy reach of the town there is every reason to hope that such a venture would meet with success. A keen enthusiast who is much interested in this development has intimated his willingness to present a trophy for a competition of this nature.

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An interesting series of Lectures on the subject "Scottish and Irish History of Early Times," have been arranged under the auspices of the Education Department of the Corporation of Glasgow, in St. Peter's (Girls) School, Downhill Street, Partick. This series which extends to ten lectures will be given by the Rev. John MacKechnie, B.D. a life member of An Comunn who graduated from Glasgow University with honours in Celtic and Latin. The lectures, which are held each Monday evening, deal with the history of Scotland and Ireland up to the year 1100 A.D. The fee for the course is 5/-.

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We have just been advised of the introduction of Gaelic into the subjects taught at the Downhill Commercial College, 195 Hyndland Road, Glasgow, W.2. The Gaelic class meets on Monday evening under the guidance of a competent teacher and the fees charged are very moderate at one shilling per lesson. This class should be of particular interest to the many students that are nowadays acquiring the language.

\* \* \*

"The revival of interest in Gaelic is natural when a more vital literary consciousness is

being developed, but it is not possible for all would-be students of this fascinating language to bury themselves in the Outer Hebrides. Accordingly the series of Gaelic lessons which are to be broadcast this winter will be assured of a hearty welcome from those who followed the experimental course last year and from many others. The wealth that resides in Gaelic literature is only now beginning to be realised and its values are so different as compared with English literature that a wider knowledge of it may have very interesting effects on the contemporary production of literature in Scotland."

—(Mr. R. F. Dunnet, in the *British Weekly*.)

\* \* \*

There was a little unrecorded incident on the Tuesday of the Mod Competitions. A very minor junior, neatly clad in the tartan of his clan, presented himself for the Gaelic test. One of the gentlemen engaged in applying the test looked at the young lad and remarked to his colleague. "Tha mi cinnteach nach bi Gàidhlig aig a' bhalachan so co-dhiu." The boy hastily glanced at the speaker and assuming a defiant attitude he answered "nach eil," in a way that seemed to suggest that he would be prepared to enforce his claim in no uncertain manner. Needless to say he passed the test.

\* \* \*

It was at the previous Oban Mod, during the course of the competitions, that two aspirants for the medal awards met each other. After the customary greetings, enquiries were made as to each other's progress in the competitions. In the case of one, the judges did not seem to be very appreciative of his efforts, but he did not despair, in fact he was heard to remark that no matter if he attained to the longevity of Methuselah without obtaining the medal, he would not rest until he realised his ambition. Such determination is surely worthy of some recognition. We like the spirit in both these instances.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Tha am Mòd mór seachad agus tha Fear-Deilbhe na h-Airde Tuath a nis air chuairt air feadh na dùthcha a' tadhal air na meuran agus ag cur guthaichean an òrdugh air son an t-Seisein ùir.

Air an 3mh là de 'n Dàmhar bha e a' frithealadh aig coinneimh am Brùra, agus chaidh chùisean a shocrachadh an sin air son Mòd Taobh an Ear Chataibh (1935). Bithidh am

Mòd so air a chumail air a' cheud Di-haoine de 'n Og Mhios am Brùra.

Bho 'n 8mh gus an 13mh la bha Mgr Mac Phail air chuairt am Bàideanach agus tha croileanan Gàidhlig ag gramachadh 's na cearnaidhean sin. Labhair am Fear Deilbhe aig coinneamhan de na meuran aig an Lagan, Ceann-a-Ghiuthsaich agus Baile-nan-Grannadh, agus bha còmhradh aige ri rùnairean nam meuran aig Bail-ur-an-t-sléibhe, Allabhaidh agus Obair Neithich. Bha coinneamhan ciatach anns gach àite, agus tha na h-Urramaich An t-Ollamh Ros agus an t-Ollamh MacPhàrlain a' toirt togail anabarraich do 'n Ghaidhlig ann an Sgìre Lagain agus an Ceann-a-Ghiuthsaich. Chan eil Baile-nan-Grannadh dad air dheireadh agus tha fìnghair ri dà Chròilean Gàidhlig 's an ionad sin air a' gheamhradh so, Is ann am Baile-nan-Grannadh a bhitheas Mòd 1935. Bithidh e air a chumail aig toiseach a' Ghiblein.

Moch Di-Iuain an 15mh là de 'n mhios rinn Mgr Mac Phàil air Siorramachd Rois, agus labhair e ri meuran a' Chomuinn aig Achd 'Ile Bhuidhe, aig a' Chlachan agus an Ulabal. Tha chùisean a' dol gu gasda anns na h-ionadan sin agus tha e taitneach r'a fhaicinn, ged nach 'eil mòran de 'n chloinn aig a' bheil a' Ghàidhlig gu bheil iad a' frithealadh nan sgoilean an Leac-meilm, agus gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig air a teagas ann an dà sgoil. Is e obair an da-rìreadh a tha an so agus tha taing chridheil aig an luchd-teagaisg air son cho dìleas agus cho dealasach 's tha iad air taobh na Gàidhlig.

### An Airde Deas.

Thoisich an Rùnaire mar is gnàth leis le bhì fosgladh nan coinneamhan gearmhraidh an Dunomhainn. Bha mu dhà cheud gu leth cruinn aig a' chéilidh air a' choigeamh là de 'n mhios chaidh seachad. Bha an Ceann-Suidhe ùr Mgr Calum MacNéill anns a' chathair. Tha an cròilean Gàidhlig agus a' Choisir Chùil a' dol air an agaidh mar is abhaist.

Bha an Rùnaire anns a' chathair aig ceud choinneimh Ghàidheal Phaislig air an t-seathamh la de 'n Dàmhar agus bha mu dhà cheud an làthair aig a' chuirm-chùil so. Tha an Comunn so a' deanamh oibre mhath an measg Ghàidheal Phaislig.

Air an aona là deug bha Mgr MacGille Sheathanaich 'na Fhear-cathrach aig Gàidheil Bhruaich Chluaidh agus aig a' choinneimh so, mar an ceudna, bha còrr is da cheud cruinn. Tha cròilean Gàidhlig ag cruinneachadh gach seachdain agus tha a' Choisir Chùil air a cumail am bith. Is fearr iad gu mór an sgrìob a thug iad do 'n Oban.

Air a' chòigeamh là deug thoisich an Rùnaire air a chuairteachadh agus bha coinneamh aige 'san t-Seasgairn an Arainn air an fheasgar sin. Bha mu leth-cheud cruinn. Bha e anns a' Choire am feasgar 'na dhéidh sin far an do chuir e meur ùr air bonn an uiridh. Bha cròilean leughaidh aca an so fo stiùireadh an Urramaich Mgr Mhic Fhionnghainn.

Ràinig an Rùnaire Breadaig air feasgar an là-arn-a-mhàireach agus bha coinneamh aige 'san tigh-sgoile 'san fheasgar. Bha an oidhche fhìoch gaillinnach, ach cha do chum sin am Morair Greumach agus fichead eile bho thighinn chun na coinneimh. Tha am Morair ri mholadh air son a dhealaidh do thaobh na Gàidhlig agus air son fhileantachd 'na labhairt. Ghabh an Rùnaire sgrìob gu ruig Camas nam Banag agus Loch an Eilean mu 'n do thill e gu Loch Raonasaidh an là-arn-a-mhàireach agus fhuair e forfhais gu 'n robh gach dhùil aca ri Bean-theagaisg air a' bhliadhna so a rithist ri thaitinn na cròileanan Gàidhlig gu math riutha an uiridh.

Bha còrr is leth-cheud cruinn an Loch Raonasaidh aig fosgladh an t-seisein agus tha iadsan, mar a tha càch, an geall air Bean-theagaisg fhaotainn. Tha a' Mhgdh Nic 'Ille Mhartainn a nis an Arainn, agus bithidh i an sin gus an déidh na Bliadh'n Uire, agus tha Mgr Mac Iomhair air toiseachadh teagasg ciùil an Eilean Cholla. Tha an Rùnaire air long nan Eilean—Barraidh, Tiriodh, Colla, Muile is I Chalum Chille.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

##### Question of an Intermediate Class at the Gaelic Summer School.

Dear Sir,—As a student of two years' standing of the Gaelic Summer School, I wish to raise the question of the institution of an Intermediate class. At present there exist a Junior and a Senior class, and nothing can exceed the efficiency and enthusiasm with which they are conducted. But, by practically common consent of both teachers and taught, there does exist a very serious hiatus between the work of the Junior and of the Senior classes.

It will be obvious that if students possess no knowledge whatever of the Gaelic language, all that can be hoped for in three or four weeks of instruction, for some three continuous hours a day, is a rudimentary knowledge of simple grammar and vocabulary. Gaelic is, however, a highly inflected language in its very essence it requires time and practice to become thoroughly familiar with the minutiae

of its grammar. The position of a beginner leaving the Junior class will therefore be fairly obvious. The avowed object of the Senior class is to introduce the student to compositions of a literary, historical and poetical character requiring the use of a good vocabulary and pre-supposing a thoroughly competent knowledge of elementary grammar and idiom. The jump from the Junior to the Senior class is therefore of the nature of leaping a linguistic chasm. There are four main objects to be achieved in learning a *living* language and this getting into *intimate* touch with its literature and its people:

- (1) to read the language;
- (2) to write the language;
- (3) to speak the language;
- (4) to understand the language when spoken.

A keen and capable student can by himself do a great deal to overcome (1) and (2) without the aid of a teacher. He can even make substantial progress in (3). The real problem is (4), when the student lives in an area where the language is not spoken. This would be the aim of the Intermediate class. The students would enter it from the Junior class with a fair knowledge of the elementary vocabulary and grammar. It would be the object of the Intermediate class to consolidate and enlarge this elementary knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, but above all things to give continuous practice in the give and take of Gaelic conversation, so that the student at the end of his three or four weeks in the Intermediate class would be able to express himself with tolerable accuracy and fluency on simple concrete subjects such as the weather, buying and selling in shops, arranging the details of everyday life, etc. A student thus equipped would be able to get into personal contact with Gaelic speakers and from that point he could gradually extend his range of topic and comprehension, until he is one with them in the use of the Gaelic language.

It remains to add that nothing can exceed the debt of obligation which many owe to An Comunn Gàidhealach for the institution year by year of the Gaelic Summer School, thus enabling many to acquire a knowledge of the Gaelic language who would otherwise have no opportunity of becoming acquainted with it. The present lack of an Intermediate class devoted to Grammar and Conversation is therefore well worthy of further consideration—  
I am, Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM P. MILNE.

University of Leeds,  
Sept. 25th, 1934.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**DUMBERTON.**—The Dumbarton branch had a very successful opening meeting in the Masonic Hall. There was a company of over three hundred present, who sat round tables tastefully set by the ladies. Mr. William Denny occupied the chair, and in his introductory remarks he spoke in Gaelic. An excellent concert programme was submitted, and at an interval a presentation was made to the branch piper to mark the occasion of his recent marriage. During the proceedings, Mr. Hugh MacPhee, Assistant Secretary from Headquarters, gave an address on the work of the movement. This branch, in conjunction with the Vale of Leven branch, promote a Gaelic Continuation Class at Alexandria.

**DUNOON.**—There was a large attendance at the opening meeting of the session of the Dunoon branch. Mr. Malcolm MacNeill, O.B.E., President, was Chairman, and in his remarks he gave a very interesting address. During the evening, Mr. Neil Shaw, General Secretary, spoke to the members, and in his speech, which was delivered in both Gaelic and English, he made particular reference to the success of the National Mod at Oban, and he congratulated the local Ladies' Choir on their creditable performance at the competitions. He also referred to the general activities of An Comunn and the success that attended their efforts. A musical programme was afterwards submitted, which included Gaelic and English songs, with instrumental and Highland dancing items. A very enjoyable evening concluded with the singing of 'Oidhche Mhath Leihb.'

**LEWIS.**—The first ceilidh of the current session was held in the Town Hall, when a large gathering of old and young sat down to tea served at tables tastefully arranged round the spacious hall. In the absence of the President, Mr. J. Thomson, Bayble, presided. He extended a cordial welcome to all present, and expressed his gratitude at seeing such a fine attendance at the opening function, which augured well for the success of succeeding ceilidhs. These friendly gatherings served a useful purpose in the community, and deserved the whole-hearted support of all who had the interests of Gaelic at heart. Miss Nendag Macleod, who was responsible for the musical programme, was successful in securing an excellent group of artistes, as was evidenced by the response given by the audience to the different items. Several of the singers were new to the ceilidh platform, but will certainly be in demand. A company of little dancers, with their own little piper, thrilled everybody with their artistic and winged measures. Mr. D. Macleod, Knock, who moved a vote of thanks at the end in his own easy and inimitable style, referred with pawky humour to the different items of the programme, and complimented all responsible on the success of the evening's entertainment.

**MELVICH.**—The concert held by the Portskerra-Melvich branch at the close of the singing classes conducted by Mr. John MacDonald, music teacher, attracted a large and appreciative audience. Mr. W. Mackintosh, Vice-President, who occupied the chair, spoke of the splendid progress that had been made in Gaelic matters in the district, and he hoped that the present interest in the maintenance of their native speech would be long continued. The programme was sustained by members of both Senior and Junior Choirs, whose singing was greatly appreciated. At the close, a very hearty vote of

thanks was accorded to Mr. MacDonald for his diligent and painstaking efforts in preparing the choirs and arranging the concert programme.

**NETHY BRIDGE.**—The concert organised by the local branch was a great success. Dr. Winifred Ross, Achindean, presided. The choir were again favoured in having Miss MacDonald, Mod medallist, as conductress, who also sang two solos. Mr. MacDonald, 'The Bard,' gave a poetical description of the experiences of the choir on their trip to the Mod, which was extremely clever and amusing. Votes of thanks were returned by Rev. Mr. Fleming and Mr. William Forsyth, Achernack.

**ROGART.**—The proceedings at the meetings of the Rogart branch invariably attract widespread attention. At the opening ceilidh of the session many representatives were present from the neighbouring parishes, and in a very happy Gaelic atmosphere a most enjoyable evening was spent with a lengthy and pleasantly varied programme of songs, sguelachdan, and instrumental music.

**TAIN.**—The Gaelic services promoted by the Tain branch have now come to be recognised as a regular feature of the branch's activities. On the occasion on which the Rev. D. MacCallum, Rosskeen, who takes a prominent interest in the work of the Invergordon branch, was the preacher there was a large congregation present in the Masonic Hall, where the service was held. The Rev. Mr. MacCallum preached an inspiring sermon, and the praise was led in the old traditional manner of reading the line by Mr. J. M. Grant, Tain, and Mr. A. R. MacKenzie, Heathmount, who acted as precentors.—A pleasant ceremony took place at a recent meeting of the branch when Mr. Donald MacDonald, accountant in the local branch of the Bank of Scotland, was presented by members of the branch and the Gaelic Class with a parting gift in recognition of his valued services as treasurer. Presiding over a large attendance, Mr. J. Campbell, Fearn, President, paid eloquent tribute, in Gaelic, to Mr. MacDonald's good work on behalf of the branch, and to his innate courtesy, tact, and other good qualities, which had won the affection and esteem of all the members. His promotion to Paisley was a blow to them, but they rejoiced in the cause, and their best wishes would follow Mr. MacDonald in his new responsibilities. In the name of the branch and Gaelic Class, Mrs. J. P. Macleod then presented Mr. MacDonald with a handsome silver wrist watch, and wished him all success and happiness. Mr. MacDonald, in a short speech, returned grateful thanks for the gift and for the expressions of esteem accompanying it. As a Gaelic enthusiast, his work for the branch had been a pleasure, and he hoped the branch would go from strength to strength.

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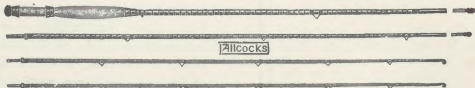
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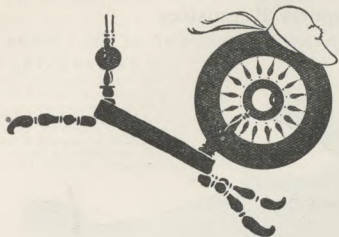
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TELEGRAMS.—Runaire, Glasgow.

TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXX.]

An Dùtlachd, 1934.

[Earrann 3

### COISIREAN DUTHCHAIL.

Mar bheir sinn faineair ghluasad domhain is farsuinn coltach ris A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach, chi sinn gu bheil corr is aon ni arn a tha 'cumail spionnaidh anns a' ghluasad. Is fhada bho bhicdh an iomairt so air sgar mur b'e gu 'n robh dà ghnè de chul-taic 'g a neartachadh. Is iad an dà ghnè sin—reusan agus faireachadh. Tha reusan a' Ghaidheil ag innseadh dha nach eil dòigh aig a' chàinain marsainn beò mur deanar strì an deagh am gas a cumail suas. Tha àireamh shonraichte de ar luchd dùthcha a dh'èisdeas le geur aire ri tagradh de 'n t-seorsa sin. Ach ged a dh'èisdeas iad cha dean iad saothair no gnìomh n'ur faighear innleachd air an aignidhean a ghluasad. Cha ruigear toil na feadhach sin ach troimh am faireachaidhean. Cuiridh iad aonta gu luath ri briathran, ach is e tha ann ach gnothuch eile an dùsgadh suas gu gnìomh. Tha so a' nochdadh dhuinn ciamar tha an Gaidheal gu mór fo bhuaidh a chuid aignidhean. Agus is teoma an ceum gum biodh a chuid aignidhean 'g a chuideachadh gu gnìomh an uair nach dean reusan no argumaid a ghluasad idir.

\* \* \*

Is coltach gur e sin is aobhar gu 'n robh ceòl mar aon de na cuspairean air clar-eagair A' Chomuinn bho thùs. An uair a theid

eachdraidh a' ghluasaid so a sgrìobhadh is cinnteach gu 'm faicear gu 'n robh earrann nach bu bheag de ùine, de ionmhas, agus de shaothair 'g an toirt suas do 'n cheòl. Agus ma tha sin fìor a thaobh na h-òigridh tha e a cheart cho fìor a thaobh nan inbheach. Chan eil agad ach beachd a ghabhail air farpaisean a' chiùil aig na Moid Chinneachail. Mu choinneamh gach duine a tha frithealadh deuchainn na labhairt tha deichnear a' frithealadh deuchainn na seinn. Cìod is aobhar air sin? Tha an luchd labhairt pailt cho deas an cainnt is an ur-labhradh agus a tha na seinneadairean anns a' cheòl. Is e an t-aobhar gu bheil ceòl a' toirt taitneis do na h-aignidhean. Ach tha an ni ceudna fìor a thaobh chinneach eile. Tha Frangaich, Gearmailtich, is Eadailtich toigheach air ceòl cho math ris a' Ghaidheal. Buinidh gràdh a' chiùil do 'n chinne-daonna air fad; agus is i a' cheist cionnus a chuirear gu na buil is fearr a' bhuaidh so a tha cho làidir anns a' Ghaidheal.

\* \* \*

Chan eil fathast ach sia bliadhna bho chuireadh na còisirean dùthchail air bonn. Is anabarrach mar sgaoil an cleachdadh feadh na dùthcha. Gun teagamh fhuaras cuideachadh bho na mòid a bhatar a' cumail bho bhliadhna gu bliadhna anns na cearnaibh iomallach. Aon uair is gu 'n d' ullach còisir dhu sin na h-òrain air son mòd dùthchail bha earrann mhòr de 'n

deasachadh deanta; oir is iad na ceart òran sin a tha air clàr nam mòd móra. Is iongantach cho dian is tha buill nan còisir sin gu frithealadh nan coinneamhan aig am bheillear a' cleachdadh nan òran. Ge b'e cho fada 's gu 'm bi an t-astar, agus cho dorcha 's gu 'm bi an oidheche, thig na buill a dh'ionnsuidh na coinneimh. Is còir am moladh da rìreadh; oir as eugmhais na dilseachd so cha bhiodh còisirean dùthchail am faisg cho lonmhor no cho deas is a tha iad. Agus aig na moid nàiseanta is gann gu bheil farpuis idir is annasaiche na farpuis nan còisir dùthchail. Tha iad ach beag cho sonraichte ris na còisirean móra.

\* \* \*

Rinn An Comunn cuideachadh math leis na còisirean dùthchail. Mar is trice tha luchd teagaisg ciùil a' dol am mach bho 'n Chomunn gus na còisirean a theagasg feadh a' gheamhraidh. Tha an luchd teagaisg sin anns a' cheud àite a' toirt stiùradh do chòisirean nam meanglan. Ach thig sin gus an aon rud, oir is iad na meanglain a tha a' cur nan còisirean dùthchail air an aghaidh. Le bhì a' giùlan leath na cosgus tha An Comunn a' deanamh an uallaich nas aotruime do na meanglain. Agus a nis tha riaghailt ùr ag iarraidh gu bi dara leath gach coisir comasach air a' chàinain a labhairt. Tha so a' ciallachadh gu 'm bi cròilean leughaidh an coimhcheangal ris gach còisir, a chum is gu 'n ionnsaich cuid a' Ghaidhlig aig nach eil i a cheana. Mar sin tha a' chàinain agus an ceòl 'g am foghlum comhla.

\* \* \*

Tha cleachdadh ciùil air a' mhodh so 'n a mheadhon foghlum. Is meur da rìreadh de dheagh oilein gum biodh an òigridh feadh na dùthcha a' faotainn eòlais air rìghailtean ciùil agus air alt na seinn. Is gliic an ceum gu 'n cuirte gu buil mhath na gibhteann gutha is cluaise-ciùil a thug am Freasdal seachad gu fialaidh do mhòran de ar n-òigridh. Tha so gu léir air clar-iomairt A' Chomuinn, oir tha an seann cheòl air chuid cho taitneach is cho luachmhor 's a tha fathast againn de 'n t-seann dileab. Agus is buadh-mhor an t-inneal an ceòl a chum eud a dhùsgadh agus aire a tharrainn gu aobhar na Gaidhlig. Mar chomharradh gu bheil Comhairle an Fhoghlum anns gach Siorramachd a' meas an ni so mar chuspair foghlum, tha iad deas gu duais an luchd teagaisg a phaigheadh, mas e is gum bi a' choisir mar chròilean an sgoil-fheasgair. Is gasda mar so gu bheil luchd-stiùraidh an fhoghlum cho ullamh gu combhadh le obair choitcheinn A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich.

## PERTHSHIRE SETTLERS IN CANADA ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

*Scottish Characteristics—Religion and Education.*

By COLONEL ALEX. FRASER, LL.D., Toronto, Canada.

### III.

#### MINISTER WHO LEFT HIS MARK.

The Perthshire settlers and their neighbours, having been thus placed, turned their minds to two things characteristic of their race, viz.: religion and education. A request for a minister was met by the appointment of the Rev. Wm. Bell, M.A., who was ordained on the 4th of March, 1817, by the Associate Presbytery of Edinburgh and assigned minister to the Scottish settlers at Perth. Both he and his descendants left their mark on the district. His volume "Hints to Emigrants" is invaluable for purposes of reference. In addition to his arduous pastoral labours, Mr. Bell conducted a school and was a highly honoured and greatly esteemed minister and teacher. He was born in Airdrie in 1780 and was Master in the Rothesay Grammar School, 1812-1815. His sons and grandsons adorned academic and professional positions of challenging distinction; so that the name itself, to-day, reflects honour on its first habitat in Upper Canada.

A man, named John Halliday, accompanied the emigrants from Scotland as a teacher and taught the children at the Brockville Barracks from Martinmas, 1815, to Whitsunday, 1816, free of charge, but had in view to take up a farm in the settlement. His services were appreciated, and he was given a testimonial signed by: Jno. Thomson, Jas. McLaren, Jas. Millar, Ann Holderness, Hugh McKay, Abraham Toner, Thos. Barker, John Ferguson, James Fraser, John Turner, Wm. McGillivray, Jas. McDonald, Thos. Barrie, John Brask, Alex. Kidd, George Wilson, and Wm. Johnstown, names recognised as of original settlers and as such commemorated here as in Britain are the names of those found in the pages of Domesday Book or the Roll of Battle Abbey.

#### PERTH'S FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE.

When the schoolhouse was built at Perth, Rev. Wm. Bell was installed as teacher. In 1820, he was relieved of this office and an Anglican clergyman was appointed in his place. The appointing power lay with the Government which was dominated by the established

Church of England, but the people of the settlement, who erected the schoolhouse and paid the teacher, resented this action and petitioned against it. The petition was signed by the following "forefathers of the hamlet":—John Alston, James Taylor, A. Fraser, Wm. McKay, J. Watson, J. O'Hare, J. McLean, J. Ferguson, John Campbell, N. B. Tommas, Wm. Browne, James Robinson, Angus Cameron, Peter McPherson, John Ferguson, John Patterson, Robert Smith, Charles Jamieson, James Baws, Wm. McPherson, James Barrie, James Bryce, John Fletcher, Hugh Scott, Edward Harkness, James Scott, John McLaren, John McLeod, Austin Allen, George Wilson, John Allan, Abe Ferrier, John Ferrier, James Fraser, Sam McEarchern, James McCracken, Donald Gillies, Alex. Kidd, E. C. Malloch, John Hay, Alex. McDonald, Rich. Jamieson, Edward Donnelly, James McIntosh, Francis Allen, John McNee, Duncan Cameron, Wm. McGillivray, James McDonald, John Halliday, Wm. W. Rutherford, John McNie, Colin Campbell (56 names).

#### TRADITION OF FIRST GAELIC SERVICE.

Adjacent to Perth is the township of Beckwith, and, like the adjoining township of Bathurst, was settled mainly by Scottish Highlanders. In the fall of 1821, the Beckwith people petitioned the Edinburgh Presbytery for a Gaelic preacher and doctor, two in one, and the Rev. George Buchanan, M.D., was sent out. Now that the Beckwith people had a Gaelic preacher, the Perth people began hungering for a Gaelic sermon. The Rev. Mr. Bell promised them their hunger would be appeased in due time. This was at their communion service, the second Sunday in June, 1824. Rev. Dr. Buchanan had to walk 20 miles through woods and swamps to Perth, as there were then no horses in Beckwith township, oxen doing the work. The tradition of that first Gaelic service one hundred and nine years ago still persists. It was arranged that Rev. Dr. Buchanan should dispense the Sacrament to the Gaelic people in their own tongue. The roads leading to Perth were alive with people on foot coming to hear the Gaelic sermon. The church could not hold them. Dr. Buchanan served the first table in Gaelic, and Mr. Bell the second in English. The Gaelic sermon in the afternoon attracted a large concourse. The service opened with the Hundredth Psalm:—

Togadh gach Tir ard iolach glaoidh  
Do Dhia Iehobhah mór  
Thigibh is deanaibh seirbhis ait  
"Na lathair-san le ceòl."

The text was the "great commission" as given in the last verses of Matthew: Thugadh dhòmhsa gach uile chumhachd air neamh agus air talamh. Uime sin imichibh-sa agus deanaibh deisciobuil do gach uile chinneach, gam baisteadh ann an ainm an athar agus a mhic agus an Spioraid naoimh, a' teagasg dhoibh gach uile nithe a dh'àithn mise dhuibh a choimhead; agus feuch a ta mise maille ribh a gnàth gu deireadh an t-saoghail. The sermon dwelt largely on the sacrifice of Calvary and atonement effected by our Redemmer. Every heart was stirred; many a tear was shed. The old, old story had lost none of its power. At the close of the meeting, hundreds pressed forward to clasp the preacher's hand and beg him to come back again.

#### THE FIRST LEGISLATURE ELECTION.

The first election for the Legislature was held in 1820, when the Hon. Wm. Morris was returned. He was also returned at the elections of 1824 and 1829. At the election of 1824, Wm. Morris was opposed by Dr. Thom, a retired army surgeon, an active and highly respected member of the new settlement, and therefore a dangerous opponent. Mr. Morris must therefore bestir himself. He wrote to Rev. Dr. Buchanan for his help among the Beckwith people. Dr. Buchanan responded to the appeal. All the electors had to go to Perth to vote, as there was only one polling place. The poll continued day by day for a week, and as voting was open, each candidate knew at all times how the vote stood. Late in the afternoon of the last day, Dr. Thom was leading by a good majority. His supporters were jubilant, and began to hurrah loudly. But the Highland contingent from Beckwith had yet to be reckoned with. They came in a body along the 20-mile trail, and as they entered the town, with their bagpipes leading the way, they skirled defiance as they faced the enemy. They turned Mr. Morris's minority into a substantial majority.

(To be continued.)

#### MARCH BY COMUNN MEMBER.

The Duke of Kent and Princess Marina have accepted an original composition for the bagpipes entitled "Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Kent's Wedding March." The music was prepared in folio form in Celtic design, and illustrated with three water-colours—Balmoral Castle, a Highland mountain and loch scene, and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The composer and designer is Mr. John Grant, Lochnagar, Groathill Avenue, Edinburgh, a member of An Comunn.

## IAIN MAC COINNICH.

Fear-deasachaidh “Sàr Obair nam bàrd  
Gaidhealach.”

*A' Cheud Duais, Mod 1934.*

Le IAIN N. MACLEOD.

Rugadh Iain Mac Coinnich am Meallan Thearlaich an sgìre Ghearrloch air an 17 là de 'n Iuchar, 1806. B' e an mac a b' òige a bha aig Alasdair Mac Coinnich, no “Alasdair Og” mar a chante ris an measg nan eòlach. Bha tuathanachas aig athair agus seanair Iain air taobh a tuath Loch-Iù a bhuineadh do Chlann Mhic Coinnich Ghearrloch. B' i Mairearad Nic Coinnich, nighean Mhic Coinnich Bhad a' Chròtha, màthair Iain. Chithear mar sin gu robh Iain Mac Coinnich glé chàirdcach do theaghlach Ghearrloch araon air taobh a athar agus a mhàthar.

Bha Alasdair Og, athair Iain Mhic Coinnich, 'n a dhuine a bha ainmeil 'n a là airson a fhialaidheachd agus a bhàidh ri coigrich agus bochdan na tìre agus mar sin ged a bha e car saoi bhir le maoin agus earras, cha leigeadh a chridhe fialaidh leis mòran airgid a chur mu seach fhad 's a bhiodh truaghain mu 'n cuairt da air am b' urrainn e furtachd a dheanamh. Ach bha déidh mhór aige air fòghlum a thoirt do a theaghlach, agus a chionn nach robh sgoil faisg air a dhachaidh, dh' fhasdaidh e fear Uilleam Falconer, mac gàradair Bhrathainn, airson sgoil a thoirt do a mhic, Iain agus Seumas, agus an déidh do Falconer an driachd sin a thoirt suas, fuair e Domhnall Dunbar a Baile Dhubhthaich airson a bhi 'n a oide-fhòghluim do a dhithis mhac. An uair a dh' fhàs na balaich sin suas, chaidh iad do 'n sgoil a bha an Eilean Iù, agus as a sin gu sgoil na sgìreachd an Gearrloch a bha mu ochd mìle diag air falbh o an dachaidh, agus b' e sin an sgoil mu dheireadh anns an robh Iain Mac Coinnich.

Bha Iain Mac Coinnich, eadhon an uair a bha e 'n a bhalach og, neo-chumanta déidheil air a bhi leughadh gach leabhair air am faigheadh e gréim, agus chuir e ùidh a bha iongantach am bàrdachd agus an ceòl a dhùthcha. Chuir e roimhe gum biodh eòlas mionaideach aige air litreachas a chànan mhàtharail, agus chi sinn an déidh làimhe gun d' rinn e feum cubhaidh de 'n eòlas sin ann a bhi cur àirde air litreachas na cànan. Bha e ro dhéidheil air ceòl, agus an uair a bha e glé òg bhiodh e ag cur seachad mòran tìde ann a bhi deanamh uidheaman ciùil. Rinn e fiodhall agus pìob-mhór, agus chluicheadh e gu caitheamach an dà inneal sin. Bha e fileanta air cluich an fheadain (fute) cuideachd, agus cha chuala mi gun d' fuair e aon leasan riamh airson a chuideachadh

ann an iomairt nan innealan-ciùil sin, ach bha spiorad a' chiùil ann féin gu nàdurach, agus dhearbh e sin gu soilleir. Chruinnich e mòran de na seann fhuinn a bha air bilibh an t-sluaigh an uair sin, agus sgrìobh e sios iad, ach chan aithne dhomh gun deachaidh an clò-bhuailadh riamh.

An uair a chunnaic a phàrantan gu robh e cho làmhchair ann an deanamh phìoban-móra agus innealan-ciùil eile, is ann a smaoinich iad gun deanadh e saor uamhasach math, agus mar sin thug iad cothrom dha air an t-saoirsneachd ionnsachadh. Bha fear ris an canadh iad Uilleam Ros a' falbh o aite gu aite an Gearrloch ri saoirsneachd, agus thòisich Iain ri dol mu 'n cuairt comhla ris, agus bha sin da rìreadh a reir cridhe Iain Mhic Coinnich, a chionn nach e mhàin gum biodh e comasach air obair na saoirsneachd ionnsachadh, ach bhiodh làn chothrom aige air gach seann sgiala agus òran a thachradh ris air a chuiart a sgrìobhadh sios le dealas airson gum biodh iad air an cumail air chuimhne. Lean e air ionnsachadh a cheirde car greise, ach air dha bhi ag obair timchioll air tigh na h-eaglaise an Gearrloch, fuair e droch bhuille anns a' cheann, agus b' fheudar da a dhol dachaidh car greise. An uair a chaidh e am feabhas, thainig e gu Drochaid Sgoidil airson crìoch a chur air a ionnsachadh comhla ri saor a bha an sin, ach chuir a' bhuille a fuair e anns a' cheann an Gearrloch a leithid de aiceid ann agus gun d' fhàg i e eu-comasach air dol air aghaidh na b' fhaide ag ionnsachadh na saoirsneachd, agus leig e seachad i. agus chaidh e air ais do Ghearrloch.

Is ann an uair sin a thòisich e ri bàrdachd Uilleim Rois a chruinneachadh. Sgrìobh e sios a' bhàrdachd sin o aithris Alasdair Chaimbeil, no “Alasdair Buidhe Mac Iomhair,” mar a chante ris an Gearrloch. Is e bàrd a bha an Alasdair so, agus dlùth charaid do Uilleam Ros. Tha e air aithris gu 'n do chuir Iain Mac Coinnich seachad oidhe ar fhichead a sgrìobhadh sios bàrdachd Uilleim Rois. Nach ann aig “Alasdair Buidhe” fhéin a bha a' chuimhne làidir.

Thòisich Iain Mac Coinnich an sin ri falbh feadh gach cearnaidh de 'n Ghaidhealtachd a' cruinneachadh òran airson an leabhair bu thomadaiche a chuir e cruinn “Sàr Obair nam bàrd Gaidhealach.” Is ann an uair a bha e a' cruinneachadh òran Uilleim Rois a smaoineachadh e gum bu chòir dha lorg fhaighinn air gach bàrdachd Ghaidhlig a b' fhaic an t-saothair o linn Oisein a nuas gu a là fhéin. Sin an raon anns an do shaothraich e gu dìon, agus bu chòir dhuinne a tha beò an diugh ar beannachd buan a thoirt air a chuimhne airson a obair fhéin-aicheil ann

a bhi cur na bàrdachd sin an clò agus is cinnteach leinn uile mur a biodh gun d' rinn Iain Mac Coinnich na rinn e aig a' cheart am ud, nach biodh lorg an diugh air mòran de na h-òrain a chuir esan an clò. Sgrìobh e cumntasan air beatha agus obair nam bàrd cuideachd, agus tha na h-aithrisean sin ro fheumail do luchd rannsachaidh aig an là an diugh. Am feadh a bha e dol timchioll a' cruinneachadh na bàrdachd, fhuair e suim mhór airgid o Ghaidheil a bha airson "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd Gaidhealach" a cheannach.

Anns a' bhliadhna 1833 chuir e mach Bàrdachd Uilleim Rois, Bàrd Ghearrloch, agus anns an leabhar sin bha "Eachdraidh Mhic Cruislig, sgiala Gaidhealach." An iomlaid na bliadhna chuir e an dara clò de Bhàrdachd Uilleim Rois a mach, agus anns a' bhliadhna 1836 fhuair e 'n a chléireach an oifig clò-bhualaidh Oilthigh Ghlaschu.

Bha e aig an àm sin ro dhéidheil air cothrom fhaighinn air "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd Gaidhealach" a chlà-bhualadh, ach a chionn agus nach robh airgid gu leor aige airson sin a dheanamh, reic e lamh-sgrìobhainn an leabhair ri Mac Griogair, Mac Phail agus an Cuideachd, clò-bhualaithearan an Glaschu, agus is e suim glé bheag a fhuair e airson sin. Bha ceartachadh a chlà an urra ris fhéin, agus o nach robh e ro làidir 'n a shlaighte aig an àm, chuir an obair mhionaideach sin aiceid 'n a chom nach do dhealaich ris. A dh'aindeoin gach cnap-starraidh a bha 'n a aghaidh, thainig an leabhar priseil ud a mach anns a' bhliadhna 1841, agus ged nach do chuir an t-saothair mhór a rinn e mòran airgid am pòca Iain Mhic Coinnich, tha "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd Gaidhealach" 'n a charrach-cuimhne nach tréig gu brath air a dhealas agus a shaothair as leth bàrdachd Ghaidhlig.

B'e an ath leabhar a chuir Iain Mac Coinnich ri chèile "Eachdraidh Bliadhna Thearlaich." Chlà-bhualadh an leabhar so le Thornton & Collie, clò-bhualaithearan an Dùn-éideann anns a' bhliadhna 1844. Thug D. R. Collie eachdraidh a' Phrionnsa an Beurla do Iain Mac Coinnich, agus fhuair esan trì puinnid Shasunnach airson an eachdraidh sin eadar-theangachadh gu Gaidhlig.

Bha ainm Iain Mhic Coinnich a nis gu math cuireadh am measg nan Gaidheal, tuath agus deas, mar sgoilear Gaidhlig cho math agus a bha beò 'n a là. Fhuair e oifig eadar-theangadair Gaidhlig o Mhac Lachlainn agus Stiubhart, clò-bhualaithearan Gaidhlig an Dùn-éideann, agus bha e ag obair grunnid bhliadhnanach aig a' chuideachd sin air puinnid Sasunnach 's an t-seachdain de thuarasdal. Is ann an uair a bha e 's an driachd sin a dh'eadar-theangaich e na leabhraichean a

leanas gu Gaidhlig:—"Impidh air na daoine neo-iompachtae," le Bacasdair.

"Turus a' Chrìosduidh," (Bunian).

"Thig agus is e do bheatha," (Bunian).

"An Saoghal ri teachd," (Bunian).

"Gràs am pailteas," (Bunian).

"Uisge na Beatha," (Bunian).

"Osnaichean o Ifrinn," (Bunian)

"Tiotalan ainmeil Chrìosda," (Dyer).

"Tlachd mór a' Chrìosduidh," (Guthrie).

Chuir e ri chèile "Co-chruinneachadh de orain Ghaidhlig Seumasach" anns a' bhliadhna 1844, agus is e "Aosdàna" an t-ainm, a thug e air agus chuir e a mach e mar chuimhneachan air Mac Mhuirich, Tighearna Chluanaidh. B' e an "Cruitear" leabhar òran Gaidhlig eile a chuir e an clò, agus anns an leabhar sin bha rogha agus taghadh nan òran gaol a bhiodh e a' cruinneachadh thall agus a bhos. An déidh dha "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd Gaidhealach" a chur an clò, fhuair e for air cuid de bhàrdachd Dhonnchaidh Bhain nach deachaidh an clò ann an "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd," agus thug sin misneach dha airson bàrdachd Mhic an t-Saoir a chur an clò leis fhéin.

Is e Iain Mac Coinnich a rinn a' Bheurla gu Gaidhlig ma Faclair Mhic Ailpein, agus sgrìobh e roimh-ràdh airson a' chuid sin de 'n leabhar, ach rinn clò-bhualaithearan an Fhaclair iomrall a thaobh an roimh-ràdh sin. Chuir iad e aig toiseach an leabhair far an robh a' Ghaidhlig gu Beurla, a chuid de 'n Fhaclair a rinn Mac Ailpein fhéin, agus o 'n a bha Mac Coinnich a' faighinn coire do obair Mhic Ailpein anns an roimh-ràdh a sgrìobh e, dh'èirich fuath agus tnu à bha garbh eadar e fhéin agus Mac Ailpein. Cha tug Mac Ailpein maithanas riann dha, agus eadhon air leabaidh a' bhais, tha iad ag radh nach bi an teiste a b' fhearr a bha aige air Mac Coinnich.

Anns a' bhliadhna 1847 bha Iain Mac Coinnich a' deanamh ullachaidh airson "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd Gaidhealach" a chlà-bhualadh an dara uair le Mac Lachlainn agus Stiubhart an Dùn-éideann, agus bha e gu bhàir air a reic ri feadhainn a phàigheadh e roimh làimh airson deich tasdain. Bha obair dà fhichead agus a sia de na bàird Ghaidhealach deiseil aige, comhla ri àireamh thaghte de bhàrdachd a rinnadh thall agus a bhos le daoine nach d'rinn ach beagan òran 'n an là. Am measg nan òran sin bha bàrdachd Alasdair Ghraund agus Alasdair Bhuidhe Mhic Iomhair air an d' rinn sinn iomradh cheana, comhla ri cuid de 'n bhàrdachd a rinn Iain Mac Mhurechaidh an Cinn-tàile. Cha do chaomhnadh Iain Mac Coinnich airson an leabhar sin fhàicinn an clò, agus is bochd a' chùis sin oir chaidh gach làmh-sgrìobhainn a rinn e air a' bhàrdachd sin air chall an déidh a bhàis.

(Ri Leantainn.)

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gàidhealach was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Friday, 23rd November. Mr. John R. Bannerman, President, presided, and the following members were present:—

Rev. John Bain, Edinburgh; John M. Bannerman, B.Sc., Balmaha; W. D. Barclay, Glasgow; Mrs. Barron, Glasgow; Miss K. B. Cameron, Glasgow; Miss Campbell of Inverneill, M.B.E., Ardrishaig; Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Glasgow; Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr. of Succoth; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Alex. D. Cumming, Callander; Mrs. Morag C. Edgar, Greenock; Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Niall C. Kennedy, Scotstoun; Miss Lamont of Knockdow; Rev. Alexander MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Donald MacDonald, Inverness; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Col. Kenneth Macdonald of Tote, D.S.O.; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Inverness; Miss Ann MacGillivray, Glasgow; Gilbert MacIntyre, Killin; John MacIntyre, Glasgow; D. C. MacKenzie, Glasgow; Mrs. J. MacKintosh, Inverness; Fred T. MacLeod, Edinburgh; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Wilfred J. MacLeod, Glasgow; Lord James Stewart Murray, Ballinluig; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; Donald Scott, Perth; H. S. Shield, Edinburgh; Colin Sinclair, Ph.D., Glasgow; John H. Smith, Glasgow; A. M. Sweet, Skelmorlie; Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, Dunblane; Rev. Donald, Thomson, B.D., Killin; George Thomson, M.A., Glasgow; Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria.

Attending:—Robert MacFarlane, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, General Secretary, and Hugh MacPhee, Assistant to the Secretary.

The President referred in suitable terms to the loss Gaeldom had suffered by the death of Mr. Roderick MacLeod who had done so much to make the beauty of Gaelic song known to the world.

Sympathy was also expressed to Mr. Shaw on the death of his mother.

Minutes of the two previous meetings were read and adopted. Apologies for absence were intimated from several members of Council.

The Treasurer read two minutes of the Finance Committee. The Committee was gratified to record a surplus of £1006 from the Oban Mod. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod voiced the Executive's appreciation of the splendid efforts of the Oban Local Committee, the result of which would be equally gratifying to them as to the Executive. Mr. MacLeod said it could not be too widely known that the ordinary income of An Comunn fell far short of the requirements each year, and they depended on the Mod surplus for financing the work of the Association. Mr. Macfarlane, treasurer, was cordially thanked for assiduous attention to An Comunn's finances.

The Minutes were adopted on the motions of Mr. W. D. Barclay and Mr. Alexander Fraser.

Mr. Macfarlane reported on the Neil Munro Memorial Committee's work. A site had been secured on the estate of Inistrynich, and the design of the monument has been approved by the proprietor, Major Fellowes.

A Minute of the Education Committee was read.

The Committee recommended to hold next year's Summer School, in Tobermory, in July and August. The Committee expressed satisfaction at the action of the Endowments Commissioners, in conceding all that was asked for with regard to the Donald Mackay (Hereford) Bequests in Sutherland. A sum of £250 annually is available as bursaries for Gaelic speaking boys and girls, in the county. Northern and Southern Sub-Committees were formed.

On the motion of the Convener, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, the minute was adopted.

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

A Minute of the Propaganda Committee was read.

The Committee requested powers from the Executive Council to hire, or purchase, a Dictaphone in order to make permanent records of valuable folk-lore and music which otherwise might be lost.

The Committee approved of a suggestion that a page of the magazine be devoted to items of interest to children. It was considered that a page devoted to Comunn na h-Oigridh might meet the case.

The relation of the Gaelic drama movement to the Scottish Community Drama Association was referred to, and reported on by Captain Campbell of Succoth. Last year in the Highlands and all over Scotland, he said, there was a great recrudescence of interest in the production of plays. No Gaelic plays were produced in last year's community drama festivals, and the question of Gaelic plays coming up against English plays in competitions under the auspices of the Scottish Community Drama Festival had been discussed with representatives of the Community Drama Association. The result was that societies wishing to produce plays in Gaelic might do so on an equal footing with other societies producing plays in English.

Suggestions that a Gaelic play might be performed at the Mod in place of one of the concerts and an addition to the literary competitions for writing of plays were discussed, and the question was continued.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Charles Campbell.

A Minute of the Art and Industry Committee was read. It was reported that a Celtic Art Loan Exhibition would be held in Edinburgh during the Mod week, and Miss Lamont of Knockdow, agreed to assist in forming a local Committee.

An appeal for the greater recognition of Celtic Art as an integral part of Gaelic culture was made by Dr. Colin Sinclair, Glasgow. It was remarkable how few people were practising Celtic art, he said. They should recognise that the Gaels had an art heritage, and they desired to re-capture the art aptitude of the people in the Highlands.

The Propaganda Committee agreed to lend their aid in the promotion of classes in which art, with a Gaelic idiom, would be taught.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of Miss Campbell of Inverneill, Convener.

A Minute of the Mod and Music Committee was read. It was reported that a Local Committee had been formed in Edinburgh for the 1935 Mod, and that the Convener and Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun had been appointed representatives to the local Committee.

The Rev. John Bain, Joint Vice-Convener, reported on the activities of the Local Committee. The Music Hall and Assembly Rooms are booked for the Mod proceedings, and the Usher Hall for the Grand Concert.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

Three Minutes of Clann an Fhraoich Committee were read. The formation of groups of Comunn na h-Oigridh at Castlebay, Northbay, Bunessan, Bowmore, Bernisdale, and Carbot was reported. On the motion of Mr. John MacDonald, Glasgow, the Minutes were adopted.

A Minute of the Advisory Committee was read and adopted.

The question of appointing a Committee to consider the teaching of Gaelic in schools as per remit from the Annual Meeting was discussed.

Sir Alexander MacEwen, Inverness, said he thought this should be a really exhaustive inquiry into present-day teaching in the Highlands, and also an inquiry into the bi-lingual methods of Wales, Ireland, and possibly Belgium and other countries. The Gaelic movement had now reached the stage when they must tackle their teaching scientifically. There was a great shortage of teachers who had been trained in bi-lingual methods, and it was very important, if they were going to make real progress, that they should have a supply of properly trained teachers.

The meeting agreed to ask the Education

Committee to bring forward suitable names of members to form this special committee.

Dates of Meetings for 1935 were arranged as follows:—25th January, 5th April (Gaelic Meeting), 5th July, 28th September (preliminary), and 22nd November.

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

#### BOOK REVIEW.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE WESTERN ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND, circa 1695, by Martin Martin, Genl.; including a Voyage to St. Kilda, by the same author, and a Description of the Western Isles of Scotland by Sir Donald Munro in 1549; edited with introduction by Donald J. Macleod, O.B.E., M.A., D.Litt., Officier d'Académie. 540 pp., 10/6 net. Published by Eneas Mackay, Stirling.

It was a happy thought on the part of the publisher to gather together in one handsome volume the three earliest accounts that were ever written of the Western Islands of Scotland. The fascination of the theme is not by any means exhausted. The taste for fine scenery has been growing apace in recent years; thousands of visitors flock to the Western Isles; and many authors and publishers have done excellent service in providing intelligent travellers with interesting books about the Hebrides. This is all as it should be. It is well that the best resources of writers and of the press should be utilised to make more fully known the scenic merit and picturesque charm of the Western Isles.

There is an outstanding feature about these early authors, Munro and Martin. It is this. They were both highly educated Highlanders, who knew and loved their subject, and who were moved to authorship by the urge of that call which the Islands made to their hearts. And there is another feature of these early accounts which forms a contrast to modern writings on the Hebrides. The interest pervading the early authors is the people and their customs. The interest running through recent volumes on the same topic is the places themselves, and their scenery. Now that is a great contrast. The record which older travellers have left of the life and customs of the inhabitants will retain their worth as the years go by.

Dr. Donald J. Macleod has written an introduction which is worthy of these old classics of Hebridean travel. Extending to fifty-eight pages, his contribution combines the fruit of ripe Celtic scholarship with an unusual acquaintance with the Islands, the people, and their language and traditions. His erudite pages on the prehistoric element which clings to popular beliefs is not the least attractive part of the new book. He clearly shows by numerous illustrations that many of the old survivals are pre-Celtic. He also casts fresh light, from the standpoint of modern methods, on several ancient customs and beliefs which are an essential part of the subject, but are not treated by the old authors. Dr. Macleod writes in clear and lucid English, in a style of distinction, and with an ease and fulness which heighten the attractiveness of the new volume. The printing, the paper, and the general get-up of the volume are all that could be desired. The book deserves a very wide circulation.

N. R.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A charaid,—O 'n a tha e an nise air earbsa do 'n Ard-chomhairle Riaghailt 54 a chnuasachadh; agus cunntas a thoirt m' a déidhinn do 'n ath choinnimh gnathaichte, bhliadhnaid, chumanta: theagamh gu 'm faigh bhur luchd-leughaidh rud no dhà a tha amnasach 'n a faicail no 'n am mineachadh:—

(1) Chuireadh an Riaghailt sin air bonn a chum nan riaghailtean air fad a dhion agus an cumail o atharrachadh, gu am bitheadh guth chan e a mhàin leth na h-àireimh ach dà thrian dhiubh air a shon:

(a) Tha i ag iarraidh gu 'm bitheadh rabhadh ann an sanas na coinneimh air adhbhar-rùin 's an bith a dh' atharraicheas na riaghailtean; ach, ma ghabhas fear-na-cathrach ri aobhar-leasachaidh 's am bith rè na-h iomarbhaidh (ach ris an diùltadh fhéin a mhàin), nach bi e a' leigeil a steach, ann an da-rìreadh, aobhar-rùin ùir a bhuineas do na riaghailtean cuideachd, ged nach bi rabhadh air a thoirt m' a thimchioll anns an t-sanas?

(b) Tha i ag iarraidh gu 'm bitheadh dà thrian de 'n àireamh a bhithes an làthair an taic ris an aobhar-rùin, agus is ann mar sin a dhionar an diùltadh ('s e sin ri ràdh, na riaghailtean mar a tha iad); ach e'arson a dhionar aobhar-leasachaidh ùr 's an aon dòigh,—rud a thachras gu h-àbhaisteach,—'n uair a théid e a chur an aghaidh an aobhar-rùin?

(2) A bharrachd air sin, tha camag air a clòdh-bhualadh roimh na faicail, "prior to," 'bu chòir a bhith 'n an déidh.—Is mise, le mùirn,

A. T. L.

5mh An Dàmhair, 1934.

“ Intermediate Class at Gaelic Summer School.”

Sir,—The letter from Mr. Milne on the question of an intermediate class in the Summer School of Gaelic, in the November issue of *An Gàidheal*, calls for a reply from a member of An Comunn's Education Committee.

Members of this Committee are fully aware of and in agreement with the arguments used by Mr. Milne in favour of such intermediate class. When this Committee started the post-war series of Summer Schools in 1928, an intermediate class was provided for in the School held at Broadford that year. The inevitable question of costs had, however, to be considered, and unfortunately it was subsequently necessary in the interests of economy, to abandon one of the classes. It was hoped that the senior

class would as far as possible provide for the needs of students other than beginners. The task of teaching such classes is no doubt a difficult one because of the students being almost certainly at widely different stages, but if the majority of the students are agreed that conversational practice is their chief need, they should approach the teacher on the subject. Such conversational practice would probably be as beneficial to the more advanced learners as to the promoted beginners, and if, as sometimes happens, the class contained one or two native speakers seeking help as regards the written language, special provision could be made for them. To learn the language by ear is certainly a primary consideration, and a sympathetic teacher would doubtless be willing to adjust his or her methods to meet the special requirements of the class if these are made known.

If Mr. Milne and his fellow-students will, by their representations, assist in impressing upon teachers of Gaelic the clamant need that exists among learners of the language for *aural* as against *visual* instruction, they will do a great service in the Gaelic cause.—I am, Yours faithfully,

AUGUSTA LAMONT.

Inverchaolain, Argyllshire,

10th November, 1934.

Proposed Memorial to the late Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness.

Sir,—At a public meeting held in Inverness on the 12th November, 1934, a Committee was formed for the purpose of organising a scheme for a suitable memorial to the late Mr. Roderick Macleod, Inverness.

We feel sure that Highlanders all the world over will welcome our scheme, and that they will rejoice to have the privilege of giving their offering in order to perpetuate the memory of one of our most illustrious Highlanders, and certainly the most popular singer of Gaelic songs who ever graced a platform.

His labours in the sphere of Gaelic song have long ago won universal admiration, and now that Ruairidh's sweet voice is silent here below, let us deposit our gift at the shrine of his fragrant memory.

Subscriptions will be received and acknowledged by me.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN N. MACLEOD,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

Knockbain, Kirkhill,  
Inverness, 24th November, 1934.



### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The wild gales experienced during the latter days of October, and in early November, were such as to render voyaging in the Western Isles a most uncomfortable adventure. It was when these storms were at their height that Mr. Shaw was trusted to visit Barra, but despite the severity of the weather he managed to reach his destination at Castlebay in the early morning, only twelve hours late, after being held up at various points by stress of weather.

\* \* \*

The warmth of the welcome accorded to him by these hospitable isle folk soon made him forget the circumstances of the journey and within a short time of his arrival he was busy forming new branches at Castlebay and Northbay. The visit of the Castlebay children to the Mod, and success attained, together with the kindness received in Oban have greatly impressed everyone on the island and their gratitude for the attention to the children's comfort was expressed in the general desire to assist in the success of Mr. Shaw's visit.

\* \* \*

After forming the first Barra branch at Castlebay he proceeded the following evening to Northbay where a second branch was formed. Following the business part of the proceedings, the Northbay friends entertained him to a real old-fashioned "Luadhadh." There was no stage arrangement necessary each and all taking part were easily familiar, and intimately acquainted with all the operations, and there was a delightful spontaneity and refreshing naturalness about the whole performance. The lady who led the singing was over seventy years of age, and she sang at least seven unpublished Gaelic songs of perfect measure and most pleasing musical quality. There is still a field in Barra for Gaelic song collectors, and those interested in this subject will find a visit to the island amply repaid by the amount of material that is still available.

\* \* \*

It is in Barra that the first branch of Comunn na h-Oigridh was formed, and the Castlebay School has the distinction to be the first to enrol pupils in this movement. The children were all very proud of their badges, and we are particularly indebted to the Gaelic teachers in both Castlebay and Northbay for the ready manner in which they volunteered to give every assistance in encouraging the young folk to uphold and maintain the purposes of this new organisation.

Although the Outer Isles have retained all the Gaelic traditions, and while the language is still the medium of every day expression, it is to be regretted that the game of shinty ceased to be played in many of these some years ago. A contributory cause for this, in Barra, has been the lack of a suitable pitch, but this cause has now been removed by the laying out of a new playing field quite near to the school. One of the purposes of Comunn na h-Oigridh is to encourage our national pastime, and the Gaelic teacher at Castlebay, Mr. MacLeod, is willing to give instruction in the game, but unfortunately there is not a single "Caman" on the island. An appeal is made to members of An Comunn who may be able to assist in providing sticks to do so. Any "left overs" by any of the clubs would serve the purpose admirably. The children are keen to learn, and members helping in this way find satisfaction in the assurance that by this means they contribute to the firm establishment, and usefulness of Comunn na h-Oigridh.

\* \* \*

Taking events in their order, the next visit by Mr. Shaw, was to "An Tir Iosal Lurach," as the Tiree folk refer to their native isle. Here also he experienced enthusiasm both for the work of An Comunn generally, and for Comunn na h-Oigridh. It was seemingly expected that he would refer to Comunn na h-Oigridh as when he entered one of the principal schools on the island he found the Press articles contributed by Mr. Marjoribanks, dealing with the purposes of the new movement, prominently displayed, where they could be seen and read by the pupils. The headmaster was in entire sympathy with the idea and promised to help.

\* \* \*

The same expressions of enthusiasm also apply to Mull, and at Bunesan, Mr. John MacKechnie, who has given long and valuable service to Gaelic matters in the district, gave ready response to the suggestion that Bunesan school should be identified with the movement. Mr. MacKechnie's association with Comunn na h-Oigridh matters in the Ross area is sufficient to inspire confidence that success will be achieved.

\* \* \*

While Mr. Shaw has been engaged in the Southern Area (Barra it should be said is included in this province because of its being more easily accessible from the Southern mainland than from any point in Mr. MacPhail's territory)

our Northern friends have been active in furthering the efforts now being made to organise our Gaelic youth. Mr. MacPhail in the midst of many other duties found time to make a trip to Skye and, as a result, he informs us of the raising of Comunn na h-Oigridh's standard at Bernisdale and Carbost. In his report he refers to the keen interest that was manifested in his mission.

\* \* \*

Much space has been given to Comunn na h-Oigridh matter. This is the first occasion on which our organisers have been charged with the added duty of introducing this movement. We rejoice in the success that has attended their efforts, and it is with particular pleasure that we realise that kindly reception that was everywhere accorded to them. We are especially indebted to the Gaelic Teachers for their assistance. The reports that have been received give confidence for the future of the language, and assure us of the very live interest that is taken in our work among our own branches. The most gratifying feature is the value that is attached to the teaching of Gaelic to pupils whose mother tongue it is, and this is, in itself, one of the most important purposes of Comunn na h-Oigridh.

\* \* \*

And now for a word about the Gaelic Drama Movement, which Mr. MacPhail introduced to North Uist last session. In all his visitations, Mr. Shaw, urged the greater development of the idea with success. It is hoped that teams from Barra will take part in the forthcoming Uist festival; while the branches in Tiree and Mull are giving attention to producing Gaelic plays among their other activities this winter. Mr. MacPhail, with commendable enterprise, has succeeded in securing a trophy for a Gaelic section in the Scottish Community Drama's Competitions at Inverness, and we are also informed that there is a likelihood of a play being presented by a Gaelic team at the Aberdeen festival.

\* \* \*

Some time ago, representations were made to the Scottish Community Drama Association in regard to the eligibility of Gaelic Plays at the annual competitions promoted by them throughout the country, and the assurance has been received that, if Gaelic teams are forthcoming in the festivals of that Association, they will take the necessary steps to provide adjudication on exactly the same lines as for English speaking teams. This ruling has been communicated to all our branches.

Whoever may have their doubts about the Gaelic in the home countries, it is neither unspoken nor unhonoured overseas.

It is stated that the German writer, Kisch, is to be deported from the Australian Commonwealth because he failed to pass a dictation test in Gaelic!

The explanation is that, under the Australian Immigration Act, a person entering the Commonwealth must convince the authorities of his knowledge of a European language.

Once upon a time Gaelic was chosen for the test. The immigrant concerned failed, and appealed to the High Court on the ground that Gaelic was not a European language. The Court held it was, and ever since then the Immigration people have applied a Gaelic test when they thought fit.

A friend from Winnipeg has sent a copy of the *Calgary Daily Herald* in which reference is made to the adoption of Gaelic by the Chief of Police of Winnipeg, Mr. George Smith, to foil the efforts of the law breaking fraternity. On the suspicion that some enterprising bandits had equipped themselves with wireless appliances to listen in to orders issued to police patrol cars, Gaelic is now being used for such official instructions. This district received its name from emigrants who came from the village of that name in Mull, and it seems there are enough Gaelic speaking Highlanders on the force to make the plan practicable. Each patrol car is accompanied by a Gaelic speaking officer, and a further development of the idea is found in the new avenue of employment that is provided for Gaelic-speaking reporters on the staff of Canadian newspapers, which, now engage Gaelic-speaking reporters to listen in to these messages for news purposes.

\* \* \*

Another Canadian friend sends us a copy of the *Vancouver Sun* in which reference is also made to the use of Gaelic for police messages. According to Mr. John Murdoch, Deputy Chief of the Vancouver Police force there is nothing new in the idea. He has often employed a couple of Gaelic-speaking Scots with marked success when investigating criminal occurrences.

Someone with a mind for statistics has compiled a list of Highland names from the Vancouver telephone directory and the following is the result of his labours. Of Camerons there are 105, Campbells 249, while the MacDonalds top the lot with 347. The total number of Macs is over 3,000. If you were asked how that compared with Glasgow. I suppose you would say that the Clydeside

City's quota was much in advance of the Canadian list. Here are the figures taken from the January, 1934 issue of the Glasgow telephone directory: Camerons 150, Campbells 271, MacDonalds 210. The Macs I did not try to count. Taking these three names together there is a total of 701 in Vancouver, while Glasgow can only muster 631. The MacDonalds have let us down.

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Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhirnis, the new all Gaelic Society which was recently established in the Northern Capital is, we understand, attracting much attention. At the second meeting the hall was packed to overflowing, while the membership roll already exceeds 100. Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, acts as Secretary. The formation of this Ceilidh is filling a long felt want in the Highland life of the town.

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At the commencement of the present session, a request was made by the Sutherland Education Committee for names of pupils who desired to attend a Gaelic continuation class at Helmsdale. This request met with a ready response and a large number of pupils of all ages enrolled. Classes are now held on Mondays and Tuesdays in the H.G. School, and the deep interest that is being taken in Gaelic matters in this district is seen from the regularly continued large attendances, and from the earnest application of class members to their study of the language.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### A' Chomhairle Thuathach.

Bha ochd-deug de na buill an lathair aig a' cheud choinneimh de 'n t-Seisein ùr, air an 27mh là de 'n Dàmhair. Chuir Fear na Cathrach Mgr. Domhnall Mac Dhomhnaill, fàilte chridheil air a' chuideachd agus thubhairt e gu 'n robh e riaraichte gu 'n deanadh gach son dhiubh an dchioll airson na cànain 's an t-Seisein ùr.

Thug am Fear-Deilbhe eachdraidh ghoirid air obair A' Chomuinn 's an Taobh-Tuath, agus leig e ris gu 'm bheil na Sgoilean Oidhche Gaidhlig a stòr dhòl na 's lionmhoire gach bliadhna.

Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air na h-ionadan sin 's an gabhadh feum deanadh le Cròileanann Ciuil agus rinneadh ullachadh mar a leanas:— The *Peigi Nic Dhomhnaill* ag gabhail fo a

cùram duthaich Bhaideanach. Tha *Bhallar Ros* aig cùl a' ghnòthach an Taobh an Ear Chataibh, agus nuair theid cùisean a' shocrachadh mu thimchioll Caol Loch Aills' bidh *Iain Mac Dhomhnaill* a' frithealadh anns na cearnaidean sin.

B'i beachd na Comhairle gu 'm bu chòir duilleag de An Gaidheal a bhì air a' cur air leth airson nithean a bhuineas do 'n Oigridh a mhàin.

Leughadh litir bho Taobh a Siar Leodhais ag iarraidh air a' Chomhairle Fear-Teagaisg Ciuil a chur do 'n Eilean air an t-Seisein so agus chaidh earbha ris an Rùnaire barrachd fiosrachaidh fhaotainn nuair a bhitheas e air chuir a' s an Eilean sin.

Chaidh ullachadh a dheanamh cheana airson ceithir de na Mòdan Dùthchail agus is iad so na h-amannan a chaidh a' shocrachadh,

*Baideanach* .. An 3mh la de 'n Ghiblein.  
*Lochabar* .. An 10mh la De 'n Cheitein.  
*Brura* .. An 7mh la de 'n Og-mhios.  
*Caol Loch Aills!* An 14mh la de 'n Og-mhios.

Chan eil Mòd ri bhì an Ullaboll air an t-Seisean so ach chan e gu 'n do chail an sluagh ùidh anns an obair idir ach gu 'm bheil iad de 'n bheachd gun dean iad barrachd air tàilleamh na cànain as eugmhas a' Mhòid, co-dhiu airson bliadhna. Tha an cosdas ro throm cuideachd anns na h-àitean sin far nach 'eil an t-airgid ro phailt.

Aite air bith 's am bheil Cròilean-Ciuil is e dleasdanas Meur A' Chomuinn 's an ionad sin, an dicheall a' dheanamh gu Cròilean Gaidhlig a chur air bonn. Bithidh mar sin a' chànan agus an ceòl a' dol ceum ri ceum, agus chan e idir ceum-tòisich, no ma dh' fhaoidte dhà, bhì aig a' cheòl.

A thaobh 's gu 'n do bhuail A' Ghriuthrach ceann a Tuath Chataibh b' fheudar Mòd na bliadhna so a' chur gus an dara-taobh. Bidh dòchas againn gu 'm bi cùisean na's fàbharaidhe an ath-bhliadhna.

### CEILIDH NAN GAIDHEAL AN INBHIRNIS.

Aig a' cheud choinneimh de 'n Cheilidh so bha e taitneach fhaicinn mar a chrùinnich Gaidheil a' bhaile 's na dùthcha mu 'n cuairt. Bha barrachd is ochd fichead an lathair agus gu dearbh fhein fhuaig iad Oraid thaitneach bho 'n Ollamh D. S. Macleòid. As a dhéid sin bha Orain, Beul-Aithris, Sgeulachdan agus piobareachd. Thainig An Corneil Mac Dhomhnaill a dh'aon sgrìob as an Eilean Sgitheanach agus dh'fhag e a bheannachd aig A' Cheilidh.

### An Airde Deas.

Bha coinneamh aig a' Chomhairle Dheasaich air a' choigeamh là deug de 'n t-Samhuin an seòmar gnòthaich a' Chomuinn an Glaschu.

Leughadh Iomradh bho 'n Rùnaire mu a chuairt do na h-Eileanan Siar anns an d'thug e cunntas air dà choinneimh dheug.

Air an dara la fichead de 'n Dàmhar sheol e as an Oban gu Barraidh ach le droch shìd cha do rainig am bata Bagh a' Chaisteil gu maduinn an là-arn-a-mhàireach. Chumadh coinneamh air feasgar an treas là fichead an talla Bhàgh a' Chaisteil agus chuireadh Meur ùr air bonn. Air a' cheathramh là fichead chumadh coinneamh aig a' Bhàgh a Tuath agus chuireadh Meur ùr eile air bonn an sin. Bha mòran cruinn aig gach coinneamh agus anns a' Bhàgh a Tuath chuiricadh luadhach air ghleus aig an cualas leth dusan òran nach fhaca riamh clò-sgrìobhaidh.

Bha coinneamh aig an Rùnaire an Sgairinnis (Tiriodh) air a' choigeamh là fichead agus an Sgoil na Mòintich air an fheasgar 'na dheidh sin. Bha coinneamh bheag an Sgoil Chòrnaigrom roimh choinneamh na Mòintich agus tha dòchas gu 'n tèid Meur ùr a chur air bonn an sin uaireigin ré a' gheamhraidh. Chuir an Rùnaire seachd deireadh na seachdain sin an Colla agus air feasgar Di-luain chumadh a' chéilidh an Tigh Sgoil Airigh-nan-Gobhar. Bha còrr is ceithir fichead cruinn agus an t-uachdaran air an ccannt. Tha inbheic an eilein so a' tighinn astar mhiltean a dh-ionnsuidh na Sgoil Sheinn fo stiùireadh Iain Mhic Iomhair, aon de Mhaighstirean Ciuil a' Chomuinn.

Air feasgar Di-màirt bha Mgr MacGille Sheathanaich an Dearbhaig am Muile far an do chuir e am Meur sin de 'n Chomunn air ghleus as ùr. Chuir e seachd an ath feasgar a' tadhal air a' Mhinisteir is air a' Mhaighsteir Sgoil an Tobarnhoire mu dheidhinn farpaisean nan Dealbh-chluichean agus mu staidheachadh Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Air Dir-daoin, ceud là na Samhna, bha an Rùnaire aig coinneimh an Uibha agus ged bha an sneachd a' sìleadh gu trom chruinnich còmhlan gasda do 'n Tigh Sgoil agus bha céilidh shunndach aca. Chumadh coinneamhan am Buncasain air Di-haoine, an I Chaluim Chille air Di-luain agus an Créich air Di-màirt. Bha mòran cruinn aig gach coinneamh agus ghabh iad uile ùgh ann am farpais nan Dealbh-chluichean a tha Comhairle a' Chraoibh-sgaolidh a' strìth ri adhartachadh anns gach eilean is sgìre.

Mar a dh'iarraidh aig Coinneamh roimhe de 'n Chomhairle thadhail an Rùnaire an Bothchuidir air a thilleadh as na h-Eileanan

agus staidheach e Meur ùr de 'n Chomunn an sin air an t-seachdamh la de 'n t-Samhuin.

Chaidh Mgr MacGille Sheathanaich do Ile air Di-luain, an dara la deug de 'n t-Samhuin. Bha a' cheud choinneamh am Port Ellen air feasgar Di-màirt agus ged nach robh a' chuideachd cho lionmhor 's a chunnacas bha mòran de 'n oigridh an làthair. Air Di-ciadain bha céilidh thogarrach am Port na h-Aibhne agus air feasgar Dir-daoin bha coinneamh ghadaid am Port Charlotte. Chaochail bean uasal chòir 's an Eilean air maduinn Dir-daoin agus chuireadh dheth a' chuirm chiuil a bha gu bhì aig meur Bheil-an-Ath air Di-haoine.

Tha luchd-teagaisg Ciuil air fasdadh mar a leanas:—

Iain Mac Iomhair, F.E.I.S., Colla is Tiriodh.  
Ealasaid Nic Mhartainn, A.M., Arainn.

### COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

#### (Mu Dheas)

Chuir Mgr Mac Gille Sheathanaich a' cheud bhuidheann de 'n Chomunn so air bhonn an Sgoil Bhàgh a' Chaisteil air Di-màirt, an treasa la fichead de mhios an Dàmhair, agus an dara buidheann air bhonn an Sgoil a' Bhàgh a Tuath, am Barraidh, air a' cheathramh là fichead. Is i Nic na Ceardaich a' chailleag a fhuair a' cheud bhàiste an Alba. Chaidh buidheann a chur air bonn an Sgoil Bhunearain am Muile, agus buidheann an Sgoil Bhogha Mór an Ile—coig deug agus trì fichead ball uile gu léir.

#### (Mu Thuath.)

Nuair a bha am Fear-Deilbhe air chuairt 's an Eilean Sgitheanach o chionn ghoirid, chuir e air bonn dà bhuidheann de Chomunn na h-Oigridh. Steidhichear a' cheud chròilean am Bearnasdaill agus an dàra aon an Sgoil Mhic Dhiammaid, faisg air Sgeabost. Tha fichead ball anns gach buidheann, eadar chailleagan agus ghillean agus na h-aoisean bho ochd gu trì-bliadh-deug.

Tha na buill anns na buidhnean sin tapaidh, pongail, deidheil air a' Ghaidhlig, comasach air a labhairt agus beagan sgrìobhaidh a dheanamh. Faodar innsadh gur e so a' cheud oidheirp 's an taobh-Tuath 's an aobhar so. Chaidh buidheann eile de 'n Chomunn so a chur air bonn an Cill-Mhoire, anns a bheil ochd balachain deug agus ceithir caileagan deug.

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 REPORTS.

**AVIEMORE.**—There was a real ceilidh atmosphere prevailing at the opening meeting of the Aviemore branch. The proceedings, which consisted of bagpipe selections, dialogues, songs and sceulachdan, were organised by Miss Barbara MacLean, the very enthusiastic and energetic secretary, in her own home. During an interval the members were served with a "cupa is greim" consisting of oatcakes and cheese, and scones.

**BALESHARE.**—Eachdraidh ceud choinneimh a' gheamhraidh seo aig Meur a' Bhaileshair, an Uidhiste a Tuath. Air oidheche Dhi-h-aoine an seathamh la fichead de 'n Damhar bha coinneamh chumanta air a cumail 'san tigh-sgoile. Bha an iar-cheannsuidhe, Mgr. Gillesbeing MacAmhlaidh anns a' chathair. Leugh an ruinar, gearr-sheanachas na coinneimh bhliadhna (a chumadh air soirbheachadh troimh an ath bhliadhna, oir bha an oigridh ro dheònach air an guth a thogail le comhradh is cool. Dh'fhosgail Mgr. Aonghas Domhnallach an céilidh le pioaireachd, agus na dheidh sin chualas òrain bho'n Mhaighdean usal Mórarg Nic Mhathain agus Mgr. Domhnall Stiubhart. Lean Mgrn. Aonghas Mac Mhathain agus Iain G. Domhnallach le deagh sceulachdan, agus fhuaras òrain eile bho Mgrn. Aonghas Camshron agus Ruairi Mac Mhathain. Chluich Mgr. Domhnall Mac Gilleathain puirt air piob 'h air fideil. Dh'innis a' mhaighdean usal Mairi Nic Amhlaidh sgeulachd ghasta. An deigh òrain a chluinntinn bho'n Mhaighdean usal Una Nic Amhlaidh, agus bho Mgrn. Iain Mac Gilleathain agus Uisdean Mac Mhathain, chuirheadh a' choinneamh fa sgaol le pioaireachd, agus taing do fhear na cathrach.

**BRORA.**—The activities of the Brora branch are followed with close interest in the East Sutherland area. At the opening meeting a large company of influential personalities in the public life of the district were present. The early part of the evening was devoted to a ceilidh, which was afterwards followed by a tattie and herring supper. Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, contributed to the programme with song and story in addition to an informative address on the work of the movement.

**BUNESSAN.**—The Bunessan branch arranged their opening meeting on the occasion of Mr. Shaw's visit to the district. There was a large attendance present to welcome the General Secretary, who, in his remarks, made special reference to the work of establishing Comunn na h-Oigridh and the Gaelic Community Drama idea. A lengthy and varied programme was submitted and Mr. Shaw assisted with several nicely rendered songs and puirt-a-beul.

**COLL.**—The branch at Coll is one of the most popular institutions on the island and large attendances from all parts are present at the meetings held monthly. An additional ceilidh was held last month to welcome Mr. John MacIver, music teacher, who now conducts classes at Acha and Arinagour. The members expressed their pleasure at Mr. MacIver's visit, and they hoped he would enjoy his work with them in Coll.

**CONNEL.**—The visit of the Emsdale Gaelic Choir to the Connel branch was a much looked forward to occasion. A large audience welcomed Mr. Donald Dewar and his singers, and a delightful evening was spent in exhausting a nicely balanced programme of part songs, solos, and instrumental music. Captain Duncan MacGregor, who presided, spoke

in felicitous terms of the good work of the choir and their creditable performances at mod competitions. At the close of the concert the choir and friends were hospitably entertained by Miss Hall of Tandy.

**DUNDEE.**—Very pleasing reports are received of the concert promoted by the Dundee Highland Society. There was such a large demand for admission that it was impossible to accommodate all who desired to be present. The Earl of Airlie, who was introduced by Dr. Angus MacGillivray, chief of the Society, presided, and delivered a very interesting address. The concert programme, which was sustained by prominent artistes, was greatly enjoyed. Lord Provost Buisst paid a well deserved tribute to Mrs. Adamson, Secretary, and to the Committee for their splendid and valuable work in maintaining the best traditions of their race by organising and pioneering such delightful functions where their fellow Gaels could meet and receive encouragement to continue their efforts on behalf of their cultured heritage. It may be remembered that this society, some years ago, issued an interesting series of Gaelic publications which were highly esteemed for their literary and informative qualities in regard to Gaelic matters.

**DUNOON.**—A lecture by the Rev. Thomas Barclay, Sandbank, on the subject of "A week-end in a West Highland Parish," followed by a musical programme, constituted the proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Dunoon branch, over which Mr. Malcolm MacNeill, M.B.E., presided. In the course of his remarks, the Rev. Mr. Barclay gave an interesting and enjoyable account of his experiences in a West Highland manse, making particular reference to the hospitality received and the kindly and courteous qualities of the people he came in contact with during his visit.

**KINLOCHIEL.**—At the annual general meeting of the Lochielside branch, held recently, the following office-bearers were elected:—Hon. president, Lochiel; president, Mr. D. MacMillan, J.P., Corrybeg; vice-president, Mr. J. Lowrie, Garvan; joint secretaries, Mrs. Cameron, The Schoolhouse, and Mrs. D. Cameron, Torban; treasurer, Mr. Dugald S. Cameron, Torban. The first ceilidh of the season was held in the local hall, over which Mr. Archibald MacKellaig presided. Acting as "Fear an Tighe," he conducted the proceedings in real ceilidh manner and as the host he adhered to the traditional custom of recounting the first few sgeulachds. Thereafter song and story, with dancing items interspersed at intervals, constituted a most happy evening, which was greatly enjoyed by the large company present.

**LOCHINVER.**—The reopening ceilidh, which was also the business meeting of the Lochinver branch, was attended by a splendid turnout of members. The secretary and treasurer's reports were approved. Mr. A. M'Kenzie, Park House, was appointed hon. president, Mr. Hugh Macintosh president, and Miss Graham, vice-president. Mr. Macintosh then took the chair, and after addressing the members, he read a most interesting Gaelic letter from a correspondent in Cape Breton. The secretary, on behalf of the members, asked Mr. Macintosh to convey hearty greetings to his far-away Gaelic correspondent. A delightful tea, preceded by mashed potatoes containing lucky charms, was handed round by Miss Mina Mackay and the Misses Mackenzie. Tea was followed by apples and nuts. Several of the favourite singers at former ceilidhs were present and again delighted the audience with the old Gaelic songs. A new member, whose sweet rendering of

Gaelic singing was much appreciated, was Miss K. Macleod. Mr. Urquhart gave several recitations, and Mr. A. D. Macleod had some amusing stories. At the conclusion of the programme Mr. Macintosh made reference to the loss the Gaelic cause had sustained through the lamented death of a parishioner, the late Mr. Roderick Macleod, the gifted Gaelic singer. He asked the company to stand, and a minute's silence was observed in respect to his memory. It was decided to meet fortnightly instead of monthly.

NEWTONMORE.—The general meeting of the local branch was held in the hall committee room. Mr. T. Grant, J.P., vice-president, presided. The appointment of a president in succession to Miss Farquharson of Invercauld was deferred to a later meeting. Mr. Curley expressed the regret felt at Miss Farquharson's decision to retire, as she had, with her enthusiasm, done much valuable work for the branch and the movement. Mr. Grant again stressed the value and importance of the language, and trusted that full advantage would be taken of the Gaelic class, which will commence this season under the able tuition of Mr. Steele, Kingussie. The education grant would be available, and every assistance will be afforded by the branch. A vote of thanks to Mr. Grant for presiding concluded the meeting.

TAYNUILT.—The Cruachan branch opened the session with a ceilidh in the public hall. The president, the Rev. J. MacPherson, occupied the chair, and among those present were representatives from the Bonawe branch, who assisted the proceedings. The programme consisted of songs, sgeulachdan, and instrumental items. A very happy evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner and during that evening forty-five members were enrolled.

THREE.—During Mr. Shaw's visit a number of meetings were arranged for him in Three, which were held at Scarinish, Cornaig, and Hyilpol. At Scarinish the election of office-bearers was proceeded with. Mr. Malcolm MacLean, Salum, was appointed president, with Miss Kate MacCallum as secretary, and Mrs. D. M. MacLean, treasurer. Thereafter a ceilidh was held, to the programme of which a large company of artistes contributed. Mr. Shaw also assisted with several much appreciated Gaelic songs.

WICK.—There was a large attendance at the opening ceilidh of members and friends of Wick branch of An Comunn, in the Academy, on Friday evening, 9th November. Mr. Millar presided, and in his opening remarks, expressed gratification at the success of the recently-formed branch in Latheron which was carrying on with vigour and promise. A very enjoyable programme of songs and musical selections was gone through. Gaelic songs were sung by Mr. M. C. Mackenzie of the High School, and Scottish songs were rendered by Mrs. Sutherland, Miss Lyall, and Miss K. McKenzie. Miss M. S. Henderson played several delightful violin selections. The rest of the evening was devoted to ceilidh stories, anecdotes, and incidents, all of a humorous character, were told by Mr. Wm. Reid, Mr. Charles Begg, Mr. D. G. Henderson, Mrs. Cochran, and the chairman. A very happy evening was thus spent, and the session promises to be as successful as any since the origin of the branch.

TOBAR-MHOIRE.—Mórán bliadhnaich mu 'n robh a' cheud mhòd 's an Oban bha riaghailt aig "Comunn Gàidhlig Thobarmhoire" nach bitheadh cainnt idir ach Gàidhlig aig a choinneamhan. Tha

sinn a' dèanamh ar dibhill air an riaghailt sin a chumail air an là an diugh, agus chun eil sin cho duilich a chionn, am bitheadh, 's e Iain Camshron (Lochiall) a bhios anns a' chathair—esan aig a' bheil leithid de ghaol do 'n Ghàidhlig. 'S e bha air ceann na cuideachd aig a' cheud dhàimh de 'n t-seisean so, air an 24mh là de 'n Dàmhair. Bha oifigich chalma na "Lochinvar" an làthair agus thug iad duinn oidheche chridheil, Niall MacLeod a' seinn òran an deidh òrain, gach aon na b' fheàrr na chéile; Iain Comhannal 'a' cur blas gasda air a chuid òran; agus an Captein (Camshron) fhéin a' dol riutha gu sundach anns an fhlòr sheann dòigh. Is ann bho ar cridhe thug sinn taing do ar càirden sin aig deireadh na ceilidh. Dh' fhosgail a' choinneamh air an 7mh là de 'n t-Samhuinn le ceòl air a' phìob bho Raibeart MacLeod, mac ploibaire a' Chomuinn, gille nach 'eil ach mu ochd bliadhna de aois. Is e sgoilearan a mhaìu bha air a' cheud earrain de 'n chlàr. Thug iad duinn òrain aon-neach, ceòl-caraid, òrain ann an co-sheirm, daunsadh, Gàidhealach de 'n h-uile seòrsa, agus puirt air a' phiano. Labhair an sin an t-Urr. C. MacChill' Leathanig gu soilleir deas-bhriathrach air "Coinneach Odhar, Fiosaiche Bhraith-an-nu," agus bha mòran sgeòil aige mu dhèidhinn nan rudan iongantach is annasach a bha an duine ainmeil so comasach air a dhèanamh. Bha Niall MacLeod ann a ris, a' seinn cho mìlis 's a bha e roimh. Chòrd a h-uile ni anabarrach math ris a' chuideachd mhóir a bha 's an làthair.

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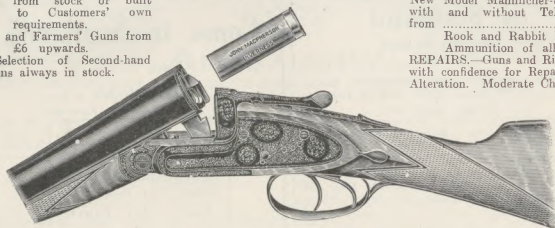
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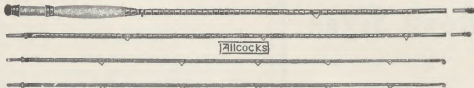
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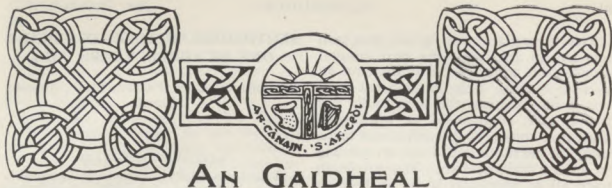
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Leabhar XXX.]

*Am Faoilleach, 1935.*

[Earrann 4

### CUIMHNE IS DOCHAS.

Is i so an uair anns am bi iomairt air cuimhne agus air dòchas. Is ann le cuimhne a ghlèidheas sinn greim air coibhneas chàirdean re na bliadhna a dh'fhalbh; ach le deagh dhòchas tha sinn a' cùr fàilte air na càirdean ceudna, a' guidhe sonais agus soirbheachaidh dhaibh air feadh na bliadhna tha romhainn. Mar tha an aimsir a' ruith seachd tha caochlaidhean a' teachd; agus is e an duine glic a dh'ullaicheas a mhisneach gu bhì a' gabhail ris gach caochladh mar thig e gu crìch. Tha an Gaidheal buailteach a bhì cleachdadh a chuimhne gu beothail; tha e deas gu bhì a' meòrachadh air nithean taitneach a thainig 'n a char feadh a thuruis; ach air an laimh eile tha cuimhne eagnaich aige air na nithean deuchainneach. Is e sin a dh'fhag e cho so-aomte gu mulad mar thoradh air na cruaidh-chàsan a thainig air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Is còir dhuinn sin a mhothachadh agus a thuigsinn, a chum gu 'n cleachd sinn dòchas, agus gu 'n glac sinn misneach as ùr ri aghaidh cruadail.

\* \* \*

A thaobh an am ri teachd tha feum air dòchas. Ach is còir beachd a gabhail gu stolda air cùisean mar tha iad aig an am. Chan eil an cuspair sin taitneach ri luaidh, ach is eiginne sealltuinn air a' cheist gu cùramach. Tha aireamh na cloinne anns a' Ghaidhealtachd a sior dhol nas lugha gach bliadhna. Is e tha ann ach gnothach muldach mar tha na ficheadan de sgoiltean beaga a sior dhol

air an ais a thaobh àireamh nan sgoileirean. Far an robh ceud sgoilear bho chionn da fhichead bliadhna, chan eil ann an diugh ach deich thar fhichead. Thachair sin an iomadh cearn mu thuath. Ciod e an t-aobhar? Tha gu bheil na glinn a' sior dhol fàs. Tha na raontan falamh a' dol fo fhraoch is luachair, agus an sluagh ag iarraidh do na bailtean mòra, a chionn is nach eil cosnadh no beoshlàinte ri fhaotainn air clàr na dùthcha. Chan urrainn clann a bhì lionmhor, no na sgoiltean a bhì làn far nach eil dòigh air clann a thogail no bheathachadh.

\* \* \*

Chan eil ach ùine ghoirid bho thug An Comunn Gaidhealach aire do 'n chloinn le bhì a' suidheachadh Comunn na h-Oigridh. Tha sin gu math. Ach ciod am feum no a' bhuanachd ma dh'fhàsas àireamh na cloinne cho gann is nach bi a bheag dhiubh ri sheachnadh. Nach eil a soilleir nach eil romhainn ach seargadh is dubhadh a mach, mur deanar oideheirp air na glinn àiteach le tuath, a chum is gu'm bi òigridh pailt ann ar dùthaich mar b'abhaist. Their neach an sud, chan eil gnothach aig A' Chomunn ris na nithean sin. Is e dleasanas A' Chomuinn a' chàinain is an ceòl. Ach ged tha sin ceart, tha feum mòr an diugh air Comunn eile, a ni stri gus an tuath a chàradh air an fhearann. Bu chòir gum biodh crìoch àraidh aig a leithid sin de bhuidhinn; air an ainm an fhortain ciod is ciall a bhì caitheamh ùine no saothair air càinain, mur bi òigridh ann gus a bruidheann, agus cosnadh is lòn gus an òigridh sin àrach mar bu chòir.

Tha meanglain ùra 'g am fosgladh bho am gu am; agus tha sinn taingeil airson gach adhart a tha ri fhaicinn an cùis na càinain. Ach tha sinn car mall ann a bhi tuigsinn cho iomchuidh 's a tha e, gu'n ruigeamaid ar bràithrean thall thar chuan. Tuilleadh is aon turus thug mi tarraunn air a' cheart phuing so anns a' mhiosachan. The e coltach nach eil ar misneach làidir gu leor gu tighinn thairis air nithean a tha anns an t-slighe gus bacadh a chur oirnn. Bha an crois tàire 'n a chleachdadh aig ar sinnsir. Bha lasair is deatach a' chrois tàirse 'n an dùlan is 'n an dearbhadh air dilseachd is cruadal nan laoch. Chan fhaod e bhi gu'n do thréig dilseachd sinn, no gu'n deachaidh ar cruadal bàs. Tha na beusan ceudna sin cho riatanach an diugh 's a bha iad ri am nan creach anns na glinn. Rachadh an crois tàire air shiubhal; faicear a lasair air na sléibhteann; rachadh e thairis air monadh is cuan; gus mu dheireadh an cluinn na seòid an glaoth tionail agus an tig iad gu cabhair an dùthcha.

\* \* \*

Is e ar miann is ar rùn a' chàinain a ghleidheadh, chan ann a mhaoin an Alba, ach feadh an t-saoghail. Thug a' Bheurla an saoghal mòr fo a ceann. Car son nach deanadh Gaidhlig an cleas ceudna? Chan eil àite air thalamh do 'n deachaidh Gall, nach robh Gaidheal gun dàil 'g a ruigheachd, no eadhon a dol seachad air. Anns gach cearn is iomallaiche de 'n Impireachd Bhreatainnach tha clann nan Gaidheal an diugh a' cuimhneachadh air Tìr nam Beann agus air iarmaid an gràidh 's an t-seann dachaidh. Nach e an cridhe thall thar chuan a ni gàirdeachas ri teachdaireachd bliadhna ùire bho 'n Ghaidhealtachd. Mar tha fhios aig cuid de ar luchd leughaidh tha Mòd ri chumail an Vancouver air an earrach so tighinn. Is cinnteach gur an sud a bhios an cruinneachadh sona; càirdean bho astar fada a' coinneachadh agus a' cur fàilte is furan air a chèile. Labhraidh iad an seann chàinain an òige, agus èisdidh iad ri ceòl maiseach an dùthcha. Nach biodh e 'na nì gasda na'n cuireadh an Comunn Gaidhealach teachdaire a ghiulaineadh fios is fàilte gus na Gaidheil a bhios cruinn an Vancouver?

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### IV.

#### LAST DUEL IN CANADA.

A duel was fought in Perth in 1833, probably the last in Canada. John Wilson and Robert Lyon, law students, quarrelled about a young lady. Wilson sent the challenge, as Lyon had slapped his face one day in court. Lyon fell dead at the second shot. The tragedy caused great excitement. Mr. Wilson hid for some days, then surrendered himself, was tried and acquitted. He left Perth, rose to eminence at the bar, and ultimately became Chief Justice of Ontario, but he never would try a criminal case, leaving that to his colleagues. He bitterly mourned his part in the duel. It is said that on each anniversary of the duel he would shut himself up in his room to fast and pray and give vent to his sorrow.

In the early times Perth society had quite a tone infused into it through the residence there of so many officers on half-pay and their wives. The town was governed by a military superintendent until 1822, after which it had municipal government. Pension day among the soldiers was a day of high feasting, and fighting as well. The Officers' Mess was held in Adamson's Hotel, the "Red house," in the upper storey, which was one large room. Dinner parties among the officers were numerous, when the wine flowed freely.

#### ONE OF PERTH'S EARLIEST INDUSTRIES.

It may not be without interest to recall that among the very earliest of Perth's industries was a distillery. Connected with it was a "change-house," where the product of the distillery was dispensed. The whisky was called "Craig-darroch's Peatreck Whiskey," and by the capable judges of those days would be held to equal, if not to surpass, the best brand of the later Dewar's "Doctor's Special."

Two families sprung from the first settlers merit notice, those of the late Senator John Haggart and the late Senator Peter MacLaren. Haggart's mills were hives of industry from early times, and prosperity followed good, honest business. The Haggarts came from Loch Tayside, and the Hon. John Haggart, a veteran statesman, was one of Sir John A. Macdonald's ablest ministers, both as an administrator and a politician.

MacLaren's Mills became a mammoth

concern and the family accumulated great wealth. Senator MacLaren and Senator Haggart were to Perth what Pullar and Campbell were in their own day to the Fair City in Scotland.

Father La Mothe was the first Roman Catholic priest in Perth. He was succeeded by Rev. Father Macdonell, affectionately known as "Father John." He left behind him a fragrant memory; and many anecdotes, about him, quaint and kindly, have become legendary. He was transferred to Glengarry, and was gathered to his fathers among his own kith and kin at the advanced age of about one hundred years. At a time when he was building a new chapel, such was his popularity that many Presbyterians subscribed liberally to the building fund of the Roman Catholic Chapel. Later on the Presbyterians found it necessary to build a new church and they expected reciprocal help from the Catholics. They hoped that Father Macdonell would head their list with a subscription, so two of the elders called on him and explained their errand. To their surprise, and no small chagrin, he positively refused on the ground that he could not canonically help to erect a place of worship for heretics. As they were leaving he called them back and asked what they were to do with the old church building. It was to be pulled down they replied. "O, well, in that case," said the joking priest, "I shall be most happy to subscribe for the tearing down of an heretic church," and he gave a handsome donation.

#### HIGHLAND TRADITIONS AND SUPERSTITIONS.

Life in the early settlement may be partially illustrated in another way. The Highlanders brought with them their traditions and superstitions, and these formed the staple entertainment in many a logging camp and shanty in the long winter nights. John Robertson, from Tayside, as already stated, came in 1818. His son, Hugh, was the seer or second-sight possessor of the family. Before leaving Scotland, Hugh had a vision of the land he was to occupy in Upper Canada, so that he had no searching to do like the other settlers, but going into the forest recognised his lot and settled on it. Among the immigrants was a man to whom a seer in Scotland recounted the former half of his life, and was told that he would meet with another seer in Canada who would reveal the remainder. He met Hugh Robertson, who told him, among much else, that his death would occur at a certain date. On the date mentioned the man was accidentally killed at a logging "bee."

(To be continued.)

## A' CHRAOBH NOLLAIG ANNS A' CHOILLE.

*Eadar-theangaichte leis a' Bhean Uasail Nic Thomas, Bean Mhinisteir Chill Fhinn.*

Air latha grianach foghair leum trì feòragan sìos bun na craoibhe mòire giuthais, agus a steach do 'n phreas challtuinn far an robh am màthair ag obair am measg nan cnothan abaich a bha cheana air tuiteam.

Ann am prìobadh nan sùl rug am fear dosanach air cnò 'n a spògan agus air dha e féin a shocradh air géig mhóir làidir bhriseadh e an t-slige agus dh'itheadh e am biadh. Cha bu luaithe bha aon chnò crìoch-naichte na thug gach fear lamh air cnò eile. An uair bha iad cho sasuichte is nach b'urrainn dhaibh an còrr itheadh, thoisich iad air mire. Lean iad a chéile mu thimchioll nam preasan, a' leum bho gheug gu géig, sìos is suas bho bhonn gu barr nan craobh cho furasda is ged bhiodh iad air talamh réidh. Gidheadh bha iad an comhnaidh a' faire air eagal gu 'n tigeadh namhaid orra gun fhios. Bha piothaidean is ròcaisean, is seabhagan anns a' choille mhóir a bha an sud, agus an uair mhothaicheadh na feòragan cunnart sun bith, ruitheadh iad air ais do 'n nead, agus chrùbadh iad sìos le eagal. An sin thigeadh iad am mach a rithist a chluich agus a dh'ithe, no a chadal an gathan blàth na greine a bha soilleseach cho boidheach eadar duilleach dubh-ghorm a' ghiuthais. Sin mar bha gach latha gu na thòisich an duilleach air fas donn, agus a' ghaoth fhuair air séideadh, agus an reothadh geal air comhdach na talmhainn 's a' mhaduinn. Thoisich an sin na feòragan air cruinneachadh chnothan, agus air an cur am falach gu sabhailte ann an tuill agus an sgoltan nan creag.

Thachair air a' bhliadhna sin gu 'n tainig an geamhradh gle thràth, agus mar sin bha na feòragan 'n an cadal mar bu trice, ach thigeadh iad am mach an drasd is a rithist a shireadh bìdh ged nach robh sin sabhailte. Bha na craobhan lom gun duilleach, agus bha na seabhagan agus na piothaidean a' sireadh bìdh cuideachd.

Bha seachdain an deidh seachdain a' dol seachad, agus an talamh geal le sneachd, agus gach latha bha stòr nam feòragan a' fas na bu ghainne, gus mu dheireadh an robh an tasgaidh falamh.

B'eigin dhaibh a bhi cagnadh an rusg de na craobhan, ach bu bhochd am biadh e agus dh'fhàs iad cho lag 's cho truagh 's gur ann a bha iad coltach ri pocanan beaga béin làn chnàmhan. Chaill iad an cadal agus sguir iad de bhi 'mire; agus shuidheadh na còig

feòragan beaga bochda ri taobh na nìd, a' cumail an stùil air a' chloinn a' cluich anns an t-seanachd. Bhùineadh a' chlann do 'n tigh aig ceann shìos na coille, dìthis nighean agus dìthis bhalach. Cìod e cho gnìomhach 's a bha iad, a' sgeadachadh craobh bheag ghiuthais. Bha am meuran luath ealanta a' ceangal ni-eigin air na geugan, agus cha do stad iad de chrochadh gus an robh gach geug air lùbadh le cudthrom an eallaich. Bha na feòragan air bhoil gus am falbhadh a' chlann, oir bha ni-eigin ag innseadh dhaibh gu 'm b'fhìach a' chraobh ghiuthais ud a rannsachadh. Mu dheireidh sud a' chlann air falbh, is iad a' smeideadh ris na feòragan mar gu 'm biodh iad a' toirt cuiridh dhaibh gu cuirm. Cha bu ruith ach leum. Cha bu luaithe bha chlann air falbh na bha na feòragan an sàs anns a' chraoibh, agus cha bu ghannd fèis! Bha cnothan agus ubhlan ann, diasan cruthneachd de gach seorsa, bideagan arain agus cnapan siucair, a h-uile ni bu mhiann le cridhe feòraig.

Aig deireadh na cuirme cha bu ghannd leum is dannsa is cluich. Fad na h-ùine bha a' chlann 'n an crìban air cùl pris, is iad a' faicinn gach ni a bha tachairt agus ag radh ri cheile gu 'r e so a' chraobh Nollaig a b' fhearr a chunnaic iad riamh.

Gach latha an dèidh so thigeadh iad a sgeadachadh na craoibhe, gus mu dheireadh an d'fhàs na feòragan reamhar is d'paidh. An sin thainig an aiteamh, agus bha cnothan am pailteas fo 'n duillich a bha sgapte aig bun nan craobh. Mar sin bha iad toilichte agus gun ghainne gus an tainig an t-Earrach agus pailteas a ris.



**TOBARMHOIRE.**—Bha an taigh-sgoile gu math làn, 'nuair ghabh Iain Camshron (Lochiall) a' chathair aig na cèilidhean air an 21mh là de'n t-Samhuinn agus air an 5mh là de'n Dùdhlachd. Bha buill A' Chomuinn ann am fonn math, agus bha sinn toilichte seinneadair ùr fhaighinn ann an Iain Eideard a tha ùr thighinn do Thobarmhoire. Eadar leughadh, ùr-aithris, cluich comh-labhairt, òrain, ceòl air guth-chliath 's air piano, sgeulachdan; agus "blaomastaireachd" air "Mort Ghlinn-Comhainn," "Na Caimbeulaich," agus "Turus luchd teagaisg gu Amèrica," chaidh oidhcheanan sunndach soirbheasach a chur seachad.

**WICK.**—There was an exceptionally large attendance at the special ceilidh of members and friends of Wick Branch of An Comunn, held in the Academy on Friday evening, 7th December. Mr. Millar presided, and a very enjoyable musical programme was gone through. Solas were rendered by Miss L. Macadie, Mr. Young, Miss K. M'Kenzie, Mrs. Sutherland, Miss Jessie, M'Leod, Mr. Mackenzie (Gaelic songs), and Mr. Urquhart, who also gave a humorous reading. Miss Henderson played delightful violin selections, and the choir rendered a part-song. Tea was served during an interval, and when the ceilidh was resumed several members told appropriate stories or anecdotes, mostly of a humorous character.

## OBITUARY.

This month we mourn the loss of devoted members of An Comunn. The Lady Helen Tod, who passed away on 1st December, took a very active interest in our work. For many years she represented the Atholl Branch on the Executive Council, and she also acted as Convener of the local Committee since the inception of the Perthshire Provincial Mod. In all her efforts for the furtherance of Gaelic matters she was zealous and painstaking, and her example was an inspiration to all who laboured with her in her native county. The passing of Lady Helen Tod is a distinct loss to the Gaelic movement in Perthshire.

Captain Duncan Finlayson, O.B.E., who passed away on 13th December, was one of the Gaelic stalwarts in the Northern District. A native of Lochcarron, he had a distinguished military career as a young man, and shortly after his return to civil life he was appointed Chief Constable of Ross and Cromarty in 1905, with headquarters at Dingwall. A true Gael, he actively interested himself in the activities of the Dingwall Branch, of which he was president. He was convener of the Local Committee in 1931, when the National Mod was held in the town, and the success attained on that occasion was in no small measure due to his zeal and enthusiasm. During the many years he acted as Chief Constable he took a conspicuous part in the public life of the county. He had a warm corner in his heart for his native Gaelic speech, which he encouraged on all possible occasions. His presence will be missed by those who were associated with him in the cause of Tir is Teanga.

It is with deep regret that we refer to the death of Mrs. D. G. Duff, who was more familiarly known as Miss Bessie Campbell. One of our favourite Gaelic singers, she possessed a charming voice, and although resident in Denbigh, Wales, she regularly attended the National Mod, and at Oban, last September, she was one of the many former Gold Medallists who assisted at the Rural Choir Concerts. Many will remember her brilliant characterisation of the part of "Mairead," in the Gaelic play of that name, which was produced at the Glasgow Mod in 1921. An accomplished young lady of engaging personality, her passing away is a great loss to our movement, and to her husband and family we tender our sincere sympathy.

## IAIN MAC COINNICH.

Fear-deasachaidh "Sàr Obair nam bàrd  
Gaidhealach."

*A' Cheud Duais, Mod 1934.*

Le IAIN N. MACLEOD.

### II.

Chan eil fios aig mòran gu robh Iain Mac Coinnich 'n a aon de na daoine a bha ag ullachadh "Cuirtear nan Gleann." Bha fear ris an canadh iad "Tormod Og" 'n a fhear-deasaiche air a' "Chuirtear" combla ri Iain. Bhiodh "Tormod Og" a sgrìobhadh na Gaidhlig a reir fonn gach lididh, agus, a' freagairt gach litir ghnòthuich a bhuineadh do 'n "Chuirtear," agus b' e obair Iain Mhic Coinnich a bhi deasachadh gach sgrìobhadh airson a' chlà.

Is e bàrd a bha an Iain Mac Coinnich, ach ged a chuir e àireamh mhath de bhàrdachd an eagaibh a chéile, chan eil sgiala air aon rànna rinn e. A réir a bheachd fhéin b' e òran gaol a rinn e anns a' bhliadhna 1830 do Mhàiri Sudge, nighean òsdaire a bha an Inbhir-uirge an Gallaibh, aon cho math agus a rinn e. Chuir e an t-òran sin an clò anns a' "Chruiteura," agus bha meas mòr air aig an àm, chan e a mhàin airson snas na bàrdachd a bha ann, ach a chionn gun robh e air a chur air fonn a bha siubhalach cuireadach air bial gach duine anns an là sin. An uair nach robh e ach 'n a bhalach glé òg, rinn e òran do bheart-fhighe a bha aig nàbuidh dha, agus is e mo bharail gun do chlà-bhuiladh an t-òran sin uair eigin anns an "Celtic Magazine."

Beagan ùine mu 'n do chaochail e, bha e gu dripeil ag eadar-theangachadh a' Bhiobuill gu Gaidhlig, ach cha d' fhuair mi mach riamh có an comunn airson an robh e a' deanamh na h-obrach sin, no dé a thachair do an làmh-sgrìobhainn sin.

Theireadh muinntir Ghearrloch gur h-e cho dìon agus a bha e ag obair air eadar-theangachadh a' Bhiobuill gu Gaidhlig a thug briseadh air a shlàinte, ach a réir beachd cuid eile a rinn mion-rannsachadh air cùrsa a bheatha, tha sinn a' tuigsinn gur h-e an t-saothair a ghabh e ri a chuid fhéin de Fhaclair Mhic Ailpein a bhris air a shlàinte gu buileach. An uair nach robh e comasach air cumail air adhart na b' fhaide le a obair, thàinig e dhachaidh gu Gearrloch gu a sheann eòlas, an déidh dha a bhi ceithir bliadhna diag as aonais na dùtcha. Ged a chaidh gach muirn agus càirdeas agus carthannas a nochdadh dha 'n a thinneas le a chàirdean, cha tug sin feabhas sam bith air a chor agus chaochail e an tigh a athar aig Lòn-dubh faisg air Poll-ùt

anns an Lunasdal 1848. Chaidh a thiodh-eacadh am broinn an t-seann t-seipeil an cladh Ghearrloch, agus a chionn còrr agus trì fichead bliadhna thogadh carragh-cuimhne eireachdail air an uaigh aige, mar chomharradh air spéis nan Gaidheal do a obair as leth ar cànan agus ar ciuil. Am measg nan Gaidheal còire a rinn ullachadh airson airgid a thionail airson a' charragh-cuimhne aige, bha an Rìdèir Coinneach Mac Coinnich Ghearrloch; Tearlach Frisale Mac an Toisich; Osgood Mac Coinnich, Inbhir-iu; Iain Mac Aoidh, Shrewsbury; An t-Ollamh Mac Ghille Dhuibh agus Domhnall Mac Griogair, Lunnainn.

Bha Iain Mac Coinnich meanbh 'n a bhodhaig, le falt bàn agus aodann caol, snaidhte, glasneulach, agus eadhon o a òige bha a choimhearsnaich ag amharc air mar dhuine a bha sònruichte an iomadh dòigh am measg a choimhearsnaich. Fhuair e mòran allabain agus an-sheagaireachd an uair a bha e a' siubhal thall agus a bhos an tòir air bàrdachd agus seachasan, agus gabhadh e creidsinn nach do chuidich sin le a shlàinte, ach bha a dhéidh air an obair a ghabh e os làimh cho mòr agus gu robh e a' cur a shlàinte fhéin an suarachas gach là na'm faigheadh e òran agus sgiala air a shlighe am measg muinntir a' chlachain. Gun teagamh bha mòran 'n a là ag amharc air mar dhearg amadan, a chionn gun biodh e a' siubhal nam fiadhlaichean a' cruinneachadh bàrdachd dhìomhain agus sgialachdan faoine, ach bu bheag an dragh a bha am beachd sin a' cur airson.

Bha teanga gheur sgaitheach aig Iain, agus is iomadh uair a thug sin àbhachdas am measg na cuideachd anns am biodh e. Bha e air feasgar àraidh an tigh air choreigin, agus thàinig nighean an tigh a steach as an tobar le cuinneig uisge, "An do thuit an oidheche, a Cheit?" arsa h-athair rithe. "Thuit: tha i dìreach an déidh tuiteam," arsa Ceit. Sheall Iain oirre agus e a' leigeadh air gu robh e am imcheist, a bha mòr. "Gun gléidh an sealb sinne," arsa e san: "cìod e a dh'eireas dhuinn? C' àite an do thuit i?"

An uair a bha Iain Mac Coinnich a' siubhal troimh eileanan Innse-Gall a' cruinneachadh bàrdachd airson "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd Gaidhealach," thachair dha a bhi oidheche am Port-rìgh. Bha e aig an aon àm a' cruinneachadh airgid a' phaipeir-naidheachd "Inverness Courier," agus air an fheasgar ud chuir e na fhuair e de airgid a' phaipeir sin do 'n tigh-réidh am Port-rìgh, agus dh' iarr fear an tigh-réidh air fuireach combla ris fhéin ré na h-oidheche sin. Ghabh Iain ris a' chuireadh, agus mu ìosal fheasgar chaidh e sìos cuairt a dh' ionnsuidh laimhrig Phort-rìgh. Bha còta mòr fada air a bha

ruigheachd sìos gu a shàilean, agus bho e 'n a fhasan aige an còmhnaidh a bhì sealltuinn mu 'n cuairt da, agus gu tric suas do na speuran, agus shaoileadh neach nach robh eòlach air gu robh mòran de dhìth-cèille air. An uair a ràinig e an laimhrig, chunnaic e soitheach air acaire an sin, agus cumadh boirionnach air a toiseach. Cha do thog Iain a shùil dhìth, agus mu dheireadh thuir e captein ris, "Nach' eil i da-rìreamh 'n a boirionnach briagha!" "Gun teagamh tha," arsa Iain, "b' fhearr leam gu ceicadh tu rium i." "Is fhearr dhuit an soitheach a cheannach," arsa an captein. "Chan urrainn mi," arsa Iain; "chan e na h-uile duine a bhiodh comasach air an soitheach sin a cheannach, agus is e am boirionnach a tha air a toiseach a tha mise ag iarraidh." Chum an captein air tarraing as, agus dhùil aige gur h-e leth amadan a bha ann. "Is iomadh duine a chunnaic mi le còta a bu ghiorra na thu fhéin leis am bu mhiann a ceannach," arsa an captein. "Ma tha," arsa Iain, "bu mhiann leam a ceannach air sgàth a bhoirionnach a tha air a toiseach. Bheil luchd agad innte?" "Tha," arsa an captein: "Tha coig ciad bolta mine innte agus dé bheir thu oirre?" "Is leamsa i," arsa Iain, "airson trì chlad pinn Sasunnach," agus leam e air bord, agus thig e agus sìos coig pinn Sasunnach mar urras air bialamh a' chaithean. Is ann an uair sin a thug an captein nach robh fear a ghnòthaich cho gorm agus a bha e am beachd, agus dh' fhoighnich e de aon de na seoldairean an robh beachd aige gum biodh airgid aig Iain. "Faodaidh tu bhì cinnteach gu bheil," arsa an seoldair, "mu 'n d' fhàg e coig pinn Sasunnach agad." Chaidh Mac Coinnich air ball air ais agus dh' innis e do fhear an tigh-réidh gun cheannaich e an soitheach mar bha i airson trì cheud pinn Sasunnach, agus gun d' fhag e coig pinn aig a' chaithean mar urras. Dh' aithich Iain nach robh airgid aige a phàigheadh air a son, ach gum b' fhiach an luchd a bha innte còrr agus na thairg e oirre. Rinn fear an tigh-réidh suas a inntinn gun ceannaicheadh e fhéin an soitheach, agus gun toireadh e suim mhath do Mhac Coinnich airson a bhì cho dealasach. Chaidh iad air ball far an robh an captein, agus thairg iad na trì cheud pinn Sasunnach a thoirt dha air a bhois. Chaidh an captein 'n a bhoil gu h-uamhasach, agus dh' iarr e gun gabhadh iad a lethsgial airson a bhì cho gòrach agus gun deanadh e cumha gu soitheach nach bu leis fhéin a reic, agus mu dheireadh thairg e trì fichead pinn Sasunnach a thoirt do Mhac Coinnich na'n leigeadh e seachad a chòir air an t-soitheach. Rinn Mac Coinnich sin, agus cha do ghabh e sgillinn de na thairg an captein

dha, ach thuir e ris nach bu chòir dha beachd amadan a ghabhail air duine sam bith gus a faigheadh e aobhar ceart airson sin.

Bha inntinn bhreithneachail, thuigseach, gheurhaiseach, aig Iain Mac Coinnich, chan e mhàin a thaobh ghnòthaichean a bhuineadh do chàin air do cheòl na Gaidhlig, ach a thaobh a bheachdan air creideamh agus cràbhadh cuideachd. Bhiodh e gu tric a' sgrìobhadh shearmonan an Gaidhlig do mhinistearan nach robh comasach air Gaidhlig a sgrìobhadh, agus tha Alasdair Mac Coinnich a bha 'n a fhear-deasachdair air an "Celtic Magazine" ag ràdh gun do leugh ean cuid de na searmonan sin, agus gun tigeair uatha nach robh sràd de spiorad cumhann an là anns an robh e beò fuaighte idir ri Mac Coinnich. Bha e uair aig Orduighean an coimhthional àraidh anns a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus thuir e gu robh e air a ghnòthachadh a chridhe an uair a bha e cluinntinn uamhasan an lagha agus na h-ifrinn air an searmonachadh an àite gràdh agus bàidh Chrìosda ri peacaich. "Tha mi ag amharc air an seòrsa searmonachaidh sin," arsa ean, "mar thobbeum an aghaidh m' Athar Nèamhaidh. Gu de cho an-ìochdmhor agus a tha Dia air a dheanamh leotha. Is e Dia a' ghaol aig an t-samhraidh a tha 'n a mo Dhia-sa. Is e mo dhiabhal a dheanainns de 'n t-seorsa De a tha iad a' searmonachadh dhùinn."

Is e so cunntas beag cearbach air beatha agus obair Iain Mhic Coinnich Ghearrloch. Chan eil e idir soirbh mòran iomraidh fhaighinn an leabhraichean Gaidhlig no Beurla air a bheatha agus a shaothair fhéin-àicheil as leth ar càin air agus ar ciùil, agus rinn mise gach rannsachadh a b' urrainn domh airson gum biodh an cunntas so cho eagnuidh agus a ghabhadh e deanadh. Cha d' fhuair mi forbhais air aon chunntas a sgrìobhadh an Gaidhlig mu a obair, rud a tha glé neonach. Ged a rinn e na rinn e ann an cur àirde air a' Ghaidhlig, is mòr m' eagal gu bheil an linn anns a bheil sinn beò a' deanamh dearmaid air a bhì meòrachadh uime, Gun teagamh faodaidh e bhì gu bheil iomrallan cainte agus cunntasan nach eil eagnuidh an clò "Sàr Obair nam Bàrd Gaidhealach," ach dé dheanamaid mur biodh an leabhar so againn airson a bhì 'g a rannsachadh agus 'g a cheartachadh. Chaidh esan gu uchd a dhìchill ann a bhì cruinneachadh bàrdachd agus seanchas anns gach àite. Rinn e na dh' fhaodadh e, agus an d' rinn cuid a dh' fhaodas coire fhaighinn do a shaothair an roinn fhéin ann a bhì dioghlam am fion-lios na càin mar a rinn ean? Sin a' cheist. Ach an cridhe nam fìor Ghaidheal bith cuimhne Iain Mhic Coinnich maireannach fhad 's a bhuaileas tonn ri tràigh.

## LAMENT FOR THE CHAMPIONS OF THE RED BRANCH.

Song of curlew,  
Shrill and lonely,  
Found an echo in my ears:  
Western breakers,  
Seething fiercely,  
Roused my spirit's deepest fears.  
In the gloaming  
By a peat-fire,  
On the shores of Alba's sea,  
Keltic mists  
Of gloomy portent  
Cast o'er me their glamourie.  
Fifty druids,  
Clad in snow-white,  
Tresses stirred by evening's breeze,  
Chaunted low  
The song of Connar,  
'Neath the grove of sacred trees.  
Emain Macha!  
Home of heroes!  
Dwelling-place of Connar's band,  
Proudly rise  
Thy towers and castles  
O'er the fair Ultonian land.  
Nobly went  
Thy hosts to battle  
'Gainst the wild Galwegian Queen:  
Never since  
Have men so mighty  
In Erin or in Alba been.  
Emain Macha!  
Home of minstrels!  
Song and feast dwelt in thy halls:  
Oft the wandering  
Bard has tarried  
'Neath thy hospitable walls.  
Gladly has  
The clarsach sounded,  
Gaily passed the ruby wine;  
Never more  
Shall be in Gaeldom  
Noble feasts the like of thine.  
Emain Macha,  
Woe came to thee  
On that day when Connar viewed,  
With eyes of love,  
The fair Deirdre,  
Singing in the sacred wood.  
Snow-white breasts,  
And eyes like sapphire,  
Hair like rays of Leigh's bright car,  
Cheeks like roses,  
Grown midst lillies:  
For these did Connar go to war.

Fell the glorious  
Sons of Úsnach:  
Fell Cuchullain, brave and free:  
Fiacha, Illain,  
Connal, Fergus,  
For the love of Deirdre.  
Emain Macha!  
Home of silence!  
Mourn 'st thou for thy mighty dead?  
Mound of memory,  
Stripped of glory,  
Whence all youth and life has fled!  
Lament, ye bards,  
For Emain Macha,  
Pour forth its swan-song o'er the lea:  
The champions  
Of the brand of Ulster  
Never more shall Erin see!  
The seabird's cry  
Awakened me early.  
I cast my plaid upon the sand,  
And watched the ray  
Of heaven's glory,  
Gilding the far Ultonian land.  
WM. A. S. FLOOD.

## TOBAR A' CHINN.

Le A. BUDGE MACASKILL,  
Doncaster.

(*A' Cheud Duais, Mod 1933.*)

Air latha geal samhraidh thàinig Fear an Rudha a mach as a thigh agus thug e sùil mu'n cuairt. Bha an saoghal uile seimh, ciùin; na lusan 'nan cadal fo bhlàths na gréine air nach robh neul dorcha a' cur sgàile; a' mhuir mar sgàthan fìor-ghlan do na beanntalbh gorma. Shìos ri taobh na mara bha a chuid spréidhe ag ionaltradh, na cuileagan an dràsda agus a rithist 'gan gluasad am measg an rainich 's an fhraoich. Air sliabh na beinne bha na caoraich fo thàmh an dubhar chlachan is chreagan, am beagan a bha ann diubh, oir cha robh na caoraich air teachd do'n Ghàidhealtachd gu léir fhathast. 'Sann a thigheadh e steach air neach nach robh peacadh no mì-rùn ri tachairt riutha anns a' phàrras bheag a bha so.

Thionndaidh e agus thug e a chlaidheamh agus a bhiodag a nuas o'n bhalla. Theannaich e a bhàrran mu chasan agus a bhoineid mu cheann. Bha e mar so greis 'ga aodachadh fhéin. Chuir an ablach mnatha aige a ceann a mach air an doras:—

“C'ait am bheil thu togail oirre a nis?”

"Rud nach innis mi 'n diugh cha n-aithris thu màireach."

Cha do chuir so athadh air a' bhoirionnach: bha i cleachdte ri nithean doirbhe. Cha n-atharraicheadh i dath ged a bheireadh a mac dhachaidh marbh air targaid na'm biodh mac aice, rud nach robh 's cha bhiodh e coltach gu'm biodh tuilleadh. Thug i sùil air a' choisiche 's e leum gu h-easgaidh thar an alltan bhig a' ruith aig ceann an tighe, agus chunnaic i an claidheamh ri 'shliasaid. Chan ann tric a dh' fhalbhadh e uidheamaichte mar sud, gun fàth a thurus innsheadh dhi, ach nach robh e air fàs neònach bho chionn mhiosan air ais 's gur gan a theireadh e facal rithe? 'S coma dhise ciamar a dh' fhalbhadh no thigeadh e; na'n èireadh dàdha rachadh i glé ealamh do thaigh a bràthar air Rudha Shléibhte. C'arson a bhiodh dragh air neach air latha grianach mar so, a' ghrian a' boillsgeadh gu séimh 's a' mhuir mar ghloine, Sgurr Alasdair le caochladh dhathan 'n sheasamh shuas air a cùlaobh is e an iompais faclan coibhneil a labhairt. Thall air an fhaireg chitear Rùm agus Canaidh agus Uibhist nan eun 'n an suidhe air a' mhachair loinnrich. B'ailidh an sealladh a bha sgaoilte fa chomhar a sùla.

Fhad agus a bha a' bhean 'n a seasamh mar so bha Fear an Rudha a' deanamh adhartais mhaith air a thurus. B'aotrom a cheum; leum e o thom gu tom le lùths nan eang, a thargaid a' bocail air a' dhruim 's a' bhreacan a' seideadh a mach 'na dhéidh mar sheòl luinge. Cha do chuir alltan stad air, rachadh e thairis orra mar nach biodh iad idir ann. Cha robh a leth bhreac 's an dùthaich airson astar a chur 'na dhéidh. Bha e àrd 'na phearsa agus domhain 's a' bhroilleach, 'n a' dhuine deanta. Air a' ghualainn bha a' bhreacan air a' thigeadh an dòigh choma ach bha eileadh crochte gu snasmhor mu mheadhon. Do dhùine greis uaithe bha e maiseach ri ambarc air. An uair a' thigeadh neach dlùth mhiannaicheadh e bhi còmhla ri fear 's an bith eile. Bha aogas an duine fhada so 'na chùis eagail. Os cionn a' shùla bha lorg de bhuille trom a' bhlaír. An uair a' thigeadh corruich air, ni a' thachradh tric, dh' fhàsadh an làrach so dearg, an sin dubhghorm. Air fheusaig cha tàinig ealtuinn bho iomadh latha; rud nach robh annasach 's an latha bh' ann, ach bha i so cho peallach, mar chaor'-uan a' gheibheadh droch gheamhradh. Bha i cuideachd salach. Bha a' dhead a' dhith dà fhiaicail agus air uairean thigeadh e smugaid troimh an bhearna air na badan fraoich a' fas ri taobh a' cheuma.

Chum e air. Thàinig e fadheòidh suas ri taobh an locha is faicear sin mar sgàthan soilleir air a' chuartheadh le beanntan

gorm is dearg. 'S e bh' anns an loch so ach ribe do'n mharachaie, le beul farsuinn, fosgailte ri siantan a' Chuain Shiair. Air an latha gheal so bha an loch sìobhalta, ciùin is chitheadh an coisiche na meallan geala far an robh an t-uisge staoin. Bha an sùlaire agus an lach ag gabhail foise air uachdar an uisge an déidh ann bronnach a' shàsachadh. Bha gach ni sàmhach agus sìtheil, gun fhuaim gun duine r'a fhaicinn thall no bhos. Bhuineadh an latha do Thìr nan Og.

Cha robh Domhnall Dubh a' toirt fainear àilleachd na dùthcha no ribheid nan eun. Dhasan bha dorachdas air aghaidh nan speur agus tuigh dorachdas air an talamh. Chan e nach robh coire aige fhéin mar a bha inntinn: bha e air fàs ro-mhiannach air mac na braiche. Nach ann an raoir fhéin a chuir e crioich air na bha anns an t-soitheach, agus Màiri, an àite stòras a bhi aice an cùil an tighe, 's ann a' thuirg i gu dalma ris gun' do dhi-chuimhnich i tuilleadh fhaotainn an latha bha i 's an Aird. Air anam fhéin, 's beag nach tug e dhi an toll na cluaise i. Nighean a' choin, mur sealladh esan di mus èireadh a' ghrian air seachdain eile. Chan e mhàin sin ach bha an aghaidh aice ag innsheadh dha gu robh Fear a' Ghlinne gun tàmh air a' chuid mhonaidh le dà mhadadh, 's na coraich aige lag an déidh a' bhreith. Chan fhóghnadh sin. Bha amharus mhath aige gu robh a' chuid sheirbhiseach glé ainneamh as eugmhais feòil chaorach. Leth na truaighe, nach e creutairean bha air an cuairteachadh le meirle is anastachd 's an latha a bh' ann. Na'n tachradh esan ri Fear a' Ghlinne shealladh e cleas eile dha air cho uasal 's a bha e.

Chum e air gu lùthmhor, gun bhoinne falluis air aodann ged bha an latha air fàs teth. Na'm bu mhiann leis bheireadh e air a' ghaoith luath mhàirt a bha air thoiseach air: ach a' ghaoth luath mhàirt a bha air dheireadh air cha bheireadh i air. Cha tug e sùil 'na dhéidh no air thaobh ach roimhe. Mu mheadhon latha suidhear sios air cloich os cionn na slihe agus sàsichear iota 's an tobar fhiorghlan a' brùchdadh a mach as a' chreig agus a' tuiteam le ceòl binn sìos air na leacan. Ghabh e greimean de aran coirce as an sporan agus deoch de'n stuth làidir, rud mu dheireadh a bha aige, droch dhìol oirre-se a dh' fhàg e stigh. Shocruch e' ghuallean air a' chloich ri cùl gaoithe is aodann gréine. Thug e sùil le leathad. Shìos 's an uisge bha an sealgair tèoma bior-shuileach, an dòbhran donn, ag cluich 's an uisge ghorm gun tonn a' thogail air an uachdar mhìn.

"Nach b'e an t-iasgair e," ars' esan ris féin.



Bha fuaim an t-saoghail balbh, gun fhead air raon, gun luinneag 's a' bhuaile. Bha an sàmhchar agus teas na gréine 'ga thàladh.

Bha Fear a' Ghlinne a' gabhail sràide mu na crìochan agus b'esan an curaidh le iteig 'na bhòineid, claidheamh is biodag a' dearrsadh 'n uair bheireadh e sèintag thar alltan. Bha e 'na dhuine ard, maiseach, gradh nan òighean: bhùineadh e do shliochd nan ceann-feadhna, 'fhalt cho dubh ris an fhitheach 's a shùilean mar an t-adhar gorm.

Ràinig e mullach beinne agus choimhid e chun na làimhe clìthe far am faiceadh e tigh Dhomhnuill Dhuibh a' sealltuinn a mach air éigin troimh an raineach a bha a' fas tiugh thall air Gob an Rudha. Bha ceò an t-simileir ag éiridh suas dìreach agus chitear beathach mairt nò dhà ag ionaltradh shìos fo an taigh. "Marbhaig," ars' esan, "air fhéin 's air na th' aige. Nam faiceadh e an diugh mi cha bhiodh e ach dìombach dhìom 's mi toirt sùla air a' mhaoin. Chan eil teagamh nach tionndaidheadh e orm le claidheamh athar, is e tha aige an dràsda ma's fìor m' fhiosrachadh. Matà, cha b' e sin an t-àgh; 's iomadh claigneann a sgàin e aig bun Mhàrseo là thàinig fir Shleibhte. Airson sin dheth! Chan fhada gus an rùisgeadh e an lann fhathast agus sin ormsa 'n m' faigheadh e an cothrom."

A' brùndail mar so ris féin theàrnaich e sìos agus chuir e aghaidh air an taigh.

Cha robh fhios aige. Bha e 'deanamh dìreach air Fear an Rudha far an robh e 'na shìneadh 'sa dhà làimh 'nan taice ri cùl a chinn. Thàinig e gu mullach bearraidh 's faicear an cruth mòr duaichnidh ud 'na shìneadh, a dhruim ri cloich, a chasan mòra am falach 's an fhraoch. Bhuail crith oilt e. Thàinig fallus air aodann. Ghabh e ceum nò dhà air ais, agus bu mhiann leis cromadh.

Ach bha an cron air a chur an gnìomh cheana. Bha e eadar solus na gréine agus Domhnall Dubh. Thug so an aire do'n dubhar agus thug e sùil air speur airson neul uisge. Am prìobadh na sùla chunnaic e an treun-fhear air a' bhruaich, a' deasachadh airson cruaidh chòmhraig. A dhearg nàmhaid!

Leum e air a bhonn.

Sheall an dà abharsair air a chéile, sùil lasrach gorm ri sùil dhorch' a' chorruch. Mo thruaighe dhasan a sheasadh eatorra!

Arsa Fear an Rudha 's e 'na sheasamh air an àit ìosal, "A mhic a' choin 's ann duit bu dual a bhì 'g èaladh air daoine. Ach mur dìol thusa an diugh airson mo chuid chaorach agus bàs mo bhràthar cha chuir mi aghaidh air Rudha na's mó. Thig a nuas

agus dìon thu fhéin oir cho cinnteach 's a tha an dòrn-chur am làimh ma theid thu as 's ann air éigin."

Dh' fhàs fear na h-iteige bàn le dian fheirg.

"A thrusdair gun nàire, cha d' fhuair mi dùlan riamh nach do sheas mi. Seas a mach agus sin!"

Bha iad air beulaobh a chéile, a' bhiodag 's an làimh chli, an claidheamh 's an làimh dheis.

"Sin agad dhuit!"

Ruith an dà stàilinn ri chéile le sgreadraich a dhùisg am fìtheach dubh as a' chreig 's a chuir air iteig e.

"Faic e! Faic e! Nì e shuipeir dhìot!"

"A chealgair," arsa Fear a' Ghlinne, "an ann airson m' aire thoirt air falbh a tha thu?"

Is le sin rinn e sàthadh air broilleach an fhir eile leis an lann loinnrich. Chuir esan an targaid gu sgoibalta eadar i agus e. Is beag nach d'fhan bàrr a' chladheimh 's an leathar chruaidh. Leum Fear a' Ghlinne air ais agus thilg e air thaobh sàthadh a rinn Fear an Rudha airsan le claidheamh athar. Rinn a' bhiodag ràn suas air oir a' chladheimh a chluinneadh air taobh thall an locha 's a thog na sùlairean bhàrr an uisge. Chreachadh sàmhchar na dùthcha gu tur: is thionndaidh sùil gach gnè 's an éisdeachd air an dà dhuine nimheil a bha ri miannan 's ri mallachadh am bàs chòmhraig air leathad an fhraoich.

Mhair iad a' snaidheadh chnàmh is chuislean mar so gus an robh an cridhe a' tréigsinn 's an sleagh a' leantuin ri làimh. Uair de na h-uairean ghabh Fear a' Ghlinne ceum air ais is e, mar b' fhìor, a' dol a thoirt a chuir as an fhear eile. Thàinig a shàil air toman fraoich agus bha e air a dhruim dìreach, 's a cheann sìos le bruthaich.

"Faire! Faire! Mhic Dhomnuill Dhuibh 's mo cheann"—thàinig an claidheamh mòr a nuas, dh' fhàg an ceann na gearlaine is chuir e car is car dheth sìos do'n tuair. "Mo cheann le bruthaich," shaoil leis a' mhortair gu'n dubhairt an ceann.

Bha am fraoch badanach gorm a nis dearg, am poll dubh air teachd an uachdar. Bha a' ghrian a' cromadh sìos do'n Iar, agus na h-èòin bheaga a' pasgadh an sgiathan fo dhrùchd an anmoich. Bha an ceileireadh a nis air fàs fann, gach nì sinte air leabaidh taimh.

Sheall Domhnall Dubh suas gu h-àrd air na h-èòin dhubha do nach b'aithe fois, fithich dhubha an fhàsaich.

Bha e sgìth, acrach agus fuil nàbuidh air a làmhan.

Ach nach do mharbh e a bhrathair?

Chrom e sìos agus le badan feòir shìn e air glanadh na fala o 'n lann.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES.

On a recent evening I had the pleasure of renewing acquaintance with many old Edinburgh friends. The occasion was a lecture on "Highland Music," which I delivered to the members of the Celtic Union. Many prominent personalities were present, including the Earl of Cassillis, who presided. One of the most enjoyable features of the meeting was the opportunity it provided before and after the lecture for a little talk with those who take an active interest in our work.

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As would naturally be expected, the subject of the National Mod was one of the topics to be referred to. The Edinburgh Gaels, I may say, are looking forward with keen anticipation to this big event. The various committees are actively engaged with the necessary preparations, and an interesting series of social functions are being arranged. Among these is a concert at which all the Gaelic choirs in the South and South West that competed at the Oban Mod are expected to give a choral demonstration in the Usher Hall. This will be a most attractive event and there is no doubt that such a function will attract a large company of those interested in our native music.

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For some years past, Gaelic continuation classes have been held under the auspices of the Edinburgh Education Committee. These classes have always been well attended and this session a large number of pupils are taking advantage of the instruction given by Mr. Calum Johnstone, who, like his sister, Miss Annie Johnstone, president of the newly-formed branch at Castlebay, Barra, is ever active in the cause we represent. This class should appeal to those in the city who intend taking part in the Mod competitions.

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It is surprising the number of Gaelic classes that are now being promoted in districts where interest in Highland matters might be least expected. This year, classes have been formed at Ardrossan and Largs, and it is gratifying to note that a large number of students are in regular attendance. We are also indebted to our branches at Dumbarton, Balloch, and Dumfries, and to our affiliated societies in Motherwell and Paisley, for promoting similar classes. Mention should also be made of all the classes in Glasgow and district, and our

thanks are accorded to those ladies and gentlemen who so ungrudgingly give of their time for this work.

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A few days ago I was engaged in the Criarlach district, where my services were requested to assist the local branch to secure someone to give instruction in Gaelic, and I am pleased to announce that the Rev. Christopher MacKinnon, M.A., has agreed to teach the words of songs as a preliminary to a Gaelic class next session. The local headmaster, Mr. MacDiarmid, who is in complete sympathy with the movement, has already formed a Junior Gaelic Choir.

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While referring to Gaelic songs, we cannot too highly commend the example of the Lewis branches. For several years a special sub-committee, appointed by the branch at Stornoway, has been busily engaged collecting unpublished and lesser-known songs throughout the island. They have now gathered quite a number of "duanagan," waulking songs and puit-a-beul, which will make a collection worthy of the island. Before proceeding with the publication, a series of recitals will be given at different centres, and at one of these a luadhadh is being organised, and the songs heard throughout this demonstration will all be unpublished. There are several other districts in the Highlands where many old sgeulachdan and unpublished songs are still to be found. It would be a service of real value if our branches in these areas would interest themselves, like our friends in Lewis, in this work. In this connection, we may mention that there is a special competition in the Mod syllabus for collections of unpublished Gaelic vocal music, while in the literary and oral sections, competitions are included for those interested in historical and legendary lore.

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Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser, has just returned from the west side of Lewis, where his special mission was to arrange music classes. He was received with enthusiasm everywhere and he had a splendid series of meetings. It is hoped to send a teacher there early in the New Year. While in Lewis, he was informed that several members of the Aird branch were rehearsing a Gaelic play, for presentation at an early date. The author is a young native of the village, and competent judges look upon this piece as a very praiseworthy effort.

The Northern Sub-Committee have already commenced to make preparations for the Provincial Mods to be held in their area. The dates of several of these have already been fixed. The Badenoch Provincial Mod takes place at Grantown-on-Spey, on 3rd April; the Lochaber Mod at Fort William, on 3rd May; East Sutherland Mod, which has been extended to include the Parish of Assynt, on 7th June, at Brora; the Lewis Mod at Stornoway, on 20th and 21st June; the Skye Mod, at Portree, on 25th and 26th June, and the South West Ross Provincial Mod on 28th June, at Kyle.

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The final issue of the Mod syllabus is now ready and copies may be had on application. This year, the Celtic Art section includes a design for the cover of the Mod programme. There is also continued the competition for the full size drawing of whole or part of any old Celtic sculptured stone to which competitors may have access. It is hoped that members of branches will interest themselves in this competition by submitting examples where such are available. Provision is made for those interested in metal work, while there are also two competitions for needlework. In all cases, it may be mentioned that the design, which must be of Celtic character, is left to the choice of the competitor.

\* \* \*

A new competition for a manuscript setting of a traditional Gaelic folk song for the clarsach, either as an accompaniment to the voice or as a solo for the instrument, is included this year. The settings submitted must preserve the modal feeling and character of the original melody. The closing date for entries in this particular competition is 4th June, 1935.

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I would like to remind our members that there is still a quantity of the Celtic Post Cards in stock. These cards, which were specially printed by the Art and Industry Committee, illustrate one of the prize-winning designs at the Glasgow Mod. They are sold in penny packets of ten cards, a price which compares very favourably with the ordinary plain card. It would be appreciated if members would direct the attention of their friends to these, and might we suggest that they would form an excellent medium of introducing Celtic art to those who may not be familiar with this native form of ornamentation. Any quantity desired will be supplied from An Comunn office.

It may not be generally known that there is also a large selection of Celtic art designs in transfer in the office. The series of illustrations which they embrace set forth art examples from a large number of authentic sources, and it will be found that these designs are very suitable for use in embroidery work. The motifs offer a wide variety of subjects, which may be used for the decoration of many objects in such spheres of art handicraft as wood-carving, leather and metal work. A special leaflet has been prepared to illustrate these designs, and a copy may be had on application.

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It was very pleasing to hear our Royal Patron, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, when speaking at the annual dinner of the Royal Scottish Corporation, London, say that he had tried to learn Gaelic as he had tried to learn the pipes. "The Gaelic," he said, "is a great language." In studying Gaelic, he is following the example of King Edward the Seventh, who was undergoing Gaelic instruction when at Balmoral and Windsor, and it was said of him that he was a very apt pupil. His tutor was an Ardgour youth, who was then studying for the Church, and later became parish minister at Ardnamurchan and then Laggan, where our ex-president, Rev. Neil Ross, C.B.E., D.Litt., B.D., is the present incumbent. His name was Donald Macfadyen, and a beautiful obelisk stands to his memory in Laggan cemetery, with the inscription entirely in Gaelic.

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I am glad to announce that, in response to an appeal in our last issue for shinties for the members of Comunn na h-Oigridh in Castlebay School, Barra, these children are to have their "camain." The donor of this gift is the Ard Cheannard of Comunn na h-Oigridh, Mr. George E. Marjoribanks. His generosity will be greatly appreciated by these young isles folk.

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It was rather unfortunate that Mr. Marjoribanks was unable to attend the Clann an Fhraoich Ceilidh. His presence as "Fear na Cathrach" is always looked forward to at these friendly gatherings. Mr. Marjoribanks was a victim of the rather prevalent "flu," but with his undoubted enthusiasm for his duties in connection with Comunn na h-Oigridh, he turned his indisposition to profit by commencing the study of Welsh. He has now progressed so far as to be able to read the reports of the Welsh Comunn na h-Oigridh, which has been in existence for some time.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Air an naodhamh là fichead de'n t-Samhuinn chaidh am Fear Deilbhe do Eilean Leòdhais a chur a chuairt bhliadhnaill air na meuran. Chumadh ceilidhean an Steòrnabhagh, an Airde 's an Rudha agus an Carlabhagh, agus bha àireamh math cruinn aig gach coinneimh. As a dheidh sin chumadh coinneamhan air taobh siar an Eilean aig Siadar, Barbhas, Lional, Bràgar agus Siabost. Aig gach coinneamh dhiubh sin bha na tìgean sgoile loma-làn agus leig iad ris do'n Fhear Dheilbhe gu'n robh iad aontaichte gu'm biodh e iomchuidh gu'n cuireadh An Comunn Fear-teagaisg ciùil do'n taobh a siar an deidh na Bliadhna Uire. Gheall Mgr. MacPhàil an gnothach so a thoirt fa chomhar Frith-Chomhairle na h-Airde Tuath aig a' cheud chothrom.

Thill am Fear Deilbhe á Leòdhas air Di-sathuirne agus air feasgar Di-Iuan bha e a' frithealadh aig coinneimh an Druimbeag, taobh a siar Chataibh; air Di-màirt an Stòr agus air Di-ciadain an Loch an Inbhir. Tha pailteas Gaidhlig anns na h-ionadan sin agus bha ceilidhean aighearach anns gach baile. Air Diordoin chumadh coinneamh 's an Luirg ach cha robh a' chuideachd cho lionmhor 's a bu mhath leinn. Chaidh ullachadh a dheanamh gu cuirm-chiùil a chumail aig toiseach na bliadhna.

Air Di-haoine bha Mgr. MacPhàil an lathair aig a' cheud cheilidh de'n t-seisein an Inbhir-garadh. Bha an talla cho làn 's a chumadh i agus bha ceilidh thogarrach ann. Bha e taitneach grunnan cho mòr de'n òigridh fhaicinn cruinn.

Air an ath latha, Di-sathuirne, chumadh coinneamh de'n Chomhairle Thuathach agus bha deich de na buill an lathair, agus am Fear Gairme, Mgr. Domhnall MacDhomhnaill, anns a' chathair.

Thug am Fear Deilbhe iomradh air a chuairtean bho'n choinnich a' Chomhairle mu dheireadh agus chaidh gabhail ris an iomradh. Thug e iomradh mar an ceudna air obair an luchd-teagaisg ciùil. Tha Mairearad NicDhomhnaill a' teagasg ceithir cròileanan am Baideanach; Bhaltar Ros agus coig cròileanan aige fo a chùram an Cataibh agus Iain MacDhomhnaill e ceithir cròileanan 's an Eilean Sgitheanach. An deidh na Bliadhna Uire bidh Iain MacDhomhnaill a' dol gu taobh a siar Leòdhais far am bheil se sgoilean seinn a' fiteamh air. Bidh Mairearad NicDhomh-

naill a' togail oirre gu dùthaich a' Phrionnsa-Morar is Arasaig, agus bidh Bhaltar Ros a' teagasg mu thimchioll Caol Loch Aillse.

Tha Mgr. MacPhàil aig an àm so air chuairt an Cataibh agus an uair a chriochnaicheas e anns na cearnaidhean sin bidh e a' dol do Uibhist a reiteachadh cùisean fa chomhar Féill nan Dealbh-chluichean.

### An Airde Deas.

Choinnich a' Chomhairle Dheasach air feasgar Di-màirt, an ochdamh là deug de'n Dùdhlachd. Bha am Fear Gairme, Mgr. Donnchadh MacCaluim, anns a' chathair.

Leughadh fathunn bho'n Rùnaire air a chuairt do Ile agus do'n Chrithionn-làraich far an do rinn e ullachadh leis an Rùnaire ionadail fa chomhar coinneamhan Gaidhlig is ciuil.

Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air Féill nan Dealbhan-cluiche agus chuireadh Fo-chomhairle air bonn a sgrùdadh nan Dealbhan-cluiche a tha cheana an clòdh agus a dheanamh roghainn de earrannan a fhreagairt do riaghailtean nan co-fharpais. Is iad buill na Fo-Chomhairle so Mgrn. Donnchadh MacCaluim, Eachann Mac Dhughail, Eoghann MacThòreadail agus an Rùnaire.

Tha a' Mhgn. NicMhàrtainn a' teagasg an Arainn, agus tha Mgr. Iain MacIomhair a' teagasg an Tìriodh.

### Sgeul Bheag.

Coltach ri iomadh bàrd eile bha Domhnall na Camairt, bàrd Uibhisteach, a bha beo bho chionn ceud bliadhna air ais, glé bhochd 'na chrannchur. Thainig cùisean cho cruaidh aig aon àm agus nach b'urrainn e am màl a phaigheadh.

Thuir an t-uachdaran ris nach tìgeadh air am màl a liubhairt na'n cuireadh e a chuid de'n t-saoghal an aon cheathramh òrain. B'ann mar so a fhreagair am bard:—

“ Mise an dara Domhnallan,  
Domhnall a chinn bhàin,  
Tha bean is leanabh lag agam,  
'Pat' is 'Mairead Bhàn';  
Bo chrom, bo dhonn is dò-bhliadhnach,  
Lothag òg is làir,  
Sin iad uile air an cunntas  
Leis an rùta air an t-Sròin Bhàin.”

Faodar innseadh gu'm b'e "Pat" ainm a' choin agus "Mairead" ainm a' chait. Tha ogha Dhomhnaill Mhic Ghilleathain so beò slàn an Cladach a' Bhaile Shear fhathast agus tha teanga glé gheur aige-san mar an ceudna.

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

Chumadh Ceilidh Bhliadhnail Chloinn an Fhraoich an Aitreach nan Gaidheal, Glaschu, air feasgar Di-ciadain, an dara là deug de'n Dùdhlachd. Bha mu leth-cheud de na buill an làthair.

Bha gach neach a bha 's an làthair duilich nach robh am Fear Gairme, Mgr. Seòras Marjoribanks, comasach air a bhi air ceann na cuideachd. Bhuail an cnatan mór e beagan làithean roimhe sud agus ged a b'e dùrachd a chridhe 'sa chleibh' a bhi am broilleach na cuideachd cha bhiodh ann ach oidheirp air a bheatha an rathad mór a ghabhail á Sonachan. Ghabh an Ceann Suidhe, Mgr. MacGille na Brataich, àite Fhir na Cathrach agus chuir e gean is loinn air a' Cheilidh.

Bha Seumas Mac a Phi air ceann na cuideachd-chiùil agus tha e ri mholadh air son na cuirme a chuir e fa' r' comhair. Fhuair sinn seann sgeulachd agus òrain bhò'n bhàrd, Iain Camshron; sgeulachdan eile bho Aonghas MacDhomhnaill agus Donnchadh MacIain, bàrd measail eile. Mar ghuth smeòraich bha ceòl nam mnathan usal Emma Nic 'Ille Dhuinn, Anna Nic 'Ille Mhaoil agus Oighrig NicMharcuis; is cha bu choilich thùchanach idir Iain Og Mac Gille na Brataich, Donnchadh Mac Gill-Fhaolain, Seumas Mac a Phi agus Iain MacSuain. Fhuaradh duanagan milis, fonnmhor bho Iseabal, Donnchadh is Iain, teachlach Mhic Iain, am bàrd. Bha Morag Nic 'Ille na Brataich aig an inneal-chiùil a' toirt cuideachaidh gasda do'n luchd-seinn.

Thainig buidheann bho Chòisir Chiùil Ghàidhlig Bhaile Ghobhainn thugainn an deidh dhoibh seinn troimh an iarmailt air a' ghuth-athar agus gu dearbh bha e togarrach a bhi 'g an eisdeachd an co-shèirm. Sheinn iad òrain aotrom is òrain dhrùidhteach agus anns gach aon bha uile phongan a' chiùil a co-fhreagairt an gleus rianail. Thug na sgeulachdan is na h-òrain, a bha air a liubhairt an doigh anabarrach taitneach, "tir ar rùn as ur 'n ar sealladh" agus cuimhneachain chùbhraidh air laithean ar n-òige.

Riaraich nigheanagan laghach cup 's greim roimh naoi uairean agus thug so cothrom do'n luchd ceilidh beagan còmhraidh a dheanamh. Ged a thuirnt an sean-fhacal nach urrainn duit an teine a sheideadh is a' mhin itheadh aig an aon àm cha mhòr nach fhaodadh neach a ràdh gu'n do bhrèugn-aicheadh an sean-fhacal aig Ceilidh Cloinn an Fhraoich!

An uair a bha solus a' chrùisgein a' fàs fann dh'eirich Niall Mac Gille Sheathanaich a thoirnt taing dhoibhsan a chuidich leinn oidhche cho cridheil, caidreach a chur seachad. Dh'aithris e rann a' leabhar Iain Mhic Phaidein—An t-Eileanach:—

"Tha 'n oidhche nis air dol seachad,  
'S e dol dhachaidh is fheadar;  
Chuala mi' aig mo sheanair—  
'S cha b'e'm beul a chanadh a' bhreug e—  
Gur ioma rud a chailleas  
Am fear a chaidil 'na cheilidh  
Is bitheamaid ás!"

Thugadh an taing le iolach a thug crathadh air na sparran agus cho-dhùin Ceilidh cho math 's a bha aig Cloinn an Fhraoich riamh leis a' chuideachd a' seinn "Oidhche Mhath Leibh 's Beannachd Leibh."

## BRANCH REPORTS.

ABERNETHY.—The Abernethy branch held a Ceilidh in the Institute, at which there was a good turnout of members and friends. Mr. Cameron, Pine Cottage, a Gaelic enthusiast, presided. There was a very enjoyable programme submitted, also a homely repast of "tatties and herring," followed by tea and oatcakes.

APPIN.—Humorous Gaelic and English stories, dealing chiefly with ministers and dominies, delighted the audience at the opening Ceilidh of the Appin branch, which was presided over by the president, Mr D. MacPherson. Gaelic songs and instrumental music comprised a very enjoyable programme. Rev. John MacDonald, who was welcomed to his first Ceilidh, proposed a vote of thanks to the artistes and to the hostesses. Members were enrolled for the session, and the singing of "Oidhche mhath leibh" brought a most successful Ceilidh to a close.

CASTLEBAY.—The monthly Ceilidh of the Castlebay branch was held in the Castlebay Hall. Gaelic songs were sung by the members, and violin and accordion selections were given by Messrs N. MacDonald and S. MacAulay. Tea was served during the evening.

CRUACHAN.—At the monthly Ceilidh of the branch in the Taynaitt Public Hall, over which Dr. R. R. MacNicol presided, there was a large attendance of members and friends. A lengthy and varied programme of songs, stories, instrumental and dance items, was submitted and very much enjoyed by the company.

GLENUKQUHART.—A special meeting of the branch was held to devise ways and means for further propagating the Gaelic cause in the district. It was recommended that Mr. Hugh Fraser, O.B.E., be approached to conduct classes in the district, and it is earnestly hoped that his services will be available as desired.

GOLSPIE.—A concert and dance under the auspices of the local branch took place in the Drill Hall. The concert programme was sustained by Golspie Gaelic choir and many well-known artistes. Col. A. N. Macaulay presided.

**GRANTOWN-ON-SPEY.**—The season's opening Ceilidh of the Grantown branch of An Comunn was held in the Institute, when there was a large attendance, and a long and enjoyable evening was spent. Tea was served by a committee of ladies, and a musical programme was carried through, which included solos in English, Welsh, and Gaelic, thus considerably widening the scope of attraction. The new secretary is the evergreen Mr. H. T. Fraser, the well-known veteran tenor.

**INVERARAY.**—At the fortnightly meeting of the Inveraray branch, Lady Elspeth Campbell, hon. president, presided over a large attendance of members. An excellent programme was arranged by Mr. Robert Bain, vice-president, consisting of instrumental music, Gaelic and English songs, and sgeluchdan was submitted and much appreciated. Tea was served by the ladies' committee.

**INVERGORDON.**—The local branch resumed its winter session by holding a Ceilidh in the Y.M.C.A. Hall. The president, Mr. Alex. McMillan, presided, and, after addressing the gathering, introduced the northern organiser, Mr. Donald MacPhail, Inverness. Mr. MacPhail gave a fine address in both Gaelic and English, which was much appreciated. An enjoyable musical programme was afterwards submitted.

**KENTALEN.**—Over a hundred people assembled in Kentallen Hall at the meeting of Duror and Kentallen branch. The meeting was under the chairmanship of Rev. Angus MacFadyen. The Ceilidh was opened with bagpipe selections and the singing of "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig." Young and old caught the true spirit of a Ceilidh, and there was no difficulty in finding singers, the whole audience joining heartily in the choruses. Variety was lent to the programme by dancing in true Highland fashion Scottish and eightsome reels. A pleasant and enjoyable evening was had by all.

**KILCHOAN.**—The local branch held a Ceilidh in the Public Hall. Rev. Mr. MacDonald presided. The lecturer for the evening, Mr. John Cameron, the versatile chairman of the Tobermory branch, delivered a stirring address in praise of the Gaelic language. A musical programme was afterwards submitted and much enjoyed.

**KILLIN.**—A Ceilidh of the Killin branch was held in the Public Hall. Mr. James McRaw, M.A., the president, was in the chair. Mr. James D. Scott and Mr. John MacAskill were present from Kinlochraunoch branch, and their songs were much enjoyed by the large gathering. A feature of the programme was the number of Gaelic dialogues presented by the following:—Mr. James McRaw, M.A., and Mr. D. Strang; Misses McGregor and McWilliam and Mr. A. S. Campbell; Miss A. G. Stewart and Mr. James Anderson. Solos were also sung by Misses K. McGregor and K. McNaughton. Miss C. MacFarlane acted as accompanist, and stirring tunes on the pipes were given by Mr. James Dunn. Tea was served by lady members, and comprehensive votes of thanks were given by Mr. D. Strang and the Chairman.

**KINLOCHLEVEN.**—The second Ceilidh of the local branch of An Comunn Gàidhealach was held in the Public Hall. Mr. Robert MacDonald, the president, presided. There was a splendid turnout of members present, and a very fine programme of songs was submitted. Tea was prepared by Mrs. Campbell, Leven House, and served by the lady members.

**LESMORE.**—The local branch held a Ceilidh in the Public Hall at Killeen. In the absence of the local president, Mr. Peter MacDougall, Baleveolan, ably discharged the duties of chairman. The pro-

ceedings were opened by the singing of "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig," and thereafter a short programme of songs and selections was enjoyed. A special feature of the evening was the sweet rendering of songs by competitors at the recent Mod. On the call of the chairman, Miss MacIntyre, secretary, presented Archibald Carmichael with a volume of Gaelic songs, being the prize won by him at the National Mod held in Oban. The singing of "Oidheche mhath leibh" brought the Ceilidh to a close.

**LOCHINVER.**—Members of the Lochinver branch held a very successful Ceilidh, over which Mr. Hugh MacIntosh presided in a very genial manner. The meetings of the branch have been most enjoyable all session, and this one was equally as successful as any held previously. A large company was present, who were entertained to an excellently varied programme of songs, stories, and instrumental music.

**ROGART.**—One of the most successful Ceilidhs promoted by the Rogart branch was held recently in the Territorial Hall. Mrs. Stewart, Gordonbush Public School, presided, and she was accompanied on the platform by Col. Gilbert Gunn, Mr. Donald MacKay, a graduate of Glasgow University, and a nephew of Mr. Angus Robertson, ex-president of An Comunn, and Mr. David Grant, secretary of East Sutherland Provincial Mod, all of whom delivered stirring addresses. A feature of the programme was the large number of artistes from a wide area that were present to assist with the entertainment.

**STORNOWAY.**—Mr. Angus MacDonald, president, occupied the chair at a recent meeting of the local branch, at which there was a large attendance of members and friends from the surrounding countryside, many of whom assisted with the programme, which was most enjoyable. The proceedings, which took the form of a Ceilidh, consisted of Gaelic songs, sgeluchdan, and instrumental items. A feature of the evening was the large number of Lewis unpublished songs that were sung.

**TAIN.**—The main feature of the monthly Ceilidh of the local branch, which was held in Queen Street Church Hall on Friday night, was a lecture on "Strange Highland Cures," by Mr. T. Mackenzie, F.E.I.S., Conon, who was introduced by Mr. J. Campbell, Fearn, president. A large gathering listened with keen interest to Mr. MacKenzie's vivid, and at times somewhat gruesome, account of bygone specifics for pain and sickness, and the general feeling was one of relief that the medical profession had not stood still. A short musical programme followed.

**TREE (BALEMARTINE).**—The Ceilidh promoted by the Balemartine branch in Hyllipol School attracted a large attendance, which included representatives from all over the island. Mr. Alex. Campbell, president, occupied the chair, and delivered a very interesting address in which he impressed upon the young the value of maintaining the language and traditions of their people. He hoped they would be diligent in their support of the branch in order that the work which they presented might prosper. A very enjoyable concert programme followed.

**TOBERMORY.**—Mr. J. Cameron, the popular and genial vice-president of the branch, occupied the chair at a recent Ceilidh, the arrangements for which were undertaken by Mr. D. MacLeod and Mr. Angus Henderson, who made excellent preparations for the entertainment of the members. Songs, stories, readings, and dialogues constituted a very enjoyable and much appreciated programme.

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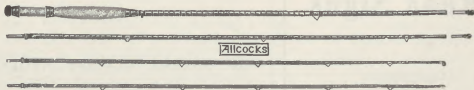
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Leabhar XXX.]

*An Gearran, 1935.*

[Earrann 5

### LITREACHADH.

Aig Comhdhail nan Ceiltich an Baile Atha Cliath air an t-samhradh so chaidh mhòthaich mi gu 'n robh cuid de Ghaidheil na h-Alba comasach air comradh ris na h-Èireannaich. Ach bheachdaich mi aig an am cheudna gum b' èigin dhuinn iomadh uair gnàths na Gaidhlig againn fhéin a sheachnadh, agus an dòigh Èireannach a chleachdadh cho fad 's a b' aithne dhuinn sin a dheanamh troimh an eòlas a bha againn air leabhraichean na h-Èireann. Is e sinne a tha a' gabhail saothair gus sinn féin a dheanamh soilleir ann ar comhradh. Cha ghabh na h-Èireannaich a bheag de thrioblaid idir, cho fad 's a mhòthaich mise. Is ann air leth tearc a dh' amaiseas iad idir air gnàths na h-Alba. Ciod is aobhar air so? Chan e gu bheil sinne dad nas géire no nas cùirteile na iadsan. Ach is e so an t-aobhar: gur e litreachadh na h-Èireann a tha air Gaidhlig Alba mar tha i air a sgrìobhadh agus air a clò-bhuailadh. Nan cuireadh tu sios Gaidhlig an Eilein Sgitheanaich, no Leodhais, no Chataibh mar tha muinntir nan àiteachan sin 'g a labhairt, is gann gu 'n tuigeadh a' mhòr cuid cruth no seadh na cànan. Ach is e aon mhodh litreachaidh a tha cleachdte an diugh, agus sin an modh Èireannach.

\* \* \*

Tha e coltach gu robh uair ann agus bha na h-Albannaich a' cur sios an cuid Gaidhlig a réir an fhuaim. Tha so feumail an diugh; oir tha an dòigh sin a nochdadh ciod ris an robh ar cànan cosmhuil a thaobh fuaim anns an t-sean aimsir. Uaith sin chi sinn gu robh Gaidhlig na h-Alba eadar-dhealaichte bho chainnt sam bith eile. Tha seann lanh-sgrìobh-

aidh ri sholar fhathast air an cur sios anns an dòigh Albannaich. Is e sin an modh litreachaidh a tha air an leabhar aig Deachan Liosmór, a tha air a thasgadh gu cùramach anns an Leabhar-lann Naisiunta an Duneideann. Tha corr math is ceithir ceud bliadhna bho 'n chaidh leabhar an Deachain a sgrìobhadh le a laimh fhéin. Tuilleadh is ceud bliadhna an deidh sin sgrìobh MacRath Chinntaile leabhar bardachd, agus tha an litreachadh a réir an fhuaim an sin cuideachd. Tha e 'g a chunntas mar dhearbhadh air sgoilearachd an diugh na sgrìobhadhean sin aiseag gus an mhodh-litreachaidh chumanta. Tha na h-uile coltas gu 'n robh an diugh sgrìobhadh a réir an fhuaim aig na Manainnich bho chionn ceithir ceud bliadhna; agus is i sin an diugh a tha aca gus an la an diugh.

\* \* \*

Ach cia mar thainig an dòigh Èireannach do Alba? Is iad na bàird fhoghlumte a rinn sin air tùs. Bu ghnàth le bàird nan ceann cinnidh dol do Èirinn a dh'ionnsachadh alt na seann bhàrdachd a bha duilich is dìomhair gu leor. A nuas gus an ochdamh linn deug bha bàird de sheorsa Clann Mhìc Mhuraich a' cur sios an bardachd an litreachadh na h-Èireann. Is e Leabhar Urnuigh Iain Knox a' cheud leabhar a chuireadh an clò de Ghaidhlig Alba. Is gann gu bheil dealachadh sam bith, a thaobh cruth na cainnt no litreachadh nam facal, eadar an leabhar so le Carswell, agus leabhar Èireannach sam bith eile. Tha mi a' creidsinn nach eil leabhar Charswell a' toirt beachd eagnuidh dhuinn air fuaim na fìor Ghaidhlig Albannaich aig an am ud. Iomadh linn mu 'u deachadh an Bìobull a thionndadh gu Gaidhlig na h-Alba, bu ghnàth le teachdairean an t-soisgèil anns na

cùbaidean Gaidhlig, an Fhìrinn a leughadh á Biobull Bhedell, is e sin am Biobull Eireannach a chuir an t-Easbuig Bedell an clò. Chuidich seo mar an ceudna gus na searmonaichean a dheanamh eòlach air an mhòd Eireannach.

\* \* \*

An sin mu thoiseach an naodhamh linn deug, mar thainig am Biobull gu bhi gu leir air a thionndadh gu Gaidhlig na h-Alba, bha an fheadhainn a ghabh an obair sin as laimh, gu mòr fo bhuaidh na dòigh choitcheinn. Thug iad faicail Eireannach a stigh, *dhoibh* mar eisimpleir. Co an Gaidheal Albannach riamh a thuir *dhoibh* gus an d'fhuair iad sud anns a' Bhiobull? Their sinn dhaibh gu nadurrach, tuath is deas. Is iomadh sgoil Gaidhlig a dh'èirich anns a' Ghaidhealtachd mar thoradh air deagh shaothair na h-Eaglais agus A' Chomuinn airson Craobhs-gaoileadh Eolas Criosdail. Dh'ullaich an Comunn sin leabhraichean beaga sgoile, anns an robh litreachadh nam facal ionnan ri dòigh a' Bhiobull a bha air ùr thighinn a mach an Gaidhlig na h-Alba. Agus an sin thoisich luchd sgrìobhaidh nam faclair. Chum iadsan mar an ceudna an sùil gu dìleas air litreachadh na h-Eireann. Mar seo an uair a bha am fuaran fo bhuaidh na h-Eireann am b' iongnadh gu 'n tachradh mar thachair, biodh Gaidhlig na h-Alba a' cumail a fuaim fhèin, agus da rìreabh rinn i sin a dh'aindeoin litreachaidh coigreach.

\* \* \*

Mar bha an naodhamh linn deug a ruith thainig aghart anabarrach air craobh-sgaoileadh na Gaidhlig. Thall is a bhos bha leabhar bardachd a' tighinn am follais, agus gach aon dhiu anns a' mhòd àbhaist. Dh'èirich an sin an t-Ollamh Tormod Macleoid, Cuairtear nan Gleann is Caraid nan Gaidheal. Is esan a thug rosg na Gaidhlig gu cruth maiseach is inbheach. Thainig litreachadh na Gaidhlig a chuid 's a chuid gus an ìre anns am bheil e an diugh. Tha aon ni fìor, agus is e sin gu bheil Riaghailt ann air fad. Mur eil e coltach ris a' Ghaidhlig Sgitheanaich no Chataich, tha e co dhiu fo rian is fo lagh is ordugh; rinn Caraid nan Gaidheal sin dhuinn; agus is e ar gliocas a leantainn, agus am feum is mò is urrainn sinn a dheanamh de 'n litreachadh a tha againn, gus am faigh sinn nas fhearr.

#### 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.

## PERTSHIRE SETTLERS IN CANADA ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

By Colonel ALEX. FRASER, LL.D., Toronto, Canada.

V.

### HIGHLAND TRADITIONS AND SUPERSTITIONS.

A tradition regarding the Breadalbane family was told by a Mr. Menzies, from near Aberfeldy, to the following effect:—

"A stone required for a building near Loch Tay would arrive safely, but would never be used; a tree near the same place was possessed of a charm, and any person cutting it down would come to grief. When these two things took place steamers would sail on Loch Tay; and from one of the first of these steamers the Earl of Breadalbane would be drowned." Now, there did happen to be a building going on near Loch Tay for which a particular kind of stone was much sought, and when found was taken to the house which was being erected and for which it was required. It was left for the night near the house ready to be put into its place next morning. But when the workmen arrived in the morning they found the dedicated stone broken up and quite useless for its purpose. With regard to the tree, it was cut down and the man who cut it was shortly afterwards gored to death by his own bull. The time came also when steamers plied on Loch Tay, but the Earl has not yet fulfilled all that was told or enfolded in the tradition. Around Major-General David Stewart of Garth many stories gathered. He seems to have been very popular among his neighbours. The story of his half-wit retainer, and the infuriated bull, and of the Belgian hare and the young pig, have become famous and turn up in various guises.

### TRANSPLANTED FOLKLORE.

Thus was transplanted from Perthshire a folklore which superseded the weird traditions which the native Algonquin Indians had carried down from a remote past. Few of their descendants now hold the belief in second-sight, ghost, and witchcraft so firmly held by many of the original settlers. Indeed, it is interesting to note that the present day trend is to resuscitate Indian lore and relate its primitive beliefs the world over.

The town of Perth rose long ago to be one of the most prosperous and substantial towns in Upper Canada. It is solidly built, its streets are wide and well-paved;

its shops are bright and attractive; its public buildings commodious; its hotels, well-appointed; and many of its comfortable residences with their gardens and bowers would do credit to the amenities and good taste of suburban areas of larger and more pretentious centres of population. It is situated on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway between Montreal and Toronto, about 200 miles east of Toronto and 65 miles west of Ottawa, and has a large population for the district. It contains mills and manufactories of machinery, leather, woollens, etc. Localities in the neighbourhood have preserved a number of Perthshire place-names.

#### "THE LAST LAIRD OF MACNAB."

The next Perthshire settlement in Upper Canada to be briefly noticed was organised in the year 1825 by Archibald John MacNab of MacNab—"The MacNab," or as known in Canadian tradition, "The Last Laird of MacNab." It was located on the southern bank of the Ottawa River, and extended from the present town of Arnprior to the town of Pembroke. No finer prospect could well be imagined than the view from the house which the Chief built for himself in his new home. It was situated on a high eminence overlooking the far-stretching Ottawa valley at a point where the river debouches into a lakelet, the shores of which are indented with small bays and on the deep bosom of which are beautifully wooded islets. Rising from the opposite shore are the serrated spurs of the Laurentian mountains on which the purple haze at times reminds one of the heathery slopes of Ben Lawers or of Schiehallion. Verily, the chief had a Highlander's eye for the wild beauties of nature.

Deprived of his estates in Perthshire, largely by the improvidence of his predecessor, Chief Francis MacNab ("The MacNab"), of whom Raeburn has made one of his finest and most characteristic portraits (now owned and located at Dewar House, Haymarket, London). Chief Archibald MacNab conceived the idea of restoring his fortunes and re-establishing his clan in Canada on feudal lines. Of course, feudal tenure was not legal in Canada, but that neither deterred nor dismayed so determined a Chief as "The MacNab." Proceeding to Toronto, the headquarters of the Upper Canada Government, he had acute address enough to obtain an extensive tract of land on liberal terms, but with the understanding, quite definitely stated, that he would settle on it immigrants who would enjoy the usual rights and privileges of free-holders after they had

reimbursed the chief for his reputed loans to them and his preliminary expenses. The Government did not look closely into this condition; for, as it turned out, after a period of years and much illegal oppression, there were neither loans nor preliminary expenses incurred by the Chief in connection with the settlement, and instead of what might have been a profitable enterprise, the Chief retired from the scene a ruined man.

#### MISREPRESENTATIONS TO EMIGRANTS.

The Chief's interests, while he himself was absent in Canada, were attended to by Dr. Buchanan, of Leny, who organised the emigrants from the MacNab district and other parts of West Perthshire. Liberal promises were made and the brightest prospects were held out to those who cast in their lot with the Chief in his projected settlement in Canada. But at this point serious misrepresentations entered into the scheme. The emigrants—entirely ignorant of the land laws of Upper Canada—were given to understand that the Chief had received a grant of all the land in fee-simple from the Government and that the farms would have to be bought from him, but at a low figure and on payments extended over a long period of time. The emigrants, not knowing the true state of affairs, thought the terms offered to be not unreasonable and signed contracts which bound them to the Chief as tenants-at-rent. On the voyage out, discomforts, for which they were unprepared, led to some suspicion and discontent. On reaching Montreal and finding that promised arrangements for the transportation of themselves, their wives, families, and impedimenta, had not been made, disappointment bred misgivings not easily overcome. The journey up-country was attended by hardships not unusual in adventures such as theirs, but they were learning from settlers whom they met that Crown lands were practically free and it began to dawn on them that they had entered into a contract with the Chief which involved onerous obligations. In due course the lands were allotted to the newcomers, who set with a will to clear the land and hew out from the forest their new homes. Almost from the beginning trouble began. The Chief was not only exacting, he was oppressive. He held a Commission of the Peace, and as a Magistrate did not refrain from acting as judge in his own causes. It would be tedious to burden this magazine with details of a struggle which was of daily occurrence, which continued for years, and from which there did not seem to be any escape. Indeed, for a time which seemed very long to

the sufferers, the Chief was not without friends among the justices of the peace, any two of whom could hold court. The higher courts of justice were far off, litigation was expensive and beyond the means of the settlers among whom money was scarce, and beyond and above all this, it was believed that the Government of the Province was a "Cabal of the Closet" and that backstairs influence was of more account with the Executive Council than the general welfare of the increasing population. In fact, the Government of that day, and for years before and after, was called "The Family Compact," and although my own researches lead me to believe that the term was not justly applied—taking all the circumstances of the time into consideration—yet settlers in the backwoods sparsely scattered over wide areas of trackless forests were not unnaturally inclined to believe that ruling powers tolerating such abuses as unquestionably existed in the MacNab settlement were open to sinister influences. The MacNab was a "gentleman," had the flair and assurance of a Highland chief, and held contracts, the legality of which was not for many years tested, and his actions were upheld at the centre of power.

#### EFFORT FAILS TO TRANSPLANT FEUDALISM.

Highlanders, however, are not easily beaten. Among the men of Perthshire were some who were convinced that they had been deceived, and they agitated, petitioned, and wrote letters to the press and to the home Government. The Chief generally succeeded in stamping out agitation by evictions from half-cleared farms, by sentences imposed in his own court, on trivial or trumped up charges, by which his tenants were terrorised. Yet, after all, the day of sure reckoning was approaching. A real official enquiry was ordered, and for the first time the conditions on which The MacNab obtained his land from the Crown were revealed. It was shown that he had never had the ownership which he claimed to have in the land. Shorn of illusory appearances, his real status was that of a Government agent engaged in the settlement of a township under the ordinary regulations of settlement. Then came the demand to disgorge, and quickly the arbitrary glory of Kinnel Lodge, on the river Ottawa, passed away. The design was bold and daring, and a few years earlier might have succeeded, but with the march of enlightenment and education, even in the backwoods of Canada, it was doomed to failure. To-day, there is no section of Canada more attractive, with its fertile farms, its prosperous towns and villages, reminiscent of Killin,

Lochearn, and Balquhider than the district on the southern bank of the Ottawa river in which an effort was made to transplant feudalism into Canada by the Last Laird of MacNab, a hundred years ago.

(To be continued.)

### CIONNAS A THACHAIR MI AIR A' GHÀIDHLIG.

An do chuir mi an céill rianh dhuibh an dòigh anabarrach neònach anns an cuala mi a' Ghàidhlig airson a' cheud uair? Faodaidh mi ràdh an toiseach gu'n do rugadh mi an Abar-eadhain, agus cha ruig mi leas a ràdh nach chluinnear aon fhacal Gàidhlig anns a' bhaile dhealrach aig taobh na mara. A bharrachd air a sin dh'fhag mi mo dhùthaich nuair a bha mi glé òg is chuir mi seachad a' chuid bu mhò de mo bheatha ann an Sasunn. Leis a sin chan iongnadh idir gu 'n do dhi-chuimhnich mi gu tur gu 'n robh anns an t-saoghal cànan ris an abrair Gàidhlig. Matà, beagan bhliadhnachan air ais thachair orm a bhi air a' bhàta a' tighinn bho 'n Fraing. Bha gaoth làidir ann is mar sin shir mi mach dìon àite gu toit mhath de 'n phìob a ghabhail. Bha duine ann de dà chailleig. Thòisich e air cànan a bhruidhinn nach b' urrainn domh idir a dheanamh a mach. Faodaidh mi ràdh gu bheil mi comasach air dhà no trì chànanean coimheach a labhairt, ach dh'fhaireadh e orm gu buileach aon fhacal a thogail de na bha e ag ràdh. Agus gu mo mhór iongnadh cha do fhreagair na caileagan anns a' chànan ud ach anns a' Bheurla Ghallda, mar so: "Ayc" neo "A dima ken." Fad na h-ùine uile gu leir a bha mi làimh riù cha do labhair na caileagan ach a' Bheurla Ghallda agus cha do labhair an duine ach a' chànan neònach sin.

Nuair a ràinig am bàta Sasunn bha mi fathast an imcheist nu 'n chùis. Shuidh mi gu socrach anns a' charbad-iaruinn is bha sinn mu leth slighe do Lunnainn nuair gu h-obann ghlaodh mi inach: "Tha e agam. Cuiridh mi geall gur i a' Ghàidhlig a bh'ann."

Siu agaibh, matà, dìreach a' cheud uair a chuala mi a' Ghàidhlig. Chuir mi romham a h-ionnsachadh agus cha b' fhada gun an do thachair mi air càrdean suairce a bha ro dheònach gus mo chuideachadh leatha. A nis gu bheil mi tighinn gu aois, is mise tha toilichte gu 'n d'amaid mi oirre, agus tha mi ag innseadh dhuibh gu bheil e mòran na 's taitniche am feasgar a chur seachad na cuideachd na Gàidhlig na bhi an cuideachd na muinntir aig an cinema. Is mise dhearbh sin!

ALASDAIR MACDHONNCHÀIDH

## URRAM DO'N CHEANN SUIDHE.

Tha iomadh latha bho 'n a bha co-chruinneachadh cho mòr de Ghaidheil an cuideachd a cheile air Oidheche na Seann Bhlaidhn' Uire is a bha an "Aitreach nan Gaidheil" air an dara la deug de'n Fhaoiteach. Bha an Talla loma-làn. B'e aobhar dha so gu 'n robh Ceilidh nan Gaidheil agus cairdean Gaidhealach eile ag cur urrainn air Mgr Iain R. MacGille na Brataich, Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn Gaidhealaich, agus aon de luchd-stéidheachaidh na Ceilidh. Bha bhàrd air an deagh chur an ordugh air an ullachadh fa chomhair na cuideachd a theann a mach a chum a bhi a' nochdadh do aoidh an fheasgair an Àrd chliu air fhéin gu pearsanta agus am meas air an t-saothair ionmholta a rinn e ré fad a laithean ann an aobhar na Gaidhlig.

Air ceann na cuideachd bha Mgr Calum MacLeòid a tha nis 'na Cheann Suidhe air a' Ceilidh fad seachd bliadhna fichead, agus ré na h-uine sin, agus roimhe, bha e fhéin is Mgr MacGille na Brataich ann an dlùth chairdeas.

Mar is dual ann an Ceilidh nan Gaidheil b'e ceann toisich obair an fheasgair buidheachas a thoirt do'n Àrd Thi air son a mhaitheasan agus rinneadh sin leis an Urramach Alasdair MacDhomhnaill, Ministear Eaglais Chalum Chille, a rinn mar an ceudna ailtachadh roimh 'n bhiaidh, agus an deidh sin bha obair an fheasgair ann an làn-ghleus.

Ann am briathran freagarrach mar a leanas nochd Mgr Calum MacLeòid do Mgr MacGille na Brataich deagh-ghean a chairdean agus aig crìoch na h-òraide thiodhlaic e dha inneal a ghuth-athar agus pasgan airgid, agus fhuair Mórág, a nighean, mar an ceudna cuimhneachan dhi fhéin a chum a bhi a leigeil ris dhi deagh rùn a cairdean dhi fhéin is do a h-athair.

### Oraid Mgr. Chalum MhicLeòid.

Tha sinn an so an nochd gu bhi ag cur seachd feasgar caidreach ann an cuideachd a chéile, ach gu sònraichte gu bhi ag cur urrainn air neach tha làn-airidh air an urram as àirde a tha 'nar comas-ne mar a cho-Ghaidheil a nochdadh dhà. Tha sinn crìunn gu bhi leigeil ris ann an dòigh fhaicsinneach ar meas agus ar gràdh air ar caraid ionmhuinn, Iain MacGille na Brataich. Is ainneamh a thachair e dhomhsa dleasan cho taitneach a bhi agam ri choimh-ionadh is tha agam an nochd ann a bhi ag cur an céill, mar as fhearr a theid agam air, mòr mbeas buill na Ceilidh air Mgr Mac Gille na Brataich agus na fiachan fo am bheil iad dhà air son a shaothair luachmhor fad dhà fhichead bliadhna ann an obair na Ceilidh. Is còir dhomh

a radh mu 'n teid mi na's fhaide nach iad buill na Ceilidh a mhàin tha nochdadh an spéis do ar caraid leis an tiodhlaic tha sinn a' tairgse dhà an nochd. Ged bha e gun teagamh ionmhuigh gu'm bitheadh a' cheud cheum anns a' ghnathach air a ghabhail leis a' Ceilidh, bha cothrom air a thoirt do chairdean eile a bhi ag cuideachadh agus ghabh móran diubh an cothrom gu togarrach.

Tha sinn an nochd a' deanamh ruid a bu chòir a bhi air a dheanamh bho chionn fada. Chan ann idir roimh an àm tha Gaidheil a' bhaile so, gu sònraichte a' chuid sin diubh a tha, no a bha, ceangailte ris a' Ceilidh, ag cur urrainn air Mgr Mac Gille na Brataich. Chan aithne dhomhsa duine eile 'nar meas as dilse do'n Ghàidhlig, as eudmhoire air a taobh, no duine rinn barrachd le eisimpleir a chaithe-beatha is a ghiulain ann a bhi ag cumail suas cliù agus deagh ainm ar muinntir anns a' bhaile so.

Ma tha aon fhear 'nar meas a tha airidh air an ainm Fìor Ghaidheil is e ar caraid. Tha "Gaidheil" air a sgrìobhadh gu soilleir air clàr an aodainn aige. Rachadh a thaghadh a mach mar Ghaidheil ann an cuideachd 'sam bith. Ma tha so fìor a thaobh an duine bho'n leth am muigh tha e na's ro-fhlora mu thimchioll an spioraid a tha riaghladh an taobh a stigh d'heath. Cluinnibh e bruidhinn air ceist 'sam bith, agus bheir sibh faineas gur ann le shùilean a' Ghaidheil a tha e ag amharc oirre, le inntinn a' Ghaidheil a tha e 'ga cnuasachadh agus gu'm bheil a ghuth agus a mhodh labhairt cho Gaidhealach ri ceòl na pìoba móire.

Chan 'eil iad ach tearc anns an latha an diugh a tha cho eòlach air litreachas, air bàrdachd is ceòl na Gaidhealtachd ri Mgr Mac Gille na Brataich. The e féin comasach air òrain a dheanamh agus air fuinn a chur riutha. Sgrìobhaidh e a' Ghaidhlig gu cothromach, le smas is grinneas, gun inasad bho'n Bheurla, agus is mòr am beud nach 'eil barrachd de'n sgrìobhadh aige againn ann an clòdh.

Cha robh feum aig ar caraid riamh air an earail—e chuimhneachadh nan daoine bho'n tainig e. A thaobh nan nithean luachmhor agus ionmholta sin a choisinn do ar slugh an cliù agus an t-urram a tha an saoghal gu saor a' toirt dhaibh lean e gu dlùth ri cliù a shìnnsean.

Cha toir e breith chruaidh air creutair bochd 'sam bith. Gheibh e leisgeul air a shon ma tha leisgeul ri fhaotainn. Cha d'fhuaradh riamh e ann an riochd 'fear casaid nam bràithrean.' Gu cinnteach bidh na beannachdan air a cheann a tha air an gealltainn do na daoine tròcaireach agus do luchd deanamh na sìthe.

Cha bu chòir da bhi 'na iognadh 'sam bith gu'm biodh Gaidheal tha cho sònraichte air son a bhuidhean inntinn, air son a ghliocais agus eòlais, air son uaisleachd agus caomhalachd a nàduir, air son a shaothair bho làithean oige as leth na Gaidhlig agus air son a theas ghràdh do'n chaintinn, air a thaghadh le a cho-bhuill gu bhi air ceann a' Chomuinn urramaich An Comunn Gaidhealach. Is math a thoill e an t-urram so; urram cho àrd, ann an seadh, is as urrainn Gaidheal a mhealtuinn. Thainig an t-urram so thuige gun iarraidh—tha nithean ann a thig gun iarraidh a thuilleadh air an tri a tha air an ainmeachadh anns an òran. Cha do thagair e riamh a thaobh saothair 'sam bith a rinn e duais no urram air a shon féin. B'e a chleachdadh daonnan a bhi ag cur dhaoine eile air thoiseach air fhéin. Am measg nan subhailcean a tha air a shiubhal tha irioslachd agus fein-àicheadh comharraichte. Thachair nithean neònach gu leoir rium fhìn—nithean ris nach robh dùil agam—'na mo thurus tre fhàsch na beatha so, agus is i aon diubh mi bhi 'gam fhaighinn fhìn air ceann Ceilidh nan Gaidheal fad seachd bliadhna fìchead agus Mgr Mac Gille na Brataich, no mhaighstir agus m' fhear-teagais ann an gnothaichean na Gaidhlig, ach 'na bhall cumanta.

A thaobh 'oibre air son na Ceilidh tha e dùilich sin a chur an cainnt. B'e aon de 'n bhuidhinn bhig thapaidh a chuir a' Cheilidh air bonn dà fhìchead bliadhna air ais agus cha tainig atharrachadh, no lùghdachadh air a thlachd anns a' Cheilidh agus 'na h-obair. Tha sinn fhathast a' dol air adhart fo bhuidhne is fo stiùireadh nan riaghailtean a dhealbhadh e fhéin agus a choimprean aig tùs na Ceilidh.

Chan ann gu bhi ag glòrachadh na Ceilidh a tha sinn an so an nochd ged tha mi ag creidsinn gu 'm bu cheart cho math le Mgr Mac Gille na Brataich a bhi ag eisdeachd ri moladh na Ceilidh is a bhi ag eisdeachd ri a mholadh fhéin, ach faodaidh mi so a radh. Tha a' Cheilidh a nis ainmeil agus measail am measg Ghaidheal a bhos is thairis; tha Gaidheil fhoghlumte a' tighinn a labhairt ruinn a h-uile Gearran às gach ceàrn de 'n dùthaich a' toirt misnich agus cuideachaidh dhùinn. Tha deagh ainm na Ceilidh air son eud agus dilseachd do 'n Ghaidhlig aithnichte anns gach àite agus anns gach cuideachd anns am bheil spéis do 'n Ghaidhlig ri fhaighinn, agus chan eil duine againn nach toir a' cheud aite do Mgr Mac Gille na Brataich am measg nam feadhnach a choisinn an cliù so do 'n Cheilidh.

Tha mòran eile a dh'fhaodteadh agus a bu chòir aithris mu thimchioll air caraid ach is

ann a chuirinn-sa feum air an teanga fhileanta aige fhéin gu bhi ag radh na bu mhath leam anns an doigh a bu mhiann leam. Tha feadhainn eile a' dol a bhruidhinn agus ni iadsan suas na tha dhith air mo sheanachas-sa. Tha mi an dòchas gu 'n gabh iad an cothrom agus nach caomhain iad air caraid ach gu 'n leig iad ris dha, ann an doigh a chuireas blàths 'na chridhe nach fuaraich ann an cabaig, am meas agus an gràdh a tha againn air.

Chan 'eil e fhéin no mise nis cho òg no cho easgaidh 's a bha sinn, ged tha mi an dòchas nach 'eil annhuinneachd na h-aoise ri fhaicinn ro shoilleir ann ar bodhaig no 'nar n-inntinn fhathast. Is còir dhuinn le cheile a bhi taingeil do 'n Tì bho am bheil gach tiodhlac math is iomlan a' tighinn air son na slàinte mhaith a chaidh a bhualachadh oirnn. Ach ann an cùrsa nàduir chan eil an t-àm anabarrach fad às an uair a dh'fheumas sinn a bhi ag cur dhinn nan dreuchdan is nan oifeagan a tha sinn ag coimhlionadh agus an t-saothair a tha ceangailte riutha, ach agus an tig an t-àm sin tha mi an dòchas gu'm faighear sinn a' seasant gualainn ri gualainn a' cuideachadh, mar as fhearr is urrainn duinn, leis gach aobhar aig am bheil mar chriach a bhi a' leasachadh cor na Gaidhlig agus gach ni eile a tha luachmhor anns an dileab a chaidh fhàgail againn mar Ghaidheil.

Ann a bhi ag eirigh a chum taing a chur an ceill do Mgr MacLeòid agus do na cairdean a chuidich leis an tiodhlac-spéis chaidh gabhail ri Mgr MacGille na Brataich gu furanach, agus bha mionaid no dha mu 'n d' fhuair e cothrom bruidhne. Ann 'na dhoigh Ghaidhealach fhéin dh' innis e mar so mar a bha e a' faireachdainn aig an àm, agus cho mòr is a bha e an comain gach uile neach a chuidich tiodhlac cho luachmhor a thoirt dha.

### Freagairt Mgr. MhicGille na Brataich.

Tha mise nochd 'n ur sàr chomain gu léir. Gu ro-shonraichte tha mi an an comain ar ceann iùil ionmhuintinn, Mgr. Calum MacLeòid, a rinn anns na briathran eireachdail a chleachd e mu m' dheidhinn-sa ni glé àraid a bharrachd air mise mholadh thar m' airdheachd. Thaisbean e, gun fhios da, ionracas a chridhe Ghaidhealach fhéin—na feartan co-mhothachail sin a tha chòmhnuidh 'na nàdur agus a chomasan dealbhadh agus trocaireach ann a bhi 'toirt ionmraidh air Gaidheal eile. Chan ann idir a chionn 's gu 'n do mhol e mise gu m' chùl a tha mi ag radh gu follaiseach ni a tha muinntir na Cèilidh a faireachdainn gu coitcheonn gur h-ann againn a tha an t-aobhar buidheachais

gus h-esan a tha 'na cheannard air ar cuideachd.

Tha mi ann am mòr fhiachaibh cuideachd do ar Rùnaire ro-dhligeach, Mgr. Eoghann Mac-a-Phi, 's da chomhairle airson na rinn iad air fad do dhearbh shaothair as mo leth anns a' ghnòthach so. Tha mo bhuidheachas cuideachd aig Mgr. Caimbeul, Fear Riaghlaidh na h-aithribh so, a rinn na dh' fhaodadh e gus lóinn shunndach a chur air ar curm.

Duine 'sam bith a chuir uiread de shaoghal seachad 'na bhall de Cèilidh nan Gàidheal 'sa chuir mise fhuaire e anns a' Cèilidh sin uiread de thoileachasan inntinn agus do ghràdh chàrdean na tha 'ga chur mar tha ann am fiachaibh anabarrach do 'n Chomunn. Ach so mar a tha chùis agus b' e dòigh fhuighanta na Cèilidh riamh e.

Gu fortanach dhòmhsa b' ann aig a' Ghàidhlig a bha an lamh-an-uachdair mar mheadhon còmhraidh anns gach dachaidh a bh' agam riamh bho m' òige 's mar sin nuair a thainig mi gu ire bha i gach latha mar ioc-shlaint do m' chridhe a bhiodh gu ro-thric air a shàrachadh le obair ghòir na Beurla. Anns an t-seirbheis anns an robh mise cha bu leam fhein uair sam bith de 'n oidhche no de 'n latha 's b'e beachd nan inbheach an uair ud nach robh còir air ùidh a chur ann an nì eile ach 'obair. 'Nam bheachd-sa cha bu mhòr a b' fhiach an seòrsa saoghail a bh' aig mòran de m' choimpirean, cha robh Gàidhlig aig na trughain ann, ach 'sann a bha mise trang gach cothrom a gheibhinn eadar choisirean agus choinneamhan Gàidhealach 's chum iad sin mo chàil 's mo chridhe riumsa am feadh is a bha càch a' fàilneachadh.

Math is gu 'n robh na comunnan ud a' còrdadh ruinn uile air iomadh dòigh cha robh feadhainn dhinn idir riarichte leis an àite iochdarach a bha ar cànan fhein a' faotainn mar bu trice ann am beachdan na h-uibhir de luchd-labhairt. Chan e gu robh sinn a' deanamh ar-a-mach sam bith an aghaidh na Beurla oir b' i sin aon de 'r cànainean agus bha an deagh fhios againn cho feumail 'sa bha i dhuinn ann an Glaschu ged nach robh i air a ceangal ruinn le bannaibh gràidh sam bith 's ged bu ro-bheag aice-se e co dhiubh labhramaid facal dhith no nach labhradh. Is e bha sinne 'toirt faireach nach robh an Gàidheal am bitheantas am measg a cho-Ghàidheal a' deanamh feum de chànan fhein ach ann an seanachasan beaga suarach nach robh a' cur luchd no urram oirre, 's gu 'n robh e ro dheas an còmhuidh gus a cur as an rathad gu buileach nuair a dheònaicheadh a' Bheurla a h-aghaidh bhuidhneachd a nochdadh. Cha robhtar gu tric ann am beachd gu 'n gabhadh ceistean cudthromach no feallsanachd foghlumichte an rannsachadh no an deasbud innte.

Cha robh a còir 'g a cumail rithe, 's cha robh ionad tearmuinn dhith idir ann.

Is ann a chum is gum biodh cothrom ciallach air a thoirt dhith am measg a luchd muinntir fhein agus dion riaghailtean air a thoirt dhith air a còirean a chuireadh Ceilidh nan Gàidheal air bonn; 's air-leam gu 'n do choimhllion a' Chèilidh gu h-urramach riamh gus a' so a rùntean glice ann a bhi a' toirt dachaidh bheag sheasgair do 'n Ghàidhlig far am bheil i 'faighinn fasaigdh agus didein bho 'n dian ruaisg a tha 'ga leantail is far am faigh i a h-uile còmhadh bho a càirdean.

Is math a tha e drùghadh air m' inntinn ged is mise a tha faotainn bhur molaidh agus bhur tabhartasan fiachail gu bheil m' ainm-sa gabhail a steach ainmean nan càirdean gràdhach ud a bha leinn aig tús na Cèilidh ach a tha nis ann an Tir-nan-og. Cha bu mhath leam aig an àm so bhur toirt leam troimh ghràdh-taimh nan sonn, ach saoleam gu bheil sinn air uairean fhathast 'gan cluinntinn a' labhairt ruinn, gach aon drubh fa leth 'na Ghàidhlig eireachdail fhein 'gar comhairleachadh a bhi dleas do Cèilidh nan Gàidheal.

Bha am manadh a chuireadh oirnn an toiseach glé mhi-fhàbharach . B 'e sin gu robh sinn cho Gàidhealach 's nach b' urrainn gu maireamaid aonaichte 'nar beachdan, gu 'n spreadhamaid bho cheile gu h-obann ann an corruich san trod 's gu 'n cuireadh sin crìoch dheireannach oirnn 's air ar leithid. Ach cha b' ann air a ghabhail sin a thachair. Air mo shon fhein dheth 'se mo bharaill nach robh comunn dùtchail riamh ann a bu mhòtha ghin de fhìor chàirdeas buan am measg a luchd-buill na Cèilidh nan Gàidheal. Rinneadh dlùsich dhinn gu léir, 's chan fhiosrach mi aon neach a bha ann an dreuchd bho 'n a thòisich a' Chèilidh nach do rinn uile dhichead, fhad 's a bha e maille rinn gus àirde chur air clù 'a' chomuinn.

Is iomadh òraid ro-phongail a fhuair sinn bho shàr sgoileirean Gàidhealach agus is iomadh feasgar sona a chuir sinn seachad ann an còmhraidhean gasda, ann an dealbh-chluichean is ann an ceòl, agus ged bu tric a bhiodh feadhainn dinn a leantail air connasachd gu uair 's a' mhaduinn mu 'n òraid a chuala sinn 's a' Chèilidh bhitheamaid gu dleasdanach aig an t-seirbhis Ghàidhlig aig aon uair deug.

Bha sinn toilichte is cha robh cothrom a gheibhamaid nach toireamaid àbhachdas air choireigin às. Mar tha fios aig feadhainn an so bha e 'na chleachdadh againn bho chionna fada, bhi 'g ainmeachadh gu follaiseach gach neach a bhiodh ag iarraidh tighinn 'na bhall de 'n Chèilidh a chum is gu 'n

gabhte ris mur biodh nì aig neach na aghaidh, agus bhiodh gach lide de ainm 's de shloinneadh 's de sheòladh an neach sin ri bhi air a chur ann an Gàidhlig co dhiubh a dh' aithnichte gu furasda gu de bha sin ag ciallachadh anns a' Bheurla no nach aithnichte. Bha Niall Mac 'Illeathain agus Eachann Mac Phàidein anabarrach comasach ann a bhi faotainn fhacalan a dheanadh an gnothach airson ainmean annasach 's air àitean air nach cualas riamh roimhe ainm Gàidhlig. Chan aithne do ghoill Ghlaschu a leth cho éibhinn 's a tha na h-ainmean a th' aca air cuid do shràidean 's do chearnan a' bhaile, ach tha Gàidhlig na Céilidh a leigeil sin ris. 'So mar a dh'ainnicheadh ball ùr àraid a bha 'n sud. "Tha mise ag ainmeachadh Dhugaidh Mhic 'Ille Dhuibh as sinne, àireamh a trì deug sràid Bheagan-Dòchas ann am Bail' Anndra gu bhi air a ghabhail a steach mar bhall de 'n Céilidh." "Tha mise 'cur mo thaice ris a sin", arsa fear eile 's e ag eiridh, "air a bhonn so gu 'n teid an 'an' a sgaradh bho 'n fhacal 'bheagan' a chum 's gu 'n leughar an seòladh mar so—Àireamh a trì deug sràid-bheag an Dòchas ann am Bail-Anndra, ma 's i sin an t-sràid bheag a tha dealachadh bho shràid Stob-na-Croise." Thuir a' cheud fhear gun b' e sin a thuir e fhein 's fhreagair an dara fear gu 'm b' e ach nach b' e.

Is math dhuinn gun teagamh gu 'n robh ar Comunn air a chuartachadh ri riaghailtean matha 's tha mise air aon cinnteach ainm fhein gu 'n do shealbhaich sinn iomadh beannachd air an tàilleamh.

Is iomadh uair a thainig e stigh orm ann an còimhcheangal ri obair a' Chomuinn Ghaidheal-ach gur h-iad na ceart riaghailtean sin againne feadhainn cho math 's a b' urrainn a bhi ann a chum cor na Gàidhlig a sheasamh gu ceart air feadh na dùthcha. Tha mi de 'n bheachd gur h-e nì ion-mhiannaichte bhiodh ann Comunnan Litreachail agus Caidreamhail a bhi air an cur air dòigh anns gach ceàrn anns am bheil deannan sluaigh a tha Gaidhealach, agus dìon a bhi air a chur air na comunnan sin le macsamhuil riaghailtean na Céilidh. Ri ùine thigeadh na riaghailtean sin cho nadurra ris gach neach 's a tha iad a' tighinn ri muinntir Cheilidh nan Gàidheal. Tha cuid mhath de òigridh na Gàidhealtachd a' faotainn tomhas de fhoghlum ann an cànan an dùthcha fhein a nis (nach b'e an t-aideachadh anamoch e gu dearbh 'g a dheanamh ann an dùthaich Chrìosdail) 's tha e ion-chuidh gu 'm biodh còthroman freagarrach air an toirt dhaibh a chum 's gu 'n dean iad feum dhaibh fhein 's do chàch leis an teagasg a tha iad a' faotainn. Dh' fhalbh an latha anns am foghainn aona

chainnt do neach ionnsaichte. Tha an Gaidheal gu ro-mhath dheth anns an t-seadh so cheana is bitheadh cho fad 's a chumas e aige 'na slàinte 's 'na gloinead cainnt chomasach a shinsre. Tha Comunn na h-Òigridh air tighinn gu bith a nis agus tha ar dòchas ann gu 'm m'udaich e gu mòr 's gu rathail 's gum bi e 'na chòmhnaidh treun agus treibhdhireach air taobh na Gàidhlig anns na làithean, deuchainneach, ma dh' fhaoidte, a tha feitheamh oirre.

Is e glé bheag a shaoil mise 'n àm so 'n uiridh gu 'm bithinn anns an t-suidheachadh so an nochd agus ann an suidheachaidhean sònraichte eile, ach ma 's cuis-thaitneis dhomh gach nì mar a thachair a thainig sin uile do Chéilidh nan Gàidheal.

Tha mo mhór bhuidheachas agaibh a rithist airson nan tiòdhlaean luachmhor agus eireachdail a thug sibh dhomh fhein is do m' nighinn 's airson an spioraid ro-chàirdeil anns an do dheònaich sibh iad dhuinn. Tha mo nìgean a' deanamh mòr uail as bhur coibhneas 's tha mi dearbhte bho m' fhaireachdunnean fhein gur docha leatha an tiòdhac so na nì eile fhuaire i riamh a chionn 's gu 'n d'fhuaire i e bho Chéilidh nan Gàidheal.

Gun a fada beo sibh fhein uile agus a' Chéilidh.

Bhruidhinn Mgr. Seòras Marjoribanks, an t-Urra. Alasdair MacDhomhnaill, an t-Urra. Calum MacLeoid, Aonghas MacDhonnchaidh, Niall S. Caimbeul, Eachann MacDhughail, Donnchadh MacCaluim, Anna NicGilleathain, agus chaidh òrain a sheinn le Peigi Chaimbeul, Aline NicCoinnich, Oighrig NicMharcuais, Anna NicGilleathain Airdghobhair, Catriona NicGilleathain Airdghobhair (Aithris), Seumas Mac a Phi agus buidheann Fhìdhleir.

Air iartras D. MhicGrigair MhicGhillebhàin chaidh taing a thoirt do na seinn-eadarann, agus thugadh taing do Fhear na Cathrach leis an Urra. Cailean Mac a Phearsain. Chaidh a' choinneamh a dhùnadh le urngh leis an Urra. Calum MacLeoid.



On Saturday, 12th January, our President, Mr. John R. Banerman, was honoured by the members of Ceilidh nan Gàidheal and other Highland friends at a social gathering in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow. The function was promoted by the Ceilidh, the well-known all-Gaelic Society which he helped to form, and which he named thirty-nine years ago. During the evening Mr. Banerman was presented with a wireless set and a wallet of Treasury notes, while his daughter, Morag, received a lady's toilet brush set. Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, who has been president of the Ceilidh for twenty-seven years, presided over the meeting. A full report which, as in accordance with the Ceilidh rules, is given in Gaelic, appears in this issue.



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on Friday, 25th January. The President, Mr. John R. Bannerman, presided, and the following members were present:—Rev. John Bain, Edinburgh; John M. Bannerman, B.Sc., Balmaha; W. D. Barclay, Glasgow; Mrs. Barron, Glasgow; Miss Campbell of Inverneil, M.B.E.; Capt. A. R. Campbell, O.B.E., Glasgow; Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr. of Succoth; Rev. David Duncan, Musselburgh; Mrs. S. C. B. Edgar, Greenock; Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Miss Lamont of Knockdow; Miss May MacArthur, Glasgow; Duncan MacCallum, Glasgow; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Stewart MacInnes, Inverness; John MacIntyre, Glasgow; John MacKay, Linlithgow; Fred T. MacLeod, Edinburgh; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Wilfred J. MacLeod, Glasgow; George E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan; Colin Sinclair, Ph.D., Glasgow; John H. Smith, Glasgow; Miss Edith L. O. Taylor, Dunblane; George Thomson, M.A., Glasgow; Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria.

Attending—Robert MacFarlane, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary, and Hugh MacPhee, assistant to the Secretary.

The President referred to the death of The Lady Helen Tod, Blair Atholl and to the loss sustained by the Gaelic movement in Perthshire by the passing of such a keen worker in the cause. She had been closely associated with the Gaelic movement in her native county for over forty years, and since its inception was Hon. Convener of the Perthshire Provincial Mod Committee.

The President also made reference to the death of Captain Finlayson, Chief Constable of Ross-shire, and recalled his valuable services to An Comunn as Convener of the National Mod Local Committee at Dingwall in 1931.

The lamented death at an early age of Mrs. Duff (Bessie Campbell, Dornie) was feelingly referred to by the President. She was regular in her attendance at the Mods, and her services were freely given at Concerts and Ceilidhs where her natural gifts and charming personality made a strong appeal.

Sympathy was expressed with all the bereaved and the loss to An Comunn by their passing was duly minuted.

Minute of previous meeting was read, approved and signed.

Apologies from several members were intimated.

The President referred to the honour conferred on Colonel Gilbert Gunn, a member of

Council. The appearance of Col. Gunn's name in the New Year's Honours List as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire gave keen satisfaction to his many friends in An Comunn.

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

Minute of Meeting of the Education Committee was read. Names of suggested members to act on the Special Committee which was to inquire into the teaching of Gaelic were read, also names of those who were to form the Northern Sub-Committee. On the motion of the Convener, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, the minute was approved.

Minute of Meeting of Publication Committee was read and adopted, on the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

Minute of Meeting of Propaganda Committee was read. The Committee recommended the purchase of a Dictaphone as they were satisfied that there still remained a large amount of unpublished tales and songs to be collected.

On the motion of Captain G. I. Campbell, Yr. of Succoth, the minute was approved.

Minute of Meeting of Art and Industry Committee was read. Arrangements are now complete for the holding of a Celtic Art Exhibition in Edinburgh during Mod week. On the motion of the Convener, Miss Campbell of Inverneil, the minute was approved.

Minute of Meeting of Mod and Music Committee was read. It was reported that a letter had been received from Messrs Compton MacKenzie and J. L. Campbell suggesting that a sum of £300 be guaranteed by An Comunn to defray the expenses of Juvenile Choirs coming from the Outer Isles to the Mod. In view of the greater expenditure involved in travelling from the Islands the Committee recommended that the proportion of their expenditure to be paid by An Comunn should be increased from 15 to 25 per cent. On the motion of the Convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, the minute was approved.

The Rev. David Duncan, Convener of the Edinburgh Mod Committee, and the Rev. John Bain, Vice-Convener, reported on the progress being made with arrangements in Edinburgh for the forthcoming Mod. The reports were considered very satisfactory.

Minute of Meeting of Clann an Fhraoich Committee was read. It was reported that 13 Branches of Comunn na h-Oigridh had now been formed. The Committee recommended that the Organisers should encourage the formation of Shinty teams in connection with Comunn na h-Oigridh and that camans be supplied free to the first ten teams formed. The minute was

approved on the motion of the Convener, Mr. George E. Marjoribanks

Letter from the Secretary of the Oban Branch was read, forwarding copy of resolution of protest against the reported refusal of the Sheriff at Stornoway, to continue to give witnesses the option of giving their evidence in Gaelic. After discussion the following resolution, put from the chair, was, with one dissentient, Mr. Fred T. MacLeod, adopted:—"The Executive having had its attention directed to the published reports of the proceedings at a recent sitting of the Sheriff Court at Stornoway, from which it would appear, if these proceedings were correctly reported, that there is to be a serious curtailment of the privilege hitherto enjoyed by Gaelic-speaking witnesses of giving their testimony in Gaelic, emphatically protests against any change in the hitherto recognised practice that witnesses should be permitted to give their evidence, or any part of it, in the language in which they are best able to express themselves. The Executive is strongly of opinion that in all Gaelic-speaking areas it should be in the option of witnesses to give their evidence in Gaelic or English, and, further, that in such areas Sheriffs and court officials should have at least a working knowledge of Gaelic."

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

### MOLADH NA H-EARADH.

Fhir a shiubhas thar chuan  
 Beir an t-soiridh so bhuam  
 A duthaich na luachrach  
 'S nam fuar-bheanna àrd;  
 Do'n Eilean bheag bhoidheach  
 Tha fuairte ri Leòdhas  
 Na h-Earadh nan òb,  
 Far am b'òg robh mi tàmh.  
 Loch Bheirivig guamach  
 Le chuagan mun cuairt air  
 Far an d'àraicheadh suas mi  
 Ri bruaichean an t-sàil  
 Far an caidinn gu suaimhneach  
 'S an dùsgainn gun ualach  
 Le gàirich a' chuain  
 'Na 'mo chluasan gun tàmh.  
 Ach c'ait' bheil an òigridh  
 A chleachd a bhì comh rium  
 A siubhal le sòlas  
 Feadh mhointeach is chàrn ?  
 Tha cuid diubh air fògradh  
 A dùthaich an èolais  
 'S cuid eile nach beò  
 Fo na fòdan a' tàmh.

Is c'ait' bheil na fearaibh  
 A dh'àraich na h-Earadh  
 Na laoich a bha fearail  
 Is ceanalt 'n an gnàths,  
 Na fìrnan suairce  
 Fo'n eilidhean cuachach  
 Chuir a' Ghearmailt fo bhuaireas  
 'Nuair ghluais iad do'n bhàr ?

Tha cuid diubh air fhualag  
 Mar chaoraich gu'n bhuaichail'  
 Cuid eil' anns an uaigh dhiubh  
 'S an cuantan nach tràigh,  
 'S tha mathraichean guamach  
 Le claisean 'n an gruaidhean  
 'S am peathraichean luaineach  
 A' luaidh air am bàs.

Ach 's toigh leam do bheanntan  
 An dàbhlachd a' Gheamhraidh  
 Clach mheallain le gamhlais  
 A' danns' air am bàrr;  
 Is toigh leam do ghleanntan  
 Fo chulaidh an t-Sàmhradh  
 'S crònan nan allt  
 A ruith mall thun na tràigh.

Is toigh leam do lòn  
 Is do leanagan boidheach  
 Far am fàsadh an nèoinean  
 'S na sòbhraichean bàn—  
 Is toigh leam do mhointeach  
 'S do gharbh chreagan gròbhaich  
 Far am faicte na h-eoin  
 Anns na còsan le'n àl.

Is toigh leam gach buaile,  
 Gach allt agus fuaran,  
 Gach cnocan beag cruaidh  
 Tha mu 'n cuairt air na Baigh;  
 'S do chreagan cas guamach  
 Ri aghaidh nan cuantan  
 Mar chalaid ro-bhuan  
 Nach dean gluasad gu bràth.

An Cliseam 's an t-Arcla  
 'S Beinn Bhiarach an Leacainn  
 Le'n comhdach de'n t-sneachd'  
 Ag cur mais' air an àit,  
 'S beinn chorrach a' Chaolais  
 Ri doinninn nam Faoilleach  
 Toirt fàsaidh gu saor  
 Do na caoraich fo'n sgàil.

An t-eilean beag priseil  
 A fhuair sinn bho'r sinnsir  
 O! 's toigh leam fhìn e  
 'S cha dìbir mi chàs—  
 'Se 's boidheche le fìrinn  
 A chunnaic na chi mi  
 'Se durachd mo chridhsa  
 Gun till mi ann slàn.

HEARACH.

## IOMRADH AIR NA LOCHLANNAICH ANN AN EACHDRAIDH NA GAIDHEALTACHD.

By ANGUS MAC TAVISH,  
*Oban High School.*

1st Prize, Group D3, National Mod, 1934.

An uair a leughas sinn eachdraidh ar dùthcha chì sinn gu bheil mòran iomraidh innte mu na Lochlannaich. Is iad sin na daoine a thàinig thar sàile á Lochlann a shireadh am beò-shlainte feadh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean. Bha iad 'nan daoine calma agus treun agus bu bheag leotha na dhòirtheadh iad de fhìuil air son an dùilean a choimhlionadh.

Is ann mu dheireadh na h-ochdamh linne a thàinig na Lochlannaich do na h-Eileanan Gàidhealach an toiseach. B'e I Chaluim Chille a' cheud àite air an d'rinn iad. Loisg iad an eaglais agus na seann leabhraichean a bha anns an eilean, agus thug iad leotha a h-uile nì a b' fhiach. Cha do thoilich so iad agus anns a' bhliadhna ochd ceud agus sia thill iad agus mhòrt agus mharbh iad gach neach a bha air an eilean—tri fichead agus a h-ochd air fad. Cha robh manach no eaglais no leabhar air fhàgail 's an àite.

Rinn iad an nì ceudna anns gach eilean a tha eadar Leodhas agus Eilean Mhanainn. Ghabh iad seilbh air gach rud a bha anna agus rinn iad tràillean de na h-Eileanaich. Is e Somhairle mac Ghille-Bhrìde a' cheud fhear a dh'fheuch ri am bacadh. Chaidh leis glé mhath agus chuir e iad a mach á Earra-Ghàidheal gu buileach. Bha an dùthaich so aig a mhic 'na dheidh. Is iomadh dòigh a dh'fheuch rìghrean na h-Albann air son na h-eileanan 'fhaighinn ach cha tàinig a h-aon diubh gu buil gus an do chuir an treas Rìgh Alasdair ruag orra aig an Learga Ghallda anns a' bhliadhna dà cheud deug, tri fichead 's a tri. An sin fhuair Alba seilbh air na h-Eileanan an Iar.

Faodaidh sinn a ràdh nach robh gnothach sam bith aig Alba ris na h-Eileanan no ris an oirthir an iar ré na h-ùine a bha iad an seilbh nan Lochlannach. Rinn so muthadh mór air Albainn agus air Eirinn.

Roimh àm nan Lochlannach bha an aon seòrsa Gàidhlig ann an Albainn agus ann an Eirinn. 'N uair a thàinig na Lochlannaich chaidh sgar a chur air a' chàirdeas a bha eadar Albainn agus Eirinn. Chaidh a' Ghàidhlig a chur do thaobh an ear na h-Alba agus dh'fhàs i an

sin leatha féin. Cha mhór nach robh i air a dl-chuimhneachadh buileach agus cha chluinn sinn mòran iomraidh oirre gus an dh' fhàg na Lochlannaich Alba. Air an laimh eile dh' fhàs a' Ghàidhlig Eireannach ann am modh eile agus chì sinn an diugh cho mì-choltach 'sa tha iad.

Bha busaidh mhór aig a' chànan Lochlannach air a' Ghàidhlig Albannaich. Tha iomadh facal againn a bha na Lochlannaich a' labhairt. Chì sinn so gu h-àraidh ann an ainmean àitean, anns na h-Eileanan. Faodaidh sinn a ghabhail mar eisimpleir an "Calbh," eilean beag aig beul acarsaid Thobar-mhoire.

Ach rinn na Lochlannaich milleadh searbh air a' Ghàidhealtachd an uair a ghabh iad gnothuch ri I. Bha I aig an àm sin 'na àite far an robh gach sgoilear a b' fheàrr ann an Albainn a' tighinn. An uair a chaidh na daoine a mhòrt sguir so agus tha i an diugh mar àite eile an uair a dh' fhaodadh oilthigh a bhì ann mar biodh gu'n tàinig a leithid de mhi-fhortan air. Theich a h-uile manach a bha ann an I agus thug iad orra do bhaitean na Roinn Eòrpa. Thug iad leotha an leabhraichean agus sgrìobh iad leabhraichean far an robh iad. Tha na rudan sin a nis a' tighinn am follais agus tha sinn a' faighinn leabhraichean Gàidhlig anns na h-àitean a tha fada air falbh o I.

Ach thubhairt an t-òran

"I mo chridhe, I mo ghràidh

An àite guth mhanach bithidh geum bà,

'Ach mu'n tig an saoghal gu crìch

Bithidh I mar a bha"

Tha sinn an dòchas gu bheil sin fìor, ach bithidh cuimhne againn cò is coireach air son mar thachair do dh' I—na Lochlannaich.

The Publication Committee has issued an interesting booklet, "An Cuairear," which consists of seventeen prose and six poetry pieces, all of which were set as test papers in the Junior Literary and Oral Sections at National Mods. Although primarily intended as a reader for the many Gaelic continuation classes now held throughout the country, "An Cuairear" is worthy of its place on the bookshelves of all interested in Gaelic literature. The contents are all by acknowledged writers, and they deal with a pleasing variety of interesting subjects. It is nicely prepared, and very moderately priced at threepence per copy. The Committee trusts "An Cuairear" will find its way, and be a welcome visitor, to many Highland homes.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES.

During the past month, I had the pleasure of conducting a short and successful tour of the Branches at Lochaline, Salen, Tobermory, and Lochbuie. At each of these meetings large attendances were present despite the rather inclement weather then prevailing, and a rather pleasant feature of the tour was that Gaelic was the only language employed at all the meetings. These Branches are very active and preparations are now being made for the coming of Mr. John MacIver, music teacher, who will shortly commence duty there.

\* \* \*

At Tobermory, where the Summer School of Gaelic will be held this year from 16th July until 9th August, the Branch Committee are actively interesting themselves in the arrangements. They are looking forward to the School and will assist in every way possible to accord a hospitable welcome to the students. Particulars of the School with the name of the Local Secretary will be given in our next issue.

\* \* \*

When at Tobermory, I had the pleasure of calling on Mr. D. N. Lowe, Rector of the Higher Grade School, and discussed with him the proposal of forming a branch of Comunn na h-Oigridh. He is very favourably disposed towards the idea, and values it as a very useful agency for interesting the young folk in the movement. Mr. Lowe very willingly consented to the presentation of badges to twenty-three pupils, all of whom are taking Gaelic as a subject of instruction and who took part in the literary, oral, or solo competition at the National Mod. The Branch agreed to interest itself in Comunn na h-Oigridh and a special evening is to be set apart each session for "Oidheche Chomunn na h-Oigridh" when the children who have been admitted to this new organisation will appear before their elders, and assist in the programme of an all Gaelic Ceilidh. This is an idea that we would like to see adopted by all our Branches in districts where Branches of Comunn na h-Oigridh have been established.

\* \* \*

On my return to the City on Thursday, 17th January, I had the honour of presiding over a concert promoted by the Greenock Gaelic Choir in the Watt Hall. This concert which was held on two evenings was presided over on Wednesday evening by Mr. D. C. MacLeod, and it is worthy of mention that, on each

occasion a full house was present, and as one now comes to expect, the choir and soloists gave delightful renderings and interpretations of the various items submitted. It was a most enjoyable evening.

\* \* \*

Mr. MacPhail, Northern Organiser, concluded a tour of the North Sutherland and Caithness Branches, and he is now engaged in North and South Uist. A most encouraging feature of his visit in Sutherland and Caithness was the keen interest shown by parents in the work of An Comunn. During the summer vacation, it may be remembered, a number of teachers attended a Gaelic Class at Inverness, and on their return to their respective districts they have all given evidence of their willingness to assist in all our efforts.

\* \* \*

A short time ago, a new Branch and a Gaelic Class was formed at Helmsdale. Within a very short time a large number of pupils were enrolled at this class, which, is conducted under the auspices of the Sutherland Education Committee with Mr. Duncan Hunter, M.A. as teacher. The attendance has been very well maintained and there is no lack of enthusiasm for the old language in this district. Senior and Junior Music Classes are being held by Mr. Walter W. M. Ross, in the district.

\* \* \*

In the village of Latheron in Caithness, which many people regard as not being a Gaelic area, there is a very active Branch of An Comunn. Mr. MacPhail was on a visit to the District when he met an old man walking slowly along the road. In his customary cheery manner Mr. MacPhail addressed the stranger and enquired of him, "Cia mar a tha sibh, a dhuine choir," to which the old man replied with a kindly glint in his eye, "Tha mise a charaid, mar a tha mi, ach chan eil mi idir mar a bha mi." Could anything be more expressive? Although Gaelic is not the language of the youth in this village the older people still speak it, and now that a Branch has been formed there, an endeavour is being made to have a Gaelic teacher on the staff of the Local School, so that evening classes may be conducted during the winter months.

\* \* \*

It was a red letter day in the history of the Branch at Elgin when the Prime Minister attended a concert on 27th December. In thanking the Branch for inviting him to the concert he warmly commended the work of

An Comunn to the Elgin people, and in thanking the officials for appointing him as their Honorary President, he assured them they would always find him a staunch supporter, and he hoped that when his working days were over he would return to the North and spend many happy evenings attending Ceilidhs where those beautiful Hebridean songs would be sung, as they were hundreds of years ago.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Annas a' mhiosachan mu dheireadh thugadh iomradh air coinneimh Frith-Chomhairle na h-Airde Tuath, air a' 15mh là de 'n Dùbhlachd. Moch Di-luain, an 17mh là de 'n Dùbhlachd, thog am Fear-deilbhe air gu Duirmis, an ceann a Tuath Chataibh. Bha aireamh mhath cruinn 's an Tigh Sgoil agus bha Mgr. Mac Phail 'na Fhear-Cathrach. Bha an t-ionad so de 'n Ghaidhealtachd (Baile is dlùithe do 'n Pharbh) ainmeil riamh airson seinneadaran Gaidhlig, agus is ann am feabhas a tha iad a' dol. Chualas mòran de na h-òrain aig Rob Donn agus sgeulachdan a bhunneas do 'n Taobh-Tuath.

Air an ath-oidhche bha am Fear-deilbhe annas a' chathair aig Ceilidh an Mealainis far an robh ceud cruinn anns an talla ùr. Bha Ceilidh thaitneach ann agus mu 'n do chrìochnaich an oidhche fhuaire sinn balgann agus mir, agus cha deach a h-aon dachaidh acrach. Dh'fhag am Fear-deilbhe le carbad nam maileidhan rioghail an ath mhaduinn aig seachd uairean agus air an fheasgar sin, bha e 'na Fhear cathrach aig Ceilidh an Tunga. Bha barrachd is ceud an lathair agus is e so cruinneachadh bu mhotha bha aig meur Thunga fhathast.

Air feasgar Di-ciadainn labhair am Fear-deilbhe ri da fhichead a chruinnich anns an sgoil an Sgeiridh. Mhìnich e an obair tha 's an amharc aig a' Chomunn agus thuir e gu 'm biodh e iomchuidh gun rachadh meur ùr a' steidheachadh anns a' bhaile sin, a chum agus gum biodh cùisean a bhunneas do ar cànan agus ar ceòl a' faighinn cothrom as fearr. Bha na bha an lathair làn-riarachtaiche gu 'm bu chòir meur ùr a chur air bonn agus chaidh sin a' dheanamh a réir riaghailtean a' Chomuinn. Is e Domhnall Mac Leoid, A.M., mac brathair Ruairidh, nach maireann, an Ceann Suidhe agus Eachann Mac Aoidh, an Rùnaire.

An uair a rainig am Fear-deilbhe am Blàran Odhar (Bettyhill) bha bùird loma-làn de gach ni a dheanamh feum do chàil duine. Fhuair

sinn greim, thòisich a' Cheilidh agus gu dearbh is math a chuir a bhean-usal Nic Aoidh gach ni an òrdugh. Bha Niall Mac Fhionghuin comhla ruinn cuideachd agus fhuaire sinn Oraid is Òrain uaithe. Roimh ùd na Ceilidh, thadhail Mgr. Mac Phàil air cùim de na pàrantan agus thug e fo 'n comhar an dleasdanas do 'n Oigridh, le bhì a' cleachdadh na Gaidhlig anns na dachaidhean. Chan 'eil teagamh nach deantar mór-fheum anns an doigh so na'm biodh tide r'a sheachnadh.

Air an ath latha chum Mgr. Mac Phail air a chuart gu Mealbhaich ach cha robh e comasach coinneamh a chumail air oidhche Shathurna. Chruinnich luchd-comhairle a' Mhoid agus bheachdaich iad air an àm a bhiodh freagarrach airson Mòd an Taobh-Tuath, 1935.

Air feasgar Di-Luain chumadh Ceilidh aighearach an Srath Alladal agus bha trì fichead an lathair. Is bochd an gnothach e 's a innseadh nach 'eil ach coignear chloinne anns an sgoil 's an t-Srath air an là an diugh.

Chaidh am Fear-deilbhe thar an t-sreang Chatach air latha na Nollaige agus air an fheasgar sin chumadh coinneamh de mhèur a' Chomuinn aig Inbhir-Uige, an Gallaibh, agus air an ath-oidhche an Latharan a' Phuill. Bha àireamh mhaith cruinn aig an dà choinneimh ged a bha an t-side fiuch agus fuar.

Thadhail Mgr. Mac Phàil aig Bun Illidh air an rathad a' tighinn dachaidh agus bha comradh aige ri Rùnaire a' mheoir ùr a' chaidh a' steidheachadh anns a' bhaile sin o chionn ghoidir. Bidh Còisrean agus Co-fharpuisich eile às an ionad so aig Mod Bhrùra anns an Og mhios. Air a' cheart fheasgar bha am Fear-deilbhe a' frithealadh aig Cuirm-Chuill an Eilginn. Bha e taitneach fhaicinn gun robh Mgr. Seumas Ramsay Mac Dhomhnaill, Prìomh fhear-comhairle a' Chruin, agus a nighean Iseabal, 's a chuideachd. Aig deireadh na Cuirme labhair esan air an obair ionmhalta a tha An Comunn Gaidhealach a' deanamh air tàilleamh cànan agus ceòl nan Gaidheal.

Tha Mgr. Mac Phail aig an àm so air chuart air an Uibhist, (Deas agus Tuath) a' réiteachadh cùisean fa chomhar Féil nan Dealbh-Chluichean.

### An Airde Deas.

Choinnich a' Chomhairle Dheasach an seòmair gnothaich a' Chomuinn air feasgar Dior-daoin, an seachdamh là deug de 'n Fhaoilteach. Bha ceò dòmhail 'sa bhaile air an fheasgar sin agus chum sin mòran de na buill aig an dachaidhean. Bha Mgr. Donnchadh MacAluim, am Fear Gairme, anns a' chathair.

Am measg gnothaichean eile bha fathunn bho 'n Rùnaire mu dheidhinn a chuaritean bho 'n a choinnich a' Chomhairle mu dheireadh.

Chumadh Ceilidh na Seann Nollaige an Ceann-loch Chille Chiarain air an naodhamh là de 'n bhliadhna agus bha an Rùnaire 'na Fhear Cathrach thairis air a' choinneimh. Bha faisg air dà cheud pearsa an làthair agus chuireadh seachd oidheche chridheil, shunndach. Tha cròilean Gaidhlig 'ga ghiulan air aghaidh anns a' bhaile agus tha e taitneach r'a innsadh gu bheil na h-oileanaich a' frithealadh gu math.

Bha an Rùnaire aig Ceilidh Bhliadhnaid na Nollaige aig Meur Loch Aluinn air an aona la deug. Bha e 'na Fhear Cathrach an so mar an ceudna oir a thaobh bàis seana bhean 's an sgìreachd air a' mhaduinn sin cha robh e ionchuidh gu 'm biodh an Ceann Suidhe, an t-Urramac Eachann A. MacSuain, air ceann na Ceilidh. Bha mu thri fichead cruinn agus bha rogha òran, sgeul is ciùil an.

Air feasgar Di-luain rainig an Rùnaire Loch Buidhe agus chumadh coinneamh chaidreamhach an sin. Bha a' Mhgn. Uasal Anabladh NicPhail, an Ceann Suidhe, anns a' chathair, agus bha mu dheich ar fhichead 'sa chuideachd. Chuireadh uidheam air ceilidhean eile a chumail 's an aon bhothan agus thugadh taing do Mhgr. MacDhonnchaidh, Tòrosaidh, airson cead tighe fa chomhar nan ceilidhean is obair a' Chomuinn.

Bha faisg air ceud cruinn 's an t-Sailein Mhuileach air feasgar Di-mairt, agus bha Mgr. Alasdair MacPharlain anns a' chathair. Dh' fhosgladh a' Cheilidh le ceòl air a' phìob-mhòir air a chluich le balachan òg, MacGille Riabhaich, agus 'na dheidh sin bha òrain is òraidean. Thainig cuid de 'n luchd-seinn a Tir-Odhraim agus Caolas Ulbha, agus gu dearbh is ainmig a chluinnear seinn cho fonnmhor aig Ceilidh air duataich no aig baile. Tha Gaidhlig air a teagasg ann an Sgoil an t-Sailein bho chionn àireamh bhliadhnach.

Thadhail Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich an Ard Sgoil Thobarmhoire air Di-ciadain, an seathamh la deug, agus le cead is còmhnaidh a' Mhaighstir Sgoile chuir e buidheann de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh air bhonn an sin. Thug e bràiste do cheithir ar fhichead de na sgoilearan a tha ag gabhail Gaidhlig mar chuspair foghlum. Tha a' Mhgn. Uasal Griseal Nic Dhomhnaill, A.M., air ceann a' chroilean agus faodar a radh gu 'n do rinn an òigrìdh othail mhòr ris a' bhàiste a tha 'g an combharrachadh a mach mar Ghaidheil.

Fhrithheil an Rùnaire aig coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Mheòir 's an feasgar agus an deidh sin chumadh a' Cheilidh àbhaisteach. Bha mu cheithir fichead cruinn agus labhair an Rùnaire air Comunn na h-Oigrìdh, Dealbh-chluichead agus obair craobh-sgaolidh a' Chomuinn. Tha Gaidhlig air a teagasg gu

cùramach 's an Ard Sgoil agus mar an ceudna tha Sgoil Oidheche Ghaidhlig 'ga cumail aig am bheil mòran oileanach.

Bha an Rùnaire 'na Fhear Cathrach aig cuir-m-chiuil Coisir Ghaidhlig Ghrianaig air an t-seachdamh là deug agus thug sin gu crìch a chuaritean gu toiseach mìos a' Ghearrain.

Tha a' Mhgn. Ealasaid NicMhartainn, A.M., a' teagasg an Arainn agus tha Mgr. Iain MacIomhar a' teagasg an Tìriodh.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

TOBARMHOIRE.—An àite "ceilidh mhòir na Nollaige" 's e cuir-m-chiuil a bh' againn an bliadhna, agus mar a thionndaidh e am mach, b'e atharrachadh fortanach a rinn sinn a chionn 's gun d'fhuair sinn an cotbhor air na seinneadairean barrachta, Niall MacIleathain 's a bhean, fhaighinn, agus gu'n robh iad a' seinn cho math 's a bha iad riamb. Cha robh ach iad fhéin agus bean Phrobhaist MhicPhilip air a' chlàr, "na bha clàr ann," mar a thubhairt Iain Camshron (Lochiall) a bha 's a' chathair. Is e cuir-m air leth taitneach a fhuair sinn. Bha coinneamh shònruichte againn air an 4mh. là de'n Fhaoilteach a thoirt cumhneachain do Chalum MacIllTosa, A.M., airson na h-òibre mhaith a rinn e mar thaisgear a' Chomuinn ré nan coig bliadhna so mu dheireadh. Tha e a nis 'g ar fàgail agus bitheadh sinu 'ga ionndruinn, ach ged is e call mor tha againne, tha sinn toilichte gu'm bheil e' faighinn air adhart 'na obair féin, agus tha sinn cinnteach gu'n cum e suas bratach na Gaidhlig an Dunonnan, far am bheil a' dol.

Wick.—Though the night was stormy, and many of the members were otherwise engaged, there was a larger attendance than had been anticipated at the ceilidh of Wick branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, held in the Academy on Christmas night. Mr. Donald MacPhail, Inverness, organiser for the northern area, was present, and gave much information concerning the progress of the movement in general. Gaelic songs were sung by Mr. MacPhail and Mr. M. C. MacKenzie; Mr. D. B. Cowper gave humorous recitations, and four little girls — Annie Budge, Betty Bentley-Imes, Margaret Gunn, and Cathie Lyall (pupils of Mr. James Lyall) — in costume danced Highland dances very nimbly and neatly, music being supplied by Piper J. Christie, who also opened the ceilidh with bagpipe selections. Mr. Millar, who presided, proposed votes of thanks to Mr. MacPhail and the performers, and a very happy evening was closed in the usual manner by the singing of "Oidheche mhaith leibh" and the National Anthem.—A ceilidh of members and friends of Wick branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in the Academy on Friday evening, 18th January. The speaker was Rev. John MacInnes, M.A., Halkirk, who gave an interesting address on the impressions of the Highlands recorded in notes and writings by distinguished visitors in past times. A musical programme was gone through, including Gaelic songs by Mrs. Alexander; songs in English by Miss McLeod and Mr. D. Sinclair, jun.; violin selections by Miss M. S. Henderson, and a part song by the choir. All the items were greatly appreciated and encored. Votes of thanks were heartily accorded to Mr. MacInnes and to the artistes.

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Leabhar XXX.]

*Am Màrt, 1935.*

[Earrann 6

### WADE AGUS TELFORD.

Mu na làithean so fhéin cluinnear gaoir is gearan mu chor nan rathaidean móra. Bha uair ann agus bha dùil gu foghnadh an t-inneal-toit agus an rathad iarainn airson daoine is bathar a ghiùlan, air cho fad 's gum bitheadh an t-astar. Ach a nis leis an inneachd ùr, an “gluaistean” ola, tha coltas gum bi gach inneal eile a' dol air cùl. Riamh bho theann daoine ris an inneal ola iomairt air an rathad mhór tha an gnothach air fàs cudthromach. Tha eich gu' tarruinn is marcachd air dol á fasan. Tha na ceudan an diugh, agus eadhon na mìltean, a' cur seachad mórán de 'n ùine a' siubhal an carbad ola air rathad mór an rìgh. Agus tha a' bhuil sin air na rathaidean, agus air an chor bhoched anns a bheil iad, làn de shluic is de thuill. Ged tha cis 'g a tagairt bho 'n luchd siubhail gidheadh is e aobhar an gearain aig an am nach eil ionmhas a réir meud na cis 'g a chosg air càradh nan slighean.

\* \* \*

Bho chionn beagan is dà cheud bliadhna air ais bha e anabarrach doirbh turus a ghabhail anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. Is e a b' aobhar air sin gu robh an dùthaich cho leathoireach, gun rathad air na imicheadh coisiche, no air an gluaiseadh uidheam ghiùlain. Faodar a ràdh gur ann do bhrìgh easbhuidh rathaidean a mhair ceannaire is mì-riaghailt cho fada

anns an taobh tuath. Chaidh guin is ganhlas a chumail suas cho fad is a bha muinntir air an sgaradh bho chéile le beanntan is coilltean. Leis cho iomallach 's a bha na h-àiteachan comhnaidh cha robh deagh chothrom aig na fineachan gu eòlas ceart a chur air a chéile. Ach aon uair is gu 'n deachaidh an dùthaich fhosgladh le rathaidean bha slighe mar sin air a deanamh do choigrich; bha luchd turuis is fir gnothaich a' ruith na bu trice; bha eòlas air dòighean dhaoine eile 'g a mheudachadh. Mar an ceudna bha teachdairean an rìgh ag imeachd air rathad mór an rìgh, agus bha rian is òrdugh a' fàs mar bha ùghdarras 'g a chur air bonn.

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Cha b' ann idir air sgàth leas nan Gaidheal a chaidh suim airgid a cheadachadh leis an Ard Rìaghladh anns a' bhliadhna 1728 gus rathaidean a dheanamh anns a' Ghaidhealtachd. Mar is fhiosrach an leughadair dh'éirich na fineachan an aobhar nan Stiubhardach an 1715 agus an 1719. Fhuaras treubhan ri guaillibh a chéile anns an oidheip sin nach fhacas riamh roimhe ach aig naimhdeas. A nis mar thuig an t-Ard Rìaghladh Breatunnach gu 'n robh na Gaidheil ionnas agus aontachail air taobh nan Stiubhardach, bheachdaich iad gun dàil gu 'm feumadh iad dòigh fhaotainn air ceannaire an aghaidh an rìgh ùir a chiosnachadh gu h-obann. Cha ghabhadh sin deanamh gun slighe air an gluaiseadh

saighdearan an rìgh gu cabhagach do gach cearn anns am faodadh reubaltaich an cinn a thogail. Is ann do bhrìgh sin a rinneadh na rathaidean, gu bhì goireasach do 'n arm dhearg. Cha leigear a leas creideas air bith a thoirt do 'n Rìaghladh gu 'n robh iad a' sireadh leas nan Gaidheal.

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Cha luaithe a shuidhicheadh air na rathaidean airson an airm na chaidh Seineilear Wade mu thuath; agus an taobh a stigh de choig bliadhna rinn e saothair mhòr a' deanamh rathaidean—mu dha cheud gu leth mìle astair de rathad laidir fulangach, agus iomadh ceud drochaid air an cumadh gu grinn, agus air an deagh thogail. Tha cuid mhath de dhrochaidean Wade am feum fhathast; agus is gann gu 'n crìochnaich iad an uair a tha cuid de dhrochaidean an la an duigh a' tuiteam mu 'n gann a tha iad crìochnaichte. B' iad an luchd oibre saighdearan Gaidhealach a bha dileas do Rìgh Deorsa II. Bha iad air an éideadh ann am breacan dorcha. Uaith sin fhuair iad mar ainm *Am Freiceadan Dubh* agus an comharrachadh bho 'n arm dhearg. Is e an tuarasdál laitheil a bha aca, a thuilleadh air biadh is aodach, gach sergeant tasdan, fear-ceirde tasdan, agus cosanach coitichionn sia sgillean.

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Dlùth air deireadh na h-ochdamh linn deug dh'èirich innleachdair ainmeil rathaidean do 'm b' ainm Telford. Rinn esan corr is naoidh ceud mìle astair de rathaidean an ceann tuath Alba. Rinn e mar an ceudna dà cheud deug drochaid. Is e a rinn an rathad tarsuinn air Alba bho Bhaile a' Chàil gu Loch Carronn. Rinn e rathad anns an Eilean Sgitheanach bho Shligeachan gu Dunbheagain. Rinn e cuideachd an Cladhan Uisge bho'n Chorpaich gu Inbhirneis a' gabhail a stigh Loch Neis, Loch Omhaich, agus Loch Lochaidh. Ach c' àit an d'fhuair an t-Ard Rìaghladh an t-airgead airson nam feabhassan mòra sin? Fhuair air an dòigh so. An déidh Bliadhna Thearlaich ghlac an Crùn le laimh làidir na h-oghreachdan aig na triathan ceannaireach. Thog an Crun màl nan oighreachdan bho an tuath. Agus chan fhaca an Rìaghladh beairt a b'fhearr no an t-airgead sin a chosg air rathaidean is drochaidean fo stiùradh Thelford.

#### 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.

## PERTSHIRE SETTLERS IN CANADA ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

THE CLYDE OF CANADA.

By Colonel ALEX. FRASER, LL.D., Toronto,  
Canada.

### VI.

In the year 1820, one thousand and seventy-six labourers and mechanics from Lanark and Glasgow in Scotland, assisted by the Government, settled to the north of Drummond Township. They named their new home Lanark and changed the original name of the river on the banks of which they settled, to the Clyde. They prospered, founded industries, erected mills, and in due time when the adjoining townships were formed into a county, "Lanark" was the name chosen, but Perth, already the administrative centre of the wider district, became and still remains the county town.

The County of Perth in Upper Canada, the Perthshire of Ontario, is situated in the western part of the Province about one hundred miles from Toronto and three hundred from the town of Perth. The difference between western and eastern Ontario would be, generally speaking, that between the Highlands and Lowlands of Scotland. The County of Perth lies in a fertile stretch of territory, much of the land being the equal of the best in the Carse of Gowrie or in the valley of the Forth or Clydesdale. At one time it formed part of what was known as the "Huron Tract," the name "Huron" being that of one of the most powerful of the Indian tribes whose habitat was not far distant and after whom Lake Huron, one of the great inland lakes of Canada, was named. A large area of this fine territory was acquired by a British Company, known as "The Canada Company" on the usual settlement terms. This Company has honourably carried out its obligations to the present day, for all its interests have not been yet disposed of. The first general agent of the Company was John Galt, the Scottish author, whose stories are still in vogue; and whose administration in Upper Canada was greatly helped by Dr. William Dunlop (Tiger), well-known in Edinburgh and London literary circles in the days when Edinburgh was proudly regarded by Scotsmen as the "Modern Athens."

#### STREAM OF PERTSHIRE EMIGRANTS.

In the late twenties and early thirties of the nineteenth century, immigrants from the

homeland kept pouring in and the Perthshire emigrants took advantage of the liberal terms and security of settlement offered by the Canada Company by selecting one of the new townships as their future home. To visualise the places from which these latter came, one could take train at Perth for Crieff, and from there walk (as I have done) by road, passing through the all but awesome "Sma' Glen," in the deep bottom of which the river Almond flows over its uneven, gravelly channel. By the roadside is the unauthenticated "Ossian's Grave" of Fingalian legend, and on the opposite side of the river the famous Robbers' Cave in the well-nigh inaccessible high cliff, where fugitive marauders often found needy shelter and concealment. Here and there the scenery is wild, bordering on the picturesque, though as one proceeds along the rising altitude, it is scarcely impressive. In the gloaming the hamlet of Amulree is reached, where night lodging can be procured. Leaving in the morning and proceeding for a couple of hours, with a swerve to the left a few miles' walk brings one to MacDiarmid's large sheep farm, where rest and a Highland welcome awaits the traveller. By a moorland path one may cross to the vicinity of Aberfeldy and have a complete change of scene. Or leaving Amulree by the road through Strathbraan, a stiff walk brings you to Dunkeld. In that round of travel, occupying a couple of days afoot, would have been found, about one hundred years ago, the largest number of those people whose future is now being considered. Among them were crofters, small farmers, labourers and a few mechanics. Some were from other parts of the shire.

#### INDUSTRIOUS AND THRIFTY PEOPLE.

The name of the township in which they settled was Easthope, one of the largest and best in the Huron district. From the very commencement fortune smiled on them. It could scarcely have been otherwise, they were an industrious and thrifty people. A considerable portion of the surrounding country had already been occupied, and as the work of clearing went on rapidly and steadily, the rich and varied soil yielded up its latent wealth. In short, a sturdy yeomanry was being created such as was to be found among the better-class tenant-farmers of England or the bonnet-lairds of Scotland. This, of course, was not achieved without the process of arduous pioneering, with its temporary discomforts, deprivations, and discouragement. But a stout-hearted people, men and women inured to the vicissitudes

of life and withal possessed of unflinching faith in themselves and in Providence, were not easily dismayed by difficulties which to a softer race might have seemed to be insurmountable. And besides, they had before them, in not far distant communities, the example of what earlier pioneers had accomplished. The Sutherland clearances had thrown evicted crofters, tenants and tacksman into the famous Zorra Township in the adjacent County of Oxford, and stalwart MacKays, Mathesons, Munros, MacLeods, MacKenzies, Murrays, and Sutherlands had shown to newcomers how brawn and brain could achieve much more than a comfortable competency. Again, to the immediate east was the County of Waterloo, early settled by an industrious class of Menonites of Dutch and German origin, with more than two generations of trans-Atlantic experience in the British Colonies of New York and Pennsylvania—a people equally expert on the farm and in the factory, whose farms were as weedless as gardens, and as well-cultivated rood by rood as if emulating the intensive village of modern Denmark.

#### NOT SLOW TO LEARN.

The Perthshire immigrants were not slow to learn, and it was but a comparatively short time until their township became noted for the industry and intelligence of its settlers. As a corollary, the delegates from Easthope rose in influence in the District Council and were able to sway local affairs. When the township became well settled, it was divided into two townships—North Easthope and South Easthope. The Perthshire men were in the northern division. There was no county of Perth at this time, but when the District of Huron was divided into counties to meet the increasingly growing needs of the inhabitants the question of names became acute. The North Easthope Councillors favoured Perth and they succeeded; the district becoming the "United Counties of Huron, Perth and Bruce," with one general council for municipal government. This was in 1849. In 1852, these counties became independent of each other, and have since so remained. The capital city of the County of Perth is Stratford and the name of the winding river on which it stands is the Avon, reproducing the famous English name Stratford-on-Avon. The city is a noted railway centre, being on the main line of the Canadian National Railway from Toronto to Chicago and having a number of long branch lines radiating from it to the north, south, and west.

## ONLY ONE "FAIR CITY."

In this respect it might be compared, slightly, to Perth in Scotland say about fifty years ago, when the Caledonian Railway ran through from Carlisle to Aberdeen; the North British to Edinburgh; the Highland to Inverness and Wick; and the Caledonian to Dundee. There, however, the comparison may well begin and end; for, though the city of Stratford, Ontario, is noted for its churches, schools—primary, intermediate and collegiate; public buildings, aquatic park, avenues and glades of graceful maple trees; yet there is but one "Fair City," with its majestic Tay, its spanned bridge, beloved of the Muse, its North and South Inches, its ancient streets and vennels, its Kinnoull and Moncreiffe Hills, its history, and its atmosphere of ancient and modern life, meet for meditation, and thrilling thought; its incomparable walks, to Scone Palace, Kinfauns or Cherrybank—I am recalling fifty years ago—you who reside there now know better than I, whether or not expansion or modern civic improvements have imposed themselves on the centre or circumference of the early eighties of last century, but in any case there can be but one "Fair City" to me, and to me but one Perthshire; Inverness and Inverness-shire, the contrary notwithstanding.

The County of Perth, in Ontario, has contributed fully her fair share to the public life of Canada—in the matter of statesmen and educationists; professional men in medicine, theology and law; and very markedly in financial, commercial and industrial interests.

To particularise where there is really a plethora of merit might be a difficult task, but without being invidious, honourable mention may be made of the Monteiths, the Ballantynes, the Maclarens, the Livingstones (relatives of the great Dr. Livingstone of African fame), The Maybees, the Hays, and the Maxwells, who with respect to personal character and achievement have shed no small lustre on the County of Perth.

*(To be continued.)*

## GEALACH AN ABACHAIDH.

"Sìod agaibh a' ghealach ùr, Rìgh nan Dùl 'ga beannachadh!" theirear ann an cuid de àitean anns a' Ghàidhealtachd mar a chithear a' ghealach ùr a' cheud uair.

B' i a' ghealach a bha againn ann am mìos an t-sultainn an té ris an abrain 'gealach an abachaidh.' Tha i so eadar-dhealaichte bho na h-uile gealach eile anns a' bhliadhna. Is i a' ghealach a tha slàn dlùth air an ám a tha a'

ghrian os cionn cearcall-meadhoin na talmhainn. Tha i ag éirigh air aireimh de làithean an déidh a cheile, aig laighe na gréine, agus a' dearraidh gus an éirich a' ghrian an là-arnamhàireach. Ma bhithas an t-sìd math cha bhì moran dorchadais ann rù na h-ùine sin.

Do bhrìgh gu bheil am fogharadh anns an airde-tuath de ar dùthaich 'rinn linn theirear 'gealach an abachaidh' rithe gu coitcheinn. Air tìr-mòr na Gàidhealtachd theirear "gealach a' bhruic" rithe ann an cuid de àitean a chionn gu 'm bì am broc a' trusadh feoir thioram r'a solus airson a leabaidh gheamhraidh. Ann an Cataibh, theirear "gealach bhuidhe buain a' choice" rithe, agus anns na h-eileanan siar "gealach bhuidhe na Feill Micheil."

Ann an Albainn, anns na seann lhinntean am bitheantas, agus gu sònruichte anns a' Ghàidhealtachd, bha crìonadh na gealaich air a chunntas 'na am mì-shealbhadh agus fàs na gealaich 'na am soirbheasach airson toiseachadh air cuid de oibrichean. Ach cosmhuil ri iomadh sean chleachdunn eile tha an saobh-chràbhadh sin a nis a' dol air dì-chuimhne.

EILEANACH.

## MR. SHAW'S MARRIAGE.

It is with pleasure that we record the wedding of the General Secretary, Mr. Shaw, to Miss Elizabeth Taylor. This happy event took place in the Argyll Arms Hotel, Campbeltown on Thursday, 21st February. There was a large company present to witness the ceremony, and to accord to Mr. Shaw and his bride their felicitations and best wishes. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Alexander Moffat, B.D., assisted by the Rev. T. S. MacPherson. Mr. Moffat presided over the wedding supper with happy good humour, while Mr. MacPherson in a most appropriate and fitting manner proposed the toast of the Bride and Groom. A very pleasing tribute was accorded to Mr. Shaw and his good lady by the numerous friends who expressed their congratulations in the sixty-two telegrams that were received, a goodly number of which were in Gaelic and from Branches. Mr. Macfarlane, Treasurer, and Mr. MacPhee, Assistant Secretary, were among the guests to do honour to their colleague.

Mrs. Shaw was for several years a very active member of the Campbeltown Branch and of the Campbeltown Gaelic Choir.

We feel sure that all members of An Comunn will heartily join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Shaw long life, happiness, and prosperity.

"Na h-uile latha dhaibh."

## COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Nach sibhse bhios pròiseil, a chlànn ghaolach, gu 'm bheil Comunn na h-Oigridh a' faotainn, o so a mach, taoibh-duilleig de 'n "Ghaidheal" dha fhein? Feumar aideachadh gur e urram mór a tha An Comunn Ghaidhealach a' cur oirnn le bhì toirt dhuinn àite anns a' mhiosachan aca: urram is còir dhuinn a leigeil ris gu 'm bheil sinn a' tuigsinn a luach le bhì 'ga chur gu deagh bhuil—a' bhuil is àirde bhios 'nar comas a dheanamh dheth.



MAIRI NIC NA CEARDAICH,

An Sgoil Bagh a' Chaisteil.

A' cheud Duine-Cloinne a' fhuair Braiste  
Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Ach "tha car eile an adharc an daimh." Chan 'eil Comunn na h-Oigridh ach 'na naoidhean beag fhathast. Tha 'eachdraidh roimhe 's chan 'eil dad 'na dhéidh. Tha taoibh-duilleig euchdan ar Comuinn falamh an diugh. Tha aige ri e fhein a dhearbhadh air beulaibh nan Ghaidheal air feadh an domhain. Cuireamaid romhainn, mata, mu 'm bi an eachdraidh sin moran bhliadnaichean a dh'aois, gu 'm bi e 'na urram do 'n "Ghaidheal" i bhì air a sgrìobhadh ann.

Nis, tha fhios nach toigh le muinntir òig a bhì 'g éisdeachd ri searmoinean fada. Cha bu toigh leam-sa co-dhiu, an laithean m' òige—gu dearbh no 'n diugh fhein na 's mo. Creidibh

mise, mata, nach bitear ag iarraidh oirbh searmoinean fada leughadh anns an taoibh-duilleig so. Ach cuireamaid sìos am biogad, o àm gu àm, facal mu dhéidhinn nan nithèan sin a tha bunamhasach do Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Cìod is bun agus brìgh do ar Gluasad ri? Cìod a bha 'nur beachd 'nuair a fhuair sibh Braiste "Gaidheil" an là roimhe? Nach eil am facal sin fhein, "Gaidheal," ag innseadh dhuibh?

Bha dà bhalach ann, Murchadh agus Domhnall. Bha Gaidhlig aig 'am parantan le chéile, is bha i aig na balaich mar nach b' olc. Ach ged a bha Murchadh a' tuigsinn a h-uile facail, cha robh e ro-ghaolach air a bruidhinn. Agus 'nuair a bhìodh e fhein 's Domhnall a' bruidhinn Gaidhlig ri chéile 's a ghabhadh Sasunnach seachad orra, thionndaidheadh Murchadh gu Beurla air ball, dìreach a thoirt a chreidsinn air an t-Sasunnach nach robh Gaidhlig aige. Bha nàire air d' a taoibh. B'fhearr leis gu 'na bradh an Sasunnach ris fhein "Balach tapaidh, tha Beurla aige." 'Nuair a bha an roghainn aig balaich na sgoile ball-coise no camanachd a chluich, ball-coise a b'fhearr le Murchadh—bu toigh leis na fasanan ùra, Gallda. Bha 'n dà bhalach déidheil air dannsadh: ach 'nuair a thigeadh na coimhearsnaich cruinn, sean is òg, an talla ùr a' bhaile, gu bhì crathadh an casan, cha bhìodh gnothuch aig Murchadh ri ruidhle no srathspéidh no eadhon ri "ceithir cuir fhichead thulaichean." B'fhearr leis na dannsaichean Gallda: 's iad a b'uaisle. Dh'fhàs e suas gu aois fàgail na sgoile. Air ball bha *cigarette* 'na bheul. Bha e nis a' cur cùl ris a' Ghaidhlig gu leir, agus chan i a' Bheurla mhath a bh'aige, ach a' chabarsaid ghrannada a chuala e aig na daoine a thainig air chuairt as na bailtean móra. Mu dheireadh fhuair e tairgse math o dhuin-uasal e bhì 'na fhorsair aige air oighreachd bhreagh air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Saoil an do ghabh e sin? 'S e nach do ghabh—b'fhad a bhuaidh' e! Bha e fadalach 'sa' Ghaidhealtachd: cha robh *cinema* ann: an aon fhacal cha robh ni ann a b'ail leis agus thug e Lunnainn air, far an do rinn e a dhìchioll agus di-chuimhneachadh gu 'n robh e 'na Ghaidheal riann. Ach nach d'fhuair sinn ar leòir de Mhurchadh bochd?

Agus Domhnall? Cha bhì mi fada 'g innseadh dhuibh mu dhéidhinn Domhnall. Nuair a chaidh an Sasunnach seachad air-san, 's ann a b'airde a' Ghaidhlig aig Domhnall. "Cànan mo shìnsrean—foghnaidh i dhomh-sa: cànan is brèagha tha 'san domhain, ged a tha 'Bheurla math gu leòir 's a' bhaile mhòr." Dh'ionnsuich e leughadh is sgrìobhadh Gaidhlig, agus rinn e

na b'urrainn da gus a' Ghaidhlig a thoirt air ais gu bhì 'na cànan laitheal aig na Gaidheil. Sheas Domhnall ris a h-uile cleachdadh a b'fhearr leis na daoine treuna o'n tainig e.

Dh'ionnsuich e an eachdraidh, ghabh e ris na seann chluicheadan Gaidhealach, chuir e roimhe leigheil fhaicinn do 'n t-saoghal nach eil ni na 's urramaiche, na 's ionmholta, na bhì 'na DHEAGH GHAIÐHEAL. Fhuair e cosnadh math air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus thug e air ais gu torraicheas iomadh ploc math fearainn a bha 'na laighe fàs fad leth-cheud bliadhna.

Nis, ciod a their sinn mu 'n dà bhalach sin? Ciod, ach gu 'm bheil e furasda ri fhaicinn gu 'n robh Domhnall ann an Comunn na h-Oigridh agus gur bochd an sgeul nach robh Murchadh ann cuideachd!

So na Buidhnean de Chomunn na h-Oigridh a chuireadh air bonn gus a so:—E. Sgitheanach—Cill-Mhoire; Bearnasdal, Sgoil MhicDhiarmaid; Uidhist a Tuath—Cairinnis, Loch nam Madadh, Bailesear; Beinn na Faodhla—Baile a' Mhanach; Muile—Tobarmhoire, Buncasain; Barraidh—Bagh a' Chaisteil, Bagh a Tuath; Ile—Boghamor; agus Uidhist a Deas—Iochdar.

Nis, cuiridh mi cagar beag 'nur cluasan. Tha fhios agaibh gu 'm bheil "Ceann-Feachd" air ceann gach Buidhne de Comunn na h-Oigridh. Faodaidh an Maighstir-sgoile bhì 'na Cheann-Feachd, no Bana-Mhaighstir-sgoile: faodaidh duine air bith eile bhì 'na Cheann-Feachd, ach e bhì freagarrach agus deònach. Cha dean e muthadh. Ach so mo chomhairle dhuibh:—leanaibh ri bhuir Ceann-Feachd, ge be cò air bith e; an àite bhì 'nur dragh dha, bithibh 'nur cùl-taic dha. Ma bhios sibh dìleas dha-san, bithidh sibh dìleas do Chomunn na h-Oigridh; agus chan fhada gus am faigh sibh so a mach, gur h-e bhuir Ceann-Feachd aon de na Cairdean, no Bana-Chairdean, is fearr a th'agaibh.

Agus so a' cheud ni is còir dhuibh a dheanamh, ma's e nach do rinn sibh cheana e. Taghaibh aon Bhalach agus aon Chaileag anns gach Buidheann gu bhì 'na "Cheannard" agus 'na "Bana-Cheannard" agaibh. Taghaibh gu math 's gu ro-chhràmach. Biodh e mar bhòid is mar cheangal orra sin deagh-eisimpleir a thoirt dhuibh a thaobh bhuir dualchas mar Ghaidheil, gu h-àraidh ann a bhì labhart na Gaidhlig 'nur measg fhein.

Dé mu dhéidhinn Camanachd? Nach bu mhaith leibh i bhì agaibh 'nur Buidheann? Cuimhnicibh gu 'm beil ceud againn camain

a thoirt seachad a nasgaidh do'n cheud deich Buidhnean a dh'iarras iad. Ciod a tha bhuir Ceannard a' deanamh 'sa' ghnòthach? Cuireadh esan a chomhairle ris a' Cheann-Feachd: no is docha gu 'm bi e air dheireadh.

Thar gach ni, cuimhnicibh nach dean e am feum as lugha an taobh-duilleig so a bhì againn mur eil duine dol 'ga leughadh. Mur a teid agaibh air a leughadh gu réidh, ceart, tha mi cinnteach nach diùlt an Ceann-Feachd cuideachadh leibh, ma dh'iarras sibh air gu modhail—mar "Dheagh-Ghaidheil."

SEORAS GALLDA.

## A MODERN SEANACHIE.

Recently there died at Husabost in Skye a remarkable seanachie, who, though barely sixty years of age, was yet one of the type whom we associate with a generation now past. John Macpherson, a native of Skye, was endowed with splendid natural talents. If only he had had educational advantages in his youth he would have been among the best of Gaelic scholars. I do not know a single scholar who could repeat half of the old poetry and romance of which this humble son of Skye was master. He knew a vast amount of unpublished material. He could repeat much poetry that has died with himself. He represented the class of reciters and singers from whom J. F. Campbell of Islay and Mrs. Kennedy Fraser must have collected so many folk-legends and ancient melodies. N. R.

## GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH.

The Gaelic Society of Perth met and carried out recently a specially arranged programme of Gaelic, Hebridean, and Scottish songs by the Gaelic Society's own choir, under the conductorship of Mrs. J. Robertson. Ex-Bailie Baxter, secretary, presided, and gave a brief account of the visit of Robert Burns to Perth in 1787. Burns entered Perthshire by Glendevon and Gleneagles, and then on to Crieff and Ochertertyre. On that occasion, Burns composed the song, "Blyth, blyth and merry was she," in honour of Miss Murray of Lintrose. On the same trip he made also a poem on Loch Turret. At Dunkeld, the poet met the famous Neil Gow, and spent a night with him. A musical programme was also very greatly appreciated.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES.

In response to an invitation from the Killin Branch, I attended one of their Ceilidh meetings last month. Mr. James MacRaw, M.A., president, occupied the chair and there was a large company present despite the rather inclement weather then prevailing. We had a very happy evening together and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of renewing acquaintance with the friends who uphold our cause in this historic district.

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A pleasant feature of the movement in this area is the manner in which Branches assist each other at their Ceilidhs. During my visit there was a party of artists from Dalmally present, and at the previous meeting a company travelled all the way from Kinloch Rannoch to assist. This exchange of visits by Branch representatives is regularly maintained in this area and it is a practice we would like to see more generally adopted in all centres. It adds to the attractiveness of the meetings and gives sincerity to the motto—"CLANNA NAN GAIDHEAL RI GUAILLIBH A CHEILE."

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On a recent evening, a party from the Killin Branch travelled to Callander to give a presentation of the Play, "Posadh Seonaid," to the members of the local Gaelic Society. It was thought that the Y.M.C.A. hall would be sufficient to accommodate the audience, but, much to the surprise of the Committee, there was such a large demand for admission that it was quite impossible to admit half of those who presented themselves at the door. In view of this enthusiasm the drama party returned the following evening, and again the hall was packed. It is very nice to know that there is such an interest taken in Gaelic matters in this town.

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The activities of Mr. Donald MacPhail during the past month led him in the direction of the road to the Isles. His lot was cast among the hospitable isle folk of South Uist, where he had a series of thirteen meetings, this being the number of branches on the island. At each of these he was very well received, and it is worthy of mention that Gaelic and Gaelic only was the prevailing order on all occasions.

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A noteworthy feature of the meetings of the Uist Branches is the preference that is accorded to Gaelic debates. Each year discussions are arranged on matters of local interest and,

on these occasions, a full house is the rule. The speaking is not confined to the principals only as the members in the body of the hall, with due observance of the rules of debate, express themselves on the subject under review. No English is allowed, and it is pleasing to observe the ease and grace with which the younger members take part in the discussion.

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The relating of folk tales is another favourite method of entertainment. These are recounted in the traditional style, and along with the debates, provide an excellent medium of making the members more familiar with the literary usage of the language, and also assists in keeping alive these interesting items of native lore. We would like to see our Branches equally interested in those matters.

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Five Branches of Comunn na h-Oigridh were formed during Mr. MacPhail's visit to Uist. These are at Lochmaddy, Carinish, Baleshare, Balivanich, and Iochdar.

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A meeting of Branch Secretaries was held in North Uist to discuss arrangements for the forthcoming Uist and Barra Gaelic Drama Festival. All the branches are keenly interested in the success of this Festival, which is to be held immediately after the National Mod.

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We congratulate the players in the Ardgour team in their success at the Scottish Community Drama Festival at Fort William. Their presentation of "An t-Agh Odhar" was very favourably commented upon by the adjudicator. This is the first occasion on which a Gaelic team took part in the National Drama Competitions. The Branches in the Ardnamurchan area are arranging a festival of their own this year. It will be held at Acharacle on 27th April. The Hon. Mrs. MacLean of Ardgour, whose work in connection with the Ardnamurchan Provincial Mod is so well known, is prominently associated with this new movement.

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I had the privilege of being present at the Annual Mod of the Glasgow High School Gaelic Class Ceilidh on 9th February. It is an indication of the growing popularity of this Mod, that it became necessary to engage the Berkeley St. Andrew's Hall to accommodate the members of the public who now attend the proceedings. The various sections included classes for solo and oral competitions, and performances in all these were of a high standard

We are indebted to the Ceilidh officials for their efforts in promoting this Mod by means of which much good work is accomplished.

\* \* \*

Arrangements are well advanced for the Annual Mod of the Paisley Highlanders' Association which takes place in the Good Templar Hall, on 9th April. The Mod instituted by the Edinburgh Tir nam Beann Association last year is to be continued, and will be held this year on 25th May. The Gaelic Society of London which was formed in 1777, has successfully promoted a Mod for several years and the 1935 Festival will take place on 13th April. At a joint meeting of the Greenock Highland Society, Ceilidh Ghaidheil Ghrianaig and Greenock Tir nam Beann Association it was decided that an annual Mod should be held in the town, and the first of these is to be held in the Masonic Hall on 29th March.

\* \* \*

These Mods are additional to those promoted by our own Provincial Mod Committees. In the Southern Area eight Mods have already been arranged as follows: Kintyre Mod, at Campbeltown on 9th and 10th May; Lorn, Mull, and Morven Mod at Oban on 6th and 7th June; Mid-Argyll Mod at Lochgilphead on 11th and 12th June; Islay Mod at Bowmore on 12th or 14th June; Perthshire at Aberfeldy on 14th June; Ardnamurchan at Strontian on 25th June.

\* \* \*

The Mod which is to be held in Vancouver this month is attracting the attention of many Highlanders throughout the Dominion. Mr. John MacLeod, from Pas, near Winnipeg, a brother of the late Roderick MacLeod, Inverness, expects to be present. Another Gael who is coming from Winnipeg is Mr. Donald MacInnes, a native of Broadford, Skye. This Mod has already been given the influential Patronage of such men as Mr. T. B. MacAulay, President of the Sun Life Insurance of Canada; Major-General J. W. Stewart, Vancouver, and Mr. Angus MacInnes, M.P. Among the entries received in the literary section is one from California, U.S.A.

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We are fortunate in that Mr. Angus Robertson, ex-President, will at the time of the Vancouver Mod be on a visit to Canada, and he hopes to be present to represent us at the proceedings. He will carry with him a special message to our Canadian friends for the success of their efforts. The message is as follows:

Do Luchd-Riaghlaidh a' Mhoid  
an Bhancoubhar.

A Mhuinntir Ionmhuinn,

Tha sinne a tha aig an àm so a riochdachadh a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich ag cur le laimh ar caraid agus ar teachdaire dileas, Mgr. Aonghas MacDhonnchaidh, a bha re chòig bliadhna 'na Cheann Suidhe ionmhuinn againn air ar Comunn, do bhur n-ionnsuidh-sa, 'r bràithrean gràdhach ann am Breatunn Cholumbia, ar làn bheannachdan aig an àm so air dhuibh a bhì a' dol le chumail ainm an baile mòr Bhancoubhar a' cheud oidheip a rinneadh fhathast air Gaidhlig ath-stéidheachadh 'n ur measg is a h-urram a chur an àird aig Mòd.

Tha sinn ag guidhe dhuibh gach adhartas is buaidh is urrainn dhuinn a chur an cèill dhuibh is gach rogha soirbheachaidh a bhì le 'ur Mòd. Gu robh bhur Comunn a' sìor dhol an meud 's an maitheas, agus creidimh gu'm bi dàrctadain bhur cardean a dh'fhàg sibh air seann chladaichean siara na h-Eorpa 'g ur sìor leantuinn le'n dàrachdan dùthchail a h-uile latha 'chi 's nach fhaic.

Is sinne bhur bràithrean dileas,

IAIN R. MAC 'ILLE NA BRATAICH,

Ceann Suidhe.

NIALL MAC 'ILLE SHEATHANAICH,

Rhànaire.

\* \* \*

We are pleased to announce that our Treasurer, Mr. Robert Macfarlane, C.A., has been appointed to the very honourable and important office of Commissioner for Income Tax for Dumbartonshire. This is one of the highest distinctions that can be accorded to a member in his profession. It is interesting to note that Mr. Macfarlane completed twenty-five years service as Treasurer of An Comunn at the end of January of this year.

\* \* \*

Many friends will be glad to hear that Professor E. A. Milne, F.R.S., Rouse Ball, Professor of Mathematics at Oxford University, has been awarded the gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society for his scientific researches. Mrs. Milne is a daughter of Mr. H. F. Campbell, Dornoch, one of our life members and a former Convener of our Education Committee.

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Dr. Catherine Chisholme, a member of the Manchester Branch, has been honoured by His Majesty the King, who conferred on her the C.B.E., decoration.

\* \* \*

Mr. Lachlan Campbell, a member of An Comunn, and one of the most prominent Gaels in London, at a recent meeting gave a description of a recent visit to South Africa. He met several Gaelic-speaking people during his travels and these included a Jew, an excellent and facile speaker of the language. This man who is now a prosperous trader, spent his early days in Inverness-shire.



Among the many money making efforts that are being arranged by the Edinburgh Mod Committee is a large Feill. There is much preparation needed for such an undertaking, and, it occurs to us, that many of our members might be willing to assist in its success by sending contributions for the various stalls. Mr. Donald MacIndeor, 62 Corstorphine Bank Drive or Mr. Alasdair J. Duncan, 31 Melville Street, who act as joint-secretaries will be very pleased to accept and acknowledge donations.

\* \* \*

By the number of enquiries received in connection with the Celtic Art Competitions it seems that this native form of art decoration is attracting the attention of many students. To those who desire to become interested in this subject, we would recommend the book "The Elements of Celtic Art." It is an excellent publication, specially prepared for beginners. The introductory matter explains the principles of the Art, and by gradual stages it proceeds until the more complicated interlacing patterns are reached. There are numerous illustrations showing the construction of various designs. The author of the book is the late E. K. Carmichael. We stock it in the office, 212 West George Street, and would be pleased to supply copies on application. The price is 1/- per copy, postage one penny.

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The appointment of a local Secretary for the 1935 Summer School of Gaelic has not yet been made. The School will be held at Tobermory from 16th July until 9th August. Any one desiring to make enquiries in regard to accommodation should write to Miss G. L. Macdonald, Rosebank, Tobermory. Miss MacDonald, is the Branch Secretary, and she will attend to such matters in the meantime.

\* \* \*

The members of the Elgin Branch are fortunate in having a person of Miss Margaret Winifrede Simpson's accomplishments associated with their activities. Miss Simpson possesses decided musical gifts and is well known for her original verse. She has composed clarsach accompaniments and obligato, and at the recent Ceilidh which the Prime Minister and his daughter attended and so much enjoyed, several of Miss Simpson's were sung and recited. She also trains a choir in Gaelic and Scots songs. Miss Simpson has been responsible for arranging a number of Ceilidhs, and their success indicates her devoted interest in the work, and gives evidence of her abilities as an organiser.

We notice that Paul Robeson, the famous coloured singer, is to include Hebridean songs when he appears at the International Celebrity Concert at the Music Hall, London, towards the end of this month.



## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Air an 8 mh là de 'n Fhaoilteach thog Fear-deilbhe na h-Airde Tuath air gu Uibhist agus air feasgar Dior-daoin bha a' cheud choinneimh de 'n turas an Loch nam Madadh. Ged a bha an oidhche fuathasach stoirmeil bha dà fhichead cruinn 's an Tigh Sgoile agus bha an Ceannt-Suidhe, Mgr. Calum Mac Leoid, anns a' chathair. Labhair Mgr. Mac Phail air obair a' Chomuinn agus an déidh sin bha Ceilidh laghach ann le òrain agus sgeulachdan. Mu 'n do chriochnaich a' choinneamh bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air Féill nan Dealbh-Chluichean 1935.

Air an ath-oidhche thadhail am Fear-deilbhe aig Sollas far an d'eisd e ri deasbairreachd "Co dhìu as fearr posadh ri té ghrànda le airgid no ri té bhoidheach gun airgid idir." The gillean Shollais dol a' phosadh té bhoidheach, airgid ann no as. Labhair Mgr. Mac Phail air Feill nan Dealbh-Chluichean, agus Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Air Di-Sathuirne chruinnich Rùnairean nam Meuran an Ceannt a Tuath Uibhist, aig Cladach-Chircebst, agus bheachdaich iad air "Feill nan Dealbh-Chluichean an Uibhist is Barraidh 1935."

Air Di-Luain an 14mh là bha Mgr. Mac Phàil aig coinneimh de mheur a' Chladaich agus bha aireamh mhath cruinn. Chaidh oidhche laghach a' chur seachad le òrain agus sgeulachdan agus chuidich am Fear-deilbhe leis a' Cheilidh mar is abhaist.

Bha am Fear-deilbhe an lathair aig Ceilidh an Tigh-Ghearraidh air Di mairt agus ged a chuir an cnatan mosach, "Am Flu," moran gu na leapaichean, bha aireamh math cruinn. Chualas moran de sgeulachdan beaga a' bhùineas de 'n chearn so de dh'Uibhist. Roimh mheadhon latha thadhail Mgr. Mac Phàil aig Sgoil Chairinnis agus chuireadh air bonn Meur de Chomunn na h-Oigridh. Tha ceithir air fhichead gille is nighean ceangailte ris a' mheur so agus e'ait am bitheadh buidheann de Chomunn na h-Oigridh mur biodh anns an ionad 's an deachaidh Blàr Chairinnis a chuir. Tha an Teampall aig ceann an Tigh-Sgoile. Nach bu laghach an t-aite so airson Cuirm-chnuic de bhuidhnean Comunn na h-Oigridh an ceann a Tuath Uibhist.

Air an ath-fheasgar labhair Mgr. Mac Phàil ri Gaidheil Lochephort 's an Tigh-sgoil. Bha an an talla làn agus an déidh na h-oraide chualas deasbairachd air a' chuspair, "Co dhiu as fearr mac no nighean do phàrantan?" Is cinnteach gur e so Baile Chloinn Phàil chionn bha coignear de 'n chinneadh so an sàs 's an deasbud. Choisinn na gillean ach tha na nighean de 'n aon bheachd fathast, nach eil moran feuma anns na gillean a chum furtachd a thoirt do na pàrantan 's na laithean a th'ann.

Bha Ceilidh anabarrach 's a Bhaile Shear air feasgar Dior-daoin. Chualas òrain, sgeulachdan, ceol na fìdhle agus na pobamóire, le sluagh is aithne sin a' dheanamh le grinneas. Chaidh buidheann de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh a chur air chois cuideachd. Tha ceithir-deug de 'n Oigrìdh agus bràistè A' Chomuinn 'nam broilleach a nis, agus is Gaidheil is Bana-Ghaidheil iad gu 'n cùl.

Air feasgar Di-haoine chumadh coinneamh an Cairinnis. Labhair am Fear-deilbhe air cor na Gaidhlig agus as a dhéidh sin bha Ceilidh thogarrrach ann.

Chaidh Mgr. Mac Phàil gu Beinn na Faogha air Di-Sathuirne agus bha ceud gu leth a' feitheamh an Tigh-Sgoil Bhaile Mhanaich. Labhair e air na cuspairean, Feill nan Dealbh-chluichean agus Comunn na h-Oigrìdh. Chaidh buidheann de 'n Oigrìdh a' chur air chois. Bha Ceilidh ghasda ann an déidh sin agus fhuaradh ceòl air a' phìob mhòir leis a' phìobaire ainmeil sin, Mgr Aonghas MacAmhlaidh.

Air oidheche Di-luain bha faisg air dà cheud aig Ceilidh an Cnoc na Mòna far an d'fhuair sinn òrain agus sgeulachdan thaghta. Chan 'eil an Albainn sluagh as déidheile air sean eachdraidhean na buill a' mheòir so agus is math is aithne dhaibh sgeulachd innseadh.

Air an ath-latha, Di-màirt, chuireadh air bonn 's an Iochdar, meur de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh anns am bheil fichead ball agus anns an fheasgar bha an Tigh-sgoile loma lan de Cheilich. Chuidich an Comunn òg leis a' chlàr-eagair agus bha Ceilidh thaitneach ann. B'e so aireamh bu mhòtha a bha riann cruinn an Tigh-sgoil an Iochdar.

'Nuair a rainig Mgr. Mac Phàil Tigh-sgoil Gheirinnis air feasgar Di-ciadain, bha an t-aite cho lan 'sa chumadh e. Labhair e air chisean a bhuneas do aobhar na Gaidhlig agus chualas cuideachd oraidean bhrosnachail o Mhgr. Mac 'Ille Mhaoil, Mgr. Mac Leoid agus An t-Urramach Calum Leing. As a dhéidh sin fhuair e òrain, sgeulachdan agus dannsadh. Tha duil ri buidheann on mheur so a bhi 'gabhail pàirt am Feill nan Dealbh-chluichean an Uibhist.

Ged a bha oidheche dhoirbh ann bha aireamh maith cruinn an Tigh-sgoile Fhoghmòr air feasgar Dior-daoin. An so cuideachd, chualas mòran de sgeulachdan a bhuneas do Uibhist agus is ro-mhath chaidh an innseadh.

Chumadh a' choinneamh nu' dheireadh de 'n chuairt anns an Talla mhòr an Dailebrag air feasgar Di-haoine. Bha an oidheche fuathasach stoirmeil agus air an aobhar so, cha robh an àireamh cho mòr. A dh'aindeoin sin bha Ceilidh laghach ann agus bha Fear na cathrach e fhein am fonn math airson òran. Tha am meur so deonach gu 'n teid buidheann air adhart gu Feill nan Dealbh-chluichean.

Aig gach coinneimh is i a' Gaidhlig a mhàin a bh'air a labhairt agus anns gach ceàrn de 'n Eilean, Deas is Tuath, tha a' chlànn deas-bhriathrach an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla. Tha an sluagh air fad coibhneil, cairdeil, deighheil air gach seann eachdraidh agus tha an oigrìdh 'g an togail suas le làn eòlais air canain an athraichean agus gach deagh bheus eile a tha leantuinn na h-obrach so.

Dh'fhag Mgr. Mac Phail aig da uair 'sa mhaduinn (Di-Sathuirne) agus rainig e Inbhirnis 's an fheasgar, làn-riarachte leis na chuala 's na chunnaic e air a thurus do Uibhist.

### An Airde Deas.

Rinn an Rùnaire ullachadh airson cuairt a ghabhail an Airdnamurchan, ach a thaobh is gu 'n robh moran ag gearan leis a' chnatan mhòr, agus e fbein 'nam measg, b'èigin a chuairt a chur air ais gu am iomchuidh eile.

Air an naodhamh là de 'n mhios chaidh seachad fhritheil an Rùnaire aig Mod Ceilidh Comunn Ard Sgoil Glaschu a leigeil ris gu bheil An Comunn ag gabhail ùgh ann an obair na Ceilidh, agus aig a' cheart m'ag giulan deagh-ghean bho 'n Fho-Chomhairle Dheasach. Thug e taing do luchd Comhairle na Ceilidh air son an dealais do thaobh na canain agus bhrosnach e iad a dhol air adhart leis na mòdan a chum òigrìdh nam bailtean móra a mhisneachadh agus am barrachd saothair agus dichill a dheanamh a chur ri meud an eolais air canain an athraichean. Bha am Màd soirbheachail air a h-uile dòigh agus tha taing gu sòradh aig buill na Ceilidh.

Air an dara là deug de 'n mhios bha Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich an Inbhir-Air aig Ceilidh a' mheòir an sin. Bha mu cheithir fichead an lathair, agus thugadh bho'n Ard-Ururl oraidean agus orain an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla. Sheinn a' Choisir Bhan agus thug an Rùnaire taing dhoirbh air son frithealadh aig a' mhòd am baile an Obain. Thug an aireamh a bha cruinn misneach mhòr do'n luchd-dreuchd, agus tha am meur a nis an déidh shè bliadhna cho fallain 's a bha e riann. Chaidh a' Mhgdna

Anna NicMhaoilein agus Mgr. Calum MacCoinnich á Glaschu a chufdeachadh le rain.

Air Df-haoine an coigeamh là deug, chaidh an Rùnaire gu Cill Fhinn. Bha còrr is ceud cruinn aig coinneimh an sin, agus dh'fhiosraich an Rùnaire nach 'eil comunn de sheorsa air bith eile anns a' chlachan sin a tha mar astar, cho soirbheachail ri meur a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach. Mar a leughas sibh an earann eile rinn Buidheann-Chluich a' mheoir so riochdachadh ciatach air a' Chluich "Posadh Seonaid" an Calasraid bho chionn ghoirid. Tha Buidheann-Chluich mar so a' toirt misnich mhoir do cobhar na Gaidhlig ge b'e meur ris am bheil i co-cheangailte.

Thainig ceathrar de bhuill meur Ghlinn Urchaidh a h-uile ceum a "Dail-Mhàile" air cheilidh air muinntir Chill-Fhinn. Fhuair iad failte 's furan agus thug iad mar éric sgeul is oran.

Tha an Rùnaire am beachd a bhi air chnairt a' chuid is mo de 'n mhios so.

Tha luchd-teagaisg ag obair mar a leanas :—  
Iain MacDhomhnuill, Eilean I.

Iain MacIomhair. Tobar Mhoire, Aros agus a' Mhorairne A' Mhgdn E. NicMartainn, A.M., Arainn agus Aird Ghobhair.

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## GAELIC SPEAKING CANADIANS NUMBER MORE THAN 32,000.

More than 32,000 people in Canada speak Gaelic as their mother tongue and of this number over 24,000 are in Nova Scotia, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported today.

Scottish Gaelic predominates, the report states, as fewer than 500 who speak the language are of Irish origin, about 400 English and Welsh, and less than 100 are of French origin. Among the 31,000 Scottish Gaelic speakers, some 2,600 are immigrants and nearly 29,000 were born in Canada.

Gaelic is spoken in all the provinces, as there are 2,700 in Ontario, more than 1,000 in Prince Edward Island, nearly 1,000 in Quebec and Saskatchewan respectively, and over 800 in British Columbia, and in Alberta there are more than 700.

As there has been no census taken of the Gaelic speaking population prior to 1931, the report says it was impossible to estimate whether Gaelic was on the increase or decrease—  
From *Glouce Bay Gazette*.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

(Am Fear deasachaidh, An Gaidheal.)

Uasail Ionmhuinn.—Fhuair sinn naidheachdan beaga éibhinn á Uibhist anns an phaispeor so, agus bha iad cho Gaidhealach ri gin a chuala mi. So agad te Gaidhealach á Eirinn anns am faighear an dearbh sheorsa ceol-gaire. Is ann an ceann an iar-dheas Eireann a tha Gleann nan Gealt, agus na'm b'ann an Albainn, dluth air Cille-mo-cheallaig, a bhiodh e is e Gleann nan Amadan a bhiodh air. Gleann sona; bha uisge ann a bha laidir agus lusan anns an robh brìgh, agus cha robh iad cho searbh agus nach gabhadh iad òl is itheadh; ach is e a bha a' cur a' mhaithias agus a' mhaise mhòr air nach robh ploc eadar Eilean Mhic Aoidh agus A' Mhalainn cho samhach ris. Am measg nan amadan a chaidh a dh'fhuireach ann bha Micheal na boile, fear air an robh a cheann a' cur dragha. Ciod a thigeadh an latha ud gu Gleann nan Gealt ach bò agus leig i geum aiste a chuir mac-talla air chrith o iochdar gu uachdar a' ghlinne. An ceann seachd bliadhna thuir bodach a bu gheòire chlas na cach, "An i bò a bha sid?" An ceann seachd bliadhna eile thuir oganach aca, "C'aite an cuala tu i?" Agus an ceann seachd bliadhna eile thuir Micheal "Mar a tha mi air mo bhodhradh agaibh!"—Fear eile airson Eachainn,

C. D. O.

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## THE LATE MAJOR N. B. MACKENZIE, FORT WILLIAM.

In the passing of Major N. B. MacKenzie, Fort William, the Gaelic movement in Lochaber has been deprived of one of its leading personalities. A man of wide interests, "the Major," as Mr. MacKenzie was popularly known, devoted much of his leisure time to public service. Like his father, Major MacKenzie occupied the Provost's chair, while his name was associated with many important committees. Commissioned to the 4th Camerons in 1912, on the outbreak of war he went with his regiment to France and was severely wounded at the battle of Festubert. Throughout his life he took a keen and practical interest in Gaelic matters in the Lochaber district. At the 1932 National Mod, which was held in the town, he acted as convener of the local committee, and for several years up to the time of his death, he held the appointment of president of the Fort William Branch. Major MacKenzie, it may be remembered, was for some time a member of our Executive Council. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow.

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**ABERDEEN.**—That the Aberdeen Branch has secured the interest and appreciation of a considerable musical public was evident on Saturday, 16th February. The occasion was a Highland concert held in the Music Hall, which attracted an audience of well over one thousand people. It was the first public effort of the Branch, and the Committee provided a standard of musical talent worthy of the occasion. Colonel Farquhar MacLennan, D.S.O., President of the Branch, occupied the chair. His opening address of welcome to the audience was delivered in Gaelic; the background was fittingly formed by a dozen stalwart members of the Aberdeen Pipers Society in full Highland dress, while the stage was appropriately decorated in Royal Stewart tartan tastefully interspersed with targe, claymore, and banner. The vocalists included Miss Mary Colquhoun, Glasgow (with clarsach accompaniments); Mr Kenneth MacRae, Edinburgh, the well-known Gaelic tenor; Miss Mary C. MacNiven, Mod Gold Medalist, and Miss Mary B. MacLean, Glasgow, elocutionist. Although recalls by the audience were resisted during the first part of the programme, their enthusiasm in the second half could not be restrained until the midnight hour was almost reached before the programme could be completed. The Aberdeen Pipers Society (Pipe-Major Stephen) and the Strathspey and Reel Society, under Mr Alex. Sim, contributed rousing selections, while Mrs Archd. Campbell contributed a solo on the pianoforte, and also accompanied the vocalists. The "Dancers of Don," led by Hon. Elizabeth Forbes-Sempill, contributed a charming demonstration of country dances. During the course of the proceedings, Lord Provost Alexander addressed the audience, complimenting the Branch on the delightful musical programme provided, and expressed the hope that in the near future the city would be called upon to "house" the annual Mod of An Comunn.

**ARISAIG.**—Under the auspices of the local Branch, a ceilidh was held in the Astley Hall, when Rev. D. M. Logan, vice-president, presided. Mr D. MacPhail, Northern Organiser, gave an address in Gaelic and English. The musical programme was sustained by Miss MacDonald, one of An Comunn's teachers, who has been doing duty in Morar and Arisaig, and a choir of children from St Mary's School, who sang very sweetly. Mr MacMillan delighted all present by his playing of the Prince of Wales' new pipe tune, "Mallorca." At the close tea was served.

**BRORA.**—There was a large and distinguished company present at a ceilidh recently organised by the Brora Branch in the Links Hotel. Councillor John Ross, vice-president, occupied the chair, and he was accompanied on the platform by Colonel Gilbert Gunn, O.B.E.; Mr Hugh A. Sutherland, Director of Education for Sutherland, and Mr David Grant, to whose work as secretary the success of the branch is mainly due. The programme was a most enjoyable one, consisting of sgeulachdan, readings, songs, and instrumental items.

**BUNESSAN.**—A very successful Ceilidh was held in the Hall, over which Mr John Campbell presided. There was a large attendance, despite the inclement weather prevailing. The proceedings commenced with bagpipe selections, and the programme was thereafter sustained by songs and stories, together with a dialogue.

**CAMPBELTOWN.**—The Campbeltown Branch is one of the most active in the movement. Its meetings, which are held monthly, are eagerly looked forward to by the townspeople, and, as a consequence, the meetings are always well attended. The February meeting took the form of a tattie and herring supper, and it is interesting to mention that several of the civic fathers were among those present. This branch attends to the arrangements for the Kintyre Provincial Mod, which has been held in the town since 1923.

**COLL.**—A special Ceilidh was promoted in Arinagour School to mark the close of the music classes conducted by Mr John MacIver. The president, Mr A. L. Thomson, was in the chair, and a lengthy programme of solo and concerted items was submitted by the class pupils. There was a large audience present, who thoroughly enjoyed the programme submitted for their entertainment.

**DUNOON.**—An interesting lantern lecture on "Oban and District" was given by Mr Alex. M. Hendry at a meeting of the Dunoon Branch. An attractive feature of the lecture was the many historical references that were made on the various views submitted. Appropriate Gaelic songs were sung by Mr. Malcolm Gillies, M.A.

**FORT AUGUSTUS.**—A successful Ceilidh was held by the Branch in the Public Hall, over which Mr J. Macfarlane Barrow presided. Besides the local artistes, Mr John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill, and Mr Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William, assisted the programme with songs and stories.

**GLENGARRY.**—A pleasant surprise at the meeting of the local Branch, which was held in the Coronation Hall, was the presence of Miss Phemie Marquis (Mrs J. R. Colquhoun), a member of An Comunn's Executive Council, who contributed to the programme with several much appreciated items of song. At the close she complimented the Branch members on the excellent work they are performing in the district. Mr John MacGillivray presided over the meeting.

**GLENURQUHART.**—This Branch held a committee meeting, at which it was decided to send a choir to the Fort William Provincial Mod next May. Mr Harrison, organist, Kilmore Church, was unanimously appointed choirmaster, subject to the approval of the Northern Area Propaganda Committee. To augment the funds of the Branch a Ceilidh was held in the Blairbeg Hall. Weather conditions were very unfavourable, and attendance was much below the usual. Dr. W. F. Macdonald, president, presided, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The ladies of the committee served out a very refreshing tea during an interval.

**HELMSDALE.**—The first Ceilidh of the newly-formed Buneilidh Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach took place in the H.G. School, Helmsdale. Mr Munro acted as "Fear-an-tighe," and a crowded house listened with evident appreciation to a delightful all-Scottish programme, of which a large part was conducted in Gaelic.

**INVERARAY.**—The fortnightly meeting of the Branch was held in the St. Malieu Hall. There was a large attendance of members and friends, who were entertained to a lengthy and varied programme of songs, sgeulachdan, and instrumental music. One of the most enjoyable features was the contributions of several puirt-a-beul items by the choir.

**KILMALLIE.**—A Ceilidh was held in the Gordon Smith Cameron Hall, but owing to the stormy night there was not a large attendance. Rev. Mr MacDonald presided. Rev. Dr. MacKinnon, Kilmonivaig, gave an interesting lecture, which was much enjoyed. A short musical programme followed.

**KINGUSSIE.**—Under the auspices of the local Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach a Gaelic service was conducted in St. Columba Church, Kingussie, on Sunday afternoon by Rev. Dr. MacFarlane. There was a good congregation, and the praise was led in the old Highland style by Mr Angus MacLean, Newtonmore. The collection taken was on behalf of the Royal Northern Infirmary.

**KINLOCHLEVEN.**—The monthly Ceilidh of the local Branch was held in the Public Hall, when there was the excellent attendance of about 250. The president, Mr. R. MacDonald, occupied the chair. A well-received programme, arranged by Mr Charles MacColl, Mod Medallist, was submitted. Tea was served by the ladies during an interval.

**LATHERON.**—The meeting of Latheron branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, held in the Institute, Latheronwheel, took the form of a lecture-ceilidh, with a musical programme. Despite illness in the district, there was a good attendance. Mr. Alex. Manson, president, presided, and Gaelic songs were rendered by both the senior and juvenile choirs with much appreciation. Mrs. Brims, Forse, sang several solos. Miss Annie Sutherland gave a Scots recitation. The lecturer was Mr. R. J. G. Millar, editor, Wick, who took as his subject, "Highlanders and Gaelic-speaking People as Pioneers," and by way of instance related the thrilling story of the Sutherland people, who, led by the Rev. Norman MacLeod of Stoer, settled first in Pictou, Nova Scotia, then at St. Ann's, Cape Breton, and finally at Waipu, New Zealand, transporting themselves over the oceans in ships of their own construction. Their remarkable adventures, as narrated by Mr. Millar, held the tense interest of young and old, and at the close, on the call of the chairman, the lecturer was accorded an enthusiastic vote of thanks. In the second part of the musical programme, the choirs and Mrs. Brims again sang; also Mr. Murdo C. MacKenzie, Wick. Tea was served by the ladies of the committee during an interval, and much enjoyed by the company. Altogether the ceilidh was a very happy and successful meeting, and concluded with the National Anthem.

**LASMORE.**—All the Ceilidhs arranged by this Branch have attracted large attendances this session, and at the last meeting, despite the severity of the weather, there was a large company in the local hall, many of whom travelled long distances to attend. In the absence of the president, the Rev. Dugald Bell, B.D., the chair was taken by Mr. Peter MacDougall. A real Ceilidh programme of songs and stories was submitted, and among the artistes was Miss Margaret MacDonald, aged four years, a daughter of Capt. MacDonald, Achnacroisich, who delightfully sang several puirt-a-beul.

**LOCHBUE.**—There was a large audience present at the meeting of the Lochbue Branch on the occasion of a visit from the General Secretary, Mr Shaw. Miss MacPhail, president, occupied the chair, and extended a cordial welcome to all present. During

the evening Mr Shaw addressed the meeting on the work of An Comunn, and also contributed to the musical programme. The meetings of this Branch, which were suspended for some time, will now be held regularly.

**LOCHEPORT.**—Mr Donald MacPhail, organiser for the Northern Area, addressed a public meeting at Locheport about the Gaelic drama festivals. The meeting afterwards resolved itself into a Ceilidh, at which the president, Mr Sandy MacPhail, presided, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The proceedings were opened by selections on the bagpipes, and a Gaelic debate followed on the subject, "Co is feumaille do pharantan nighean no mac." This provided a most interesting and humorous discussion, and a feature of the debate was the able and ready manner in which all the speakers spoke on the subject. A musical programme followed.

**LOCHGILHEAD.**—At a meeting of the Branch, held in the H.G. School, office-bearers for the ensuing session were appointed. Miss Madge Campbell Brown, a Mod Gold Medallist, who is well known for her interest in Gaelic matters, was elected president; vice-presidents, Mrs Brown and Mrs Campbell. The secretary and treasurer is Mr Hugh MacInnes, a prominent mod prize-winner, and a native of Ballachulish.

**LOCHINVER.**—Despite the stormy weather, there was a large attendance at the meeting of the Lochinver Branch. Included in the proceedings were Gaelic songs, recitations, and short readings by members. The syllabus of the Gaelic Mod to be held in Brora in June was discussed. Members were appointed to collect for the "Ruari MacLeod Memorial Fund." The parting song, "Oidhe mhath leibh," was sung, led by Mr Angus MacLeod.

**MANCHESTER.**—There are many good Gaels in Manchester, who find pleasure in associating themselves with the work of An Comunn through the local Branch which was formed several years ago. At the recent meeting there was an attendance of seventy-four, the majority of whom were Gaelic speaking. At these meetings there is a truly Highland atmosphere prevailing, and during the proceedings one would find it difficult to imagine that the meeting was held in the land of the Sasunnach, and not in some Highland clachan in Tir nam Beann. We are indebted to Dr. Dougal, president, and his committee, for their efforts to maintain an interest in the language among the exiled Gaels in the district.

**NETHY BRIDGE.**—The local Branch members are already looking forward to the National Mod in Edinburgh. Preparations are now being made to raise funds for the choir's expenses, and a series of social functions is being arranged for this purpose. The Nethy Bridge friends are very enthusiastic, and we trust that they will succeed in their efforts to be represented at the Mod competitions.

**NEWTONMORE.**—The meetings of the Newtonmore Branch are among the most popular social functions in the district, and the meetings invariably attract large audiences. The recent Ceilidh held in the Public Hall was one of the finest held during this session, and Mr Thomas Grant acted as "Fear an Tighe" over a full house. The programme, which included songs, stories, readings, and instrumental music, was greatly appreciated by the large company.

**SALEN.**—There was a large gathering to welcome Mr Shaw, General Secretary, when he paid his annual visit to the Salen Branch, and a pleasant Ceilidh was held. Mr Archibald MacFarlane, who has been associated with the local Branch for many years, was in the chair, and conducted the proceedings with his usual ability and good humour.

**TAIN.**—Folk-song hunting is a fascinating hobby, but one meets with far more disappointments than successes, stated Mrs Helen Drever, Tain, when she addressed the Tain Branch on "Folk-Song of the Northern Counties" at the monthly ceilidh held in Queen Street Church Hall. Interesting accounts were given by Mrs Drever of the origin of "Oran Duthcha," the Bonar-Bridge song, written by John MacDonald, a Glasgow accountant, born at Swdale, in the parish of Creich, in 1791; of "Cabarfèidh," written by Norman MacLeod, a native of Assyt; of "Calum a Ghlinne," written by Malcolm MacLean, of Kinlochewe; and of "Isabail Nic Aoidh," the famous song by Rob Donn, the Sutherland bard, whose full name was Robert Mackay, and who was born in Durness 220 years ago.

**TREE (HYLIPOL).**—At a Ceilidh held in Hylipol, Mr Donald MacKinnon presided over a large attendance. The proceedings, which included stories and songs, were conducted entirely in Gaelic.

**TREE (RUAG).**—At the conclusion of the series of singing classes conducted by Mr John MacIver, a concert was held in Ruag, where Mr MacIver had discovered much latent talent and organised a very promising choir. Robert MacLeod, The Schoolhouse, presided over a large and appreciative audience. The programme was sustained entirely by Mr MacIver's pupils, on whom the influence of his tuition was very apparent. Before the close of the concert Mr MacLeod called upon Mrs N. MacKinnon to hand Mr MacIver a presentation from the joint Scarinish and Ruag choirs.

**TOBARMHOIRE.**—'Na sgrìob feadh nam meanglan am Muile ràinig Ard-runaire A' Chomuinn, Tobar-mhoire, air an 16mh là de'n Fhaoilteach, agus bha coinneamh ghasda againn 'na urram 's a tigh-sgoile aig an robh a' chuid mhór de na buill an làthair. Fhuair sinn òran no dhà aig an toiseach, agus an sin thug Niall dhainn, "Sgeul A' Chomuinn," as ùr. Dh'innis e dhainn gu'n do chuir e buidheann de Chomuinn na h-Oigridh air bonn ann an Sgoil Thobarmhoire, agus thug e soilleireachadh dhainn air a' chuis sin. Ma ni sinn uile ar dèidh, gun teagamh ni an gnothach so feum mòr do aobhar na Gàidhlig. Bha sinn furachail fhad's a bha an t-òraidiche a' labhairt, agus chòrd na h-brain aige ruinn anabarrach math cuideachd, gu sònruichte "Moladh Beinn Dòrain." O'n deasbairteachd, aig deireadh na coinneamh, thàinig e am mach gu soilleir gur truaigh a bhitheadh cor na Gàidhlig an diugh as eugmhais A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, gun soirbhich ar canain na bhios sinn 'g a cleachdadh, agus mur dean sinn sin, nach eil ni air thalamh a chumas beò i. Nach ann againn uile tha 'n cotrom. Thug e toilleachas mòr duinn gu robh ministear is feadhainn de luchd-séinn an t-Sàile air chéilidh oirnn air an 30mh. là de'n Fhaoilteach. Bha òraid fhògluimte thaitneach aig an Urra. A. D. MacRath air a' Ghaidheal ainmeil sinn Daibhidh Mac an Léigh. Chaill sinn cuimhne air àireamh nam òran a fhuair sinn bhò Thriarach MacDhonnmail,

Dhonnmail Mac 'Ille Iosa, agus D. MacNéill, ach tha fhios againn cho math 's a chòrd iad ris a' chuideachd. Tha sinn taingeil gum bheil coimhearsnachd chàirdheil againn a tha 'g ar cuideachadh mar so a h-uile bliadhna.

**VALE OF LEVEN.**—Captain A. R. MacDonald, vice-president, occupied the chair at the Ceilidh promoted by the Vale of Leven Branch at Alexandria. There was a large company of artistes present, several of whom travelled from Glasgow to assist. This Branch, in conjunction with the Dumbarton Branch, sponsor Gaelic Continuation Classes, which are conducted by Miss Helen T. MacMillan, M.A., Mod Gold Medallist.

**WICK.**—The ceilidh of members and friends of Wick Branch of An Comunn, held in the Academy on Friday evening, February 8, was well attended. Mr. Millar presided, and an excellent musical programme was gone through. Solos were rendered by Mr. J. Young, Miss K. Mackenzie, and Mrs. Alexander, and violin selections were played by Miss M. S. Henderson. All had to respond to encores. Two pieces were finely rendered by the choir. Mr. M. C. Mackenzie of the High School was the speaker, and gave a most instructive address on "The Music of the Gael," with illustrations of its wide range of expressiveness for varying human emotions. Mr. Mackenzie also sang some Gaelic songs, and the chairman gave a recitation. On the call of Mr. Millar, Mr. Mackenzie was very cordially thanked for his edifying address, and a similar compliment was paid to the choir and artistes for their respective parts in the programme.—Under the auspices of the branch, a very successful and largely attended public Ceilidh was held in the Old Parish Church Hall, on Wednesday evening, February 20. In the absence of Rev. John MacInnes, M.A., Halkirk, owing to illness, the chairman was Colonel J. D. Mackay, D.S.O., Wick, who presided with much appreciation. An excellent and varied programme was gone through, and was greatly enjoyed. Piper John Mackay, Strathhalladale, introduced both parts with bagpipe selections, which immediately gave the true Highland touch to the Ceilidh. Mr. Mackay also delighted the audience with Gaelic songs and "puirt a beul" (mouth music), in which he is an expert, and was repeatedly recalled. Solos were rendered by Mr. Bruce Mackie, Mr. M. C. Mackenzie (Gaelic), and by Miss Macleod, Miss K. Mackenzie and Mrs. Alexander (Gaelic). Encores were frequent. The branch's choir, consisting of five ladies and three gentlemen, sang Gaelic choruses, which were finely rendered, and Mrs. Tweedie and Miss Henderson played a delightful violin duet. Mr. Millar, president, gave two recitations, and the programme was pleasingly varied by Highland dances (in costume) by four young pupils—Margaret Gunn, Annie Budge, Kathleen Lyall, and Peter Glass. A novelty on this occasion was a couple of sketches by Wick Boy Scouts, the comedian being Mr. Donald Davidson, whose acting and singing caused great merriment. Mrs. Gilbertson was accompanist to the vocalists, and Piper J. Christie played for the Highland dances. Tea was served during an interval by the members of committee, the catering being as usual in the hands of Mr. Wilfred Weir. At the close, votes of thanks to the artistes and the chairman were very heartily accorded, and one of the most enjoyable Ceilidhs yet held by the branch was concluded at a late hour by the singing of "Oidhche miath leibli" and the National Anthem.

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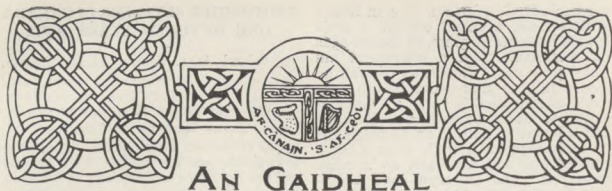
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Leabhar XXX.]

*An Giblein, 1935.*

[Earrann 7

## BUAIDH THARRAINN NAM BEANN.

Feadh nam bliadhnaichean so fhéin tha a' Ghaidhealtachd measail aig luchd tadhail ri am Samhraidh is Fòghair. Chan eil ach ùine ghearr bho b'abhaist do 'n mhòr chuid an làithean saora a chur seachad air tìr-mór na h-Eorpa. Ach leis na caochlaidhean a thainig air luach an airgid ann ar latha, is ann a tha móran a nis a' fuireach anns an dùthaich so féin airson an làithean saora a chaitheamh. Tha iad ag aideachadh nach robh iad idir cho eòlach air taitneas an dùthcha féin agus a bha iad an dùil. Mar thoradh air a' chleachdadh ùr sin, tha na mìltean de luchd tadhail a' dol gach bliadhna do 'n Ghaidhealtachd. Thatar a' cur gach meadhon gu deagh bhuil a chum aire nan coigreach a dhùsgadh, a chum an tàladh mu thuath air turas do thìr nam beann. Tha rathad iarainn is rathad carbaid fosgailte, agus tha iomradh poncail air sin anns na paipearan. Tha ughdaran tàlantach a' sgrìobhadh leabhraichean mu mhaise na dùthcha; agus tha luchd ealadhain a' cur an céill an dealbhan gu h-eireachdail cìod e cho aillidh 's a tha glinn is lochan na Gaidhealtachd.

\* \* \*

Is fhada bho thòisich muinntir air moladh an turais do na h-Eileanan an Iar. Tha corr is ceithir chud bliadhna bho sgrìobh an Deachan Mac-an-Rothaich mu'n chuairt a thug e fhéin feadh Innse Gall; is e sin ri radh feadh

eileanan na Gaidhealtachd. Tha e ag innseadh mu na nithean a chunnaic e eadar luibhean is bheathaichean; agus mu eaglaisean is chaisteil a tha a nis air tuiteam gu talamh. Is e an t-ughdar so a cheud fhear a thug seachd cunntas air staid nan eilean cho tràth sin. Mu dheireadh na seachdamh linn deug ghabh Martainn Martainn, duine usal de sheann teaghlach a' Bhealaich anns an Eilean Sgitheanach, turas air feadh nan Eileanan an Iar. Sgrìobh esan mar an ceudna iomradh taitneach air a thurus. Tha e ag innseadh móran mu chleachdaidhean an t-sluaigh, agus mu am beachdan agus an saobh chreideamh. Thug e cunntas mionaideach air gnìomhachas fearainn, air biadh is aodach, air easlaintean is cungaidhean leigheis. Ach is e gle bheag a tha aig an dithis ud, an Rothach is am Martainneach, ri ràdh mu choltas na dùthcha mar chunnaic iad i. Ged thainig iomadh duine fiosrach air chuairt do 'n Ghaidhealtachd, chan eil ach beagan is ceud bliadhna bho thòisich daoine ri beachd a ghabhail air aillidheachd nam beann a tha cho muirneach aig muinntir an diugh.

\* \* \*

Dlùth air deireadh na h-ochdamh linn deug sgrìobh an t-Ollamh Johnson agus Boswell dà leabhar mu an turais fhéin to thìr nam beann. Ach coltach ri Burt is Pennant, ri Gray, agus eadhon ri Southey, chan eil facal molaigh aig aon seach aon mu mhaise na dùthcha. Cha robh sùilean no càil aca air son

mothachadh do a leithid. Is e an Ridire Walter Scott a cheud ughdar a chuir snas is loinn air na glinn, na lochan agus na beanntan. Ann a bhàrdachd mu *Thighearna nan Eilean* agus *Rìghinn an Locha* thilg e mar gu'm b'eadh brat druidheachd thairis air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Is anabarrach mar dhùisg e càil is annas an intinn an t-sluaigh leis na naidheachdan a chuir e an altan a chéile. Mar bha ùrachadh do 'n mhac meannna anns an sgeul bha beothachadh air càil na maise anns na cunntais a sgrìobh Scott mu'n fhraoch is na sleibhtean, agus mu'n cheò air slios nam beann. Is iad lochan is beanntan siorramachd Pheirt a cheud fheadhainn a fhuair an t-urram sin bho laimh an ughdair. Ach sgaoil a' bhuaidh thairis air an dùthaich air fad, gus mu dheireadh an tainig luchd tadhail gu bhì ag amharc air a' Ghaidhealtachd mar àite anns am faigheadh iad ùrachadh do 'n t-sùil cho math ri feabhas do 'n slàinte.

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Ach is còir a ràdh gu'n do mhothaich na bàird Ghaidhealach do mhaise na dùthcha fada mu 'n do mhothaich luchd tadhail bho 'n Ghalldachd do 'n mhaise cheudna. Is gann gu'n leigeir a leas aire an leughadair a tharrainn gu *Beinn Dòrain* agus gu *Coire Cheathaich*. Anns na dàin ainmeil sin tha e soilleir ri fhaicinn gu robh sùilean Dhonnchaidh Bhàin léirsinneach air maise na dùthcha. Bha e a gabhail beachd mionaideach air gach lus agus fùr, air gach sruthan is allt am Beinn Dòrain. Mar sin is ceart dhuinn a bhì a' tagradh nach ann idir bho litreachas na Beurla a fhuair na Gaidheal an teagasg a thaobh Buaidh Tharrainn nam Beann. Bha maise Naduir soilleir do na seann bhàird. Fhuair iad comhsamhlachd na maise anns an driùchd agus anns an ròs. Tha sin a' dearbhadh nach do chaill ar n-atraichean riamh greim air seann oilean an sinnsir féin a thaobh àillidheachd nam beann. Tha so air a' ghabhail a stigh an gràdh a' Ghaidheil do a dhùthaich. Ged bhiodh a dhachaidh air Ghalldachd no eadhon an tìr chéin tha maise nam beann 'g a leantainn agus 'g a thàladh air ais. Agus is e sin earrann de 'n abohar airson an còir dha gach meadhan a chleachdadh a chum leas na seann dùthcha.

## PERTHSHIRE SETTLERS IN CANADA ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

By Colonel ALEX. FRASER, LL.D., Toronto, Canada.

### VII.—PERTHSHIRE MAN WHO BECAME PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA.

One of the old, historic places of Perthshire is Logierait, near the junction of the Tummel and the Tay rivers, in the vicinity of Ballinluig Station. Here was born Alexander MacKenzie, whose name will always be associated with the history of Canada. He was a man of remarkable mental gifts and practical achievement. The brief reference to him here is necessarily disproportionate to the large place he occupied in the affairs of the Dominion of Canada. He was of Ross-shire ancestry, but for three generations his family was settled in Perthshire, in the vicinity of his birthplace. His father was a noted master-mechanic, and had a large family of sons, one of whom, Alexander, was bred to the trade of stone-cutting and masonry. His mother was a daughter of Mr. Fleming, the local schoolmaster, a man of learning above the average. He was held in high esteem in the community. It is interesting to note that two of Alexander's younger brothers were sent up Strathay to Mrs. Stewart, their aunt, for schooling and particularly to learn Gaelic. In early manhood, Alexander came to Canada and was soon followed by his brothers. He worked at his trade in Kingston, afterwards settling in Sarnia, at the foot of Lake Huron. He was a keen student of English Literature and political history of Europe. He was active in church work and in local politics. At Sarnia he established a weekly newspaper. The high standard of its editorials attracted wide attention, and led to his entering the Legislative Assembly of Canada as a member in 1861.

### MR. MACKENZIE'S MASTERY OF AFFAIRS.

The public finances, municipal and provincial were in a sorry condition at that time, and Mr. Mackenzie's mastery of the situation enabled him to render such service that he was taken into the Cabinet as Treasurer of the United Province, corresponding, on a small scale, to the office of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. His colleagues and contemporaries were men of eminence such as the Honourable Edward Blake, Sir John A. Macdonald, George Brown, and Sir Oliver Mowat, to name but a few, typical of many. Mr. MacKenzie had an extraordinary head for facts and figures, for

accuracy of details, and had the ability to apply them with telling effect. He developed a power of lucid expression and a readiness in debate that placed him in the very first rank. These attainments combined with a religious and moral character which had won the confidence of the general public gave him an ascendancy of the country, and in the Dominion House of Commons which he had entered on the federation of the Provinces in 1867, which was second to none. The late Professor Goldwin Smith, a known master of the English tongue, once remarked to me that during his residence in Canada he esteemed two men as being the best debaters in the Canadian Parliament. One of them was Sir Richard Cartwright, of Imperial fame, as a financier, the other was Alexander MacKenzie. On a purely financial topic of complicated ramifications he would award the palm to Cartwright, a bred banker, whose power to make figures attractive he would compare to Gladstone's; whereas on any other subject whatever, in his opinion, MacKenzie must take first place. One had to know both Goldwin Smith and Cartwright to be able to appreciate the full implication of this compliment.

#### ADMINISTRATION WHICH COMMANDED RESPECT.

Mr. MacKenzie became leader of the Liberal Party, then in opposition, and gathered around him a galaxy of men, who under his personal direction formed a dangerous as well as a trying force to the Government of Sir John A. Macdonald, then dominant in the political field and an exceptionally adroit leader of men of diverse opinions. The day came, however, when Mr. MacKenzie defeated Sir John and became the Prime Minister of a United Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. His administration was excellent. Honest, capable and reasonably progressive, it commanded the respect of the country, and Mr. MacKenzie was held in high esteem. His visit to Europe, as Prime Minister, was the occasion of public demonstrations and receptions through which he passed unscathed by the adulation of the great or the homage of the humble. He was the same courteous gentleman at the Royal table at Windsor Castle as he was at the public dinner in the City Hall at Perth, at which a relative of his own, then Lord Provost, presided. At Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and, if I mistake not, at Inverness, as well as by Queen Victoria and her ministers, the Prime Minister of Canada was publicly honoured. One of the most graceful tributes to his remarkable career—from stone mason to Prime Minister of Britain's greatest and most important dominion, was paid by the *London Times*, which, among other

things, referred to his modest demeanour, the ease of his manner among courtiers and foreign diplomats, and to his wide range of political knowledge.

#### FRENCH JOURNALIST'S TRIBUTE.

A distinguished French journalist sent an interesting despatch about him to his paper in Paris. He was amazed, he said, that this man of strong, rugged character, who had cut and dressed stone, mixed mortar and built walls with his own hands as a means of living, until well on in the age of his manhood, now mixed with the best of society with all the politeness and suavity of a French nobleman of the ancient regime. Of course, these tributes were read with pleasure by the Canadian people, but Mr. MacKenzie had learned life too well at its real source to misunderstand what was personal to him in such a reception as that of Perth, and what was representative in all the other demonstrations of good will. As the ladder of success was ascended step by step, the manly simplicity of his Perthshire days was not left behind. He loved his native shire and its people. Those two great political antagonists, Sir John A. Macdonald and the Honourable Alexander MacKenzie, so different in thought and action, in training and environment, met on common ground in their love of the Highlands, the home of their forefathers, in their love of the Gaelic language and the traditions of their race. Sir John was the first secretary of the Gaelic Society of Kingston, organised in the early forties; and Mr. MacKenzie was honorary patron of the Gaelic Society of Toronto (now of Canada) organised by myself in 1887, a position with which I have been honoured since the death of the Honourable Sir George W. Ross in the year 1914.

#### HONOURED BY GENERATIONS.

Mr. MacKenzie came to Canada in 1842 a confirmed free trader, and held free trade as a cardinal, immutable principle of his political faith. During his administration, 1873-8, the tariff policy of the United States told heavily on Canadian Trade, and with the closing of Canadian factories as a consequence, depression and unemployment prevailed. A demand for protection sprang up and grew too strong under the skilful manipulation of Sir John Macdonald for the stubborn consistency with which Mr. MacKenzie followed his pole-star of free trade. Nevertheless, he retired with the honours of war. In office, he was the main-spring of his administration. He guarded the public interests with unflinching determination; made himself familiar with the active working of all the departments, and no

detail of any consequence escaped his notice or direction. His official family was a happy and harmonious one, but he assumed more responsibility than was really necessary, with the result that his health became impaired and he gratefully handed over the leadership of the Opposition, when he went out of office to the Hon. Edward Blake, who had been his Minister of Justice. Mr. MacKenzie, however, remained a member of the House of Commons and took up his residence in Toronto until his death in the year 1892.

The country to which he had given so much mourned his death as that of a great statesman, whose memory will be honoured for generations to come.

To the valuable public services of some of his brothers, especially Charles, whose friendship I still fondly cherish, time permits no reference here. Perhaps it is better so. Nothing I can think of could be more appropriate with which to close such an address as this than the tribute to a son of Perthshire, which I have feebly tried thus to give.

[THE END].

### COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi a' sgrìobhadh na litreach so, a Chlann mo ghaoil, agus mi air shùrd falbh do'n Eilean Sgitheanach le bhur deagh charaid Mgr. Domhnall MacPhàil, air obair Comunn na h-Oigrìdh. Bithidh e 'na thoileachadh mòr dhuinn tadhal air cuid de na Buidhnean a tha ann cheana, agus tha mi air mo mhealladh mur a bi rud-eigin agam ri innseadh dhuibh mu Bhuidhnean ùra de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh air an ath-mhìos.

Mu'n teid mi na's fhaide, thoiribh an deagh-aire air a'phunc so. Cuimhnichibh gur h-i an taobh-duilleig a th'againn anns a' mhìosachan so an t-aon mheadhon a chum fios no sanas mu riaghailtean no ni sam bith eile a tha buntainn do ar Comunn a chraobh-sgaioleadh am measg nam Buidhnean. Bu ghle chaomh leinn bhì sgrìobhadh gu gach Ceann-Feachd fa leth mu obair a Bhuidhne fhein, ach chì sibh, mar a bhios àireamh nam Buidhnean a' sìor-dhol am meud, nach gabh sin dèanamh ach an tomhas beag. Mar sin, cumaibh bhur sùilean air an taobh-duilleig so airson gach fiosrachaidh coitcheanna.

Bha mi 'gur n-earalachadh a bhì taghadh Ceannard agus Bana-Cheannard 'nur measg fhein. Fhuair mi fios an la roimhe mu'n cheud Cheannard agus Bana-Cheannard air am bheil iomradh ann an Comunn na h-Oigrìdh. 'Se sin Alasdair MacArtair agus

Cairistiona Chamshron am Buidheann Thobar-Mhoire. Tha a' Bhuidheann sin ag cur rompa, cho luath 'sa thig an Samhradh, dol a mach a dh'ionnsuidh nan cnoc a dh'ionnsachadh ainmean gach blàith agus craoibhe a tha ri'm faotainn.

Fhuair eadh sgeul math bho Bhuidheann Bagh a' Tuath, am Barraidh. Cha'n e mhàin gur'n tug iad urram do'n Ghaidhlig ann an cuirm-chiùil Nollaig na sgoile, ach chuireadh air lom dà dhealbh-chluich bheag Ghaidhlig a thug cridhealas do'n chuideachd fad thri chairteil na h-uaire. Nis, 'se rud sin a tha math agus ro-mhath. Thig an là fhathast 's am bi fiughair againn ri gach Buidheann a bhì cur seachad beagan airgid an coineamh a cosdais fhein, agus bithidh an dealbh-chluich, no drama, air aon de na meadhanan as fearr gu sin a dheanamh. A bharr air a sin chan 'eil dòigh as fearr a chum ruigheachd air làn-ghrinneas na Gaidhlig, agus fileantachd innte, na bhì gabhail cuid ann an dealbhan-cluich. Nach gasda bhiodh e, là-eigin gun a bhì fada, Féill nan dealbhan-cluich a bhì air a cumail am measg Comunn na h-Oigrìdh mar a tha i aig na h-inbhich a nis? Cumaibh sin 'san amharc, agus cò aig tha fhios nach dean Clann an Fhraoich rud-eigin a bhrosnachadh toirt-a-mach dealbhan-cluich a tha freagarrach do Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh?

Tha Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich (tuigidh sibh gur h-iad luchd-riaghlaidh Comunn na h-Oigrìdh) air leth toilichte leis mar a tha sibh a' gabhail ri Camanachd. Mo laochna sibhse, balaich nan sgoil! Fhuair Bagh a' Chaisteil an cuid chaman agus is iad a' cheud fheadhainn a dh'éirich air an iomain. Ach tha seachd Buidhnean eile a nis ag iarraidh chaman, agus dh'orduich sinn an diugh fhein 92 camain air an son bho Iain Mac Phearsoin an Inbhir-Nis. Chunnac na litrichean grinn a chuir bhur Cinn-Feachd ag iarraidh chaman, agus gu dearbh chuir iad misneach nach beag am chridhe.

Nis, beachdaichibh air a so. Fhathast, cha tug sinn camain seachad ach do na balaich a' mhain. Agus ann an cuid de sgoilean tha àireamh nam balach ro-bheag airson deagh sgioba-chamanachd a dheanamh suas. 'S iomadh sgoil air a'Ghaidhealtachd 'sam biodh na caileagan ag iomain comhla ris na balaich anns na laithean a dh'aoim. Ma's àill le caileagan ann am Buidheann sam bith camain a bhì aca mar an ceudna, iarradh iad air a' Cheann-Feachd fios a chur 'gam ionnsuidh agus—chì sinn!

Tha dùil againn ri leabhran beag eile a chur a mach an uine gun bhì fada—

"Cluichean Gaidhealach airson Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh," anns am faighear sean chleasagan agus dhuaganan airson clann bheag; cleasan sunndach a tha freagarrach airson an cluich a stìgh air "Oidhche na Cloinne": feadhainn eile a chluichear a muigh, agus nan measg sin iomradh sonraichte air Camanachd, agus na riaghailtean air fad. Tha e coltach gu'n tig so a mach anns a' "Gaidheal" an toiseach. Cha bhi aon fhacal Beurla eadar a dhà cheann—chan 'eil àite againn di, 'nar Comunn!

### An Ceann-Feachd.

Anns a' mhìos so fhuair mi gràinnean de litrichean a thug toillintinn mhór dhomh. B'iad sin litrichean bho chuid de na Cinn-Feachd anns na Buidhnean a chaidh a stéidheachadh anns na h-Eileanan gu ruige so. Cha robh suil againn ri a leithid agus dhùblaich sin fhéin an t-lachd. Is e a bha fàgail nan litrichean sin cho luachmhor, gu'n robh na Cinn-Feachd a sgrìobh iad a leigeil fhaicinn, chan e mhàin gu'n robh iad làn-mhothachail air seagh is feumalachd a' ghluasaid ùir so againne, ach gu'n robh iad fhéin a' gabhail ris an obair le dealas agus le toilteachas-intinn: agus sin agaibh an t-aon spiorad, an t-aon suidheachadh-intinn, a tha comasach air buannachadh 'na leithid a dh'oidhirp. Tha mi làn-chinnteach gur ann ris a' Cheann-Feachd an tomhas ro-mhór a tha, agus a bhios daonnan, soirbheachadh Comunn na h-Oigrìdh an crochadh anns gach àite. 'S aithne dhuibh am facal "Fear brisidh Bàire." Sin am fear a tha aige ri ceud chnap-starran agus dorradais a' ghuais-bheirt a bhriseadh a nuas, a' fàgail an rathaid réidh, fosgailte dhaibh-san a leanas 'na cheuman. Tha facal eile air a shon—saighdear-tochlaidh. Tha a mhac-samhail ann an Ceann-Feachd de Bhuidheann Comunn na h-Oigrìdh an diugh.

So tarrainn bheag bho litir a Uidhist a Tuath: "Ann a bhi gabhail diù de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh tha mi faicinn gur seirbhis e a tha comasach air mór thoradh a ghiulan ann am beatha na Cloinne—chan ann idir, no gu h-uile, an dràsda, ach mòran bhliadhnachean 'na dhéidh so. Tha mi smaointinn gur e oidhirp cho fad-sheallach 's a thug An Comunn fathast, ann a bhi cur casg air crìonadh na Gaidhlig, agus tha e soilleir gur e an ni a dh'ionnsaicheas a' Chlann an diugh a bhios aca mar athraichean 's mar luchd-teagaisg anns an athlìnn. Gu ma maith a theid leo." Ri a leithid de bheachd sicir, air a chur ann a rogha Gaidhlig, chan eil ri ràdh ach gur math an t-airleas e air deagh-stiùradh na h-oibre le ar Cinn-Feachd.

SEORAS GALLDA.

### REV. DR. NEIL ROSS PRESENTED WITH HIS PORTRAIT.

On the invitation of the Hon. Mrs Smyth, Ness Castle, who has always taken a keen and practical interest in the Gaelic movement, members and friends of the Inverness branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach were entertained to a whist and bridge drive and ceilidh in the Station Hotel, Inverness, on Thursday evening, 7th March.

Mr. William Mackay, president of the local branch, said they had the pleasure of having in their midst their old friend, Dr. Neil Ross. Dr. Ross, as they all knew, was a worthy son of Skye, having been brought up in what he heard a clansman describe as the most beautiful glen in Skye—Glendale—the birth-place and home of the Skye bard, Neil Macleod. It was natural, therefore, that their friend should be filled with the love of everything Highland—the people, the music, the bagpipes—and that he showed keenness in everything that pertained to the welfare of the Highland people and their tongue. Dr. Ross, as they knew, had been for the last four years, until last Mod, president of An Comunn Gaidhealach, but, more than that, he had placed the Highlands and the Highland people and the language under great debt to him by being the editor of the magazine "An Gaidheal." (Applause.) In that capacity Dr. Ross did a tremendous amount of work, not to speak of the constant journeys to attend all the meetings of An Comunn Gaidhealach. Dr. Ross had been honoured by his King with the C.B.E. and by his University, but it was meet that his Highland friends should also honour him. A few Highland friends recently suggested that as his portrait had appeared in the Scottish Academy, painted by Mr. William Walls, R.S.A., they should present him with it as a token of their great esteem for him and thanks for all he had done for An Comunn Gaidhealach and the Highlands in general. (Applause.) He (Mr. Mackay) had very much pleasure in asking the Hon. Mrs. Smyth kindly to present the portrait.

The Hon. Mrs. Smyth then unveiled the portrait and said: "I feel it is a very great honour and privilege to have it bestowed on me to unveil the portrait of our friend Dr. Neil Ross, former president of An Comunn Gaidhealach."

### DR. ROSS'S REPLY.

Dr. Ross, in reply, said he had arranged a few thoughts but where were they? They had disappeared, and when one found oneself in a position like that one had just to say



what Providence would provide for one on the spur of the moment. That was really a very exciting and very triumphant moment in his life. He found himself confronted with a Highland Celtic audience and Highland Celtic hearts whose interest drew them together in a Celtic bond of friendliness, cordiality and patriotism. He had to thank Mr. Mackay for his very kind remarks with regard to the work he had been trying to do for An Comunn Gaidhealach and for the Gaelic language. There was a danger always on such an occasion that a minister might become reminiscent, but he would prevent himself from indulging in too many reminiscences. He was present at the first Highland Mod that took place in Oban, and also at the first Mod that took place five years afterwards in Inverness, and he could remember the enthusiasm with which they all entered into the work in Inverness—how they had the great intellectual stalwart, Dr. William Mackay, and other scholars like Dr. Macbean, and music teachers like Mr. Roddie, and others. (Applause.) They were all delighted to see the tradition continued in Dr. Mackay's son, in Dr. Macleod, and in others, all of whom took part intellectually and musically in keeping on the old tradition. What he wanted to point out was that what they inherited from the past as a Highland branch in the capital of the Highlands from the very start they had not been backward but very much in the front in holding up the banner of An Comunn Gaidhealach. He would never forget that they had developed the Mod in many of its aspects, and that the choral aspect of Mod work was held up in Inverness early and always, and that the social aspect was also cultivated early and continued. They had also endeavoured to multiply the branches in the north. However excellent a head office in the south might be, the pavement was too cold always for the Gael; they wanted to keep the home-fires burning in the homeland. If the Gaelic language was to be kept alive it was in the Highlands it had to be done, and it was the Comunn branches that were doing the work. There were other aspects of the Mod which Inverness had furthered. It was Inverness that some years ago broke the record financially and set the high aim for others to try to emulate. It was Inverness that went beyond anticipations and scored a triumph and a record in 1928, and under the auspices and by the kindness of the Hon. Mrs. Smyth showed the Celtic world how an effort could be made in furthering the material interests of An Comunn Gaidhealach and

setting it on its feet financially. Was there any town that had such a strong Gaelic circle as they had under the aegis of the Highland movement? It was very encouraging that in the Highland capital they should have such a large all-Gaelic circle whose influence would eventually create a Gaelic atmosphere second to none. He had to offer his warmest thanks and expression of his gratitude to them all for making the presentation of the portrait of himself painted by Mr. Walls. Many, many thanks, indeed!

#### DR. D. J. MACLEOD'S SPEECH.

Dr. D. J. Macleod, after a humorous reference to "Ross rhetoric," said he had been asked to express the branch's indebtedness and gratitude to the Hon. Mrs. Smyth for her gracious act in associating herself with the ceremony which had just been made. Members of the branch realised that in the future when Dr. and Mrs. Ross, as they would often, reflected upon the very special ceremony it would be an additional pleasure for them to remember how Mrs. Smyth was so closely associated with the occasion. There was another who was present with them only in spirit—the artist himself, Mr. William Walls, the senior members of the Scottish Academy, whom they should not forget, for without his co-operation and his arduous and interest in the Highlands and everything Highland it would have been quite impossible for the Inverness branch and its friends to have acquired the picture and to have the great pleasure they had in presenting it to Dr. Ross. (Applause.) The branch would also like to express its indebtedness and gratitude to their honorary secretaries, Miss Martin and Mrs. Grigor, for the quite exceptional energy and business capacity they had shown in communicating with Dr. Ross's personal friends, some of them as very far apart as London and Stornoway, and giving them an opportunity of subscribing to the cost of the portrait most generously and handsomely. With the secretaries he wished to be permitted to associate Captain Swanston, who by his guidance and encouragement had been most helpful at all points. He need not seek to enlarge further on the excellent speech of Captain Mackay except to add that the best wishes of the branch and of Dr. Ross's personal friends went with the portrait to its permanent home in the manse of Laggan, where it will be a valuable heirloom in the years to come. (Applause.) He had no doubt when Neil Ross, junior, now a student in Edinburgh, had the pleasure of gazing on the well-lined features of his paternal

relative he would be able to excogitate for them a new variant of the dictum, "The child is father of the man." (Laughter and loud applause.)

### LITIR A AUSTRALIA.

Fhuair sinn litir bho ar seann charaid, Mgr. Iain Moffat-Pender an là roimhe. Tha e ann an Australia an ceart-uir, agus ged is fhada bhuaithe "Tir nan Ard Bheann" cha do dhi-chuimhnich e cànan ar daoine a tha aige cho fileanta is air a bheil e ro-mheasail. Cha robh e fada anns an dùthaich sin 'nuair a theann e ri eolas a chur air na Gàidheil ann am Baile Mhelbourne, agus ann an ùine ghoidir chuir e sgoil Ghaidhlig air bonn, anns an robh coig sgoilearan deug, is e fhéin air an ceann. So oidheirp a sgrìobhadh air "A' Phìob" le aon de na sgoilearan, Mgr. I. K. Mills a rugadh fo sgàil a' Ghaoda Bheinn, an Arainn. Tha ar caraid ri chliuthachadh air son na saothrach ionmholta a tha e a' deanamh. Nach math a theagaisg e a' Ghaidhlig do'n ghille so.

#### A' Phìob-Mhór.

(Le I. K. MILLS, Melbourne, Australia.)

Tha a' phìob-mhór 'na h-inneal-ciùil glé shean. Cha robh màla air a' phìob an toiseach. Cha robh ann ach am feadan a mhàin. An sin bha a' mhàla agus an gaothan air an cur ris an fheadan. Cha robh ach trì no ceithir de thuill anns an fheadan, agus bha a' phìob air a fàgail coltach ri sin gus an naoidheamh linn, A.D.

An sin bha aon dos aice. An déidh sin bha an dara dos air a chur rithe, agus bha an dà dhos anns an aon stoc. An sin bha an dara stoc aice, aon dos anns gach stoc. Tha piob aig a bheil dà dhos aig J. & R. Glen, Dun-éideann.

Chan eil sinn cinnteach cùin a bha an dos mór air a chur rithe. Mu 'n robh an treas dos aice bha slat oirre air an robh bratach. Tha an dos mór a nis ann an àite na slaithe so.

Tha ribheid anns an fheadan, agus tha gaothaiche anns gach dos. Tha sionnach aig ceann a' ghaothain.

Tha ochd tuill anns an fheadan, agus tha naoi leadain ann uile gu léir, bho an leadan "G" gu h-ìosal gus an leadan "A" gu h-àrd.

Tha na duis bheaga air an gleusadh a réir an leadain "A" iochdair, agus tha an dos mór air a gleusadh a réir fusim ochd leadan na's isle na an leadan "A" iochdair.

Tha a' mhàla air a còmhdaich le breacan, agus tha stiomanan breacain air an ceangal ris na duis.

Is e piobaireachd, no ceòl mór, an ceòl ceart air son na pioba.

### TEACHING OF GAELIC.

The first meeting of the committee appointed to enquire into the teaching of Gaelic in Schools and Colleges was held in the office of An Comunn on Saturday, the 9th March, Sir Ian MacPherson, Bart., chairman of the Committee, presiding. There were present Mr. John R. Bannerman, president; Mr. W. J. Gibson, C.B.E., Edinburgh; Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Inverness; Mr. Angus MacLeod, B.Sc., Oban; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Mr. George E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan; Mr. Murdo Morrison, M.A., Inverness, and Mr. Alexander Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow.

Sir Alexander MacEwen and the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod were appointed vice-chairmen.

The remit to the Committee instructs them to enquire into present methods, the method of teaching in other bi-lingual countries, and to make recommendations for the future.

Methods of procedure were considered and certain lines of enquiry were agreed upon. A questionnaire to be addressed to Education Committees in the Highlands was drawn up. Sub-Committees were appointed to investigate the methods of bi-lingual instruction followed in other countries.

The following is a complete list of the members of the Committee:—Sir Ian MacPherson, P.C., K.C., M.P., London; John R. Bannerman, president; Mr. Kenneth Cameron, Ullapool; Capt. Geo. I. Campbell, Yr., of Succoth; Mr. Hugh A. Fraser, M.B.E., M.A., Drumnadrochit; Mr. W. J. Gibson, C.B.E., Edinburgh; Mr. Duncan MacDonald, J.P., Sandwickhill; Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Inverness; Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William; Rev. Professor Donald Macbean, D.D., Edinburgh; Mr. Angus MacLeod, B.Sc., Oban; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Mr. Geo. E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan; Mr. J. G. Mathieson, Kilmartin; Mr. Murdo Morrison, M.A., Inverness; Mr. Alexander Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Mr. James Thomson, M.A., Bayble; Professor W. J. Watson, LL.D., Edinburgh.

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.

**SUMMER SCHOOL OF GAELIC, 1935.**

The Summer School will be held this year at Tobermory from Tuesday, 16th July, to Friday, 9th August, inclusive. By kind permission of the Argyll County Education Committee, the classes will be held in the H.G. School, Tobermory.

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. Mac-Millan, M.A., Glasgow.

Junior Gaelic Class—Mr. Lachlan Mac-Kinnon, M.A., Fort William.

**Afternoon.**

Celtic Art Class—Miss MacBride, D.A., Glasgow.

**Evening.**

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

**CLARSACH.**

A Class for instruction in Clarsach playing will be held if a sufficient number of pupils enrol. Application should be made to the Secretary of the Clarsach Society, Miss E. L. O. Taylor, Glencairn, Dunblane.

**FEES.**

Full Course, including morning, afternoon, and evening classes, 30/-. Celtic Art Class only, 15/-. Singing Class only, 5/-. Clarsach Class, £1 1/-.

**ENROLMENT.**

Intending students are advised to enrol early, and to send their names and addresses to Mr. Neil Shaw, 212 West George 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, Mr. John Smith, M.A., Bayview, Tobermory.

**TEXT BOOKS.****SENIOR CLASS.**

Reid & MacLeod's Elementary Course, 2/6. Blackie's Gaelic Reader, Leabhar IV., 2/-.

An Dileab, 1/6.

A Gaelic Dictionary.

**JUNIOR CLASS.**

Reid & MacLeod's Elementary Course, 2/6.

An Ceud Cheum (Blackie & Son), 6d.

Leabhar na Cloinne Bige, 7d.

**SENIOR CLASS.**

A' Chòisir Chùil, 3/-.

Orain a' Mhòid XII., 1/-.

1935 Mòd Choral Leaflet, 1/-.

**ORAN-MOLAIDH MNA.**

Mar tha mhil an cìrean céire,  
Taisgte, stòirte 'n òrdagh réidh,  
Tha gach snas is maise beusan  
Paisgte comhla 'n com mo chéil'.

Ailleagan na mnathan i, sùgh mo chridh';

'S milis Màiri, mo bhean fhin;

Ailleagan na mnathan i, sùgh mo chridh'.

Paisgte comhla 'n com mo chéile  
Gheibhtear gràdh is bàidh nach tréig;  
Grinneas nàduir, tuigse 's léirsinn,  
Aluinn mar tha glòir na gréin'.

Ailleagan na mnathan i, etc.

Aluinn mar tha glòir na gréine  
'Dath le 'meòirean neòil na speur,  
Tha fiamh-ghaire 'n stùilean 'm'èudail  
'Dòrtadh aoibhneis air mo cheum.

Ailleagan na mnathan i, etc.

'Dòrtadh aoibhneis air mo cheuman,  
Dùsgadh dòchais 'na mo chridh'  
Thug dhomh sòlas 'chaoidh nach tréig mi  
'N la 'sheas i air mo chli.

Ailleagan na mnathan i, etc.

'N la 'sheas i air mo chli-sa  
'Cheangal snaime cùmhnant pòsaidh,  
Fhuair mi 'bhean is briagh' 's is milse  
'Rinn an saogh'1 soilseach dhomhsa.

Ailleagan na mnathan i, sùgh mo chridh';

'S milis Màiri, mo bhean fhin;

Ailleagan na mnathan i, sùgh mo chridh'.

CALUM LAING.

**COMMUN BADGES.**

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



### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

It was a very pleasant experience being present at the closing ceilidh of the Appin branch. These ceilidhs are eagerly looked forward to, and a happy feature is the manner in which friends of the movement travel long distances to attend. On this occasion I noticed representatives from Lismore, Duror, and many of the surrounding hamlets. The president, Mr. D. MacPherson, a Badenoch man, who was for many years schoolmaster in the district, takes a really keen interest in the work of the movement and his influence as a Gaelic enthusiast is felt throughout the area. He has frequently acted as language adjudicator at National and Provincial Mods.

\* \* \*

We are much indebted to people like Mr. MacPherson, who find pleasure in promoting our work throughout the country. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Grant, Tomdoun, provide another instance of devoted service. Mrs. Grant has acted as secretary of the Invergarry branch since its inception, and at each meeting two private cars are provided free of charge to convey members in this scattered area to the hall. One family travel to Tomdoun—a distance of twelve miles, on cycles, while another comes from Glenquoich.

\* \* \*

It is a happy company which takes advantage of these facilities that Mr. and Mrs. Grant so kindly provide, and as they travel to and from Invergarry the journey is lightened by the singing of "duanags" and lusty Gaelic choruses. We are indebted to friends like these for the assistance they render to our branches.

\* \* \*

In answer to an invitation from Mr. John S. MacKenzie, I attended a meeting at Carlisle which was specially convened to form a Highland Association in the town. It was a pleasant surprise to find an audience of fully three hundred present, and from the enthusiasm prevailing, it was evident that such a society as proposed would have a successful future. After I had addressed the meeting on the work of An Comunn, our friends in Carlisle unanimously decided to form the Carlisle Highland Association and become affiliated to An Comunn. Mr. MacKenzie, who is a native of Portree, was appointed president. Mr. Alex. MacGregor, Devenshire Street, is secretary, and Mr. W. A. Sinclair, treasurer.

In most cases preparations for the various Provincial Mods are now well advanced. At the Badenoch-Strathspey Mod, which takes place early this month, provision is made for a Gaelic play competition. This competition will be held on the eve of the Mod, and it is understood that four teams will take part. An experienced teacher in dramatic art will adjudicate. A large audience is expected.

\* \* \*

A new and rather interesting competition is being introduced in the syllabus of the East Sutherland Mod. It is described as "Family Conversation Competition," and its purpose is to encourage the practice of parents and children conversing in Gaelic in the home. Each family must be represented by at least three persons, i.e., two parents and one child, or by one parent and two children. Additional marks will be allowed for the family when more than one child takes part. Children must be under sixteen at date of Mod. The conversation to be of a free and easy kind on any suitable subject chosen by the competitors, and such as would ordinarily take place between parents and children at the home fireside. Four prizes of a total value of £5 are offered for this competition. The East Sutherland Mod takes place on 7th June.

\* \* \*

Arrangements are proceeding apace for the Uist and Barra Gaelic Drama Festival, for 1935, which is to be held in the month of October. Owing to transport difficulties in this area, it has been decided that all the teams in North and South Uist and Barra will be adjudicated in their own districts, for the trophy presented by the Glasgow Uist and Barra Association. The branches in Barra have already announced their intention of entering two teams, and it is expected that teams will be forward from each district in North and South Uist.

\* \* \*

The announcement that shinty sticks would be given to the first ten branches of Comunn na h-Oigridh who desire to adopt the national pastime, has been very enthusiastically received. In the Northern area alone eight branches have decided to form shinty teams, and a most encouraging feature is that the schoolmasters in these districts have volunteered to assist in developing the game among the children. The Southern branches are equally keen on taking advantage of this offer, and it is worthy of note that up to the present all the applications for camain have come from the isles.

Mr. MacPhail, Northern Organiser, informs us that an effort is to be made to organise a Comunn na h-Oigridh outing in Skye. It is hoped that this outing will take place in the early summer. The "Misty Isle," with its romantic history and scenic grandeur, would afford a splendid setting for such a gathering of young Gaels. This is an excellent idea and its accomplishment would very materially help to seal the success of Comunn an h-Oigridh.

\* \* \*

The institution of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal Inbhir-nis has given evidence of the interest that is being taken in Gaelic matters in the Northern capital. At the March meeting of this all Gaelic Society, an audience of over two hundred was present to welcome Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow, who lectured on the work of the Glasgow Ceilidh nan Gaidheal, of which he has been president for the past twenty-seven years.

\* \* \*

For some time it was a matter of complaint among Inverness Gaels that there was little provision made for their requirements in the way of Gaelic books. This want has now been removed by the decision of Mr. Bowes, Young Street, to carry a stock of the best-known Gaelic publications.

\* \* \*

Many of the songs which will comprise the forthcoming collection of Lewis unpublished songs were sung at a recent ceilidh of the Lewis branch. Such was the success of this ceilidh that it was decided to arrange another in the Town Hall. These songs have been gleaned from the different Lewis districts and when issued in book form, as is intended, they will constitute a very interesting companion volume to "Ceol Mara" as the collection by Mr. Duncan Morrison, which is at present being prepared for the press is called. The island of Lewis seems to be very fertile in song and music.

\* \* \*

We regret to record the death of the Rev. Neil MacKillop, one of our life members, who took a very active interest in the affairs of the recently formed branch at Elgin, of which he was vice-president. A native of Benderloch, Mr. MacKillop gave devoted service to the advancement of An Comunn's work. Last year, under the auspices of the Moray Education Committee, he conducted a Summer School of Gaelic at Elgin and some time ago he introduced a monthly Gaelic service. The

respect in which he was held by the community was shown by the fact that upwards of one thousand people were present at the funeral, and among the many floral tributes was one from the branch. Mr. MacKillop's presence will be very much missed in the district.

\* \* \*

A copy of the syllabus of the annual Mod of the Gaelic Society of London has been sent us. It is nine years since these Mods were first promoted and they have now a fixed place in the calendar of Highland affairs in the Metropolis. Sixteen competitions have been arranged embracing literary, oral, solo, duet, quartette and clarsach items. The Mod will be held on 13th April at 5.30 p.m. in the Royal Scottish Corporation Hall, and any of our members who may be in London at that time, along with those already resident there, should make a point of being present. The members of the Gaelic Society of London are deserving of every encouragement for the splendid work they are doing, and visitors are assured of a very cordial welcome. Mr. John MacLeod, 75 Prebend Gardens, London, W.6, is convener of the Mod Committee, and he will be pleased to send a copy of the syllabus to prospective competitors.

\* \* \*

A copy of the Edinburgh Comunn Tir nam Beann Mod syllabus has also been received. This Mod, which will serve as an interesting preliminary to the National festival in September, takes place in the Kintore Rooms, Queen Street, on Saturday, 25th May. The proceedings include 28 competitions, consisting of literary, oral, solo, duet, and instrumental classes. The secretary is Mr. David B. Ross, from whom all particulars may be obtained. This is the second Mod arranged by this Association.

\* \* \*

We have pleasure in intimating that Mr. John Smith, M.A., Bayview, Tobermory, has accepted the duties of local secretary for the Summer School of Gaelic. As this is a very popular district with holiday-makers we would strongly urge upon intending students the importance of making arrangements for accommodation as early in advance as possible. Details of classes, fees and books, appear elsewhere in this issue.

\* \* \*

Mr. Angus Henderson, the well-known Gaelic scholar, whose excellent articles in Gaelic and English in the "Weekly Scotsman" are so widely appreciated, had the

following generous reference to An Comunn in a recent issue of that paper.

An Comunn Gàidhealach.

Tha'n Comunn Gàidhealach a' cur an òrdugh air son an ath Mhòid, a tha ri bhi air a ghleidheadh an Dun-éideann. Tha'n "Comunn" ri obair mhath an iomadh rathad agus tha e a' fas na's ceannsgalaiche mar a tha e a' tighinn air adhart am bliadhnachan.

Is fad a nis o'n chuireadh air chois e; agus, ged nach robh e ro mhisneachail an toiseach, shoirbhich leis gu h-iongantach agus chinn e am mùirn agus am meas ag islean agus uaislean. An diugh, tha ainm aige a tha os ceann gach ainm a bhuineas do chomuinn Ghàidhealach, agus chan eil gin an Albainn a theid air thoiseach air an àireamh luchd-leannmhainn no an calmachd saothair. Chan eil e leasg an deagh ghniomharan; agus, a bharrachd air leabhraichean-oilein, chuir e am mach mòran de fheadhainn òran agus chiùil. Chan eil e iomlan, ach tha e fad air thoiseach air oidhirp sam bith a thugadh riamh roimhe air comunn Gàidhlig a chur air bonn. Sith is sonas dha anns an tim a tha air thoiseach air. Mur urrainn dha a' Ghàidhlig a thoirt chum na h-inbhe 'sam bu mhaith leis i bhi, tha dòchas gu'm mair i beo fad iomadh latha agus gu'm bi i an còmhnuidh a' faighinn cuideachaidh uaithe-san gach uair a bhios i an càs.

Tha sàr dhaoine na Gàidhealtachd air ceann a' "Chomuinn" agus tha ar treundhaoine ri strìth co is mò a chumas ris de thaise. Chan eil nàmhaid aige idir cho fad 'sa ghabhas faicinn agus is ann a' cinntinn a tha e fathast is chan ann a' dol om mughha.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Thugadh eachdraidh anns a' mhiosachan mu dheireadh air cuairt an Fhir-dheilbhe an Uibhist.

Air a' cheud là de'n Ghearran bha Mgr. Mac Phàil a' frithealadh aig coinneimh agus Ceilidh an Arasaig. Bha an tìde anabarrach stoirmel, ach a dh'aindeoin sin, chruinnich mòran sluaigh agus bha Ceilidh aighearach ann. Bha an t-Urr. Mgr. Logan anns a' chathair. Labhair am Fear-deilbhe, gu h-araidh air Comunn na h-Oigridh, ach a thaobh 's gu'm bheil a' mhòr-chuid de'n chloinn as na bailtean móra, chan 'eil a' Ghaidhlig idir cho laidir is a dh'fhaodadh i a bhi.

Air an aon-la-deug bha Mgr. Mac Phàil a' labhairt ri Gaidheil an Dòrnidh, ach a

rihith, bha an tìde garbh. Cruinnich deich-ar-fhichead de na seoid agus 'nam measg bha aon chaileag. Labhair am Fear-deilbhe air obair a' Chomuinn agus fhreagar e mòran cheistean. Anns an dòigh sin, tha cothrom air a' thoirt do na buill fiosrachadh fhaighinn air mar tha cùisean ag adhartachadh an cearnaidhean eile.

Bha coinneamh ghasda an Uchd-a rìre air oidhehe Dimàirt, a dh'aindeoin an droch aimsir. Sheinn a' Choisir òg ceithir orain agus chuidich mòran de na bha an làthair leis a' Cheilidh.

Air an ath oidhehe, anns a' Phloc (Loch Aillse) bha an Dotair Mac Mhathain anns a' chathair aig coinneimh anns an Talla ùr. Bheachdaich a' choinneamh gu sonraichte air cion teagasg Gàidhlig anns an Sgoil agus dh'aothaich iad le aon ghuth, gu'm bu chòir Tagradh (Petition) a' thoirt fa chomhar 'nam pàrantan, a chum agus gu'm bi iad a' cur an ainmean ris agus an sin gu'n cuirear e air beulaibh Ard-Chomhairle an Fhoghlum.

Air oidhehe Dìor-daoin, bha Mgr. Mac Phàil 'na Fhear-cathrach aig Cuirm-chiùil Ghaidhlig 's a' Chaol. Bha àireamh mhath cruinn agus thogadh suim mhath airgid gu bhi paigheadh coisdais a' chròilean sheinn a chaidh a chur air chois fo stiuradh a' mheoir.

Air an ath mhaduinn chum am Fear-deilbhe air a chuairt gu Loch-Carrann agus aig Ceilidh 's an fheasgar bha an Dotair Mac Fhearghuis anns a' chathair. Air an darna taobh dheadh bha am Maighstear Sgoile agus air an taobh eile am Ministear. Bha an tìde beagan na b'fhearr air an oidhehe so agus bha faisg air ciad an làthair. Fhuair sinn orain agus sgeulachdan agus thug am Fear-deilbhe fiosrachadh air Comunn na h-Oigridh agus dealbh-chluichean Gàidhlig.

Thog Mgr. Mac Phàil air tràth an ath mhaduinn agus air an fheasgair sin bha e a' frithealadh aig coinneamhan de Frith-Chomhairlean a' Chraobh-sgaoidh agus an Fhoghlum an Inbhirnis. Bha aon deug de na buill an làthair agus is ann le duilichinn a chuala gach aon diùbh gu'n do chuir an t-siatag am Fear-gairme air laighe na leapa. Chaidh earbsa ris an Rùnair an dùrachd a chur thun Mgr. Mac Dhomhnuill, gu'm biodh e air a chasan a dh'aithghearr. Thug am Fear-dealbh eachdraidh air a chuairtean o thoiseach na bliadhna agus chaidh gabhail ris an iomradh. Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air iomradh a thaobh an triuir Luchd-teagasg Ciùil 's an Taobh-tuath, aig an àm so, agus bha iad riarachaid gu'n robh gach aon diùbh a' deanamh obair ionmholta. Dh'innis am Fear-deilbhe gu'n do chuireadh air bonn ochd buidhnean de Chomuinn na h-Oigridh an Siorramachd Inbhir-Nis ach nach d'fhuair-

eadh cead fhathast o'n Ard-Chomhairle an Siorramachd Rois gu bhi cur buidhean air chois 's an t-Siorrachd sin. Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle gu cùramach air a' chùis so agus a' chionn 's gu'm bheil iad dearbhte gur ann troimh Chomunn na h-Oigridh a bhios a' chànan air a sàbhaladh, chaidh Frith-Chomhairle shonraichte a chur air chois gu bhi rannsachadh na cùise.

Air an 20mh là labhair am Fear-deilbhe ri da cheud aig Ceilidh an Inbhir-Naruinn. Leugh an Ceann-suidhe, Mgr. Iain Mac Coinnich, oraid a sgrìobh an t-Urr. Calum Mac Illeathain, Conon. Thug an t-Urr. iomradh fhoghlumite air cor na Gaidhlig an Albainn, an Èireann, 's a' Chumrigh agus an Eilean Mhanainn. B'e a bheachd gur ann an Saorstad-Eireann a mha'n a tha adhartas air bith 'g a dheanadh air taobh na cànan. Bha Ceilidh thogarrach ann an deidh na h-oraid agus chuidich am Fear-deilbhe mar is àbhaist.

Aig Cuirm-Chiuil 'sa Ghearasdan air Dihaoine, fhuair Mgr. Mac Phàil cothrom air labhairt air obair a' Chomuinn agus gu h-àraidh air dheanasan nam parantan a thaobh na cànan. Tha aireamh na cloinne a' fas' na's lugha a h-uile bliadhna 's na h-ionadan so, agus is e dùrachd gach fìor Ghaidheal nach tig an latha a chithear Lochabar gun chlann a bhios fileanta anns a' Ghaidhlig.

#### Luchd-teagasg Ciuil.

Iain Mac Dhomhnuill, Leodhas; Bhaltar Ros, Loch Carrann agus Srath Alladail; A' Mghd. Nic Dhomhnuill, Baidenach.

Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhirnis.

Aig coinneimh de'n Cheilidh so o chionn ghoirid, b'e an t-oraidiche, Mgr. Iain N. Mac Leoid agus a chuspair, "Iain Gobha Bard na Hearadh." Tha Mgr. Mac Leoid mion-eolach air obair a' Bhaire ainmeil so, ach tha aige a bharrachd air a sin, mion-eolas air, ach gann, gach car de chaitheamh-beatha a' Bhaire. Chuala sinn o'n oraidiche gèul an deidh sgeoil, mu nithean a thachair, mar gu'm biodh, an obair-latha a' Bhaire agus gu dearbh, is fhada o'n a dh'èis sinn ri òraid air a cur an eagamhacheile, cho fìor thlachdmhor agus air a labhairt an Gaidhlig cho fileanta.

#### An Airde Deas.

Air an ochdamh là fchead de'n mhios so chaidh bha a' Chomhairle Dheasach cruinn an Glaschu. Bha am Fear Gairme, Mgr. Donnchadh Mac Caluim, anns a' chathair agus bha mòran de na buill 'san lathair.

Thugadh fathunn bho'n Rùnaire air a chuirtean agus bheachdaicheadh air obair an

luchd-teagasg. Tha Mgr. Iain Mac Dhomhnuill a' teagasg an I Chalum Chille agus 'na dhéidh sin theid e gu Bun-easain. Chriochnaich Mgr. Iain Mac Iomhair an Tobar Mhoire, an Aros agus 'sa 'Mhòrairne agus tha e nis an Ile. Bha a' Mghd'n Ealasaid Nic Mhartaing an Arainn aig ám an Fhéis-Chiuil a' cuideachadh nan co-fharpaiseach Gaidhlig an sin. Tha aireamh nan co-fharpaiseach Gaidhlig a nis co-ionnan ri-san an earrannan eile aig an Fhéis so agus tha sin 'na mhisnich mhoir do'n mhuintir a tha ri saothair air taobh na Gaidhlig.

Chaidh an Rùnaire gu Caer-leòl (Carlisle) air an dara là deug de'n mhart agus labhair e ri tri cheud aig cruinneachadh an sin mu dhéidhinn obair a' Chomuinn agus comuinn dhùthchail eile. Chuireadh Comunn air bonn am feasgar sin agus chaidh luchd-dreuchd a thaghadh. Is e an Ceann-Suidhe Mgr. Iain S. Mac Coinnich agus is math a rinn iad a chur air ceann a' chomuinn, oir is esan a rinn gach ullachadh air son na ceud choinneimh. Bu bhrathair mathair dha an Lighiche Coinneach Caimbeul nach maireann a bha 'san Oban agus a bha re iomadh bliadhna 'na bhall dealasach air Comhairle an Fhoghlum, agus, mar an ceudna, 'na Iar Cheann Suidhe air a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach.

Air an ath mhios bidh iomradh againn air cuairt Mhgr. Marjoribanks agus an Rùnaire gu Aird nam Murchain.

#### "THE DIMENSIONS OF AN HARP."

By J. L. CAMPBELL.

The following list of the measurements of a harp may be of interest to modern performers on this instrument. The measurements are given on page 54 of Gaelic MS. LXV of the National Library of Scotland. This is a late MS. (mid-eighteenth century) of unknown origin, the property of the Highland Society:—

	Feet. Inches.	
The length of the box is ... ..	3	4
The breadth at the bottom ... ..	1	0
At the head ... ..	0	5
Depth ... ..	0	6½
Depth of ye sideboard high ... ..	0	5
Depth of it below ... ..	0	3¼
The depth of ye pinn bowe ... ..	0	4
The corne of the pinn bowe ... ..	0	9
The distance of the string holes ... ..	0	1½
From the first to the last pinn ... ..	1	1½
The length of the outside of the back bowe ... ..	4	5
The inside ... ..	3	6
The number of bass strings, including one of the sisters ... ..	15	

## BRANCH REPORTS.

**ABERFELDY.**—Under the auspices of the Aberfeldy branch a largely attended and successful ceilidh was held in the Town Hall. Major Iain Stewart (Fasnacloich) occupied the chair and a nicely varied programme of Gaelic and English songs, interspersed with instrumental items and sgeulachdan, was submitted and much enjoyed.

**BUTE.**—The Bute branch, at Rothesay, which was established twenty-six years ago, has had a very successful session. Throughout the winter an interesting series of lecture and concert meetings was held and at each of these there was a large attendance present. At the closing concert in the Tower Street Hall a full house accorded a cordial reception to the artistes who sustained an excellent programme of Gaelic and English songs. The president, Mr. Archibald Campbell, occupied the chair.

**CAMPBELTOWN.**—A very enjoyable "wee ceilidh" was held in the rural hall, when Mr. R. A. Wallace occupied the chair. A long programme of Gaelic and English solos, and demonstrations of step dancing was gone through, and thereafter a splendid tea was served.

**CRUACHAN.**—In the absence of the Rev. J. MacPherson, president, Dr. MacNicol took the chair at the ceilidh of the Cruachan branch in the Taynult Public Hall. A very pleasant feature of the meeting was the presence of a deputation of visiting members from Bonawe, who assisted with the programme.

**FORT WILLIAM.**—Whether the members of the audience were Gaelic speakers or not, a treat was provided for them at the excellent concert organised by An Comunn Ghaidhealach a' Gearasdain, which was held in the Town Hall. Dr. Maciver, who occupied the chair, made sympathetic reference to the loss sustained by the death of Major N. B. Mackenzie. The concert, he explained, had been organised for the purpose of providing a prize fund for the Provincial Mod, which was such a popular event in Lochaber, and he hoped they would all do their best to support this deserving cause.

**GHILINN URCHADH.**—Bha céilidh anabarrach grinn aig muinntir Ghlinn Urchaidh an Dailmháilidh, Earraghaidheal, air oidhche Di-Sathuirn an dara la de'n Mhàrt. 'S e a bha 'ga fágail sonraiche grinn gu'n tainig air càirden. bho Thigh-an-Uillt gu ar cuideachadh, agus gu dearbh airson so tha ar taing aca, chionn bha cuid mhór de'n chlar-ceann 'nan lamhan-sa. Ghabh Iain Mac Caluim iomadh òran le Donnachadh Bàn a b'fhearr na chéile: is ann aigean a tha'm fìor shean dòigh agus is math a chòrd e ris gach aon sa chuideachd. Leig a' Mhgn. Nic Ghrogar ris gu'n robh i "aig an tigh" anns gach seòrsa duain bho òran mòr gu pìr a beul, agus thug Bean Mhic Chaluim dhuinn an fheadhainn a bu mhuircheas leinn. Rinn Bean Beil agus Bean Choille comhradh-càraid a bha coimhionta araon an tapachd, an gearra-ghobachd agus am fileantachd. Chan 'eil fhios nach i Nessie Shiosalach an t'é is mo a thug toilinnint dhuinn leis an fhidhearachd a rinn i—òran e mhàin gu'n robh na puirt aice cho mìle, sibhlach ach rinn a giùlan banail, mállda drùdhadh nach beag air na bha'n lathair. Fhuair sinn iomadh deagh òran bho mhuintir an àite, 'nam measg Diana Marjoribanks agus Gilleasbuig Mac Caluim. Chluich Ina Nic Urchaidh agus Seòras Gallda Comhradh-Dhìis a rinn e fhein, agus ma bha e gorach, neo-ar-thiang mur an do ghabh an luchd-

deiseachd ris. Bha an rogha Fear-tighe againn—Calum Mac Phail: 's e nach leigeadh le duine diùltadh! Agus ghabh e iomadh òran. 'Nuair a dh'innsear gu'n robh suas ri ceud a stigh a dh'aindeoin ascaoine nan siannt, tuigear nach géill an oidhche so do dh'aon a bh'againn riann.

**GLENGARRY.**—Mr. John MacGillivray, president, acted as host at the closing ceilidh of the Glengarry branch. The Coronation Hall was full to capacity for the occasion, and the programme arranged by the secretary, Mrs. Grant, Tomdoun, was one of the most attractive yet submitted. Part songs were rendered by the Glengarry Gaelic Choir, assisted by a large company of artistes in solo items.

**HALLADALE.**—Mr. Hugh J. Mackay, Birchwood, a native of Halladale, who in early life emigrated to America, has, for the past two years, been enjoying a well merited visit to his native Strath. During his stay in Halladale, Mr. Mackay has taken an interest in all that pertained to the welfare of the community. A talented musician, his services were in constant demand at all the local entertainments, and were always freely given. On the eve of his return to America, Mr. Mackay was waited upon by a deputation of the local branch and presented with a fountain pen and pencil as a token of their appreciation of his good work for An Comunn. Mr. Mackay carries with him to the land of his adoption, the good wishes of his many friends in Halladale.

**INVERARAY.**—The closing ceilidh of the session of the Inveraray branch was held in the St. Malieu Hall. Mr. Robert Bain, president, presided over a large attendance. A very interesting programme of part songs and solos was sustained by the choir. The choir, which was formed mainly through the efforts of Mr. Bain, gave much assistance throughout the session. Miss Campbell acts as conductor.

**INVERGORDON.**—The Invergordon branch of An Comunn held a successful ceilidh in the Y.M.C.A. Hall. Mr. A. M'Millan, president, presided, and cordially welcomed the gathering. The programme was a thoroughly enjoyable one, consisting of songs and sgeulachdan. Among those present were Mr. Alasdair Fraser, M.A., Dingwall, and the Rev. D. MacCallum, Rosskeen.

**KINLOCHIEL.**—The members of the Kinlochiel branch were entertained to a presentation of the play "Peigi Bheag" at a recent meeting. Mr. Donald MacMillan, J.P., presided over a large gathering. A feature of the play was the splendid characterisation of the players in the various parts. A concert programme followed.

**KILMALLIE.**—A ceilidh was held in the Village Hall, Rev. Wm. MacDonald, M.A., in the chair. Mr. Ewen Cameron opened the programme with selections on the bagpipes. A play was staged by members from the Kinlochiel An Comunn. It was well acted and thoroughly enjoyed. Songs were afterwards sung by a large company of local artistes.

**KILMUIR.**—An interesting Gaelic debate was held recently in the School under the auspices of the local branch. Mr. Finlayson, president of the branch, was in the chair. The subject of the debate was "Which is Better; the Life of a Farmer or that of a Fisherman." Mr. Donald MacKenzie, supported by Mr. J. MacKenzie, spoke on the farmer's side, while Mr. J. Nicolson, supported by Mr. A. MacDonald, took the side of the fisherman. Discussion was afterwards taken part in. After a vote was taken, it was decided by a narrow majority that the fisherman had a better life. Cordial

thanks were expressed to the principal speakers. A programme of Gaelic songs was afterwards gone through.

**LOCHCARRON.**—The Lochcarron branch held what proved a most enjoyable ceilidh in the Drill Hall. Dr. Ferguson presided and introduced Mr. MacPhail, northern organiser for An Comunn. In the course of his remarks Mr. MacPhail congratulated Lochcarron on winning all prizes in Gaelic literature at Kyle Mod, thus demonstrating the high standard of teaching imparted locally. Rev. R. Smith and Mr. D. Montgomery, M.A., headmaster of Lochcarron School, also spoke. A high-class programme was then submitted.

**LOCHINVER.**—A successful ceilidh was held by the Lochinver branch in the Comrades' Hall. A large company was present and the proceedings consisted of songs, stories, and instrumental items. So much were the proceedings that a date was fixed before dispersing for the holding of a similar ceilidh.

**NAIRN.**—Valiant efforts still continue to be made by the members of the local branch of An Comunn to foster and maintain the use of the Gaelic language, music and song, and they were fortunate in having a lecture from Mr. John Macdonald, reader in Celtic, Aberdeen University, who imparted a great deal of most useful information on Gaelic place names. With the skirl of the pipes, an abundance of lamely fare, cheery songs and sprightly music, and a real Highland atmosphere pervading all, a very happy evening was spent.

**PORTREE.**—The members of the Portree branch of An Comunn held a very interesting meeting recently, when an all-Gaelic play was acted in the Drill Hall before a good audience. Mr. Ronald Macleod, Secondary School, occupied the chair. A mock-trial by jury concerning an alleged breach of promise case formed the chief part of the proceedings, which were conducted wholly in Gaelic. The large company present thoroughly enjoyed this unique form of entertainment. The members of the cast are to be congratulated on the splendid manner in which they performed their parts.

**SKERRYAY.**—The first meeting of the recently formed Skerryay branch attracted a large attendance, although the weather was most unpleasant. Mr. MacLeod, M.A., president, acted the part of Fear an Tighe and the proceedings were conducted in a real ceilidh manner. At the outset lively selections on the bagpipes banished any traces of reserve and the atmosphere became genial and typically Highland, and right on until near midnight the company was entertained by song, tale, and music. Tea was served by the ladies about half time and enjoyed, and to defray any necessary expense a silver collection was taken and resulted in a handsome sum being procured. The Gaelic tales took on particularly well and there were pleasant surprises from latent talent which augurs well for the success of future ceilidhs.

**STORNOWAY.**—The fifth ceilidh under the auspices of the local branch was held in the Town Hall and Mr. Angus MacDonald presided. During the evening Mr. Thomson, M.A., Bayble, read an interesting and most informative paper on the "Clan MacAulay." A musical programme was afterwards proceeded with, a feature of which was the enthusiastic manner in which community singing of Gaelic songs was engaged in.

**TAIN.**—An address on "Highland Wit and Humour," by Dr. D. J. Macleod, O.B.E., Inverness, was the outstanding item at the monthly ceilidh of

the local branch in Queen Street Church Hall. There was a crowded audience, and Dr. Macleod's delightful stories, original and racily narrated, kept the gathering in constant good humour throughout. The speaker, who was fittingly introduced by the president, Mr. John Campbell, Fearn, was cordially thanked on the call of Mr. Malcolm MacArthur, Nigg. A most enjoyable musical programme was contributed by a large company of talented artists.

**TOBARNHOIRE.**—B' ann aig Comunn na h-Oigridh bha a' còisead earran de'n chlàir air an 13mh la de'n Ghearran. Dh' fhosgail a' choinneamh le còil mèarsaidh, "Mallorea," agus srath-spèidhean air a' phlob, bho Raibeart Mac Leòid, pòbaire na cloinne; agus thug na sgo'learan eile dhùinn òrain, seugachdan is dannsadh, a bha anabarrach taitneach. Chualas còil na fìdhle bho Mgr. G. A. Shiach. Bha sgeulachdan aig an Urr I. Mac a' Mheinneirach, agus òrain aig Catriona Chamshron, M. Nic 'Ille Iosa, G. Kirsop, is D. Mac Ionghuinn. Chaidh oidhche ghàsda a chur seachad. Bha coinneamh eile againn air an 27mh de'n Ghearran, agus bha sinn duillech fìos fhaighinn bho bràidhean na h-oidhche ag innseadh nach b'urraim e tighinn. Ach co dhiubh chaidh gnòthaichean gu math 's gu ru mhath. Bha a bhocsa a'g Calum Mac Iilleathain, agus chluich Sìne Chamshron air a' phiano. Shuidh Coimheach Mac Pharlain aig an teibe agus dh' imis e mu 'n donas 's a gheis labhairt. Dh' eirich D. Mac Guaire gu foirmeil agus thug e dhùinn dà sheann òran a rinnadh 's an àite, nach robh an clò. Bha na h-òran tiamhaidh, ach ged a bha iad car muladach bha iad air leth grinn. Chum Mac Aoidh sinn ann an gear math le a sgeulachd mu Phàra Pòbaire agus mu 'n mhàrt mi-chineasda sin a shaoil leatha a' dh' ith an pòbaire bochd. Cha robh fear na cathrach (Lochiall) 'na tàimh—chan e aon sgeul idir a bh' aigeas ach iomadh aon mu 'n drobhair ainmeil sin, Chamshron a mhuinntir Lochabar, agus ma chreideas sinn na chualas, cha robh na Camshronaich maol-theagach riamh.

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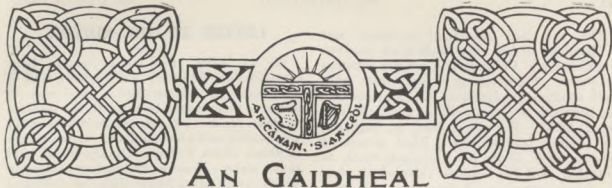
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Leabhar XXX.]

*An Cèitein, 1935.*

[Earrann 8

### MOD DHUNEIDEANN.

Ann an òran mhòlaidh a rinn Donnachadh Bàn do Dhunéideann tha e ag iomradh air ma'se a' bhaile, agus air na h-ìoghnaidhean a tha ri'm faicinn ann. Chan ann a mhàin airson a mhaise a bha Gaidheil deidheil air ceanna-bhaile na rìoghachd. Tha aobhar na dhà eile airsin am bu chòir dhuinn a bhì measail air Dunéideann. Dleasaidh am baile taitneach ud urram a chionn gur ann an sud a shuidheas prìomh-chùirtean na h-eaglais agus an lagha. Do neach a ghabhas beachd tùrail air an dà nì sin is anabarrach mar tha Dunéideann mar fhuaran o bheil iomadh sruthan mar gum b'eadh a' sìleadh feadh na dùthcha air fad a thaobh ughdarras an cuisean eaglais, is ceartais, is foghlum. Tha na Gaidheil fo chomain do Dhunéideann, a chionn gu'n do bhuilich am baile ainmeil sin onair is deagh-ghean air iomadh Gaidheil. Tha feadhainn de ar muinntir a' suidhe air uiribh anns na h-ionadan is airde, an cathair riaghlaidh a' bhaile, anns a' chùbaid, anns an ard-chùirt, agus anns an oil-thigh.

\* \* \*

Feadh na naodhamh linn deug thug Dunéideann comhnadh nach bu bheag do'n Ghaidhealtach. Tha sin fìor gu sonraichte a thaobh eaglaisean agus sgoilean. Ged a dh'fhaodas a bheachd féin an diugh a bhì aig gach fear a thaobh nan roinnean a bha anns an eaglais, gidheadh tha sinn cinnteach gu'm biodh iomadh sgrì anns an taobh tuath a dh'èasbhuidh tighean aoraidh aig am an Dealachaidh mur bhiodh gu'n d'fhuaras cuideachadh o Dhunéideann. Gun teagamh tha seo a' gabhail a stigh na dùthcha air fad a thaobh an airgid; ach is ann ri Dunéideann

a shealladh mòran de ar n-athraichean airson furtachd. Nach ionmholta an obair a rinn Comunn nan Ban Uasal an Dunéideann airson na Gaidhealtachd. Is anns a' bhliadhna 1850 a shuidhich eadh an Comunn cluìteach sin, a tha ag obair gu dìleas gus an latha an diugh. Chuir an Comunn sin air chois corr is ochd fichead sgoil air feadh na Gaidhealtachd. Bha Gaidhlig 'g a teagasg am mòran de na sgoilean sin. Faodadh gu'm biodh staid ar cànan fada na b'èudòchasaiche an diugh mur bhiodh saothair is falaidheachd Comunn nam Ban Uasal.

\* \* \*

A nis mar tha fhios aig an leughadair tha ar sùilean a' tionndadh aon turus eile gu ceanna bhaile Alba, gu baile greadhach na Creige agus a' Chaisteil. Tha buidheann dhìleas Ghaidhealach an Dunéideann a thug cuireadh càrdeil do'n Mhòd Chinneachail do'n bhaile am bliadhna. Ged tha ceithir mìosan fathast mus faic sinn a chéile aig a' Mhòd gidheadh is math a bhì a' deanamh luaidh air a' chuirn mhóir agus a' tarrainn aire nam ball an deagh am. Tha am Mòd a nis air fàs cho cudthromach agus gur e tha ann ach gnothach mór a leithid a ghabhail as laimh. Air an aobhar sin tha Comhairle a' Mhòid an Dunéideann ri am moladh agus ri an clùthachadh airson am misnich. Is e an dòigh is fhearr gus am moladh sin a dhearbhadh, gu'n dean gach aon a dhìchioll gus an cuideachadh fo an uallach a tha aig an am cho trom air an guallean. Gheibh iad brosnuchadh as ùr an uair a chì iad gu bheil na buill eile feadh na tìre a' cuimhneachadh orra. Tha iad aontaichail is dùrachdach, agus is math is airidh iad air a h-uile h-oidheirp a ghabhas deanamh a chum an comhnadh.

Tha am Mòd bliadhnaile a chum leas A'Chomuinn air fad. Is e am Mòd am meadhan sonruichte aig A'Chomunn a nis gus ionmhas fhaotainn. Thatar a' cur a mach suim mhòr gach bliadhna air duaisean, màl nan tallachan, clo bhualadh is nithean eile an comhicheangal ris a' Mhòd. Mar sin is ceart gu faigheadh An Comunn buannachd o'n Mhòd airson na cosgus, agus airson na h-oibreach feadh na dùthcha. Ged bha comhstri chàrdeil air chois o chionn greise a dh'fheuch cò bu mho buannachd, gidheadh tuigear nach gabh sin cumail suas. Is e an nì sonraichte gu'n biodh na meanglain dìleas gus an earrainn féin a dheanamh. An aon seadh chan e a mhàin Mòd Dhunéideann a tha an so, ach am Mod Cinneachail. Mar sin tha dleasan a' laidhe air gach meanglan agus air gach ball. Tha gnòthach trì-filte anns an amharc—eadhon labhairt is seinn na cànan, cosnadh airgid airson feum A'Chomuinn, agus craobh-sgaoileadh le bhi a' dèsgadh is o' blàthachadh cridhe nan ceudan coigreach a chluinneas a' Ghaidhlig agus a ceòl airson a' cheud uair.

\* \* \*

Tha Comhairle Dhunéideann aig an am so a' deanamh gach nì is urrainn dhaibh ag ullachadh airson a' Mhòid. Chum iad a cheana cuirmean ciùil is coinneamhan eile, gus airgid fhaotainn. Aig deireadh a' mhios so tha iad féin is cairdean eile gu bhi a' cumail Féill fad dh' latha an Duneideann. Bithidh an Fhéil an Talla Naomh Cuthbert air an 31 de'n Chéitein agus a' cheud latha de'n Og-mhios. Is cinnteach gu'm biodh a' Chomhairle taingeil airson tabhartas sam bith a b'urrainn càirdean a thoirt dhaibh, no chur g'an ionnsaidh airson na Feillé. Mu'n am ud bithidh àireamh de mhinistirean agus de dh'èildearan an Duneideann aig an Ard Sheanadh; agus tha dòchas gu'n tadhail iadsan an Fhéil air sgàth na seann dùthcha is na seann chànan. Tràth anns an fhoghar bithidh coigreach an iomadh àite feadh na Gàidhealtachd. Bu chòir do na còisrean dùthchail Gàidhlig anns gach àite cuir-m-chiùil a chumail gu bhi a' barruinn aire nan coigreach, agus a' cosnadh airgid airgid Mòd Dhunéideann a chuideachadh.



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.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I have, for many years, been interested in collecting Puir-t-a-beul, and it has occurred to me that a good way to preserve them would be through the medium of your paper. There are doubtless many who read it and who could add verses or lines to those which I have already noted, and thus make a more interesting collection which might, at a future date, be published with music.

Take for instance the tune "Standard on the Braes of Mar"—the following words were given to me many years ago by Colonel MacInnes, Glendaruel:—

'S toigh leam fhéin mo ghùn a dheanamh  
Air a chùl is air a bheulann

'S toigh leam fhéin mo ghùn a dheanamh  
Mar tha gùn na Ban-tighearna.

Air a chùl 's air a bheul  
Air a chùl 's air a bheul  
Air a chùl 's air a bheul  
Mar tha gùn na Ban Tighearna.

Since coming to live in Perthshire I have been given two more traditional verses which are sung to the second part of the tune and with the same four first lines for the first part of the tune:—

Caol anns 'n deas a mheadhon  
Caol anns 'n deas a mheadhon  
Caol anns 'n deas a mheadhon  
'S leathann anns 'n earboll.

'S toigh leam fhéin leoir leathann,  
Leoir leathann, leoir leathann,  
'Stoigh leam fhéin gu leoir leathann  
'S crioman thun a' dhannasdh.

In a little book "Puir-t-a-beul," published by Dr. K. N. MacDonald in 1901 the following words are given, without music, and headed

"Strathspey Time."

'S fheudar dhomh mo ghùn a dheanamh  
Feumaidh mi mo ghùn a dheanamh,  
'S fheudar dhomh mo ghùn a dheanamh  
Mar tha gùn na Baintighearna!

'S fheudar e bhi umam cruinn,  
Feumaidh e bhi cuimr grinn,  
Air a chuma 's e gu riomhach,  
Direach chum an dannasdh!

This would be a suitable Port-a-beul to set for children at a Mòd competition. If anyone who reads this knows of more verses I should be grateful if they would communicate with me.—Yours truly,

ISOBEL STEWART.  
(Bean Fasnacloiche.)

Camserney Cottage,  
By Aberfeldy.

## SEANN CHLEASAGAN

agus

## Dhuanagan airson Naoidheanan agus na Cloinne Bige.

[Tha na cleasagan so air an clò-bhualadh le ughdarras Chloinn an Fhraoich airson feum Comunn na h-Oigrìdh. Nithear Leabhran de'n cho-chruinneachadh so an deidh am foillseachadh anns a' Ghaidheal.]

## AN CLAR-INNSIDH.

(Co-chruinneachadh "Cursant a' Chreachainn.")

Bhà, Bhà, Bhà.  
 Ghìsan, geusan.  
 Cuir a Bhiodag.  
 Brochan bùirn.  
 So mar chaidh na h-Eich.  
 Hup-hup air an Each.  
 Ordag, Colgag.  
 Danns, a Staigein.  
 An t-Sean Rong Mhór.  
 Cuir 'sa chiste mhóir mi.  
 'S coma leam Buntàta carrach.  
 Sòbhragan, Seamragan.  
 A Chorra-chorra-chòsag.  
 Id-Id-Idein.  
 Gùg-ùg, thuir a' Chuthag.  
 Gille-Gille Guirmein.  
 'S i mo chas chrùbach.  
 An robh thu air an Fhaidhir?  
 Tha mi air do Chrìch.  
 Tha mi air mo Bhaile mór.  
 Eirich, a phoca shalainn.  
 Im is Càise.  
 Aonrachdan, Onrachdan.  
 Cnidsein, Cneadsain.  
 Shogamaid am Boc.  
 Do sheanmhair a chrathadh.  
 An Sgrìobhadh Iudhach.

## CLEASAN A' CHLUICHEAR A' STIGH.

A' Bhuaille le aon Dorus.  
 Am Bodach Dall.  
 Gearr am Muchan.  
 Cur a mach Leannan.  
 Cluichean cunntadh-a-mach—  
 (a) Ladharc-Pocan.  
 (b) Aonadan, Dhanadan.  
 Na Meuran.  
 Clabain—  
 (a) Capull a' Phearsoin.  
 (b) Ceann a' Chapuill Bhàin.  
 (c) Cat a' Mhinisteir.  
 Cill, Cill, Cailleach Mharbh.  
 Cluich a' Mhadaidh-Ruaidh.

Gearradh a' Chàise.

Anail Fhada.

A' Chas Ghoirt.

Toimhseachain (4)—

Ceartas Nighean Dhubhain.

Aiseag nan Ceard.

An Sionnach, an Gàadh, 's an Siol.

Roinn an Uisge-Bheatha.

Bristhraisg, Dinneir agus Suipeir.

## CLUICHEAN A' CHLUICHEAR A' MUIGH.

Ruith a' Ghaduiche.

Deas, Deas, do Gheimhleach.

Crann an Dorus.

Falach-Fead.

Cluich a' Bhalgair.

Lean an Ceannard.

Fàg, Fàg, an Neapaicin-pòca.

Cartadh nam Buaillean.

## CAMANACHD.

Iomradh air Camanachd.

Na Riaghailtean-Camanachd.

## AN COITICHEANNAS.

Tha na duilleagan so air an cur a mach airson duine sam bith a tha gabhail cuid no gnothach ann an obair Comunn na h-Oigrìdh, is e tha 'san t-sealladh againn na cluichean sin a chur air aghaidh am measg na h-Oigrìdh, a tha gu sonraichte dualach do na Gàidheil agus freagarach r'an cluich air a' Ghàidhealtachd. Bha na cluichean anabarrach pailt anns na làithean a dh'aom, ach tha iad an diugh a' dol air di-chuimhne, (agus nach truagh sin!) clann nan sgoilean fada na's lionmhoire na tha iad an diugh. Ach tha cuid dhiubh 'gan cluich fhathast agus is math is fhiach oidhirp threun a dhèanamh air feadhainn eile thoirt air ais ann an cleachdadh coitcheann. Tha na cluichean agus na rudan eile a tha air an cur sìos an so air an taghadh gu sonraichte a chionn gu bheil bloighdean de Ghaidhlig—rannan, giseagan, comhraidhean-càraid, 's mar sin sìos—a' ruith air am feadh. Tha mòran de na rannan, gun teagamh, nach faigh an sgoilear àilgheasach mòran seagh annta, aca gu dé dheth sin? Tha iad gasda, neo-lochdach ri'n aithris, agus am fear aig a bheil iad a' ruith gu bitheanta air a theangaidh, chan fhaod e bhi nach dean iad a Ghaidhlig a Bmhadh. Agus tha na cluichean fein gasda, fallain.

Gheibhear an toiseach àireamh de shean chleasagan agus dhuanagan airson naoidheanan agus clainne bige : agus air eagal's gu'n abair

cuid gu bheil a leithid ro-leanabail airson an cur còmhla ri cluichean a bhuineas do bhalaich 's do chailleagan a dh'aois sgoile, faodar a ràdh gu bheil sinn a' saoilinn nach gabhar tòiseachadh tuille is tràth le Gàidhlig ann am beatha leinibh. Bithidh na duanagan so—seadh, agus mòran a bharrachd, gun teagamh—air bilibh iomadh Mathar Gàidhealaich an diugh, ach chaidh mòran duibh air chall ann an àitean, agus mar is eòlaiche bhios ar caileagan-sgoile air a leithid de ghiseagan pàisdeil, 's ann is dòcha gu'm faigh iad àite ann an àrach a' ghinealaich ùir. Fhuair an cruinneachadh so, a rinneadh leis a' Bhean-usal Catriona W. Ghrannnach nach maireann, fo ainm "Curstan a' Chreachainn," ceud dhuais a' Mhòidh ann an co-fharpais airson a leithid.

Tha na nithean eile air an taghadh, cha mhòr gu léir, bho'n leabhar "The Games of Argyll" le Raibeart Craig MacLagain (David Nutt, 57-59 Long Acre, London, 1901). O'n a tha a' mhòr-chuid de'n leabhar sin ann am Beurla rinneadh eadar-theangachadh gu Gàidhlig far an robh sin feumail. Tha mu dhà thriann de na nithean a thaghadh 'nan cleasan simplidh a dh'fhaodar an cluich a stigh, agus tha sinn ag creidsinn gu bheil iad anabarrach freagarrach do Chomunn na h-Oigridh, an uair a bhios a' Chlann ag cruinneachadh còmhla airson oidhche Gàidhealaich. Cluichear a' chuid eile an taobh a muigh: tha iad uile grunn, fallain, sunndach. Thugadh aire shonraichte do Iomain, prìomh chluich na Gàidhealtachd. Gu dearbh, tha a h-uile ceann-fàth aig Comunn na h-Oigridh gu bhì buidheach, a leithid de spòrs chinneadail a bhì aig làimh aca, ach iad a dhèanamh feum dheth.

Tha sinn ag iarraidh gu dùrachdach air Cinn-Feachd Comunn na h-Oigridh iad a thoirt fa-near gu'n ionnsaich a' Chlann na cluichean so ann an Gàidhlig—gu'm faigh iad grèim air na rannan 's na gearr-dhuanagan, na gisreagan 's na gearr-fhacail—ra bloighdean Gàidhlig a tha ruith air am feadh, 'gam beothachadh, ag cur sunnd fodhpa. Nì so luach nan cluichean fhéin àrdachadh agus a' Ghàidhlig a dhàingeachadh an intinn agus an cridhe na Cloinne. Agus a thuilleadh air a so, nach 'eòil an là 'san t-sealladh againn anns am bì na Buidhnean bho iomadh cearn gu tric ag cruinneachadh ri chèile: an sin, ma bhios na cluichean Gàidhealach ann an cumantas aca, 's a' Ghàidhlig a' ruith o bhilibh na Cloinne mar cheilear nan eun, nach mùirneach an dùil e!

Aon fhacal eile. Chan 'eil sinn ag gabhail òirnn gu bheil an leabhar so coimhlionta air aon chor. Is iomadh cluich gasda air nach do

rinneadh iomradh ann. Is dòcha gu bheil mòran eile 'gan cluich an iomadh ceann-dùthcha iomallach air nach 'eil aithne againn, Cha dèanamaid dearmad air aon duibh. Bithidh ruith agus leum, cleasachd agus cur-nan-car ann cho fad's a chuireas balach cas am bròig—no a theid e casruisgte. Gu ma fada a mhealas e a chleasan! Cha do rinn sinn ach aire a tharruing a dh'ionnsuidh àireamh de chluichean Gàidhealach a tha, 'nar beachd-ne, air leth freagarrach do Chomunn na h-Oigridh agus airidh air gach còmhnaidh agus brosnachadh as urrainn duinn a bhuileachadh orra.

#### SANAS:

Ma's aithne do dhùine sam bith a leughas an obair bheag so, nì air bith de'n t-seòrsa a tha faotainn àite air a' chlàr-eagair, agus ma chuireas e a leithid gu ar n-ionnsuidh, cuiridh e comair mhòr oirnn, agus bithidh sin 'na chuideachadh ma's e gu'n tig an là a bhios ath-chur a mach air an leabhar so.

#### CLEASAN A' CHLUICHEAR A STIGH.

##### 1. A' bhuaile le aon Dorus.

Comharraichidh duine le caile (no nì eile freagarrach) ceithir-chearnag am meadhan an ùrlair a dh'fhoghnas do neach a sheasamh innte. Bho aon oisinn tarruingidh e sgrìob fhada 'na snìomhan, astar troigh o chéile agus cho fada 's a ghabhas dèanamh le leud an ùrlair. Is e an cleas, imeachd o'n ionad as fhaide mach (an "dorus") eadar na sgrìoban, gun beantainn do aon seach aon dhiubh, gus an ruigear a' "bhuaile" 'san teis-meadhon, agus an sin air ais an comhair a chùil mach an dorus.

##### 2. Am Bodach Dall.

Taghar fear, le tilgeil chrann, no air a thoil fhéin, a bhios 'na "Bhodach Dall." Cuirear sgàil air a shùilean, agus leigidh e a thaic air an ùrlair le a làimh chli, agus bata aige 'na làimh dheis. Theid càch 'nan leth-chròidhean m'a choinneimh, gun a bhì mar astar buille dha. Deanar an còmhradh so eadar e 's càch:—

Càch—"Bodachan dall, a Bhodaich, c'ait am bheil thu dol, a dhùine bhochd?"

Esan—"A mharbhadh bodaich."

Càch—"Cìod a rinn e ort?"

Esan—"Mharbh e m'athair."

Càch—"Cìod leis a mharbhas tu e?"

Esan—"Leis a'bhata so."

Le so, biodh e air bhoile gu buille de'n bhata thoirt dhaibh-san a bhà, 'sa' bhruidhinn a bhà

eatorra, ri feala-dhà ris agus 'ga phutadh. Faodaidh am Bodach a bhi 'gan ruagadh thall 's a bhos, ach a thaic a bhi air a làimh chli fad na h-lìne. Aithrisear an còmhradh a rithist agus leanaidh am Bodach an ruaig gus an teid aige air fear a bhualadh. Theid esan an sin 'na Bhodach Dall, agus tòisichear air an iomairt as ùr.

## 3. Gearr am Muchan.

Suidhidh fear air cathair. Ruigidh càch e, aon an déidh aoin, agus bheir gach fear dhiubh ma seach gòmag air a cheann le ionga a òrdaig, agus a' ghòmagairch aige ag cumail tim ri aon sam bith de na rannan a leanas:

(As an Eilean Fhada.)

“ Aon phuicean de na puicean.  
Maide sùl, cùl an dùirn.  
Tomhais romhad as do dhéidh  
Cia meud adharc air a' bhoc? ”

(A Bearnaidh.)

“ Aon mhuchan, dà mhuchan,  
Sum cùl dùin,  
Tomhais romhad 's ad dhéidh  
Cia mheud corrag air a' bhoc? ”

(A Uidhist.)

“ Imprigan beag, Antrigan beag,  
Cùl an dhùin, maide sùla,  
Tomhais romhad mar is urrainn,  
Cia meud adharc th'air a' bhoc? ”

(A taobh Loch-Odha.)

“ Lura-bocan, Lura-bocan,  
Gaoil an duine, maid 'an doruis,  
Tomhais romhad mar is aithne,  
Cò meud adharc th'air a' bhoc? ”

(A Colla.)

Imiricean, amaraicean,  
Cùl an dùirn, maide-doruis,  
Tomhais romhad, mar a th' agad,  
Cia mheud adharc th'air a' bhoc?

An fhreagairt: Is breugach (firinneach) am boc; an uair a theid mise do chrò nan gobhar, chan fhaigh (gheibh) am boc cobhar no (is) balgam, no (is) bonnach mór, mór, leathann garbhainn.

Feumaidh am fear a tha 'sa' chathair tomhas cia meud corrag a tha togte an àird air làimh eile an fhir a tha 'ga phianadh. Ma thomhaiseas e cearr, leigidh am fear eile sin ris le so a ràdh: “ O briagach! Cha teid am boc do'n ghàrradh-chail, 's chan fhaigh e 'shàth an nochd.” Agus thig an t-ath fhear 'ga phianadh. Ach ma thomhaiseas e ceart is e a dh'fheumas am fear eile ràdh: “Laochain bhochd: theid am boc

do'n ghàrradh-chail 's gheibh e 'shàth an nochd”: agus gabhaidh esan a àite 'sa' chathair.

## 4. Cur a mach Leannan.

Suidhidh na caileagan mu'n cuairt an teine. Iarraidh té dhiubh air càch leannan a mholadh dhi fhéin, leis an rann so a sheinn (air fonn “Gabhaidh sinn an Rathad Mór”):—

“ Cò am fear a chuireas tu leam,  
A chuireas tu leam, a chuireas tu leam,  
Cò am fear a chuireas tu leam,  
Sios air machraidh Ghallda? ”

Freagraidh càch le ainm gille air am bheil iad eòlach a chur 'san rann mar so (air a' cheart fhonn):—

“ (Dòmhnall Glas) a chuireas mi leat,  
A chuireas mi leat, a chuireas mi leat,  
(Dòmhnall Glas) a chuireas mi leat,  
Sios air machraidh Ghallda.”

Ma chòrdas an t-ainm so ris a' chaileig a ghabh a' cheud rann, seinnidh i so:—

“ Cìr òir a chireadh a chinn,  
A chireadh a chinn, chireadh a chinn,  
Cìr òir a chireadh a chinn,  
Sios air machraidh Ghallda.”

Ach mur a còrd, seinnidh i:—

“ Cìr mhìn a chireadh a chinn,  
A chireadh a chinn, a chireadh a chinn  
Cìr mhìn a chireadh a chinn,  
Sios air machraidh Ghallda.”

Leanar ris an iomairt mar sin, a' cheud rann 'ga seinn aig na caileagan eile ma seach.

## 5. Cluichean cunntaidh-a-mach.

(a) Ladhhar-Pocan.

Is e is brìgh do na cleasan so, peanasachadh an fhir-chluiche a theid a chunntadh a mach ann an aithris aon de na rannan a tha air an cur sìos an so. Suidhidh an fheadhainn òga gu dlùth 'nan cròidhlean. Bithidh slat aig an “Rìgh.” Theid esan mu'n cuairt, deiseil, a' beantainn leis an t-slat do chois gach duine 'san dol seachad, agus ag cumail tìde ri fear de na rannan so:—

“Ladhhar-pocan,

Ladhhar-pocan,

Pocan seipinn,

Seipinn Seonaid,

Dà mheur mheadhon,

Meur Mhic-Iain,

Dùghall Glas,

A leig as,

A cheann 's a chaol,

Caol na slataig,

An duine so,

No'n duin' ud eile

Am fear so bhos

“Lura Pocan

Lura Pocan,

Pocan seapain,

Seapain Seonaid,

Dà mheur mheadhon,

Màthair mhic Iain,

Dughall Glas,

A leigil as,

A cheann 's a chaolain,

Caol na slaithe,

Ise cruitean,

Esan meaton,

Boineid na muice,

No a chois deas      Stoc a stigh.”  
Crup a stigh,  
Stigh an dalmachd.”

Am fear a theid a chas a bhualachd air an fhacal “dalmachd” (no “stigh”), tarruingidh e air ais i, agus bithidh i “a mach.” Theid fear na slaithe mu’n cuairt a rithis; agus mar sin air adhart gus nach bi sa’ chròidhlean ach cas aoin fhir.

Tha am fear so a nis ’na phrìosanach aig càch agus chan fhaigh e a shaorsa gus am bi e air a pheanasachadh air aon de na dòighean so.

Cumar a chas ann am bùlas slabhruidh na poite (no an àite feargarrach eile) am feadh ’s a bhuaileas fear na slaithe an t-slabhruidh agus a chas, mu seach, ag cumail tìde ri aon de na rannan so, ’s e ’ga aithris:—

“Stairirich, Stairirich, Corruich a’ chapuill, Seann bhol iaruin, Fiacan faoilinn, Faoileann bip, Buail a muigh, Buail a stigh, Cia mheud mac, A rugadh an raoir, Mac an dè, ’S mac an diugh, Buail a’bho bheuchach.”	“A chapuill, a chapuill, A chaorain, a chapuill, Seann bhol iaruin, Fiacan faoilinn, Faoileann bip, Faoileann bap, Cia mheud mac A rugadh an raoir, Mac an dè, Mac an dò, Buail a’bho bheuchach, Buail bheag, A cheann a stigh, Crup a stigh an dalmachd.”
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Ma’s e a’ chas a bhuaileas an t-slat air an fhacal “bheuchach,” gheibh e a shaorsa. Ach ma’s e an t-slabhruidh, bithidh an truaghan air a pheanasachadh a rithist mar so:—

Theid e air a ghlùn, agus sgàil air a shùilean, làimh ris an Rìgh. Cumaidh an Rìgh rud sam bith os a chionn, a’ feòrach. “Cìod e so os cionn a’ Bhodaich?” (na Cailleich). Feuchaidh an neach a tha shìos r’a thomas. Ma’s ceart e, cuirear mu sgaol e, agus ma’s cearr (abair gu’n tomhais e fòid mòna) cuirear an rud a tha ann air a mhuin leis na faicail so: “Bithidh so air do mhuin mu’m bi fòid mòna ann.” Cumar a nis rud eile os a chionn agus fhad ’s nach tomhais e ceart bithidh gach rud mar a thig air a chàrnadh air a mhuin, gus an amais e air cìod e tha os a chion.

An àite a’ pheanais so, faodaidh iad toirt air a’ phrìosanach cleas eile a chur dheth mu’m faigh e a shaorsa. Faodaidh e sgeul innseadh, toimhseachan fhuasgladh, rann no òran a gabhail, ceum dannsaidh, ’s mar sin sìos.

6. Aonadan, Dhanadan.

Suidhidh na caileagan ’nan cròidhlean, ’s an lamhan sìnte, réidh, rompa, ’s na basan fòdhpà.

Theid a’ Bhan-Rìgh, agus slat aice, mu’n cuairt deiseil, a’ beantainn do gach làmh leis an t-slat agus ag cumail buille ri aon de na rannan so, ’s i ’ga aithris:—

“Aonadan beag, Dhànanan beag, Ge b’e guth, Ge b’e gach, Alt-a-ré, Roimh a riobain, Eban ullaich, Cù a’ bhradain, Cum chugad, ’S cum agad, Aon làmh dheas, ’S aon làmh thoisgeil, ’S a mhic, ’S a phlocach, Stob a stigh.”	“Fidiri, Foideri, A chrothain, A chapuill, A sheana bhò liagach, Feugath, Faoilleach, Air an t-slip, Air an t-slap, Sùisneach, Saoisneach, Buille bheag, Air ceann na slaithe, Crùb a steach an ialtag.”
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Aig deireadh na rann tarruingear as a’ chròidhlean an làmh do’n do bhean an t-slat air an fhacal mu dheireadh. Theid mu’n cuairt as ùr, agus mar sin air aghaidh gus nach bi ach aon làmh a mach. Tionndaidhear an làmh sin bas an àird, agus buailear oirre àireamh de stràcan leis an t-slat, a réir mar a chaidh a shònrachadh aig toiseach na cluiche.

(Ri Leantainn.)

### COMPETITION FOR WRITING GAELIC PLAYS SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN.

The aim of this competition is primarily to obtain plays which will be suitable for playing by children belonging to Comunn na h-Oigridh. It is well recognised that acting in a play is one of the best aids to gaining a natural and accurate knowledge of the language in which it is written. It is in fact the “Direct Method” applied in an ideal form, the teaching being conveyed through the child’s interest and imagination. Apart from this a good choice of plays will stimulate the interest of the children and others in the Movement, and provide a means of healthy emulation between the Branches. It will also provide a good training-ground for adult drama and be one of several means in view whereby members of Comunn na h-Oigridh can earn some funds to help in carrying on the activities of their particular Branch, instead of being entirely dependent on outside generosity.

It is hoped that among others as many as possible of the “Cinn-Feachd” or leaders of Branches of Comunn na h-Oigridh will take part in this competition.

## COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha e na's fhàsa sgrìobhadh chugaibh, a Chlann mhàirneach, o fhuair mi nis rud beag de dh'èolas pearsanta oirbh, ged nach eil sin cho coimhlionta fhathast 's a bu mhaith leam. "Cha teid aig a' chù cham air a bhi thall's a bhi bhos." Co-dhiu bha turus an àigh agam comhla ri Mgr. MacPhail 'san Taobh Tuath, agus leis an Rùnaire mu Dheas: rinn sinn cuairt de'n Eilean Sgitheanach agus bho Aird-Ghobhar gu Rudha Aird-nam-Murchan; agus cho fhad's a chunnaic mise cha robh coinneach no eile a'fàs air cuibhleachan a' charbaid fad ar siubhal.

Chuir sinn suas Buidhean an Cille-Mhoire, Dunbheagan agus Port-nan-Long, agus té bheag, ghriinn, an Gleann Eilig. Tha nis 156 duine-cloinne againn 'san Eilean. Fad na h-àine bha'n Coirneal MacDhomhnuill, Tota, leinn agus cha bheag a' bhuannaich do Chomunn na h-Oigridh a leithid de Shàr-Ghaidheal usal, caoimhneil a bhi ar chùl ar n-oibre.

A rithist, thog sinn bratach Comunn na h-Oigridh an Aird-nam-Murchan. Chan 'eil na sgoilean an so ach gar beag an coimeas ri àitean eile ach is fohainteach an fheadhain òg a tha 'gam frithealadh. Tha Buidhean a nis air bonn an Sron-an-t-Sithein, Mìngearraidh Ath-tharacail, Gleann Borro-dail agus Cille-Chomhghain, le dà bhall is trì fichead gu léir Bha mi duilich nach robh e a'm chomas dol air aghaidh le Mgr. Niall gu ruig Tìriodh chionn bha soirbheachadh air leth aige air an turus ud. Ghabh an t-Eilean tiorail, Iurach sin gu falaidh air fad ri Comunn na h-Oigridh, mar bu dual do cheann-dùthcha a dh'altrum na h-ùiread sgoilear teòma, Gaidhealach. Chuir ar caraid air bonn còig Buidhean—Cornaigmor, Hilipol, Baile Mhartainn, Ruaig agus Sgairinnis, le trì buill's ochd fichead. Aig Cornaigmor tha'n t-urram ann an Comunn na h-Oigridh a thaobh àireamh nam ball—trì fichead. Agus a thaobh deisealachdan, tha fìor cheum-toisich aig an Eilean so air àitean eile, agus e an comas nam Buidhean cruinneachadh le chéile 'nuair is àill leo, a chum adhartas a chur air gach iomairt a tha dualach do Chomunn na h-Oigridh.

So agaihb mar a tha suidheachadh Comunn na h-Oigridh an diugh: tha ochd Buidhean air Tìr-mór agus fichead anns na h-eileanan, 28 air fad: agus is i àireamh nam ball, sia ceud is còig ar fhichead. Ma their sibh rium gur droch obair sin airson toiseach-tòiseachaidh, itheadh mi mo bhòineid.

Tha camain air an cur cheana a dh'ionnsuidh nam balach ann an ochd Buidhean deug, agus mu'n ruig an litir so sibh bithidh iad aig còig

Buidhean eile. Is ann a chualas sgeul an uamhais o'n Taobh Tuath—gu'm bheil na balach an sin a' dol bàs le cion bidh. Tha e coltach, air triangead an iomain, nach eil tim aca gus greim itheadh—saoil am bheil e fìor?

Tha aon rud is còir dhomh a chur ceart. O chuid de lùtrichean grinn a fhuair mi bho na Cinn-Feachd tha fear no dhà, is dòcha, a'tuigsinn gur mise tha toirt seachad nan caman as mo phòca fhein. Cha'n ann mar sin idir a tha. Airson so, tha bhur taing aig a'Chomunn Ghaidhealach.

### CRUTNNEACHAIDHEAN.

Is math leam e bhi agam ri innseadh dhuibh gu'm bheil An Comunn a' dol a thoirt suim airgid dhuinn a chum agus gu'm bi "Cruinneachadh" aig Comunn na h-Oigridh an sud is an so air feadh na Gaidhealtachd air an t-Samhradh so tighinn: 's e sin far am bi e comasach do ghrunnan de Buidhean tighinn comhla agus là fada Samhraidh a chur seachad an cuideachd a chéile. Nach bu ghasda leibh sin? Chan 'eil cùisean socraichte againn fhathast, ach is dòcha gu'm bi an àine gun bhi fada, agus ma bhios, nach ann an sin a bhios an othail agus am fire-faire; cha mhór gu'm bi carbad-olla 'sa cheann-dùthcha gun a threasdadh! 'S e tha 'san t-sealladh againn—gu'n cruinnich sibh an àit'eigin anns am bi rud annasach ri fhaicinn no eachdraidh ri cluinntinn; far an cluich sibh camanachd agus cleasan eile, agus bhur sàth fhaotainn de "thea" agus de bhaidh: an sin neo-ar-thaing mur teid sibh dhachaidh làn-dhearbhta gur e rud Comunn na h-Oigridh is math as fhuach a bhi ann.

### RUD A CHUNNAIC MI.

Mu'n cuir mi crìoch air an litir so bu mhaith leam a radh gu'n do chuir mo thurus 'nur measg misneach nach beag a'm chom. 'Nuair a thàinig sibh suas a dh'fhaotainn Braiste bhur Comuinn, 's a labhair sibh na facail sheunta sin—"Bithidh mise a'm dheagh Ghaidheal— a'm dheagh Bhana-Ghaidheal," bha e furasda fhaicinn, cha'n e mhaing gu'n robh sibh a'tuigsinn cìod a tha fillte stigh anna, ach gu'n robh sibh ann an ceart dha-rireadh ma'n déidhinn. Bìodh na facail sin daonna na fà chomhaira bhur sùilean, agus cha teid sibh fada nunn no a nall o'n t-slighe cheart. Cuimhnichibh na thubhairt mi fhein ribh—"Theid mi'n urras, mu'm bi sibh mòran bhliadhnachan na's sine, gu'm beannaich sibh an là a ghabh sibh ann an Comunn na h-Oigridh."

### NA CINN-FEACHD.

Am masg nithean a chuireadh air leth aig a'choinnimh mu dheireadh de Chomhairle

Clann an Fhraoich, leagadh cudthrom air a'phunc so. Ann an cuid a dh' itean iomallach a theagmh nach bi e comasach, air ghainnead an t-sluaigh, l n-Chomhairle de "Mhaigstirean agus de Bhana-Mhaigstirean" a bhi air ceann gnothuichean gach Buidhne, mar a chaidh earalachadh anns an leabhran- uil. Ach ged a tha sin mar sin bu ch oir, eadhon 'na leithid a dh' ite, dithis no triuir dhaoine a bhi aig a' Cheann-Feachd, o am faigh esan cuideachadh 'na obair, agus ris am faod e a chomhairle a chur. Bithidh sinn an comain nan Ceann-Feachd ma ni iad an dichioll iad fhein gus na daoine sin fhaotuin. Far am bheil Meur de'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach 'sa choimhears-neachd, cha ch oir do'n rud a bhi dullich idir. Tha e 'san t-sealladh againn Comhairle Mheadhonach a st idheachadh anns gach roinn-d thcha (abraibh mar eisimpleir Port-Righ airson an Eilean Sgitheanaich, Sron-an-t-Sithein airson Aird-Ghobhar agus Aird-nam Murchan) airson rian a chur air gnothuichean nam Buidhnean a tha m'a timchioll. Bhitheadh muiuntir nan Comhairlean beaga air an riochdachadh air a' Chomhairle Mheadhonaich so.

Tha mi a' toirt taing chridheil do na Cinn-Feachd a bha gnothuch agam riutha air mo thurus, airson cho fialaidh 's a ghabh iad rium fhein: an dealas 's am blathas-intinn leis an do ghabh iad ri st idheachadh a'Chomuinn Uir so.

SEORAS GALDA.

### "THE DIMENSIONS OF AN HARP."

By LUDOVIC McL. MANN, Glasgow.

Mr. J. L. Campbell's quotation in *An Gaidheal*, for April last, on page 108, from a mid-eighteenth century Gaelic MS., of unknown origin, now in the National Library of Scotland, is of much interest.

It concerns the ancient, traditional dimensions of the harp. To those sizes, the old-time clarsach maker had apparently to adhere, with the rigour of an immensely ancient religious discipline. In recent centuries the exact sizes, however, became forgotten, and were rounded off in terms of the modern inch and its customary fractional parts. Each harp had a dozen statutory dimensions, one for each of its parts.

The sizes of the five main parts were founded on the unit now expressed as 2-212 inches, that is 56-24 millimetres, and are respectively 24, 19, 9, 4, and 3 multiples of that unit.

These five linear values are respectively in

inches:—53.088, 42.028, 39.816, 8.848, and 6.636. The MS. referred to rounds them into 53, 42, 40, 9, and 6½ inches respectively.

Now as to the other dimensions, seven in number; these being mostly smaller; a sub-unit equal to 0.553 inch (that is one-fourth of the unit of 2.212 inches) was employed. In two cases it is quartered. The list of the seven is:—2¼, 9, 9, 7¼, 7, 3, and 3 multiples of 0.553 inch.

These are equivalent respectively in inches to 12.037, 4.979, 4.979, 4.009, 3.871, 1.659, and 1.659; and are expressed in the MS. in inches as respectively:—12, 5, 5, 4, 3½, 1½, and 1½.

The ancient measures, as exhibited in the sizes and decorative features of old clarsachs have been closely retained by copyists for some centuries, but, without a knowledge of the origin and symbolism of the measures or their very precise values.

It would be interesting if clarsachs could now be made with an exact adherence to the immemorially ancient standards. This would not, of course, in any manner lessen their value as musical instruments, nor would it increase the labours of the craftsman.

### AN ARD CHOMHAIRLE.

Chumadh Coinneamh Ghaidhlig na h-Ard Chomhairle an Sruibleah air Di-haoine, an coigeamh la de'n Ghiblein, 1935. Bha an Ceann Suidhe, Mgr. Iain R. Mac Gille na Brataich, anns a' chathair, agus bha na buill a leanas anns an lathair:—Uilleam D. Barclay, Glaschu; A'Bhean Uasal Chaimbeul (na h-Airdean) Tearlach Caimbeul, M.B.E., Glaschu; A'Bhean Uasal C. B. Dunlop, Glaschu; A'Bhean Uasal M. C. Edgar, Grianaig; Alasdair Friseal, Baile 'n Easbaig; A'Mhgn. Fionnghal Nic an Aba, Glaschu; Iain MacAoidh, Gleann F ch; A'Mhgn. Mairi Nic Artair, Glaschu; A'Mhgn. Anna Nic 'IleBhr , Glaschu; A'bhean Uasal Nic a' Chombaich, Glaschu; Iain MacDhomhnaill, A.M., Glaschu; Ruairidh MacDhomhnaill, Dundeagh; Eachann MacDhughail, Glaschu; An t-Urr. Calum MacLeod, A.M., Glaschu; Calum MacLeod, Glaschu; An t-Urr. Iain U. MacPhail, A.M., Glaschu; Gilbert Mac an t-Saoir, Cillfinn; A'Mhgn. E.L.O. Nic an T illeir, Dunbl athain; Seoras MacThomais, A.M., Glaschu; A'Bhean Uasal Nic an T isich, Baile-chloichridh; Seoras E. Marjoribanks, Sonach; Baintighearna Ormadail; Niall Orra, F.E.I.S., Dum-Eideann; An t-Ollamh Niall Ros, C.B.E., B.D., Sg re Lagain; Domhnall Scotach, Peairt. A'



frithealadh, Niall MacGille Sheathanaich, Rùnaire, agus Eoghann Mac a Phi, Fear cuidichidh.

Thug Fear na Cathrach iomradh air tinneas Mhgr. Dhomhnaill MhicDhomhnaill, Inbhirnis, aon de Iar Chinn Suidhe a'Chomuinn, agus ghuidh e gu'm biodh e, an ùine ghoirid, air aiseag gu slàinte agus air ais gu a obair àbhaistich.

Rinn Fear na Cathrach iomradh air bàs an nasail Niall B. MacCoinnich, An Gearasdan. Thugadh air falbh e am feadh 's a bha e fathast 'na dhuine òg agus bha iad uile duilich gu'n do chailleadh fear a chomasan agus a chuideachaidh mar a nochd se e fein air ceann Chomhairle-Ionadail a' Mhòid anns a' Ghearasdan Dh'iarra an Ceann Suidhe fios a chur chun na bantraich ag giùlan co-fhaireachdainn na Chomhairle rithe aig an àm so.

Thug Fear na Cathrach aire na coinneimh ris an àireamh bhliadhnachan a bha Mgr. MacPhàrlain 'na Ionmhasair aig a' Chomunn. The e air crìochnachadh coig bliadhna fichead an seirbhis a' Chomuinn agus tha iad a toirt taing dha air son a dhealuis 'sa dhìlseachd an rian an ionmhais ré na h-ùine sin. Tha iad mar an ceudna toilichte gu'n do chuireadh ùrram air le Siorramachd Dhunbreatann le chur air àrd ughdarras na cis chosnaidh.

Ghuidh Fear na Cathrach saoghal fada do'n Rùnaire is do a chéile pòsda.

Leughadh Gearr-sheanachas na Coinneimh rioimhe, chaidh gabhail ris agus chuir Fear na Cathrach ainm ris.

Leughadh tagraidhean neo-lathaireachd bho àireamh de bhuihl na Chomhairle.

Leughadh Iomradh air coinneimh de Chomhairle an Ionmhais agus air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Alasdair Friseal, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air coinneimh de Chomhairle an Fhòghluim. Thugadh aithisg gu bheil gach ullachadh air a dheanamh a nis fa chomhar na Sgoil Shamhraidh an Tobarmhoire agus thugadh taing do luchd riaghlaidh an Fhòghluim air son cead seòmraichean 's an Ard Sgoil.

Air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, an t-Urramach Calum MacLeod, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air coinneimh de Chomhairle Chlò-bhualaidh.

Tha a' Chomhairle a' beachdachadh air leabhar leughaidh a dheasaicheadh le Lachann MacFhionghainn, A.M., a chlò-bhualadh. Ghabh a' Chomhairle le taing ri taigse dhuaisean bho Mhgr. Seoras Marjoribanks fa chomhar cluichean Gaidhlig a bhios freagrach air son cloinne. Bheirar sanas mu dheidhinn so anns

"A'Ghaidheal." Thugadh cead do Chlann an Fhraoich air son ceithir taobh-duilleag anns "A'Ghaidheal" a chum cluichean Gaidhlig a chlò-bhualadh an earrannan, a mhios gu mios.

Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Calum MacLeod.

Leughadh Iomradh air coinneimh de Chomhairle Chraobh-Sgaoilidh.

Tha a' Chomhairle riarachta le obair nam meur is nan Cròilean-ciuil mar a thugadh iomradh orra leis na Fo-Chomhairlean. Tha a' Chomhairle ag cur air ais gu Chomhairle an Ionmhais na cunntasan a nochd cuid de na cròilean-ciuil an ainmhiach agus ag iarraidh na cunntasan ath-dhiol fo stiùireadh an Rùnaire.

Air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Tearlach Caimbeul, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Mhòid 'sa Chiùil.

Thugadh aithisg gu bheil clàr-eagair Mòid na h-ath bhliadhna air ullachadh agus gu'n do ghabhadh ri taigse dhuaisean fa chomhar a dha de na co-fhaipsean air an do rinneadh beagan atharrachaidh. Rinn a' Chomhairle cùmhnantan ùra ri MacLabhrainn do thaobh clò-bhualadh agus reic an leabhair, Coisir a' Mhòid, agus rinneadh còrdadh mu chlò-bhualadh an treas leabhair.

Thugadh iomradh gu bheil Comhairle Ionadail a' Mhòid an Dun-Eideann a' deanamh deagh shaothrach agus gu bheil gach dùil ri Mòd soirbheachail a bhi 'sa bhaile sin.

Air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Calum MacLeod, ghabhadh ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomraidhean dà choinneimh de Chomhairle Chloinn an Fhraoich.

Rinneadh iomradh air obair stéidheachaidh Comunn na h-Oigridh air feadh na Gaidhealtachd. Tha a nis ochd buidheann fichead air an stéidheachadh le còrr agus sè ceud ball. Thatar ag ullachadh fa chomhar cuirmean-cnuic is fearas-chuideachd aig cinn-uidhe an àitean sonraichte aig am bi buill às gach buidhinn 's an roinn ag coinneachadh. Tha dùil ri cruinneachadh mòr de'n t-seorsa so aig Casteal Dhùin-bheagain 's an Og-mhios.

Thug am Fear Gairme iomradh air a chuairt do'n Eilean Sgitheanach leis an Fhear Dheilbhe agus do Ard nam Murchan leis an Rùnaire. Chuireadh buidhean ùra air bonn agus bha e làn riarachta leis an obair a chaidh a dheanamh.

Ghabhadh ris na h-Iomraidhean air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Seoras E. Marjoribanks.

Ghùilaineadh obair na h-Ard Chomhairle aig a' choinneimh so air aghaidh gu léir an Gaidhlig agus aig crìch na coinneimh thugadh taing chridheil do Fhear na Cathrach.

### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Badenoch and Strathspey Mod, which was the first of the Provincial Mods to be held this session, took place at Grantown-on-Spey on 3rd April. In this district much progress has been made in instituting Gaelic continuation classes, and a special essay competition was instituted for learners of the language—as distinct from native speakers who are members of these classes. There was an entry of twenty-six candidates in this competition, and so delighted were the adjudicators with the standard of work submitted that a recommendation was made that six prizes be given instead of three. This is most encouraging.

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On the evening prior to the Mod, a Gaelic drama competition for which there was an entry of three teams was held. This was a most successful innovation which aroused keen interest throughout the district. The prize-winning team was composed of members of the Gaelic continuation class, conducted by Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., at Grantown-on-Spey. The following reference to the drama competition appeared in the local paper:—"One of the greatest forward strides in the revival of the Gaelic language was made in the Picture House on Tuesday evening when, in connection with the Badenoch and Strathspey Provincial Mod, a Gaelic Drama Competition was held. A remarkable feature was that some of the players who spoke good Gaelic for the better part of an hour scarcely knew a word of the language a couple of years ago. This, we consider, a great achievement and one of the most encouraging results of applied study."

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This is the first time that Gaelic plays were included as competitive items at Provincial Mods, and we would like to take this opportunity of extending our thanks to all who assisted in the success of this venture. We are particularly indebted to Mr. Iain F. Steele, M.A., Kingussie; and Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., Dulnain for their work in connection with the continuation classes.

\* \* \*

The first Mod held under the auspices of the Joint Highland Associations, in Greenock, was very successful. There was a large entry distributed over the seven competitions that were promoted. It was pleasing to hear Mr. John H. Fraser, President of the Greenock Highland Society, who presided, remark that the success of the Mod encouraged them

to go forward and make it an annual event. During the evening I was privileged to address the company, and I took the opportunity of conveying our appreciation to the Greenock friends for this practical method of showing their interest in our work.

\* \* \*

Reference must also be made to the Mod of the Paisley Highlanders' Association. This Mod is now firmly established, and it was pleasing to see that it still continues to be well patronised, both by the public and competitors. The list of entries included representatives from a wide area, and a high standard was attained in all classes.

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Our friends of the Gaelic Society of London seem to have added another to the list of successful Mods that have now been promoted in the Metropolis. They are to be complimented for their patriotic endeavour. The prize-list gives evidence of the earnestness with which many who have no association with our language, apply themselves with good effect to its study. If only for this Mod alone, the Gaelic Society of London perform a most valuable service.

\* \* \*

The British Columbia Mod, at Vancouver, is now an accomplished fact. Gaelic history was made during those three days—7th, 8th, and 9th March, when our exiled brethren foregathered, and were happily occupied in listening to the old familiar songs of their native land. The programme was an ambitious one, but with an enthusiasm born of that deep love which they bear for all associated with home, they carried it through in such a successful manner that we may say that the Vancouver Mod has come to stay. It must have been a memorable occasion, and a most encouraging feature is that the prize list gives evidence of how Highlanders from all airts, from the Butt of Lewis to the Mull of Kintyre, who have their residence in this Canadian City, rallied round the Committee responsible for the arrangements.

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The Gaelic Society of Ottawa, which was instituted three years ago, is still growing in enthusiasm and influence. Gaelic classes are regularly promoted, and a Gaelic choir has now been formed. A short time ago the choir was engaged to broadcast a Gaelic song programme, and among the soloists on that occasion was Pipe-Major MacDonald, a native born Canadian, who acts as Gaelic reader to the

choir. The Society president is Mr. Murdo MacLean, a native of Cape Breton.

\* \* \*

Preparations for the National Mod are proceeding apace. The local Committee have been actively engaged for some time arranging various functions to augment the funds. Last month a concert, and a Highland Ball were held. Both these functions were most successful.

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Among future events, is the presentation of the play "Beitidh" in the Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest Road, on Thursday, 16th May. The Rev. John Bain, F.S.A.Scot., Vice-Convener of the Local Committee will preside. The players are all familiar with dramatic effort, and an enjoyable entertainment is assured. A dance will follow.

\* \* \*

The Grand Highland Feill, in St. Cuthbert's Hall, on Friday, 31st May and Saturday, 1st June may be regarded as the big effort by the Local Committee. This Feill will be held under distinguished patronage and the first day's proceedings will be opened by The Lady Hermione Cameron of Lochiel, while the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Cassilis will act as chairman at the opening ceremony. Flora, Mrs. MacLeod of MacLeod, will perform a similar compliment on Saturday, and Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., will be associated with her in this service. There will be no less than eighteen stalls at the Feill, and as these will require to be fully plished, an appeal is made to our members to assist the Local Committee as much as possible. Contributions will be gratefully received, and Miss Mina M. Whigham, LL.B., 72 Great King Street, Edinburgh, who has kindly consented to act as Convener, will appreciate any assistance that can be given. A Ceilidh arranged by Mrs. Hubert Paton will be held at 7.30 p.m. in the Lower Hall, on the first day of the Feill.

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At the East Sutherland Mod, at Brora last year, the suggestion was made that the bagpipe competition should be held in the open air. This proposal is to be given effect to through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wilson, who, have very generously placed the grounds at their home at the disposal of the Committee for this purpose. This is but one of the many kindly actions of assistance to the Committee that Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have performed since the institution of the Brora Branch, of which, Mrs. Wilson is president.

The Treasurer reminds me that the end of our financial year takes place on 31st May. Will members whose subscriptions have not yet been paid kindly attend to this matter before the books are closed, so that their payments may be included with the others. It should also be remembered that it is now the practice to circularise members about their subscriptions early in the new financial year which commences on 1st June. Payments made in reponse to this appeal are for year ending, 31st May, 1936.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Air an 7mh là de'n Mhàrt thug am Fear-deilbhe sgrìob do thaobh an Iar Chataibh (Ceann Loch Biorbhaidh) agus chuireadh air bonn 's an Sgìre sin, dà bhuidheann de Chomunn na h-Oigridh—am Bad a' Choill agus an Aisir. Is iad so na ceud buidhnean a chaidh a stéidheachadh air Tir Mór. Bha Ceilidhean togarrach ann air feasgar Dior-daoin is Dihaoine agus chuidich an Oigridh leis a' Chlàreagar gu pongail.

Air an 11mh là dh'fhalbh Mgr. Marjoribanks agus Mgr. Mac Phàil do'n Eilean Sgitheanach ann an aobhar Comunn na h-Oigridh. Thadhail iad air na buidhnean sin a chaidh a chur air bonn cheana agus stéidhicheadh dà bhuidheann eile aig Dùn-bheagain agus Port nan Long. Bha iad le cheile a'frithealadh aig coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Mhòid am Port Rìgh air feasgar Di-Màirt agus tha e 'na aobhar toileachais a bhì toirt ionraidh gu'n do rinn a' Chomhairle ullachadh a chum agus gu'm bi Co-dheuchainn air a cur air Clàr-Amais Mòd An Eilein Sgitheanaich airson buill de Chomunn na h-Oigridh a mhàin. Tha a' Chomhairle ri am moladh airson an ùidh a tha iad a nochdadh ann an aobhar na cloinne. Bhiodh e furasda móran a sgrìobhadh mu'n turas so ach is cinnteach gu'm bi am Fear-Gairme e fhein a' deanamh ionraidh eagnuidh anns an litir a bhios e a sgrìobhadh anns a' Mhiosachan so do'n Oigridh.

Dhealaich Mgr. Marjoribanks agus Mgr. Mac Phàil aig Caol Loch Aillse. Rinn An Fear-Gairme air Glinn Eilge agus am Fear-Eagair air a' Ghearasdan. Bha barrachd is ceud a' feitheamh an Talla a' Bhaile 's a Ghearasdan agus labhair Mgr. Mac Phàil fad uair a thìde. B'e a chuspair, "Cor na Gaidhlig" agus leig e ris gu'm bheil feum sonruichte air bronsachadh am measg nam pàrantan, mur 'eil a' chànan gu dol às buileach.

Fhuairleadh Orain agus Sgeoil an deidh na h-Oraide.

Air an là ar fhichead labhair Mgr. Mac Phàil ri cruinneachadh gasda an Abaireadhain. Mhìnich e gu dé tha 's an fhradhac aig A' Chomunn le bhig ag cur air bonn buidhnean de Chomunn na h-Oigridh. Dh'eisd a' chuideachd le tlachd ris an iomradh so agus ged nach 'eil e comasach buidheann a chur air chois 's a bhaile sin, iad leig ris gu'm biodh iad deònach gu bhì cuideachadh buidhnean an àitean eile.

Air an ath oidhche bha am Fear-deilbhe a' frithealadh aig coinneimh an Ràta Mhurchais. Bha faisg air dà cheud an làthair agus thogadh suim laghach gu bhì paigheadh cosdais a Chròilean-Chiuil a bha fodh stiuradh na Mgn. M. Nic Dhomhnuill. Tha a' Ghaidhlig a' faighinn a h-aite fein 's an ionad sin agus bu laghach a chaidh "Réiteach Moraig" a chluich le buill a' mheòir.

Chumadh a' cheud Mhòd de'n t-Seisean am Baile nan Granddach air an dara agus an treasa là de'n Ghiblein. Air feasgar Di-Màirt bha trì buidhnean a' farpaiseachadh an Dealbh-Chluicheadh Gaidhlig—Baile nan Granddach, Ràta Mhurchais agus Ceann a' Ghiuthsaich.

Thòisich an Fhéill aig leth uair an deidh seachd agus fad trì uairean an uaireadair, bha na bha an làthair, mar gu'm b'eadh, ann an saoghal beag dhaibh fein. Rinn gach buidheann fìor mhath agus thugadh a' cheud duais do'n bhuidheann á baile nan Granddach. Air an ath latha bha faisg air trì cheud a' farpaiseachadh an Litreachas, Aithris agus Oran agus faodar a ràdh gur e so Mòd as soirbhicheile bha am Bàideanach fhathast. Bha an Talla loma-làn aig a' Chuirm-Chiuil 's an feasgar agus an Ridire Alasdair Mac Eoghainn air ceann na cuideachd. Tha taing A' Chomuinn aig Mgr. Ruairidh Mac Fhionghuin agus a' Chomhairle air son an obair ionmhalta tha iad a'deanamh air sgàth cànan, ceòl agus seann chleachdaidhean nan Gaidheal.

Luchd-teagasg Ciuil.

Iain Mac Dhomhnuill, Leodhas.

A' Mghd. Nic Dhomhnuill, Cill Chuimein, Inbhir-Gharadh, Arasaig, Morar, agus Mallaig.

### An Airde Deas.

Bha coinneamh aig a' Chomhairle Dheasach an seòmar-gnothaich a' Chomuinn air an ochdamh là fichead de'n Mhàrt. Bha mòran de na buill 's an làthair agus ma bha Fear Gairme anns a' chathair.

Rinneadh sgrùdadh air clàran gnolmha an luchd-teagasg agus fhuairleadh iad sin an

riaghailt chothromaich. Thugadh iomradh gu'n robh Sgoil Oidhche Ghàidhlig air a cumail an Srath Athfhinn (Strathaven) ré a' Gheamhraidh fo theagasg Mhgr Dhomhnaill Mhic an Uidhir, B.Sc. Thugadh so gu aire an Rùnaire dh'fheuch an gabhadh meur de'n Chomunn cur air bonn 'sa bhaile sin.

Leughadh aithisg bho'n Rùnaire air a chuairtean. Bha e 'na Fhear-cathrach aig cuirm-chiuil a' mheòir 'san Apuinn air a' choigeamh là deug de'n Mhàrt. Bha mu ochd fichead cruinn air an feasgar so agus bha sgeul thaitneach aig a' Cheann Suidhe, Mgr. D. Mac a' Phearsain, A.M., ri innseadh mu na coinneamhan mòra a bha acà ré a' Gheamhraidh. Cha robh iad riamh na bu shoirbheachail.

Air an ochdamh là deug fhritheil an Rùnaire aig Cuirm Bhladhnaill Cuideachd Ghaidhealach Ghlaschu far an do labhair e mu obair nam meuran agus gu h-àraidh Comunn na h-Oigridh. Air an ath feasgar bha e fhein agus Mgr Marjoribanks aig ceilidh an Aird-ghobhair, Bha mu dheich is trì fichead cruinn agus a' Bhean Uasal Urramac Nic Gilleathain Aird-ghobhair anns a' chathair.

An deidh Aird-ghobhair fhritheil iad ceilidhean an Sròn an t-Sithein, Ath-tharacail agus Cille Chòmhghan. Bha mu cheithir, fichead aig gach coinneimh dhiubh sin agus riaghladh iad gu léir an Gaidhlig. A bharrachd air na ceilidhean thadhail na fir anns na sgoilean an Sròn an t-Sithein, Minghearraidh Mùideart, Aththaracail, Gleann Borrodail agus Cille Chòmhghan. Chuireadh buidheann de Chomunn na h-Oigridh air bonn anns gach sgoil agus tha nis trì fichead broilleach an Ard nam Murchan ag giùlan bràiste mar shuaicheantas gur làn Ghaidheil iad.

Dhealaich Mgr. Marjoribanks agus an Rùnaire aig Cille Chòmhghan. Thill Mgr. Marjoribanks air ais gu taobh Loch Odha ach ghabh Mgr. Mac Gille Sheathanaich an t-aiseag gu Tìriodh far an do thadhail e aig na coig sgoilean. Chuir e buidheann de Chomunn na h-Oigridh air bonn anns gach sgoil agus tha nis trì agus ochd fichead ball de'n Chomunn sin an Tìriodh.

Bha coinneamh aig Meur Chòrnaigmor air feasgar Di-luain, an coigeamh la fichead de'n Mhàrt (Latha na Cailliche) agus aig Meur Sgairinis an Sgoil Ruag air an ath feasgar. Tha Meur Chòrnaigmor air a steidheachadh le luchd-dreuchd a chumas bratach na Gaidhlig am bàrr a' bhata.

Tha a' Mhgn. Nic Mhàrtainn a' teagasg an Ard nam Murchan agus tha Mgr. Iain MacIomhair a' teagasg an Ile. Chuir Mgr. Iain MacDhomhnaill crìoch air teagasg an Eilean I is am Bun-easain aig deireadh mìos Màrt.

## BADENOCH AND STRATHSPEY PROVINCIAL MOD.

There was a large entry representative of all the parishes in the area at the Badenoch and Strathspey Provincial Mod held in Granttown on 3rd April. Rev. Peter MacGregor, Carrbridge, presided at the opening ceremony.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Rev. Hector Cameron, D. Finlay, Alex. Fraser, M.A., Donald Graham, M.A.; Music—D. Yacamini and J. A. Mallinson; Drama—Miss J. Gordon and Donald Graham, M.A.

Sir Alexander MacEwen, Inverness, presided at a concert by the prize-winners in the evening.

Awards:—

### SENIOR SECTION.

Choral Singing (Female Voices)—1, Abernethy Choir.

Unison Singing—1, Grantown.

Choral Singing—1, Kingussie.

Oral Delivery—1, Mrs Miller, Kingussie.

Reading at Sight—1, D. MacKay, Grantown.

Recitation—1, Malcolm MacDonald, Newtonmore.

Acted Dialogue—Mr. and Mrs. MacLean, Aviemore.

Solo Singing (Female Voices)—1, Mrs. J. M'Kerroll, Abernethy. Male Voices—1, J. S. MacKenzie, Grantown.

Duets—1, Mrs. Williams and Miss E. D. Mutch, Grantown.

Song by Local Bard—1, Miss E. D. Mutch.

Gaelic Drama Competition—Grantown Grammar School Evening Continuation Class.

Gaelic Poem—Colin MacKuzie, Kingussie.

Essay Competition (26 entries)—1, W. Duncan, Grantown.

### JUNIOR SECTION.

Oral Delivery—1, Sheila Grant, Rothiemurchus.

Recitation (27 entries)—1, Arthur Sims, Kincairg.

So/os—1, Cathie MacKenzie, Abernethy.

Solos (Girls 11 to 16)—1, Muriel Cattanaich, Newtonmore. Boys (10 to 16)—1, Arthur Sims, Kincairg.

Unison Singing—1, Newtonmore Junior Choir.

Duets—1, Muriel Cattanaich and Alistair Ross, Newtonmore.

Choral Singing—1, Tulloch School Choir.

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### GAELIC PLAYS FOR CHILDREN.

A first prize of £3 3/, and a second prize of £2 2/, are offered for Gaelic Plays suitable for children. Prizes presented by Mr. George E. Marjoribanks.

The Plays should be in One Act, with the minimum of Stage Scenery, and take about 20 minutes to perform.

Entries must reach the Secretary, 212 West George Street, Glasgow, O.2, not later than 31st August, 1935.

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## BRANCH REPORTS.

**AIRD (LEWIS).**—The members of the Lewis branch paid a visit to their friends at Aird on the occasion of a Ceilidh that was specially arranged to meet the expense occasioned in employing one of An Comunn's music teachers. Mr. Angus MacDonald presided, and a pleasant feature of the proceedings was that the programme was entirely sustained in Gaelic.

**ARDGOUR.**—The Hon. Mrs. Maclean of Ardgour presided over a well-attended meeting of the branch in the Memorial Hall. An excellent programme of songs, sgeulachdan, and recitations was arranged by Miss C. MacColl. A popular item on the programme was the first act of "Beitidh," played by members of the Ardgour Dramatic Society. Mr. Neil Shaw and Mr. Marjoribanks, Dalmally, gave interesting addresses in both Gaelic and English on the works of Comunn na h-Oigridh. Thanks were proposed by the Chairman and by Rev. A. D. Maclean, B.D.

**BALESHARE.**—Bha cuirm chiuil thaitneach aig meur a' Bhaileshear bho chionn ghoidir. Bha Mgr. Gillesbuig Caibmeul, Ceann-suidhe, 'na fhear-cathrach agus chuir e fálte chridheil air na bha an lathair. Dh' fhosgladh an Ceilidh le ceòl pioba agus an deòid sin fhuair eadh òrain anar, ceòl-fidhe, sgeulachdan agus còmhraid, a bha uile gu leir toil-intinneach. Chualas cuideachd còisir na sgoile agus bh grunn a sheinn iad fuinn aotram shiubhlach nam port-á-beul. An deidh taing a thoirt do fhear-na-cathrach agus do na cairdean eile a chuidich le oidhche cho sunndach, sòlasach a chur seachad fhuair a chuideachd cupa 's grim mu'n do dhealaich iad. Bha gach Ceilidh a bha aig a' mheur so a cheart cho tlachdmhor, sunndach ri obair an fheasga'ir so, agus is ann mar sin a chuir buill meur a' Bhaileshear gamhradh eile 'nan deidh.

**BUNESSAN.**—To mark the close of the music classes conducted by Mr. John MacDonald, a concert, which was largely attended, was held in the hall. Mr. P. A. MacKeand presided, and an excellent programme was sustained by the choir and soloists. A sketch was also submitted.

**DERVAIG.**—The final Ceilidh for the session of this branch was held in the school. As at all other meetings, a large company was present. The programme consisted of songs, sgeulachdan and instrumental music. Mr. Alasdair MacDonald, president, occupied the chair.

**GOLSPIE.**—Many of the prescribed pieces for the East Sutherland Mod were heard at a Ceilidh of

the Golspie branch. The choir was conducted by Miss Anderson and the manner in which the songs were rendered reflected most creditably on her tuition. It is evident that the branch members are greatly interested in the success of this Mod. Col. A. N. MacAulay presided and delivered an address in which he urged the members to be diligent in their efforts for their native language.

INVERGORDON.—The local branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach held their closing Ceilidh in the Y.M.C.A. lounge, when there was a crowded gathering. The President, Mr. Alex. McMillan, presided, and an excellent programme was submitted by well-known and popular artistes.

IONA.—The local branch Committee at Iona held a concert in the Public Hall at the conclusion of Mr. John MacDonald's music classes. The Rev. D. MacCuish, President, acted as Chairman, and the programme was entirely sustained by the members of the choir in solo and concerted items. There was a large company present who all thoroughly enjoyed the proceedings.

KINGSSEE.—Mr. John Campbell, Town Clerk, Vice-President, and a fluent Gaelic speaker, did duty as "fear an tìghe" at a Ceilidh held in the Parish Church Hall. Following the Chairman's opening address, which included an interesting "sgulachd," and a strong appeal for more members, a long and varied programme was proceeded with.

LOCHINVER.—An interesting account of the life of "Coinneach Odhar," the Brahan Seer, was given by Miss Graham at a meeting of the Lochinver branch over which she presided. A programme of songs was submitted by branch members and friends.

LEWIS.—The proceeds of the Ceilidhs promoted by the Lewis branch, at Stornoway, are set aside for the funds of the Lewis Provincial Mod, and the concluding Ceilidh of the session in the Town Hall should furnish a substantial contribution to that worthy purpose. Mr. Angus MacDonald, President, occupied the chair and it is worthy of notice that not only were the artistes native singers, but all the songs heard that evening were associated with the island of Lewis. The history and author of each song, where known, were referred to by Mr. Dunca MacDonal.

OBAN.—Each year the members of the Oban branch hold a special Ceilidh to honour the memory of "Donnchadh Bàn." This Ceilidh was held in the Masonic Hall and the branch President, Mr. John MacDonald, well known for his work on behalf of Gaelic music, gave the oration. There was a large company present and a programme of songs, sguilachdan and instrumental music was afterwards submitted.

SKERRY.—At the last Ceilidh of the session a letter from Mr. John MacAulay, President of the Winnipeg Gaelic Society, was read to the members of the Skerry branch. Mr. MacAulay congratulated the branch on the work they are doing and wished them success for the future. Mr. MacLeod, President, occupied the chair, and a long and interesting programme was afterwards submitted.

STRONTIAN.—A Ceilidh, organised by the branch on the occasion of the annual visit of Mr. Shaw, was held in the Public Hall. Mr. Shaw was accompanied by Mr. Marjoribanks. The duties of Chairman were carried out by Mr. Alastair Cameron, Vice-President. A programme of solos, recitations, Gaelic addresses, and instrumental music was submitted. A stirring address on the aims of Comunn na h-Oigridh was submitted by Mr.

Marjoribanks, while Mr. Shaw addressed the audience on An Comunn's work. The Senior and Junior Choirs, conducted by Miss E. MacMartin, an Comunn's music teacher in the district, rendered several songs and puit-a-beul with much acceptance.

TAIN.—An enthusiastic gathering greeted Dingwall Gaelic choir, under Mr. Campbell, conductor, when they provided the programme at the closing Ceilidh of the local branch in Queen Street Church Hall. The programme comprised part songs, solos and duets, and was much enjoyed by the large audience that welcomed the choir.

TOBERMORY.—The members of the Tobermory branch concluded the session with their annual concert in the Aros Hall, Mr. John Cameron, President, occupied the chair and a lengthy and varied programme which included a *tuadhach* was submitted. This concert was most successful.

TOBERMHOIRE.—Bha Ian Mac Iomhair againn 'na fhear cùil fad sia seachdainean, dà uair 's an t-seachdain. Sin 'agàibh an duine a rinn leithid de ainm dha fhéin is do 'n àite iomallach sin ris an abrar Lacasaid, beagan bhliadhnan air ais. Aig ceann na h-ùine ghléidh e cuirm chùil a bha air leth taitneach. Fo a stiùradh bha coisrean chloine, coisir inbheach, agus seinneadair an òrain-aon-neach is òrain-càraid, iad uile aighearach, toilichte agus ionnsaichte 'nan obair. Bha Mgr. A. A. MacPhìlip, Probaist Tobermhoire, anns a' chathair, agus cha ruig e leas a bhi leigeil air nach eil a Ghàidhlig ro mhath. Cò am Probaist an Alba na tha na 's fìleanta an cànan na h-Alba?

ULLAPPOOL.—The members of the choir of the Ullapool branch are to be congratulated on the excellence of the programme presented by them at their concert in the Drill Hall. All the vocal items were submitted by the choir members and the thanks extended to them at the close was worthily earned.

## BOOK REVIEW.

AN CUAIRTEAR.—A collection of excerpts in Gaelic prose and verse: 24 pp., paper cover; price 3d. Published by An Comunn Gaidhealach, 212 West George Street, Glasgow; printed by Archibald Sinclair.

This very useful collection has been selected from test pieces that were set in Mod Literary competitions for the Junior Section. The collection has been prepared with a view to be helpful to teachers and learners of the Gaelic language, and particularly for the evening schools and classes that have by this time become numerous throughout the country. There is a good variety of subjects, but the authors with one or two exceptions are confined to the South Highlands, mainly Argyllshire. All the excerpts were most carefully chosen by the Mod and Music Committee to start with; and many of them are standard items. They are generally adapted to the younger readers for whom they were originally selected. This circumstance makes the book all the more suitable for learners and for pupils in junior classes in day schools and in evening classes. An Comunn is to be commended for putting this handy small book, at such a very low price, within the reach of readers everywhere. The book ought to command a wide circulation.

N. R.

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TELEGRAMS.—Runaire, Glasgow. TELEPHONE.—Douglas 1433.

Leabhar XXX.]

An t-Og-Mhìos, 1935.

[Earrann 9

### EAGLAIS MHC COLLA.

Mu thùs an Og Mhìos thachair dhomh bhi air chuairt aig Ploc Loch Aillse. Bha mi a' coiseachadh comhla ri caraid eadar baile a' Phluic agus ionad seasamh an cich iarainn. Os cionn an rathaidd mhòthaich mi do bhalla ard mu dha fhlichead traigh air faid agus mu choig traighean deug air airde. Bha doras farsuinn am meadhon a' bhalla agus comhla fhiodha 'ga dhùnadh. Dh'fheoraich mi de mo charaid cìod e am balla neonach a bha an sud—"Sud agad" arsa esan "Eaglais Mhic Colla." Cha chuala mi riamh iomradh air eaglais air nach robh ceann no tughadh; agus bha mi an dùil gur ann a' tarruinn asam a bha mo chompanach. Sud an t-àite, areir coltais anns am biodh na h-òrduighean an Loch Aillse ri linn Mhic Colla, an uair bhiodh na coimhthionail cho mòr is nach robh eaglais no togarl anns an dùthaich a chumadh an dara leth dhiu. Dhirich mi suas ri aodann na bruthach agus sheall mi thairis air mullach a' bhalla. Chumaidh mi an sin sealladh anabarrach. Air cùl a' bhalla bha lag nàdurra air chumadh talla.

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Buinidh bliadhna an Dealaidhidh do eachdraidh na h-Eaglais Albannaich a nis. Chan ann le spiorad connasachaidh a nithear luaidh an diugh air na tachartais chudthromach a thainig mu'n cuairt anns a' linn ud. Bha eud is dùrachd am measg luchd labhairt is luchd 'èisdeachd maraon anns an Eaglais Shaoir agus an Eaglais na Stàt. Agus bha tomhas mòr de chomhstri eadar na cainntearan air gach taobh. Bho chionn deich bliadhna fìcheadh bha mi a' comhradh ri seana mhnaoi chòir a bha corr is ceithir fìchead bliadhna de aois aig an am. Thuir i rium gu'n robh i fhein a' lathair an coimhthional na Marairne

an uair a chruinnich an sluagh gu léir a dh'èisdeachd ri Domhnallach Mór na Tòiseachd. Is e sin an soisgeulaiche fileanta ris an canadh cuid Abstal an Taoibh Tuath. Rinn esan a uile dhìchioll an latha sin a chum an sluagh aomadh gu Eaglais na h-Alba fhàgail. Labhair e fad trì uairean an uaireadair. Agus cho luath is a chrìochnaich e sheas mhinistear na sgìre, an t-Ollamh Iain Maclooid, agus labhair esan fad trì uairean eile, an aghaidh an Ollamh Dhòmhnullaich. Cha do dh'fhag aon duine de choimhthional na Marairne Eaglais na h-Alba air an turus ud.

\* \* \*

Mu mhèadhon na naodhanh linn deug chaidh an t-Urramach Glasdair Mac Colla 'n a mhinistear na h-Eaglais Shaoir do sgìr Dhiuirinish anns an Eilean Sgitheanach. Bha e 'n a shearmonaiche foghainteach an Gaidhlig. Bha gibtean labhairt aige a bha aithnichte. Bha daoine tuigseach anns an linn ud de'n bheachd gu'm b'e Mac Colla an aon fhear cainnte a dh'fhaodte choimeas a thaobh deas bhriathran is urlabhraidh ri Domhnallach Mór na Tòiseachd. Bha modh labhairt sonruichte aig na seann mhinistearan Gaidhealach. Chluinnear am fonn eadhon gus an latha an diugh aig muinntir a tha a' leantainn an t-seann gnàiths. Mar bhiodh an 'èisid' ga chleachdadh le deagh ghuth is le foghlum is breithnachadh anns an facal, chan 'eil àicheadh nach robh e taitneach ri 'èisdeachd ris, a' gluasad aignidhean a choimhthional, agus a' toirt faothachadh do ghuth a' chainntear. Is e am fonn ud aon de na h-altan fileantachd a bha aig ar sinnsir bho linn na seann Eaglais Cheiltich. Agus aréir beul-aithris tha e coltach gu'm b'iad Mac Colla agus Mac Cuaraig Inbhirphoetharain an dà òraidaiche mu dheireadh aig an robh làn chomas anns an imleachd labhairt so.

\* \* \*

Is minic a mhothaich mi gu'n robh na seann searmonaichean deidheil air a' bhi a' labhairt air a' bhlar a muigh, fo chàirtean gorm nan speur agus laimh ri sruthan séimh far am biodh torman an uisge a' measgadh le fuaim an gutha féin. Tha ni eigin air leth ciatach agus druiddteach ann an crónan an uillt, agus an osna na gaoithe an co-shèirm ri guth an fhuir labhairt. Tha cainntearan an latha an diugh a' dearmad a' chuidichidh a gheibheadh iad bho na fuaimnean nadurra, fuaim ciuin adhair is uisge, a' cumail taic ri guth a' chainntear mar chumas na duis taic ri ceòl an t-siunnsair. Is tric a shuidh slugh fad leth an latha ag éisdeachd ri teachdairean an t-foisgeil, fo'n adhar fhosgailte, gu taingeil agus gu riarachtaiche. Chan 'eil muinntir nis am faisg cho calma is a bha an athraichean. Ri aimsir fhabarach, nan gabhadh sin amas air, bu taitneach leam mòd fhaicinn an lagan fasgach, ri cùl gaoithe, ri aghaidh gréine, agus laimh ri sruthan uisge anns an t-seann nòs. Sud modh nan Greugach bho shean, agus nan Cuimreach an diugh.

\* \* \*

Is ann mar sud a bha Eaglais Mhic Colla fosgailte fo na speuran, an lagan gorm, agus sreathan de shuidheachain air leud na bruthach air gach taobh. Feumaidh gu'n robh an slugh ri bu phailte an uair sin na tha iad an diugh. Is coltach gu'm biodh corr is mille pearsa a' lathair leis cho llonmhor 's a tha na suidheachain ghorma. Bheir sinn aire shonraichte do làrach mar so, anns an robh nithean sòlaime a' tachairt, facal na firinn 'g a chur an céill, agus spiorad an luchd éisdeachd a' freagairt do chuireadh an t-foisgeil. It ciatach an gnòthuch mar an ceudna gu bheil mòran de na roinnean a' tighinn gu crìch. Mar tha aontachd a' fàs am beachdan is an dòighean aoradh tha e sòilleir gu bheil càirdeas agus bràithreachas a' slor dhol am meud. Is còir do na Gaidheil seasamh dlùth do chèile anns gach cùis, an eaglaisean mar anns gach cùis eile, a chum gu'm bi iad nas treise ri aghaidh na nithean a tha a' bagradh air na Gaidheil agus air an dùthaich.

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor of An Gaidheal, A Charaid—  
In view of the great number of persons who visit the Highlands of Scotland during the summer season by motor car, coach or rail, I think that an effort should be made to bring about the public display of Gaelic words and

phrases in those parts of Scotland in which the language is still prevalent.

Last summer and the summer before I spent some time in the west of Scotland in places where Gaelic is spoken but nowhere did I see a single Gaelic word shown. I must admit, however, that I am unacquainted with other districts and it may be that conditions are different elsewhere. In speaking of the display of Gaelic I refer to public notices, traffic directions, shopkeepers announcements and the like. For instance, the name of a town or village, where different from the English, could be shown (as well as the English) on the Automobile Association's notice board or at the Railway Station and the same applies to Traffic directions.

There will be difficulties, of course, not the least being the indifference (as I have often been told) of the people themselves and the serious objection that would be raised, is "Why go to the trouble and expense of putting up notices in Gaelic when everyone can read English and most of the people are unable to read Gaelic though able to speak the language." The answer is "The object is not so much to convey information as to give to tourists and others some visible indication that they are in a country whose fundamental language is Gaelic." I feel sure that this would create more interest in the minds of visitors, especially Scots from other parts of the world and as to the inhabitants, if only the display of Gaelic words excites their curiosity and a desire to be able to read their tongue, it will be so much to the good. Again, Gaelic is now taught in many schools and the sight of notices in Gaelic will impress upon the children that it is the language of the country and recognised as such. May I appeal to An Comunn Gaidhealach to help in this matter by asking its members to use their influence, at any opportunity, to bring about the public display of Gaelic. In Wales the Welsh language is freely shown. Surely, what is done in Wales can be done in Scotland if only there be the will to do it. May I also appeal, through you, to An Comunn na h-Oigridh to do all they can. I have discussed this question with several members of the London Gaelic Society (being one myself) and they have all expressed approval of the idea I am putting before you.

Mise, le meas mor,

WALTER F. ROBINS.

19 Grove Hill,  
Woodford,  
London, L 18.

17th May, 1935.

## SEANN CHLEASAGAN

agus

Duanagan airson Naoidheanan agus na  
Cloinne Bige.

## CLEASAN A CHLUICHEAR A STIGH.

*(Air an leantainn.)*

## 7. Na Meuran.

Bithidh mathraichean na Gàidhealtachd a' dèanamh cleasachd ri'n cuid leanaban le bhi cunntadh nam meur. Tha caochladh ainmean aig na meuran. A' tòiseachadh leis an òrdaig, air nach 'eil ach an t-aon ainm sin, so iad :—

- (1) Ordag.
- (2) Colgag, Coragag, Colagag, Calpag, Colbagaidh, Sgeallbag.
- (3) Meur's-fhad, Cas-fhad, Fionnlagh-fad, Fionna-fad, Pocan-fad, Corrag-fhad, An t-Aba fada.
- (4) Mac-an-fhad, Mac-an-Aba : Mathair na lùdaig.
- (5) Lùdag, Gilgeag, Cuibhdeag, Cuiteag, Dilgeag ; etc.

Bithidh na h-ainmean sin 'gan aithris mar so :—

Ordag	Ordag	Ordag
Coragag	Colgag	Corrag
Meur's-fhad	Fionna-fad	Meur-mheadhoin
Mac-an-fhad	Mac-an-Aba	Mathair na lùdaig
Lùdag	Cuiteag	Lùdag.

Agus so dà rainn air euchdan nam meur :—

“ So am fear a bhris an sabhal,  
So am fear a ghoid an t-arbhar,  
So am fear a sheas ag amharc,  
So am fear a theich air falbh,  
So am fear a dh'innis e, a dh'innis e, a  
dh'innis e.”

“ So an té a leag an sabhal,  
So an té a ghoid an siol,  
So an té a sheas ag amharc  
So an té a ruith air falbh,  
So an té bheag a b'fheudar dhi a  
phaigheadh air fad.”

Clabain. Is e a their iad ris na trì cleasan a leanas, “Clabain”; 'se sin, Umhlaidhean. Is dòcha gur e is ciall do chlaban, mullach a'chinn, agus gur e an “Rìgh” a bhi ag cumail nan rudan a bhiodh mar ùmhladh anns na cleasan so, os a cheann 's e toirt breith air an fhear d'am buin iad, is aobhar do “claban” a bhi air a chleachdadh mar sin.

## 8. Capull a' Phearsoin.

Bithidh a fhar-ainm fhéin aig gach neach 's a' chuideachd—ainm a tha àbhachdach no doirbh ri chumhneachadh—abair “Am Marsanta balgach,” “Spàin òir,” “Am Pearson bradach,” 's mar sin sìos.

Tòisichidh an “Rìgh” an cleas le so a ràdh :—  
(A Earraghaidheal.)

“ Tha capull a' Phearsanaich air chall,  
'S mór an nàire i bhi ann.  
Chan aithne dhomh fhéin có a ghoid i,  
Mur do ghoid (am Marsanta balgach.) ”

(No so á Muile.)

“ Tha capull a' phearsoin air chall,  
Is mór am beud i bhi ann.  
Am measg na bheil an so de chuideachd  
Chan 'eil fhios agam fhéin có ghoid i  
Mur do ghoid—(Spàin òir.) ”

—ag ainmeachadh fear de'n chuideachd (abair, am Marsanta balgach). Air-san bithidh e mar fhiachaibh freagairt am pròba na sùla, “'S breugach dhuit e.” An sin feoraichidh an Rìgh “Feuch có eile e?” Gabhaidh am Marsanta an rann a rithis, ag ainmeachadh fir eile. Theid iad air adhart mar sin, gun stad, agus cho luath 's is urrainn daibh, gus am fàirtlich air cuideigin freagairt gu rèidh : feumaidh esan rud a thoirt mar chlaban do'n Rìgh. Aig ceann na cluiche, faodaidh claban gach fir a bhi air a shaoradh air aon de na dòighean a chaidh innseadh an (5) shuas. Is e is brìgh do'n chleas so, an luathas leis an teid a' chasaid, agus an t-àicheadh mu'n cuairt o dhuine gu duine.

## 9. Ceann a' Chapuill Bhàin.

Biodh an luchd-cluiche 'nan suidhe mu'n cuairt. Ainmichear “Rìgh” gu bhi cumail nan claban, ach chan 'eil esan a' gabhail cuid eile 'sa chleas. Bithidh an conaltradh so eadar an ceud fhear anns an t-seath, agus a nàbuidh (2) :—

- (1) “Cuir seachad so.”
- (2) “Cìod e so?”
- (1) “Ceann a'chapuill bhàin.”
- (2) “C'ait an robh i'n raoir?”

(1) “Bha i'n raoir an Cill-Eacharain” (no Cill sam bith eile). Tionndaidhidh (2) an sin ri a nàbuidh-san, ag ràdh “Cuir seachad so,” agus theid an cleas air aghaidh mar sin, gus am fàirtlich air cuideigin “cill” ainmeachadh, no an ainmich e cill a bha aca cheana. Iarraidh an Rìgh an sin air-san claban a thoirt, agus tha e a nis a mach : theid an àireamh mar sin an lughd gus nach bi ach aon fhear ann. Theid esan 'na Bhreitheamh, agus gun fhios aige có leis na clabain seach a chéile, 'nuair a thogas

an Rìgh claban os a cheann am fradharc chàich ag ràdh “ Cìod a nì sinn ris an fhear leis an leis so ? ” freagraidh am Breitheamh “ Gabhadh e òran ” no “ Cuireadh e car-a-mhuiltein dheth ”—no peanas sam bith eile. Gairmidh an Rìgh an sin air gach aon fa leth an nì a shònraicheadh a dhèanamh gus a chlaban a shaoradh.

#### 10. Cat a' Mhinisteir.

Ged a tha'n cleas so car coltach ris an fhear mu dheireadh, tha e ag iarraidh barrachd inleachd-inntinn air an luchd-cluiche. Cuirear an aibidil Ghaidhlig an cleachdadh ann.

Suidhidh a'chuideachd 'nan cròidhlean. Tòisichidh fear le bhì 'g ainmeachadh càil no feart a tha (ma's fìor) ann an cat a' Mhinisteir, a' tòiseachadh leis an litir “ a, ” mar so:— “ Cat àbhachdach cat a' Mhinisteir.” Their a nàbuidh an sin “ Cat bàn cat a' Mhinisteir, ”: an treas fear “ Cat carach, cat a' Mhinisteir, ” agus mar sin air aghaidh, nu'n cuairt, a réir na h-aibideil. Gach fear nach amais air buaidh do'n chlat, no a nì mearachd, pàighidh e claban 's theid e a mach. An uair a dh'fhairtlicheas air a' mhór-chuid buadh a chur ris a' chat bithidh na clabain ri'n saoradh mar a chunnaic sinn cheana.

#### 11. Cill, Cill, Cailleach mharbh.

Faodaidh a'cleas sam bith bhì cluich a'chleasa so. Cuirear fear ann an sac agus theid a ghiulan ann, dithis no triuir a'beirsinn air gach ceann air an t-sac, agus 'ga luasgadh gu math mar a ghreasas iad romhpa, 's a' leigeil orra bhì cur romhpa am fear a bhitear 'ga ghiulan a thiodhlacadh 's a' chill. Le deagh-rùn (ma's fìor) miann a' mhairbh fhaotainn a mach 's a' chùis, their iad “ Cill, cill, Cailleach mharbh, cò chill dha'n teid thu ? ” Freagraidh an truaghan a tha 'san t-sac, a'sonrachadh cill àraidh, mar so, “ Theid mi gu Cill-Chiarain ” no “ Theid mi gu cill mo sheanmhar.” Leanaidh an ghiulan an rathad tacan fhathast, mar gu'n b'ann a dh'ionnsuidh na cille a dh'ainmicheadh: an sin stadaidh iad agus gu h-an-ìochdmhor taomaidh iad am marbh a mach as an t-sac agus bheir iad na buinn asda 's a'chailleach air an sàiltean. Am fear air am beir a' chailleach, theid e 's an t-sac, agus cluichear an cleas as ùr.

#### 12. Cluich a' Mhadaidh-Ruaidh; a' Chaora 's na h-Uain.

Taghar dithis o'n fheadhainn as làidire anns a'chuideachd, is e sin an “ Madadh Ruadh ” agus a “ Chaora ” Air chùl na caorach theid càch, 'nan sreith shingilte, a' beirsinn air seacaidean a chéile. Seasaidh am Madadh Ruadh 's a' Chaora fa chomhair a chéile. Their

am Madadh Ruadh “ Thoir dhomh a' Chaora 's an t-Uan.” Freagraidh a' Chaora “ Chan fhaigh thu a' Chaora no an t-Uan.” Bheir am Madadh Ruadh a nis ionnsuidh air an uan a tha an earball an t-sreith, feuch am faigh e gréim air. Cumaidh a' Chaora dlion air an treud le bhì cur an aghaidh a' Mhadaidh Ruaidh, am feadh 's a tha'n fheadhainn air a cùl a'luasgan o thaobh gu taobh, 's a'fuireach á caraibh a' Mhadaidh Ruaidh cho math 's a dh'fhaodas iad. Air beirsinn do'n Mhadadh Ruadh air an Uan a bhios air deireadh, cuirear an t-Uan sin as an t-sreath, agus na h-uain eile aon an déidh aoin mar a theid beirsinn orra, gus am beirear air an uan mu dheireadh, rud a tha cur crìche air a'chluich.

An àite so, faodaidh gach uan mar a theid a ghlacadh, dol air chùl a' Mhadaidh Ruaidh, gus am bi a earball cho fada ris an t-sreath a tha air fhàgail aig a' Chaora. Beiridh am Madadh Ruadh agus a' Chaora an sin air làmhan a chéile agus cluichidh an dà bhuidhinn *Tug of War* an aghaidh a chéile.

#### 13. Gearradh a'Chàise.

Cuirear trì boineidean 'nan sreith air an ùrlar a dhà no trì shlatan o chéile. Falbhaidh fear air a leth-chois 'sa lamhan 'na phòcaidean, timchioll air gach boineid mu seach. Nì e so trì uairean, gun bheantainn do'n ùrlar le a chois eile. Falbhaidh e a nis air chuairt eile, ach air an ruithe so, air leum dha timchioll air a'cheud bhoineid, agus e fhathast air a leth-chois 's a lamhan 'na phòcaidean, cromaidh e sìos, togaidh e a' bhoineid na fhaiclan agus tilgidh e thar a ghualainn i: agus mar sin an dà bhoineid eile. Ma nì e a'chuairt so air fad gun mhearachd faodaidh e tòiseachadh as ùr: agus bithidh a'bhuaidh aig an fhear as fhaide theid gun mhearachd.

#### 14. Anail Fhada.

Bha an cleas so gu math coitcheion anns na làithean a dh'aom. Bhiodh duine ag aithris air rann no ràdh gun tarraing analach, gus an ruitheadh 'anail a mach air. Gun teagamh, agus gun tighinn air an fhearas-chuideachd a bhiodh e a' toirt do'n luchd-amhairc, bha an cleas so 'na dheagh atachadh-sgamhain do dhaoine a bha tighinn beo “ a' d'ireadh beann is uchdannan.” Ach 'na dhéidh sin uile tha e coltach gu'n d'amaisidh air a' chleas so an toiseach mar leigheas air leamhragan ann an stùil duine!

Aithrisidh an luchd-cluiche aon de na rannan so gun tarraing analach. Am fear as fhaide bhuanaisich, bithidh a'bhuaidh aige:—

“Thainig cailleach á Loch-Abar  
 'Shireadh sgadain á Loch-Bhraoin.  
 Cha d'iarr i air peighinn  
 Ach na chunntadh i gun anail—

Sgidear sgadan h-aon, sgidear sgadan dhà,  
 sgidear sgadan trì—sgidear sgadan ceud.”

“Deich boicinn, deich craicinn,  
 Naoi boicinn, naoi craicinn,  
 Ochd boicinn, ochd craicinn.”

Agus mar sin air adhart, ag crìochnachadh :—

“Boicinn's craicinn,  
 Cuir seachad mar sin e.”

“Aon amal agus aon toll 'na cheann,  
 Dà amal agus dà tholl 'nan cinn,  
 Trì amail agus trì tuill 'nan cinn—”

'S mar sin air aghaidh : no mar so :—

“Aon amal, aon toll, an aon cheann,  
 Dà amal, dà tholl, 'na dhà cheann,  
 Trì amail, trì tuill 'nan trì cinn—”

No mar so a rithist :—

“Aon amal agus aon toll 'na cheann,  
 Thig a nall 's fosgail iad,  
 Dà amal agus dà tholl 'nan ceann,  
 Thig a nall 's fosgail iad,  
 Trì amail agus trì tuill 'nan cinn,  
 Thig a nall 's fosgail iad—”

agus mar sin air aghaidh.

So rann as an *Highland News*, 1899 :—

“Deich amail is deich tuill 'nan deich cinn,  
 Naoi amail is naoi tuill 'nan naoi cinn  
 Ochd amail is ochd tuill 'nan ochd cinn—”

agus mar sin gu ruig

“Dà amal is dà tholl 'nan dà cheann  
 Amal agus toll 'na cheann.

Cuir seachad so. Dé th'ann an so ? Dà amal is  
 dà tholl 'nan dà cheann, amal agus toll 'na  
 cheann.”

“A' cheare dhubh nan iomadh dubh  
 Cia mheid ugh a rug thu'n diugh ?  
 Ugh dhomh fhéin, is ugh dhuit fhéin,  
 'S ugh r'a roinn eadarainn  
 'S ugh an duine bhoichd.

Dà ugh dhuit fhéin's dà ugh dhomh fhéin  
 Trì uighean dhuit fhéin's trì uighean dhomh  
 fhéin—”

'S mar sin air aghaidh.

Thubhairt a'chailleach a thug an rann so

shìos mar dheuchainn analach, gu'n robh e aig  
 an àm sin (1900) ceud bliadhna a dh'aois :—

“Cuir seachad so,  
 Dé tha sin ?  
 'S e an iar a chunna,  
 Cóig mucan biadhtha,  
 Ceithir ciara donna,  
 Trì druideacha dubha,  
 Dà choluman gheal,  
 Coileach is ceare ghearr.”

So an rann mu dheireadh, agus ma theid aig  
 balach an Comunn na h-Oigridh air a h-aithris  
 air aon anail theid mi an urras, chan e a mhàin  
 gu bheil a sgamhan fallain, ach a Ghàidhlig  
 cho fileanta 's a bha i riamh aig na h-eòin :—

(As an *Highland News*, 1899.)

Coig stallain dhiag,  
 Dhubha, dhubha, dhubhghorm ;  
 Le'n coig earbuill dhiag,  
 Dhubha, dhubha, dhubhghorm ;  
 Ceithir capuill dhiag,  
 Dhubha, dhubha, dhubhghorm :  
 Le'n ceithir searraich dhiag,  
 Dhubha, dhubha, dhubhghorm ;  
 Tri mnathan diag, geala,  
 Geala, geal-bhréideach ;  
 Dà ghille dhiag, bhreac-luirgneach,  
 Aon fheadag dhiag, fhad-speireach.  
 Deich bà ceann-fhionna,  
 Croidhfhionna, làireach.  
 Naoi tairbh mhaola,  
 Dhonna, chorc-chluasach.  
 Ochd caileagan miogagacha,  
 Màgagacha, màgach.  
 Seachd gobhair ghiorrachacha,  
 Gharragacha, dhathte.  
 Sia mucan biadhtha.  
 Coig fainneachan òir.  
 Ceithir sràibh-mhuillein.  
 Trì eòin-ghuire,  
 Dà chrann-lacha,  
 'S isean-circe, 's a chas briste,  
 'S beairt air a mhuin.

Cuir seachad so. Dé th'ann an so? Isean-  
 circe 's a chas briste 's beairt air a mhuin. Cuir  
 seachad so. Agus mar sin sìos.

15. A' Chas Ghoirt.

Bheireadh an rud so toileachas do mhóran  
 na'n tugadh Buidheann de Chomunn na  
 h-Oigridh seachad e mar dhealb-chluich aig  
 céilidh. Tha ochdnar a' gabhail cuid ann,  
 agus faodaidh gach fear dol an coslas an ni  
 no an neach a tha e a' riochdachadh.

Taghar am “Bodach” le rann cunntadh-amach. Their an “Rìgh” (b’esan a dh’aithris an rann) ris a’ Bhodach :—

- Rìgh - - Eirich a bhodaich, ruig air an leathraiche, agus faigh iall a theid air do chois ghoirt.
- Leathraiche - Fàilte ort, ’ille bhig chrùbaich, c’ait am bheil thu a’ dol ?
- Bodach - A dh’iarraidh èill a theid air mo chois ghoirt.
- Leathraiche - Chan fhaigh thu iall bhuam-sa gus am faigh thu sgian bho’n ghobhainn a ghearras i.
- Gobha - - Fàilte ort, ’ille bhig chrùbaich, c’àite bheil thu dol ?
- Bodach - Gobha, gobha bòidheach, Gobha, gobha briagha, Gobhainn a bheir sgian dhomh, Sgian a bheir mi do’n leathraiche Leathraiche bheir iall dhomh, Iall a theid air a’ chois ghoirt.
- Gobha - - Chan fhaigh thu sgian bhuam-sa mur teid thu thoirt iteig as a’ chòrr ud shìos a bheir do’n choill thu a thoirt guail leat.
- Còrr - - Fàilte ort, ’ille bhig chrùbaich, c’àite bheil thu dol ?
- Bodach - Còrr, còrr, bhòidheach. Còrr, còrr, bhriagha, Còrr a bheir iteag dhomh, Itéag a bheir mi do’n choill, Coill a bheir gual dhomh, Gual a bheir—etc.
- Còrr - - Chan fhaigh thu iteag bhuam-sa mur faigh thu dhomh piseag bho’n chat ghlas ud thall.
- Cat - - Fàilte ort, ’ille bhig chrùbaich etc.
- Bodach - Cat, cat bòidheach, Cat, cat briagha, Cat a bheir piseag dhomh, Piseag a bheir mi do’n chòrr, Còrr a bheir—etc.
- Còrr - - Chan fhaigh thu piseag bhuam-sa mur faigh thu dhomh diaran bainne bho’n mhart mhaol.
- Mart - - Fàilte ort—etc.
- Bodach - Mart, mart bòidheach. Mart, mart briagha, Mart a bheir bainne dhomh, Bainne bheir mi do’n chat, Cat a bheir—etc.
- Mart - - Chan fhaigh thu bainne bhuam-sa mur faigh thu dhomh sop bho’n ghille-shabhail.
- Gille-sabhail Fàilte ort—etc.

- Bodach - Gille-sabhail bòidheach, Gille-sabhail briagha, Gille-sabhail a bheir sop dhomh, Sop a bheir mi do’n mhart, Mart a bheir—etc.
- Gille-sabhail Chan fhaigh thu sop bhuam-sa mur faigh thu bonnach dhomh bho’n mhnaoi-fhuine.
- Bean-fhuine - Fàilte ort—etc.
- Bodach - Bhean-fhuine bhòidheach, A bhean-fhuine briagha, A bhean-fhuine bheir bonnach dhomh, Bonnach a bheir mi’n ghille-shabhail, Gille-sabhail a bheir sop dhomh, Sop a bheir mi do’n mhart, Mart a bheir bainne dhomh, Bainne bheir mi do’n chat, Cat a bheir piseag dhomh, Piseag bheir mi do’n chòrr, Còrr a bheir iteag dhomh, Itéag a bheir mi do’n choill, Coill a bheir gual dhomh, Gual a bheir mi do’n ghobhainn, Gobhainn a bheir sgian dhomh, Sgian a bheir mi do’n leathraiche Leathraiche bheir iall dhomh, Iall a theid air a’ chois ghoirt.

(Ri leantainn.)

## 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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Secretary, NEL SHAW.

Office - - 212 WEST GEORGE STREET, GLASGOW.

## FROM THE BOOK OF THE DEAN OF LISMORE.

Professor W. J. WATSON.

The Dean's text is given in *Reliquiae Celticae*, vol. i., pp. 92, 94. The metre is Rannaigheacht recomarcach bheag, where each line has seven syllables, ending on a dissyllable (see *Bàrd. Ghàidhlig*, xxxix). There is no regular alliteration (*uaim*). The last word of the first line of each couplet rimes (or should rime) with a word in the second line of the same couplet (*aichill*); e.g. in rann 1; Domhnach: chongbhas; cheannach: feamach. This throws doubt upon the correctness of the second couplet (comhad) in rann 6, where *oighre* should rime with *dearmad*. The Dean's text is *Iyr: darmit*, and *Iyr* might well be for *aer* (two syllables), our *aighear*, merriment; but this also makes defective rime.

### A H-UGHDAR-SA FEIDLHIM MAC DHUBHGHAILL.

1. Ní maith siubhal 'san Domhnach,  
géb é chongbhas an t-saoire;  
ní maith mlochlu do cheannach,  
ní maith feamach mná baoithe.
2. Ní maith sgríobhadh gan fhoghlaim,  
ní maith comhroinn go gortach;  
ní maith iarla gan bhéarla,  
ní maith méara 'n a bhodach.
3. Ní maith easbog gan bhairín,  
ní maith ainmih ar sheanóir;  
ní maith sagart ar leathshúil,  
ní maith pearsún go dearéil.
4. Ní maith longphort gan imirt,  
ní maith innilt go roileag;  
ní maith earlamh gan tearmann,  
ní maith teampall gan roileag.
5. Ní maith bean gan bheith náireach,  
ní maith cláirseach gan téada;  
ní maith cogadh gan chalmacht,  
ní maith gallphort gan mhéara.
6. Ní maith maighdean go cainnteach,  
ní maith daidhbheas fhir oinigh;  
ní maith caisleán gan oighre,  
ní maith dearmad chon toighe.
7. Ní maith gan urraim d'athair,  
ní maith labhairt na meisce;  
ní maith sgeana gan fhaobhar,  
ní maith claonadh na breithe.
8. Níor mhaith cairdeas nan diabhal  
dod Mhac, a ríoghan rathmhor;  
gé do fhóir se síol Adhaimh,  
ní maith dhásan a chrochadh.
9. Ní maith léightheoir gan tuigse,  
ní maith duine gan charaid;  
ní maith file gan adhbhar,  
ní maith aolchloch gan talla.
10. Ní maith éadach gan úcadh,  
ní maith súgradh gan ghéire;  
ní maith míghníomh do mhóradh,  
ní maith pósadh gan fháinne.
11. Ní maith coróin gan bhéarradh,  
ní maith treabhadh 'san oidhche;  
ní maith éigeas gan chádhas,  
ní maith crábhadh gan aoine.

#### NOTES.

1. saoire, a solemnity, solemn festival; saoire an Domhnaigh, the Sunday holiday; the solemnity of the Sunday—Dinneen.  
chongbhas, that keeps, upholds; our *chumas*.
2. méara, a mayor; so also in 5. The Dean's spelling is *mairry'*, *wairri'*, the latter being the aspirated form. The rimes *béarla*, *téada*, form the guide to the word intended.
3. bairín, a mitre.  
ainmih, ainimh, aineamh, a blemish.  
pearsún, a parson.  
dearéil, poor, in poverty.
4. innilt, a maid-servant.  
roileag (ro-leasg), over indolent; *leasg* is still used in part of Skye, and probably elsewhere, for the more usual *leisg*.  
earlamh, a founder of a church; church patron.  
tearmann, the sanctuary surrounding a church, etc.; often *tearmad*; practically the same as *comraich*.  
roileag, a cemetery; Ir. *reilig*, *roilig*; *roileag* is the form used in Lewis now.
5. gallphort, a foreign port.
6. fear oinigh, a generous man; the common descriptive use of the genitive; e.g., fear bréige, a liar; leanabh mic, a man child.
9. adhbhar, material, matter; subject; our *aobhar*; note the rime with *aolchloch*.  
aolchloch, a mansion of stone and lime; a bright mansion.
11. coróin, tonsure; the tonsure must be kept cropped.  
cádhas, reverence, respect; the learned man should be treated with respect.  
aoine, fasting.

#### COMUNN BADGES.

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

## PRESENTATION TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

The members of the Kinlochell-Glenfinnan Branch arranged a special ceilidh on 1st May to do honour to Mr. Shaw on the occasion of his marriage. Mr. Archibald MacKellaig, a well-known sportsman, presided, and explained that the purpose of this ceilidh was to pay tribute to Mr. Shaw for his great work on behalf of their native language. He called upon Frances Cameron-Head of Inverailort to present to Mr. Shaw a portrait of himself and a Highland crook as tokens of their esteem and affection.

In doing so, Mr. Cameron-Head, who is a keen student of Gaelic, made reference to the most valuable patriotic service that An Comunn is performing, the constant vigilance that was observed in the protection of Gaelic interests, and the successful manner in which the work was carried on. In Mr. Shaw An Comunn possessed an ambassador who carried and planted the Gaelic banner throughout the land, and the many branches that are now in existence are a tribute to his devoted service. They met this evening to make acknowledgment of his labours, and to express to him their appreciation of his estimable personal qualities. He was very pleased to be present that evening, and he regarded it as an honour to have his name associated with this presentation.

The inscription on the portrait was as follows:—

“Do Niall Mac 'Ile Sheathanaich, Runaire A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, aig ùm a' phòsaidh, bho a' chairdean ann am Meur Cheann Loch Tall mar chomharradh air an spèis air fhèin gu pearsanta, agus air son a' shaothrach dhùileis as leth na Gàidhlig.—A' cheud la de'n Chèitein, 1935.”

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.

## JUBILEE MESSAGE TO HIS MAJESTY.

On the occasion of the Semi-Jubilee of Their Majesties' accession to the throne, a message of congratulation was sent on behalf of An Comunn, which, along with reply, is here given:—

212 Iar Shraid Sheorais, Glaschu,  
An Ceitein, 7mh Ià, 1935.

Do a' Mhòrachd Ro-oirdear,  
Rìgh Deòrsa a' Còig,  
Lùchairt Rìoghail,  
Lunnainn.

Bhur Mòrachd Rìoghail,

Tha An Comunn Gaidhealach, a' thia sinne a' riochdachadh, ag cur ar co-ghairdeachais le aoibhneas mòr do bhur Mòrachd Rìoghail agus do a' Mòrachd Rìoghail Ban Rìgh Mairi anns gu'n do rainig sibh leth na h-aimsire de'n Iubilee.

Tha luchd-muinntir ar Comuinn ro-mhothachail air an deagh-ghean, a' nochd bhur Mòrachdan do ar slungh-ne agus is e ar dùrachd is ar dòchais gu'm bi bhur Mòrachdan iomadh bliadhna fhathast a' riaghladh ar dùtheha le buaidh agus cliù.

Is sinne, air son A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, le urram is ùmhlachd,

Iain R. Mac 'Ile na Brataich,  
Ceann Suidhe.

Niall Mac Gille Sheathanaich,  
Rùnaire.

Scottish Office, Whitehall, S.W.1.  
13th May, 1935.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that he has been commanded by the King to convey to you His Majesty's thanks for the loyal and dutiful Address from the Highland Association on the completion of the twenty-fifth year of His Majesty's reign, and to assure you that His Majesty deeply appreciates the sentiments of loyalty and affection to which it gives expression.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

John Jeffrey.

Neil Shaw, Esq., F.S.A.Scot.,  
Secretary,  
The Highland Association,  
212 West George Street,  
Glasgow, C.2.



## COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

## CRUINNEACHAIDHEAN NAM FEACHD.

Is math an rud an uair a tha Feachdan Comunn na h-Oigridh mar astar cuimseach d'a chéile air chor's gu'm faod iad cruinneachadh an chrus r's rithist agus an cinn a chrus r' chéile feuch ciod a ghabhas dèanamh le Feachd seach Feachd a chum rùintean ar Comuinn a thoirt gu buil. Mar sin is ait an sgeul e gu'm bheil a h-uile ni an uidhim, cha mhòr anns gach àite, airson cruinneachaidhean a bhi aig na Feachdan mu'n tig Cead-Samhraidh nan Sgoilean. Thug An Comunn Gaidhealach cead do Chlann an Fhraoich airgid a thoirt seachd airson cosdas nan cruinneachaidhean sin, agus is dòcha gu'm bi sin an lamhan nan Ceann-Feachd mu'm bi an litir so an clòdh. Tha e coltach gur h-e an cruinneachadh is mo a bhios ann am bliadhna, Feachdan an Eilein Sgitheanaich aig Caisteal Dhunbheagain. An uair a bhios mac-talla an t-seanna Chaisteil ag comh-fhreagairt do chaitream ocd fìhead de dh'Oigridh ar Comuinn, cò a their nach eil ar Canain a' togail a cinn a rithist? Is i an dara cuirm-cnuic as mo bhios againn, còig Feachdan Aird-na-Murchan, 's iad ag cruinneachadh 'san t-Sàilean. Cha bheag an t-saothair uile Chlann nan àitean iomallach sinn a thoirt gu an ceann-uidhe agus airson so, tha ar taing aig Bantigheana Aird-Ghobhar. Thig leth-cheud comhla 'sa Bhailehear an Uidhist a Tuath, leth-cheud eile eadar Bad-choill is Aisir an Cataibh, agus aon tri fìhead eadar Bagh a'Chaisteil agus Bagh a Tuath am Barraidh. Chan 'eil fhios nach bi Tobarmhoire agus Bun-Easain a' dèanamh cuirm-cnuic comhla. Ma theid gach ni mar is miann leinn, bitheadh clach-mhìle againn an eachdraidh Comunn na h-Oigridh. Gu'n éireadh a' Ghrian gu geal oirnn an là ud!

Nis, éisdibh ri so. Tha mi ag iarraidh oirbh bhur sùilean 's bhur cluaisean a chumail fosgailte air là na cuirme-cnuic, air chor 's nach leig sibh seachad aon ni anns am bheil smior agus spiorad Comunn na h-Oigridh, aig a' chruinneachadh so: agus a chum's nach leig, tha mi a' tairgseadh duais bheag a thoirt seachad, anns gach cruinneachadh ud shuas fa leth, do'n bhalach no chailleig a sgrìobhas an cunnntas as fearr m'a dhéidhinn, ag innseadh na nithean sonruichte a bhualail 'nur n-inntinn mu'n là mhòr ud, an cruth litreach. Cha bhi agaibh ach an litir a chur 'gam ionnsuidh leis a' phost: feumaidh i bhi agam roimh cheann an Oig-mhios, agus cha'n faod a bhi innte ach bhur n-obair fhein a mhàin. Thoiribh an aire gu'm bi ainm, àite fuirich, sgoil (Feachd) agus

àite-cruinneachaidh ar an comharrachadh gu soilleir anns an litir. Gaidhlig, cha ruigear a leas innseadh.

A nis, dé mu dhéidhinn nam Feachd sin a tha mar gu'm b'eadh air am fàgail leud fhein gun chomas cruinneachaidh le Feachdan eile? 'S iad na Feachdan sin Gleann Eilg, Baile Mhanaich, Iochdar agus Boghmór. Tha dòchas nach fhada bhios iad anns an t-suidheachadh bhochd sin ach gu'm bi iomadh Feachd eile ag éiridh mu'n cuairt orra. Co-dhiu, cha do rinneadh dearmad orra-san, agus tha Pund Sasannach a' dol a dh'ionnsuidh gach aon de na Feachdan sin a chum's gu'm bi cuirm-cnuic bheag aca-san cuideachd. Biodh ar smuaintean 's ar deagh-ghean a' sgaioleadh a mach do chàch a chéile air an là sin:—cuimhnichibh, ged a tha sinn dealaichte bho chéile le monaidhean àrda 's le cuantan domhain, nach eil ach aon spiorad 'gar beatha-chadh—spiorad Comunn na h-Oigridh.

## FÌGHEADH IS OBAIR-SNATHAIDH.

Tha mi duilich nach d'fhuair na caileagan na nithean a bha gu bhì aca airson na h-oibre so o chionn fada, ach cha mhise is coireach. Cha do chuir ach car mu leth nan Ceann-Feachd fios-freagairt fhathast ciod iad na nithean a tha dhìth orra. Agus a bharr air sin dh'fhalbh an aon Bhean-uasal a bha againn air Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich, agus ciod is urrainn do ghrunnan de bhodaich a dhèanamh 'na leithid a dh'obair! Is e a rinn sinn, ach fo-chomhairle bheag a chur air bonn, dà bhoireannach thapaidh agus Mgr. Calum MacLeod, an sàr Ghaidheal-Uasal air a ceann, a dh'aon ghnòthach a riarachadh nan iarrtasan a thàinig agus a thig. Tha dòchas agam nach fhada gus am bi a h-uile stuth 'nur lamhan na h-ìomlan, ceart. An sin, ma's e gu'm bi obair-laimhe deanta agaibh a tha Gaidhealach 'na gnè 's 'na dealbh, chi sinn co-dhiu is urrainn d' bhi air a foillsachadh aig a' Mhòd Mhór an Duneideann, ma tha sibh deònach.

Is i so an litir mu dheireadh a gheibh sibh bhnam-sa, is dòcha, mu'n duin na sgoilean. Ma theid cluisean mar is miann leinn, no am facail eile ma gheibh Clann an Fhraoich Cothrom na Feinne 'nan obair, tha h-uile coltas air gu'm bi fas is cinneas mòr air Comunn na h-Oigridh air an ath sheisean, Feachdan eile ag éiridh an iomadach àite ùr. Mar sin bu mhath leam cagar beag a chur 'nur cluais, a Chlanna gaolach, mu'n dealaichte Cead-Samhraidh nan sgoilean sinn bho chéile. Cuimhnichibh gur ainm agaibh-se a tha an t-urram gu'm bheil sibh 'nur ceud Bhuidhean, no Feachdan, de Chomunn na h-Oigridh.

Bithibh airidh air an urram sin. Tha mòran an crochadh oirbh-se : mòran air earbsa ribh—cha lugha na deagh-ainm agus cliù bhur Comuinn. Oirbh-se bithidh sùilean nam Feachdan ùra, seadh agus sùilean am Pàrantan. “An rud a chi na big, 's e ni na big.” Leanaidh an fheadhainn ùr bhur n-eisimpleir. Biodh e 'na dheagh-eisimpleir! Ma's modhail, deanadach, cuideachail sibh-se, bithidh na pàrantan deònach gu'n gabh an cuid chloinne 'nar Comunn. Bithidh sin 'na cuideachadh do Chlann an Fhraoich : fàgaidh e ar n-obair na's fhusa. Buaidh is beannachd leibh, saighdearan-tochlaidh Comunn na h-Oigridh!

#### NA CINN-FEACHD.

Tha mi toirt taing chridheil do na Cinn-Feachd sin a bhios a' sgrìobhadh gam' ionnsuidh o àm gu àm ann an Gaidhlig mu'n obair mhóir. Chan eil ni is mo a bheir de thoilinntinn dhomh na bhi faotainn nan litrichean sin. Bithidh cuid ag iarraidh lethseul na Beurla, agus tha fhios nach còir sùil a bhi agam ri Gaidhlig bho na h-uile fathast. Ach iad-san a tha murrach air sgrìobhadh Gaidhlig idir, guidheam orra cùl a thoirt do'n Bheurla chruaidh cho fhad 's a ghabhas sin dèanamh, chionn cha fhreagar a' chainnt gu do Chomunn na h-Oigridh. Their fear is té no dhà gu'm bheil nàire orra bhi sgrìobhadh 'sa Ghaidhlig air eagal 's gu'n dean iad mearachdan is mi-litreachadh. Nach comagad a ni! Am bheil mi fhein ach a'm sgoilear bochd fhathast? Agus nach e cleachdadh a ni coimhliontachd? B'fhearr leam Gaidhlig chuibheasach na Beurla choimhlionta là sam bith, ach a dh'innsadh na frinn tha Gaidhlig anabarrach math aig a' chuid as mo de na Cinn-Feachd, o am faod mi iomadh ni math ionnsuchadh mi fhein. Tha e 'na aobhar gairdeachais gu'm bheil cuid, a bha sgrìobhadh air tùs am Beurla, a nis air teannadh ris a' chainnt dhualach.

Tha beachd aig cuid nach còir do na buill a bhi giùlan braistean Comunn na h-Oigridh ach a mhàin an uair a tha iad a' bruidhinn na Gaidhlig no ri gnìomhachas a tha fuaighte ri an Comunn. Bheachdaich Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich air a' phunc so an là roimhe. Bha iad de'n bheachd gu'm biodh a' Chlann buailteach do bhi call am braistean le bhi 'gan cur seachad uair is uair mar so. Chuir iad rompa a' chùis fhagail an lamhan nan Ceann-Feachd an drasda, ach iad a thoirt fainear gu'm bi na braistean 'gan giùlan co-dhiu 'nuair a bhios na buill ri obair a bhùneas do Chomunn na h-Oigridh.

SEORAS GALLDA.

## LOCHABER PROVINCIAL MOD.

The fourth Provincial Mod organised by An Comunn for the Lochaber district was held in Fort William on 3rd May. There were large entries from the outlying districts, as well as from the local Secondary School, and competition was keen in each event.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Inverness; Rev. William Macdonald, M.A., Kilmallie, and Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser. Music—Mr. Lewis J. Owen, L.R.A.M., Inverness, and Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh. Miss Violet Cooper judged the Instrumental Classes.

#### PRIZE-LIST.

Gaelic Essay on any subject—Annie M'Pherson, Fort William Secondary School.

Writing from Dictation—Annie M'Pherson.

Translation from English to Gaelic—Valerie Mackinnon, Fort William Secondary School.

Gaelic Poem—Janet Mackinnon, Fort William Secondary School.

Short Story into Gaelic—Peggy MacIntyre, Fort William Secondary School.

Reading Test Piece—Jessie Cameron, Fort William Secondary School. Learners—Angus Cameron, Fort William Secondary School.

Reading Prose (unseen)—Annie Macpherson and Jessie Cameron, Fort William Secondary School (equal).

Reading Scripture—Jessie Cameron. Competitors' Own Choice—Anne Maclean of Ardgour.

Conversation—Jessie Cameron.

Recitation—Annie Macpherson, Kilmallie.

Trophy for Competitor with Highest Aggregate Marks—Jessie Cameron, Fort William Secondary School.

Solo Singing—Boys—J. MacEachan, Morar; Girls under 12—Cathie Mackenzie, Morar; Boys under 16—Ronald Cameron, Mallaig; Girls under 16—Flora Maclean, Inchlaggan; Open—R. Cameron, Mallaig.

Lochaber Medal for Boy with Highest Aggregate Marks in Vocal Music—Ronald Cameron, Mallaig; Girls—Flora Maclean, Inchlaggan.

Choral Singing—Junior Challenge Shield—Arisaig Junior Choir.

Unison Singing—Morar Junior Choir.

Solo Singing—Unpublished Song—Archie MacLean, Inchlaggan; Ladies—Mina Gillies, Fort William Secondary School; Men—Archie MacLean, Inchlaggan; Ladies—Mina Gillies; Men—Allan Macdonald, Fort Augustus.

Lochaber Quach to Lady with Highest Aggregate Marks—Mina Gillies.

Glengarry Cup to Man with Highest Aggregate Marks—Archie MacLean, Inchlaggan.

Choral Singing—Female Voices—Ardgour Ladies' Choir; Male Voices—Glengarry Male Voice Choir.

Unison Singing—Fort Augustus Choir. Challenge Shield Competition—Fort Augustus Choir.

Reading Piece of Prose (unseen)—Helen O'Reilly, Fort William Secondary School.

Recitation—Alex. Macphee, Fort William Secondary School. Prose Piece—Alex. Macphee.

Acted Dialogue—Janet Mackinnon and Helen O'Reilly, Fort William Secondary School.

Sgeulachd—Peter Macleod, Fort William Secondary School.

Instrumental Music—Violin—Archie MacLean, Inchlaggan; Pianoforte—Mrs D. Grant, Glenurquhart.

## SECRETARY'S NOTES.

I had the honour of performing the opening ceremony at the Northern Counties Musical Festival, at Inverness on 8th May. This Festival has a Gaelic section which serves as a provincial Mod for that area, and it is pleasing to notice that the Gaelic classes are well patronised. It was an honour, of which I am proud, to be associated with the efforts of our Northern friends on behalf of the movement. They are to be congratulated on the enthusiastic manner in which they serve the cause.

\* \* \*

Many of our readers will be sorry to learn of the indisposition of Mr. Donald MacDonald Inverness, one of the Vice-Presidents, and Convener of the Northern Sub-Committee. Mr. MacDonald has been confined to the house for some time with a severe attack of sciatica, but, I am glad to be informed that he is now improving. Our members, I am sure, will join with us in wishing him a speedy and complete recovery.

\* \* \*

During the course of my visits to the Branches, since my appointment with An Comunn, I have had recourse to many means of conveyance, but it was not until my return from Inverness to attend the Kintyre Provincial Mod, at Campbeltown, that I made my first aeroplane journey. The actual flying time occupied only thirty-five minutes. It was one of the smoothest journeys I ever had, and leaving Renfrew shortly before ten o'clock I arrived at my destination in sufficient time to be present at the opening of the Mod.

\* \* \*

There is every prospect of a record Mod in Lewis, on 20th and 21st June at Stornoway. Mr. John MacDonald, Music Teacher, has been active in the Island since the beginning of the year and it is expected that in addition to usual entries from the East Side, a number of Junior and Senior Choirs from the West Side will compete for the first time. From reports received, the young people are very enthusiastic, and can be depended upon to give a good account of themselves.

\* \* \*

It is expected that the syllabus of many of the Provincial Mods in the North will include Competitions for Gaelic Drama next year, and the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee have appointed a special Sub-Committee to consider the methods of adjudication. It is realised that the study of Gaelic Drama is of the utmost

value in the preservation or restoration of Gaelic. This was evident at the Mod at Granttown last month, when a team of learners produced a well-known Gaelic play. A meeting of the special Sub-Committee will be held shortly.

\* \* \*

The East Sutherland Provincial Mod takes place on 7th June, and Mr. David Grant, the energetic Secretary, has arrangements well in hand. Mr. J. M. Bannerman is to preside at the Competitions and Col. MacAulay, Golspie, at the Grand Concert in the evening.

\* \* \*

We would strongly recommend all those who intend being present at the Summer School of Gaelic to attend to arrangements for their accommodation as early as possible. The School will be in session for four weeks, from Tuesday, 16th July to Friday, 9th August inclusive. This period coincides with the holiday season and unless the matter is attended to well in advance difficulty may be experienced in obtaining rooms. A special circular has been prepared giving particulars of classes, and we shall be pleased to send copies to anyone desiring information on the work of the School.

\* \* \*

For the convenience of choirs and others attending the Mod, we are publishing in this issue a list of Hotels and boarding houses in Edinburgh. The approximate distance of each establishment from the Halls is given. Details in regard to terms, and accommodation available, can only be had on application to addresses given on the list.

\* \* \*

It is pleasing to note the added distinction that has been conferred on Pipe-Major John MacDonald, M.B.E., Inverness, by his appointment as Honorary piper to the King. An accomplished exponent of Ceol Mor, the highest and most cultured form of pipe music, Mr. MacDonald is well-known for his interest in the Mod proceedings. On several occasions he has acted as one of the adjudicators in the Instrumental section at the National Mod, and with his other friends, we congratulate him on this high honour.

\* \* \*

A new use for the Celtic Art Post Cards has been brought to our notice. At a concert arranged for the Mod funds by Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh, on behalf of the Edinburgh branch of the Clarsach Society, these cards were prepared as tickets. With the printed matter nicely displayed within the Celtic Art border, these tickets struck a very artistic and distinctive

note. This is an idea that we would like to recommend to others who may be interested in concerts of a like character. These cards may be had from the office, 212 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2. at One Penny per packet of ten cards.

\* \* \*

It is with feelings of deep regret that we have to record the death of Mr. William D. Barclay, J.P., one of our most devoted members. Mr. Barclay who was much attached to Gaelic matters represented the Lanarkshire Highlanders' Association on the Executive Council, and he also served on several of our Committees. A native of Fort William, and a member of the banking profession, it is only six years ago since he retired from the agency of the Bank of Scotland at Motherwell. Throughout his life, Mr. Barclay, who possessed a kindly personality, applied himself unsparingly to church matters, and his services as a lay preacher were greatly in demand and freely given. His genial presence will be missed from our midst, and to his only son, the Rev. William Barclay, B.D., Renfrew, we offer our sincerest sympathy in the loss he has sustained.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Tha obair a' gheamhraidh a nis a' teannadh gu crìch agus tha Rùnairean nam Meuran gu trang a' deanamh ullachaidh airson nan Coinneamhan Bliadhna.

Bhò'n tha Cèilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhirnis a nis ceangailte ris A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach faodair iomradh a dheanamh anns a' mhiosachan so air Coinneimh Bhlialdhna na Cèilidh, an Comunn anns a bheil gach iomairt air a ghiulan air adhart anns a' Ghaidhlig. Bha aireamh ghasda na buill anns an eiseachd agus thug an Rùnair agus an t-Iomnhasar cunntasan taitneach air obair an t-Seisein a thainig gu crìch aig deireadh a' Ghiblein. Chaidh an luchd-dreuchd a bha an uiridh an sàs an iomairt na Ceilidh a chur air leth gu ìre bhig, ach gu bheil Mgr. Iain Mac Fhionghuinn á Inbhirnis 'na Chleireach-iomraidh. A thaobh 's gu bheil mòran eile an crochadh ris, cha b'urrainn Mgr. Iain M. Mac Leoid dreuchd a Chléirich-iomraidh a ghabhail os laimh airson bliadhna eile ach tha a' Cheilidh gu léir fortanach gu'n do ghabh Mgr. Mac Fhionghuinn, fìor Ghaidheal as na h-Earadh, an dreuchd so fo a chùram. Tha taing na Cèilidh aig Iain M. Mac Leoid airson cho dealasach agus cho cùramach 's a bha e air

cùl na Cèilidh ré na bliadhna a dh'fhalbh, agus gu dearbh fhéin, dh'fhàg e labhar a' Chleirich-iomraidh 'na eisimpleir do gach Cleirach a dh'fhaodas a leanntuinn anns an dreuchd so. Chaidh Comhairle bheag a chur air leth gu bhì cur an òrdugh Clàr-Eagair an ath Sheisein.

Air an 17mh là de'n Ghiblein bha am Fear-deilbhe a' frithealadh aig Coinneimh Bhlialdhna Mgr Ghlinn Urchadain. Bha trì fichead 's an lathair agus Mgr. Rob Mac Ghill Eòin, an Iar-cheann Suidhe air an ceann. An deidh gabhail ri cunntasan an Rùnair agus an Iomnhasair, chaidh luchd-dreuchd a shuidheachadh airson an ath Sheisein. Is i a' Bhan-Rùnair, A Mhdn. M.C. Burgess agus an t-Iomnhasair Mgr. Donnchadh Mac Mhathainn. Tha an Dotair Mac Dhomhnuill gu bhì aig an stiùir a rithist agus tha dùil aig an luchd-comhairle ri Dealbh-Chluicéan a chur air adhart anns a' Ghaidhlig air an ath Sheisein.

Bha coinneamhan de Iar-Chomhairlean a' Chraobh-Sgaoilidh agus an Fhoghlum air an cumail air an 27mh là de'n Ghiblein. Bha aireamh mhath de na buill 'san lathair agus a thaobh 's gu bheil an Ceann-suidh gun chomas éirigh fhathast, bha Mgr. Donnchadh Mgr. Donnchadh air ceann nan coinneamhan. Leugh am Fear-deilbhe a chunntas obrach bhò'n a chruinnich a' Chomhairle mu dheireadh agus ghabhadh ris an iomradh. Thug an Rùnair iomradh air obair gach aon de'n luchd-teagaisg Ciuil fa leth agus an deidh sgrùdaidh a dheanamh air, ghabhadh ris. Tha oidheirp 'ga dheanamh aig an àm so a chum 's gu'm bì Gaidhlig air a teagasg mar chnspair an Sgoil a' Phluic (Loch Aillse) agus leig an Rùnair ris gu'n deachaidh Tagradh (Petition) le ainmean nam pàrantan, a chur a dh'ionnsuidh Ard-Chomhairle an Fhoghlum an Siorramachd Rois. Chaidh Fo-Chomhairle bheag a chur air leth gu bhì a meòrachadh air riaghailtean a bhùileachadh airson Co-fharpuisean nan Dealbh-Chluicéan Gaidhlig. Tha e feumail gu'm biodh na riaghailtean so air an cur sìos an dubh 's an geal, chionn tha dùil ri Co-fharpuisean fo'n cheann so aig Mòdan an Taoibh Tuath an ath Bhlialdhna.

*Mod Lochabar.* Bha am Mòd so air a chumail beagan na bu tràithe am bliadhna, air an treas là de'n Cheitein. Bha latha anabarrach briagh ann, a' ghrian a' dearsadh ré an latha, agus bu mhath sin, chionn bha aireamh mhór chloinne 'san làthair. Bha na Breitheamhan làrriarichte leis na chuala iad, ach c'arson nach 'eil a dhùblachadh aireamh a' feuchainn nan Co-fharpuisean Leughaidh agus Aithris aig a' Mhòd so? Chan 'eil na Sgoilean beaga a' deanamh an díchill an so. Aig a' Chuirm-Chiuil 's an fheasgar bha a' Bhean uasal Ryan,

anns a' chathair agus thug i seachad na duaisean a choisinn na Co-fharpaisichean aig a' Mhòd. Tha taing A' Chomuinn aig Mgr. Lachlan Mac Fhionghuinn agus a' Chomhairle, airson gach adhartas a tha iad a' deanamh air tàilleamh ar Cànan 's ar Ciuil an Lochabar agus 's an Dùthaich mu'n cuairt.

Bha cruinneachadh gasda an Tigh a' Bhaile, Inbhirnis, air feasgar Di-Ciadaoin, an Sìmh là de'n Cheitein nuair a thainig Rùnaire A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich a dh'aon sgrìobh u' Glaschu, a dh'fhosgladh Mòd Ionadail Inbhirnis. Thug e seachad Oraidean brosnachail an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla agus bha seann chairdeas air a bheothachadh as ùr nuair a thairg An t-Urr. Eachann Camshron taing na cuideachd do Mhgr. Mac Gille Sheathanaich agus do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach airson an obair ionmhalta a thatar a'deanamh airson cainnt agus ceòl nan Gaidheal.

### An Airde Deas.

Air an ocdamh là deug de mhios a' Ghiblein bha an Rùnaire 'na Fhear-cathrach air cuirn-chiuil Còisir Oigridh Ghlaschu. Tha luchd-comhairle agus fear-juil Comunn Còisiridh Ghaidhlig Ghlaschu ri mhohladh air son a' chothrom a tha iad a' toirt do òigridh Ghaidhealach a' bhaile, agus air son na saothrach a tha iad a' deanamh ann a bhi ag cumail a suas ceòl nan Gaidheal anns a' bhaile mhór.

Bha a' Cheilidh Bhliadhnail aig meur Dhrumfrìs air a' cheathramh là fichead agus bha an Rùnaire 's an lathair a' toirt dhoibh sgeul a' Chomuinn agus 'g am misneachadh anns an obair mhaith a tha iad a' deanamh le an ceilidhean, cròileanan ciuil is Gaidhlig. Bha mu cheithir fichead cruinn air an feasgar so.

Air an ath feasgar bha Mgr. Mac Gille Sheathanaich aig coinneimh de mheur Tigh a' Mhuilinn, faisg air Tigh na Bruaiche. Bha sè fichead cruinn an so agus bha ceilidh thogarrach ann. Tha am meur so ag uidheamachadh air son cròileanan Gaidhlig is Ciuil a bhi aca air an ath Sheisein agus tha gealladh air soirbheachadh a bhi leis an oidheip.

Chumadh ceilidh an Tigh Ormadail air feasgar Di-haoine, an seathamh là fichead de'n Giblein. Bha an Rùnaire 'na Fhear-cathrach agus bha cuideachd ghada—mu shè fichead—'san lathair. Bha gu leoir de phlobaireachd is de òrain Ghaidhlig ann agus bha Baintighearna Ormadail i fhéin air ceann na cuideachd.

Air a' cheud là de'n Cheitein bha an Rùnaire aig Ceilidh an Ceann Lochiall far an d'thug na buill dha tiodhlac spéis. Bha mu cheithir

fichead cruinn agus labhair an Rùnaire riutha an Gaidhlig is am Beurla mu obair a' Chomuinn, agus aig a' cheart àm a' toirt taing dhoibh air son an coibheis.

Air feasgar an treas là de'n Cheitein bha Mgr. Mac Gille Sheathanaich an lathair aig Coinneimh Bhliadhnail meur Bhaile-chloichridh, agus aig a' chuirm-chiuil a bha 'na deidh. Tha am meur so a' deanamh obair mhath air taobh na Gaidhlig agus 'na chùl-taice mór do Mhòd Siormachd Pheairt.

Chaidh an Rùnaire gu Inbhirnis air an ocdamh là agus liubhar e òraidean an Gaidhlig is am Beurla aig fosgladh a' Mhòid is an Fheis-chiuil 'sa bhaile sin. Dh'fheuch e gu h-àraidh ri aire an t-saigh a tharruing gu dleasan muinntir na Gaidhealtachd do thaobh an cànan agus chomharraich e mach am feum a tha ann iad a bhi ag cur an guala r'a chéile agus seasamh duineil, dileas air a cùl.

Thill e air ais an oidheche sin fhéin agus air maduinn an larn-a-mhàireach bha e air sgiathan 's an athar air bòrd air carbad-neoil air a thurus gu Mod Chinntire a bha air a chumail an là sin, agus an ath latha, an Ceannloch Chille Chiarain. Bha am Mòd so fìor shoirbheachail air gach doigh ged nach robh uiread chofharpaiseach ann is a b'abhaist. Air a shon sin rinn feabhas na h-obrach a suas air son gainnead an luchd-strìthe agus tha beachd gu'm bi móran barrachd a mach an ath bhliadhna. Tha sinn a' taingse taing a' Chomuinn dhoibhsan a tha a' saothrachadh, bliadhna an deidh bliadhna, gu bhi ag cumail a' Mhòid so aig inbhe aird agus chluicth. As eugmhais na buidhne bhig a tha a' saothrachadh gu dichìollach 's an doigh so cha bu chomasach e air bratach a chumail a suas an ioma cearna.

Tha a' Mhgr. Ealasaid NicMhartainn a' teagasg an Ard na Murchan agus Iain MacIomhair an Ile.

### CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

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Entries must reach the Secretary, 212 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2, not later than 31st August, 1935.

**EDINBURGH MOD DONATIONS.**

Previously acknowledged	...	...	£120	1	0
<b>Received at Head Office—</b>					
Pitlochry Branch	...	...	2	0	0
Rev. J. M. Connor, D.S.O., Newport, I.O.W.	...	...	0	10	6
Gaelic Society of Glasgow	...	...	5	0	0
Ceilidh nan Gaidheal Inbhirnis	...	...	2	8	9
<b>Received at Edinburgh—</b>					
The Highland Ball Committee, Edinburgh	...	...	100	0	0
Proceeds of "Highland Societies" Ball, organised by Mod Local Committee	...	...	74	6	11
Proceeds of Concert in Music Hall, Edinburgh, do.	...	...	60	13	6
Proceeds of Concert in Leith, do.	...	...	20	16	6
Proceeds of Concert in Oddfellows Hall, Edinburgh, do.	...	...	9	6	7
His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, K.T. Edinburgh Gaelic Choir (further donation), collected by Miss Isa H. Macintosh	...	...	5	0	0
Dundee Highland Society	...	...	4	4	0
Collected by Mrs. Angus, Edinburgh (previously collected, £1 1s.)	...	...	3	9	0
Edinburgh Renfrewshire Association (further donation), proceeds of Whist Drive	...	...	3	3	0
Colonel A. Macaulay, Golspie	...	...	2	2	0
David Russel, Esq., LL.D., Markinch	...	...	2	2	0
Sir Patrick Ford, Bart., M.P., Edinburgh	...	...	1	1	0
Anonymous	...	...	1	0	0
Robert Cullen, Esq., Islay	...	...	0	10	0
Miss Russel, Edinburgh	...	...	0	2	6
			<u>£423</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

**LIST OF HOTELS IN EDINBURGH.**

The 39th National Mod will be held in Edinburgh from 24th to 27th September, 1935. The following is a list of hotels in the proximity of the Music Hall:—

North British Hotel (L.N.E.R.), Waverley Station, Princes Street (10 mins.).  
 Caledonian Station Hotel (L.M.S.), Princes Street (10 mins.).  
 The Royal British Hotel, 20 Princes Street (5 mins.).  
 The Royal Hotel, 53 Princes Street (5 mins.).  
 Old Waverley (Temperance), 43 Princes Street (5 mins.).  
 The George Hotel, 21 George Street (5 mins.).  
 The Windsor Hotel, 73 George Street (opposite Hall).  
 The Palace Hotel, 1 S. Castle Street (5 mins.).  
 St. Andrew's Hotel, 10 S. St. Andrew Street (5 mins.).  
 Roxburghe Hotel, 38 Charlotte Square (5 mins.).  
 Rutland Hotel, 2 and 3 Rutland Street (10 mins.).  
 Killin Hotel, 23 Rutland Square (10 mins.).  
 Queen Hotel, 1 and 2 St. Colme Street (15 mins.).  
 Abercromby Private Hotel, Abercromby Place (5 mins.).  
 Brooklands Private Hotel, 9 Abercromby Place (5 mins.).  
 Scotia Hotel, 9 and 11 Gt. King Street (5 mins.).  
 Cockburn Hotel, Cockburn Street (10 mins.).

Adelphi Hotel, 59 Cockburn Street (10 mins.).  
 Darling's Regent Hotel, Waterloo Place (10 mins.).  
 New Waverley Hotel, Waterloo Place (10 mins.).  
 Imperial Hotel, Leith Street (10 mins.).  
 Grosvenor Hotel, 11 and 21 Grosvenor Street (10 mins.).  
 Clarendon Hotel, 22 Grosvenor Street (10 mins.).  
 Zetland Hotel, 16 Grosvenor Street (10 mins.).  
 Hotel de Vere, 17 Eglinton Crescent (12 mins.).  
 Braid Hills Hotel, Braid Hills (20 mins.).  
 Blair Atholl Private Hotel, Grosvenor Street (10 mins.).  
 Tartan Hotel, 14 Rothesay Place (12 mins.).  
 Drumsheugh Hotel, 24 Drumsheugh Gardens (10 mins.).  
 Thomson's Hotel, 26 and 27 Drumsheugh Gardens (10 mins.).  
 Mackenzie & Robinson's Hotel, 40 Drumsheugh Gardens (10 mins.).  
 Balfour Hotel, 55 Melville Street (10 mins.).  
 Kenneth Mackenzie Private Hotel, 58 Melville Street (10 mins.).  
 Craigwood Private Hotel, 6 Melville Crescent (10 mins.).  
 Mrs Millen's Private Hotel, 29 Melville Street (10 mins.).  
 The Harwood Private Hotel, Forres Road (15 mins.).  
 Dalblair Private Hotel, 55 Manor Place (10 mins.).  
 Miss Johnston's Private Hotel, 50 Manor Place (10 mins.).  
 Stewart's Manor Place Hotel, 56 Manor Place (10 mins.).  
 Thistle Hotel, 59 Manor Place (10 mins.).  
 Walker's Private Hotel, 58 Manor Place (10 mins.).  
 Crescent Hotel, 6 Coates Crescent (10 mins.).  
 Maitland Temperance Hotel, 33 Shandwick Place (10 mins.).  
 Crown Hotel, 22 Torphichen Street (10 mins.).  
 The Terrace Private Hotel, 37 Royal Terrace (15 mins.).  
 Mrs A. Cameron's Clachan Hotel, 12 Royal Terrace (15 mins.).  
 Mrs Smith's Park Private Hotel, 33 Royal Terrace (15 mins.).  
 The Iona Private Hotel, 17 Strathearn Place (15 mins.).  
 Park Central Hotel, 65 Bruntsfield Place (10 mins.).  
 Bruntsfield Hotel, 72-74 Bruntsfield Place (10 mins.).  
 Ariston Hotel, 69 Bruntsfield Place (10 mins.).  
 Leamington Hotel, Bruntsfield Place (10 mins.).  
 Links Hotel, 3 Bruntsfield Crescent (10 mins.).  
 Green's Hotel, Eglinton Crescent (12 mins.).

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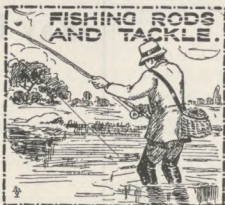
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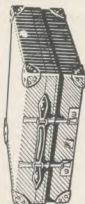
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Edited with Introduction by  
DONALD J. MACLEOD, O.B.E., M.A., D.Litt.

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TELEGRAMS.—*Runaire, Glasgow.*

TELEPHONE.—*Douglas 1433.*

Leabhar XXX.]

*An t-Iuchar, 1935.*

[Earrann 10

### GAIDHLIG ANNS NA H-ARD SGOILEAN.

Bu mhath leam earrann bheag a chur sìos mu'n Ghaidhlig mar chuspair foghlum anns na h-ard sgoilean. Bho chionn beagan sheachdainean air ais fhuair mi cothrom a mheas mi mar shochair luachmhor. Thadhail mi air na h-ard sgoilean anns a' bheil Gaidhlig 'g a teagasg anns an dà shiorramachd, Inbhir-Nis is Ros. Tha an luchd rannsachaidh ag iarraidh iomradh eagnaich air gach sgoil fa leth; agus gun cuirear an t-iomradh sin air aghart a dh'ionnsaidh Luchd-iùil an Fhoghlum, aig am bheil an cairtealan an Dun-eideann a nis. Chan fhaodair na h-ionmraidh sin a chraobh-sgaoileadh, oir is ann airson feumalachd an Luchd-iùil fhéin a tha iad air an deanamh. Ach air an laimh eile saoilidh mi nach bu mhisde leughadairean na duilleig so beachd fhaotainn cia mar tha ar cànain a' cosnadh àite urramach mar mheur oilein anns na h-ard sgoilean air diugh. Ged nach robh mi an ard sgoil sam bith ach anns an dà shiorramachd a dh'ainmich mi, tha dearbhadh gu bheil obair aithnichte anns a' Ghaidhlig 'g a giùlan air aghart ann an ard sgoilean eile mar an ceudna.

\* \* \*

Mar is eòl do'n leughadair tha Teisteanas Foghlum ri chosnadh aig deireadh a' chùrsa anns na h-ard sgoilean. Tha àireamh de bhliadhnachan bho shuidhich an t-Ard Riaghladh an gnòthach sin. Tha an Teisteanas de dha sheorsa—Ard is Iossal. Gheibh an òigridh a bhuidhneas an dearbhadh so a stigh do'n oil-thigh gun deuchainn eile a sheasamh. Gheibh iad mar an ceudna a stigh do thighean

malairt is do thighean tasgaidh leis an Teisteanas. A nis tha a' Ghaidhlig air aireamh nan cuspair anns am faodar an dearbhadh sin a chosnadh. Is coir aire an leughadair a tharrainn gu sonraichte gus an ni sin. Is tric a chluinnear casaid an aghaidh ar cànain, nach eil feum no buannachd innte airson obair laitheil no gu airgid a dheanamh. Ach is e am freagradh is fhearr do'n chasaid sin gu bheil ar cànain a nis air an aon ruith agus de'n aon luach ri cainntean sam bith eile, gu bhi ag uidheamachadh na h-òigridh airson an obair laitheil mar fhir is mnathan. Tha luchd foghlum ag aideachadh gu bheil eòlas air gnathan-cainnte agus air litreachas na Gaidhlig, pàilt nas freagarraiche air òigridh na Gaidhealtachd, na tha an oidhearp choitcheinn air briseadh de Fhraincis no de Ghearmailt ionnsachadh.

\* \* \*

Anns an dà ghincalach a tha air ùr dhol seachd cha robh a' chànain a' faotainn aire no urram an coimeas ris an àite a tha i a nis a' faotainn air clar-ùine nan ard sgoilean. Tha i a' faighinn uiread de ùine is de aire ri cainnt air bith eile an saothair nan sgoilean. Agus feumaidh an cuspair so tim is dicheall gun an ire cheart a ruigheachd. Chan 'eil a' Ghaidhlig dad nas fhuasda na Laidiuun no Fhraincis. Mhothaich mi gu bheil na h-òganach agus na maighdeanan a sheas deuchainn airson Ard Theisteanas anabarrach deas arson an labhairt na cànain agus 'n an eòlas farsainn air litreachas na cànain anns na linntean deireannach. Chuir sud annas air leth orm, a bhi ag èisdeachd ciod e cho fileanta, foghainteach 's a tha iad. Is cuimhneach leam dà fhichead bliadhna air

ais, nach robh foghlumaichean òga idir cho ealanta anns a' Ghaidhlig ris a' ghinealach a tha nis a' feuchainn is a' cosnadh nan Teisteanas. Is cinnteach gu bheil aobhair air sin; agus faodaidh mi am beagan fhacal na h-aobhair sin a chomharrachadh.

\* \* \*

Is e a' cheud reusan gur i a' Ghaidhlig cainnt mhàtharail nam foghlumach. Tha sin furasda ri aithneachadh leis an fhìor thlachd a tha iad a' nochadh an am a bhi labhairt innte. Tuigear bha na feallsanaich a sgrìobh mu alt an teagaisg, gur e *uidh*, no taitneas anns a' chuspair, cumha is fhearr air an ionnsaich am foghlumaiche. Mur bi thlachd agad anns an leasan cha tog thu e am faisg cho luath no cho eagnaigh. Ach ma tha ar n-uidh an ni sam bith, is dualach gun greimich sinn nas luaithe air na nithean is toigh leinn. Aon uair is gun dean ar n-òigridh aghart anns an litreachas Ghaidhlig tha maise nam briathran is nan smuain a' togail an aire, air chor is gu bheil iad a' faighinn toilinntinn anns na bàird agus anns an rosg. A chionn gur i so a' chàinain a dh'ionnsaich iad air tùs, agus a bha a' chuid mhòr dhiubh a' cleachdadh aig an dachaidhean, tha fuaim is seadh na càinain fada nas nàdurraiche dhaibh na eadhon fuaim na Beurla. Is dàna sin a chantainn—ach tha e cho fìor 's a tha sinn 'g a sgrìobhadh.

\* \* \*

Buinidh an dara h-aobhar do'n luchd-teagaisg. Cha bhiodh a' chùis cho soirbheachail mur b'e gu bheil an luchd teagaisg air leth cothromach. Is fortanach gu'n d'fhuair Comhairlean an Fhoghlum àireamh de mhaighistearan aig a bheil ceum nan ealadhann le ard urram an Gaidhlig. Comhla ri fiosrachadh farsuinn air litreachas na Gaidhlig maille ri litreachas no dha eile, tha na h-oidreachan foghlum ud teoma an alt an teagaisg. Tha iad eòlach air a' mhodh dhreach; agus tha iad ealanta air teagasg anns a' mhodh sin. Mar is trice cluinnear Fraingeis, agus Laiuinn is cainntean eile mar an ceudna 'g an teagasg troimh Beurla. Is e Berlitz a thug a stigh do'n dùthaich so am modh dhreach, gu bhi a' teagasg Fraingeis troimh Fhraingeis, is Gearmailt troimh Ghearmailt. Agus air a' mhodh ùr so, chuala mi luchd teagasg na Gaidhlig anns na h-ard sgoilean a' teagasg Gaidhlig troimh Ghaidhlig, mar nach biodh a leithid de chainnt is Beurla air an t-saoghal. Is e sin a dh'fhàg an obair cho sunndach, agus cho taitneach do'n òigridh a bha iad a' teagasg.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

17 Merchiston Avenue,  
Edinburgh, 5th June, 1935.

Dear Dr. Ross,—In regard to our conversation recently, it occurs to me that it would be well to give a few hints in *An Gàidheal* on the proper use of the hyphen. One frequently finds Duneideann, Dundeagh, Dunblathain, Cillfhinn, Inbhirnis. All these should be written as two words, or with hyphen: Dun Eideann, Inbhir Nis, Cill Fhinn, or Dun-éideann, Inbhir-nis, etc. The rule is that all compound terms which are stressed on the second part or element should have a hyphen: otherwise the tendency is to stress the first syllable, according to regular Gaelic usage. In place-names the two elements may often be better written separately, both with a capital letter.

Another point is the improper use of the apostrophe in gun, that; nan, if; chan, not—where no letter is omitted from Old Irish onwards. The reason why Alasdair Mac Mhaighistir Alasdair used the apostrophe was an attempt at separating the final *n*, as in Irish. For the same reason he wrote *na'n* as gen. pl. of the article.

There seems to be nowadays a tendency to write the article and the noun as one word, with an apostrophe: e.g. a'bhean, instead of the correct *a' bhean*, two words.

Is it not true that the false Port Rìgh were displaced by the genuine Port Rìgheadh? No Skye man whom I ever met said the former, and I have tested many. Miss Francis Tolmie was the first to draw my attention to this, long ago.

And in this connection, when are we to have a map of Gaelic Scotland, with the real names instead of anglicised adaptations? Now that we have a Gaelic Texts Society, with the prospect of providing worthy work for our scholars and giving our Gaelic people an opportunity of becoming acquainted with their own literature and taking proper pride in it, it seems to me that such a map should be the natural sequel. The thing is possible now: year by year it becomes less and less possible.

What says An Comunn Gàidhealach?

With all kind regards,—Yours sincerely,

W. J. WATSON.

### COMUNN BADGES.

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

**CLEASAN GAIDHEALACH**

airson

**Comunn na h-Oigrìdh.**

**CLEASAN À CHLUICHEAR A STIGH.**

(Air an leantainn.)

(Toimhseachain, 3.)

**16. Ceartas Nighean Dhubhain — Aireamh Nighean Dhubhain.**

Bha fear de'n Fheinn (muinntir Fhinn) pòsda air Nighean Dhubhain. Bha Fionn agus Dubhan ann am bàta, agus còig fir dheug aig gach fear dhiubbh. Bha nighean Dhubhain anns a' bhàta cuideachd. Air do chònsachadh éirigh eatorra, bha a h-uile coltas air gu'n leigtheadh a' chùis gu ràdh a' chlaidheimh, 'nuair a thubhairt an nighean gu'n cuireadh ise an dara taobh e leis a' chranncur—gu'n éireadh na coig fir dheug le Fionn, agus na coig fir dheug le Dubhan, 'nan seasamh anns a' bhàta: gu'm biodh na deich fir fhichead air fad air an àireamh 'nan naoinearann, agus gach naoidheamh fear air a bhàthadh gus an cuirtheadh as do'n leth. Thugadh aonta do so, agus dh'èirich ise air na fir a chur an òrdugh airson an cunnntadh a mach. Nis, ged a bu nighean Dhubhain i, bha bàidh aice ri fir Fhinn 's i pòsda air fear aca, agus thug i fa-near gu'n tuiteadh an crannchur an còmhnuidh air fear de bhuidhinn Dhubhain, gus an deachaidh am bàthadh air fad. Mar sin, bha 'n Fheinn tèaruinte. So an suidheachadh a rinn i—tha "X" fear ag comharrachadh fear Fhinn; "O," fear Dhubhain:—

XXXXO0000XXOXXXO00XXO00  
XOOXXO.

Ma dhubhar a mach gach naoidheamh litir, fàgar, air a' cheann thall còig "X" deug (an Fheinn), air dhaibh leigeil sìos le fir Dhubhain an còig "O" deug, thar beul-mòr a' bhàta.

So an rann-chuimhne a ni e comasach do fhear-tairgse an toimhseachain so a chomharran a chur an òrdugh ceart:—

"Ceathrar o Fhionn na Feinne o thùs,	XXXX
Is ann leam bu chubhaidh an àireamh	
Le còig laoch Dhubha 'nan dèidh,	O0000
De dhearbhbh mhuintir Dhubhain	
Dithis o Mhac Dhùghaill a nuadh,	XX
Is fear o Dhubhan teach ruadh,	O
Triùir o Fhionn is deirge dreach	XXX
Is fear o Dhubhan dùrach,	O
Cha suidh Fionn 'sa bhruith bhàn	X
Gun dithis dhubh air a làimh,	O0
Is dithis eile 'na dhéidh,	XX

Mhuintir Fhinn 's a thalmhain féin,	
Triùir dhubh mo Dhubhan dil,	000
Is aon fhear, Fionn 'nam fochair sin	X
Le'n dà laoch dhubh 'nan dèidh	O0
Dithis o Fhionn, is fear o Dhubhan	XXO

**17. Toimhseachan Aiseag nan Ceard.**

Aiseag a' bhodaich 's na caillich, 's an dà bhalach; cha ghléidheadh am bàta ach tunna, 's bha tunna 's a' bhodach 's bha tunna 's a' chaillich, 's tunna eadar an dà bhalach. Chaidh an dà bhalach thairis air an aiseag an toiseach, dh'fhan fear de na balaich thall 's thainig am fear eile a nall. Chaidh am bodach a null anns a' bhàta, 's thug am fear de na balaich a bha thall a nall am bàta. Chaidh an dà bhalach a null a rithist, thill fear leis a' bhàta 's dh'fhan fear thall. Chaidh a' chailleach a null an sin 's thàinig am fear bha thall de na balaich a null leis a' bhàta 's chaidh an dà bhalach a null an sin; agus bha iad thall uile an sin.

**18. Toimhseachan: An Sionnach, an Gàadh 's an t-arbhar.**

Bha aig fear ri sionnach 's gàadh 's sguab-arbhair a thoirt leis thar an aiseig 's cha b'urrainn da ach an t-aon diubb a thoirt aig aon am, 's na'm fàgadh e an sionnach 's an gàadh, no'n gàadh 's an sguab le chèile dh'itheadh an sionnach an gàadh 'san dara càs, 's dh'itheadh an gàadh an t-arbhar 'sa chàs eile. Dé nis mar a rinn e?

Dh'fhàg e an sionnach agus an sguab 's ghabh e thar an aiseag leis a' ghèadh 's thill e. Thug e leis an sguab thar an aiseag 's dh'fhàg e'n sin e 's thill e leis a' ghèadh. Thug e leis an sionnach thar an aiseag. Dh'fhàg e'n sionnach 's an sguab 's thill e aon uair eile 's thug e leis an gàadh thar an aiseag 's bha iad uile aige an sin gu tèaruinte.

**19. Toimhseachan: Roinn an Uisge-Bheatha.**

Bha dhà fhear a fhuair ochd galainn uisge-bheatha, ceithir gluain gach fear. Cha robh aca airson a roinn ach buideal a h-ochd, buideal a còig, agus buideal a trì. Dé nis mar roinneadh iad e?

Llon iad fear nan trì buideil, agus chuir iad sin ann am fear nan còig. Llon iad fear nan trì a rithist, agus as a so chuir iad a dhà ann am fear nan còig, leis na trì a chuireadh ann roimhe. Bha nis aon air fhàgail ann am fear nan trì. Chuir iad an sin fear nan còig air ais gu fear nan ochd, agus chuir iad an t-aon a bha air fhàgail ann am fear nan trì, ann am fear nan còig. Llon iad an sin fear nan trì, á fear nan ochd, agus chuir iad sin ann am fear nan còig,

leis an aon a bha ann. Bha an t-uisge-beathais air a roinn aca, le ceithir galain ann am buideal nan cóig, agus ceithir eile ann am buideal nan ochd.

## 20. Bristhraisg, Dinneir agus Suipeir.

Tha an cluich so gu h-àraidh airson nan caileagan. Seasaidh an dà “Bhana-Cheannard,” fa chomhair a chéile, a’ beirsinn air làmhnan sinte a chéile. ‘Nuair a their iad “Bristhraisg” thig càch ‘nan sreath singilte, a’ beirsinn air gùintean a chéile agus ag gabhail òrain shunndaich, fo ghàirdeanan an dà Bhana-Cheannard. ‘Nuair a tha iad uile air dol seachad their an dà Bhana-cheannard “Dinneir.” agus theid càch mu’n cuairt agus thig iad fo an gàirdeanan a rithis: an sin, “Suipeir”; “Glan do chasan”: agus, mu dheireadh “Rach fo’n phlaide.” Air an ruith so, ‘nuair a thig a’chaileag mu dheireadh fo ghàirdeanan nam Bana-Cheannard, cuartaichidh iadsan le’n gàirdeanan i ag ràdh: “Glac.” Feòraichidh iad an sin dhith “Cìod a b’fhearr leat, uaireadar òir no uaireadar airgid (no ni-eigin eile mar a shònraicheadh roimhe); agus seasaidh am “priosanach” air chùl na té a roghnaich i a suaicheantas. An déidh do na h-uile an roghainn a gabhail mar so, bithidh deuchainn neirt eadar an dà bhuidhinn.

An àite dol ‘nan sreath singilte faodaidh a’chuideachd dol ‘nan caraidean. Mar a thig iad a mach fo ghàirdeanan nam Bana-Cheannard, dealaichidh iad ri chéile, an fheadhainn air an làmh dheis a’ tionndadh deiseal, agus an fheadhainn eile toisgeal, agus theid iad ‘nan sreathan singilte mar sin gus an coinnich iad a chéile a rithis aig ceann eile an t-seomair.

## CLEASAN A CHLUICHEAR A MUGH.

### 21. Ruith a’ Ghaduiche.

Bithidh fear de’n luchd-cluiche ‘na “Ghaduiche,” ‘s bithidh càch a’leigeil orra bhì faire àireamh de dh’adagan.

Their an Gaduiche:—

“Goididh mi aon as an adaidg,  
Goididh mi dhà an adaidg,  
Goididh mi trì an adaidg,  
Goididh mi ceithir an adaidg,  
Goididh mi cóig an adaidg,  
Goididh mi sè an adaidg,  
Goididh mi sgub mhòr nan cóig dual.  
Cò sam bith a chuala so, tarraing as.”

Falbhaidh e ‘na dheann an sin, ‘s ruithidh càch ‘na dhéidh e. Am fear a bheireas air, bithidh e ‘na Ghaduiche an ath ruith.

### 22. Deas, Deas, do Gheimhleach.

Bha so ‘na chluich roghainneach am Bearnaraidh ‘s na Hearadh. Tarruingear sgrìob mu dhusan slat air fhad. B’e so a’ “chrìoch.” Tarruingear cearcall mòr air dara taobh na crìche. B’e so a’ bhuaile mhòr anns an deachaidh an luchd-cluiche ach aon fhear a mhàin. Tarruingear cearcall beag air an taobh eile. B’e so a’ bhuaile bheag anns nach deachaidh ach aon fhear, agus “Ionnann” mar ainm air. Theirheadh esan:—

“Deas, deas, do gheimhleach,  
Ho-ro, rumpán,  
Mur bì thu mach  
Bithidh thu air do chrùnadh.”

Cho luath ‘s a bha so air innseadh, ruitheadh càch a mach as a’ bhuaile mhòir agus timchioll air ceann-eigin de’n chrìch, feuch am faigheadh iad seachad air a’ bhuaile bhig agus air ais gu ruig am buaile fhéin, ach a’ fuireach bho bhì dol thairis air a’chrìch, no eadar i ‘s a’ bhuaile bheag. B’e gnothach “Ionnain” beantainn do mhullach cinn fir sam bith de’n chuideachd mu’n ruigeadh iad a’ bhuaile mhòr. An fear a bhiodh air a chrinadh mar sin, bu “Ionnann” e air an ath ruith.

### 23. Crann an Dorus.

Air do chrìochan a bhì air an sònrachadh, seasaidh fear, agus “Hut” mar ainm air, ‘s a’ mheadhon, agus càch fa chomhair air an dara crìoch. Fear sam bith a ghairmeas “Hut” air ainm feumaidh e ruith thairis ga’chrìoch eile, agus beiridh “Hut” air ma’s urrainn da. Ma bheireas, gabhaidh am fear so àite “Hut”. Ach ma ruigeas am fear so a’ chrìoch eile, gairmidh e “Crann an dorus,” agus feumaidh càch an sin ruith thairis air ball. Ma bheireas “Hut” air fear, gabhaidh esan àite “Hut.” Mur a beir, toisichear as ùr gus an teid neach a ghlacadh.

‘S e is brìgh do’n chluich so gu bheil a chothrom aig an fhear a ruitheas thairis an toiseach, an car a thoirt as a chompanaich. An àite “Crann an dorus” faodaidh e a ràdh “Crann” an geata no “crann, an uinneag” no an rud a thogras e, agus ma dh’fhàgas neach a chrìoch mu’n faigh e an rabhadh ceart, is “Hut” e gus an glac e fear eile. Agus tha a thoil aig an fhear-ghairme, le bhì ag atharrachadh fuaim a ghutha, a chompanaich a mhealladh ma’s urrainn da.

### 24. Falach Fead.

Deanar cearcall no “buaile.” Taghar “Bodach” agus “Rìgh” le rann cunntadh-a-mach. Sgapaiddh càch gach rathad agus theid iad am falach. ‘S e is deas

do'n Rìgh an sgàil a chumail air sùilean a' Bhodaich gus am bi càch rèidh.

Gabhaidh an Rìgh an sin an rann so:—

“Glicean, glacan

Mo chuid chaorach.

Thig am madadh ruadh am màireach

'S bheir e leis na h-uile caora's fearr tha agam,

Ach caora dhubh fir an tighe,

'S caora ghlas na searbhanta.

Bheil am brochan tiugh fuar ?

Bheil am brochan tiugh fuar ?”

Mur 'eil iadsan deas, their fear aca “Cha'n 'eil am brochan tiugh fuar, 's cha bhi e fuar an diugh”: no ma tha iad deas, “Tha'm brochan tiugh fuar.” Bheir an Rìgh an sin an sgàil bho shùilean a' Bhodaich agus theid esan a mach air tòir an luchd-falaich. Cho luath 's a shaoileas e gu'm faic e fear dhiubh their e “Tha mi 'gad fhaicinn a (Dhòmhnuill Ghlais).” Ma tha Dòmhnall cinnteach nach eil am Bodach 'ga fhaicinn, cha toir e feart air. Ach ma tha, feumaidh e teicheadh feuch an toir e mach a' bhuaile mu'm beir am Bodach air. Glacaidh esan a mheadh 's is urrainn da, agus is an ath-Bhodach am fear mu dheireadh a ghlacas e.

25. Cluich a' Bhalgair.

Taghar fear luath mar “Bhalgair.” Bithidh càch nan “gadhair” 's bithidh “Maighstir” aca. Bheirear ceum math air toiseach do'n Bhalgair, 's tha a làn chead aige dol far an àill leis agus cho fad 's is urrainn da, gus falach-uain a dhèanamh orra. 'S iomadh car a chuireas am Bhalgair dheth mu'n dean na gadhair, fo stiùradh a' Mhaighstir, suas ris.

26. Lean an Ceannard.

'S e tha 'san amharc aig a' Cheannard 's a'chluich so, bhi cur nan car dheth le lethid de thapachd agus gu'm bi e thar comas a chompanach a h-uile car a tha aige a chur dhiubh. Falbhaidh esan an toiseach ag ràdh “Lean an Ceannard,” agus leanaidh càch e nan sreath singilte. Ni an Ceannard coiseachd, ruith, leum, car-a-mhuiltein—an aon fhacal, cleas sam bith a thogras e, agus feumaidh gach fear eile na cleasan ceudna dhèanamh coltach ris. Bheir e an rabhadh seachd o am gu h-am “Lean an Ceannard.” Cho luath 's a theid neach a bheag a nunn no a nall bharr lùtha a' Cheannard ann an cleas air bith, cuirear a mach e. Gabhaidh iad air adhart mar so gus am bi a h-uile fear a mach, no an Ceannard, fhéin air a chlaoidh.

27. Fàg, fàg an Nèapaicin-pòca.

Faodaidh na caileagan an cleas ud shuas (26) a chluich mar so:—Suidhidh a'chuideachd

astar beag o chéile, ach a' “Bhan-Rìgh” a mhàin; ni ise falbhan air ais is air aghaidh, agus nèapaicin-pòca aice 'na làimh, 's i 'g aithris:—

“Fàg, fàg an nèapaicin-pòca,

Tha chearc ag gur

'S tha phoit ag goil,

Aran is im is breacagan eorna,

Cò aig a bhios an nèapaicin-pòca ?”

An sin, air dhi a ràdh “Dùin do shùil is tog do cheann,” duinnidh càch an sùilean agus togaidh iad an cinn. Fàgaidh a' Bhan-Rìgh an nèapaicin air gnùis té de na caileagan agus falbhaidh i 'na deann. Leanaidh a'chaileag sin i, agus a h-uile car a chuireas a' Bhan-Rìgh dhith, feumaidh a' chaileag an cur dhith mar an ceudna. Ma ni i mearachd sam bith their càch “Loisg thu toll 'nad bhrochan,” agus cuirear a mach i. Ach ma bheireas i air a' Bhan-Rìgh mu'n dean i mearachd, is ise Ban-Rìgh an ath ruith.

28. Cartaidh na Buailean.

Comharraichear a mach aireamh de “bhuilean” astar o chéile—sòn bhuaile airson gach fir, ach am “Buachaille” a mhàin 's bithidh esan a mach anns a'mheadhon. 'Nuair a their am Buachaille “Cartaidh na buailean” feumaidh gach mac-màthar bhi mach as a'bhuaile, agus àite fhaotainn ann am buaile eile ma's urrainn da. Aig a' cheart ùm feuchaidh am Buachaille ri faotainn a steach an aon de na buailean, agus ma theid aige air sin bithidh am fear aig nach 'eil buaile, 'na “Bhuachaille,” agus tòisichear as ùr.

## CAMANACHD.

Gun teagamh is e so cluich nan Gàidheal. Bha O'Curry, duine a rinn rannsachadh mòr ann an sean eachdraidh agus sean sgeulachdas na h-Eireann, ag creidsinn gu'n robhas 'ga chluich 'san dùthaich sin 1272 bliadhna roimh theachd Chrìosd! Biodh sin mar a dh'fhaodas e, is cinnteach gu'n robh na Gàidheil ag “iomain,” no a' cluich Camanachd, cho fad air ais agus a tha eachdraidh a'dol. 'Nuair a bheir sinn, ma-tà, urram dligheach na h-aoise dhi, agus a bheir sinn faineag gur cluich i a tha tagradh bho a luchd-leanmhainn neart agus luathais, fulangais agus gleusdachd—an aon fhacal, na buadhan fearail a bha riann dualach do na Gàidheil, chì sinn cho airidh 's a tha Camanachd air prìomh àite fhaotainn am measg cluichean Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Is iomadh atharrachadh a thàinig air Camanachd, seach mar a bha i 'ga chluich aig ar sinnsrean, 'nuair a thionndaidheadh iad a

mach 'nan ceudan mu àm na bliadhna ùire—a h-uile mac màthar 's a cheann-dùthcha eadar balach ronnach agus braisiche de bhodach liath, a dh'iomain air faiche a bha gu tric leth-mhille air fhad, far am faodadh tu am ball a bhreabadh no eadhon a ghhlìan leat, fhad 's a chumadh tu o dhùin' eile e. Ach ged a tha a' chluich a nis air a cuairteachadh le riaghailtean teann, neo-ar-thaing mur 'eil an aon spiorad 'ga nochdadh ann is a bha an làithean na Féinne. Tha riaghailtean a' Chomuinn-Chamanachd air an cur sìos 'san leabhran so an Gaidhlig, agus bu chòir an leantainn cho fada 's a ghabhas sin dèanamh.

Gu freasdalach tha greim làidir aig Camanachd air a' Ghàidhealtachd fhathast. Tha sin furasda fhaicinn a h-uile là a bhios bàir 'ga cluich ann an comb-stri nan Cupan-Camanachd: chan 'eil féill air an dùthaich a tharruingeas a choimhlonn dhaoine, sean is òg, an aon àite. Agus an iomadh clachan agus baile beag, is gann a chì sibh balach a mach air dorus gun a chaman aige 'na làimh, 's e ag iomain a h-uile rud a ghabhas buaidh. Ach ged a tha sin mar sin, chan 'eil Camanachd cho coitchionn an diugh air feadh na Gàidhealtachd agus a bu chòir dhi bhì. An sud is an so, tha ball-coise a' tolladh a stigh, seadh, ann an iomadh cearn a tha fad is cian o'n Ghaldachd—agus is bochd agus is maslach an sgeul sin. Tha ball-coise math gu leòir 'na àite fhéin ach chan i a' Ghàidhealtachd a àite! Cha do ghabh na h-Eileanan gu làidir ri ball-coise fhathast, ach gu mi-fhortanach chan 'eil iomain ach ainneamh aig na balaich, ni nach iongantach agus gun choille aca 'sam faigh iad caman.

Tha fìor chion-fàth ann, ma-tà, airson gu'm biteadh a'dèanamh oidhirp àraidh air cluich a tha cho gasda, fearail, agus cho dualach do na Gàidheil, a thoirt air ais gu a h-àite dlìgheach. Tha sinn ag guidhe gu dhrachdach oirbh, luchd-stiùraidh Comunn na h-Oigridh air feadh na dùthcha, Sgioba Camanachd a chur air bonn far an comasach e: agus ni sinn na's urrainn duinn a chuideachadh leibh.

Tha Iain Mac a' Phearson, "Sporting Stores," Inbhirnis, air aon de na Ceannaichean-chaman is fear a tha ann. Gheibhear caman hickory bhuaithe air 6 tasdain: ach is dòcha gu'm bheil sin tuilleadh is daor, agus tha e reic camain de gheanmchno (chestnut) air oechd sgill inn deug is math is fhìach a' phris. Faodar innsadh gu bheil an duine gasda so ag gealltainn dà sgillinn a thoirt bharr pris gach camain a cheannaicheas Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Ach 'na dhéidh sin uile, nach b'fhearr gu mór na'n dèanadh a h-uile balach an Comunn na h-Oigridh a chaman fhéin far an comasach e? Tha so furasda gu leòir air tìr-mór na Gàidhealtachd, far am bheil failleanan uinnsinn

is calltuinn am pailteas anns na coilltean: chan 'eil obair as fhearr do bhalach tapaidh, agus faobhar gear air a' sghìthinn, na bhì a' snagaireachd air aon diùb sin ri là fhìuch—nach e bhios pròiseil ag iomain le caman de a obair-làimhe fhéin? Chan 'eil seirbhìs as gasda a b'urrainn do Bhuideann de Chomunn na h-Oigridh air tìr-mór a dèanamh (an déidh camain a dhèanamh dhaibh fhéin), na bhì gabhail os làimh aon dà dhusan de chaman a dheasachadh agus an cur a dh'ionnsuidh Buidhne an aon de na h-Eileanan Siar.

(Ri leantainn.)

## BOOK REVIEW.

**An Laoideadair (The Gaelic Hymnary).** Edited by Rev. Malcolm Macleod, M.A., and Robert Macleod, Mus. Bac. Published by the Church of Scotland Committee on Publications. xiv + 175 pp. Engraved and Printed by Aird & Coghail, Ltd. Price 1/-.

This welcome volume meets a need which has been long felt, the need for an appropriate aid to devotion which would properly represent the Gael's faculty of expressing in suitable words and melodies the deep religious feelings of his nature. The volume is refreshing in that it is practically a new kind of book. In his brief preface, the Gaelic editor, Rev. Malcolm Macleod, states that the hymns were collected with much care by three Gaelic scholars who are with us no more—the Rev. Malcolm Macleannan, D.D.; the Rev. George W. Mackay, D.D.; and the Rev. Malcolm N. Munro, M.A. Mr. Macleod's own contribution has been the general preparation of the Gaelic text for the press; and, needless to say, he has done this most efficiently. The selections shows a wide scope; it has been judiciously made from the abundant field of sacred verse in Gaelic, which reveals the various aspects of the religious life of the Gael.

The musical editor has brought to his task a trained musical judgment and a mature knowledge of Gaelic music in general. For many years he has adjudicated at Gaelic Mods, and has thus had occasion to analyse the structure of the folk-melody of the Gael. The relation between folk-melody and hymn-melody could not be more happily expressed than he has done in his short preface. He says: "Research seems to indicate that the fundamental emotions, in Gaelic at least, have selected for themselves appropriate intervals of sound, which provide a universal musical language for the Gael—a language which links him with his fellow-countrymen in a communion of spirit which he senses but cannot analyse. These intervals, when linked together by different rhythms, produce a musical phrase vocabulary comparable to a language vocabulary. By repetition and combination of these phrases, the folk-melody makes its appeal and secures its unity. Thus genuine Gaelic folk-melodies are in essence ideal hymn tunes because of their deeply rooted significance and introspective character."

All intelligent musical Gaels cannot but feel how deeply we are indebted to Mr. Macleod for his wonderful interpretation he has given of our devotional music. The two editors have worked hand in hand to give us a little book, a great bargain at one shilling, which ought to be found in every Highland church, school, and home.

## PRESENTATION TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

An interesting function took place in the Grosvenor Restaurant, Gordon Street, Glasgow, on Thursday, 30th May, when Mr. Shaw, General Secretary, and his wife, were entertained by members and friends to mark the occasion of his recent marriage, and to express to him their gratitude for his long and valuable service to Gaelic during the past twenty-two years.

There was a large and representative company present, including several ladies and gentlemen who travelled considerable distances to attend. Mr. John R. Bannerman, president of An Comunn, occupied the chair, and after tea he delivered a characteristic address in both Gaelic and English. He referred to the success that had attended Mr. Shaw's work since his appointment. As organiser, his duties made him familiar with the whole of Gaeldom, and there was not a village or clachan in which he was not a welcome and esteemed visitor. Mr. Shaw was their ambassador who went forth carrying their message throughout the Highlands, and he was regarded by all Highlanders as their friend. The prestige of the Association was well maintained wherever he went. His intimacy with the intricacies of his office rendered his services invaluable, while his geniality and tact assured him of the full confidence of those who worked with him. An Comunn's trust in him had never been violated. He possessed the key that fitted the lock of every door connected with An Comunn's work. He was a singer, a bard, and a piper, and these gifts added to his other qualifications made him the ideal person for the appointment he held.

This day they were gathered to celebrate his recent marriage, and to wish him and his wife long life and happiness. They were well aware that Mr. Shaw did not go about with an empty mind or unobservant eye, and they were glad when he came to choose Miss Elizabeth Taylor as his partner in life. She was an active worker in Gaelic matters in Campbeltown, and was prominently identified with the Gaelic choir and the branch in the town, and would make a fitting helpmate for him.

When the suggestion that advantage be taken of Mr. Shaw's marriage to express their regard for him took tangible form, the ready response that was received to the circular from hundreds of Gaels, from Australia, Canada, and the home countries testified to the high regard in which Mr. Shaw was held, and on behalf of the subscribers, he had much pleasure in calling

on Mrs. Burnley Campbell of Ormidale, M.B.E. to make the presentation which consisted of a cheque for £140 and a volume—beautifully decorated in Celtic Art—containing the names of over four hundred contributors to the testimonial to Mr. Shaw, and a lady's dressing case to Mrs. Shaw.

The inscription on the Presentation Volume is as follows:—

Chaidh an leabhar so maille ri tiodhlacan eile a thoirt do Mhgr. Niall Mac 'Ille Sheathanaich, Runaire a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, aig am a phòsaidh, le buill de'n Chomunn mar chomharradh air am mór-mheas air mar dhùine agus air luach a shaothrach, agus is e an dùrachd gu'm bi sonas agus saoghal fada air a bhùileachadh air fhein agus air a chèile.

Gheibhear anns na duileagan a leanas ainmean na muinntir a chuidhich leis na tabhartasan so.

Gleschu, An Deicheamh la fhead de'n Chéitein, 1935.

In handing over these gifts, Mrs. Burnley Campbell expressed the pleasure it gave her to be present on this occasion. It brought back to her mind Mr. Shaw's appointment twenty-two years ago. She was a member of the Committee which considered the applications, and she was extremely glad that the confidence they then placed in Mr. Shaw had since been abundantly justified. His work, for which he was singularly fitted impressed them all. Everything he did seemed so easy to him. Always courteous and willing, he never appeared worried or bothered, and no matter how difficult a situation might be he always seemed to find the right way out. It was these qualities of tact and resourcefulness that made him so welcome everywhere he went. His presence always inspired confidence and they were grateful to him for all the services he had so well performed on behalf of the movement. It was an honour, of which she was proud, to be the medium of presenting the gifts to Mr. and Mrs. Shaw on behalf of all those whose names were inscribed in the volume. It was a happy thought to take advantage of his recent marriage to show their respect and esteem for him, and to express their appreciation of the energy and enthusiasm with which he discharged his duties. She wished him and Mrs. Shaw a long and happy married life.

In acknowledging these gifts, Mr. Shaw remarked that he felt exactly as he did twenty-two years ago, when, as a candidate for the Secretaryship of An Comunn he was asked by Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, who was then President, to address the Executive Council in support of his own application. It was an embarrassing

situation, words then seemed to fail him just as they did when now he endeavoured to return thanks for the generous expressions of appreciation that had been uttered this afternoon. What they had said about him provided him with a wonderful encouragement to go on with his work on behalf of the movement, and all it stood for, with renewed enthusiasm. It was a distinction of which he felt extremely proud, to be appointed organiser of An Comunn, and the work which he had been called upon to perform during these years carried with it many pleasant experiences. He had for many years been travelling all over the Highlands addressing meetings and forming branches and he was happy to say that the membership was annually increasing.

Some indication of the development of An Comunn, since his appointment, may be realised from the fact that in 1913 there were ninety branches, while last year there were one hundred and seventy. The greatest progress had, however, been made with the National and Provincial Mods. The first Provincial Mods were held in 1912, at Portree, and Tobermory. The first National Mod he attended was held at Rothessay in 1908, at which, there were four hundred and six competitors. It was a noteworthy fact, that the number of entries received in many of the Provincial Mods to-day exceeded the entries for the National Mod when he became secretary.

A tribute was paid to the assistance he received from successive Presidents and Conveners of Committees, and also from members of the office staff, and Mr. Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser. Mr. Shaw concluded by thanking his many friends, on his own and his wife's behalf for the splendid gifts they had this day so generously presented to him.

Among the others who spoke on Mr. Shaw's worth and work were: Miss Campbell of Inverneil, M.B.E., Convener, Art and Industry Committee; Capt. George I. Campbell, Yr. of Succoth; Rev. Angus Duncan, B.D., Kilmeny; Rev. Alexander MacDonald, M.A., St. Columba Church, Glasgow; Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Robert Macfarlane, C.A., J.P., Treasurer; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., F.S.A., Convener, Education Committee; Dr. A. C. Morrison, Edinburgh; and Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., Edinburgh.

At the close of the proceedings, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod proposed votes of thanks which were cordially given to the Chairman, to Mrs. Burnley Campbell, who had travelled specially from Ormidale to be present; to Dr. Colin Sinclair who was responsible for the very artistic book

containing the names of subscribers; to Mr. Robt. Macfarlane and Mr. Hugh McPhee on whom the work connected with the presentation had mainly fallen, and to the Subscribers who had so generously responded to the Committee's appeal.

During the proceedings, Mr. Bannerman read the following poem which had been specially written for the occasion by Mrs. Catherine Urquhart, North Kessock, the first lady to receive the bardic prize, and who was crowned at last year's annual Mod at Oban.

AN T-USAAL NIALL MAC GILLE SHEATHANAICH.  
A' dìreadh an tulaich gu'm b'èagsaidh do chéum,  
An deise nan Gàidheal ro-ionmhuinn do bhéus;  
Do phearsa mar ghaisgeach am maise do chéis,  
Do shùil ghorm chridheil a' tàladh nan téud.

Bha iomairt do dhìlseachd an cànan ar tir  
'N a mhil air a taruing bhò ionmhas do chridh',  
Troimh uisg' agus iobair gun charraid ach sith,  
Thog thu 'Ghaidhlig gun mhearachd 'na  
h-aidmheil 's an tir.

Bha urram na h-uaisleachd 'n ad ghluasad 's 'n  
ad réis  
Agus briathran a' ghliocais a' sileadh 'o d'  
bhéul;  
Bha solus do spioraid a' stiùireadh do chéum  
Thar fuar-bheann is monadh gu cala na réit'.

Gu ma sealbhach is sona le sòlas gun éis  
A' mhaighdean ghlan shnasail a thagh thu le  
spéis,  
Le beannachd gach caraid an Alba gu léir  
'Ur n-éirigh 's 'ur laighe 'na anail bhò Neamb.

Cleas saoi agus naoimh chaidh troimh Alba le  
'n créud  
'Na chrann-brataich do mhuineal a' briosgadh  
le éud,  
Gus a' Ghaidhlig a thogail thar inbhe na Feinn',  
'S neo-bhàsmhor do mheas anns na linntean  
'n ad dhéidh.

## BRANCH REPORT.

LISMORE.—The annual general meeting of the local Branch was held in the Public Hall on Friday evening, the 14th June. The Rev. D. Bell, B.D., The Manse, local president, presided. Touching references were made to the death of the late Miss Mary Macintyre, public school teacher, and to the manner in which she discharged the duties of secretary-treasurer to the Branch. The meeting agreed to record an expression of its sincere sorrow and sympathy on account of the loss sustained by Miss Macintyre's death. Office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year. Rev. D. Bell, president, and Miss Mary M. Maccorquodale, secretary-treasurer.



## COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

AR COMUNN A NIS 'NA NI BEO.

Thubhairt duine a bha sgrìobhadh mu Chomunn na h-Oigridh nach bitheadh e 'na ni beo gun am bitheadh còthrom aig na Feachdan cruinneachadh le chéile. Sin an rud a thachair fa-dheòidh, agus is ann a dh' fhaodas sinn a nis a radh gu'm bheil ar Comunn beo an da-rìreadh.

## CRUINNEACHADH AN EILEIN SGITHEANAICH.

Gun a bhi idir airson urram a thoirt a dh'aon roinn-dùthcha seach roinnean eile, is e so an t-aona Chruinneachadh a b'urrainn domh a fhreasdal mì-fheinn, agus am fear bu mhotha bha aig a' Chloinn gu léir am bliadhna agus mar sin bheir mi iomradh beag air mar a chaidh leinn an là ud, Di-Sathuirne an 15mh. de'n Ogmhios. Agus sinne bha fortanach, chionn a dh'aindeoin neòil ghruamach 's a'mhaduinn cha do nochd a' cheud charbad mór am foireann Caisteal Dhunbheagain mu'n robh a'ghrian a' dearrsadh oirnn, rud a rinn i fad fin foineach an latha àluinn ud. Chruinnich suas ri dà cheud air an raon-cluiche agus cha b'fhada gun an robh na caileagan le'n taodain-sùrdaig ag cur nan car dhiubh, agus na balaich le'n camain a'dol am badaibh a chéile. An sin chaidh sinn sìos 'nar buidhnean, deich ar fhichead ma seach, a dh'ionnsuidh a' Chaisteil, agus gu là ar bàis cha di-chuimhnich aon againn an fhàilt 's am fuan suilbhearna a chuir Baintighearna Flora 'Nic Leòid a' Chaisteil oirnn. Bha i fhein a' fhreasdal do gach aon dhinn, 's ag radh gu'n robh e'n dà chuid 'na thoilintinn agus 'na urram leatha sin a dhèanamh. Bu mhór an obair a bha aice fhein agus aig a daoine 'gar seòladh, buidheann as déidh buidhne, troimh'n Chaisteal air fad, a'leigeil ris dhuinn uile ionmhasan agus iongantasan, 's a' m'neachadh dhuinn gach eachdraidh a b'annasaiche na chéile mu'n togail mhiorbhuilich sin, a tha gun a coimeas an Albainn. Cha ghabh iad cuntas, no eadhon iomradh orra an so, ach air mo shon fhein dheth 's iad na nithean as mò a dhruidh orm, dealbhan Clann Leòid air na mùrean, an toll-dubh, peiteag a' Phrionnsa, a' bhratach-shithe agus an sealladh a fhuair sinn air a' Chaisteal bho thaobh na mara. Agus bhual an smaoin a'm inntinn, nach math is airidh macneamna na h-Oigridh a bhi air a dhùsgadh gu fosrachadh dìleab an dualchais, 'na leithid so de shean ghrèadhachas!

Chaidh sinn an sin air a dh'ionnsuidh na raoin-cluiche. Thòisich na cleasan, agus, ma

thòisich, cha do gsuir iad gu seachd uairean feasgar. Bha réisean ann de gach seòrsa, agus leum-an-aird airson gach aois is gach gné. Bha comhrag-iomain eadar na còig Feachdan, agus ma bhunnig Dunbheagan air a'cheann thall, bha an dìol aca, air tàilleamh a' ghille bhig ghleusda ud a rinn na h-euchdan barraichte air taobh Feachd Bhearnasdail. 'Na dhéidh sin 's iad an dà rud a b'fhearr a bh'againn, réis mùthadh-each nam balach agus réis thrì-chasach nan caileagan—bheireadh iad sin air a' ghobhlan-gaoithe fhein. Bhunnig Dunbheagan an "Tug-o-war," ach chuir na Feachdan beaga gu foghainteach 'nan aghaidh, a réir an cudthrom.

Fhuair sinn ar sàth de the 's de bhiaidh fallain, blasda, agus an déidh nan duaisean a thoirt seachad thug Mgr. Domhnall Mac Phail taing chridheil do gach aon a chuidich ann an obair an latha mhóir a bh' againn. Cha bu bheag an t-saothair sin, agus air Mgr. Ramage, Ceann-Feachd Bhearnasdail a thuit an tromlach: ach is e fhein a dh'aontaich gu fialaidh cho dìchiollach 's a bha na Cinn-Feachd agus cairdean eile air a chùl, gu h-àraidh Mgr. Friseal, Dunbheagan. Bhruidhinn mi fhein tacan, agus labhair an Còirneal MacDhomhnuill, Tobhta, ruinn mu chaoimhneas Baintighearna a' Chaisteil. Bha e 'na aobhar tlachd duinn uile gu'n robh an Còirneal còir leinn fad an latha. Caraid na's dìlse chan 'eil aig Comunn na h-Oigridh. 'S e fhein a thug aoidheachd dhomb-sa 's do Mhgr. MacPhail fhad 's a bha sinn anns an Eilean. An sin, sgap sinn gach rathad, an déidh latha nach dìchuimhnich aon a bha lathair, agus mo làmh dhuibh-se gu'n robh iomadh ceann gu turra-chadalach mu'n robh na carbadan mòra aig an ceann-uidhe.

## CRUINNEACHAIDHEAN EILE.

Cha mhór an fios a fhuair mi fhathast mu na Cruinneachaidhean eile. Ach bha cuirm-chnuic air leth taitneach air là geal grianach aig Feachdan Bagh a' Chaisteil agus Bagh a Tuath air tràigh Allasdail am Barraidh. Fhuaras sgeul a' bho'n Mhgn. Nic Adhaimh, Aird-Ghobhair, mu'n là ghasda a bha aig Feachdan Aird nam Murchan. Cha'n e mhàin gu'n robh spors gu leòir aig na h-uile, ach tha i 'g radh gu'm bheil barrachd suim aig an Oigridh do dh'obair a' Mhòid, agus aig am Parantan do Chomunn na h-Oigridh gu léir, air tàilleamh a'chruinneachaidh so bh'aca. Mo laochain sibh-se, Clann Aird nam Murchan! Tha sibh a'leigeil ris do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach nach ann an domhain a dh'fhosgail iad iallan an sporain dhuibh.

Aig a' choinneimh mu dheireadh de Chomhairle Clann an Fhraoich thug an Rùnaire aithisg gu'n deachaidh snath is obair-ghreis a chur gu ceithir Feachdan deug a chum feum nan Caileagan. Tha a' Chomhairle ag iarraidh gu'm bi Féillean air a cumail le gach Feachd, aig am bi obair-làimh nan Caileagan air fhòlseachadh. Ma reicead dad 'sam bith dheth so is còir an t-airgid a chur ri creideas Comunn na h-Oigridh anns gach Feachd fa leth. Bheir an Rùnaire fa chomhair Chomhairle 'Ghniomhachais is nan Ealdhain mu fhòilseachadh na h-obrach so aig a' Mhòd Mhór (ach i bhi Gaidhealach 'na dealbh 's 'na gné), agus ma ghabhas a' Chomhairle sin ris theid roghainn na h-obrach a tha 'ra fhòilseachadh fhàgail aig na Bana-Cheannardan anns gach Feachd.

A thaobh so, tha mo thaing chridheil aig na Caileagan modhail sin anns na Feachdan a chuir litir chugam a dh'innseadh dhomh cho toilichte 's a bha iad leis na nithean a fhuair iad o'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach.

Tha a' Chomhairle ag cliùthachadh gu'n teid leth-bhreac de'n "Ghaidheal" gach mìos a chur gu na Ceannardan agus na Bana-Cheannardan, cho math ris na Cinn-Feachd a tha 'ga fhaotuinn mar tha. Bheir so còthrom na's fearr dhuibh uile a bhi leughadh gach mìos mu na tha dol ann an Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Biodh na Cinn-Feachd anns na h-Ard-sgoilean a' toirt an aire dha so:—Dh'antaich a' Chomhairle gu'n gabhadh iad ri Paipearan-ceasnachaidh an Ard-fhoghlum airson nan Ard-sgoilean, an Gaidhlig, (i) Day School Higher and (ii) Third Year Post-Qualifying. Mar dhearbhadh air airdheachd buill Chomunn na h-Oigridh air na braistean as àirde inbhe—(i) Làn-Ghaidheal agus (ii) Sàr-Gaidheal (ma's fearr leo sin an àite nam Paipearan-ceasnachaidh a tha Chomhairle Clann an Fhraoich ag cur a mach.)

Bha fiughair agam luaidh air mo thurus gu Barraidh agus Uidhist a Deas an so, ach tha taobh-duilleig Comunn na h-Oigridh air cur thairis cheana agus 's fheadar dhomh feitheamh gu an ath-mhìos. Sgùirdh mi le innseadh dhuibh mu'n ghnìomh fhialaidh a rinn Mgr. Alasdair MacLachlainn, Tobar-Mhuire; chuir e còig Puinnd Shasunnach chugam a chum ar n-obair an Comunn na h-Oigridh a chuideachadh. Gu'n leanadh iomadh Gaidheal eile a dheagh-eisimpleir.

SEORAS GALLDA.

## UIDHIST A TUATH.

Bha a' cheud Chuirm-Chnuic a chaidh a dheasachadh ann an Uidhist air a cumail anns a' Bhailehear, air Di-Sathuirne, an ochdamh là de'n og Mhios. Thainig buidhnean de chloinn agus de chairdean á Cairinish agus á Loch-nam-Madadh gu bhi ag cur seachad latha sunndach comhla ri comunn a' bhaile so le farpais is fearas-chuideachd. Bha còrr is leth-cheud sgoilear agus mu'n aireamh cheudna de inbhich cruinn air an raon aig an tigh sgoile. B'e iomain a' chluich a b'araide a bha air a' chlár, agus thug na gillean òga as na trì buidhnean cunntas math orra frein anns a' cheud fharpais iomaineachd a chaidh fhaicinn an Uidhist bho chionn iomadh bliadhna. Thaitinn sgiobaltachd nam balach leis na camain, ni nach b'aithne dhaibh a laimhseachadh bho chionn beagan mhìosan, gu mor ris an luchd-amhairc, agus tha dochas fhathast gu'n tig cluich na h-iomaine air ais gu Uidhist tre na balaich thapaidd a tha nis 'ga cleachdadh 's na sgoilean. Chord draghadh-na-saille (tug of war) gu ro mhath ris na chunnaic an spàirn a bha na laoch bheaga ag cur air an ròpa, agus cha b'e an deoin le taobh seach taobh gilleadh. Bha biadh mòr air ullachadh gu h-òrdail agus fhuair a' Chloinn uile an sàth. Chaidh an cumail ann am fonn le puirt aigeannach air a' phìob-mhoir aig amannan, 's i chaidh rompa 'nuair a chaidh an còmhlan tlachdmhor so ma sgaoil. Chaidh na duaisean a thoirt seachad leis a' mhgdn usail Nic Dhomhnuill, á Cairinish, agus dh'antaich Mgr. MacLeod, Loch-nam-Madadh leatha ann a bhi a' toirt taing chridheil do Chomunn a' Bhailehear air son gach doigh a ghabh iad gu bhith deanamh an latha soirbheachail. Is e ar dùrachd gu'm bi a' Chuirm-Chnuic so 'na ni bliadhnaid aig Comunn na h-Oigridh an Uidhist, agus gum bi iad a' dol nas fearr gach bliadhna.

## CLANN AN FHRAOICH.

### GAELIC PLAYS FOR CHILDREN.

A first prize of £3 3/-, and a second prize of £2 2/-, are offered for Gaelic Plays suitable for children. Prizes presented by Mr. George E. Marjoribanks.

The Plays should be in One Act, with the minimum of Stage Scenery, and take about 20 minutes to perform.

Entries must reach the Secretary, 212 West George Street, Glasgow, C.2, not later than 31st August, 1935.

### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Provincial Mods are now being held throughout the country. During the course of the month I had the privilege of being present at the Dalriada Mod at Lochgilphead, which occupied two days, the Perthshire Mod at Aberfeldy, the Islay Mod at Bowmore, and the Ardnamurchan Mod at Strontian, while Mr. MacPhail attended the East Sutherland Mod at Brora, the Lewis Mod at Stornoway, the Skye Mod at Portree, and the South West Ross and Glenelg Mod at Kyle. The Lorn and Mull Provincial Mod was also held at Oban during the month. These Mods perform a valuable service in stimulating and maintaining a live interest in Gaelic matters, in their respective districts, and we are much indebted to the Local Committees who make all the arrangements.

\* \* \*

Mr. MacPhail sends us an interesting account of his visit to the East Sutherland Provincial Mod at Brora. A gratifying feature was the increased entries received in all sections; particularly in the junior oral competitions. The special Gaelic competition to encourage the practice of parents and children conversing in Gaelic in the home, which was held for the first time, aroused much interest. This is the type of competition we would like to see included on the syllabus of all Provincial Mods and we shall be glad to give details concerning it to anyone desiring particulars.

\* \* \*

At the concert which followed the Mod in the evening, many well-known Gaels travelled from such far distant places as Durness, Kinlochberrie, and Thurso, to attend. Sir Alfred N. MacAulay, who was to have presided at the concert, was unable to do so, as he was then under doctor's orders. He, however, called at the hall during the day and received a great ovation. This was his first public appearance since receiving his knighthood. It was a pleasing tribute from his own people.

\* \* \*

The Northern Sub-Committee are endeavouring to have the Gaelic Competitions at the Northern Counties Musical Festival held during one day. At present, these competitions are spread over the three days of the Festival, and it is felt that more interest would be attached to the Gaelic items, if a day of the proceedings was set aside for them.

\* \* \*

The Feill promoted by the Local Committee, at Edinburgh, in aid of the National Mod funds

was most successful. The proceeds will constitute a gratifying addition to the funds already in hand. We would like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who assisted at the various stalls and to Miss Whigham, LL.B., and Mrs. John Bain, who acted as Convener, and Vice-Convener respectively. It was a splendid effort.

\* \* \*

In a few days we shall be busily engaged with Mod entries. The closing date for these is 20th July. It would be appreciated if competitors, who have already decided to go forward, would send in their names as soon as possible. The practice of leaving this important matter to the last moment adds considerably to the work of the office. We would earnestly solicit the assistance of competitors in this direction.

\* \* \*

Another important matter is, that competitors should remember that no individual entries will be accepted for Competition 46, which is specially reserved as the final test for the Mod Gold Medal awards. This competition is confined to the six competitors of each sex, who stand highest in the "Oran Mor" No. 47 and 48, and the "James Grant" competition No. 49. Will competitors please make a note of this.

\* \* \*

We are always very glad to receive reports from our overseas readers. In a letter from the Rev. D. Maclean Sinclair, he informs us of a considerable revival of interest in the language and literature of the Highlands in Eastern Prince Edward Island, due chiefly to the efforts of the Gaelic Society of Orwell Head, which was organised last winter, with Mr. R. C. MacLeod, as President, and Mr. Walter Ross, as Secretary. Ceilidhs were held fortnightly in the homes, with an average attendance of thirty-five, ranging in age from twenty to eighty-four. The language was studied under the direction of Rev. D. MacLean Sinclair. The most part of each evening was spent studying grammar, while the remaining time was occupied with Gaelic songs and readings. The society closed for the session with a Gaelic service in the Orwell Head United Church, at which there were more than three hundred present. The sermon was preached by Mr. MacLean Sinclair, and the praise was led by Mr. John S. Martin, Uigg. It is hoped to continue the Ceilidhs in the autumn with an increased membership. Gaelic classes were also conducted by Mr. MacLean Sinclair, throughout the winter in Heatherdale, another section of his. As a result of the

enthusiasm created by the work of this society, and the widespread influence of the classes, many enquiries were received from all over Canada about suitable text-books for similar classes in other areas.

\* \* \*

Another letter has been received from Rio de Janeiro. Mr. Donald MacKay, a Highlander, who writes a good Gaelic letter, is anxious to perfect his knowledge of the language. He would like if some of our members would correspond with him, and assist him in his desire. We trust some of our readers will respond to this appeal. Mr. MacKay's address is—Caixa Postal 989, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil.

\* \* \*

The Treasurer desires to thank the members who have so promptly responded to the circular intimating that subscriptions for the current year, 1st June, 1935 to 31st May, 1936 are now due. It would be appreciated, if those who have not already done so, will kindly send their subscriptions to him as early as possible.

## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Chumadh coinneamhan de Iar Chomhairlean a' Chraobh Sgaolaidh agus an Fhoghlaim, an Inbhirnis, air a' cheud là de'n Og-mhios agus bha deichnear de na buill an lathair.

Thuir an t-Urr. Calum Mac Ileadhain gu'n robh iad uile toilichte am Fear-gairme fhacinn air an ceann a rithist agus gu'n robh iad an dòchas gu'm biodh e a' dol o neart gu neart.

Thug am Fear-deilbhe iomradh air a obair bho chruinnich a' Chomhairle mu dheireadh agus ghabhadh ris. Mhìnich e gach ullachadh a thatar a' deanamh airson Cuirmean Comunn na h-Oigrìdh 's an Taobh-Tuath. Tha Cuirm mhór gu bhi an Caisteal Dhun-Bheagain agus bidh aithisgean 'g an sgrìobhadh mu dheidhinn an latha sin mu'm bi au litir so an clò.

Bha Fo-Chomhairle a' Chraobh-Sgaolaidh de'n bheachd nach b'urrainn am Fear-Eagair a obair a dhanamh cho coimhlionta gum am biodh Cagar-céin (Telephone) 's an tigh aige agus rùnaich iad gu'n cuireadh iad iarrtas a dh' ionnsaigh Comunn a' Chraobh-Sgaolaidh, gu'm biodh sin air a dhanamh.

Chaidh Feachd ùr a chur air bonn 's an Drochaid Ruaidh agus tha nise 14 ceangailte ris a' mheur so, seachd gillean agus seachd caileagan. Bha Ceilidh ghlasda 's an Tigh-Sgoil 's an fhasgar agus euidich an Oigrìdh leis a' Chlar-Eagair gu pongail. Labhair Mgr. Mac Phàil air cùisean a bhùinneas do'n Oigrìdh.

Air an 23mh là de'n Chéitein, air iarrtas Rùnair Mòd Bhrùra, chaidh Mgr. Mac Phàil gu Cataobh agus chuir e an ordugh Clar-Eagair a' Mhòid sin. Chumadh an Mòd air Di-haoine, an 7mh là de'n Og-mhios agus is e so Mòd as soirbheachala bha an Taobh an Ear Chataobh fathast. Bha na Co-fharpaisichean lombhor agus bha e taitneach fhacinn gu'n robh aireamh cho mór a' leughadh agus ag aithris.

Bha Iain Og Mac Ille na Brataich 'na Fhearcathrach anns an Talla mhór ré an latha. Cha do chriochnaich na deuchairnean gu leth uair an deidh sè feasgar. Bha Cuirm-chiuil thogarrach ann an deidh sin agus bha an Talla mòc cho làn 's a chumadh e. Bha a' Bhean-usal Nic Uilleim anns a' chathair agus thug an Coirneil Gunnach seachad Oraid an Gaidhlig choimhlionta.

A bharrachd orra-san a choisinn duaisean aig a' Mhod, chuidich Iain Og agus Bhalter Ros le bhi seinn Oran agus thug Bean Iain Og seachad na duaisean.

Tha taing A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich aig luchd-comhairle a' Mhoid so airson na h-obrach shonruichte a tha iad a' deanamh, agus gu h-àraidh aig Mgr. Daibhidh Grand, An Runair, agus Mgr. Alasdair Sutharlanach, an t-Ionmhasair.

### An Airde Deas.

Bha an Runaire an lathair aig fosgladh na Feille moire a bha an Dun Eideann air an là mu dheireadh de mhios a' Cheitein. Chumadh an Fheil so le Comhairle Ionadail a' Mhoid agus dhiol i dhoibh gu tàbhachdach air son gach saothair a chleachd iad 'na h-uidheamachadh. Dh'fhosgladh an Fheil, air a' cheud là, le Baintighearna Lochiall agus mar is gnath leatha thug i oraid ghlasda seachad. Chaidh an Fheil fhosgladh air an làrn-a-mhàireach le Fionghall nic Leoid nan Leòdach.

Bha an Runaire an lathair aig Coinneimh an Dun Eideann air an treas là de'n Og Mhios, agus a bha ris aig coinneamhan seasmach an Glaschu air a' cheathramh agus an coigeamh là.

Chaidh Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich gu Mod Dhairiada, an Ceannt Lochgillb air an aoba là deug. Bha latha na h-Oigrìdh for thaitneach gu h-àraidh an ròinn an leughadh is na h-aithris. Cha robh uidhir de na h-inbhich erwin is a b'abhaist, ach rinneadh obair mhathe leosan a fhrithheil. Bha a' Bhean Usal Nic Ghilleathain Aird-Ghobhair anns a' chathair aig Cuirm Chiuil na h-oigrìdh agus Baintighearna Ealasaid Chaimbeul aig Cuirm Chiuil nan Inbheach.

Bha an Runaire an lathair aig Mod Sierramachd Fhairte an Obair-Pheallaidh, air

a' cheathramh là deug. Cha robh uidhir chomh-fharpaiseach 's an lathair 's a bha am Baile Chloichridh an uridh, ach thug na bha ann rogha 's taghadh aithris is ceòl do'n chuideachd ghasda a bha cruinn. Bha am breitheamh làn toilichte leis an leughadh agus leis an aithris. Mur bitheadh am Mod bliadhnaid so cha bhiodh staid na Gaidhlig ach gle iosal an Siorramachd Pheairt.

#### EDINBURGH MOD DONATIONS.

Previously acknowledged ... ..	£423	2	3
<b>Received at Head Office—</b>			
Bute Branch ... ..	3	0	0
Dunoon Branch ... ..	2	2	0
Oban and Lorn Association ... ..	3	0	0
Aberdeen Branch ... ..	3	3	0
Mrs Marjoribanks, Sonachan ... ..	0	5	0
Alex. Duncan, Esq., Manchester ... ..	1	1	0
Clachan (Lochbroom) Branch ... ..	1	0	0
A. MacFadyen, Esq., Benton ... ..	0	5	0
Walter MacFadyen, Esq., Brookfield ... ..	0	5	0
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Major A. Fraser, Findhorn ... ..	0	5	0
Colin Paterson, Esq., Campbeltown ... ..	0	5	0
Malcolm MacCallum, Esq., Balfour ... ..	0	15	0
Miss F. M. E. Brereton, Inverness ... ..	0	5	0
Col. D. A. MacVean, Kichrenan ... ..	0	10	0
Miss Susan MacKenzie, Luing ... ..	0	2	6
Lt.-Col. M. B. H. Ritchie, D.S.O., Laggan ... ..	1	0	0
Duncan MacCowan, Esq., Luing ... ..	0	2	6
Mrs. N. G. Lumsden, Dingwall ... ..	0	5	0
Lochgilphcad Branch ... ..	2	2	0
<b>Received at Edinburgh—</b>			
Net Drawings at Grand Highland Feil in St. Cuthbert's Halls, Edinburgh, organised by Mod Local Committee	1102	8	3
Proceeds of Gaelic and English Play, produced by Mr and Mrs D. J. Laing, Edinburgh, and Dance in Oddfellows Hall, Edinburgh ... ..	11	2	7
Mrs Louise W. Carnegie, Skibo Castle, Dornoch (for Mod Prize Funds) ... ..	10	10	0
Edinburgh Sutherland Association ... ..	10	0	0
Sir Alexander Grant, Bart. ... ..	5	0	0
Proceeds of Ceilidh per Miss C. B. Cameron, Glasgow ... ..	3	15	0
Donald Maclean, Esq., and Mrs Maclean, Edinburgh ... ..	2	2	0
Allan M. Matheson, Esq., Edinburgh ... ..	2	2	0
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W. G. Campbell, Esq., Thurso ... ..	1	1	0
D. C. Macintyre, Esq., Islay ... ..	1	1	0
James MacKillop, Esq., Islay ... ..	1	0	0
Ian A. Hunter, Esq., Islay ... ..	1	0	0
Edinburgh Gaelic Choir, per W. J. Maclean, Esq. (further donation)	1	0	0
Miss Helen A. Dudgeon, Musselburgh	1	0	0
Aberfeldy Branch of An Comunn ... ..	1	0	0
Mrs Matheson, Edinburgh ... ..	0	10	6
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W. L. Sleigh, Jun., Esq., Edinburgh ... ..	0	10	0
M. Macintyre, Esq., Islay ... ..	0	5	6
	<b>£1599</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>

#### MEAL A NAIDHEACHD.

Phòs Iain Og Inbhir-néill agus Mairead F. NicGhilleseathanaich air a' choigeamb là deug de'n Og-mhios. Tha sinn ag cur meal a naidheachd orra. H-uile là sona dhaibh, gun là idir dona dhaibh. Is fhada o dhearbh Iain L. Caimbeul gur Gaidheal is fìor Ghaidheal e. Chan eil mòran ann aig a' bheil barrachd ùidh ann an cor is an cànan nan Gaidheal na e; agus chan e mhàin gur h-àrd sgoilear Gaidhlig e—dhearbh e sin leis an leabhar mhòr fhoghlumte a chuir e mach, "Orain Bliadhna Thearlaich"—ach tha mothachadh aige air stidheachadh is feum nan Gaidheal, gu h-àraidh feadh nan Eileana. Tha sinn ag creidsinn nach eil aige ach toiseach toiseachaidh ann a bh' seasamh cànan is cùis nan Gaidheal anns gach dòigh. Bu dual dha sin.

Chan 'eil a bhean-nuadh-phosda ceum air dheireadh air. Ged a chaidh a togail an tùs a h-òige, an America, bha i a chòmhnaidh o chionn aireamh bhliadhnanach an Uidhist a deas, agus is grinn Gaidhlig bhinn bhlasda nan Eileana air a teangaidh. Mar bu dual do'n dithis aca is ann an Gaidhlig a bha h-uile facal de'n t-seirbhis-phòsaidh. Buaidh is piseach orra.

#### KINTYRE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The twelfth Kintyre Provincial Mod was held at Campbeltown on 9th and 10th May. There was a gratifying attendance of Junior competitors, and their work was of a very high standard.

Mr George E. Marjoribanks, Sonachan, presided over the Grand Concert on the closing evening.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Mr John A. Nicolson, M.A., and Mr. Neil Shaw, Glasgow. Music—Mr. Hugh Hunter, Mus.Bac., Rothesay.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:—

#### JUNIORS.

Oral Delivery.—Gaelic poetry reading—1, Mary Smith, Tayinloan. Prose reading—1, I. Richardson. Poetry recitation—1, Mary Smith. Dialogue—Anna MacDonald and I. Richardson. Prose recitation—1, Mary Smith.

Instrumental Music.—Pianoforte—1, Nan Wilkie, Lochgilphcad. Violin—1, George M'Nellan, Carradale.

English Solos.—Girls under 12—Flora Campbell, Carradale. Boys—Iain MacDonald, Campbeltown. Girls under 16—1, Etta Reppeke, Campbeltown. Boys—1, John M'Sporran, Campbeltown.

Gaelic Solos.—Boys—1, Iain MacDonald. Girls—1, Etta Reppeke. Boys and girls—1, Helen M'Lulich, Lochgilphcad.

Duet singing—John M'Sporran and Donald Campbell, Campbeltown.

Unison singing—Choir under 12 years—1, Kinloch School Choir. Under 16 years—1, Drumlemble Choir.

Choral singing (two-part harmony)—Drumlembie Choir. Unison singing (English choirs)—1, Grammar School Choir.

#### SENIORS.

Gaelic reading at sight—1, Isa MacDonald, Tayinloan. Poetry recitation—1, Isa MacDonald. Prose recitation—1, Isa MacDonald. Best original Gaelic speech—Isa MacDonald. Sgeulachd—Isa MacDonald. Scripture reading—1, Charles Reppke.

Gaelic solos—Women—1, Rose MacConnachie, Southend. Men—1, John M'Kendrick, Campbelltown. Men and women—1, Charles Reppke. Former first prize winners—1, William Galbraith, Carradale. Puirt a beul—1, William Galbraith.

English solos—Women—1, Rose MacConnachie. Men—1, Duncan M'Intosh. Duet singing—1, Mairi M'Dougall and William Buchanan, Carradale. Quartettes 1, Carradale No. 3.

Ladies' choirs—Drumlembie Choir. Mixed choirs (Gaelic)—1, Tarbert Choir. Mixed choirs (puirt a beul)—1, Carradale Choir. Mixed choirs (English)—1, Carradale Choir.



### THE LORN AND MULL PROVINCIAL MOD.

The above Mod was held in Oban on 6th June and attracted large attendances at each session. Mr. John MacDonald, President of the Oban Branch, presided over the closing concert in the evening.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Mr. Peter Fletcher, Oban; Rev. A. MacDonald, Ardchattan; Mrs. MacGregor, Oban; Mr. D. MacPherson, M.A., Appin; Rev. John Macpherson, M.A., Taynuilt, and Mr. Donald Thomson, M.A., Oban. Music—Mr. John MacDonald, Oban, and Mr. James Murray, L.R.A.M., Kingussie.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:—

#### JUNIORS.

Solo Singing.—Prescribed song—1, Margaret MacQueen, Easdale. Competitor's Choice—Girls—1, Margaret MacQueen; Boys—1, David MacQueen, Easdale. Under 12—1, Anna B. MacQueen, Easdale.

Reading.—A' Phìobaireachd Fhalaich—1, Hughina M'Kinnon, Salen. Competitor's Choice—1, Mary M'ulloch, Oban.

Reciting from memory—1, Donald M'Kechnie. Reciting Poetry—1, Minnie Stewart, Oban. Reading at Sight—1, Grace Campbell, Oban.

Duet—Competitor's Choice—1, Thomas Black and Mary Black, Oban.

Unison Singing—1, Oban High School Junior Choir.

#### SENIORS.

Solo Singing.—Prescribed songs—1, Ena A. M'Cowen, Luing. Female Voices—1, Ena A. M'Cowen. Male Voices—1 and 2 (equal), N. Campbell, Luing, and Hugh Lamont, Pennygael, Mull.

Reading at Sight.—Prose—1, Neil MacGill, Oban. Duet Singing—Competitor's Choice—1, Ina S. Urquhart and Rev. A. E. Anderson, Dalmally.

Reciting from Memory—Poetry—1, Ian MacDuffie. Dialogue—1, Miss Mairi MacLucas and Miss Stewart, Glenforsa, Mull.

Solo Singing of Puirt a Beul—1, D. Campbell, Easdale. Quartette Singing (Mixed Voices)—1, Luing Quartette. Choral Singing in Harmony—1, Easdale. Choral Singing (Females)—1, Oban. Choral Singing in Harmony (Lorn and Mull Mod Trophy)—1, Luing.

### EAST SUTHERLAND PROVINCIAL MOD.

The third East Sutherland Provincial Mod was held at Brora on 7th June. The number of entries was in advance of former years.

Mr. John M. Bannerman presided over the Mod proceedings, and Mrs. Wilson, Sunrise, presided over the grand concert in the evening.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Mr. Alasdair Fraser, M.A., Dingwall, and Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., Dunain Bridge. Vocal Music—Mr. D. T. Yacamin, Perth. Piping—Mr. Angus MacPherson, Inveran.

The following is a list of the first-prize winners:—

#### JUNIORS.

Vocal Solos—Girls under 11—1, Jean MacKay, Golspie. Girls over 11 and under 16—1, Sarah Ross, Embo. Boys over 11 and under 16—1, Edward MacRae, Brora. Vocal Duets—1, Mary and Hugh Robertson, Rogart.

Choral Singing—Sir Edgar Horne, Bt., Challenge Cup—1, Rowallan Junior Choir, Rogart. Puirt a Beul—Choirs—1, Embo Public School Junior Choir.

Gaelic Reading (Boys and Girls)—William MacKenzie, Golspie. Gaelic Conversation (Boys and Girls)—1, Alex. Morrison, Golspie. Gaelic Elocution (Repeating excerpts from the Bible)—1, Sarah Ross, Embo.

#### SENIORS.

Vocal Solos—Women—1, Miss Millie Henderson, Helmsdale. Men—1, John C. Ross, Golspie. Singing of Unpublished Gaelic Song—1, Kenneth MacPherson. Duets (Men and Women)—1, Halladale Duet. Quartettes—Brora Quartette. Choirs—1, Brora Senior Choir. Folk Songs—1, John Mackay, Halladale. Puirt a Beul—1, Hugh M. Macrae, Lairg.

Gaelic Literature—Essay on Local Historical Incident—Miss Christina A. S. Polson, Larachau. Gaelic Reading—1, Angus MacLean, Golspie. Gaelic Recitation—1, Christina A. S. Polson. Gaelic Narration—1, Hugh M. MacRae. Family Gaelic Conversation—John MacRae, wife, and family. Special Competition—1, Alick Morrison, Golspie.



### 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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Tilgeadh chlach, an t-òrd, 's an cabar,  
Ruith a' leum a' sealg nan càrn,  
Dannsaibh tullaichean gu lègharr,  
Ruidhle ceathar air an ùrlar.  
Gille-Calum agus seann-triubhais,  
'S bithidh sinn mar bha iad."

I. MacColla.

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Leabhar XXX.]

*An Lùnasdal, 1935.*

[Earrann 11

## AR FUIL IS AR FINE.

Is e Kuno Meyer nach maireann a thuir nach do chuir Gaidheal riamh cas an Alba ach bho bhàta a sheòl a Eirinn. Ghabhadh ris a' bheachd sin le sgoilear Gaidhlig cho ainmeil ris an Ollamh Alasdair Mac Ille Bhàin. Rinn esan na b'urrainn dha, maille ri sgoilearan clàiteach Gaidhlig eile, le sgrìobhadh is le òraidean, gu bhì a' cumail a mach gur ann a Eirinn a thainig na Gaidheil Albannach air tùs. Tha cuid de luchd foghlum ann aig am bheil tlachd ann a bhì ag innseadh dhuinn gu dian gur ann a Eirinn a fhuair sinn ar bith is ar beatha. Ged labhras Gaidheil Eirinn is Gaidheil Albann a' chàinain cheudna—eachdon Gaidhlig—am bheil sinn gu bhì a' reusanachadh uaidh sin gu bheil iad de'n aon fhuil? Cha bhiodh sin tùrail idir. Tha na miltean an diugh a bhruidhneas Beurla, de gach treubh agus fine, de gach dath air thalamh, buidhe is dubh, lachdunn is deatharra. Ach cò idir a bhiodh cho fada cli 'na dhoigh smuainichidh, is gun canadh e gum bu Shasunnaich na cinnich sin air fad. Air a' mhodh cheudna tha mì a' creidsinn nach ann air fianuis na càinain a mhàin is urrainn neach a ràdh gur ann a Eirinn a fhuair sinn ar dùthchas is ar sloinneadh.

\* \* \*

Bho chionn da fhichead bliadhna air ais is ann a réir gnè nan cainntean a bhatar a' toirt breith air sloinneadh nan sluagh; ciod e an treubh do 'm buineadh iad so; ciod e an fhuil de'n robh iad sud; agus sin a réir mar bha dealachadh eadar na càinain a bha iad a' labhairt. Ach mar bha fiosrachadh a' fàs thainig sgoilearan gu bhì a' mothachadh gu bheil nithean eile ann

a tha feumail mar theistean cho math ri càinain. Tha luchd rannsachaidh a nis a' cladhach làraichean nan seann bhailtean, agus a' sgrùdadh nan seann uaigean. Mar sin tha iomadh ni annasach a' tighinn am follais, mu ghnàthan aosda, iomadh rud sean is neònach, a tha ag innseadh gu soilleir mu inneachd is oilean is creideamh nam feadhnach a bha 'gan cleachdadh. Gabh mar choimeas chùis an t-Seann Tiomnaidh. Tha nithean mun robh muinntir an teagamh a thaobh sheann bhriathran, 'gan cur an dara taobh le solus ùr a chaidh fhaotainn leis an luchd rannsachaidh a bha a' cladhach nan seann làraichean. Mar an ceudna tha nithean aosda an Alba is an Eirinn a thuilleadh air lamh-sgrìobhainn—nithean aosda mar tha carraigeann cuimhne is uaigean is àiteachan comhnuidh. A thuilleadh air sin tha fianuis fhìor ri fhaotainn bho innealan is chleachdaidhean, agus bho na seann uirsgeulan is dhòighean aoraidh a mhair bho 'n aimsir chian gus an d'rinn eachdraidh greim orra. Agus gheibhear eòlas ùr bho na nithean sin gu léir ma bheirear fainear iad gu stuama, teòma.

\* \* \*

Is còir a radh gur e gle bheag de fhuil nan Gaidheil Eireannach a tha an cuislean an dream ris an canair Gaidheil Albann an diugh. Cha do dh'atharraich Breatunnaich Strath Chluaidh agus Gaidheil Ghalloway ann fuil an uair a threig iad an cainntean màtharail fein agus a thug iad chun na Beurla. Nì mò a dh'atharraich ar sinnsir fein, seann Chaledonaich na h-Alba, an fuil, an uair a ghabh iad ris a mheur bhlasda sin de'n Gaidhlig a chaidh a thoirt gu inbhe is maise tre oilean na h-Eireann.

Tha sinn a' leughadh gur e mu cheud gu leth Gaidheal Eireannach a thainig air thuinneachadh do Dhairiada mu thoiseach an t-seachdamh linn. Cha tugadh aireamh cho beag caochladh mór sam bith air luchd àiteachaidh Alban, a bha beagan roimhe sin cho lionmhor is gun tug iad dùbhlhan do fheachdan na Roimhe. Agus rud cudthromach eile (a tha airidh air earrann dha féin) gu bheil de Jubainville is Hubert de'n bheachd, gun do ràinig na Gaidheil Alba a cheart cho tràth 's a rainig iad Eirinn. Ma tha sin ceart bha Gaidhlig an Alba cho tràth 's a bha i an Eirinn. An deidh nan Eireannach thainig na Lochlunnaich. Agus có is urrainn a mheas cia mheud de chrudal is de fhlor uaisle a tha ar slugh a' dligheadh bho na curaidhean calma sin.

\* \* \*

Tha ceud bliadhna bho chuir an t-Ollamh Skene a mach leabhar air Gaidheil Albann. Bu chleachdadh do luchd eachdraidh Albann a bhi a' tagradh gur ann a Eirinn a thainig na fineachan Gaidhealach. Ach sgrìobh Skene calg dhreach an aghaidh a' bheachd sin. Dh'fhulaing e móran fanaid is tàmailt mu'n chùis. Nochd e am mùthadh mór eadar seann nòsan fearainn is riaghlaidh an Alba is an Eirinn. Ach sheas Skene gu duineil ri a bharail. Mu dheireadh tha sgoilear ainmeil an diugh an Eirinn a tha a' daingneachadh teagas Skene. Tha an t-Ollamh Eòin Mac Neill 'n a ard ollamh air seann eachdraidh na h-Eireann. Agus tha esan ag radh nach buin Clann Domhnuill, Clann Dughail, Clann Suibhne do Eirinn idir. Chaidh móran diubh sin do Eirinn anns a' cheithreamh linn deug an uair a thairg na h-Eireannaich crùn Eireann do Raibeart Brus an deidh Blar Alt a' Bonnaich. Chaidh uaislean Gaidhealach de na fineachan sin do Eirinn le Iamhar Brus a chogadh leis. Mar sin tha ard ollamh Eireannach ag àicheadh gu bheil dualachas idir an Eirinn aig na fineachan Gaidhealach a dh'aindeoin luchd eachdraidh Albann.

### NEIL MUNRO MEMORIAL.

It was with no small apprehension that many of our members surveyed the weather each succeeding day as the time drew near for the unveiling of the Neil Munro Memorial Cairn. It looked as if there might be no cessation of the rain that was then experienced, but the morning of 28th June dawned beautifully fine with a promise of warmth and sunshine that was abundantly fulfilled. It seemed as if the elements had decided to show their favour

to the proceedings at Craig Dubh that afternoon in lovely Glen Aray, or as we are told Gleann an Aoraidh. And on this summer day it may truly be said that the countryside was draped in its most beautiful array to pay homage to the memory of that gifted son of Gaeldom, whose genius in prose and verse earned for him not only the esteem and affection of his own people, but gave him his distinguished niche in Scottish literature. From far and near the company gathered, and the proceedings commenced most appropriately with the 121st Psalm in Gaelic, and the chanting of the line in traditional fashion by our general secretary, Mr. Neil Shaw, added to the solemn dignity of the occasion. An impressive Gaelic prayer was then offered by the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, and thereafter Mr. John R. Bannerman, our president, introduced Sheriff J. MacMaster Campbell, C.B.E., Campbelltown, who performed the unveiling ceremony, and referred to the Sheriff's long and intimate friendship with the late Dr. Munro. No one, he stated, was better able to speak to them on the life and work of their departed friend.

In the course of an eloquent oration, Sheriff MacMaster Campbell said:—

"Admiration for the work of Neil Munro was not restricted to his Scottish compatriots, for every lover of literature recognises that, as a writer of fiction, be it in its major or minor form, as a lyric poet, or as an essayist concerned with the life and mannerisms of his time, he revealed a genius which pertains by full right to the whole English-speaking world. America, indeed, is equally proud with Inveraray of the magician whom the Highland parish is proud to call its own.

"I had the privilege of forming acquaintance with Neil Munro when, in his early twenties, he came from Greenock to Glasgow to continue that journalistic career which he lived so greatly to adorn. And I can recall the enthusiasm with which in 1896, his first effort in Highland romance was received. 'The Lost Pibroch,' with its companion tales, immediately revealed a master hand, and but two years after, there was published in Blackwood's Magazine that novel of the period of Montrose, 'John Splendid,' which signalled the advent of a writer of historical fiction who was immediately admitted to the first rank.

"Neil Munro's three historical novels, 'John Splendid,' 'Doom Castle,' and 'The New Road' are indubitable classics. The

finest tribute to him as an historical novelist has been paid by Lord Tweedsmuir who, under his older name of John Buchan, was himself a novelist of outstanding distinction. 'The New Road,' writes Lord Tweedsmuir, 'seems to me beyond question the best Scots historical novel since Sir Walter.'

"Among the first of the modern bards to revive the ancient Gaelic Muse in its relation to the picturesque was Duncan Ban MacIntyre, whose monument appropriately stands but within a few miles of the memorial presently to be unveiled. Duncan Ban's landscape word painting is the pride of everyone acquainted with the ancient vernacular, and the marvellous gift disclosed by the Hunter Bard of Glenorchy in Gaelic was the possession of Neil Munro in that medium of English which appeals to the million at the same time that the verse of Duncan Ban but reaches a relative hundred.

"To many a home-sick exile from mainland and island, the magic of his touch has made Glenaray, Glenshira, Glenorchy, the Moor of Rannoch, Lochaber, the Fords of the Outer Isles, and many another Highland scene to float before the enchanted eye, and to revive memories of a land they are fain never to forget.

"The striking capacity of Neil Munro for the word-painting of the scenic and picturesque was accompanied by his remarkable skill in the delineation of character.

"Ninian MacGregor Campbell of 'The New Road,' that cadet of the broken Clan MacGregor, who was sheltered in Glenshira by MacCailein Mor, and who in return for the ducal protection gave service to his adopted Chief of a sort absolutely secret, and, because secret, all the more welcome and effective. Ninian is as complete a picture of a clansman of the early eighteenth century as could find its way to canvas, and the highest praise the delineation could and does earn is that it is in every respect worthy of the great Sir Walter.

"Neil Munro has left behind him sufficient poems to demonstrate that, but for his other literary preoccupations, he would have made considerable and valuable additions to the poetry of English.

"His achievements as a journalist are known and read of all men. Throughout his contributions to the press, just as in his deliberately permanent writings, Munro touched with equal skill the chord which, now, was charged with the deepest pathos and anon with the most wholesome and effective humour. His 'Saga of the Clyde,'

as one recently denominated 'Para Handy' ranks with the works of Mark Twain, probably the greatest of all the American humourists.

"Our thoughts to-day cannot fail to seek that happy home where Neil Munro led so delightful a family life, and we recognise the great good fortune which accorded him a helpmeet so constant and devoted in her attention in his days of health as in his days of sickness as was Mrs. Munro, for whom in her widowhood and for her son and daughters, her husband's numberless friends entertain, I know, the deepest and most heartfelt sympathy."

In the course of a brief speech, Dr. Colin Sinclair thanked Mr. Dugald Carmichael, of the firm of James Carmichael, builders, and the craftsmen. They were embued, he said, with a sense of privilege in that with skill of eye and hand they were raising a monument, broad based and substantial, to one of their kith and kin; to one who was to become the laureate of Scottish Gaeldom.

Mr. Carmichael, on behalf of the architect and builder, handed over to Sheriff Campbell a silver pen as a souvenir of the memorable occasion.

Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, convener of the Memorial Committee, thanked Sheriff MacMaster Campbell for his presence and for the noble tribute he had paid to the memory of the man whose life and work they were commemorating that day. He also expressed the committee's gratitude to Major Fellowes who has so kindly gifted the site; to Mr. Robert MacFarlane, on whom the main burden of the committee's work had fallen, and to Mr. Bannerman, who had so ably presided over the proceedings.

Mr. R. B. Cunninghame Graham, in the course of his appreciation, said there was something eminently friendly and intimate about the literature of Neil Munro that made him a personal friend of his readers. He was the apostolic successor of Sir Walter Scott, and he predicted immortality for his writings.

The large company included Mrs. Munro, widow of the author; Mr. Neil Munro, son; Mrs. John Bruce, daughter, Mr. Bruce and their two daughters; Mrs. Ronald Lendrum, daughter, and Dr. Lendrum. After the benediction had been pronounced in Gaelic by the Rev. Angus Gray, "MacLeod of Raasay's Lament" was played by Pipe Major Robert Reid, Glasgow, on a set of pipes which had once belonged to Captain Hugh Munro, who had fallen in the Great War.

## CLEASAN GAIDHEALACH

airson

Comunn na h-Oigrìdh.

## CAMANACHD.

(Air an leanntainn.)

Tha dòchas againn, ma-tà, gu'n éirich sibh air Camanachd anns na Buidhnean : agus tha e 'san t-sealladh againn, cho luath 's a bhios àireamh chiuimseach de sgioban Camanachd aig Comunn na h-Oigrìdh, Cupan a thairgseadh a bhios na sgioban ag còmh-stri an aghaidh chèile air a shon a h-uile bliadhna.

Is iomadh cleachdadh gasda a bha an cois bàire-iomain anns na làithean a dh'aom, agus tha dòchas gu'n lean sibh gu dlùth ris a' Ghàidhlig anns gach ni a bhuineas do'n chluich so. Is e "Ceann Staic" a theirteadh ri ceannard Camanachd, agus an àm taghadh an dà sgioba mu'n rachadh iad a dh'iomain, is e a theirteadh iad :—

An dara Ceann Staic—"Leig leam," no "Bualeam ort."

An Ceann Staic eile—"Leigeam leat."

An dara Ceann Staic—"Bithidh tusa agam (Chailein)."

Au Ceann Staic eile—"S bithidh tusa agam-sa (Dhòmhnuill)."  
agus mar sin air aghaidh.

An sin bhiodh conaltradh-geasachd eadar an dà Cheann Staic air aon de na dòighean so :—

(A Ile).

"Thalla gus an iomain. " Tiugainn gus an iomain.

Dé an iomain ?	Cìod an iomain ?
Iomain camain.	Iomain camain.
Dé an caman ?	Cìod an caman ?
Caman ùr.	Caman uighe.
Dé an ùr ?	Cìod an t-ugh.
Ùr àr.	Ugh athar.
Dé an àr ?	Cìod an t-athar ?
Ar iteag.	Athar eun.
Dé an iteag ?	Cìod an t-eun ?
Iteag fhithich.	Eun iteig.
Dé am fitheach ?	Cìod an iteag ?
Fitheach Feòil.	Iteag a bheir bainne gu a màthair."
Dé an fheòil ?	
Feòil duine.	
Dé an duine ?	
Duine gionach.	
Dé an gionach ?	
Gionach eich.	

Dé an t-each.

Each mara.

Dé a' mhuir.

Muir iasg.

Dé'n t-iasg ?

Iasg dubhain, dubhan briste, bearnach.

Chaidh mi leis thun a' ghobha g'a chàradh Cha robh e féin no chuid mhac a stigh. Peasair dhuitse, 's pònair dhòmhsa. 'S coltar rap."

(Taobh Loch Oda).

(Cill an Inbhir, Earraghaidheal).

"Cìod an iomain ? " Tiugainnmaid a dh'iomain.

Iomain camain.

Dé an iomain ?

Cìod an caman ?

Iomain camain.

Caman iubhair.

Dé an caman ?

Cìod an t-iubhar ?

Caman iubhair.

Iubhar athair.

Dé an t-iubhar ?

Cìod an t-athar ?

Iubhar athar.

Athar eòin.

Dé an t-athar ?

Cìod an t-eun ?

Athar eòin.

Eun iteig.

Dé an t-eun ?

Cìod an iteag ?

Eun ith.

Iteag fithich.

Dé an ith ?

Cìod am fitheach ?

Ith feòil.

Fitheach shleibhte.

Dé an fheòil ?

Cìod an sliabh ?

Feòil duine.

Sliabh mara.

Dé an duine ?

Cìod a' mhuir ?

Duine ionraic."

Muir éisg.

Cìod an t-iasg ?

Iasg dubhain.

Cìod an dubhan ?

Dubhan airgid.

Cìod an t-airgid ?

Airgid briste, brùite, pronnata, cùl ciste na ban-rìgh."

## A COLLA.

Tiugainn a dh'iomain ;

Dé an iomain ?

Iomain chaman ;

Dé an caman ?

Caman iubhair ;

Dé an t-iubhar ?

Iubhar athar ;

Dé an t-athar ?

Athar iteach ;

Dé an t-iteach ?

Iteach eoin ;

Dé an t-eun ?

Eun mara ;

Dé a' mhuir ?

Muir iasgaich ;

Dé an t-iasg ?

Iasgach dubhain ;  
 Dé an dubhan ?  
 Dubhan airgid ;  
 Dé an t-airgid ?

Airgiod bristeach, busach, bearnach a thug mise am mach á ciste nigean Rìgh Eireann; Glong, glang, galar nam muc, nan gèadh 's nan con 's nan uile chreutair a labhras romham-sa, gheibh e trì dùirn dheug agus paidhir smutagan am barr na sròine.

#### RIAGHAILTEAN CAMANACHD.

So na Riaghailtean-Camanachd, air an eadar-theangachadh gu Gaidhlig, gu ìre bhig mar a tha iad air an cur sìos an leabhran an "Camanachd Association." A chum agus nach bi teagamh sam bith aig neach ciod is ciall do chuid de na facail a tha air an cleachdadh anns na riaghailtean, tha a' Bheurla air a cur fa'n comhair an so:—

Am Breitheamh—The Referee.

Bàir—a game, or match.

Leth-bhàir—a goal.

Sgioba—a team.

Buille-peanais—a penalty hit.

Saor-bhuille—a set stroke.

Luchd-ionnsuidh—attackers.

Croislin—diameter.

Leth-chroislin—radius.

Iomain—to play.

Iomanaiche—a player.

Ionad-peanais—penalty spot.

Machair na h-iomanaiche—field of play.

Luchd-dìon—defenders.

Tha facail eile air am mìneachadh anns na riaghailtean fein.

#### NA RIAGHAILTEAN.

1. Bithidh a dhà-dheug anns gach sgioba. Feumaidh a h-uile fear dhiubh sin a bhì 'na làn-bhall de'n Chomunn-Chamanachd air taobh a bheil e ag iomain, agus chan fhaod neach iomain ann am bàir a bhùneas do chomhstri a' "Chupain-Chamanachd" ach air taobh aon sgioba fad na bliadhna.

2. Bithidh machair na h-iomain bho 140 gu 200 slat air fhad agus bho 70 gu 140 slat air leud. Bithidh na puist-bhàire dà shlat dheug bho chèile agus deich troighean air àirde, agus bithidh crann-tarsuinn os an ceann. Comharraichear ceithir oisnean machair na h-iomain le brataichean trì troighean gu leth air àirde air a' chuid as lugha.

3. Comharraichear a mach gu soilleir air a' ghrund:—

- (i.) An lìn a tha ceangal an dà oisinn-tarsuinn air na puist-bhàire: theirear "lìn-na-bàire" rithe.

- (ii.) An lìn a tha eadar an dà oisinn air fad machair-na h-iomain, air gach taobh: theirear "lìn-taobhach" rithe.

- (iii.) Lìn air beulaibh nam post-bhàire, dà throigh dheug air fhad, co-shlnte ri lìn-na-bàire agus deich slatan bhuaipe. Sinear an lìn so 'na ceathramh-chearcall gu ruig lìn-na-bàire air gach taobh, agus theirear "ionad nan deich slat" ris an fhearann a tha air a chuartachadh mar so.

- (iv.) Teis-meadhon machair-na h-iomain, no "caille," agus cearcall de chroislin deich slatan m'a thimchioll.

- (v.) Ceathramh-chearcall aig gach oisinn, de leth-chroislin coig slatan, le bhì gabhail na h-oisne mar mheadhon.

- (vi.) Ionad-peanais air beulaibh nam post-bhàire agus fichead slat bhuaipa.

4. Is e ùine gach bàire ceithir fichead mionaid 's a deich, 's e sin dà fhichead mionaid 's a coig gach rathad, a thuilleadh air eadar-ám, gun a bhì na's lugha na coig mionaidean.

Cuirear ris an ùine so ('s e sin, ris gach dà fhichead mionaid 's a coig fa leth) suas ri dà mhionaid fa chomhair gach àma 'sam feumar stad o iomain ri linn, abraibh, neach a bhì air a ghortachadh. An déidh a leithid sin de chàs, tòisichear as ùr leis a' bhall a thilgeil suas far an robh e 'ga iomain roimhe, ma's e nach robh saor-bhuille gu bhì aig taobh seach taobh aig an àm.

Feumaidh am ball a bhì 'ga iomain 'nuair a ghairmear crìoch no leth-crìoch air a' bhàir.

5. Chan fhaodar iomain le caman nach teid a cheann troimh fhàinne dà òirlich gu leth air croislin. Is e bhios anns a' bhall àrc agus abhras, le còmhach lethraich. Bithidh e bho 7½ gu 8 òirlich mu'n cuairt, agus bithidh a chudthrom bho 2½ gu 3½ ùnns.

6. Chan fhaod neach iomain agus spéicean 'na chaiseart, agus chan fhaod iarann no miotailt eile a bhì air a'chaman.

7. Bithidh fear-coimhid air gach lìn-bàire air am bi e mar fhiachaibh coimhead:—

- (i.) 'Nuair a bhuailear bàir.

- (ii.) 'Nuair a theid am ball gu h-iomlan thar na lìn-bàire.

- (iii.) Co-dhiu a b'e fear-ionnsuidh no fear-dìon a' bhual no a' bhean do'n bhall mu'n deach e thairis.

- (iv.) Co-dhiu bhà no nach robh fear-ionnsuidh an taobh-stigh ionad nan deich slat mu'n deach am ball a steach ann.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,—I read with interest Professor Watson's letter to you in the July issue of *An Gàidheal*, and especially that paragraph in which he says that an apostrophe should not be used in the Gaelic words *chan*, not; *gun*, that; *nan*, if. I am too sensible of his linguistic learning and his unrivalled knowledge of Gaelic, to question any of his views on difficult points of that language, but on simpler points I now come to him, not as a critic, but as an "anxious inquirer." For *cha'n, gu'n*, and *na'n*, there is about 70 per cent of Dictionary, and about the same Grammar authority, and MacBain's Dictionary, which we are often advised to follow, gives, *cha'n, gu'n, na'n*. In language, forms that may be wrong become established through being allowed to be long and widely used, and it seems to me that in the case of this apostrophe, usage will continue to prevail even against scholarship. May I say that, led by my well-thumbed grammars and dictionaries, I myself write *chan'eil, gu'n òl, na'n òlaidh* in any simple writing or elementary teaching I may attempt. In *Rosg Gàidhlig*, in the article "Ainmean na h-Alba," one finds, here and there, *cha'n, gu'n, na'n*. In *Gaelic Reading Book*, from "The College, Edinburgh 1889," one reads in the Preface, "A few apostrophes have been removed from the page." This book opens for me at pp. 32-33, and I find *cha'n, gu'n, na'n*, and so throughout the book. What seems to me to be causing confusion and uncertainty, is the lack of uniformity among writers, to remedy which the following of MacBain has been repeatedly recommended. Then, in the case of one and the same writer, there is often a lack of consistency in spellings and forms. In a very interesting article in the July issue of *An Gàidheal*, "Gaidhlig anns na h-àrd sgoilean," one finds "*gun greimich*," and a few lines lower, "*gu'n d'fhuair*." Then, in the same article, the word *nas*, so written three times, puzzles one in connection with the right use of the apostrophe. I take it that the *nas* stands for *na is*, what is. If the proper use of the apostrophe is as the sign of a letter or letters omitted, then, the better form should be *na's*. And that reminds me of the word *as*, called the relative form of *is*. It looks like a contraction of *a is*, who or which is, and by apostrophe rule should be written *a's*. Is *gu robh*, found in some good writers of Gaelic, a correct form? In my old glen, the old folks always said *gu'n robh*, with a firm sounding of the *n*. Yours faithfully,

40 Grant Street, JOHN MACDONALD.  
Glasgow, C.3., 16th July, 1935.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The extraordinary meeting of the Executive Council was held in the Waverley Hotel, Stirling, on 5th July. Mr. John R. Bannerman, president, occupied the chair, and the following members were present: Rev. John Bain, Edinburgh; John M. Bannerman, B.Sc., Balmaha; Mrs. Barron, Glasgow; Miss Catriona B. Cameron, Glasgow; Captain A. R. Campbell, O.B.E., Glasgow; Charles Campbell, M.B.E., Glasgow; Mrs. Burnley Campbell, of Ormidale, M.B.E.; Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, Glasgow; Rev. David Duncan, Musselburgh; Mrs. C. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Colonel A. D. Greenhill Gardyne, of Glenforsa; Niall I. C. Kennedy, Glasgow; Miss Lamont, of Knockdow; Hugh MacCorquodale, Glasgow; John MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Roderick MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; John MacIntyre, Glasgow; Mrs. Mackintosh, Pitlochry; Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; George Marjoribanks, Sonachan; Lord James Stewart Murray, Ballinluig; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow; Neil Orr, Edinburgh; Dr. Donald Ross, Lochgilphead; Donald Scott, Perth; Dr. Colin Sinclair, Glasgow; A. M. Sweet, Skelmorlie; and Miss Millar Weir, Alexandria. Attending—Robert MacFarlane, C.A., treasurer; Neil Shaw, general secretary; Hugh MacPhee, assistant secretary; and Donald MacPhail, northern organiser.

The president made sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. W. D. Barclay, who was a valued member of the Executive, and attended the previous meeting. He was particularly interested in all things Gaelic, and gave good service to An Comunn. The Council desired to place on record their sense of the loss sustained by his death.

The president offered the congratulation of the members to Sir Alfred N. MacAulay, Golspie, on the honour of Knighthood he had received from the hands of His Majesty.

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

Minutes of two meetings of the Finance Committee were read. The Committee recommended that an office be rented for the secretary at 131 West Regent Street, at a rental of £40 per annum. The Minutes were approved on the motion of the convener, Mr. Alexander Fraser.

The accounts and balance sheet for year ending 31st May, 1935, were submitted and spoken to by the treasurer. Mr. Charles Campbell referred to the continued loss on the magazine, notwithstanding special grants, and he moved that the whole question of the magazine be remitted to the Publication Committee for consideration and report. Mrs. Burnley Campbell, of Ormidale, seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. MacFarlane reported that the Neil Munro Memorial had now been erected and unveiled, and that after defraying the cost there would be a balance remaining to be handed over to An Comunn for maintenance.

Mr. John A. Nicolson referred to the accounts of Comunn na h-Oigridh, and asked what impulse the gifting of badges, or playing games at rallies, had on the preservation of Gaelic. Mr. George Marjoribanks replied that these were useful for stimulating interest in Gaelic, and should be considered as essentially part of the activities of such a movement as Comunn na h-Oigridh. He had spent part of the past four weeks, at his own expense, visiting the outlying parts where Feachdan are in existence. He also attended the rally at Dunvegan, and could testify to the good work already done.

On the motion of Mr. John M. Bannerman, seconded by Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun, the accounts, subject to audit, were adopted.

Minute of meeting of the Education Committee was read and approved on the motion of the convener, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod. The convener drew attention to the fact that there was a dearth of qualified teachers of Gaelic in Argyllshire, and that members should take every opportunity of making known to pupils and parents that there was a demand for teachers with the Gaelic qualification.

Minutes of two meetings of the Publication Committee were read and approved on the motion of the convener, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

Minute of meeting of Propaganda Committee was read and approved on the motion of Mr. Charles Campbell, convener.

Minute of Art and Industry Committee was read. Dr. Sinclair said he hoped the leaflet which had been specially prepared would be issued with the sheets on progressive Gaelic Art, referred to in the Minutes. The leaflet would explain the methods and be of help to students. The president said the committee might

consider the suggestion. On the motion of Miss Lamont, of Knockdow, the Minute was approved.

Minutes of two meetings of the Mod and Music Committee were read and approved on the motion of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, convener.

Minutes of three meetings of Clann an Fhraoich Committee were read. The Minutes referred to the activities of the various branches of Comunn na h-Oigridh. On the motion of the convener, Mr. George E. Marjoribanks, the Minutes were adopted.

Annual reports of the Standing Committees were adopted on the motion of Rev. David Duncan.

The Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, vice-president, took the chair at this stage.

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:—

GLASGOW GAELIC MUSICAL ASSOCIATION, per secretary—(1) "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.' (2) 'That Society representatives, if members of An Comunn Gaidhealach, shall have two votes at the annual general meeting, one as the Society representative and one as an individual member.'"

GLASGOW INVERNESS-SHIRE ASSOCIATION, per secretary—"That amendment to Rule 12 be rescinded, i.e., revert to status quo, or, alternatively, our representative have the plural vote (1) as member of An Comunn, (2) as Inverness-shire representative."

GLASGOW SKYE ASSOCIATION, per secretary—"In addition to his own vote as individual member of An Comunn, the representative of an affiliated society shall be entitled to another vote on behalf of his Society."

CLANN AN FHRAOICH, trid Seoras E. Marjoribanks, Fear Gairme—"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 neòdhreach gus cinn-erie A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich adhartachadh.' ”

Mrs. Burnley Campbell referred to the impending retiral of Dr. Calder from the post of lecturer in Celtic Languages in the University of Glasgow, and expressed the hope that an effort would be made to procure the services of the best possible successor.

Mr. John A. Nicolson moved, and Mr. John M. Bannerman seconded, “that in the opinion of An Comunn Gaidhealach, in the appointment of a successor to Dr. Calder, special emphasis be laid on a competent knowledge of modern Gaelic, and that the University Court be communicated with accordingly.”

Mr. Charles Campbell asked that it be an instruction to have the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting read at the ensuing Annual Meeting. Mrs. Colquhoun seconded. Agreed to.

The secretary made reference to the remit in name of Mr. A. M. MacLauchlan from the Annual General Meeting in respect of alteration, or explanation, of Rule 54. The matter was referred to the Advisory Committee for consideration.

Mr. John M. Bannerman referred to the marks allocated to Gaelic by the Special Committee on Drama in the Northern Area. It was suggested that the number of marks awarded for Gaelic should be increased. Mr. Charles Campbell, on behalf of the Propaganda Committee, undertook to look into the matter.

The Rev. David Duncan reported on the work of the Edinburgh Mod Committee, and to the excellent financial result of the Feil.

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

### COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

So agaibh, a Chlann mo ghaoil, ainmean nam ball a choisinn duaisean anns a' cho-fharpais bheag a bha eadarainn fein airson nan litrichean as fearr a sgrìobhadh mar chruinneachaidhean nan Feachd:—

Bad-Call : Uilleimina Chaimbeul.  
 Aisir : Robina Nic Aoidh.  
 Bagh a Tuath : Micheal MacLeòid.  
 Mingearraidh : Peigi Nic a Phi.  
 Cairinnis : I. Mairead Nic Dhomhnuill.  
 II. (àraidh) Seumas Mac-Dhomhnuill.



Sgioba-iomain Bagh a' Chaisteil.

'Gan gabhail thar cheann is gann a chunnacas pasgan de litrichean Gaidhlig riamh a bha choimhionta anns gach seadh. Co a nis a their nach eil Comunn na h-Oigridh a' deanann feum? Is mor m'amharus, ge ta, nach do leugh cuid de na Feachdan *An Gaidheal*, àireamh an Oig-mhios, cho dichionnach 's a dh'fhaodadh iad, no is cinnteach gun robh mòran eile air a' cho-fharpais so fheuchainn.

Bha co-fharpais aig Mòd Sròn-an-t-Sithein airson an iomradh as fearr air a' chuspair “Comunn na h-Oigridh,” agus so an luchd-buanachadh:—I. agus II. (co-ionann) Anna Chamshron agus Iain Friseal, Feachd Gleannborrodail. III. Peigi Friseal, Gleannborrodail.

Thugadh duais àraidh do Mhairi Chamshron, Airidh bheagaig, agus do Aonghas MacGuirmein, Mingearraidh.

A bharr air a sin fhuair mi litir ghrinn, le ainmean seachdnar bhalach is chaileag ann an Feachd Gleannborrodail, dìreach a dh'inneadh dhomh cho toilichte 's a bha iad a bhi an Comunn na h-Oigridh, agus gun robh iad a' bruidhinn agus a' sgrìobhadh barrachd Gaidhlig mar thoradh air.

Ar taing do Cheann-Feachd a' Bhaile Shear airson a' chunntais a thug e dhuinn air a' chruinneachadh a bh'aca an Uidhist a Tuath 's a' Ghaidheal mu dheireadh. Cha dubhairt e ruinn gur e fhein a bha 'na phioibaire air ceann nam Feachd, ach sin mar a bha, agus nach ceutach an eisimpleir e? Gu ma luath thig an là air am bi balach de Chomunn na h-Oigridh le phioib-mhóir an ceann gach Feachd. Mo thruaighe Feachdan Bhad-Chall agus Aisir—'s ann orra a thuit an dile bhàite cho luath 's a thàinig iad comhla airson na cuir-m-chnuic aca: agus lean an t-uisge ach gann fad an latha. Ach is ann a rinn iad a' chuid as fhèrr o'n rud as miosa. Bha cleasan agus biadh aca 'san sgoil, agus ghabhadh na balaich le'n



Cinn-Feachd a mach an drasd 's a rithist nuair a bhiodh almsadh beag ann, a dh'iomain air an traigh àluinn ud. Gum faigh iad là an Aigh an ath-bhladhna!

Gheall mi iomradh beag a thoirt air mo thurus gu na h-Eileanan. Is ann am Barraidh a fhuair mi an fhàilt shuilbhearra gach taobh an deachaidh mi. Bha cruinneachadh gasda an Sgoil Mhóir Bagh a Chaisteil, agus chuireadh 71 buill ùra ris an àireamh a bha aig an Fheachd sin cheana. Chuireadh 11 ri Feachd Bagh a Tuath, agus stéidheachadh Feachd bheag, ùr, ann an Grean le dusan bhall fo Cheann-Feachd Mgr. Iain MacIain. Tha cùisean gu math gealltanach am Barraidh agus fhuaras a mach anns na ceithir sgoilean eile gum bheil iad ro-dheònach air tighinn a steach leinn cho luath 's a gheibh iad an cothrom. An Uidhist a Deas chuireadh 11 ri àireamh nam ball am Feachd an Iochdair agus stéidheachadh Feachd ùr an Hoghmor, le 14, fo Mhr. Calum MacNeill. Fuair mi deagh chuideachadh 'san Eilean so bh'o'n Urr. Calum MacFhraing, Grogarraidh. Fhuair gach balach de na buill ùra sin camain.

Feumar facal a ràdh mu na Braistean. Is cinnteach gum bheil sibh ag gabhail cùram de bhur braistean, ach faodaidh e bhì gun cail balach no caileag braiste a dh'aindeoin sin. 'Na leithid de chàs faodaidh sibh braiste ùr fhaotuin air iartus bhur Cinn-Feachd, air a chur gu Rùnaire a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach le naoi sgilinn 'na chois. Cha bu chòir do bhall Comunn na h-Oigrìdh idir a bhì gun bhraste.

Aig Mòd Sròn-an t-Sithein cha robh balach no caileag de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh ann nach robh ag giùlan am braistean gu pròiseil. Ach mhothaich mi aig cruinneachadh an Eilein Sgitheanaich gun robh feadhainn ann 's an cuid bhrastean air am fàgail aig an tigh. Is còir na braistean a ghiùlan cho tric 's a bhios sibh ri obair a bhuineas do bhur Comunn. Ged nach eil luach mòr annta fein, cuimhnichibh na nithean a tha iad a' seadhachadh—gach nì a ghabh sibh os laimh a dhèanamh 'nuair a gheall sibh a bhì 'nur Deagh Ghaidheil. Fear a thig an lathair comlan de Comunn na h-Oigrìdh 's gun bhraste aige leis, tha e coltach ri fear gun chuireadh aig cuirm, no mar a bheireadh an Sassunnach air, fear-bruanaidh geata!

Is math leam e bhì agam ri innseadh dhuibh, a chaileagan, gun tug Comhairle a' Ghnìomhachais is nan Ealdhain cead gum faodar bhur n-obair-greise fhoillseachadh aig a' Mhòd Mhór an Dun Eideann, co-dhiu bhios i ceilteach 'na dòigh no nach bhì. Bheirear a

h-uile fios dhuibh 'san ath "Ghaidheal" mu dhéidhinn c'ait' agus ciamar is còir an obair a chur. Ach thoireadh na Bana-Cheannardan faineur gum bhì rogha na h-obrach aig gach Feachd deas airson a chur 'nuair a thig am facal, agus gum bhì ainm is Feachd air an comharrachadh gu soilleir air gach ball-oibre: air neo is dòcha nach fhaic sibh gu bràth tuilleadh iad!

Ghabh deichnar Fheachd ris an deuchainn airson inbhe Lan-Ghaidheal fhaotuin, agus gu àm sgrìobhadh na litreach so chuir seachdnar am paipearan air ais. Nì Comhairle Clann an Fhraoich na paipearan sin a sgrùdadh gun dàil. Tha sinn an dòchas, mu'm tig crìoch air bliadhna eile, gum bhì na Feachdan gu léir a' dol an ceann na deuchainn so.

Chaidh fo-chomhairle a chur air bonn le Clann an Fhraoich airson Riaghailtean Comunn na h-Oigrìdh a stéidheachadh gu soilleir, cho fad's a ghabhas sin dèanamh ann an Comunn a tha 'na ùr-òige fhathast. Bithidh sin 'ga fhàgail na's fhasa do na Cinn-Feachd uile ghnòthuichean a' Chomuinn a stiùradh gu cunbhalach, agus is dòcha gum bhì e 'na chuideachadh do na Ceannardan agus na buill fein mar an ceudna.

Ach ged a tha sin mar sin, bithidh daonnan nithean ann an Comunn na h-Oigrìdh nach 'eil an crochadh air riaghailtean idir, agus is iad sin na nithean as mo cudthrom gu léir, chionn tha iad an crochadh air—COGUIS. Chan 'eil mi dol a ràdh cìod iad: tuigidh mo chlan iad gun innseadh. Ach bheir mi seachad rud beag do'n chaileag no do'n bhalach as fhearr a dh'innseas na nithean sin dhomh-sa ann an litir roimh cheann a' mhios so—Sonachan, Dail-Mhaillidh, Earraghaidheal.

SEORAS GALLDA.



Cruinneachadh Feachdan Bagh a' Chaisteil agus Bagh a Tuath.

### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

**IMPORTANT.**—We take this method of introducing this paragraph in order that members will give attention to the matter to which it refers. It is one of the privileges of membership to be invited to the Civic Reception which is annually accorded to the Mod. This year we will be the guests of Edinburgh Corporation on Wednesday evening, 25th September, and in order that we may give a note of the number in our party it is necessary that all those who intend being present send me their names. It is important that this should be attended to immediately.

\* \* \*

At the last meeting of the Executive Council it was agreed, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, that An Comunn should now have a larger office. Suitable premises have been obtained at 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2 (one stair up). The new office is within one minute's walk of the present office. All letters to the secretary should be addressed to the new office after 1st August, but communications to Mr. Robert MacFarlane, treasurer, should be addressed to 212 West George Street, Glasgow, as formerly. The telephone number is unchanged.

\* \* \*

During recent years the Art and Industry Committee have promoted an exhibition at the National Mod, at which the articles received in the various competitions, along with loan exhibits, were on view. This year it is to be continued on a slightly larger scale, and a very cordial invitation is extended to all interested to pay it a visit. This exhibition serves the useful purpose of placing our native art idiom before the public, and it is really worth while to see the manner in which it is introduced with pleasing effect for general decorative purposes. It would be appreciated if members would make the exhibition as widely known as possible among their friends.

\* \* \*

Last month reference was made in these notes to matters of Gaelic activity in Nova Scotia, and for this issue we have some interesting details from Wellington, New Zealand. We had a visit from Mr. J. Cowie, who is at present on holiday in this country to glimpse anew at fondly remembered

scenes in his native Caithness. He provided us with pleasing items of information on the enthusiasm of the members of Comunn Gaidhealach, Wellington, in support of the language. This society, which is represented on the Executive Council by Mr. Duncan MacCallum, was instituted just a year or two ago. The membership is seventy-five per cent. Gaelic speaking, and a Gaelic class for juniors, with an average attendance of twenty-six pupils, has been in existence for some time. Professor H. MacKenzie, one of the foundation members on the staff of the Wellington University, and a native of Easter Ross, has provided the instruction. There is also a senior Gaelic choir which regularly performs at the ceilidhs. One of the most earnest members is Dr. Murdo MacKenzie, who hails from Wester Ross. The first secretary, Mr. Gordon MacBean, who retired at the recent annual meeting, is a native born New Zealander, and he has set the splendid example of acquiring the language. His successor, Mr. Hector Smith, has a maternal connection with Tیره. We are asked to state, on behalf of this society, that a very cordial invitation is extended to all Gaels who may be visiting the Dominion to attend any of the meetings of the society.

\* \* \*

In May last the Society represented the Highlanders of Wellington at the funeral of the late Iain MacPhail, a member of the crew of the s.s. Port Victor, who passed away during the time the ship was in the harbour. A Gaelic prayer was raised at the graveside by Mr. J. Mathieson, and a lament was played by Piper A. Graham before the party dispersed. It may be some little consolation to Mr. MacPhail's parents in Lewis to know of the kindly manner in which our New Zealand friends expressed their sympathy to them in the loss they had sustained.

\* \* \*

On his way home, when the ship called at Port Said, Mr. Cowie had rather an interesting experience. He formed one of a party that stood on deck as the ship lay at anchor. They were beset by the usual army of natives selling their multifarious wares. After a while, one more dignified than the rest approached offering to dispose of Bibles. A member of the group, somewhat annoyed at the undesired attention they were receiving, answered the Bible-seller's enquiries with the remark that

if he could be furnished with one in Chinese he would buy it, to which the Egyptian remarked that if the gentleman could read that language he would give him such a Bible, and to the surprise of everyone the volume referred to was immediately produced. Mr. Cowie then asked if he had a Gaelic Bible. The Egyptian replied if it was Irish or Scots Gaelic that was preferred, and on learning that it was Scots Gaelic he handed over the desired Bible without any hesitation. Surprised at the familiar manner in which these were referred to, Mr. Cowie asked if he was in the habit of selling many, and was informed that a large number of Gaelic Bibles were regularly purchased by Highland sailors passing through the Suez canal.

\* \* \*

Much attention has recently been directed to the progress made in establishing the Gaelic dramatic movement among our branches. The branches in Uist led the way when the first festival was promoted last autumn. Arrangements are well forward for this year's festival, at which teams from Barra will also take part for the trophy provided by the Glasgow Uist and Barra Association, now held by the Lochmaddy team.

\* \* \*

The distinction of being the first of our provincial Mods to promote a drama competition is held by the Badenoch Strathspey Mod. This particular item aroused interest, and it is pleasing to note that a challenge shield has now been presented for this competition. We are indebted to Miss Farquharson of Invercauld; Sir Ian MacPherson, Bart., M.P.; and Sir Alexander MacEwen, for this gift. To them we extend our heartiest thanks for this generous expression of their interest in this new development in our movement.

\* \* \*

When on this subject we take this opportunity of directing the attention of our readers to the competition for Gaelic plays suitable for children, promoted by Mr. George E. Marjoribanks. These plays are intended for the members of Comunn na h-Oigrìdh, and it is hoped that there will be a good response. It is specially asked that the plays should be in one act, with the minimum of scenery, and to take about twenty minutes to perform. Particulars of this competition appear in this issue. The closing date for entries is 31st August.

The outstanding feature of the Lewis Mod was the large number of children's choirs which competed, thirteen in number. A number of those appeared at the Mod for the first time, and received warm commendation from the adjudicator. Valuable work was performed by An Comunn music teacher, Mr. John MacDonald, and by the school teachers throughout the island.

\* \* \*

The Tongue Mod, which had to be cancelled last October, owing to a serious epidemic of measles in the district, is to be held at Tongue, North Sutherland, on Friday, 13th September. This Mod area includes the districts of Melvich, Port Skerra, Armadale, Bettyhill, Skerray, Tongue, Melness, Durness, and Kinlochbervie.

\* \* \*

Arrangements are at present being made for the second festival of Gaelic drama in Uist and Barra. It is expected that teams from Barra, North and South Uist, and Benbecula will take part. Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, Laggan, has been invited to act as adjudicator, and it is hoped he may find it possible to undertake this most interesting itinerary in the Isles of the West.



## CRAOBH-SGAOILEADH.

### An Airde Tuath.

Bha am Fear-deilbhe an lathair aig Mòd Leodhais, an Steornabhagh, air an 20mh agus an 21mh là de'n Og-mhios. Bha aireamh ghasda de'n chloinn cruinn air a' cheud là, barrachd is 400, a mhór-chuid às na bailtean beaga agus is cinnteach gun robh cuid dhiubh nach fhaca baile mór Steornabhaigh gus an latha ud.

Chan 'eil baile beag air tir-mór na Gaidhealtachd anns nach faigh sinn cairdean na Gaidhlig, ann an aireamh beag, faodaidh e bhith, ach am bailtean beaga Leodhais, tha sean agus òg a' deanamh an uile dhìchill gu bhith toirt ar cànan agus gach deagh bheus eile a bhùineas dhuinn mar Ghaidheil, gu inbhe a's àirde.

Tha na Maighstirean-sgoile a' deanamh obair shonruichte airson na cànan agus anns gach cearn de'n Eilean tha a' Ghaidhlig 'g a cleachdadh mar chànan laitheil.

Rinn Fear-Teagasg Ciùil a' Chomuinn obair ionmholta ré an t-Seisein a dh'fhalbh agus bha

sin r'a fhacinn le Coisrean deug de'n Oigridh aig Mòd Steornabhaigh. Ma bhitheas e idir comasach suim airgid a chruinneachadh, is e miann nan Leodhasach Coisir a chur gu Mòd mór Dhun Eideann agus le iasgach math, faodaidh so a bhì 'nan comas.

Aig Cuirm-Chiuil na h-Oigridh bha an Lighiche Mac Dhomhnuill anns a' chathair agus aig Cuirm nan Inbheach, An Ridire Alasdair Mac Eoghainn, Inbhirnis.

Chum am Fear-deilbhe air a chualt agus air maduinn Di-Màirt bha Mòd An Eilein Sgitheanaich air gheus. Ged mach robh na co-fharpaisich cho lionmhor an earrann nan Inbheach, bha barrachd ann de'n chloinn agus thuir breitheamh a' chiuil gun robh e làn-riarachte leis na chuala e.

Ma thug luchd na seinn toileachas do fhear-a-chiuil, thug luchd an leughaidh agus na h-aithris—agus gu h-àraidh luchd a' chomhradh—taitneas sonraichte do bhreitheamhan na Gaidhlig.

Bha a' Bhean-usal Nic Dhomhnuill, Creag Ruadh, anns a' chathair aig Cuirm na Cloinne agus Baintighearna Caisteal Dhun-Bheagain aig Cuirm nan Inbheach.

Chuidich Mgr. Niall Mac Gilleathainn, an sàr-sheinneadair, aig an dà Chuirm Chiuil.

Moch Diar-daoin dh'fhag Mgr. Mac Phàil an t-Eilean Sgitheanaich agus rainig e Caol Loch Aillse far an do chuidich e le ullachadh airson Mòd a' Chaoil.

Chumadh am Mòd so air Di-h-aoine, an 28mh là de'n Og-mhios, agus ré an latha cha chualas ach Gaidhlig bhlasda Taobh a Siar Rois agus Ghlinn Eilge. Thuir breitheamh a' Chiuil nach cuala e droch ghuth an measg nan co-fharpaiseach gu léir agus gun robh e fìor thoilichte leis an Oigridh. Cha robh a' Ghaidhlig dad air dheireadh ach bu math leinn co-fharpaisichean fhacinn às a' Phloc, ann an leughadh is an aithris, cho math ris an t-seinn.

Cha robh na h-inbhich idir cho pailt is a b'èbhaist, aig a' Mhòd so, ach nach iad Oigridh an là'n diugh inbhich an là màireach, agus ma bhitheas an fheadhainn bheaga air an togail mar dheagh Ghaidheil is cinnteach gun bi iadsan a' leantainn gu dlùth ri elu an sinnsre.

Air an 4mh agus an 5mh là de'n Iuchar bha am Fear-deilbhe a' frithealadh aig coinneamhan de Chomhairlean a' Chomuinn an Glaschu agus an Sruibhle.

Tha ullachadh 'ga dheanamh aig an àm so airson Fèill nan Dealbh-chluichean an Uibhist agus am Barraidh agus Mòd ionadail Ceann a' Tuath Chataibh. Bidh Mòd Chataibh air a chumail aig Tunga air an 13mh là de'n t-Sultuin.

## An Airde Deas.

Fhrithheil an Runaire aig Mod Ile air an là thar fhichead de'n Og-mhios agus thugadh dha breith a thoirt air an Oigridh an aithris, an seinn is an ceol-Ìnnell. Tha clann bheaga an eilein fhathast fileanta anns a' Ghaidhlig agus tha am pàrantan ri chliuthachadh airson na cànan a chleachdadh riutha aig an dachaidh Bha Mgr. MacGille Sheathanaich na Fhear-cathrach aig a' Chuirm-chiuil air an fheasgar. Bha talla mór Bhoghamor loma-làn agus fhuair a' chuideachd rogha aithris is ciuil. Dh'fhoghladh a' Chuirm leis a' cho-chruinneachadh a' seinn an treas sailm thar an dà fhichead agus Gilleasbaig Mac Gilleathainn, a choisinn an duais air a shon, a leughadh na sreithe a reir an t-seann nòis. Bha e taitneach eisdeachd ri tri no ceithir cheud a' seinn an fhuinn "Kilmarnock."

Air a' cheathramh la fichead thog an Runaire air gu Mod Ard nam Murchan a chumadh an Sròn an t-Sithein an la-arn-a-mhàireach. Mar a dh'èirich aig a' mhòr-chuid de na Mòdan Duthchail am bliadhna cha robh uidhir de na h-inbhich ag gabhail pàirt anns na co-fharpaisean ach mur an robh bha an Oigridh a mach gu pailt. Dh'aithris tri fichead balachan is caileag "Linn an Aigh" gu pongail agus sheas a leth uidhir sin ceasnachadh an comhradh ris na breitheamhan. Tha a' Bhean Usal Nic Gilleathainn Aird-ghobhair ri shàr-mholadh airson a dealais as leth na Gaidhlig anns an roinn sin. Tha fir is mnathan a' seasamh daingean air a cùl agus tha sin a' deanamh gach Mòd soirbheachail. Bha a' Bhean Usal i fhein air ceann na Cuirme 'san fheasgar agus thug Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn seachad na duaisean.

Tha saothair an luchd-ciuil seachad gu mìos an Dàmhair co-dhiu agus gu mealadh iad an fhois air an airdh iad uile.

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## MID-ARGYLL PROVINCIAL MOD.

The 14th Mid-Argyll Provincial Mod was held at Lochgilphead on 11th and 12th June. The entries in the senior section were less than formerly, but in the junior section the entries constituted a record, particularly in the Oral classes.

The adjudicators were:—Gaelic, Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock; Rev. Angus J. MacVicar, M.A., Southend, and John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow. Vocal Music, David T. Yacimini, Perth. Piping and Dancing, Pipe-Major William Taylor, Glasgow. The Hon. Mrs. Maclean of Ardgorr presided over the Junior concert., and the Lady Elspeth Campbell over the Senior concert.

The following are the first prize winners:—

### JUNIORS.

Letter Writing—1, Cathie Martin, H.G. School. Dictation—1, Cathie Martin. Translation (into English)—1, Cathie Martin. Translation (into Gaelic)—1, Cathie Martin. Reading Poetry (selected, under 14)—1, Alison Ross, H.G. School. Reading Selected Prose (under 14)—1, Mary Turner. Reading Unfamiliar Prose (under 16)—1, Gilleasbuig Cameron. Reading from Memory (under 16)—1, Johan Livingstone. Reciting Poetry (own choice)—1, Jean Ross. Sgeulachd—1, Archie McLeod, H.G. School. Conversation with Judges—1, Tom M'Gillp.

Special Prizes.—Highest Aggregate in the Literature Section—girls, Cathie Martin; boys, Tom M'Gillp. Highest Aggregate in the Oral Delivery Section (under 14)—girls, Alison Ross; boys, Gilleasbuig Cameron. Under 16—girls, Jean Ross; boys, Gilleasbuig Cameron.

Vocal Music.—Solo Singing (under 16)—Girls—1, Cathie Stewart, Lochgilphead. Boys—1, Donald M'Callum, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing, selected (girls and boys)—1, Jessie Bruce. Gold Pendant—Cathie Stewart. Solo Singing (under 12)—1, Agnes Mary Cameron, Glassary. Solo Singing (under 16, own choice)—1, Nellie MacLullich. Puirt-a-Beul—1, Nellie MacLullich.

Choral Singing—1, Tarbert Junior Gaelic Choir. Unison Singing—1, Tarbert Junior Gaelic Choir.

Instrumental Music.—March on Bagpipes (under 16)—1, Nicol M'Callum, Kilmory. Strathspey and Reel (under 16)—1, Donald M'Alpine. March on Chanter (under 16)—1, Donald M'Callum, Lochgilphead. March, Strathspey and Reel on Pianoforte—1, Nan Wilkie, Lochgilphead.

Dancing.—Highland Fling (under 16)—1, Agnes Blair, Tarbert. Sword Dance—1, Agnes Blair. Reel of Four—1, Johan Livingstone. Highland Fling, Sword Dance, and Reel of Four (gold medal)—1, Agnes Blair.

Country Dances—1, Team 1 (Johan Livingstone, Billie Greenshields, Nancy Girvan, Susan Low, Alexis Leckie, Margaret MacConnell, Christeen MacAlpine, Mary MacDiarmid, Jessie Bruce, Ishabel Wisely).

### SENIORS.

Translation—Miss H. Johnstone, Inveraray. Reading—1, Mrs. M'Innes, Tayvallich. Recitation—1, Miss Hebe M'Gugan, Inveraray. Vocal Music, Solo Singing (female voices)—1, Miss Susan M'Allister, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing (male or female voices)—1, Mr J. Barriskill, Lochgilphead. Solo Singing (under 18)—Miss M'Vicar, Barbuise. Solo Singing, Selected (male or female)—1, Miss

Susan M'Allister. Oran Mor, Selected (male or female)—1, Miss Nan Greenshields. Gold Pendant, Miss Susan M'Allister. Puirt-a-Beul—Mrs. Campbell.

Choral Singing in Harmony—1, Lochgilphead Gaelic Choir. Unison Singing—1, Lochgilphead Gaelic Choir. Choral Singing, Selected—1, Tarbert Gaelic Choir. Choral Singing in Harmony, Selected 1, Tarbert Gaelic Choir.

## LEWIS PROVINCIAL MOD.

The 12th Lewis Provincial Mod was held at Stornoway on 20th and 21st June. There was a big increase in the Junior entries, particularly in the choral items, for which Mr. John Macdonald, An Comhainn's teacher, was largely responsible.

The following were the judges at the Mod:—Music adjudicator, Mr. Yacimini, Perth; Gaelic adjudicator in the vocal section, Mr. Macphail; judges of oral competition—Messrs. J. Gunn, Tong; Angus Macdonald and J. Macswen, Aird; and J. Thomson, Bayble; judge of Duncreggan Cup competitions, George Thomson, M.A., Glasgow; interim judges—Miss Mackenzie, Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Urquhart. Dr. Donald Macdonald, London, presided over the Junior concert, and Sir Alexander N. MacEwen, Inverness, over the Senior concert.

List of first prize winners:—

Literary Competitions (Rural Schools).—Cross—Qual.—1, Alexander Murray. 1st Year—1, John Angus Mackenzie. 2nd Year—1, Mary Ann Murray. Airdhantunim—Qual.—1, Donald Macdonald. 1st Year—1, Mary Ann Morrison. 2nd Year—1, Donald Smith. Carloway—1st Year—1, Alexina Macleod. 2nd Year—1, Nellie Macleod. Cromore—Qual.—1, Murdo Smith. 1st Year—1, Catherine A. Macleod. Tong—Qual.—1, Christina Macleod. 1st Year—1, Alex. Mackay. Knock—Qual.—1, Rhodina Macleod. 1st Year—1, Annabella Maciver. 2nd Year—1, Williamina Macleod. Sandwickhill—Qual.—1, Malcolm Buchanan. 1st Year—1, Chrissie B. Morrison. Duncarloway—Qual.—1, John Macarthur. 1st Year—1, Christy A. Macleod. Bragar—Qual.—1, Chrissie Campbell. 1st Year—1, John M. Macleod. 2nd Year—1, Johnina Macphail. Bayble—Qual.—1, Joan Stewart. 1st Year—1, Maggie Ann Macleod. 2nd Year—1, Mary Macdonald. 3rd Year—1, Mary Macdonald. Leurbost—Qual.—1, Dolina Montgomery. 1st Year—1, Christina Mackinnon. 2nd Year—1, Angus Mackinnon. Aird—Qual.—1, Effie Macdonald. 1st Year—1, Dolly Macleod. 2nd Year—1, Annie Macdonald. 3rd Year—1, Katie A. Campbell. Lionel—Qual.—1, Margaret Gillies. 1st Year—1, Dolina Smisick. 2nd Year—1, Duncan Macritchie. 3rd Year—1, Agnes Morrison. Nicolson Institute—1st Year—1, Annie C. Macleod. 2nd Year—1, Allan Matheson. 3rd Year—1, Mary Maciver. 4th Year—1 (equal), Peter Macleannan and Roderick Morrison.

Oral Delivery.—Tong—Reading and Reciting—1, Alex. J. Mackay. Cross—Reading and Reciting—1, Mary A. Murray. Stories—1, Annie Macritchie. Duncarloway—Reading and Reciting—1, Annie Macgregor. Lionel—Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, Mary A. Morrison. Seniors—1, Dolina Smith. Stories—1, Christina Murray. Bayble—Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, John M. Macleod. Seniors—1, Mary Macdonald. Stories—1, Mary Macdonald

(II). Leurbost—Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, Dolina Montgomery, Seniors—1, Angus Mackinnon. Stories—1, Isabella Maclean. Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, Margaret Campbell. Seniors—1, Johanna Macphail. Airdhantainn—Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, Katie M. Macritchie. Seniors—1, Christina Martin. Story—Christina Martin. Aird—Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, Dolly Macleod. Seniors—1, Maggie Ann Graham. Stories—1, Alex. D. Macdonald. Learners—1, Mary Mackay. Sandwickhill—Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, Margaret A. Macdonald. Seniors—Chris. M. Macleod. Stories—1, Cath. B. Macdonald. Nicolson Institute—Reading and Reciting—1, Derick Thomson. Seniors—1, Dolina Macleod. Knock—Reading and Reciting—Juniors—1, Anna M. MacLennan. Seniors—1, Charles Macleod and Christina A. Macleod (equal). Dialogues—1, Maggie B. Morrison and Christina Morrison (Nicolson Institute).

Vocal Music (Junior Section)—Best Rendering of Local Traditional Song—Girls—1, Morag Watt, Nicolson Institute. Solo Singing of a Song (own choice)—Girls—1, Jessie M. Maclean, Nicolson Institute. Boys—1, Alex. Murdo Morrison, Barvas. Solo Singing (prescribed song)—Girls—1, Jessie M. Maclean, Nicolson Institute. Boys—John M. Mackenzie, Aird. Union Singing (trophy presented by Lewis Branch)—1, Laxdale Junior Choir. Two-Part Singing (shield presented by the late Provost Kenneth Mackenzie)—1, Laxdale Junior Choir.

Vocal Music (Senior Section)—Solo Singing (own choice)—Female Voices—1, Angus Macdonald, Nicolson Institute. Male Voices—1, John Matheson, Brue. Solo Singing (prescribed song)—Female Voices—1, Annabella Macleod, Knock. Duet Singing—Anna Macleod and Agnes Macdonald (Nicolson Institute). Quartette Singing—Anna Macleod, Agnes Macdonald, Donald Macleod, and A. Macaskill, Nicolson Institute. Unpublished Gaelic Folk Song—1, Annabella Macleod, Knock. Choral Singing (Four-Part Song). Mixed Voices—1, Nicolson Institute. Choral Singing (Four-Part Song), Female Voices—1, Stornoway Ladies' Choir.

The Macaulay Trophy (Literature Section), awarded for two years in the rural schools and in the third year in the Nicolson Institute—Mary Maciver, Nicolson Institute.

## ISLAY PROVINCIAL MOD.

Mr. M. G. MacCallum, A.R.C.O., Campbeltown, was adjudicator, and he was pleased to state that there was a vast improvement in the singing in Islay since he was there last in 1931. He wished to congratulate Mr. MacIver, the energetic conductor, on his splendid work, particularly the excellent tone and expression that he got from all the choirs, Seniors and Juniors.

The other judges were:—For Gaelic in Senior competitions, Rev. Kenneth MacLeod, D.D., of Gigha; for senior recitations and reading, Rev. Neil Ross, Bowmore; for Junior competitions, Mr. Neil Shaw.

The following are the first prize awards:—

### JUNIORS.

Reading (J. T. Christie's Medal), 1, Duncan MacQueen, Bowmore. Reciting from Memory—1, G. MacLean, Gortan. Solo Singing, girls (gold

pendant)—1, M. MacIntyre, Bridgend. Solo Singing, boys (gold pendant)—1, Alistair Ferguson, Bridgend. Cantataireachd—1, H. Duncan, Bridgend. Duet Singing—1, K. MacIntyre and M. Winnard, Bowmore. Choral Singing, two-part (Mr. Morrison's Challenge Cup)—1, Bowmore Junior Choir. Union Singing (Mr. MacIntyre's Challenge Cup)—1, Gortan Junior Choir.

Violin—1, Albert Currie, Portnahaven. Piano-forte—1, Jessie Campbell, Port Ellen.

### SENIORS.

Reading—1, Mrs. MacLeod, Bowmore. Recitation—1, Mrs. MacLeod, Bowmore. Recitation of Original Piece of Poetry—1, Charles MacNiven, Rockside. Sgeulachd—1, Roderick MacArthur, Lagavulin. Solo Singing, Female Voices (gold pendant)—1, Rena MacFarlane. Solo Singing, Male Voices (gold pendant)—1, Robert MacArthur, Port Charlotte. Special prize from adjudicators to D. MacGillivray, Portnahaven.

Solo Singing, song by Duncan Ban MacIntyre (prizes by Miss MacIntyre, Bridgend)—1, Florrie MacKechnie. Canntaireachd—R. M'Arthur, Lagavulin. Duet Singing—1, Katie Orr and Morag MacEachern, Port Ellen. Quartette, Mixed Voices—1, Port Ellen Quartette. Trio, Male Voices—Bowmore. Solo Singing of Psalm 43, old style, chanting the line, tune Kilmarnock (prizes by Rev. N. Ross, B.D., Bowmore)—1, A. MacLean, Kentraw.

Pianoforte—1, Jeanie Currie, Oa. Four-Part Harmony (Mr Morrison's Challenge Cup)—1, Port Ellen Choir. Choral Singing, Female Voices—1, Port Ellen Ladies' Choir. Choral Singing, Male Voices—1, Port Ellen Male Voice Choir. Choral Singing of Puirt-a-Beul (Greenock Gaelic Choir's Challenge Cup)—1, Portnahaven Choir.

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Leabhar XXX.]

*An t-Sultain, 1935.*

[Earrann 12

### DA BHUIDHEANN.

Nach Ìonmhòr iad a gheibh cron do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach a chionn nach eil e a' gabhail as laimh gach éis tha air a' Ghaidhealtachd a chur ceart. Ach tha mi an dùil nach eil luchd casaid A' Chomuinn a' tuigsinn cìod e rùn A' Chomuinn, no cìod e nàdur na crìche a tha aige anns an amharc. Mar chuala sinn fichead uair is e rùn A' Chomuinn ar cànan is ar ceòl a ghleidheadh. Ach tha an rùn sin de ghnè oileanta. Buinidh e do chàil inntinn is do loinn comhraidh. Cùin air an talamh a thuigeas an luchd casaid gur ann a tha An Comunn a' rùnachadh a bhi a' cumail beò a' mhòdha is a' ghiùlain a tha dualach do ar dream, agus a tha an cunbairt gu'n caillear e?

\* \* \*

A nis tha iomadh ni a dhìth air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Tha feum air fearann is iasgach; air cosnadh is tighean; air treabhachas, bàtaichean is calaidhean, agus fichead ni cile. Ach is feudar meadhon freagarrach a chleachdadh gus na nithean sin fhaotainn. Is math an ni gu'm biodh fhios aig neach cìod tha dhìth air, a chum is gu'n gabh e an dòigh cheart gus àrach air a' ghearan a bhùinig. A chum gu'n teid easbhuidhean corporra nan Gaidheal a cheartachadh is iomchuidh gu'n seas iad fhéin gu greimeil airson na crìche sin. Tha mi ag aideachadh nach eil stàth air a' cheann mu dheireadh an obair A' Chomuinn mur bi sluagh anns na glinn gus a' Ghaidhlig a labhairt. Agus chan aisgear tuath do na glinn gun strì anabarrach. Mar sin tha feum air da bhuidhinn—air Comunn a ni tagradh

airson feabhas na dùthcha, agus air A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach a ri tagradh airson feabhas na cànan agus a' chiùil.

\* \* \*

Bheir sinn fainear nach do leig An Comunn riamh a stigh deasbaireachd mu chùisean eaglais no stàta. Rinneadh so a chum nach éireadh easaontachd am measg nam ball. Mar thoradh air sin bha càirdeas math is deagh ordugh anns A' Chomunn bho thùs. Ma theid neach gu Mòd bliadhna, agus gu'm fritheil e na céilidhean feasgair chi e cho aoidheil aobhneach 's a tha spiorad A' Chomuinn. Eadhon am measg nan comh-fharpuiseach tha tioralachd ri mhothachadh. An fheadhainn a shuidhich an Comunn bho chionn dà fhichead bliadhna bha iad fhéin làn eud is dùrachd an gnothach eaglais is an gnothach stàta. Ach bha iad glic an uair a dhùin iad am mach an dà chuspair sin as A' Chomunn. Oir bha fhios aca gu math far an éireadh deasbaireachd is easaontachd, gu'm bu dualach gun tigeadh easaontachd is laigse 'n an lorg.

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Chan eil teagamh agam nach abair am fear casaid nach eil anns na faclai so ach faoinis—oir chan urrainn gu'm bi briathran sam bith ceart ach na briathran cothromach aige féin. Their e nach eil anns an tagradh ach leisgeul gus nithean duilich a sheachnadh. Chan 'eil ceartas anns a' chronachadh sin. An abair e nach urrainn duine bhi 'na bhall de dhà bhuidhinn aig a bheil crìochan eadar-dhealaichte? Faodaidh neach a bhi ann am buidhean camanachd agus cuideachd ann an coisrì-chiùil. An uair a bhios tu ri iomain-chaman bi tu ri sin féin. An uair a bhios tu aig

cleachdadh còisir ni thu do dhìcheall air seinn. Ach ma bhios t'aire air iomain-chaman ri uair na seinn cha choinninn thu gu bràth buaidh-làraich air seinn no air iomain-chaman. Air a' mhòd cheudna is Comasach do neach a bhi 'n a bhall eudmhor de'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach, a' brosnuchadh an aobhair. Ach a thuilleadh air sin, faodaidh an neach ceudna a bhi 'n a bhall dealasach an comunn eile aig am bheil cùisean mar chrìch àraidh a chum leasachadh fhaotainn airson gach easbhuidh a tha air na Gaidheil. Ach ma mheasgaicheas tu Gaidhlig is ceòl le fearann agus iasgach, cha toir thu gu bràth aon seach aon diu sin gu piseach no gu buaidh!

\* \* \*

Is gann gur aithne dhuinn idir buidheann cho lionmhor ris A' Chomunn Ghaidhealach anns am bheil uibhir de bhuill a tha ag eadar-dhealachadh cho mòr bho cheile an aoradh, am beachdan mu riaghladh, an cranchur, agus an inbhe. Ach tha iad uile "air an aon ràmh" anns A' Chomunn, a chionn gur e rùn dùthchail mu chainnt is oilean a tha 'g an ceangal ri chèile. Agus aon ni eile—ged bhiodh Alba gu léir de'n aon eaglais an màireach—ged chuirte ceatt gach ni tha cearr—ged gheibhte fearann is cosnadh agus gach iom-fhuasgladh eile a tha dhìth air na Gaidheil; gidheadh bhiodh àite ann fathast do'n Chomunn. Ged rachadh an sluagh air an ais do no glinn; agus ged bhiodh soirbheachadh feadh na Gaidhealtachd a thaobh cor is cranchur; gidheadh chan 'eil dearbhadh sam bith gu'n gleidheadh na Gaidheil cainnt an siunsir, mur biodh leithid A' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach ann gus an cumail cuimhneachail air an dleasan do'n cànan is do'n ceòl.

## ANCIENT GAELIC CHIVALRY.

By the EDITOR.

The skilful use of warlike weapons formed an important part of military education under the old order of Gaelic knighthood. Gaelic M.S. xxxviii. (p. 123) Nat. Lib. contains a curious list of sword feats and passes employed in the instruction of young warriors: "Ubhaill-cheas" the apple feat; this feat appears to have consisted in flinging an apple straight up into the air, and in splitting it with the sword as it came down. "Toruinn-cheas" the thunder feat; this consisted in producing a loud rumbling sound by striking the sword in a certain manner against the shield. The feat is referred to also in the Book of the Dun

Cow. "Foidhbheim," the under cut; this was a dangerous pass, to which there was an appropriate and technical guard. "Faithbheim," the upper cut; a well-known move in fencing. This too has a guard-movement peculiar to itself. "Lasairbheim," the flame stroke. Here the spiral movement of ascending flame was imitated in raising the sword. The movement was probably a feint. "Beim go bfolas" an advance thrust. "Brudh niadh" a certain body thrust. This stroke is mentioned in 'Tain Bo Cualnge,' and Windisch interprets it as being a stroke directed against the abdomen of the adversary. The meaning of two feats, "Iompadh cleithe ar bharr slaite," and "Cleas os aguib" is not evident. "Brais-bheim" a certain sudden stroke; "Cleas cuair," the crooked feat; "Cleas cait," the cat feat. The Book of Leinster describes this feat as a springing leap, as a cat springs on a bird—hence the name. The irresistible feat of the "Gath-bolga" is believed by many to have consisted in a well aimed cast with a barbed dart. It was generally resorted to as a last resource.

The memorable duel between Ferdiad and Cuchulainn in the Tain Bò Cualnge provides a suitable illustration of Gaelic chivalry. A singular parallel to this fight occurs in the play of Henry IV. by Shakespeare. Glendower and Mortimer meet in single combat on the banks of the Severn.

"Three times they breathed, and three times did they drink

Upon agreement of swift Severn's flood;  
Who then affrighted with their bloody looks  
Ran fearfully among the trembling reeds  
And hid his crisp head in the hollow bank  
Blood-stained with these valiant combatants."

The duel between the English knights takes place beside a river, and the combatants allow themselves, by mutual agreement three separate intervals for repose in the course of the struggle. It is rather a curious coincidence that similar details occur in the ancient description of the fight between the warriors in the Gaelic record.

Queen Meve (Medb) of Connacht prevailed upon the champion Ferdiad to engage in a duel with Cuchulainn, who had already destroyed so many of her warriors. Ferdiad after much persuasion consents with reluctance. His unwillingness is due not to fear, but to the fact that he and Cuchulainn had once been fellow-pupils and companions in the school of arms in Scathach's Island. Cuchulainn besought the other by the memory of those old days to refrain from fighting. But Ferdiad was bound by

military obligations, and could not honourably withdraw. After a day's duel in which neither warrior had secured any advantage they both kissed each other and retired from the combat. That evening they exchanged a portion of each other's food and drink and healing herbs, and their charioteers rested by the same fire. The fight was resumed with similar results for the second and the third day; and it was not until the fourth day that Ferdiad received a mortal wound. No sooner did Cuchulainn observe that his opponent was about to die than he took him up in his arms, and bore him across the stream beside which they had been fighting, in order that Ferdiad might breathe his last among the men of Ulster.

The appeal of the incident to our emotions may be regarded as evidence that the combination of opposing qualities in these two men is natural. There is in the mind of each combatant a struggle between a warlike sense of duty on the one hand, and the tender feeling of old friendship on the other. It is a scene where we behold a rare but harmonious blending of diverse passions. In the character-creation the men are made so human, that neither the fierce military code of an early time, nor the rage of a mortal combat, can efface from their minds the memories of friendship and old fellowship. That men who bore themselves as mutual enemies should yet exchange the tokens of kindness and affection in the interval of a death-struggle; and that the survivor should bewail the death of him who was friend and foe in one, is a literary creation which finds a genuine response in the human heart.

The chivalry of the ideal Gaelic warrior is once more displayed at the close of his combat with Lóch Mór. In that grim struggle Cuchulainn was greatly hindered by the hostile intervention of the Mórrigan or war-goddess, who opposed him under three different shapes. At length it is only by resorting to the irresistible feat of the gae-bolg that Cuchulainn inflicts a mortal wound on Lóch. The latter when about to expire asks a favour of his enemy.

Lóch—"Grant me a favour O Cuchulainn."

Cuchulainn—"What favour dost thou ask?"

Lóch—"It is not a boon of mercy or cowardice I crave of thee. Retire before me so that I may fall on my face to the east, and not on my back to the west towards the men of Erin, that no man of them may say that I fled in panic before thee, when I have fallen by the gae-bolg."

Cuchulainn—"I will do so, for the request thou makest is a warrior's request."

It is, indeed, a feeling for dramatic vividness that makes the constructor of the saga reveal at a critical point, and in a single touch, the liberal and noble character of his hero. The true artistic sense invariably fixes on a supreme moment in which to catch the significance of a story or the character of an individual. A sculptor or painter, for example, would seize on that psychological moment, and would indicate its importance in stone or colour. It is also on that very juncture that a dramatic artist might concentrate as affording scope in an unusual degree for the expression of character by action.

In this rare scene two aspects of chivalry are emphasised. We observe in Lóch on the one hand a rigid regard for the accepted code of honour, and an anxiety that his own memory in after times should be free from the suspicion of cowardice. With his last breath he craves that his body may be permitted to fall in a certain position in case he should forfeit a hero's place in the estimation of his friends. On the other hand we behold in Cuchulainn a rare deference to the feelings of a dying foe. This surely is the essence of military honour. It is a feature which occurs more than once in the Red Branch sagas, and is possibly peculiar to Celtic chivalry. How different this from the cases in which there is nothing better than savage hatred, or in which vengeance is pursued even beyond death. It is not enough for example, that the noble Hector is slain, but his body must be brutally trailed on the ground behind a Greek war-chariot, around the city of Troy. We can discover no traces of tenderness in the last interview between Macbeth and Macduff. In the case of the Gaels as of other earnest combatants the grim and mortal fight is equally a fight to a finish. There is no lack of thoroughness in the encounter, but the victors are put in a far different light. In the mortal combats of the classics the gaining of victory is rarely or never followed by a generous deed on the part of the survivor towards the fallen. It is a very humane and attractive feature of these ancient Gaelic sagas that in more cases than one the selfish element which usually accompanies triumph, is mellowed and softened by the grace and glow of magnanimity.

An extraordinary instance of chivalry is exemplified in the fight between Conall Cearnach the avenger of Cuchulainn's death, and Lugaid who had beheaded Cuchulainn. It appears that this Lugaid had only one arm. Although Conall is obsessed by a spirit of irrepressible

vengeance yet he admits and feels that to fight with a one-armed man would not be just. Lugaid insists that he and Conall are unfairly matched; and in order that they may fight on equal terms Conall chivalrously permits his right hand to be fastened to his side. We quote from an unpublished version of the Saga in M.S. xxxviii., Nat. Lib. This version differs from printed renderings of the tale: "Maith a Chonuill, ar Lugaidh, nocha nionchathaichte sinn nar ndis, i. tusa agus da lamh ar do chumus fein agad agus meisi ar leithlaimeh—i. ceanguiltair do lamh dheasa, a Chonuill, ar se." do cheanglath lam Chonuill iarsin. "In truth Conall it is not fairly matched we both are; that is, you have the use of your two hands, while I am one-handed. Let your right hand be bound Conall, said he. Conall's hand was bound forthwith." The chivalrous mantle of Cuchulainn himself must have fallen upon Conall. There must have been an *ethos* of magnanimity in the code of honour under which these men were trained. The warrior who would permit his right hand to be fastened to his side before engaging in a mortal combat with a dangerous enemy, showed not only a warlike confidence in his own prowess, but also a remarkable deference to the disability of his maimed opponent. This is surely the very essence of chivalry, and is an attractive feature in the character of Conall Cearnach, the great avenger of blood, who exacted such a terrible penalty for the death of Cuchulainn.

The mysterious doctrine of Tabu, so exhaustively discussed in recent years in connection with the new science of Comparative Theology, found a unique expression in the old Gaelic world under the form of 'geasa,' (singular 'geis,') which may be defined as an interdiction, ban, or prohibition. 'Geasa' bulked largely in the chivalrous code of ancient Gaeldom. It is only a superficial view of this curious custom, that regards it as merely a side issue in the life of the early ages. Arbitrary as these things may seem from a modern standpoint, yet 'geasa' had a sacred character, and fidelity to a sacred obligation constitutes a leading element in the *ethos* of all true warriors. It could be easily shown that the martial 'geasa' of the Gaelic heroic age, in common with tabu among every other race, had primarily a religious significance. But we are concerned only with the manner in which these obligations affected the code of honour of those primitive times. For example it was tabu for Cuchulainn to explain his descent to one warrior, to decline combat with any single champion, to boast before a woman, to let the

sun rise before him in Emania, to listen to the divine music of Manannan's harp. There were certain prohibitions imposed on every member of the Fenian band: he must not accept a dowry with his wife; he must never offer violence to any woman; he must be generous in all things to the utmost of his ability. It is hardly necessary to point out that these noble 'geasa,' if acted upon, were calculated to produce a type of warrior, frank, unselfish, and chivalrous. It was in the power of beautiful women to put 'geasa' on the men whom they loved. Classical instances of this in Gaelic lore are the 'geasa' laid by Deirdre on Naoise, and by Grainne on Diarmad O'Duibhne.

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### LETTER FROM BELGIUM.

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We have received the following letter from Mr. H. F. Van den Broeck, Belgium, who is a member of An Comunn. Mr. Van den Broeck is keenly interested in Gaelic, and has visited this country on several occasions to hear it spoken. It would be obliging if some of our readers who may be informed on the subject of his enquiry would give him their assistance.

Fhir Urramaich,—Tha mi gle dhuilich nach urrainn dhomh litir Ghaidhlig a sgrìobhadh. But I think I shall make too many mistakes if I tried to write in Gaelic.

In Neil Macalpine's Dictionary I see the following: *Fir-bholg-n*, pl. the *Belgæ*, old Irish.

This interested me much as one would think there must have been a connection between the ancient inhabitants of my own country and the Gaels in the days when the world was young. Could you or any reader of *An Gaidheal* give me some explanation to the meaning of the above-mentioned statement. I know that the first inhabitants of this country were Celts, most probably of a race which stood very near to the Gaelic race. There are too many indications in the local place-names to doubt about it. Names like Ath, Arlon (Aros-lòn), Ardroye, Ardennes, speak for themselves and anyone who has the Gaelic will not fail to recognise familiar words here. But that my ancestors should have been the old Irish I did not know. Is there a connection between the word 'bolg' of *Fir-bholg* and "Belgæ"? I thank you for the information you may be able to give me.—Is mise, le mor speis, bhur caraid,

F. H. VAN DEN BROECK.

## CLEASAN GAIÐHEALACH

airson

Comunn na h-Oigridh.

## CAMANACHD.

*(Air an leanntainn)*

Bithidh ceithir fir-choimhid nan lìn-taobhach — leth-lìn aig gach fear. Tha aca-san ri coimhead 'nuair a theid am ball iomlan thar na lìn-taobhaich. Cumaidh gach fear-coimhid a leth-lìn fhéin de'n bhair, agus bheir e fios do'n Bhrèitheamh 'nuair a theid gairm air. Foadaidh am Breitheamh aon air bith de na puncan sin a chur an dara taobh gun a chomhairle chur ri fear-coimheid lìn.

8. Cha tig neach air machair-na h-ìomanach fad's a bhitear ag iomain, ach an dà sgioba, am Breitheamh, fir-choimhead nan lìn, agus dà fhear-giùlan airson gach sgioba.

9. Is e àireamh nan leth-bhàir a mhàin a chuireas a' bhàir an dara taobh.

10. 'Nuair a tha gach sgioba deas ni am Breitheamh, 's e 'na sheasamh air a' chaille (teis-meadhon na machrach) am ball a thilgeil suas 'san athar dìreach, eadar fear de gach sgioba a réir R.13.

11. 'Nuair a theid am ball iomlan eadar na puist-bàire agus fo'n chrann-tarsuinn, 's e leth-bhàir a th'ann, ma's e nach bi so an aghaidh R. 14, agus nach 'eil aig a' Bhrèitheamh an leth-bhàir a dhùltadh a thaobh briseadh riaghailt air choireigin.

Toisichear a' bhàir as ùr a réir R.10.

12. Chan fhaod iomanaiche air bith beantuinn do'n bhall le a làimh ach am fear-bàire a mhàin. Foadaidh esan fideag a thoirt dhà le a bhois, ach chan fhaod iomanaiche sam bith am ball a bhreabadh no a thilgeil, no a ghiùlan leis.

13. Bheir am Breitheamh aon rabhadh seachad gach àm mu'n tilg e suas am ball eadar dà iomanaiche. Tilgear am ball co-dhiu dà through dheug o'n talamh. Feumaidh an dà iomanaiche bhì co-dhiu tri troigean bho chéile agus 'nan seasamh fa chomhair a chéile, 's an camain tarsuinn a chéile. Chan fhaod iomanaiche eile bhì mar astar chòig slatan dhaibh gus am buailear am ball 'san athar no am bean e do'n talamh.

14. 'Nuair a bhriseas fear de'n dara taobh riaghailt sam bith, ceadaichidh am Breitheamh saor-bhuille do'n taobh eile. Cuirear am ball an sin air ionad a' bhrisidh agus buailear le caman. e. Gus am bi so deanta chan fhaod iomanaiche eile bhì mar astar chòig slatan do'n fhear-bhuilaidh: ma tha, bithidh a thoil aig a' Bhrèitheamh saor-bhuille eile òrduchadh. Ma

ni am fear-bhuilaidh buille air iomrall, gabhaidh e buille eile, agus aon uair 's gu'm buail e am ball chan fhaod e iomain tuilleadh gus am bean am ball do chaman, do chorp no do aodach iomanaiche eile. Chan àireamhar leth-bhàir bho shaor-bhuille.

Airson briseadh riaghailte leis an luchd-dìon an taobh-stigh ionad nan deich slat, bithidh buille-peanais aig an luchd-ionnsuidh. Cuirear am ball air ionad ris an abrar an t-ionad-peanais, air beulaibh nam post-bàire agus fichead slat bhuaipa, agus buailear dìreach rathad nam post e. Gus am bi so deanta aig an fhear-bhuilaidh, agus am fear-bàire a' fantuinn eadar na puist, seasaidh càch air chùl an ionaid-peanais, agus gun a bhì mar astar chòig slatan dha: air neo, bithidh a thoil aig a' Bhrèitheamh buille-peanais eile òrduchadh. Ma ni am fear-bhuilaidh buille air iomrall, gabhaidh e buille eile. Mur ruig am ball, 's e air a bhualadh, lìn-na-bàire, no ma theid e thairis oirre (gun a bhì eadar na puist agus fo'n chrann-tarsuinn), measar gur "buille seachad" a tha ann, agus theid a bhualadh a mach le fear de'n luchd-dìon. Ach ma theid am ball, 's e air a bhualadh, an taic a' chroinn-tarsuinn no fear de na puist, 's a leumas e air ais air a' mhachair, theid an iomain air aghaidh gun stad. Chan fhaod am fear a bhualail am ball air an ionad-peanais iomain tuilleadh gus am buail am ball caman corp no aodach iomanaiche eile.

Aireamhar leth-bhàire bho bhuille-peanais.

15. Chan fhaod iomanaiche sam bith fear de'n taobh eile a chumail no phutadh le a làimh no le a chaman: ni mo a dh'fhaodas e ionnsuidh a thoirt air bho thaobh a chùil, no cas-bhaic a chur air, no leum air, no a bhreabadh no a thilgeil, le bhì dèanamh feum d'a chois no d'a chaman.

16. Bithidh a thoil aig a' Bhrèitheamh rabhadh a thoirt do iomanaiche sam bith a thaobh e bhì ri eachlaireachd no droch-ghiùlan no droch-cainnt, no a' briseadh gu ceann-laidir té sam bith de na riaghailtean. Agus ma chì e iomchuidh foadaidh e a lethidh de choireach a bhacadh gun rabhadh a thoirt dha roimh-laimh, a bhacadh bho bhì 'g iomain tuilleadh 'sa bhàir sin.

17. Chan fhaod iomanaiche a chaman a chur an sàs no a "chlicadh" ann an caman fear de an taobh eile, ma's e nach 'eil an caman sin mar astar buille do'n bhall.

18. Ma chuireas iomanaiche, d'a dheòin, bacadh air fear de an taobh eile, 's gun e fhéin ag iomain air a' bhall aig an àm, bithidh saor-bhuille aig an taobh eile.

19. Ma bhuaileas iomanaiche, d'a dheòin, am ball thar lìn-taobhach, bithidh a thoil aig a' Bhreitheamh saor-bhuille òrduchadh an aghaidh a thaoibh-san, 'san ionad o'n do bhuaileadh am ball.

20. Chan fhaod iomanaiche air bith a chaman a thilgeil air a' bhall, agus chan fhaod e, 's gun a chaman aige 'na làimh (no cuid dheth) iomain tuilleadh gus am bi e aige 'na làimh a rithis. Cha bhacar iomanaiche o bhi ag iomain a thaoibh a chaman a bhi briste.

21. Cha mheasar iomanaiche "bharr a thaoibh" ach a mhàin ma tha e an taobh-stigh ionad nan deich slat 'nuair a bhuailear am ball a steach ann.

Airson briseadh riaghailte leis an luchd-dìon an ionad nan deich slat, bithidh saor-bhuille aig an taobh eile a réir R. 14.

22. 'Nuair a theid am ball iomlan thar lìn-taobhach, bheirear a stigh sè slatan deug e agus tilgear suas e a réir R. 13. Bithidh a roghainn aig a' Bhreitheamh am ball a thilgeil suas e fhéin no gairm air fear-coimhid line gu so a dhèanamh.

23. 'Nuair a theid am ball iomlan thar lìn-na-bàire, ach gun dol eadar na puist, agus gur fear-ionnsuidh am fear mu dheireadh a bhuaile, is e an luchd-dìon a dh'fheumas am ball a bhualadh a mach bho thaobh-stigh ionad nan deich slat, a réir R.14.

24. 'Nuair a theid am ball iomlan thar lìn-na-bàire, ach gun dol eadar na puist, agus gur fear-dìon am fear mu dheireadh a bhuaile e, bithidh "buille-oisne" aig an luchd-ionnsuidh bho thaobh-stigh a' cheathramh-chearcaill a réir R. 14.

Chan àireamhar leth-bhàire bho a leithid de bhuille.

25. Ma ghoirticheas iomanaiche a cho-sheise air dòigh a ni e eu-comasach dha cluich tuilleadh, fàgaidh e machair-na-h-iomanach ma theid gairm air leis a' Bhreitheamh gu sin a dhèanamh.

26. Ma tha fear de'n dà iomanaiche-mheadhonach ciotach, 's am fear eile deasach, bithidh a roghainn aig fear ma seach aca fad leth na h-ùine, ciod an taobh air an seas e an àm do'n bhall a bhi air a thilgeil suas.

(Ri leanstainn.)

## RESIGNATION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

Members will learn with sincere regret that An Comunn is about to lose the services of its Assistant Secretary, Mr. MacPhee, who has been offered, and has accepted, an appointment with the B.B.C. as Gaelic Assistant. Mr. MacPhee is singularly well fitted for this position and one may safely predict that the B.B.C. will never have reason to regret its choice. It will find in him a wise and thoroughly competent adviser in matters pertaining to Gaelic programmes.

During his period of service with An Comunn Mr. MacPhee has proved himself a most capable official—well informed, courteous, resourceful and tactful. His heart was obviously in his work and he gave himself to the performance of his duties with unsparing and unselfish devotion. An ardent lover of Gaelic and a diligent student of its literature he speaks and writes the language with enviable ease and accuracy. His duties with An Comunn have brought him into contact with speakers and writers of Gaelic—not only the well known but the less known—and his knowledge of where these are to be found should be of immense advantage to him and to the B.B.C., in his work as Gaelic Assistant.

An Comunn will part with Mr. MacPhee with great reluctance and with deep regret. It is a comfort, however, to know that his new appointment will not withdraw him from that work for Gaelic in which his head and heart are so deeply engaged. In his new position he will have ample opportunities of rendering that service to the language for which his proved ability and ripe experience so eminently fit him.

Mr. MacPhee will carry with him the cordial good wishes of An Comunn members and their sincere hope that many years of happy and successful work await him in the service of the B.B.C. *Buaidh is piseach leis.* M. M.

## H.R.H. The Duchess of York to be Present at National Mod.

We are pleased to announce that H.R.H. The Duchess of York has graciously consented to attend the Grand Concert on the closing evening of the Mod, Friday, 27th September, and to present the Prizes.

This announcement will be received with unqualified pleasure by our members, and Her Royal Highness is assured of a loyal and enthusiastic welcome. The Concert will be presided over by His Grace The Duke of Montrose, C.B., C.V.O., LL.D., and the programme is to be sustained by the principal prize winners.

## CHAN, GUN, NAN, ETC.

By PROFESSOR WATSON.

As Mr. MacDonald indicates, two considerations now govern the spelling of such words: first, use and wont; second, correctness. Historically we know that, while *chan* also aspirates, the final *n* of such words is the eclipsing *n*, which nasalises the initial of the following word and is written with it. In the older language, and still in Irish, its exact effect on the following initial and the method of writing it depend on what that initial may be; before a vowel it is written *n*, before *b* it is written *m*, and so on. This is the perfectly well-known phenomenon of eclipsis, which any piece of modern Irish prose will illustrate. Now we in Scotland at the present day give no effect to eclipsis in writing except in a few crystallized phrases: we write *cha tig 's cha téid*, though we say *cha dtig 's cho dtéid*. This is, of course, because eclipsis survives in our speech only fragmentarily. Our predecessors in writing Gaelic, however, such as Alexander MacDonald in his first edition, knew the Irish method of writing, and sought some way of indicating the place of eclipsis on occasion: the way they adopted was the insertion of an apostrophe to thrust the final *n* on to the following initial, or at least to separate it from the preceding word. That was their sole purpose in using the apostrophe. And that tradition it is which survives to the present day. Some writers of excellent Gaelic employ the usage, not because it is desirable in itself, but because it has been in the past so widespread and particularly because it is regular in the Bible, the only body of Gaelic prose which commands universal circulation. It may be said that if one follows Biblical usage one will not go far wrong. *Cha'n gu'n*, etc., are not serious errors; but errors they are, and if we know better why should we adhere to them? No disastrous consequences will follow their abandonment. Both Dr. Alex. MacBain and Professor Mackinnon latterly recognised that, if the use of the apostrophe is to indicate a missing letter, the apostrophe in *cha'n*, etc., is wrong. *Chan 'eul* (two words) is, of course, for *chan fheil*, Irish *ni fhuil*.

*Na's* in *na's fhearr*, etc., probably stands for *na* plus the relative present of the copula, *as*; the verb of the vowel is the weaker, and is therefore correctly represented by the apostrophe. *As*, the rel. pres. of the cop., is an Old Irish form. *Gun robh* is frequent and correct in Scottish Gaelic, though in the older language the *n* would be assimilated to *r* before *r*.

## COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

NA BANA-CHEANNARDAN. Thoiribh an deagh aire air an t-seòladh so:—

OBAIR-LAIMHE NAN CAILEAGAN.

- i. Bithidh obair-laimhe Comunn na h-Oigridh air a foillseachadh aig Mòd Dhun-Eideann ann an Seomar 2, Talla a' Chiuil, Sràid Sheòrais, comhla ri obair Earrann a' Ghnìomhachais agus nan Ealdhainean. Faodar obair sam bith a chur ann.
- ii. Cuiribh gach pasgan de bhuill-oibre a dh'ionnsuidh

“The Secretary,

An Comunn Gaidhealach,

131 West Regent Street,

Glasgow, C.2.”

- cho luath agus is urrainn dhuibh. Is dòcha nach gabhar ri obair a ruigeas an Rùnaire an déidh seachduin roimh 'n Mhòd.
- iii. Fuaighibh stiall de phaipear ris gach ball-oibre a leigil fhaicinn ainm, Feachd (Sgoil), Baile-phost agus Siorramachd an neach leis an leis i.
  - iv. Gun fhios nach bi feadhainn aig a' Mhòd a cheannaicheas cuid de'n obair, cuiribh bhur pris air gach ball-oibre. Cuirear an t-airgid a dh'ionnsuidh an Fheachd a choisneas e.
  - v. Tha luchd-riaghlaidh a' Mhòid air a bhì cho coibhneil 's gun do gheall iad bhur nìthan nach reicear a chur air ais gun n-ionnsuidh gun chosdas an déidh a' Mhòid, na chuireas sibh an seòladh ceart orra. Tha sinn fada 'nan comain airson so.
  - vi. Cuiribh bhur comhairle ri bhur Ceann-Feachd ma tha sibh ann an teagamh mu ni sam bith.

A nis, a Chlanna, sin sibh fein air tighinn air ais, agus tha dòchas agam gun d'fhuair sibh fein agus na Cinn-Feachd ùrachadh cuirp agus inntinn airson na bhios fa'r comhair anns an t-seisean ùr.

Is ann a rinn mi fein agus Mgr. MacPhàil, Fear-deilbhe an Taoibh Tuath, turas a dh'ionnsuidh na Cuimridh, no mar a their na Sasannaich ris an dùthaich bhòidhich sin, Wales, air a' mhios so, a dh'aon ghnòthuch a dh'fhaicinn a' Chomuinn a th'aca an sin airson na h-Oigridh, ris an abrar “Urdd Gobaith Cymru” (Comunn Dochas Chuimridh). Nis, bu mhaith leam beagan a ràdh ruibh m'a dheidhinn, chionn ged a tha Clann na Gaidhealtachd, annta fein, a h-uile buille cho math ri Cuimrich sam bith, agus ar dùthaich

neo-ar-thaing cho bòidheach ri Cuimridh, is e Comunn miorbhuilteach a tha 'san Urdd : agus ma tha sinne, an ceann trì bliadhna deug airson a bhi 'nar buidheann Ceilteach cho foghainteach 's a tha iad-san aig ceann na h-ùine sin, 's eadar dhuinn dol an greim le ar n-uile dhìchioll; 's eadar dhuibh-se an gealladh a thug sibh a choimhlionadh agus a bhi 'nur Gaidheil cho math 's a bha riamh an Alba.

Is i àireamh buill na h-Urdd, mu 70,000 ! Agus tha suas ri ochd ceud Feachd aca. Gu mì-fhortanach, bha cead-samhraidh aig na sgoillean aig an àm agus chan fhaca sinn mòran de dh'obair nam Feachd. Ach chunnaic mi dealbh 'san robh 15,000 de Chloinn a' mearsadh seachad air Prohbaist Chaermarthen ann an eiseadh agus fo bhraitaichean na h-Urdd. An do smaoinich sibh riamh air a leithid ?

Agus chunnaic sinn na Campaichean. Chuir sinn seachad ceann na seachduine annta— an dara Camp airson nan Cailleagan agus an Camp eile airson nam Balach, dà fhichead mìle cho chèile, ach le chèile an dùthaich bhèrgha, mbonadail ri taobh na mara. Bha mu cheud ball anns gach Camp, ag cadal ann am pailiunan brèagha, uaine, 's a' tighinn gu bothan mòr, fiodha, airson bidh : agus b'e sin am biadh blada, fallain. Tha corra riaghailtean a dh'fheumas iad a choimhead, ach a mach o sin tha iad air an saor thoil fhein, ag cur seachad an latha ag iomain 's ag cleasachd, ag coiseachd do'n bhaile no thar nam monaidhean, a' ruith air an tràigh, no a' dol air turusan annasach ann an carbadan móra. Tha cuirmean-ciùil agus mòdan beaga aca feasgar. Tha lighiche òg airson nam Balach agus ban-altruim airson nan Cailleagan, a shealltuinn as deidh an slàinte. A bharr air a sin tha Fear-deilbhe an ceann a'ghnothuich uile, agus grunnan de Chinn-Feachd agus de luchd-cuideachdaidh eile. Tha iad sin uile, cho math ris a' Chloinn fhein, a' paigheadh airson cosdas bùird agus turuis. An ceann seachduine, mar is trice, tillidh a' Chlann dhachaidh agus thig buidheann eile 'nan àite.

Tha a h-uile ni aca ann an Cuimrig— 'nan Cànain fhein—paipearan fiosrachaidh, riaghailtean, sanasan, comhradh. Cha chualas aon fhacal Beurla 'ga chleachdadh aig Ceann-Feachd no aig Cloinn an fhad 's a bha sinn ann, na 's lugha na bhiodh iad a' bruidhinn ruinn fhein aig nach robh Cuimrig, agus bha sinn a' deanamh deagh oidhirp gu sin a sheachnadh le bhi feuchainn ri an Cànain fhein a thogail mar a b'fhearr a dh'fhaodamaid. Canain bhèrgha, bhlasda, shiubhlach a th'aca, agus tha facal aca airson a h-uile ni fo'n ghrein. Ach 'na

dhéidh sin cha ghabh i coimeas, an snas no am mìlseachd, ri Canain nan Gaidheal.

Bhuail dà rud a steach oirnn gu h-àraidh. Tha uail air gach ball de'n Urdd as a' Chomunn so th'aca : fìor ghràdh aig na h-uile do an dùthaich : meas mòr air an Cànain agus an dualchas. Ach chan e mhàin sin. Is i beatha shona, làn, fhìor-Chuimreach a tha aig a' Chloinn, agus tha na daoine as mo fiosrachadh ag radh ruinn gum bheil barrachd Cuimrig r'a cluinntinn air sràidean nam bailtean móra an diugh na bha mu'n robh an Urdd air greim laidir fhaotuinn air an dùthaich. Tha an slugh air fad a' moladh 's a' beannachdadh Urdd Gobaith Cymru.

Sin agaih sin, a Chlanna mo ghaol. An tig sibh comhla ruinn, 's gun dean sinn a leithid eile air a Gaidhealtachd ghràdhach fhein ? Sibh-se a thig, agus a ni !

#### NA CINN-FEACHD : GNÌOMHACHAS AN t-SEISEIN UIR.

Is dòcha gum bi sinn ag cur a mach seòladh 'sa mhiosachan so o àm gu àm air mar a dh'fhaodas na Feachdan a bhi dèanamh gnìomhachais agus fearas-chuideachd dhaibh fhein feadh a' Gheamhraidh. Ach tha sinn an dòchas gun dean sibh toiseach-toiseachaidh air bhur làmh fhein gun dàil. Bitheadh dà dealbh-chluich bheag, freagarrach airson ar Comunn, an clòdh an ùine gheoid : faodaidh Ceann Feachd sam bith an iarraidh bhuam-sa troimh'n phost, agus bitheadh iad an làmh an dà Fhìr-dheilbhe 'nuair a bhios iad air chuairt. Agus tha sinn a' tarraing bhur n-aire a dh'ionnsuidh nan cleasan a chuireadh a mach anns *An Gaidheal* bh'o'n Cheitein so chaidh. Tha sinn ag cur romhainn leabhran a dbeanamh de na cleasan sin : ach mar is luaithe thoisicheas sibh air cuid dhiubh a chur an cleachdadh anns na Feachdan, 's ann as fèarr ; chionn tha iad freagarrach airson gach aoise. Cumaibh 'san fhradharc a mbeud 's is urrainn duihb de dh'aigiod a chur seachad airson cosdas nam Feachd le bhi cumail ceilidhean, etc., aig am bi tapadh Comunn na h-Oigridh air fhoill-seachadh do mhuintir na dùthecha.

Tha e air leth feumail gun tagh gach Feachd a Ceannard agus a Bana-Cheannard as ùr air ball, agus gun cur sibh-se an ainmean a dh'ionnsuidh Rùnaire a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich. Ni cairt-phostail an gnothuch airson so.

Ma tha Ceann Feachd, no Ceannard no Bana-Cheannard nach eil a' faotuinn *An Gaidheal* mìos sam bith, cuireadh e fios do'n Runaire gun dail.



### SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The stage is now practically set for the National Mod, at Edinburgh, which commences on Tuesday, 24th September and continues until Friday of that week, 27th September. All the entries have now been received and show a very gratifying total of 1572, of which 932 are juniors. The number of papers submitted in the junior literary section, amounting to 449, is slightly less than the figures reached in Oban last year, but higher than any other of the previous Mods. It should be remembered, however, that the year's figures do not include the literary competitions promoted by Comunn na h-Oigridh for ranking purposes, for which there has been good response. It is most encouraging to find so many of the young folk interested in Gaelic literary matters, and we are indebted to the teachers and others for their assistance in this connection. The other junior sections are also well patronised. There are 165 entrants in the Oral Competitions, 196 for duet and solo singing, and twenty-two in the choral section. Thirty-three girls and eighteen boys will take part in the medal competitions, but the highest entry of all has been for reciting "Linn air Aigh" in Competition No. 14 for which forty-six names have been received. The Senior total of 640 is made up as follows: Literary 49, Oral 72, Duet and Solo 406, Choral 45, Musical Compilation 2. There are twenty-one aspirants for the Bardic Crown, while the winners of the gold medal will be decided from 176 names that have been received for the series of competitions governing these awards. Ten choirs will be forward to take part in the competition for the Lovat and Tullibardine, and among them the Paisley Gaelic choir enter the lists for the first time. The entries in the Celtic Art Section have not yet been ascertained.

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The general Mod arrangements will be much the same as in previous years. The entire day on Tuesday will be devoted to the junior competitions, while the seniors commence on Wednesday, which will be mainly devoted to solo singing. On Thursday, the winners of the gold medals will be decided and the choral classes will commence with the Rural Choirs competition in the evening. The oral competitions will also be held on Thursday. Friday will mainly consist of choral and instrumental competitions. The official opening takes place on Wednesday at twelve noon, and on Wednesday evening a Civic reception will be accorded to the Mod party by Edinburgh Corporation.

The following is a list of the various concerts and prices of admission:—

Tuesday: Junior Concert, Music Hall.

Reserved seats 2/6; unreserved 1/6.

Thursday: Rural Choir Concert, Music Hall,

Reserved seats 3/6; unreserved 2/-.

Friday: Grand Concert, Usher Hall.

Reserved seats 7/6 and 5/-; unreserved 3/6 and 2/6.

\* \* \*

Tickets for these concerts can only be had from Messrs. Methven Simpson, Ltd., 83 Princes Street, Edinburgh, who have charge of all the booking arrangements. Due notice will be given by Press advertisement when booking is to commence. All applications for tickets should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. No tickets can be had from the General Secretary or the Joint Local Secretaries.

\* \* \*

Special concessions have again been offered by Messrs. MacBrayne, Ltd., and by Messrs. MacCallum Orme & Coy., Ltd., to Mod visitors. On presenting the special voucher which can only be obtained from this office, return tickets can be had at single fare rate. Campbeltown passengers will be issued with cabin tickets for the modified fare of 4/-. The tickets thus issued will be available from 24th until 28th September. It should be noted, however, that the privileges granted by Messrs. MacBrayne do not extend to the 'bus service.

\* \* \*

Day return tickets will be issued by the Railway companies from stations within a radius of sixty miles of Edinburgh, including Dundee and Perth at standard single fare, first class tickets to be charged 50 per cent. over the third class fare. Any cheap return fare in operation where lower than the standard ordinary single fare to apply. Where experimental fares are in operation for single journeys, these fares are not to be acted upon in basing the return fare obtained in exchange for the special voucher. With the continuance of the Summer Time Fare no vouchers will be necessary for Mod period return.

\* \* \*

The L.M.S. railway company announce that a special train will be run on Friday evening, after the Grand Concert. This train will leave Princes Street Station at 10.55 p.m., and will call at West Calder at 11.24; Holytown 11.54; Bellshill 12 midnight; Uddingston 12.15 a.m.; arriving at Glasgow Central at 12.19. The single fare tickets to be had on presentation of voucher will be available on this special train.

The entries received in the Celtic Art Exhibition will, in themselves, form a most interesting exhibition, which will be held in one of the rooms in the Music Hall. These, however, will be supplemented by articles received from the members of Comunn na h-Oigridh, and it is hoped that members or friends will visit this exhibition which will be open each day during the Mod week. The entries in this section are much higher than ever before.

\* \* \*

Another exhibition to which Mod visitors are invited is being arranged by Keith Henderson, one of our life members, and a well known modern artist. Mr Henderson has been resident in the Lochaber district for some time and has his studio at Achnabhach, Glen Nevis. The exhibition which will be held at the New Gallery, Shandwick Place, will be open each day from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. and there will be no charge for admission. The pictures on view will embrace a wide variety of Highland and Island studies.

#### Gaelic Continuation Classes. New Reader.

A new Continuation Class session will soon be beginning throughout the country. We would like to draw the attention of the conductors of Evening Classes for Gaelic to the booklet recently published by An Comunn, *An Cuairtear*, which is mainly intended for Continuation Class students. It consists of simple pieces of prose and verse which have done duty as test pieces at National Mods, and it should prove a useful addition to the material available for study in Evening Classes. Copies may be had from An Comunn Office, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2, and the price is threepence per copy.

#### Edinburgh Mod Donations.

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#### UILLEAM ROS.

Cha b'è fion 'san talla chùil  
'Dh'fhag a chiall fo riaghladh ùr,  
Ach an òigh bu bhoidheche gnùis  
Le "rosg fòil" a ghlac a shùil.

Dh'innis e am "Feasgar Luain"  
Ann an rainn a mhaireas buan,  
Mu'n tè òig a b'orbhuidh gruag  
A mheall e le gaol cho luath.

'S tric a chluinntè mar ùr-sgeul  
Cumha bhàird 'ga chur an cèill,  
'Nuair a ghoideadh uaithe'n reul  
'S fhagail air an tràigh leis féin.

'S e sud dh'fhag e trom fo leòn  
Gun sugradh no sunnt ri ceòl,  
Ag ionndrainn cion-fàth a bhàin  
An tim ghearr a bha e beò.

'S a dh'fhàg a chruth bu deise dh'fhàs  
A' dol as bho là gu là;  
Chuir a dhreach gun glasadh tràth  
'S fàilneachadh 'na neart 's 'na shlàint.

'S iomadh aon an tìr nam beann  
A chom an cinn ag caoidh an call,  
Mu'n bhàrd bu mho cliù 'nan cainnt  
Bhi ruight' air bòrd gun deò roimh àm.

Màr thig nial air iarmailt Màigh  
Chaochail fhiamh bho sgiamh a ghnàiths,  
'S mar 'na phrìomh gun crìonadh blàth  
Làigh e sìos an lion a bhàis.

Nis o'n chaidh e uainn gu thàmh  
'S nach ùraich e chaoidh a dhàin,  
Bliristeadh an cruith-chiuil nan Gàidh'  
An teud bu bhinne ceol 'na Clàr.

ALEXANDER C. MORRISON, M.B.

The third verse in the song refers to a legend common in certain districts of the Highlands (although apparently apocryphal), that Marion Ross was kidnapped from the side of the poet by a sea captain who lured them both to bid goodbye with him on the shore where he had a boat ready to carry her off to his vessel.

A. C. M.

#### 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.

Those who attended the Summer School in Tobermory four years ago looked eagerly forward to their second visit this year, anticipating a pleasant time, and their expectations were fully realised. At the opening of the session on 16th July, the students were welcomed in interesting Gaelic addresses by Provost McGilp, Rev. Mr. McLean, Bailie McKay, and Councillor Cameron, and later in the week were entertained by the Town Council and Tobermory Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach to a most enjoyable ceilidh. There were twenty students in the Gaelic classes taught by Miss Annie McMillan, M.A., and Mr. Lachlan McKinnon, M.A. In addition to the usual text books, considerable and effective use was made of the pictorial wall charts of the Irish Education Board. Miss Anna McBride, D.A., had twenty in her Celtic Art Class, whose varied and attractive work was displayed at the closing concert in the Aros Hall. The Senior Singing Class also numbered twenty, who received instruction from Mr. Neil Orr, F.E.I.S., in the theory of staff and tonic sol-fa, and practised the solo and choral music prescribed for the Edinburgh Mòd. Strange to say, the number in the Junior Singing Class was also twenty, and they gave a very good account of themselves at the concert in solos, unison and two-part singing, and puit-a-beul. For Clarsach instruction by Miss Edith Mason, London, the enrolment was ten. As in former years, the students came from a wide area, including London, Edinburgh, Dublin, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dunfermline, Ayrshire, East Lothian, Lewis, Mull and many other places, and all were keen and enthusiastic. Those who were talented musically gave their services freely with voice and clarsach at concerts in Tobermory, Salen and Dervaig, and at the School Concert on 7th August. A dance that followed was largely attended. Several very enjoyable ceilidhs were held during the session in Tobermory and Salen.

In recognition of the excellent work done by the junior students, the adult students invited them to a party, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Saturday was excursion day, as no classes met on that day, and visits were paid to Calgary, Loch Sunart and Iona. The students met on 9th August, the last day of the session, and after expressing their appreciation of the instruction given in the various classes unanimously recommended that the School should meet next year in Port Ellen. N. O.

“MARBHNA AIFIFEIR GRAS,”  
Seagan Mac Bhaiteir Bhreathnaigh.  
1604.

1. Ta ceo dubhach ar gach sliabh,  
Ceo nach dtáinig roimhe riamh,  
Ta ciúineas duairc ann um nóin  
Ach amháin trom-ghuth an bhróin.
2. Ta cling na marbh leis an ngaoith,  
Monuar, is teachta bróin dúinn í,  
Ta an fiach dubh le glór garbh  
Ag fógradh uaire an duine mhairbh.
3. An duit, a uasal óig mo chroidhe,  
Do sgreag do dubhach an bhean sidhe?  
I meodhan ciúin-uaigneach oidhche  
Is cumhach do bhí sí ag éagcaoineadh.
4. D'fhreagair í gach múr is balla  
Go dubhach duairc le mac alla;  
Níor ghlaoidh coileach mar bu ghnáth,  
'S níor fhógair dúinn am ná tráth.
5. Uch, a 'liféir óig mo chroidhe,  
Is é do bhás ata sí 'caoidheadh,  
Is é do-bheir an lá 'na oidhche,  
Is é do-bheir an chumhaidh ar dhaoibh.
6. Níl againn anois, mo bhrón!  
I n-áit an tsaoi acht caoidh is deor',  
Sileadh deor-is gol is caoidh  
Feasda dhúinn is briseadh croidhe.
7. Uch, a bháis, do leag tú choidhche  
Bláth is sgéimh ar ngéige is aoirde,  
Monuar, níor shásamh air de bhuaidh  
Gan ceap ar ndaoine 'dhul san uaigh.
8. I spéirling lann ba teann a lámh  
Ag cosaint ceirt a ghaoil 's a dháimh,  
Fa mheirge a athar usal féin  
Is Urmhumhan do fuair clú i géin.
9. Ní bhíodh Baile na Cúirte ar aon chor  
Fá chrádh bróin nárbh' fhéidir réidhteach,  
A shealbhoir dflis is a chroidhe céasta  
Tré bhás an óig-fhir ba mhór i dtréithibh.
10. Oighre ceart a ainme, a ghradam 's a réime,  
Is oighre a stáite in gach áit d'Eirinn,  
Mar chran na daire ba mhaiseach a  
fhéachain,  
Do gheall go leathfadh go leathan a ghéaga.
11. Ní mar so do bhi i ndan do 'n tséimh-fhear  
Acht dul san uaigh go h-uaigneach 'na  
aonar,  
Uch, is creach fhada é le n-a ló,  
Is brón croidhe dá chéile go deoidh.

12. Is máthair i is trom fá chumhaidh  
Ar ndul go luath da céile i n-úir,  
Athair a clainne is a céad ghrádh,  
Uch, is í do fuair a crádh.
13. Ní leanfaidh sé an fiadh go deoidh  
Fá gheanntaibh dubha na sléibhtibh  
ceoidh,  
Ní chluinfear a adharc go binn ag séideadh  
Na guth a ghadhar ar bheinn an tsléibhe.
14. Ní fheicefar é ar luath-each óg  
Thar claidhe is fál ag deanamh róid,  
Tá claochlódh ar a mhaise go deoidh,  
Ar a mhórdhacht do thuit trom-cheo.
15. A lámh bhronntach go fann 'na luighe,  
A chroidhe meanmnach marbh gan bhrígh,  
Síol na geuradh agus cara na mbárd,  
Searc na geolradh chanas go hárd.
16. Solus an dáin ní práinn dod' chluí,  
Acht comhréifidh go hárd mo chumhaidh,  
Ag síleadh dhúinn deor fá dheireadh gach  
laoi  
Ar thuamba an churaidh do chrádh mo  
chroidhe.

## NOTES.

- 1c *duairc*—dorch, muladach, mi-shuairc.  
2a *cling*—glong, fuan.  
b *Monnar*—mo thruaighe, mo ruar.  
b *teachta*—teachaire.  
c *glor*—guth, cainnt. Feuch, Glórais.  
d *foyradh*—'a' cur an ceill.  
3d *éagwineadh*—caoineadh airson báis.  
4a *mur*—balla, tigh, daingneach.  
b *mac alla*—mac talla.  
cd Cha do ghoir an coiceach mar bu ghnáthach leis 's cha tug e fios an tráth dhuinn—droch mhanadh.  
5cd Is e sin a ní oidhche de latha, is e a bheir brón air daoine.  
6b *saoi*—sár-dhuine, uasal glic.  
7cd Mo thruaighe (a bháis), cha shásaicheadh buaidh thu ach ceannard ar daoine chur san uaigh.  
8a *spéirling lann*—bualadh lann.  
b *cosaint*—dion. Am bualadh lann bu teann do lámh a' gleidheadh ceartas aig do luchd-gaoil 's aig do luchd-daimh.  
c *fá mheirge*—fo bhratach.  
d *Urmkumhan*—anglice "Ormond."  
9a Cha b'abhaist do Bhaile na cúirte a bhith etc.  
d Bu mhór am buadhaibh.  
10a Uaill agus a chliú (áilleagan).  
cd Mar chrann daraich bu mhaiseach ri fhaicinn a gheall gon sgaoladh e gu farsuinn a ghéugan.  
11a *seimh-fhear*—an duine ciùin.  
cd Och is creach fhada e na latha, agus is brón buan cridhe e dha bhlantraich.  
12b *gu luath*—cho tráth, i.e. cho òg.  
13a *go deoidh*—gu bráth, a chaoidh.  
b ann gleanntan dubha nan sleibhteann ceò-mhor.  
14b a léum thairis air clois is bruaich. Feuch, "fál an rathaid."  
c *caochladh*—caochladh.  
15 *A lámh bhronntach*—a lámh pháirtreach, fhialaidh, chóir.

cd Síol nan curaigh agus caraíd nam bárd, grádh an luchd-ciùil a sheinneas gu h-árd.

- 16 Chan 'eil do chliú an taing solus an dáin ach sgaoilidh sin gu h-árd mo bhrón 's mo chaoidh féin 's mi gach deireadh latha a síleadh nan deoir air uaigh a' churaidh a chraidh mo chridhe.

Chaochail Olaibhear Gràs oighre Baile na Cúirte ann an Siorrachd Chille Choinnich an Eirinn anns an bhliadh míle sia ceud agus a dhá (1602). B'e athair aon de mhaithean Eireann, fear-fearainn. Is e aon de uaislean Eireann a rinn an cumha, oir b'e athair-san Baltar Breatannach, ceann-cinnidh na feadhna sin ris an cante Breatannaich nam Beann, agus is e a tha againn anns a' mharbh-rann so aon òigear uasal Gaidhealach a' caoidh òigear uasal Gaidhealach eile. Tha sin a' leigeil fhaicinn duinn nach e mhain gun robh uaislean na Gaidhealtachd a' cur meas air bárdachd ach nach seachnadh iad fhéin a bhi deanamh bárdachd. Tha sin a reir na h-eachraidh aca anns gach linn. Tha a' bhárdachd anns na Seann-sgeulachdan Gaidhealach gu tric air a cur air na h-uaislean agus ri maithean agus urrachan móra nan Gaidheal, agus tha fhios againn air mar a thainig sin do Chalum-Cille agus do dhaoine eile a bha araon inbheach agus air am meas 'usal' do bhrìgh agus gun robh fuil nan rìghrean Gaidhealach anna. Agus air Gaidhealtachd Albann, fhad agus a bha uaislean Gaidhealach ri am faotainn, cha robh a' chuis air a chaochladh.

Tha an cumha so aire-thoilinneach air sgàth na bárdachd agus na cainnte. Tha fìor smior na bárdachd ann. Tha Seathan mac Bhàtair a' labhairt gu dìreach agus gu réidh air an nì air a bheil faireachduinn aige na chridhe fhein; chan 'eil sodal no brosgul air aire, agus chan 'eil baidge a dhith air. Agus ma tha rudan a dhith air a' bhárdachd nach biodh a dhith oirre aig aon de na filidhean is mór a tha a bharrachd aice do bhrìgh agus nach ann air a chuid cainnte a bha aire A' Bheatannaich. Gidheadh tha cainnt innte a tha taitneach, cuimr, agus deas airson na cùise. Faodaidh gu 'm measar a' Ghàidhlig car nuadh airson an ama bho 'n do shiubhal i (agus faodaidh e a bhith gu'n tug na ginealaichean an cumadh fhein oirre) ach, air a shon sin deth, ged a ruigeas an linn a tha lathair air a' chaint so ruigidh a' chaint air an linn anns na rinneadh a' bhárdachd; agus is ann leis an dearbh chaint so a rinn Seathrun Céitinn a chuid bardachd fhéin, agus tha i pailt cho mìn agus cho mion anns na faclai; agus chithear air ball cho grinn agus cho deas agus a tha a' chaint so airson a gniomh.

**PERTSHIRE PROVINCIAL MOD.**

The twelfth Perthshire Provincial Mod was held at Aberfeldy on Friday, 14th June. There were encouraging entries in most of the competitions, and it is encouraging to find so many children coming forward. Major Stewart (Fasnacloich) presided over the grand concert in the evening. The adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Rev. George MacKenzie, B.D., Greenock; Rev. Gillespie Campbell, Paisley; Mr. Hector MacDougall, Glasgow. Music—Mr. John M. Baumer and Mr. Pat Sandeman, Glasgow. Instrumental—Mr. Ian Menzies, Edinburgh. The following is the list of first prize-winners:—

**JUNIORS.****ORAL DELIVERY.**

Reading Prose (confined to learners)—John Gow, Dalnamein.

Reciting from Memory—Under 10—Margaret Duff; 10 to 16 (open to native speakers)—Jemima Robertson, Fincastle; open to learners (10-16)—John Gow.

Narrative and Simple Conversation—Open to all under 18—Jemima Robertson. Special Prize for Best Gaelic Speaker under 10—Catriona Fletchler. Gaelic Conversation (10 to 18)—William F. Robertson.

Repetition—Native speakers under 16—Jemima Robertson. Confined to learners under 16—John Gow. Reading with Expression (open), 16 to 18—Barbara McPhail, Killin. Reciting from Memory, "Moch-Thrath" (open), 16 to 18—Barbara McPhail.

**LITERARY.**

Oral—Gaelic Place Names—1, Kathleen E. MacDougall, Aberfeldy. Gaelic Names of Plants—Willie Gow.

**VOCAL.**

Solo Singing—Girls under 10 (own choice)—Margaret Duff. Boys, under 10 (own choice)—Kay Stewart, Aberfeldy. Girls, 10 to 16—Grace McDonald, Grandtully School. Boys, 10 to 16—Roderick MacPherson, Kinloch-Rannoch. Open—Test Pieces—Grace McDonald.

Duets—Frances Henderson and Lottie Robertson, Pitlochry. Duets (16 to 18)—Jean Panton and Jean Taylor, Pitlochry.

Solos (16 to 18)—Cathie MacDougall, Kinloch-Rannoch.

Unison Singing—Grandtully School Choir.

**SENIOR.****VOCAL.**

Female Solos—Flora McInnes, Kinloch-Rannoch. Male Solos—James Hamilton, Aberfeldy, and Eric Fergusson, Pitlochry (equal).

Singing of Test Pieces (open)—Isobel Robertson, Aberfeldy. Open to First Prize-winners—J. D. Scott, Kinloch-Rannoch.

Duets—Iain MacAskill and Flora McInnes.

**ORAL DELIVERY.**

Reading at Sight—A. M. Carmichael, Killiecrankie. Reading Selected Passage and Simple Conversation (confined to learners)—Jean Menzies, Aberfeldy. Native Speakers—Iain MacAskill, Kinloch-Rannoch.

Recitation—Margaret Morrison, Perth.

**JUNIOR AND SENIOR.****VOCAL, CHORAL, AND ORAL.**

Seniors—Solo (unpublished Perthshire song)—Iain MacAskill. Quartettes—Mixed Voice—Pitlochry Quartette. Ladies' Choirs—Pitlochry Ladies' Choir. Mixed Voice Choirs—Kinloch-Rannoch Gaelic Choir. Juniors—Choral, Two Part—Pitlochry Junior Gaelic Choir.

Senior Oral—Sgeulachd—Iain MacAskill. Orald Ghaidhlig—Annie G. Stewart.

**INSTRUMENTAL SECTION.**

Violin—Juniors—Wilfred Oliver, Aberfeldy. Seniors—John Macfarlane, Aberfeldy.

Pianoforte—Juniors—1, Margaret Douglas, Bankfoot. Seniors—Jessie MacGregor, Aberfeldy.

Bagpipes (in the open)—Angus M. McKillop, New Scene, Perth.

**ARDNAMURCHAN PROVINCIAL MOD.**

This Mod was held at Strontian on 25th June. The Junior Section was well represented, and some fine reading and singing were heard. The Hon. Mrs. MacLean, of Ardgour, convener, presided over the closing concert in the evening. The adjudicators were:—Music—Mr. Yacamin, Perth, and Mr. MacCallum, Campbeltown; Gaelic—Mr. Bannerman, president of An Comunn Gaidhealach; Dr. Neil Ross, Laggan; Mr. Neil Shaw; Rev. W. MacDonald, Kilmallie; Mr. MacPherson, Appin; Rev. J. MacPherson, Taynuilt.

The following is a list of the first prize-winners:

**JUNIOR SECTION.****ORAL DELIVERY.**

Reading at Sight an Unfamiliar Prose Piece chosen by Judges—Margaret Simpson, Strontian.

Reciting from Memory, "Linn an Aigh"—Catherine R. MacLean, Ardgour. Under 10 years—Donald Cameron, Acharacle.

Learners—Reciting from Memory, "Linn an Aigh"—Patricia MacLellan, Kilchoan. Gaelic Conversation—Flora C. MacLellan, Kilchoan.

Acted Dialogue by Two Competitors—Peggy Fraser and Flora MacGillivray, Glenborrodale.

**VOCAL MUSIC.**

Solo Singing—Girls—1, Annie MacKay, Acharacle. Solos—Boys—John Stewart, Acharacle.

Learners—Alasdair MacCalman, Strontian. Duet—Margaret Smith and Margaret Fraser, Conaglen.

Junior Choirs—Conaglen.

**SENIOR SECTION.****LITERATURE.**

Place Names—A. Cameron, Strontian.

**ORAL DELIVERY.**

Reading at Sight—Miss Christina MacPherson, Strontian.

Recitation of "Tobar a' Chreachain"—Neil Cameron, Acharacle.

Acted Dialogue—Misses Jessie Cameron and Jessie R. MacKay, Glenborrodale.

Sgeulachd, narrating an unpublished historical or traditional story belonging to the district—Miss Christina MacPherson.

**VOCAL MUSIC.**

Solo, Female Voices—Miss Anne Scott Rae, Ardgour.

Solo, Male Voices—Neil Cameron.  
Solo Singing of an Unpublished Song of the district—Miss Annie Scott Rae.  
Ardnamurchan Silver Pendant, Females—Miss Annie Scott Rae.  
Ardnamurchan Silver Pendant, Males—Allan Stewart, Strontian.  
Solo, Learners—Miss J. S. Adam, Ardgour.  
Duets—Misses Janet Gillespie and Flora MacNiven, Kilchoan.  
Solo, former first prize-winners—Miss Johan Boyd.  
Choral Singing in Unison—Strontian Senior Choir.  
Choral Singing in Harmony—Strontian Senior Choir.  
Bagpipes, March—Mr Johnstone.  
Bagpipes, Strathspeys and Reels—N. Smart.

### SKYE PROVINCIAL MOD.

The Skye Provincial Mod was held at Portree on 25th and 26th June. There was a large turnout of junior competitors. Mrs. MacDonald, Redcliff, presided over the closing concert on Wednesday evening, at which Mr. Neil MacLean and Miss Chrissie M. Nicolson, Glasgow, assisted with the programme. The adjudicators were as follow:—  
Gaelic—Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A.; Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A.; Mr. James Ramage, M.A.; Mr. Donald MacPhail. Music (vocal)—Mr. Lewis Owen, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.; (instrumental)—Piper-Major John MacDonald, Mr. Setou Gordon, Col. K. L. MacDonald, Mr. D. Riddell. List of first prize-winners:—

#### JUNIOR SECTION.

##### WRITTEN COMPETITIONS.

Reproduction of a Short Story by Translation of Gaelic prose passage into English—I.A.—Annie Mathieson, Bernisdale School. I.B.—Mary Macrauld, Kilmuir. II.A.—Essay, writing from dictation of a Gaelic prose passage and translation—Anne Mackay, Portree Secondary School. BI—Harriet Macaulay, Portree Secondary School. III.A.—Essay, writing from dictation—John Montgomery, Broadford, and Peter Finlayson, Portree Secondary School (equal). Translation—Peter Finlayson, Portree Secondary School.

Letter in Gaelic on Comunn Na h-Oigridh—Intermediate Schools—John MacKinnon, Dunvegan. Elementary—Annie Matheson, Bernisdale.

##### ORAL DELIVERY.

Reading with expression a piece of poetry—Peggy MacDonald, Dunvegan School.

Reading at sight an unfamiliar prose piece—Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan.

Reciting from memory, "Làim An Aigh"—Peggy MacDonald, Dunvegan.

Reciting a Sgeulachd—Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan.

##### VOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing, Girls under 12—Martha Beaton, Portree Secondary School.

Solo Singing, Boys under 12—Donald A. MacInnes, Macdjiarmid School.

Solo Singing, Girls 12-16—Cathie A. MacLeod, Dunvegan.

Solo Singing, Boys 12-16—Kenneth Grant, Kensalreyre.

Duet Singing—Bessie Steele and Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan.

Choral Singing—Portree Secondary School Choir.  
Unison Singing—Dunvegan School Choir.  
Action Song—Dunvegan School Choir.  
Violin—Charles Matheson, Torrion.  
Oral Delivery Medallist—Chrissie Campbell, Dunvegan School. Boy, Duncan Grant, Portree Secondary School.  
Mrs McLeod of Skeabost Trophy for Choirs—Dunvegan School.

#### SENIOR SECTION.

##### LITERATURE.

Gaelic Poem—Calum MacLean, Portree Secondary School.

Essay on any Historical Local Incident—Marion MacCuish, Portree Secondary School.

Collection of Unpublished Skye Songs—Chrissie Macaskil, Portree Secondary School.

Essay—Alex. J. MacLeod, Portree Secondary School.

Place Names—Donald Stewart, Portree.

Reading at Sight—Kate A. Macaulay, Portree Secondary School.

Recitation—Mary MacPherson, Portree.

Telling of an Unpublished Local Story—Calum MacLean.

Highest Aggregate Marks—Men—Calum I. MacLean. Women—Kate A. Macaulay.

Acted Dialogue—Kate A. Nicolson and Chrissie Lynn.

##### LOCAL MUSIC.

Solo Singing—Female Voices—Eileen King, Dunvegan. Male Voices—Calum Robertson, Portree Secondary School. Female Voices—Eileen King, Dunvegan. Male Voices—Neil MacDonald, Portree. Female Voices—Mary MacPherson. Male Voices—Duncan Corbett, Uig.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.  
Bagpipes—March (A)—Ian MacPherson. (B)—Alex J. MacLeod.  
Chanter—Norman MacLean.  
Pianoforte—Margaret MacNab, Portree.

### MOD AT SYDNEY, N.S.

At the end of July, a Mod was held at Sydney, Nova Scotia. There were thousands of spectators. The Mod was held for four hours in the open air, and included competitions in Gaelic singing, reading, and Highland dancing, as well as instrumental music on the bagpipes, violin, and pianoforte. There were splendid solos by Mrs. Charles MacLellan in Gaelic and English, and selections by the Sydney Gaelic Quartette. In the Gaelic chorus, Sydney came first and Framboise second. Mr. M. R. MacLeod and Mr. A. R. MacDonald distinguished themselves in Gaelic reading. First place in violin went to Mrs. H. MacDonald, New Waterford; in piano to Miss A. Abraham; and in the pipes to Mr. J. MacMillan.

It is indeed a far cry from Vancouver to Nova Scotia, but, like a fiery cross, the inspiration of the Vancouver Mod has flashed across the Canadian Continent. Sydney has responded with a Mod of its own; and it is reasonable to hope that Gaels in other provinces of Canada will soon be keen to take up the friendly challenge, and to follow the patriotic example.

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