

An Gaidheal.







An Gaidheal:

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An Dàmhar, 1943.

[Earrann 1

FIR-FHEOIRNE.

Chan aithne dhomh àite eile as fradharaiche agus as bòidhche sealladh as na Crabhlastadh, agus gu sonraichte Sìthean Lionabhair, far an robh mi fuireach air mo shean eòlas air mo chuairt shamhraidh an so. Tha an Cuan a Sìar air an dara làimh a mach gu bun-sgòth gus na h-Eileana Flannach is gu Hìort, agus a sin gu America; agus air an làimh eile tha beanntan gorma is creagach Uige air fàire, cha mhór trì thimchioll. Agus nas fhaisge làimh na sin tha an Traigh Mhór—mìle an deidh mìle dhi, buidhe bhàn ri muir-tràighte, agus i 'na bàgh maiseach cùin ri muir-làn. Tha machraichean bòidheach cùbhraidh an taic na tràghad 's a' bhàigh.

Mu mo choinneamh air taobh thall na Traghada Mòire, an Eadar-dha-fhadhail, tha cnoc de ghainmhich ghil agus currac de mhuran is de dh' fheur gorm air mullach a chinn; agus far na rùisgeadh na cliathaichean aige de 'n ghainmhich tha creagan lainnreach ruadha tighinn ris. Tha an cnoc sonraichte so air oir na tràghad aig Gob Dhéideil. So Cnoc Aornol far an d' fhuair eadh na fir-fheòirne ainmeil sa' bhliadhna 1831. Is fhiach ainm a' chnuic a chumail air chumhne.

Is ann air cùl a' chnuic so an taic na tràghad a bha na bailtean an Eadar-dha-fhadhail a dhùisg a' bhàrdachd dhrùidhteach is ghrinn sin an Ataireachd Ard. Chan 'eil na bailtean ud fàs nas fhaide. Tha maise dhaoine is thighean, maise sprìdhe is arbhair, ag cur blàth is bòidhchead air an àite a nis. O chionn àireamh

bhliadhnan tha sluagh unnta gu leir a rithist, mar a th' ann an iomadh àite eile air a' Ghaidhealtachd a bha bàd fad ghinealaichean. Nam biodh Domhnall Iain Ruaidh am bàrd agus Domhnall Bàn còir á Canada—agus a chaidh a thogail an Carnis—nam biodh iad a nis air an caomhnadh, agus iad a' toirt sgrìob air an sean eòlas, is iongantach mura dùisgeadh suidheachadh ùr is taitneach an àite am bard gu seinn air an Ataireachd Ur. Nach maith gu bheil a leithid so—bailtean a bha fàs air an àiteachadh a rithist—gu maith cumanta feadh na Gaidhealtachd is nan Eileanan a nis. Agus gu bheil Gaidhlig bhlàth bhlasda ri a cluinntinn anns an h-àitean a bha fàs falamh.

A thaobh nam fear-feòirne, ma tha, chuala mi gur h-e bó agus i 'ga tachais fhèin ri bacca gainmhich an cùl Cnoc Aornol a leig ris far an robh na fir-fheòirne air an tiodhlacadh. Is ann de dh' Iobhraidh tuisg an Ualruis a tha iad air an deanamh, agus tha iad air an cumadh cho grinn agus air an snaidheadh cho toema ri fir-fheòirne, no tàileasg, air a bheil iomradh. Tha a' chuid as motha dhiubh an gleidhteanas sa' Mhuseum Bhreatannach an Lunnainn, ach tha beagan dhiubh sa' Mhuseum Albannach an Dun-éideann. Chithear dealbh trì dhiubh san leabhar sin a chuir Uilleam C. MacCoinnich a mach fo'n ainm Leabhar Leodhais. Bheir an dealbh fhéin rùdeigin de dhearbhadh do dhùine air cho fìor ghrinn agus ealanta 's a tha iad air an deanamh.

Tha e 'na cheist gum biodh fir-fheòirne—no fir-fhichill mar a theireadh na seann Gaidheil

riutha cuideachd—tha e 'na cheist gum biodh a leithid a mheadhon cluiche, agus tàileasg cho grinn eireachdail, aig luchd-àiteachaidh Leodhais o shean. Ach tha sgeul no dhà air cionnas a thainig iad an sud. Tha cuid ag cumail a mach gur h-e obair Lochlannach a tha san deanamh a tha orra. Ach cia b' e air bith cia as a thainig iad an toiseach, no càit an do rinneadh iad, no cionnas a thainig iad gu Cnoc Aornol, tha cinnt gun robh na seann Ghaidheil gu maith eòlach agus glé dhéidheil air iomairt fhear-fèirne no fhear-fichill. Tha cumhne agam gun do mharbh Cuchulainn le fear-fèirne an teachdaire a chuir Ailill agus Medhbh far an robh e le cuireadh e thiginn a bhruidhinn riutha 'nan lùchairt agus iad a' dol a chur urram air. Bha dùil aig Cuchulainn gur h-e teachdaire fuadain a bh' ann. Tha e air innse dhuinn san t-seann sgeulachd sin Fleadh Bhriceinn a tha air a h-aithris an Leabhar na h-Uidhri, agus an seann lamh-sgrìobhainnean eile, tha e air innse dhuinn gun robh Cuchulainn agus Laogh, am fear-carbaid aige, ag iomairt fhicheall no ag cluiche fhear-fèirne, nuair a thainig an teachdaire far an robh e agus a reic e a theachdaireachd. “Feuch do bhreugan air amadan eile,” arsa Cuchulainn agus e tilgeil fear de na fir-fèirne an clàr an aodainn air gus an deach e troimh an eanchainn aige, agus gun robh e 'na bhuille bàis dha.

Tha clàir-fichill air an ainmeachadh gu tric anns na sean eachdraidhean am measg nithean a tha fìor luachmhor—bha feadhainn aca deanta de dh' òr agus de dh' airgid agus de chlachan luachmhor.

Chan iongnadh idir mar sin ged bhiodh fir-fèirne ghrinn agus luachmhor air am faotainn am measg nan Gaidheal, agus nam faighte idir iad càit am bu choltaiche am faotainn na am measg “dhaoinè uaisle Uige.”

Is e iomairt fhear-fèirne cluiche as motha anns am faod duine ealantas agus a theomachd a nochdadh a bharrachd air cluiche sam bith eile. Tha a' chleasachd air a h-iomairt le dìtheis, air clàr anns a bheil ceithir is trì-fichead ceithir-cheàrnán. So an clar-fèirne no an clar-fichill. Tha 16 fir-fèirne an duine aca, 'se sin Rìgh agus Ban-rìghinn, agus 2 Easbuig, 2 Ridir, 2 Chaisteal, agus 8 gill. Agus is e aobhar is fàth na cluiche an dara fear Rìgh an fhìr eile a chur an gainntir no an chùil as nach urrainn e giusad.

Cha cheil cearrach a dhisnean.—*A gamester won't conceal his dice.*

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Am B.B.C.—Tha am B.B.C. air muinntearas a chur air Murchadh MacLeoid, M.A. mar fhear-cuidich aig Eoghan Mac-a-Phi. Tha fhios aig an t-saoghal gur h-e Eoghan Mac-a-Phi Fear Gaidhlig a' B.B.C., agus tha fhios aig na Gaidheil anns gach càrnaidh air an obair mhór agus fheumail a tha Eoghan a' deanamh a thaobh na Gaidhlighe. Rinn e saothair nach bu bheag as leth ar cànan eadhon mus deach e chun a' B.B.C. idir, agus chan 'eil crìoch air a shaothair bho fhuaire agus farsuingeachd an adhair do 'n Ghaidhlig. Is eòlach na Gaidheil air a ghuth, agus b' e sin an guth réidh còmhnaid. Mil air a bhilean.

Tha obair na Gaidhlighe air a' B.B.C. air fàs cho farsuing agus gum feumar fear-cuideachaidh dha; agus cha b' urrainn na b' fheàrr na am fear a thagh iad. Buinidh Murchadh MacLeoid do dh' Eilean Leodhais—fear á Lìurbost an sgìre nan Loch. Fàgaidh sin Gaidhlig bhlàth shìùbhlach nan Eilean aige. Tha e 'na àrd sgoilear agus 'na shàr Gaidheal. Is e rùnaire Meur a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich am meadhon Ghlaschu, agus ann an iomadh dòigh nochd e a fhreagarrachd airson na dreuchd chudhtromaich so. Tha sinn ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air, agus ag guidhe gum biodh beannachd an Ti-as-àirde air fhéin agus air a shaothair comh-cheangailte ris a' Ghaidhlig.

Ard Chonastabal Ghlaschu.—Tha moit air na Gaidheil a chionn gun do thagh Comhairle baile mòr Ghlaschu Calum MacCullach gu bhith 'na Ard Chonastabal a' bhaile, dreuchd cho cudhtromach agus cho urramach 's a tha comh-cheangailte ri obair shìobhalta na rìoghachd. Tha e 'na onair air leth do dhùine gum faigheadh e a leithid a dhreuchd. Dhearbh an Gaidheal so e fhéin mar thà mar dhùine gleusda agus glic on bha e 'na fhear-cuidich aig an Ard Chonastabal mu dheireadh—fìor dhùine clùiteach a chaochail o chionn ghoirid an so. Buinidh Mgr MacCullach do Ghearasdan Inbhir Lòchaidh. Air a sgàth fhéin agus air sgàth a dhreuchd, agus air sgàth nan daoine bho an tàinig e, tha sinn ag guidhe am beannachd agus an soirbheachadh a mhaireas dha 'na oifig chudhtromach.

Crois Lorraine.—Is i a' chrois so an suaicheantas a ghabh feachd shaor na Frainge dhaibh fhéin nuair a thuit an rìoghachd aca, agus a dhiùlt iadsan a bhith fo chuing agus am braigheannas aig na Nàsaich. Is i a' ghabh Gaidheil na Breatainne Big maille ris a' chuid eile de fheachd saor na Frainge. Tha a' chrois

so, agus dà chàraid làmh oirre agus aon chas, a' filleadh innte fhéin a' chrois Laidinn agus a' chrois Ghreugaich.

Bidh cuimhne agaibh air a' chuirn mhóir agus a' chéilidh a bha air an cumail do Ghaidheil shaor Bhreatainn Bhig an Talla Mhór an Naomh Andreis an Glaschu air toiseach Octobar an uiridh. Bha an aoigheachd so an carbasa ri Comhairle Shonraichte air an robh am Morair Inbhir Chluaidh 'na fhear-cathrach. Thuit trumead na h-obrach air a' Mhgn. C. M. Nic a' Phearsain, bana-chléireach a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, a rinn a' chléirsneachd do 'n Chomhairle, agus a rinn an t-ullachadh fa chomhair a' chruinneachaidh éireachdail a bh' ànn. Rinn a' Chomhairle, ma tha, suas 'nam measg fhéin gun tugadh iad tiodhlac do Nic a' Phearsain a bhiodh dhi 'na chuimhneachan air an oidhche mhóir ud, agus mar chomharra air spéis na Comhairle dhi-fhein agus d'a saothair. Smaoinich iad nach robh dad bu fhreagarraiche na Crois Lorraine. Thugadh sin dhi—Crois Lorraine an cruth bráiste bréagha óir—aig cruinneachadh gasda an Tigh Osda Meadhonach Ghlaschu air feasgar treas là na Sultuine so chaidh. An deidh biadh is comhlabhairt shin am Morair dhi am bráiste éireachdail óir, an deidh dha inmse dhi an toileachas a bha e toirt dhasan agus do 'n Chomhairle uile sin a dheanamh. Labhair grunnan eile air an aon dòigh, agus thug Nic a' Phearsain mìle taing dhaibh uile air son an tiodhlac agus an coibhneis. Gum meall 's gun caith i é. Is geal is airidh air i.

* * *

Cabar Slathaid.—Nuair a bha mi an Leodhas air an t-samhradh an so, chaidh mi latha a chéilidh air caraid, agus an uair a ràinig mi an tigh aige is ann a' tughadh an t-sabhail a bha e. Tha na tighean tughaidh a nis gu ire bhig air dol á bith, agus mura bi sabhal fhéin ann chan 'eil a bheag de thighean tughaidh air a' Ghaidhealtachd an diugh. Co-dhiùbh nuair a chunnaic mi mo charaid an sàs san tughadh chuimhnic mi air an rud a thubhairt Seneca am feallsanach mór Romanach. "Bha latha ann," ars esan, "agus bha daoine saora ag gabhail còmhnaidh fo chromadh thighean tughte, ach an diugh gheibhear tràillean ag gabhail còmhnaidh fo marmor 's fo 'n òr." Bha, ma tha, mo charaid-sa a' tughadh an t-sabhail agus e 'na sheasamh air an tobhta agus cabar aige 'na làimh. Bha e ag cur an tughaidh an òrdugh 'na aite fhéin leis a' chabar so. 'Se so an cabar ris an canar an Cabar Slathaid. Nuair bu chuimhne leam—agus tha fhios gum biffathast—bhiodh triuir fhear a' tughadh an tigh—fear

'na mhullach agus fear air an tobhta air gach taobh, agus Cabar Slathaid an làimh gach fir. Bhatar mar sin leis a' chabar a' ruighinn air gach mìr de 'n tughadh agus 'ga chur an òrdugh air an tigh. Bhatar an sin 'ga shiomannachadh. Bha cuach mhór shiomann fraoich aig an fhear a bha am mullach an tigh, agus bha e a' tilgeil sios lub an deidh luib chun nam fear a bha air an tobhta, agus iadsan ag acrachadh nan sionnan mu thròigh os cionn na tobhta. An deidh sin bheireadh iad buille an sud 's an so do 'n t-sioman agus do 'n tughadh leis a' Chabar Slathaid agus an laigheadh iad ceart. Tha fhios nach fhada a chithhear Cabar Slathaid san duthaich agus na tighean tughaidh a' dol á bith.

Thaireadh na seann daoine Tigh Slathaid ri fìor sheann tigh tughaidh agus na cinn 'na eliathaichean aige air an deanamh de phuist fhiodha agus de bharrach air am fighe 'nan chéile, agus sin air a shliobadh thairis le créadh air a deagh h-obrachadh. Tha cuimhne agam bodach còir am Bùideart ag radh rium bho chionn fhada ann an Mhùideart mu dheidhinn caisteal àraid: "Is e," ars esan, "tigh slathaid a bha ànn mus do thogadh an caisteal."

* * *

Fuaran an Déididh.—Bha seann chreud aig na Gaidheil—bha agus aig cinnich eile cuideachd—a thaobh éifeachd a bhith ann an uisge fhuaran àraidh chum tinnasan sonraichte a leigheas. Tha fuaran ri mo thaobh an so san sgìre-sa fhéin ris an canar Fuaran na Triuth-chasad, no na Triuthaich mar a thairear an iomadh àite, agus bhatar ag creidsinn gun leigheiseadh an t-uisge aige cloinn air an biodh an triuthach; ach dh' fheumte an t-uisge òl á beò-adhairc, 'se sin adhairc a bha air a toirt bharr bheathach beò.

Is ainneamh duine nach do shàraich an déideadh uair no uaireigin. Agus tha cuimhne mhaith aig cuid agaibh nuair nach robh Dotairean Fhìacal, no eadhon Dotairean eile, cho cumanta 's a tha iad an diugh, agus mar sin gun robh mòran a' fulang leis an déideadh san latha bh' ànn. Cuimhne cho fada air ais 's a th' agam is e bean a bha dol gu Fuaran an Déididh agus i air a claoidh leis a' ghalair chràiteach sin. Tha cuimhne agam a bhith cluinntinn gur h-ann mar so a dh' fheumadh i deanamh ma bha an t-uisge dol 'ga leigheas. Dh' fheumadh i dhòl chun an fhuarain sa' mhaduinn mhoich mun d' éireadh a' ghrian, agus i gun bhruidhinn ri duine beò gus an òladh i an t-uisge. Bha an tobar goirid bho 'n chladach agus dh' fheumadh i deoch òl an toiseach, agus an sin trì balguman a thoirt as an tobar 'na beul agus an tilgeil a mach an tìurr an làin, fear an deidh fir. Nan deanamh i sin

bhatar ag creidsinn gun leigheiseadh sin an déideadh.

Is aithne dhomh fhein ceithir fuarain déididh air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus is iongantach mura h-eil barrachd air an sin ann. Tha fear air an Rif an Uig Leodhais; agus tha fear an Srath Spéidh ris an canar Fuaran Fiontaig. Tha fear eile sa' Cheannmhor aig ceann shìos Loch Tatha, agus fear an Gleann Truim an siorrachd Inbhir Nis.

Chan 'eil teagamh sam bith nach 'eil uisgeachan ann anns a bheil slàinte is fallaineachd, agus feadhainn anns a bheil éifeachd air leth chum galairan sonraichte a leigheas. An dubhairt Donnachadh Bàn fhéin:

An t-uisge glan 's an t-àile air mullach nam bean arda

Chuidich e gu fàs mi, 's e rinn dhomh slàint is fallaineachd.

* * *

Ainmean chon.—Ciod e is coireach gur e ainmean Beurla a gheibh thu mar as trice air coin air a' Ghaidhealtachd, co-dhiùbh air coin chaorach—ainmean mar a tha *Clyde* agus *Bruce* agus *Maid* agus *Missie*? Tha mi deanamh dheth gur h-ann ri linn nan ciobairean Gallda thainig an cleachdadh neònach so thugainn air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Bha na Gaidheil sa' chùis so mar a bha iad ann an iomadach rud eile, bha iad de 'n bheachd gun robh rud coimheach a thigeadh bho Ghalldachd na b' fheàrr agus na b' uaisle na na nithean a bha aca fhéin agus air an robh iad eòlach. Bha an laigse so air na Gaidheil o chionn fhada an t-saoghail, agus tha eagal orm nach d' fhuair iad cuibhte 's e fhathast. Thòisich iad mun àm ud, ma tha, air cùl a chur ris na h-ainmean Gaidhealach a bha aca air an cuid chon, ainmean brèagha, agus ainmean freagarrach, mar a tha Luath agus Dileas agus Saighdear agus Gaisgeach agus Gliccas agus a leithid sin.

Is e a thug so fa chomhair m' inntinn litir a fhuair mi bho charaid dhomh agus e ag iarraidh orm ainm freagarrach air son cuilean gallaidh a thug am balach aige dha mar thiodhlac—galladh dhubbh, tha e ag ràdh, agus gur h-e cu eunachd bu mhathair dhi.

Nam b' e cù firionn a bha ann, tha e ag ràdh gun tugadh e Bran air. Bhiodh sin glé fhreagarrach gu dearbh. Càit an robh cù eile bu ghaisgeil agus a b' fheumaile agus bu ghlice na Bran; agus is e dubh a tha bran ag ciallachadh. Gu dearbh bha aon leth dusan cù de chaochla gné agam fhein 'na mo latha air an robh Bran.

'Se For an t-ainm a bha air an chù dhubbh á Innis Tore a rinn an t-sabaid mhór agus fhuilteach ri coin na Féinne; ach bho dheireadh

rinn Bran a chùis air. Bha Torr air fear eile de choin na Féinne, agus Sgeola air te eile.

Is e Dubhag a thubhairt mise ri mo charaid a thoirt air a' chù dhubbh aige. Ach is dòcha gun do smaoinich e fhéin air ainm as fheàrr a chòrdas ris na sin airson a choin dhuibh. Co-dhiùbh tha mi lán chinnteach gur h-e ainm Gaidhealach a bhios air a' chuillean oir tha mo charaid cho Gaidhealach sa' chùis so 's a tha e an nithean eile.

* * *

Pris air spréidh.—Cha ruig na tuathanaich a leas a bhith gearain air pris na spréidhe an dràsda. Tha mi ag creidsinn nach cuimhne le duine tha beò a leithid a phris a bhith air meanbh-chrodh. Agus is maith gu bheil. Ruigidh sin air a' Ghaidhealtachd gu léir on tha a' Ghaidhealtachd mórán a bharrachd an crochadh ri spréidh is tuathanachas na tha cuid 's smaoineachadh. Tha an t-àm ann, ma tha, gum biodh luach-saothrach aig daoine air son àiteach is àrach spréidh, agus tha sinn an dòchas gum mair sin.

Bha latha ann agus shaoilte gun robhtar a' faotainn pris mhaith air dò-bhladhnach muiltean nan reicte e air deich tasdain fhichead. Ach an diugh gheibhear sin air ceithir spadagan óisge. Agus tha pris chruidh is ghamhna a reir sin; agus air son nan each dheth cha cheannaichear gin aca a b' fhuachg erùidhean a chur air fo dha-fhichead no leth-cheud not. Rinn an cogadh so. Is ann a tha e smaoineachail na h-atharraichean a tha an cois a' chogaidh. An diurr an seann duine coir: Fagaidh e pris air duine 's air ainmhidh.

Tha mi a' faicinn gu bheil ear a' faighinn gu cumanta an dràsda deich tasdain fhichead air na h-óisgean as lugha air cuid a dh' fhéilltean; agus a dhà, agus a trì, agus suas ri ceithir notaichean air an fheadhainn as fheàrr. Sin mar bu chòir cùisean a bhith, mas e agus gu bheil daoine a' dol a chosnadh am bith-beò air an dùthaich.

Tha cuimhne agam goirid roimh an chogadh gun do thachair mi ri mo charaid Fear Bhlair Creich agus e tighinn dhachaidh o fhéill nan óisgean an Struighlea. "A bheil pris mhaith air spréidh am bliadhna?" arsa mise. "Chan 'eil," arsa esan, "na pris as fhiach a h-ainmeachadh." "Bitear ag cur air na tuathanaich agaibh," arsa mise, "gur maith leibh a bhith gearain 's a talach." "Mata," arsa mo charaid, "reic mise an diugh óisg air tasdan, agus a' chuid bu mhotha diubh air eadar crùn agus seachd is sia sgillinn."

Cha b' urrainn daoine a bhith stri ri talamh 's ri spréidh air a leithid sin.

Nach maith, ma tha, gu bheil luach aig daoine an diugh air son an saothrach ann a bhith ag àrach spèirdh; agus tha sinn an dòchas gun lean prìsean air a bhith mar so an deidh a' chogaidh. Tha mòran an crochadh ris an so air a' Ghaidhealtachd.

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Urnuigh éifeachdach.—Cha do chuir mise aithne ann an eachdraidh air cinneach eile na bu chràbhaiche agus na bu spioradaile na na seann Ghaidheil. Bha an creideamh agus an cleachdadh simplidh agus soilleir, agus a' ruigsinn air gach nì, mór is beag, a bhuineadh dhaibh gu tìmeil agus gu spioradail. Cha robh cuspair a bhuineadh dhaibh, no nì a bha iad ag gabhail os làimh, nach robh iad ag cur fa chomhair agus fo chùram Dhé ann an ùrnuigh. Ach thainig atharrachadh air mòran de na Gaidheil bho 'n uair sin, agus is ann a bha cuid a' smaoinichadh, agus eachdon ag ràdh, gur h-ann a bha e 'na laigse agus 'na fhacineas do na daoine còir agus diadhaidh so a bhith toirt nithean cho tìmeil agus cho talmhaidh fa chomhair Dhé ann an ùrnuigh. Bha cuid ann, chan 'eil fhios agam a bheil iad ann fhathast no nach 'eil, agus is ann a bha iad a' smaoinichadh nach robh na daoine so cho Crìosdail riutha fhein seach gun robh iad ag iarraidh air an Tighearna nithean tìmeil agus talmhaidh a bha feumail a chum am bith-beò.

San t-sean aimsir bha brùc cladaich cho feumail ri dad a bh' ànn chum an talamh— as an robhas a' faotainn am bith-beò—a thodhar agus a mhaithichadh. Chuala mi, ma tha, ùrnuigh bodaich chòir air a h-ainmeachadh mar nach biodh i Crìosdail gu leòr seach gun robh e ag iarraidh air an Tighearna nì cho tìmeil agus cho talmhaidh ri brùc. Sin mullach an ainealais air doimhneachd nithean spioradail. Bha an duine còir ag guidhe gun bitheadh muil is geodhachan a' chladaich sa' bhaile aca làn de bhùrc. So ùrnuigh an duine chòir.

Làn gun robh Sìla-gea,
Taosgach gun robh Geodha-an-t-searraich;
Is i bhith fo roinn air Triasamol, 's air
Fìarsamol, 's air Mola-geal-uaine.

* * *

Firinn airson a' mhìos so.—Ged a nì fear air bhith spàirn cha chrùnair e mura dean e spàirn gu dlùgheach—ii. *Thim.* ii. 5.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

◆

Cha dean fear iomairt buaidh, 's cha dean fear luath maorach.—*A gamester won't do a threshing, and an impatient man won't gather shell fish.*

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Meetings of the Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees were held recently. Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Gaelic Master, Royal Academy, was re-appointed Convener of the former and Mr. Farquhar MacLeod, Headmaster, Clava School, Convener of the latter. Several new members were co-opted to both Committees for Session, 1943/44. Sympathetic reference was made to the illness of Provost Donald Cattanach, a member of the Propaganda Sub-Committee, and the Secretary was instructed to convey to him the sincere wishes of the Committee for a speedy recovery.

Ceilidh nan Gaidheil an Inbhirnis is at the moment without a meeting place, but it is hoped to make arrangements for a suitable hall for the opening meeting on 16th October.

The Organiser recently visited Wester Ross in the interests of An Comunn and the Scottish Savings Committee. He visited the Schools at Achnasheen, Torridon, Gairloch, Poolewe, Inverasdale, Laide, Gruinar and Badcaul. Three new members were enrolled during the visit and six new Savings Groups were formed. The school population is decreasing at an alarming rate, and in six of the schools in this area, the average number is under six.

Mr. Macphail also visited North and West Sutherland and the same tale of decreasing school rolls has to be reported. As a typical example, Durness can be quoted—a few years ago the school roll was over 60—now it is 21. Addresses were given in the schools at Achlyness, Badcall, Melness, Tongue, and Lairg. A Branch Ceilidh was held at Stoer with Mr. J. Milne, President, in the Chair. Mr. Macphail gave an address on the work of An Comunn in wartime and also spoke of the value of Savings Groups in every village. At Melness 8 boys and 9 girls were added to Comunn na h-Oigridh and the children have promised to support the Royal and Merchant Navies' Fund. At Bonar-bridge provisional arrangements were made to hold a Gaelic Concert in aid of the Central Fund, in October. Three new Savings Groups were also formed in the course of the visit.

A note from Mr. Nicol Campbell, Hon. Secretary to the Elgin Branch, states that the opening meeting of the Branch is to be held on 25th October. Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., is to read a paper on "The Highland Clans and their Districts."

Mr. T. S. G. MacLean, late Secretary to the Glenurquhart Branch, is making arrangements to form a new Branch of An Comunn at Leacainn, where he is the esteemed Headmaster.

There is a large Gaelic-speaking population in the district and Mr. MacLean is assured of strong support in his enterprise.

Arrangements had been made for the Organiser to visit Skye from 20th to 25th September, but as the schools will be closed at the time—Harvesting—this visit is being postponed.

At the October meetings of the County Council of Inverness, two important appointments are to be made—Director of Education for the County, in place of Mr. David Howat who has been appointed to Perth and Kinross, and a Rector for the Inverness Royal Academy, in place of Mr. Crampton Smith, who is retiring under the age limit. It is understood that there are Gaelic-speaking candidates for each of the important posts.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The Glasgow (Central) Branch has arranged a series of Ceilidhean for the winter session and these will be held in the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, on Saturdays, 30th October, 18th December, 29th January, and 11th March. The members of the Govan Branch are having a very successful series of weekly ceilidhean in the Cardell Halls, Govan Cross. These will be continued throughout the session and meet on Thursday evening.

The Joint Committee of both Branches has arranged for the Second Glasgow District Mod to be held on Friday and Saturday 2nd and 3rd June, 1944. The syllabus will be ready by 30th October.

Acknowledgments of parcels of Gaelic Books to Prisoners of War are being received more regularly and we are pleased to record that the following have sent acknowledgments through the official channel:—Capt. Rev. Kenneth Grant, Alex. MacLeod (87370), Spr. G. MacLean and Finlay Morrison (17742). Capt. Grant has been doing yeoman service for Gaelic since he was captured in 1940. Although he has been transferred to different Camps he has always managed to get up a Gaelic Class and gather a goodly number of students around him. At his own request a number of Gaelic books of Leaving Certificate standard has been sent him, and we hope that these will arrive in good order and at an early date.

It may not be generally known that Gaelic is taught to Highland lads attending Keill School. This well known School now in its 28th session was formed at Keill House, Southend, Kintyre. It continued to meet there until

the building was burned down in 1915 when it was transferred to Dumbarton. It remained in that town for 17 years and we have recollections of seeing many of the boys at gatherings of the Dumbarton Branch. It is now back in Kintyre at the village of Clachan. The Rev. John MacIntyre, a former pupil, was Gaelic instructor for many years but is now unable to continue in that capacity. The Rev. Wm. MacNab, Clachan, has kindly agreed to act as Gaelic instructor. Mr. Islay Kerr, a Life Member of An Comunn, is Chairman of the Governors.

Mr. Murdo MacLeod has been appointed assistant to Hugh Macphee in the Gaelic section of the B.B.C., and has taken up his duties at Broadcasting House, Glasgow.

Mr. MacLeod is a native of the island of Lewis, and was educated at Nicolson Institute, Stornoway, and Glasgow University, where he specialised in Celtic.

Since 1928 he has been teaching in various Glasgow schools, and has spent a year in Canada under the Overseas Teachers' Exchange scheme. He is honorary secretary of the Glasgow Branch of An Comunn, and represents the Branch on the Executive Council. Soirbheachadh math dhuit, a charaid.

For some years he has taken part in Gaelic broadcasting and has been a regular compiler and reader of the Gaelic news.

Battles cannot be won without casualties and the prowess of the men of our race in this, as in other wars, has brought renown to many Highland homes also, alas, sorrow. To the Laird of Skeabost and his good lady we extend the sincere sympathy of all members of An Comunn on the death in action of their second son, Captain Allan MacLeod. We also remember his widow and three young sons in their bereavement. The youngest of Skeabost's sons, Lt.-Jack MacLeod, is a Prisoner of War and quite recently we sent him a parcel of Gaelic books for study in Camp.

Another well known Highland family to suffer bereavement is that of the Rev. and Mrs. Angus J. MacVicar, St. Blaas's Manse, Southend Kintyre. Their son, Lieut. Archie MacVicar, died of wounds received in action in Sicily on 25th July. He was married to a daughter of Ex-Provost and Mrs. Greenshields, Lochgilphead, a family who has given many years of faithful service to An Comunn and the Gaelic cause in the district of Mid Argyll. We extend to Lieut. MacVicar's young widow and his parents the sincere sympathy of our members.

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

The Exhibition and Gift Shop which the Central Committee are arranging on behalf of the Royal & Merchant Navies' Fund will be held in Glasgow for a fortnight commencing Monday, 18th October. Please note that premises have been taken for this display and sale at 33 & 35 Renfield Street and not in Sauchiehall Street as had been first stated. This is a cause which many friends will wish to help by donating goods for sale, and specially welcome will be gifts which have some Highland connection—such as Celtic Jewellery, clan and regimental crests, pewter and silverware, china and glass, and books, and pictures of Highland interest. All kinds of produce and baking will be most acceptable. Already many offers have been received to loan articles of historical interest for exhibition, and the Committee will be pleased to accept further offers of this kind.

The Exhibition will be opened by Mrs. Iain M. Campbell (Airds), Convener of the Art and Industry Committee, on 18th October, at 2.30 p.m.

ART AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

Competition in Celtic Art for Juniors.

For the best reproduction of a selected Celtic Design on leather, cloth or wood, the article to be of some utility value. Prizes—1st Special Prize of £2; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 15s; 4th, 10s. Entries to close on 25th March, 1944.

Intending competitors are asked to apply to the Secretary, An Comunn Gàidhealach, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2., for designs and instructions. They are also asked to state which section or sections they desire to take part in.

SGIAL AN EAGAIL.

So aгаibh sgeulachd a dh' innis Iain Domhnallach còir nach maireann a' Gleann Uig am Mùideart d'homhsa 's mi 'na mo bhalach, sa' bhliadhna 1904. Cha robh cion sgeulachdan is sean eachdraidh is iomadh rud maith eile air Iain. Gu dearbh b' e fhein an duine uasal agus am fìor Chrìosduidh. Is fhad o 'n uair sin, ach tha mi deanamh dheth gun tug mi sìos an sgial an cainnt is am briathran Iain, agus gun do lìtrich mi na facail gu bhith comh-fhreagairt ris mar a bha esan 'gan ràdh. Chuir mi an clòdh i sa' bhliadhna 1907 ann an leabhraan beag a chuireadh a mach comh-cheangailt ri Fèill a bha aig eaglais Ghaidhlig Chalum

Chille an Dun-èideann, leabhraan air an robh, mas maith mo chiumhnc, Ceò na Mònachd mar ainm.

So aгаibh, ma tha, an sgeulachd mar a thug mise sìos i bhò bheul Iain MhicDhomhnaill an Gleann Uige.—F.d.

Bha cailleach ann roimhe agus bha mac aice agus thòisich e air iarraidh "sgial an eagail" air a mhathair. "Chan 'eil sgial an eagail agamsa," ars ise, "ach tha seachd gobhair cheannaghas mheannaghas anns a' bheinn ud shuas agus cha d' fhuair duine riamh mar uidhe sheachd mìle dhaibh, agus tha e iongantach leamsa mura faigh thu sgial an eagail an sin." Air falbh gun ghabh e agus cha b' fhada gus an tàinig e leis na gobhair. "A chailleach a mach agus bleoghain iad," thubhairt esan. Chaidh e a laighe an sin agus 'fan uair a dhùisg e dh' iarr e air a' chaillich sgial an eagail a thoirt da. Thuir i ris e dhòl gu doras tigh Rìgh Èireann agus e bhualadh cas ri crann is bas gu teann, agus farraidh an dorsair co a th' ànn, agus their thusa gu bheil Domhnall dona mac na bana-sgialaiche ag iarraidh sgial an eagail. Rinn e so.

Chaidh an Rìgh far an robh seanaghal a bha os cionn a' bhàile fìsch dé dheanadh e ris a' bheadagain balaich a bha sud. Thuir an seanaghal e ràdh ris e dhòl gu taobh tuath Beinn Eitinn. Bha e an sin a null agus a nall gus an tàinig bial an athaich agus an annoich. Chunnaic e an sin bodach cartaidh claon ruadh, agus an uair a dh' fhosgadh e a bhial chitheadh e a sgamhan air ùrlar a chléibh agus e ri dall mhagaidh air. Thuir e ri Domhnall mac na bana-sgialaiche. "Dé chuir an so thu?" "Thainig mi dh' iarraidh sgial an eagail," "Is iomadh amadan gòrach a thainig an sin nach do thill dhachaidh a dh' innsc na h-ath-sgiaka, mar a thainig thusa." Ghabh iad an crios dromannan a chéile, agus chiumhnic Domhnall gun robh e goirid o a naimhdean agus fada o a chairdean, agus thug e an togall uallach aighearach dha agus leag c e, agus thug e a ghlùn am bial a' chléibh dha, agus dh' fhàg e am bodach marbh an sud.

Thill Domhnall gu tigh Rìgh Èireann a rithis, agus bhual e cas gu teann is bas ri crann, agus dh' fharraid an dorsair dheth co a bh' ànn, agus thuir e gun robh Domhnall dona mac na bana-sgialaiche ag iarraidh sgial an eagail a rithis. Chaidh an Rìgh a chur a chomhairle ris an t-seanaghal ach dé dheanadh e ris a' bheadagain balaich a bha sud. Thuir an seanaghal ris e dh' orduchadh còig ciad laoch a chur a' chinn bharr a' bheadagain balaich sa' mhionaid. Chaidh so innse do Dhomhnall. Dh' fhalbh Domhnall a dh' ionnsaigh na

tulaich air an éireadh a' ghrian moch agus air an laigheadh i annoch; agus ciod è cha robh e fada an sin an uair a thainig còig ciad laoch air son an ceann a chur dheth. Dh' fharraid Domhnall an sin co as a thainig na h-àrmuinn. Thuirtd iad gun robh còig ciad laoch air tighinn airson an ceann a chur dheth anns a' mhionaid. Smaoinich Domhnall an sin gun robh e fada o chairdean agus fagus do a naimhdean agus dh' éirich dorn air bhuirbe is dorn air bheirde dha agus bha fàileadh fiaraidh fuaraidh frosaidh fala 'ga doirteadh le sàr-ghaisgeadh, agus mura deach iad fo sgoltadh creige na fo ghaorr dhaoine cha d' fhàg e a h-aon beò dhiubh a rachadh dhachaidh a dh' innse an ath-sgiala.

Thill Domhnall air ais là-arna-mhàireach gu tigh Rìgh Eireann. Bhuail e cas gu teann is bas ri crann agus dh' fhoighnich an dorsair cò bh' ànn, agus thuirtd esan gun robh Domhnall dona mac na bana-sgialaiche ag iarraidh sgial an eagail.

Dh' fhalbh an Rìgh far an robh an seanaghal agus thuirtd e ris gun tainig ann beadagain balaich ud a rithis a dh' iarraidh sgial an eagail, agus nach robh fhios aige dé dheanadh e ris, agus nach tainig a h-aon de na dh' fhalbh a dh' innse an ath-sgiala. Thuirtd an seanaghal e chur deich ciad laoch a chur a chinn bharr a' bheadagain balaich anns a' mhionaid, agus chaidh sin innse do Dhomhnall. Thog Domhnall air a dh' ionnsaigh na tulaich air an éireadh a' ghrian moch agus air an laigheadh i annoch. Dé cha robh e fada an sin an uair a dh' fhairich e na h-àrmuinn agus chunnaic e tighinn iad. Dh' fharraid e co as a ghluais na laojich. Thuirtd iadsan gun robh deich ciad laoch a' dol a chur a' chinn de 'n bheadagan balaich, agus gun robh an Rìgh air sin orduchadh. Chumhnic Domhnall gun robh e goirid o naimhdean agus fada o chairdean agus dh' éirich dorn air bhuirbe agus dorn air bheirde dha, agus bha fàileadh fiaraidh fuaraidh frosanach na fala 'ga dortadh le sàr-ghaisgeach, agus mura deach iad fo sgoltadh creige no fo ghaorr dhaoine cha d' fhàg e beò ach aon fhear a chaidh a dh' innse an ath-sgial dhachaidh.

Dh' fhalbh Domhnall agus rainig e tigh an Rìgh a rithis, agus bhuail e cas gu teann is bas ri crann agus dh' fharraid an dorsair co bh' ànn is thuirtd e gun robh Domhnall dona mac na bana-sgialaiche ag iarraidh sgiala an eagail. Dh' fhalbh an Rìgh a chur a chomhairle ris an t-seanaghal agus thuirtd e ris gun robh eagail air gum fàsaicheadh an duine ud an rìoghachd air. Thuirtd an seanaghal nach robh fhios aige-san mura tugadh e dha a nighean ri a pòsadh. Fhuair e an nighean, ach ge do fhuair bha esan ag iarraidh sgial an eagail. Chaidh an Rìgh

far an robh an seanaghal agus thuirtd e ris gun robhagal air gun cuireadh an duine ud cridhe na h-inghinne aige as a chochull ag iarraidh sgial an eagail. Thuirtd an seanaghal ris iad a thoirtd biadh sailhte dha, agus tocsaid làn uisge a churlàimh ris air an oidhche an uair a rachadh e a laighe, agus bradan beò a chur anns an tocsaid. Dh' fhàs Domhnall pàiteach agus laigh e air òl an uisge, ach ma laigh cha d' fhalbh ann pathadh. Mu dhicreadh bha an tocsaid agus tràghadh agus mar a bha Domhnall ag òl an uisge thug am bradan plub as agus cha mhòr nach do leum cridhe Dhomhnall as a chochull; agus cha rachadh e sin a mach as an tigh leis an eagail gun cheathrar roimhe agus 'na dheidh agus ceathrar air gach taobh dheth. Agus dh' fhàg mise mar sin e.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Cha do chuir mi fathast crìoch air na bha agam r'a ràdh mu na paipearan ceasnachaidh, ged is dòcha gu bheil sibhse nach do ghabh làmh anns an obair ag ràdh ruibh féin rud-eigin mar so,—“tha mi seachd bog sgìth de na paipearan drudhalach sin, is tha an t-àm agad sgur dhiubh”; ach, coma, mur do ghabh sibh làmh anna bu chòir dhuibh gun gabhadh; agus co-dhiùbbh, is ann rìusan a ghabh a tha no sheanachas an dràs.

Anns a' Bheurla gu Gàidhlig, bha mòran a sgrìobh “thù” mar “ù.” Ciod an t-aobhar air so? An e nach 'eil a' chlann air an teagasg le ceartas, no ciod? Is dòcha gun robh iadsan a sgrìobh “anns a' chnoc” (*were you alone in the hill last night?*) ceart gu leor gu litereil; ach sin mar a theirtd nan robh neach anns a' chnoc còmhla ris na sìthichean! Is dòcha gur e “anns a' mhonadh” a b' fhearr. Bha aon a bha ag iarraidh an leabhar math ann an àireamh 4 a “leaghadh” an àite a leughadh. Ann an 5 (*I am sorry your mother broke her arm*), is e “a làmh” a rinn a' chuid mhòr de “her arm” an àite “a gairdean.” Bha aon a rinn dheth gur e “a garstan” a bhris i. Anns an eilean againne is e “garstan” a their sinn ri cneabailte (*garter*)! Is e glé bheag a rinn féill no margadh de “market” ann an 6—“*Will you be at the market to-morrow with the sheep?*” Bu trice a rinneadh “aig an t-sale (aon a rinn “aig an t-ale!)—agus is dòcha gun tuig sibh uile ciod an t-eilean as an robh an t-aon a thuirtd “anns an dròbh” ris. Chan ann teth, ach blàth, a bha an leaba an 8. Bha cuid, agus chan ann as an aon eilean a bhà iad na bu mhò, a rinn “am màireach” de *Monday*. Chan fhaod e bhith gur ann air an t-sàbaid a bhà iad a' sgrìobhadh!

Bhuin mi mar thà ris an dòigh thuathal anns an do sgrìobh aon eile "Di-Iuan."

Is dòcha gu bheil "còir" ceart gu leòr, an scagh, mar cho-riochdachadh air "kind": cha bhiodhteadh fada ceàrr le "duine còir" a ràdh ri "kind man," ach feumar "kind to the poor dog" a chur an riochd eile, agus is dòcha gur e a b' fheàrr a ràdh ri 10, "Chan 'eil an ciobair tu laghach ris a' chù bhochd."

Tha mòran tuille a bu mhath leam a ràdh mu phaipear-deuchainn Sàr-Ghàidheal, ach co-dhùibh a gheibh no nach faigh mi cothrom air ni a ràdh nas fhaide air aghaidh eadar so is Nollaig, chan 'eil an cothrom air an ceartair is feumar fhàgail aig an àm.

Chi sibh air duilleig eile de 'n àireimh so gu bheil an Comunn a' teannadh ri marsantachd, is gu bheil iad a' fosgladh bùtha air aon de phrìomh shràidean Ghlaschu air an ochdamh-la-deug de 'n mhìosa so. Carson a tha mi a' tarraing bhur n-aire gu sin? Tha dìreach so, a chum is ma tha an comas idir agaibh (is thà e agaibh) gun cuir sibh air aghart rud no rud-eigin a ghabhas reic anns a' bhùth so. Tha ceud rud a ghabhas reic ann am bùth ma tha an neach a tha an rud sin bhuaite a' tighinn an rathad. Tha sinne anns a' bhaile a' deanamh ar dichill gu iad sin a thàladh rathad a' bhùtha, agus tha sinn a' sìreadh bhur cuideachadh-se gu a dheanamh cinnteach gum bi an rud air a bheil iad an geall r'a sholar. Mar as motha a chruinnichear, is ann as motha a reicear; agus mar as motha a reicear is ann as truime a bhios an t-ionmhas gu math nan àrmunn is nan ban-àrmunn a tha ri aghaidh bualaidh anns a' chogadh, oir is ann gu am feumsan a tha an oidhirp so air a deanamh. Tha fios agaibh féin far a bheil oifis a' Chomunn is cuiribh sanas an sin ma tha n' agaibh gu a chur air aghaidh.

Tha co-fhreagarraidhean an Gàidhlig air "it never rains but it pours" a' tighinn gu in' làimh eadhon fathast, is so agaibh trì ràdhteanaid a chuir Dòmhnall MacPhàil chugam as an Airde Tuath. Tha e ag ràdh gun cluinnear iad ro thrìc shuas an sin. Tha mi an dùil gun cluinnear iad gu math mu dheas cuideachd, agus cho fada ri leth thuathach Earra-Ghàidheal co-dhùibh. So aon,— "An uair a thig e thig è!" (le teann-chudrom a chur air an è mu dheireadh). Aon eile,— "An uair a thig an t-earrachall, thig e còmhla," agus "An uair a thig air duine, thig air uile!"

Tha mi a nis a' dol a thoirt dhuibh snaim gu a fuasgladh, agus le a fàigail agaibh sguiridh mi aig an àm. A bheil aon sam bith agaibh do an aithne rann bàrdachd anns a bheil an deagh fhacal so, "earrachall," a' tighinn a stigh;

agus a bheil aon aig a bheil atharrachadh ciall dha seach driadart no call spréidhe an àm an earrach?—Bhur Cairaid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

CINNTIRE.

Sith o Dhia air màthair m' altrium,
Le spreigeadh gràidh chan fhaigh mi clos,
Solas duit Chinntire is sonas:
C' uim nach molainn crìoch gun lochd?

Onàthach sunnd is aobhachd inntinn
San dùthaich ghaoil a dh' àraich mi,
Gràin no gruinm cha tig 'na còir-se,
Gàire 's ceòl as dual di.

Ghràdhach mi do m'òruir,
Lom do chnoc fu ghruim an speur,
Drilseach grèin' air an sìos taobhigheal,
Lìos aosd' as millse gasda gnè.

Binn guth gaoithe air do chruachan,
Ag èigheach air an guaillean àrd;
Gur rìomhach do ghealchrios umad,
A' mhuir a' teannadh gu tràigh.

Sean tir ud air oir an aigein,
Monnluir mara buan m'a Maoil,
Corr a sléibhean os cionn sàile,
Rèidh a tràigh, tonnabhà a taobh.

Tir nan Og nam fonn gun trùinead,
Iomadh tonn 'ga asgaradh ruinn,
Tir fo Thuinn gun sgar air gaire,
Thugadh tir as àillidh dhè.

Is daor a cheannaich mi mo bheòshlaint,
Ma 's e mo stòras fanachd uat,
Crom gach là os cionn mo leabhair,
Gun amharc ort, mo ghoirtein uain'.

A bhith fuaradh Ard-Laomuinn,
Long 's a lorg 'na gaoir fo 'druim,
Sléibhean Ròraig romhan 'nan sìneadh,
Togail cinn is cridhe sud.

Air ruigsinn domh à tir aineoil
Gu crìoch m' aithne o shiubhal thuium,
Cur mo chois air fòd mo dhùthcha,
C' uim nach pògainn ùir an fhuinn?

Breugadh sùla do na chi e,
Sgeul an ti a chunnaic e,
Slios fad àillidh an fhuimh shona,
Oighreachd àrsaidh sìochd nan seud.

Cinneadh Iain Mhóir an curaidh,
He 's Uladh ac' am bann,
Cleas nan neul gun deach iad thairis,
Och, gun ach an sgeul orr' ann.

Is domhain a chaidh freumh do sheanchais,
Luingeas Lochlainn, airm is tìrod,
Clanna Lìr air Sruth na Maoile,
Calum Cille caomh ad phort.

Talla rìoghail cruadhach t' aonach,
Cluasag shìoda fraoch do chòs;
Is mills' an deoch e, deur o d' shruthan,
Na fion tìr eile an cupan òir.

Leannan mo shùgraidh is mo shuirghe,
Fèarann no rùin, crò nan sliaibh,
Leug is àilleagan gach tìre,
Seunadh ort is sìth o Dhia.

SEORAS CAIMBEUL HAY.

GENERAL MEETING.

A General Meeting of An Comunn members was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Friday, 17th September. The President, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider, presided, and there was a good attendance of members considering travelling and other difficulties.

The Secretary reported on the result of the election of office-bearers and members of Executive Council.

The annual reports and statement of accounts were submitted, considered, and approved. The auditors were re-appointed.

It was unanimously agreed that the National Mod should not be resumed until after the close of the war.

The activities of Clann an Fhraoich and Comunn na h-Oigridh, as far as these can be carried on in the present circumstances, were explained by the General Secretary and Northern Organiser.

Mr. Roderick M. Nicol, LL.B., Dean of the Faculty of Procurators, Glasgow, was appointed to the vacancy on the Feill Trust caused by the death of Mr. Charles Campbell.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Beurla gu Ghaidhlig.—Chuir ceathrar chugam eadar-theangachadh gu Gaidhlig air a' chrioman Beurla a bha agam an soir a' mhios a chaidh. Is ann airson na feadhnaich sin nach d' fhuair a' Ghaidhlig ris a' ghluin a bha a' chomhfharpais agam—airson neach sam bith a dh' ionnsaich a' Ghaidhlig bhò thainig e gu dad a dh' ire. Tha mi ag iarraidh an trobha so a dh' ionnsaigh a' Ghaidheil dhealasach agus an fhoghlumach eudmhor sin Iomhar MacUardaigh, an Ashted an Surrey, agus fear eile chuin a' Ghaidheil eudmhor sin Andrea MacPhilip an Dun Eideann.

A nis air son anail a thoirt do'n luchd-ionnsachaidh bheir mi an deagh leabhar Gaidhlig do neach sam bith—co-dhùbh b' fhuair iad a' Ghaidhlig ris a' ghluin no nach d' fhuair—as fheàrr a bheir dhomh an Gaidhlig na gnàthasan cainnte Beurla a leanas.

Bidh cuimhne aig cuid agaih air an *t-Seana Bhean* a chleachd a bhith cur rud chugam do 'n *Ghaidheil* o chionn beagan bhliadhnaich air ais. Boireannach grunn agus boireannach maith—bantrach Thearlaich Mhic an Tòisich a bha aon uair an Sligeachan, agus aig Drochaid Ruaidh. Tha ise a nis air slighe na firinn. A cuid de Phàrras di. Is ise a thig dhomh iad. Chan e eadar-theangachadh a tha mi ag iarraidh idir ach na gnàthasan cainnte a tha a' freagairt orra an Gaidhlig. Ni iad a' chùis ma ruigeas iad mise uair sam bith roimh dheireadh a' mhios so.

(1), Depending on a broken reed. (2), I saw it at a distance. (3), I was startled. (4), In broad daylight. (5), A bright moonlight night. (6), All is not gold that glitters. (7), Changes are lightsome. (8), Evil communications corrupt good manners. (9), Fast bind fast find. (10), Without friends or means. (11), Many a puckle makes a muckle. (12) Necessity knows no law. (13), As ill luck would have it. (14) He kissed the blarney stone. (15), Begone! (16), Better the evil ye know than the evil ye know not of. (17), Penny wise and pound foolish. (18), Up for sale. (19), Herring-bone stitch (or weave). (20), Diamond stitch (or weave).

Ceartachadh.—Ann a bhith bruidhinn air an sgoil ainmeil sin Ospadal Chrìost 'san dlo' seachd' air a' mhios so chaidh is e Peadar rìgh mòr Ruisia a blutar ag eiallachadh agus chan e Frederic.—F.d.

EADARAINN FHIH.

Am Fiadh.

A CHARAID URRAMAICH,—Ged tha an seanfhacal ag ràdh, 'Tri aois duine aois féidh,' tha mi de 'n bheachd gun deach ùghdair nan briathran so tomhas math thar smior na firinn, 's nach 'eil mòran de threubh nan damh ruadh a tha faighinn dlùth air dà fhuichead bliadhna dh' aois. Theagam nach 'eil seoirbhear bh' air Iomhòireachd a làithean, 's nach do ghabh forsairan uiread beachd 'sa dh' fhaodadh iad air, ach tha an sealgar eòlach Maidsear Iain Ros, a leigeil a thuigsinn dhuinm gun bheil an damh ruadh 'uair théid e seachad air dà bhliadhna dh' a' dh' aois a tearmadh an lethaid a thaobh neart is luathas.

Tha mi cinnteach gun bheil cuid de leughadairean a' *Ghaidheil* a chuala mu dheidhinn damh feidh a bh' aig a-h-on de Iarlan Siofort an Caisteal Bhrathain.

Nuair bha e 'na laogh chaidh a chumail air son peata agus bha e cho measail aig an teaghlach 's gun do chuir an t-Iarla crios airgid mu mhucal. Air son bliadhna na dhà bha e daonnan a fuireach mu thimcheall a' Chaisteil agus pàirean Bhrathain, ach as déidh sin chuir e cùl ris na srathaibh 's thog e ris na frichean. Bhiodh sealgarain is forsairan ga fhaicinn gu math tric sna creachainn ach bha e cho combarichte leis a chrios airgid 's nach do chuimsich aon neach dhùbh riamh musgaid air. Mar bha na bliadhnaich a' dol seachad bha damh a' chrios airgid ri fhaicinn na b' ainmig 's na b' ainmig mu dheireadh gun deach forrais a chall buileach air. Mòran bhliadhnaich as deidh so chaidh damh a mharbhadh an àm na séig ann an frith Bhrathain. Chaidh a thoirt dachaidh is fheanadh. 'Nuair a bha iad 'ga ghearradh sios 'sa toirt na h-amhaich dheth thainig an sgian air rudeigin anabarrach cruaidh. Dé bha so ach crios airgid agus an fheoil air cinntinn thairis air. 'Nuair thug iad an crios dheth chumhaic iad leis an sgrìobhadh a bh' air gun robh e air a chuir mu mhucal an daimh dlùth air ciad bliadhna roimhe sud.

Chan e na Gaidheil a mhàin a bha creidsim gun robh an t-ainmhidh so faighinn aois mhòr.

Bha mi leughadh 'nuair bha an siathamh Tearlach air Rìgh-chathair na Frainge gun do mharbh e damh ann an coille Senlis air an robh coilear agus leis an sgrìobhadh gur e an duine ainmeil sin Iulius Cèasar a chuir air e.

Cha chreid mi nach ann sa bhliadhna 1422 a shiubhail an Rìgh Tearlach so, 's nuair sin bhithheadh am fiadh so còrr is bhliadhna!

Cha leig an Stiubhartach loinneil tha tamh ann an Lunnain, a leas mòran suim a chuir san eachdradh so, no neach sam bith eile, nas lugha na tha slugadh cho farsuing ach thaobh cuspairan an t-seorsa 's gun cuireadh iad sios gun aon bhulle cagnaich a' mhuc mhara a chunnaic Niall a' Bhòd aon uair dlùth air cladach Eilean Dhiarmaid.

Chleachd, tha mi an dùil, caraid na h-òigridh Eachann MacDùghaill a bhith beachdachadh mu bheatha cuid de ainmhidhean na Gaidhealtachd, ach bho 'n nach robh fear-nan-cabar ag gabhail chomhnaidh anns an Eilean san d' fhuair e àrach saoidheam mi gur e mo charaid Niall an Rùnaire bu dòcha fosrachadh a thoirt dhuin air a cheist, chionn bha iad Iomhòr gu leòr sa' ghleann san robh ean òg.

TAOBHTUATH EARRAGHAIDHEAL.

Gaelic Sounds.

Sir,—I would be grateful if you could find space in *An Gaidheal* for the following observation:—

I am greatly surprised at the poor use some of our Gaelic singers make of the vowel combinations in the songs they sing. The duty of a singer is to produce beautiful sounds no matter what the local pronunciation of certain words or vowels may be. Some open their mouths and shout; others squeeze out the words as if the jaws were rigid. The jaws and lips should be absolutely elastic, and full value should be given to each vowel sound. These flaws are particularly noticeable in broadcasts, when one hears the sounds only and the singer's facial expression gives no relief to the total effect.

Take one song that is often deprived of its full beauty by this poor use of the vowels—"An Aitair-eachd Ard." This song is full of the vowel combination, *ua*—*uan, suas, fuaim, swain*, etc. Men, especially, don't give full justice to these lovely words. When the voice comes to the *a* sound they open their mouths and shout. One should remember that the mouth is an arch, and the breath directed to this arch produces the sound. It is not the throat that should sing, but the lips. Remember that in Gaelic *u* is *oo*, and *a* is *aah*. Two lovely sounds. For the *oo* the breath should be directed to the roof of the mouth. For *aah* to the tip of the nose (without making a nasal sound). Now join the two sounds and you will see that it is not necessary to open the mouth and shout. The correct sound is round and beautiful. I have in my mind a singer recently heard who makes the fullest use of these lovely sounds—Helen T. MacMillan. I mention her because I spotted her a few nights ago. Take note of her if you should like to hear how these vowels should be sung.

Again, let us take *ceann, beann, teann*, etc. This sound is often squeezed out instead of it coming oval shaped, broad in the middle—*aahnn*, the *nn* getting their full value. Beautiful words.

Another word that caught my attention in a recent broadcast was *boidheach*—*I cho boidheach*. The singer here made a picture of this word. The *oi* round and full of meaning. Here again the breath should be directed forward to the tip of the nose, the lips rounded.

Gaelic-speaking people often complain that learners get more marks than native speakers, but these critics fail to realise that often native speakers are slipshod in their pronunciation while learners, when properly taught, make full use of the different sounds of vowels and consonants just as learners of English often speak more distinctly than native speakers.

I know that singers are very sensitive creatures, but he who cannot or is not willing to learn shall never improve, and it is a pity to spoil one's singing for the want of a little effort.

C. MACLEOD.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and

thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

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[Earrann 2

AN T-IM GAIDHEALACH.

Tha mi de 'n bharail gun robh meas aig na Gaidheil riamh air im. Tha mòran againn agus cha do thuig sinn riamh cho measail 's a bha im againn fhein, agus cho déidheil 's a bha sinn air gus an so fhein—gus an tug an cogadh oirn sin a thuigsinn, coltach ri iomadach rud eile. Dh' fhàs daoine cho sgìth de 'n mhagairin 's a bha an gobha dh' a mhathair. Gu dearbh cha mhòr nach bu cho maith leam fhein aran tur ri aran leis a' mhagairin; ge do tha e nas fheàrr dhuinn na aran tioram. Ach coltach ri iomadach rud maith eile is ann an uair a bhios sinn as aonais an ime a thuigeas sinn cho miadhail 's a bha e againn, agus cho taiceil 's cho feumail 's a bha e dhuinn. Tha e, ma tha, nàdurrach gum biodh an t-im mùirneach aig na Gaidheil agus iad san t-seann aimsir an crochadh cho mór air toradh na spréidhe cho maith ri toradh an fhearainn. Chì sinn bho na seanfhacail aca cho mùirneach 's a bha e aca. Tha mi deanamh dheth gur h-e im a bhatar ag ciallachadh gu sonraichte leis an t-seanfhaicail: Maith na bà a muigh 's a stigh, mura leighis sin thu chan 'eil leigheas air do shon. Tha cuimhne agam air a dhà no trì sheanfhaicail eile a tha leigeil fhaicinn an nì ceudna, mar a tha: Am fear aig am bì im gheibh e im; agus, Am fear a dh' itheas an t-im togadh e an tota. Agus: Cha bhì an t-im sin air an roinn sin. Tha na seanfhacail so, agus feadhainn eile, a leigeil fhaicinn gun robh im air a mheas mar nì cho fùghail agus cho luachmhor 's a bha aig na Gaidheil.

Bha e air a mheas chan ann a mhàin mar annlan ach mar chungaigh-leigheais air iomadh gné thinneis is eucail. Mus do thòisich im nam bùitean agus am magairin a tighinn am measg dhaoine air a' Ghaidhealtachd bhatar ag caomhnadh—nan gabhadh e idir deanamh—ballan no buidéal ime fa chomhair a' gheamhraidh. 'Bha so 'na bhìadh agus 'na annlan air leth do 'n teaghlach ri fuachd is crannadh. Bha e rithis 'na chungaigh-leigheais le bhith 'ga chleachdadh a muigh 's a stigh. Ma bha duine a' sgruchadh a chois is e im a rachadh, a shuathadh rithe, agus ma bha e ag gabhail cnatain is e im a gheibheadh e an doigh air choreigin. Bhà agus thà creideas mór aig na Gaidheil anns an im. Is fhiach e sin. Agus tha so a leigeil fhaicinn glicias is toinsean nan Gaidheal.

Gheibhear an t-aon nì am measg iomadh chinneach eile feadh an t-saoghail, siar is sear. Tha an t-im, agus maith na bà gu leir, 'na bheannachd cho mór agus a chaidh a bhuileachadh air mac an duine; agus mar a bha mi ag ràdh is ann nuair a bhios sinn cuibhte is e a chì sinn sin gu follaiseach.

Bha seorsa de chleachdadh aig na seann Ghaidheil air a bhith tidhhlacadh ballain no buidéal an ime ann am poll no am féith mòna. Chan 'eilear glé chinnteach an ann a chum an gleidheadh agus an caomhnadh a bha so, no an ann chum is gum biodh blas an ime na bà fheàrr. Is dòcha gur h-ann a chum an dà aobhair a bha e. Bha an dearbh chleachdadh an iomadh àite eile feadh an t-saoghail. Fhuair eadhb buidéal an ime an àitean air a' Ghaidhealtachd agus tha daoine fiosrach ag

cumail a rìoch gun robh iad tiodhlaicte san riasg mu mhìle bliadhna. Thatar a' deanamh so a mach bho aois is linn rudan eile a fhuairleadh ri an taobh san riasg. Ach co-dhiùbh fhuairleadh feadhainn a bha àireamh cheudan bliadhna san riasg mus do thog iad ceann. Fhuairleadh buideal mòr ime anns an robh còrr is dà cheud punn'da chudthrom ann am bota mòna an Cinn Ghearrloch sa' Mhorbhairne anns a' bhliadhna 1879. Fhuairleadh ballan maith cuideachd aig Ploc Loch Aillse sa' bhliadhna 1887, agus fear eile an àiteigin air machair Rois goirid roimhe sin. Thog fear an Sealtainn ceann faisg air an aon àm. Fhuairleadh dhà no thrì dhubh faisg air Caol Acainn san Eilean Sgitheanach, tuaiream na bliadhna 1885. Fhuairleadh gu maith tric an Eirinn iad, agus an Innis Tìle agus an dùthchannan cèin eile.

Cho fada 's is aithne dhomh, is ann an Cill-mo-Luag san Eilean Sgitheanach a fhuairleadh am fear mu dheireadh dhiùbh san rìoghachd-sa. Thainigidear thairis air, agus iad a' buain na mòna, nuair a bha iad a' toirt an fhoid isle as a' pholl. Bhatar ag curail a mach aig an àm gun robh co-dhiùbh sia troighean a riasg os cionn a bhuideil far an d' fhuairleadh e. Cha b' ann am beagan bhliadhnachan a chruinnich na bha sud de riasg os cionn a' bhuideil, tha fhios nach ann. Is ann sa' bhliadhna 1931 a bha so.

* * *

Is ann de aon ord craoibhe a bha am buideal air a dheanamh, agus bha ceann is màs ann. Bha dà chluais air, agus dà tholl anns gach chluais aige, toll mòr os cionn an fhir bhig. Thatar a' smaoinachadh gun robh na tuill mhòra chum gad air choreigin a chur trompa los am buideal a thogail 'sa leagail do'n bhota mòna; agus na tuill bheaga chum slat a chur trompa gus an ceann a chumail teann sa' bhuideal. Is ann de chraobh bheithe a bha e air a dheanamh. Bha am fiodh gu maith breòite, ach le stuthan a chur air chaidh aca air an soitheach a chumail ri cheile. Tha e nis, an t-lm 's an soitheach mar a bha e, ann am Museum Obairtheadh.

Chithear an fheadhainn eile, an t-lm 's na ballan, ann am Museum na h-Alba an Dun Eideann.

Co aige 'eil fhios nach ann ri àm cogaidh a chaidh na buideil ime a chur do 'n fhéithidh, agus gun deachaidh am fear no an té a chuir ann iad a mharbhadh; agus mar sin gun robh iad nan laighe an sud fad cheudan bliadhna gus an tainigeadh thairis oirre ri buain na mòna. Co-dhiùbh bha an t-lm mùirneach is miadhail sa' latha bh' ann. Ach cha robh e dad na bu mhùirniche is na bu mhiadhaile na tha e an

diugh. Is ann a tha e an diugh nas gainne, on chan 'eil a' bheag ann an diugh, ma tha duine idir, aig a bheil am ballan as lugha chum a chur am féith no am poll mòna los a ghleidheadh 's a chaomhnadh.

—♦—
 Tha iomadh dòigh air òu a mharbhadh gun a thachdadh le im.—*There are more ways of killing a dog than choking him with butter.*

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Balaich an Néibhi.—Bidh mi faighinn litir an dràsda 's an rithis bho bhalaich an Néibhi. Bidh iad a' toirt taing dhomh air son a' Ghaidheil agus air son *Airgid an Rìgh* agus air son nan *Duilleagan Gaidhlig* a tha an Comunn Gaidhealach ag cur thuca. Tha an aon seul aig a h-uile fear, agus an aon theachdaireachd sa' h-uile litir, 'se sin ag innse an toil-inntinn agus an riarachadh a tha na leabhraichean Gaidhlig a' toirt dhaibh. Gu tric nuair a tha cùisean dorch agus glé mhì-chomhfhurtail, tha iad ag ràdh gun toir iad a mach an *Gaidheal* no *Airgid an Rìgh*, agus nach luaithe a thòisicheas iad 'gan leughadh na tha iad ann an suaimhneas 's an sàmhear na dachaidhe. Tha iad ag ràdh nach gabh so tuigsinn ach dhaibh-san a tha san t-suidheachadh so, gu tric air druim na faire, agus an cor aonaranach air falbh bho an dàimh is bho an dachaidh. Ged nach deanadh an Comunn Gaidhealach ach so fhèin do iomadach balach Gaidhealach gu dearbh bidh deaghchean is beannachd nan Gaidheal aige cho fada 's a bhios duine th' ann an diugh beò.

Fhuair mi, ma tha, litir an la-romhe bho fhear de bhalaich an Néibhi agus b' e sin an litir, agus i loma-làn de naidheachdan an Gaidhlig bhlàth thoirtel—bho mo charaid Niall Mór MacFhionnghuin agus e an Tìgh Eiridinn an ceann a deas Shasainn. Bha mi air an *Gaidheal* agus *Airgid an Rìgh* a chur thuige o chionn greis an so, agus a nis tha e ag ràdh: "Is mi tha fìor dhuilich nach do chuir mi thugad litir chum a bhith tabhairt mòran taing dhuit air son an leabhair ghasda a chuir thu air an rathad dhomh mios no dhà air ais. Ach mar a bhios tu tuigsinn chan e obair aotrom a th' againne anns an Néibhi, agus air uairibh chan 'eil e 'nar comas a dheanamh mar as àill leinn. . . . Thòisich mi a' sgrìobhadh na litreach so a' deanamh ionraidh air an leabhar ghasda a chuir thu thugam, agus stadaidh mi mar a thòisich—tapadh leibh a rithist air a shon. Chuir na

sgeoil an t-sean dhachaidh am chuimhne, agus thog e suas mo chridhe nuair a bha mi trom fo leòn. Gu mi-fhortanach tha mi san tigh-eòrinn ach tha companach dileas agam san leabhar, agus teichidh na h-uairean air sgiath na cabhaige feadh 's a leughas mi na h-earranan gasda."

Bha Niall thall 's a bhos a mach bho chladaichean is chòraichean Shasainn agus Albainn; agus shaoileadh tu dar a bha e ag innse san litir mar a bhà, gun robh tonnan sàil a' bualadh ort san aodann. Bha an long air an robh e, greis am baile-puirte Dhubhghlais san Eilean Mhanannach, agus lorg mo charaid, an deidh dha dhòl iomrad dhà no thrì thuruis an duirt e fhein, Comunn Gaidhealach Eilean Mhanain. "Co-dhiùbh," tha e ag ràdh, "fhuair mi cairdeas dualach nan Gaidheal, agus cha ruig mi leas innse dhuit gun robh mi aighearrach agus eadhon gu maith mireagach an oidhche chéilidh ud." Bha e oidhche no dhà eile air chéilidh orra cuideach, agus thachair fear a mhuinntir Eilean Mhanain ris an sin a bha 'na sheòladair feadh eileanan na h-Albainn agus thugeadh e a h-uile facal Gaidhlig a theireadh esan. Chan 'eil mòran aca a tha comasach a nis air a' Ghaidhlig aca a labhairt; agus chaill iad, tha Niall ag ràdh, mòran de sheann chleachdaidhean an athraichean. "Tha an t-Eilean san latha an diugh Sasannach. Cha mbòr nach do dhi-chuimhnich iad cleachdaidhean aosda nan Gaidheal, agus cha chuinn thu ach a' Bheurla anns gach àite feadh an Eilein." "Cha bu mhaith leam" tha e ag ràdh, "tìr mhaiseach nan cruach fhacinn anns a' cheart staid! Co-dhiùbh, is e mo dhleasdanas a reidhainn gun do nochd iad fìor chairdeas nan Ceilteach dhomh, agus gu bheil mi mòran 'nan comain."

Bha mo charaid na bu shealbhaiche an Eilean Mhanain na bha mise turus 's mi ann. Cha do thachair duine idir orm a bhruidheadh Gaidhlig. Tha cuimhne agam a bhith sa' Mhuseum am baile Dhubhghlais agus chunnaic mi sean leac-uairean an sin agus sgrìobhadh Gaidhlig an Eilein oirre. Lorg mi fear a' Mhuseum agus dh' fhaighnich mi dheth am b' aithne dha ciall an sgrìobhaidh. Thubhairt e nach b' aithne. Dh' innis mi dha, agus sgrìobh e sios e. "Is bochd a' chùis," arsa mise ris, "nuair a tha Gaidheal a tighinn á Alba dh' innse do fhear a dhaoine foghlumite Eilein Mhanain ciall is brìgh cànan an Eilein fhéin." Dh' innis mi dha cho aosda is cho urramach 's a bha a' Ghaidhlig, seann chànan an Eilein aca. "Tha an Scriobtur fhéin," arsa mise, "ag ràdh: Sibhsè tha leantainn fìreantachd, seallaibh ris a' charrag o 'n do ghearradh a

mach sibh, agus ri slochd na h-uamha o 'n do chladhaicheadh sibh." Thug e taing dhomh; agus ars esan: "Feumaidh mi tòiseachadh air ionnsachadh na Gaidhlig, seann chànan an Eilein againn."

* * *

An Eireag Mhanannach.—Thug a bhith bruidhinn air an Eilean Mhanannach 'na mo chuimhne sean ràdh a bha aig na Gaidheil mu dheidhinn fìor dheagh sheòladh fad latha samhraidh. Bha iad ag ràdh gum bu mhaith an seòladh ann an aon latha nam faiceadh duine: "A' chearc Leodhasach agus an Coileach Arannach agus an Eireag Mhanannach." Mura thuigese duine sam bith aig a bheil dad a dh' eòlas air marachd cha b' olc an t-astar latha so eadhon do bhata-smùid fhéin. Ach is miobhuileach an t-astar a chuireas bàta fo làn sheòl, agus an soirbheas mar a dh' iarradh maraiche e, 'na déidh ann an latha. Is e a' Chearc Leodhasach sgeir a tha a mach bho chladach a deas an Rubha, a mach bho bhràighe Steòrnabhaigh. Is e an Coileach Arannach cneap creige a tha air cladach a tuath Eilein Arainn; agus is i an Eireag Mhanannach sgeir a tha aig fìor cheann an iar-'as Eilein Mhanainn, dìreach an iar-'as air an eilean sin ris an can iad fhéin Calloo, agus air a bheil Tigh Soltuis a nis. Is e laogh a tha calloo ag ciallachadh, 'se sin eilean beag ri taobh fear as motha. Tha am facal air a thoirt bho 'n fhacal Lochlannach *kalf* ag ciallachadh laogh. Is e calbhaidh a thair sinne ris an fhacal, mar a tha calbhaidh ri taobh Mhuile a mach bho Thobar Mhoire, agus tha e ag ciallachadh laogh Mhuile. Chan 'eil an Eireag Mhanannach mar sin ro fhada air falbh bho laogh Eilein Mhanainn.

* * *

Breannach.—Thug a' chòmhrag 's an t-sabaid a tha dol air adhart an dràsa den Eadailt 'na mo chuimhne còmhrag dhéistinneach a bha eadar na Gaidheil agus na h-Eadailtich sa' bhliadhna 390 R.C. 'Se thainig gu sonraichte gu m' inntinn an ceannard-airm calma is ainmeil a bha air ceann nan Gaidheal aig an àm. B' e so Breannach, Ceannard, 'na ghaisge is 'na theomachd, cho tapaidh 's a bha os an cionn riamh—agus mas maith mo chuimhne a' cheud fhear a tha air ainmeachadh air ainm 'nan eachdraidh.

San linn ud is e Gaidheil a bha ag àiteachadh ceann a tuath na h-Eadailte agus a nuas feadh chòmhnard Lombardaidh. B' e an Ròimh baile is stàit bu chumhachdaiche a bha san Eadailt aig an àm; agus dh' érich cogadh eadar i fhéin agus na Gaidheil. Sios a ghabh na Gaidheil, agus iad a' sgiùrsadh gach treubh eile

rompa gus fa dheireadh an do chuir iad baile mór na Ròimhe 'na smál. Cha deach stad orra gus an do ràinig iad daingneach meadhon a' bhaile, no an Capitol—an deidh dhaibh cur as do sheanairean na rìoghachd san *Fhorum*, no an tigh na pàrlamaid aca. Bha daingneach a' Chapitol air mullach a' bhaile os cionn creige, agus cha robh ach aon rathad 'ga ruigsinn, agus mar sin bha na Ròmanaich comasach air a dhion car greis. Ach chuirteach Breannach an Capitol agus chuir e seisd ris, agus fo dheireadh le cion bith b' fheadar dhaibh iad fhéin a thoirt suas. Ach is ann air a' chumha gum fàgadh Breannach agus a chuid Ghaidheal ann baile agus an t-àite nan tugadh iadsan dha mìle pund òir. Thainig Breannach leis na meidhean agus thòisich na Ròmanaich air an òr a chothromachadh; ach is ann a thòisich iad ri gearain nach robh na meidhean ceart—gun robh an cothrom air taobh Bhreannaich. Nuair a chuala mo laochan so, 's ann a thilg thu do chlàidheamh san t-slige chothromachaidh eile fa chomhair an òir, agus ars esan: Mo thruaighe iadsan air an tughadh buaidh. Agus bha na briathran so 'nan athan, no 'nan seanfhacal ann measg nan Ròmanach nuas troimh na linntean. Chl sibh, matà, gun robh na Gaidheil 'nan saighdearan calma agus 'nan ceannardan neo-mathach o thús an eachdraidh.

* * *

Domhnall Seàirdseant.—Chan 'eil teagamh sam bith nach d' fhoillsich an cogadh so gaisge agus treunadas agus calmachd 'nar luchd-airm cho mór 's a chunnacas riamh air thalamh—ma chunnacas roimhe a leithid. Tha mise de 'n bharail nach robh saighdearan a riamh ann a thug bàrr an gaisge is am fearalas air saighdearan a latha an diugh. Ma bha, foghnaidh sin dhaibh. Chan 'eil teagamh nach robh luchd-faisgd ann a bha sonraichte an treunalas 's an gaisge, agus eadhon an teomachd, ged bha iad eadar-dhealaichte an iomadh dòigh ri saighdearan is luchd-cogaidh an latha an diugh. Thug a bhith leughadh mu dheidhinn gaisge is treunalas luchd-cogaidh ar latha fhein seann saighdear Gaidhealach 'na mo chiumhne—saighdear a bha sonraichte is ainmeil 'na latha fhéin, b' e sin, Seàirdseant Domhnall MacLeoid. Cha robh saighdear idir ann a bha cho iomraiteach 'na latha ri Domhnall.

Rugadh e an Ullainis san Eilean Sgitheanach sa' bhliadhna 1688. Ghabh e san arm mus robh e air an treas bliadhna deug a dhùnadh, agus chaidh e thairis do 'n Fhraing leis an reisimeid aige—na h-Albannaich Rìoghail—fo chomannan an t-Seineileir òirdheirc sin Marlborough ann an 1703. Chaidh e troimh an chogadh sin san Fhraing. Dhearbh e a ghaighe

is ealantas a làimhe air blàr catha Bhlenheim agus anns gach blàr eile sa' chogadh sin. Dhearbh agus anns gach cogadh eile a bha aig Breatainn gu ruige 1776—fad trì fichead bliadhna 's a ceithir deug. Bha e aig Sliabh a' Chlambain fo MhacCailein sa' bhliadhna 1715. Bha e san Fhriceadan Dubh fo Chumberland aig Fontenoy; bha e maille ri Gaidheil an Fhrisealaich fo Seimleir Wolfe an Canada. Agus is ann am breacan-gualine Dhomhnaill a chaidh seimleir a' ghaoil Wolfe a thoirt a thaobh leòinte as an fhaiche; agus bha e air aon de na daoine leòinte a thainig dhachaidh san aon bhata ri corp Wolfe.

Nuair a bha Domhnall seachd is ceithir fichead bliadhna dh' aois ghabh e as ùr san àrm aig Sir Eanruig Clinton an New York.

An deidh dha tilleadh a' cogadh Ameriga fhuair e rud ris an cante an uair sin Litir an Rìgh. B' e sin tasdan san latha a phension bho Ospadal Chelsea fhad 's a bu bheò e. Ach cia b' e dé an dàil a chaidh am pension Dhomhnaill chuir thu romhad gun ràchdh tu far an robh an Rìgh an Lunnainn los a ghearrain a dheanamh ris. Bha e an uair sin a' fuireach an Inbhir Nis agus e ceud agus trì bliadhna dh' aois; ach choisich e fhéin agus a bhean agus mac dha nach robh ach naoi bliadhna dh' aois a h-uile ceum gu Lunnainn far an do rinn e a ghearrain ris an Rìgh. Chuir an Rìgh deich ginidhean òir 'na làimh agus thug e òrdugh gum faigheadh Domhnall am pension air ball. Aig an àm so bha am mac bu shine aige trì is ceithir fichead bliadhna dh' aois.

Is ann aig an àm so chuireadh geall ceud gini ris nach coisicheadh e deich mìle gun stad ann an dà uair gu leth a thilge. Bha e mar a thubhairt mi trì is ceud bliadhna dh' aois, ach choisinn Domhnall an geall le dà uair is trì mionaidean fichead.

Nuair a bha e an trobha so an Lunnainn chaidh eachdraidh a bheatha a sgrìobhadh, agus ag cur a' mach ann an leabhar le dealbh a' ghaigich sa' bhliadhna 1791. B' e ainm an leabhair: Eachdraidh beatha is euchdan calma an t-seann Ghaidheil Seàirdseant Domhnall MacLeoid (1688-1791). Chaidh mac-samhail an leabhair a chur a mach a rithis sa' bhliadhna 1933.

* * *

Domhnall Tròidsean.—Nuair a bha mi bruidhinn air an t-saighdear chalma sin Domhnall Seàirdseant thainig seann laoch eile de shìol Leoid ri aghaidh m' inntinn—Hearach treun ris an cante Domhnall Tròidsean. B' e so Domhnall MacLeoid, Fear Bheàrnaraidh. Tha cuimhne agam gu bheil carragh-cuimhne air an duine so ann an cladh Ròdail sna Hearadh;

agus gu bheil an sgrìobhadh a tha air a lic ag cur an cèill an gribh dhuine a bha ann an Domhnall. So an sgrìobhadh :

“Mar chumhneachan air Domhnall MacLeoid, Fear Bhearmaraidh, mac Iain, Tànaistear MhicLeoid, duine a reir tapachd colainn agus intinn a bha coltach ri fear nan linntean a dh' fhalbh. Rinn an Dara Rìgh Tearlach Ridire d' a sheanar agus d' a bhrathair a sheanar ar son an dailseach agus an gaisge shonraichte am Blar-catha Woucester far an do sgaioleadh bratach nan Stiùbhartach a bha e a' leantainn. Sa' bhliadhna A.D. 1745, ge do bha e thairis air treun a neairt, ghabh e san arm agus cha robh gin de bhlaìr an ama ud anns nach robh cuid aige; agus ann am Blàr na h-Eaglaise Bric chuir e as de mharcaiche le a làimh fhéin.

Bha e a' fuireach air thigheadas an deidh so 'na thigh fhéin am Bèarmaraidh agus e fo mhór urram, agus fìor speis aig na h-uile dha.

Nuair a bha e trì fichead bliadhna 's a coig deug a dh' aois phòs e an treas bean, agus bha naoinear chloinne aige bhuaipe. Chaochail e air 16mh de 'n Dùbhlachd sa' bhliadhna 1873 agus e deich is ceithir fichead bliadhna dh' aois."

Chan 'eil teagamh nach 'eil daoine calma agus gaisgeil ann an diugh, ach bha daoine ann an latha ud—samhail Dhomhnail Seairdseant agus Dhomhnail Tròidsean—agus cha robh iad dad air dhèireadh orra an gaisge is an calmachd.

* * *

An sgait.—Nuair a leugh caraid do 'n *Gaidheal* a tha a mach air bràighe Obairdheadhain mu dheidhinn a' Bhradain Leathain ann an àireamh na Sultuine sgrìobh e chugam a' toirt taing dhomh, agus ag ràdh nach robh fhios aige gus an sud gun robh am Bradan Leathan air a mheas mar iasg naomh seach gun robhtar 'ga ithe gu sonraichte air làithean féille. Tha ar caraid cho fiosraichte sna nithean ud, agus cho foghlumte ann an nithean neo-chumanta, agus gun do chuir sud seorsa de dh' iongnadh orm-sa. Ach dh' innis e dhomh ni air nach robh dad de fhios agamsa, 'se sin, gur h-e sgait an aon bhìadh sonraichte a tha muinntir Obairdheadhain a' smaoinachadh a tha fragarrach air latha imrich. Bha a' chreud so gu maith cumanta nuair a bha esan 'na bhalach, tha e ag ràdh; agus tha e de 'n bheachd gum bheil e ag cumail so a mach fhathast.

Tha e a' smaoinachadh gur h-e a b' aobhar dh' an so gur h-e sgait aon de na trì sheorsa éisg a tha blasda ri an ithe fuar—i fhéin agus am Bradan Leathan agus Bradan na h-aibhrìe. Ma bha am beachd so aig na Gaidheil a thaobh na sgait cha chuala mi riamh e. Is ann sgait chòid an sgait air a meas mar bhìadh glé

chàilmhor aig na Gaidheil idir. Bha seanfhacal aca a bha ag ràdh: Ma tha iasg a dhith orm chan iasg leam sgait. Ach air an làimh eile bha seanfhacal so aca: Ma cheannaicheas tu feoil ceannaich feoil laoigh, agus ma cheannaicheas tu iasg ceannaich iasg sgait. Bha so seach gum faigheadh duine deagh luacha-peighinn do bhrìgh gun gabhadh na cnàmhan aca so ithe—co-dhiùbh a' chuid mhór dhiubh.

Theirte mu dheidhinn droch phiobaire: Tha a mheoir an deidh na sgait. Agus mu dheidhinn droch shealgair: Sealgair gunna sgait. Bha so seach gum biodh a mheoir rag agus tèachdaidh an deidh dha a bhith ag ithe na sgait le.

Ach ge b' e dé their duine do nach aithne deagh iasg chan 'eil duine do an aithne iasg maith agus chàilmhor nach raghaicheadh sgait no sòman nam faigheadh e iad.

* * *

Gaidhlig chluais.—Fhuair mi litir an la-roi mhe bho bhall eudmhor de 'n Chomunn Gaidhleadh agus e moladh a' *Ghaidheil*, agus a' toirt ceud taing dhomh air son an cuideachadh agus an toileachadh a tha an *Gaidheal* a' toirt dha a h-uile mìos. Is ann bho thainig e gu ire a dh' ionnsaich am fear so a' Gaidhlig agus chan 'eil duine beò a dh' aithnìcheadh air an litir aige nach ann ris a' ghluin a dh' ionnsaich e i. Bha an litir an Gaidhlig cho blasda is cho coimhlionta 's a fhuair mise riamh. Chan 'eil duilgheadas sam bith aige, tha e ag ràdh, ann an leughadh no an sgrìobhadh na càinain. “Is e tha cur an dragh as motha orm,” tha e ag ràdh, “nach 'eil mi a' tuigsinn na càinain, nuair a tha i air a labhairt, cho maith 's bu chòir dhomh a dheanamh a chionn nach 'eil mi 'ga cluinntinn cho tric 's bu toigh leam. Ged tha mi 'ga leughadh agus 'ga sgrìobhadh gun a bhith ro dhona agus 'ga bruidhinn ann an dòigh, chan 'eil mi 'ga tuigsinn ro mhaith 's i air a labhairt, agus sin an deidh mu ochd bliadhna a bhith 'ga h-ionnsachadh! Eadhon aig céilidhean a th' air an cumail an dràsa 's a rithist innsidh iad sgeulachdan Gaidhlig ach labhraidh iad air cùisean an latha an diugh am Beurla. Ge b' e as aobhar air sin, chan 'eil e deanamh maith sam bith do 'n Gaidhlig. Tha fhios agam gum bheil sibh a' toirt an aire do 'n chùis so sa' *Ghaidheal* gu dileas, agus tha mi an dòchas gun dean e maith uair no uaireigin.”

Tha fhios gum bheil ar caraid ceart. Chan esan 'na aonar a' bheil an éigh agus an iarraidh tha so. Is e Gaidhlig chluais a tha dhith orra. Is e bhith ag éisdeachd agus a labhairt na Gaidhlighe tha dhith air a h-uile duine tha 'ga h-ionnsachadh, no a dh' ionnsaich

i mar a rinn ar caraid a sgrìobh so. Agus nach iongantach an rud a th' ànn, tha chùisean eadhon de 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach—inns ear sgeulachd an Gaidhlig, no seinnear òran Gaidhlig, ach bidh a' bhruidhinn 's an còmhraidh am Beurla mar as trice. Tha bhui air an treadh. Is ann bochd bochd a tha ar n-adhartas ann a bhith neartachadh na Gaidhlighe, gu seachd sonraichte 'na labhairt is 'na h-éisdeachd. Chan 'eil teagamh nach e Gaidhlig chluais as motha tha dìth oirnn on tha e mòran nas fhusa an t-sùil 's an làmh ionnsachadh na tha e an teanga 's a' chluais. Gheibhear pailteas Beurla aig coinneamhan 's aig céilidhean eile, ach shaoileadh sinne gur h-e Gaidhlig a mhàin a bhiodh aig coinneamhan is céilidhean de 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach.

* * *

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Ann an soitheach usal thug i lathair im.—*Breith*, v-25.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

Is iomadh car tha an saoghal ag cur dheth.—
Many a turn the world takes.

GRAND CONCERT.

The first Grand Gaelic Concert promoted by the Joint Committee of the Glasgow Branches was held in the St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, on Friday, 17th September. The Hall was filled to capacity and several hundred people failed to gain admittance.

The Chairman was Mr. Joseph MacLeod, the well-known and popular B.B.C. announcer. He was introduced by Mr. John A. Nicolson, M.A., Convener of the Joint Committee and President of the Central Branch, who spoke in Gaelic and English.

Mr. MacLeod gave a well-balanced and attractively delivered address. He said that the Celt was not altogether a dreamer; he was a man of action. Where would the British Empire be, or for that matter where would England be, if the Gael were a dreamer? He emphasised that Gaelic should be taught at the knee and not at the elbow, a very penetrating remark which gave point to the value of Gaelic as a language in the home rather than a forced growth in the school. He advocated the continuation of Gaelic culture. Mr. MacLeod was given a most attentive hearing and he was cordially thanked for his presence and for his address by the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., President of An Comunn.

The Concert programme was sustained by

artists already mentioned in a previous number, with the addition of Gilbert MacPhail, Islay, who was given special permission to attend. All of them gave first class renderings of their various items.

Special mention must be made of the Chairman's reference to the presence on the platform of Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds), mother of Brigadier Lorne Campbell, V.C., and enthusiastically received by the vast audience. This was followed by the singing of Duncan Ban's famous song, "A Rìgh gur mi tha aighearach," as a tribute to the men of the 51st Division and splendidly rendered by Charles MacColl, Ballachulish.

We heartily thank the Joint Committee and their band of excellent stewards for the success of the gathering and it is safe to predict that their next Annual Gathering will be equally well supported by their fellow Highlanders in the city and neighbourhood.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

On the 15th of September the Organiser acted as Fear an tìghe at an all-Gaelic Ceilidh in Nairn. This was in aid of the local Prisoners of War Fund and there was a large attendance. Mr. Ronald MacDonald made all the arrangements, and, as a result of his efforts, a donation of £15 has been made to the Fund. The Nairn Branch has been in abeyance for some time but it is hoped that following the support given to this all-Gaelic event, the Branch may be resuscitated.

On 17th September Mr. Macphail was in attendance at the General Meeting of An Comunn at Glasgow.

From 21st to 25th September he was engaged in the Lochaber Area in the interests of An Comunn and the Scottish Savings Committee. At Fort William a meeting of the Branch Committee was held with Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A. (Hon. Secretary) in the Chair. The question of a Provincial Mod was discussed but, after a full discussion, it was decided that in view of the difficulties of transport and feeding arrangements it would not be possible to stage a Mod until after the War.

Appreciation was expressed of the excellent work An Comunn and the Central (Comforts) Committee are doing in the war effort, and a Grand Gaelic Concert in aid of the Royal and Merchant Navies' Fund is to be held early in November. Other entertainments in aid of An Comunn Central Fund will be held during the Session.

At Mallaig, all-Gaelic Ceilidhs are to be held at regular intervals and the Central Fund will benefit from these in addition to creating a more lively interest in Gaelic matters. Mr. Archd. MacLellan of the West Highland Hotel and Mr. Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., Headmaster, have kindly offered to make the necessary arrangements.

Inverness Burgh and County have undertaken to replace the H.M.S. "Saracen," lost during the Sicilian operations, and in order to do this, a sum of £350,000 must be invested in Government Securities between 1st October and 31st December. The first shots in the Campaign were fired when the Northern Organiser addressed largely attended meetings at Fort William, Arisaig, and Mallaig. He also visited Banavie, Corpach, Kinlochiel, Lochailort, Morar, and Mallaig Schools, where he explained the Campaign in detail. At Morar three boys and three girls were added to the local Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh.

By the death of Mrs. Ann MacEachan, Arisaig has lost one of its finest citizens and the Gaelic cause one of its most ardent supporters. A tribute in Gaelic will be found on another page.

Mr. Macphail is to visit the Uists from 4th to 16th October, and his work will include visits to Branches, and Propaganda work on behalf of the new Savings Drive "Raise the Standard" by replacing the "Saracen."

It is pleasing to report that Mr. Macphail has secured a suitable Hall for the monthly meetings of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhirnis and the following are the dates arranged for October, November, and December, 16th, 13th, and 11th, respectively.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Prisoners of War in German Camps are studying Gaelic with a zest which augurs well for the future of the language, and, as has already been mentioned in these notes, for whole-hearted support of An Comunn's efforts when these lads return to the homeland. Quite recently a request for a Gaelic dictionary was passed on from Oxford and this was sent by return. A card received from P.O.W. Lieut. Robbie gives the information that he is studying Gaelic and would like to join An Comunn after he gets home. Lieut. MacCall, Balquhiddier, has received the parcels sent him and another is on the way. Capt. Dugald MacLachlan acknowledges receipt of parcel sent him last March, and Trooper W. F. MacGuire in Italy has acknowledged parcel of books sent him

there, also Gunner John MacAulay, Stalag VIII.B. It is very encouraging to know that parcels do arrive although they take a long time on the way.

The Highland Season may now be said to be in full swing in the City and most of the District Associations have had their opening meeting. Ceilidh nan Gaidheal opened with good promise and members of the High School Ceilidh are looking forward to another successful session. I presided over the opening Ceilidh of the Islay Association and despite a counter attraction on the other side of the river there was a fair attendance. On 9th October I presided at the opening meeting of the Motherwell and Wishaw Highland Association in Frasers' Restaurant, Motherwell. There was a full attendance of members and friends and a splendid mixed programme was submitted.

Branches of An Comunn in the South have made a promising start for the current session. Govan Branch which was able to make an early opening is attracting large audiences to the Cardell Hall. I presided at a Ceilidh there on 30th September and conveyed the good wishes to the members for their good work. Ayr, Edinburgh, Largs, Oban, Stirling, and Tarbert Branches have also resumed regular meetings. In Greenock the Tir nam Beann Association is meeting each Saturday evening and receiving good support from local Gaels.

I attended the opening meeting of the Dumfries Branch, on 14th October, and was agreeably surprised to find about 90 people present. Mr. Neil MacVicar (North Uist), President, was in the Chair and he was supported by Mr. Duncan Campbell (Roy Bridge), Hon. Treasurer and Secretary, and Mr. Alex. Anderson (Dalmally) Assistant Secretary. Owing to lack of hall accommodation this Branch was unable to meet during the first years of the war but, since resuming at the beginning of this year, the attendances have been most encouraging. An attractive programme sustained by local artists is always submitted. Many of those directing the affairs of the Branch have been connected with it since I formed it 13 years ago. They deserve the sincere thanks of An Comunn for their good work for the cause.

A Gaelic religious service, not connected with the Branch, is held monthly by the Rev. Peter MacLeod (Lewis), U.F. Church. The services are held alternately in the U.F. and Free Churches.

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

Members of the Central (War Comforts) Committee have been concentrating on the Highland Gift Shop and Exhibition which were held in Glasgow from 18th to 30th October, and of which, a full report will be given in our next issue.

The Committee acknowledges with grateful thanks outstanding donations:—Lochend U.F. Church, Campbeltown, per Rev. B. B. Blackwood and Mr. Malcolm G. MacCallum, result of Organ Recitals, £13 7/3; Tarbert Fisherman's Association, £30; Tarbert Branch of An Comunn, £70; Islay War Comforts Committee, £25; Govan High School, per Mr. A. H. Irvine, £10 10/-, Miss Katie A. MacLaine, Netherlee, £12 12/-, Tir Nam Beann, Greenock, £10 10/-, and the Kelvin Nursing Home Domestic and Nursing Staff, per Miss MacRae, £10 10/-. These and many donations in kind are greatly appreciated and have encouraged the Committee in their efforts to bring some cheer into the life of those who have endured so much on our behalf.

Fear nach cuir cùl ri caraid no ri nàmhaid.—*A man who will not turn his back on a friend or a foe.*

TILL GU D' DHACHAIDH.

'T'sa cinnteach fada an comain na bana-bhaid Cairstiona Bean Choinnich MhicLeoid sa' Chananaich air son an amhrain so a chur thugainn le fhonn. Is i' thein a rinn an fonn cho math ris na faicil, agus tha iad le cheile cho freagarrach air suidheachadh dhaoibhe, agus air mar a tha cùisean an dràsda, agus gu bheil sinn an dòchas gun tog luchd-seinn an t-amhran, agus gu seinn iad e do na Gaidheil nuair a bhios iad crunn aig cuirm ehuil, no a leithid sin.—F.d.

GLEUS F. *Gu mall le comhfhairreachdainn.*

{ s , , l : d . m | s , , l : m . r | m . , s : d ' . t | l . s : m }
Dh' fhalbh na fir gu cruadal cogaidh; Thà is croit chuir ma gu strì.

{ d ' . , t : l . s | d . , r ' . m . s | l . , s : m . s | d . t : l }
Mac na bantraich 's oighr' a' bheartais Leum gu grad aig gairm an rìgh.

{ s , , l : d . m | s , , l : m . r | m . s ' . d ' . t | l . s ' . m }
Thuig na fùrain luach a chosgraidh Leòn is lot is sgaradh tim.

{ d ' . , t : l . s | d . , r : m . s | l . , s : m . s | l , t : r , t . l }
Thuig sinn uil' e 's ghuidh gach anam "Till gu d' dhachaidh ghràidh mo chridh."

'S iomadh mathair bho chd tha dubhach,
'S iomadh bean tha cuid a dhìth,
'S iomadh òigh tha leoint' le mulad
Caoidh nam fear nach till a rith'st.

Ged bha bròn gach bròin 'na chudhthrom;
Ged a ghul mi leis gach aon
Dùil an dòchais dh' èigh am aigne:
"Till gu d' dhachaidh, ghràidh mo chridh'."

Shiubh' linn fhin a tuath 's a deas leat,
Fuachd no teas cha bhacadh mi;
'S mòr gum b' fhearr a ghàoil bhì mar riat
Na bhì seagair 'n so leam fhin.

ELECTED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,
1943-44.

President:—Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider; *Vice-Presidents*:—John M. Bannerman, M.A., B.Sc., Balmaha; Donald MacDonald, Inverness. *Council*:—Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow; Mrs. J. B. Colquhoun, Largs; Alexander Fraser, Bishopton; Miss Lamont of Knockdow, M.A., B.Sc., J.P.; Donald MacIndeor, Edinburgh; Malcolm MacLeod, Glasgow; Hugh MacPhee, Glasgow; Sir T. Stewart MacPherson, C.I.S., Newtonmore; Lord James Stewart Murray, Bridge of Earn; Dr. Donald Ross, Lochgilphead; Miss Campbell of Inverneill, M.B.E.; Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds); Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Glasgow; Rev. Alexander MacDonald, M.A., Glasgow; Capt. William MacKay, Inverness; Fred. T. MacLeod, Edinburgh; Dr. R. R. MacNicol, Taynait; Farquhar MacRae, M.A., B.Sc., Glasgow; Murdoch Thomson, M.A., Oban; Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., Glasgow; Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Balmaha; Nicol Campbell, Elgin; William Fraser, Inverness; Donald Graham, M.A., Inverness; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Donald Shaw MacKinnon, Edinburgh; Roderick MacKinnon, M.A., Mallaig; Rev. Malcolm MacLean, M.A., Conon; John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill; John A. Nicolson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Glasgow.

Anns gach beud no cruas a thachras,
Am na foise, am na sgios
Sporad m' ùrnuigh bidh 'gad leantuinn:
"Till gu d' dhachaidh, ghràidh mo chridh'."

Soraigh leat gun till thu rithist,
Misneach m'bhath dhuit, làmh le chùil
Clùid na Feinne biodh 'na chrios dhuit—
Bhuaidh gu tric, ach trècair chaoin.

Ach na dheònaich Dia ar sgaradh,
D' àite falamh duais na sìth,
Bheir E thu gu luath air ais eag
Sàbhailt dhachaidh, luaidh mo chridh'.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Is è a bhuail 'nam intinn an dràs, is mi a' teannadh ris an litir so a sgrìobhadh—latha àillidh an déidh na droch shìd a bha againn bho chionn ghoidir—gum biodh sibhse, a chlann, mòran dhìbh co-dhìubh, an ceartair glé thrang aig obair a tha ro fheumail aig an àm so de 'n bhliadhna. Tha mi ag ciallachadh togail (no buain, mar a their sinn anns an eilean againne) a' bhuntàta. Cha bhi an sin, ged thà, ach seann sgeul mun ruig mo bhriathran-sa sibhse. Co-dhìubh, tha mi an dòchas gum robh bàrr trom agaibh; agus a réir coltais, leis an dàthaich a ghabhail thar a chèile, gu bheil foghar math is togail thomadach air a' bhuntàta am bliadhna. Is math sin, agus is math e a bhi pailt air a' Ghàidhealtachd, oir a dh' andeoin cìod an grèim a bhios 'gar dìth, ma tha gu leòr de bhuntàta 's de iasg r' a sholar cha bhi cion òirnn. Is e am buntàta 's an t-iasg, maille ri toradh na buaile, a rinn na gillean is na h-igheanan de na Gàidheil anns an àm a dh' fhalbh, agus cha rachamaid ceàr le tarraing riu a rithist nas dlùithe na bha sinn 'gan taobhsan bho chionn bhliadhnanach an so. Is dòcha nach misd sinn idir aran-milis is peastraidh a bhi cho duilich fhaotainn anns na h-amannan a tha ann!

Thadhail mi an tigh chàrdean an oidhche roimhe agus saoil sibh cìod a chuireadh suas ann am buagan dhomh an àm fàgail? Fuirleadh gad de phiocaich (suithean) air a' sailleadh 's air an tìormachadh. B' ann air cladach Ile a dh' iasgaicheadh iad agus air creagan Phort na h-Abhna a thìormaicheadh iad; agus cha mhiosad iad sin! Creidibh gum bi iad againn leis a' bhuntàta, buntàta a bha agam féin an iomaire beag air a' bhruthach ud shuas, an ùine gun a bhith fada. Nam biodh seapain blàthaich air ceann eile a' bhùird còmhla riu, nach biodh féisd an sin a bhiodh uile gu léir còimhlionta! Theagamh nach tigeadh an tràth-bidh sin ri càil gach neach, ach is cinnteach gun tigeadh i ri càil an Eileanaich.

Tha cuimhne agam air port-a-beul a bhiodh againn a tha a' dol car mar so:—"S coma leam buntàta briogach mura biodh an t-im air; gur e 'm bainne, 'm bainne, 'm bainne 'm fear a chuireadh sios e!" Matà, bhiodh an t-im ceart gu leor 'na àite féin, no eadhon an cuideachd an éisg—agus tha cuimhne agam air iad a bhi daonnan ag ràdh anns an eilean againn fhéin gum bu chòir a' cheud bhuntàta riu a bhi air a ghabhail le im—ach tha mi an dùil gun lianadh an t-im òirnn leis a' bhuntàta mun lianadh an t-iasg òirnn. Agus, a nis, an aithne dhuibh am facal so, "lian"? Is e facal

math a tha ann, ged nach 'eil e cho fada 's is fhiosrach mise anns an fhoclair Ghàidhlig idir. Tha e air a chleachdadh ro bhith-eanta anns an eilean againne; agus is dòcha gum b' fhearr dhomh mineachadh a thoirt air a' chiall a tha aige. Abairibh gum robh rud-ithinnich sam bith air an robh sibh ro dhéidheil, agus fhuair sibh an cothrom gu uiread 's a b' urrainn dhuibh itheadh dheth. Dh' ith sibh, matà, uiread dheth 's gun do lian e oirbh, agus chan iarradh sibh an t-ath-sealladh dhe fhaicinn gu cionn latha is bliadhna! Lian e oirbh!! Chan 'eil mi an dùil gu bheil facal Beurla ann a tha ag co-fhreagairt ris an fhacal so, "lian."

A nis, tha rud an so a dh' fheumas mi a chur 'nur cuimhne air a' mhiosa so. Seallaibh air taobh-duilleig 7 de àireamh a' mhiosa a dh' fhalbh de 'n Ghàidheal agus chì sibh an sin sanas mun chomhfharpuis a tha air a fosgladh do òigridh, agus mar sin dhuibhse, buill-stuic Comunn na h-Oigridh, co-cheangailte ri obair is ealain an nithean Gàidhealach, obair an leathrach, an aodach no am fiodh a bhios gu feum. Tha deagh dhuaisean air an tairgse, dà phunnd shasunnach, fichead tasdan, cóig tasdain-deug agus deich tasdain. Tha a' chomhfharpuis fosgailte gu ruig àm a' Mhàirt so tighinn; ach ged a tha sin a' sealltainn fada air falbh, chan 'eil e fada air falbh idir, is chan 'eil ùine r' a chall ma tha sibh an geall air bhur làmh a chur ri gnìomh. Sgrìobhaibh, matà, chun an Rùnaire is bheir esan dhuibh gach seòladh a bhios reutanach dhuibh fhaotainn.

Bhur Caraid Dìleas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

LATHARNA MACGILLEATHAIN
CAIMBEUL, V.C.

Triallaidh mi le m' dhuanag ullainh
gu rìgh Ghàidheal,
Mo chion air do chàrdeas Muileach,
thriarth nan Airdean.

Mo chion air an àrmmun ealainh
is mò buadhan,
Mo chion fion-fhuil Loch nan Eala
a las do ghruaidhean.

Bhrùch na Gearmailtich a' maonadh
an dùil do bhristeadh,
Sga'th thu bealach do d' chuid dhaoine
gu Dun-circe.

Cha robh neach a chual' an sgeul ud
nach robh aoibhinn,
Chluinntean an Gaidhlig is am Beurla
clù an t-saighdeir.

Sgath thu bèarn san armailt fhuidhaich
shaoil do bhualadh,
Nochd thu lia-luimneach Dhìarmaid
mar bu dual dhuit.

Ach a bharrachd air a' ghnìomh sin
a bha euchdail,
Thug thu buaidh thar luchd ar mì-ruin
's aig an sgeul leam.

Mhaoin an nambaid mar thuil geambraidh
air ceann drochaid,
Nimheil, guineach, gruamach, sanntach
'n dùil do dhochunn.

Bha thu 'n teanntachd mhór na Féinne,
ach mar b' àbhaist,
Ged bha d' fhuil a' ruith o d' chreuchdan
a rìgh Ghaidheal.

Ge do thuit an Fhéinn mun cuairt ort
cha do strìochd thu,
Ach 'nad aonar thug thu buaidh is
ruaig thu miltean.

Choisinn thu clùis is urram
do d' chuid chàirdean,
Choisinn thu o'n Rìgh an Lunnasunn
an duais as àrde.

Chaidh do chliù-sa a chraobh-sgaoileadh
feadh an t-saoghail;
'S ainmeil an diugh Alba aosda
mathair nan Daoine.

Is ainmeil na Caimbeulaich ghleusda
an gleus uidhe,
'S ainmeil na Leathainich threuna
á Locha-buidhe.

'S ainmeil Latharna nan Gaidheal
is tús ainm dhuit,
A Chòirneil uasail Earra Ghaidheil
is ainmeil seanchas.

'S ged is ro-chian ceum gu Muile
nam beann àrda,
Triallaidh mi le m' dhuanag ullaimh
gu rìgh Ghaidheal.

DONNACHADH MACDRUNLEIBHE.

Pretoria.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Seirbhis a' Chrùin.—Tha an Comunn Gaidhealach ag cur a mach leabhar beag as ùr—a thaing sin do Mhaoin Litreachais Gaidhlig agus dhaibh-san a tha deanamh còmhnaid leis a' Mhaoin sin—leabhar air a bheil *Seirbhis a' Chrùin* mar ainm, agus leabhar a tha leth-choltach ri *Airgid an Rìgh*. Tha e mar a bha *Airgid an Rìgh* air an sonsan a tha air falbh am Feachd an Rìgh. Tha a' chuid as motha dheth air a dheanamh suas de earannan as a' *Ghaidheal*, ach a thuilleadh air an sin tha ceithir caibidealan laghach ann a thugadh á litreachas eile. Tha e an innibh a bhith ullamh, agus bhithearmaid an comain nan cairdean aig an tigh nan cuireadh iad ainm agus làn sheoladh-litreach nan gillean agus nan nigheanan a tha air falbh dh' ionnsaigh an Rùnaire, Niall MacGilleSheathanaich, 151 Iar Shraid Regent an Glaschu. Ma nìtear so cuir-fear an urra dh' an ionnsaigh-san uile tha air falbh.

Beurla gu Gaidhlig.—Bìdh buil na comhfharpais a bha agam san àireamh mu dheireadh ann a bhith tionndadh gnàthasan cainnte àraidh Beurla gu gnathas is modh na Gaidhlig, anns an ath àireamh Chan 'eil an ceann-latha air an coir dhaibh a bhith

stigh agam suas gus an latha mu dheireadh de Octobar, agus mar sin chan urrainn mi cuantas a thoirt ortra gus an ath mhios.

Duaisean Oifigich Chanada.—Bha na sgoiltean dùinte air a' mhios a chaidh agus mar sin cha robh e comasach do na sgoiltearan oidheir a thoirt sa' chomhfharpais mu dheireadh. Ach faodaidh iad a dheanamh air a' mhios so. Is e an cuspair "Cluichean is cleasan na h-Oigridh" a bha againn sìos air son a' mhios a chaidh. Gabhadh sinn an aon chuspair air son litreach a' mhios so, agus tha sinn an dòchas gun teid grunnan sgoilean an ceann na comhfharpais.

F-D.

DUANAG DO ARASAIG.

Seinnidh mi mo dhuan le caithream
Do'n tìr àlainn bhòidheach,
Tìr na meala, tìr a' bhainne,
'S far bheil daoine còire.

Sud an t-àite is bòidhche sealladh
Ann am maduinn òg-mhìos,
Grian ag òradh thar nam bealach
Air na lagain chòmhnard;
Eoin a' seinn nam fuinn le caithream—
Uiseag agus smeòrach—
'S drùichd a' deàrrsadh air gach gucaig
Shìos air feadh nan lòintean.

'S tric a chuinnear anns an fhoghar
Langain fir na cròice:
Anns gach coire bràigh a' mhunaidh,
'S giomanaich an tòir orr';
Earbag bhiorach anns gach innis,
Coileach ruadh ri crònan;
'S lionmhor bradan air gach linne
'S gearr-bhùinnean ag còmhstir.

Gaidheil shuairce ann mar bu dual dhaibh,
Làn de fhuil Chloinn Domhnaill,
Uasal, fialaidh, pàirtach, ciatach,
Gun mheud-mhor, 'nan dòighean;
Iad ro bhanail anns gach ealain,
Tlachdmhor 'nan cuid còmhraidh,
'S a leantainn ris gach cleachdadh dlùth
A choisinn clù d' an seòrsa.

TAOBH-TUATH EARRACHAIDHEAL.

A' BHANTRACH ANNA NIC EACHAINN NACH MAIREANN.

Le bàs Anna Nic Eachainn, Arasaig, chaill aobhar na Gaidhlig an dùthaich Loch Abar bancharaid dheanadach shao'hrachail a bha deanamh deas gu cuideachadh a thoirt aig ceilidh, cuirm, no Mod. Chuir i ùidh mhór, chan ann a mhàin ann an cànan a sinnsrìdh, ach mar an ceudna ann an eachdraidh Loch Abar mun robh i mìon-eolach. Fhuair i urrain o gach neach d' am b' aithne i airson deasachd cainnte am Beurla is an Gaidhlig, is cha robh mòran chuspairean a bhùineadh do'n Gaidhlig no do'n Ghaidhealtachd air nach robh i comasach air bruidhinn le tuigse agus le géiread. Is iomadh uair o chionn deich bliadhna a bha mi na comunn 's na còmhraidh, ach cha chuala mi riamb uaithe ach rogha is togha na Gaidhlig. Bha i 'na deagh eisimpleir do mhòran ann an dùthaich a tha nis, mar tha

móran de thir-mór, a' tighinn fo bhuaidh na Beurla; agus ma tha a' Ghaidhlig fathast gu math sgairteil an Arasaig cha robh ar bancharaid gun deagh làmh san obair.

Rinn a bàs beàrn a measg nan Gaidheal an Loch Abar nach lionar a chaoidh, ach dh' fhag i 'na deidh cuimhne chàbhraidh a bhios dhuinne do'm b' aithne i féin is a dìchioll, 'na bhrosnachadah is 'na thogail cridhe.

Tha mi taingeil gun d' fhuair mi cothrom o chionn ghoidid, an Arasaig, air facal molaidd a labhairt mu ar bancharaid air sgàth luchd na Gàidhlig, agus, air sgàth ar canain is na Gaidhealtachd, clach a chur an càrn Anna Nic Eachainn.

D. McP.

EADARAINN FHIN.

32 Suaineboist,
Ann an Eilean Leodhais,
An 8mh latha de'n Damhair, 1943.

Ceistean.

Fhir-neasaiche Chòir.—B'e ceud luchd-àiteachaidh baile Shuaineboist teachlaichean a chaidh a sgiùrsadh á Uig aig àm fàsaichaidh nan bail'ean. Nuair a bha mi 'na mo bhalach is nimic a chuala mi na facail "buannachan Uig" agus "marbhadh gach fear a bhuanna is marbhadh mise mo bhuanna fhin" air a chleachdadh aig na sean daoine. Cò bha ann "na buannachan"? Ciod e mathair-abbhair an ràdh, "marbhadh gach fear a bhuanna Tce"?

Rud eile. Bha mi raoir ag cèilidh air Mura-digean, nàbuidh bun-na-h-ursainn a'gam, agus dh' éirich deasbaireachd eadarainn mu bhrìgh an fhacail "tàchar." Tha Foclair Chaluim Aonghuis a' Bhreabadair ag ràdh—Tàchair: *water weed*. Air an làimh eile tha Donnachadh Bàn ann an Coire Cheathaich ag ràdh:

"Feur lochain is tàchair
An cinn an duilleag bhàite."

'So cheist am bheil am facal ag callachadh "lus" no àite an cinn lus?—Le mòr mheas,

SAMSON.

[Tha sinn an dòchas gun toir muinntir fiosrachail Leodhais oidheip air ceistean *Shamson* fhuasgladh. Is e sin móran as fhèarr na ged bheireamaid ar beachd air a' chùis. Tha caraid aig a' Ghaidheal a tha mìon eòlach air a h-uile facal a riamh a chleachd Donnachadh Bàn, agus chan 'eil mi ag ràdh nach tèid aige air na ceistean eile fhuasgladh cuideachd. Ach co-dhùibh cluineamaid bho muinntir fiosrachail Leodhais.—F-d.]

Gaelic Sounds.

Sir,—The letter in last month's "An Gaidheal" merits a further observation on the above subject.

The complaint of your correspondent regarding the poor enunciation of Gaelic sounds is, unfortunately, too well founded. The main reason, I think, is the custom of retaining extreme localisms used in many parts of the Highlands. The remedy suggested by C. MacLeod to correct the fault is not a cure, except with the assistance of a qualified master of vocal method.

The mere fact that no two voices are exactly similar goes to show that the vocal organs are

characteristic of the individual. There is no reason, however, why a good reader of Gaelic cannot pronounce according to the written word by the use of ordinary intelligence. There is another important aspect which seldom, if ever, gets mentioned by the critics and which has a material bearing on correct enunciation, that is the combined effect of metrical accent and musical accent. Normally the two should be equal, but it is not always so in practice.

For example:—"An ataireachd àrd," one measure if which will suffice to show how a vocalist is handicapped in this respect.

Àn | àt-àir-éachd | Bhùan, Clóinn |
s₁ | m₁: s₁: d | m : — : r |

In music this is simple 6/8 time, and the first half of the measure presents no difficulty (strong, weak, weak)—correct according to the prosodic marks. The second half of the measure is different; in strict musical accent here we have (strong, weak) two accents whereas the prosodic marking indicates three accents (strong, weak, weak) so that we have two accents on the one held note. Although the word Clóinn is treated as a short sound it is really not so, leaving the vocalist to balance up the stresses as best he can. Our Gaelic songs are full of this characteristic, the above example being only a very mild diversion.

Finally, I may say it is always a pleasure to me to listen to beautiful sounds, either in song or the spoken word. The vocalist who really has the gif, of true interpretation is born not made; only when the mastery of the vocalist compels you to forget to listen critically that one realises the authentic note has been struck. The best example of this type I can recall is Mr. John MacLeod, who went to Canada many years ago, and considered by some a better exponent of Gaelic song than his better-known brother, the late Roderick MacLeod.—Yours,

DONALD MACCOLL.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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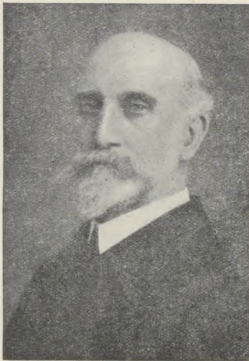
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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An Dùlchadh, 1943.

[Earrann 3



**CALUM MACLEOD, NACH
MAIREANN.**

Chaochail an sàr Ghaidheal agus an làn dhuin-usal sin Calum MacLeod á Glaschu. Cha robh duine eile 'na latha a rinn barrachd saothair air son cànan is inbhe is uisleachd ar daoine na Calum MacLeod. Is ann an Steòrnabhagh a rugadh e, ach cha robh e ach glé òg nuair a chaidh an teaghlach aca air

imrich do Ghlaschu, agus is ann an sin a thainig esan gu ìre agus a chaith e a bheatha. Bha e 'na ghille dicheallach, deanadach, agus glic, agus lean sin ris fad a bheatha. B' e a cheud chosnadh a fhuair e 'na bhalach a bhith ann an oifis Bord Sgoile Ghobhan, agus bho an t-suidheachadh sin dh' éirich e an àirde gu bhith 'na Chléreach Bord na Sgoile sin—inbhe agus dreuchd chudthromach san latha bh' ann. Agus a rithis nuair a rinneadh Buid Sgoile Ghobhan agus Ghlaschu 'nan aon mar Chomhairle Foghlum Ghlaschu rinneadh Mgr. MacLeod 'na Fhear-ionaid Fear Stùirraidh an Fhoghlum. Choimhion e gach dreuchd a bha an sin gu h-ealanta agus gu sgoinneil. Bha e fo mhór mheas aig Luchd-comhairle an Fhoghlum agus aig an luchd-teagasg agus aig na h-uile a bha deanamh gnòthach ris 'na dhreuchd. Bha e air a mheas mar fhear-dreuchd comasach is dileas agus 'na fhìor dhuin-usal.

Nochd Mgr. MacLeod bho bha e 'na bhalach ùidh air leth 'na dhaoine fhéin agus 'nan cànan agus 'nan cleachdaidhean. Bha e riamh déidheil air a' Ghaidhlig, agus tlachd shonraichte aige 'na litreachas agus 'na ceol. Bha e air aon de na boich sin an Glaschu a chuir air chois Céilidh nan Gaidheal chum 's gum biodh Gaidhlig gu h-iomlan, agus Gaidhlig a mhàin, air a labhairt sa' chruinneachadh sin; agus bha e còrr is fichead bliadhna 'na Cheann Suidhe air Céilidh nan Gaidheal so.

Agus cha b'e sin a mhàin e. Cha robh dad a bha dol air adhart an Glaschu fad còrr is leth-cheud bliadhna chum leas nan Gaidheal agus an cànan nach robh làmh mhaith aig Calum MacLeod ann.

Ach is ann an comh-cheangal ris a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach a rinn e an obair bu mhòtha agus bu chliùtiche as leth ar cànan agus ar daoine. Chaidh a thaghadh air son na h-Ard Chomhairle sa' bhliadhna 1907 agus bha e 'na bhall de 'n Ard Chomhairle bho 'n uair sin gus an do chaochail e air an 31 de October so chaidh. Bha e 'na Fhear-gairme Comhairle a' Chlodh-bhualaidh fad trì bliadhna fichead, agus bha e greis cuideachd air ceann Comhairle a' Mhòid 's a' Chiuil. Agus chan e sin uile e ach cha robh gin eile fad na h-ùine sin a bha na bu chunbhaltaich aig gach coinneamh de 'n Ard Chomhairle na e, agus a bu mhòtha bha gabhail suim agus ùidh anns gach gnòthach a bha ri dheanamh an comh-cheangal ri obair a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach.

B' è Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn ri linn a' chogaidh mhòir eile, agus nochd e an uair sin, mar gach uair eile, a dhilseachd 's a chomas 's a ghliocas. Bha feum air an sin chum misneach is spiorad a' Chomuinn 's na Gaidhlighe chumail beò, agus nach robhtar comasach air Mòd a bhith ann fhad 's a lean an cogadh. Bha na Mòid, mar as maith tha fhios aig muinntir a' Chomuinn, 'nam meadhon mór air misneach is cridhe luchd saothrachaidh an cùis na Gaidhlighe a chumail suas. Rinn ar caraid gu h-eireachdail an uair sin mar an ceudna.

Nochd e an aon thlachd anns a' Ghaidhlig a thaobh aoraidh agus eaglais. Fad a bheatha bhuneadh e do eaglais Ghaidhlig an Glaschu agus is ann aig an t-seirbhis Ghaidhlig a bha e daonnan ag aoradh. Bha e còrr is dà fhichead bliadhna 'na fhoirbheach agus cha robh Sàbaid nach fhaighte e 'na àite fhein aig an t-searmoin Ghaidhlig. Cha b' urrainn duine a bhith na bu fhritheiltich ag aoradh 'na chànan fhéin na bha Mgr MacLeod. Bha e fada mhór cuideachd air ceann na seinne Gaidhlig san eaglais aige, agus is maith a thigeadh sin dha. Bha guth binn tiamhaidh aige, agus eòlas maith aige air ceòl agus air gné a' chiuil.

Bha Calum MacLeod 'na dhuine grinn agus nasal gu nadurrach, agus an cois sin bha àrd oideas ag cur loinn air a bhriathran agus air a dheanadas, bhà agus rud bu doimhne na sin.— anail is maise na diadhachd. Bha e air aithris mu deidhinn Chiruis, Rìgh mór Pheisia—esan "air an robh gréim aig an Tighearna air a làimh dheis"—bha e air aithris gun do chuir Freasdal trianaid ghaoil 'na chridhe—gaol dhaoine agus gaol eòlais agus gaol urrain. Bha so dha-rìribh an cridhe ar caraid caomh nach maireann.

Ann an còmhradh bha Gaidhlig bhlàth bhlasda aige, agus labhradh e i aig coinneimh le loinn is maise cho maith ri duine a b' aithne

dhuinn. Agus bha e gu maith foghlumte ann an litreachas nan Gaidheal, agus sgrìobhadh e Gaidhlig le toirt is grinneas mar a chi duine a lughas "An Clachan Eile" ann an *Seirbhis a' Chruin*, earann a sgrìobh e beagan sheachdainean mus do chaochail e.

A thaobh do ghibhtean 's do phàrtean, 's do bhuidhan urramach nàdur, Is ni tha saor dhomh ri ràdh e
Gun robh iad sud làidir is treun;
Ach fhuair iad snaidheadh ro àlainn
Fo 'n fhoghlum bu ghlaime 's a b' àirde
A thug dhaibh barrachd air àireamh
An àileachd is mineachd is sgéimh.

CALUM MACLEOID.

Tha an teachdaire nach gabh diùltadh ag gairm gu an dachaidh bhuan aon an déidh aoin de luchd-saothrachaidh a' Chomuinn. Chuir sinn ceithir Cinn Suidhe, agus mòran eile a bha 'n an cùl-taice, fo 'n fhòid an taobh a stigh de chòig bliadhna. 'N am measg cha robh aon a thug barrachd seirbhis do 'n Chomunn na Calum MacLeod. Bha e sè bliadhna deug ar fhichead 'n a bhall de 'n Ard Chomhairle, seachd dhiubh 'n a Cheann Suidhe agus trì ar fhichead 'n a Fhear-gairme air Comhairle a' Chlodh-bhualaidh. Is ann fìor annamh a bha àite falamh aig coinneamhan na Comhairle ré nan iomadh bliadhna sin, agus ma bha deasnas eile ann a chuireadh e air thoiseach air a' Chomunn b' e sin an Eaglais Ghaidhlig do am buineadh e.

Tha còig bliadhna deug ar fhichead bho chuir mise eòlas air an toiseach, aig coinneimh de mheur a' Chomuinn am Baile Bhòid, agus a rithis aig coinneamhan Céliidh nan Gaidheal an Glaschu. Bha sinn deich bliadhna fichead an cuideachd a chéile sa' Chomuinn. Bha ar ceud Mhòid againn còmhla mar luchd-dreuchd an Dundeagh an 1913, esan 'n a Cheann Suidhe is mise 'n am Rùnaire. Ceithir bliadhna fichead an déidh sin bha sinn air ais an Dundeagh a dheanamh ullachaidh air son Mòd na bliadhna 1937.

Bha feum aig a' Chomuinn anns na bliadhnanach a chaidh seachd air duine geur-chuiseach fiosrach mar bha e. Bha e fad làithean a bheatha comh-cheangailte ri obair fòghlum agus an uair a dh' éireadh ceist air a' chuspair sin bha a bharail is a bhreitheachadh gu saor aig a' Chomuinn, agus bha a chomh-luchd comhairle ag cur làn earbsa ann. Bha

ealain eagnaidh aige air sgrìobhadh an briathran soilleir snasmhor agus air cur iarrtasan is rùintean a' Chomuinn le rian is tuigse fa chomhar maithlean an Ard Fhòghluim.

Bha feum gun robh a lèimh air an stiùir an uair a chuireadh còir na Gàidhlig fa chomhar Parlamaid an 1918. Fhuair e gun teagamh cuideachadh math bho phearsachan eaglais is luchd teagaisg ach aontaichidh iadsan, na tha an làthair dhiubh, gun robh an sàr sgiobair aca.

Ged nach aidicheadh e fhéin e, sgrìobhadh e Gàidhlig cho math ri gach darn a fear. Bha an aon snas is caomhnadh fhacal aige sa' Ghàidhlig is a bha aige sa' Bheurla agus cha mhór a chuireadh smuain an cruth fhacal coltach ris.

Bha e 'n a dhuine ceart, cothromach, a b' fhiach a chomhairle iarraidh agus gabhail rithe. Chan éiseadh e ri casaid, is an uair a mholadh e bha e làn chinnteach gun robh an fhìrinn aige.

Cuiridh buill a' Chomuinn ionndrainn air Calum MacLeòid. Bha e 'n a charaid dlèas agus 'n a chomhairleach glic, léirsinneach. Am measg Ghàidheal bha e combarraichte air son a bhuidhean inntinn, coimhliontachd a bhriathran agus a bhàid do luchd na Gàidhlig.

Is buannachd dhuinn gun do chuir sinn aithne air a leithid de Ghàidheal agus bidh cuimhne chùbhraidh againn air agus an gabh sinn ar triall gu Tìr nan Òg.

NIALL.

GÀIDHEAL IS CURAIDH.

Bha an luaidh a leanas air an fhear nach maireann air a dheanadh le Aonghus MacDhonnachaidh air a' B.B.C. air feasgar Di-haoine an 5mh là de 'n t-Samhuin, an là-arnamhàireach an deidh an adhlacaidh. Is e Aonghus fhéin, mar tha fhios againn, aon dhiubh-san a bha 'nan Cinn Suidhe air a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach; agus bhà e, agus thà e, 'na shàr Ghaidheal agus 'na àrd churaidh air taobh na Gàidhlig agus na bhùineas dhi.—F.P.

Shiubhail curaidd dùchasail agus thar tomhais glic, bho àireamh nan Gàidheal ann an Calum MacLeòid. Mar as cuimhne leibh cheana, bhà e fad iomadh bliadhna 'na Cheann-Suidhe air a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach; agus, aig a' cheart àm, air Ceilidh nan Gàidheal.

Bhùineadh a bhreith 's a ghin do Eilean Leodhais—eilean a thug do Alba foghlumaich reachd-mhoir, ach bhùineadh a ghné, gu obann, do 'n Ghaidhealtachd uile. Dh' éignich agus rùnaich e an gnomh 's an eisimpleir gach togradh a bha usal agus airidh ann an dileab is dol-a-mach a dhaoine fhéin.

B' aithne agus bu ro-aithne domh e, chan ann a mhàin mar Ghaidheal suaicheanta, ach mar charaid gun fìradh cridhe.

Cha robh e 'na phearsa mór no colgach; ach bha e sàr-ghaisgeil 'na spiorad. Cha b' urrainn ni no facal mi-bhèusach seasamh 'na làthair.

Chuir e sgiatha-dìon na Gàidhlig mu choinninn a' chridhe sin; agus tha cor-leasachaidh ar cànan, 'nar latha-ne, mar thoradh air a shaothair 's a thagradh. Oir bha an saoghal, an taobh an mach, an impis a' a' Ghaidhealtachd gu léir a chaitheamh air di-chuimhne. Thainig an t-atarrachadh; agus tha Gàidhlig air a teagasg an diugh mar nach robh i bho chionn dà mhìle bliadhna.

Nan tugte iomradh, am measg cruinneachadh de Ghaidheil, air beach a bha os-leth sònraichte airson suairceis, irisleachd inntinn agus càirdeas Criosduidh, thigeadh ainm Chaluin MhicLeòid air thoiseach 's a aire.

Ged nach do shir e rianh ionad-inbhe, cha do sheachainn e—a dh' aindeoin sin—gairm dleasanais. Chan eòlach ni a nise, cò e am fear a lionas a' bhèarna a dh' fhàg e. Bidh i, cò-dhiùbh, fosgailte ann an neart mo chuimhne-sa, araon mar gach fear no té eile a thainig fo gheasaibh a stiùiridh 's a chomhairle.

Bha e 'na aidmheileach ionchaidh an seirbhis na h-eaglaise, far am faicte e 'na fhoirbheach fritheallach aig An Tìonal Choitcheinn; agus bha a chleachdadh-beatha 's a giùtlain a' toirt fianuis air a' chreidmheach dhleas. Do thaobh a' chreideamh sin, cuiridh saor-aideachadh a chuala mi bho dhithist a bha dol do'n sgoil Shàbaid aige, am barrachd deilbh air a ghnè-buaidh na ealain fhacal a b' urrainn misc chur r' a chéile. Thuirteid dhiubh mar so rium: "Cha robh e duilich dhuinn Criosd a thuigsinn 'n uair a chomheadmaid air Calum MacLeòid."

Cha do ghabh e rianh gothach á làimh nach do lean e gu ire sheasgair. Am measg nam faiceallach, bha e measail an comhairle gach comunn. Oir is iomadh uair, anns an t-seagh so, a thainig brìgh an t-seanfhaicil a stigh orm: "'S fhearr duine na daoine." Bha buaile chùbhraidh an còmhnuidh mun cuairt da.

Do thaobh a dhriachd laitheil, tha iadsan a bha fo ùghdarras is fhasdadh, a' cur teist an usail aoidheil as a leth. Mar Ghaidheal is mar dhuine, tha sinn uile mòr as. Tha e an siod air clàr-mullaich a dhéin. Tha ar cànan, ar litreachas agus ar ceòl as ùr air an caisleachadh. Iadsan a bha saothrachadh còmhla ris, fhuair iad e éudmhor, ealanta. Oir bhùileachadh "facal-na-clachaireachd" air, an dà-ricradh. Is cha bheag an carragh-cuimhne sin air duine sam bith. Chan fhaic sinn a leithid eile tuille. Ach cò a chumadh air ais bho dhuais e? 'Nam inntinn chi mi a spiorad mar aingeal ag éirigh gu sùil na gréine air an rathad a dh' ionnsaigh failt an fhìrean ann an Talla naomh nam Flàth.

Mr. MALCOLM MACLEOD.

A light which illumined the life of An Comunn has suddenly been extinguished, and our eyes are as yet unaccounted to the darkened scene. Malcolm MacLeod has passed beyond. In the silence of the valley, we instinctively cast about for some lingering contact with the familiar presence; a contact rendered possible through the chain of cherished memories which enshrine that gracious life. It was my inestimable privilege to know Mr. MacLeod intimately; and I am happy to believe that we were united in closely bound friendship, a friendship which lasted throughout his life. Several years my senior, my attachment to him was of the nature of filial affection, an attitude which he accepted with true understanding; and in seeking his guidance and direction, I always received, in fullest measure, the abundance of his wisdom and experience.

Often did I accompany him on his journey home from business of an evening; from the centre of the city, across the river-ferry to that landing-stage which, overshadowed by the stern of the old "Manitoba" or "Scandinavian," was redolent of ships and stevedores and derricks; surroundings in which I may confess we were both so much at home.

About that time, Mr MacLeod occupied a position of responsibility on the administrative staff of the Govan Parish School Board; and it was a pleasant interlude in the routine of my duties as a teacher in the evening classes, when the voice of Mr. MacLeod, with the sound of the Hebridean sea in it, whispered greetings and words of encouragement as he fulfilled his part as official visitor. Nor can I forget that long summer night in Eilean an Fhraoich, when we stood together, in communion of spirit, looking out to the waves which beat on Tiumpán Head: and the return journey to Stornoway, Mr. MacLeod, exuberant, joyful, revelling in the familiar scenes of his happy boyhood: and the parting on Stornoway Pier; Malcolm with his brother, John; and the sound of the pipes blending with the sigh of the sea as the steamer slipped silently out into the night. Nach till e tuille?

The salient features in the career of Mr. MacLeod are known to his friends. It was in the natural order of things that his balanced judgment, wise counsel, cultural attainments, business capacity and gracious personality should waft him to the pinnacle of that calling in the field of educational administration upon which he had set his heart, and to which he

rendered such distinguished service. At the zenith of the achievements of the Govan Parish School Board, an institution recognised far beyond its locus as a model of efficiency, Mr. MacLeod succeeded Dr. John A. Craigie, as Clerk to the Board, and subsequently became Depute Director of Education to the City of Glasgow. Installed in this high and responsible office, Mr. MacLeod, energetic, efficient, masterly in the performance of his exacting official duties, remained the same courteous, approachable, and sympathetic personality, radiating those qualities of heart and head which distinguished him among men, and which his Highland friends recognised as his characteristic attributes.

As in the affairs of the world around, so also was Mr. MacLeod ever zealous in the things of the spirit. His faith was deep-seated and profound. In the offices of the Church, he rendered devoted service, long, unbroken, and selfless. He had a musical ear, and as precentor in the Church of St. Columba, Govan, he led the praise with sweetly, captivating voice. It was characteristic of the man, that he insisted upon attending Divine service on the Sabbath immediately preceding his passing. He carried with him an aura of saintliness which forbade the admission of an ill chosen utterance or profane word to the sanctuary of its presence. Such was his influence, that hearts were inspired to exalted thoughts and to the higher motives; we were constrained to give only our best to Malcolm MacLeod. Nor did austerity figure there; reverent when occasion called, his nature found full expression in the gladness of friends and surroundings. At Mòd and Céilidh, he was supremely happy; his sense of humour was keen and alert; he sang a Gaelic song in the more intimate circles, and joined in the choruses with the throng. Of his relaxations, the game of golf was his habitual pursuit; and none will mourn his passing more deeply than his old and faithful friends of Ralston.

A leader in many fields of service, Mr. MacLeod never strove for leadership; hegemony claimed him as her right. In every good cause within the sphere of his activities, he was an inspiring force; and when Malcolm MacLeod associated himself with a cause, we knew instinctively, that the cause was good. As a public speaker, Mr. MacLeod's gifts were of an order which distinguished him on many memorable occasions. His felicity of diction, neatness of phrase, correctness of taste and sublimity of theme succeeded in exalting his compositions to the rank of masterpieces of artistic excellence.

The honours bestowed upon Mr. MacLeod

throughout his sojourn with us, were those which he appreciated most—those of his own people. He was one of the first recipients of the high honour of the freedom of his native town of Stornoway. He received many public testimonials of his work and integrity, from Highland friends and from those associated with his professional career. But it is in regard to his services to the Gaelic cause, that the name of Malcolm MacLeod will live forever in the hearts of his folk. In the Book of An Comunn, that name will be emblazoned in letters of gold.

No movement on behalf of the preservation and inculcation of our ancient tongue was complete without his active participation. Needless is it for me to attempt to enumerate the many organizations in which his wise guidance and generous counsel led to successful achievement. As President of An Comunn for the period of seven years, his ardent and devoted service culminated in the establishing of Gaelic as a statutory subject in the curricula of the schools of the Highlands. By his labours, the life of Gaelic was prolonged; by the spirit of his precepts and principles, the cause which he lived to promote, will continue to be blessed.

Shìubhail ar caraid ionmhuinn: is sinne a bhios 'ga ionndrain.

COLIN SINCLAIR.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Executive Council was held in Stirling on Friday, 5th November. The President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider, was in the Chair and the following members were present:—

Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow; Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds); Nicol Campbell, Elgin; Stewart Cunningham M.A., Kinbuck; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Glasgow; Miss Lamont of Knockdow, B.Sc., J.P.; Neil MacEachnie, Greenock; Donald Macindoe, Edinburgh; John MacKay, Edinburgh; Capt. William MacKay, Inverness; Donald MacPhail, B.L., Edinburgh; Hugh MacPhee, Glasgow; Farquhar MacRae, B.Sc., Glasgow; John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow.

In attendance:—James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary, and Donald MacPhail, North Organiser.

Minutes of two previous Meetings were read and approved, and apologies intimated from several members.

The President made the following fitting and sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, while the members were upstanding.

It is my sad duty to make reference here to the passing of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod. Mr.

MacLeod held a unique place among us. He was longer a member of the Executive than any of us, and he gave constant and devoted service during that long period to An Comunn, and to all for which it stands.

He became a member of the Executive in 1907, and gave continued and devoted service to the cause of Gaelic since then till his passing on Sunday evening last. He served with distinction as President during the last war when there was neither the help nor the stimulus of Mods, either national or provincial.

He knew An Comunn Gaidhealach and all its needs better than most—if any knew it as well. Being an expert on education acts and systems he guided our councils, perhaps more than any, in claiming its own place for Gaelic in the educational system of the Highlands. Indeed a good deal of the honoured place that Gaelic has to-day in the curriculum of Highland schools is due to Mr. MacLeod.

He was a man of sound and balanced judgment. He often reminded one of those Greek Philosophers who maintained and practised the sure and middle way—recalling their adage *meden agan*, “nothing in excess.” This was an excellent example and precept for some of us in our perfervid enthusiasm.

Mr. MacLeod was a great Highlander. He loved his people and their language and all that was good and noble in their literature and culture. He himself was a master of the spoken language as few were, and he could read and write it with ease and distinction.

To-day we mourn him as a friend and fellow worker in the cause of our language and people; and we express our sincere sympathy with his brother and family in their loss and ours.

The President also referred to the death of Mr. Eneas MacKay, Stirling, who had been a member of An Comunn for many years. He succeeded his father in the well known publishing firm of that name and had reproduced a number of notable books connected with Highland history and lore. He also printed for An Comunn the Gaelic books “An Seanachaidh” and “Am Fear Ciuil.” His passing was a distinct loss to the movement and they extended their sincere sympathy to his widowed mother and sister.

Minute of meeting of Education Committee was read. A report had been received from Mr. J. R. Morrison on his research on “Bilingual and Monoglot Children in the Hebrides and Shetland Islands.” It was recommended that the report be submitted to Mr. Angus L. MacDonald, H.M.I.S., for his observations.

The Committee had received a Memorandum from Mr. Kenneth MacDonald, Secretary of the Federation of Highland Societies, Glasgow, in regard to the position of Gaelic in Glasgow. Consideration was continued.

The Committee noted with satisfaction the appointment of a Gaelic-speaker as Director of Education for Inverness-shire.

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

Minute of meeting of Publication Committee was read. The Committee had considered letter from Messrs. Blackie & Son which stated that they were considering the provision of a new and thoroughly modern series of Gaelic Text Books, and wishing to know whether An Comunn would be willing to help them by sponsoring the new series as it did the old, and by suggesting a suitable author who would have to be an experienced Gaelic-speaking teacher.

The Committee recommended that the Convener and Secretary be authorised to interview, or otherwise communicate, with Messrs Blackie to find out how An Comunn, possibly in conjunction with the Gaelic Advisory Committee of the E.I.S., might best co-operate with them in producing the new series of Gaelic Readers proposed.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mr. Farquhar MacRae.

It was unanimously agreed not to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Convener, in the meantime, and the President agreed to attend to matters concerning this Committee along with the Secretary.

Minute of meeting of Propaganda Committee was read.

In terms of remit from previous Executive Council meeting, the Northern and Southern Sub-Committees reported on the activities of M.O.I., E.N.S.A., and C.E.M.A. in the Gaelic speaking areas on behalf of Gaelic speakers in the services. From these reports, and from the observations of members of Committee living in the Highlands, it was clear that M.O.I. and E.N.S.A. took little, if any, account of Gaelic; their programmes being entirely English, and, in the case of E.N.S.A., being very often of a class little likely to confer any cultural benefit on the Gaelic population. It is recommended, therefore, that the M.O.I., E.N.S.A., and C.E.M.A. should be approached with a view to introducing Gaelic Speakers and Singers in their programmes throughout the Highlands and Islands.

Reference was made to the recent appointment of Dr. MacLean, as Director of Education

for the County of Inverness. It was a matter of regret that some members of Council, who were also members of An Comunn, had not supported the candidature of Dr. MacLean who was the only Gaelic-speaking candidate and who in other respects was pre-eminently suited for the post.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of Capt. William MacKay.

Minute of meeting of Art and Industry Committee was read.

The Committee considered letter from Miss Mairi MacBride suggesting that Pottery might be included as one of the sections in the new Junior Competition for reproducing Celtic designs. After consideration the Committee recommended to institute a Special Competition for Pottery in Celtic design. Prizes were offered by two lady members of the Committee (1) £1; (2), 10/-.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds), Convener.

Mr. Nicol Campbell moved the following Motion of which he had previously given notice:—"That the Secretary of State for Scotland be asked to receive a deputation from An Comunn Gaidhealach with a view to the amendment of the Clause referring to Gaelic in the Education (Scotland) Act, 1918."

Mr. Campbell explained very fully his reasons for putting forward the motion and he was seconded by Mr. John MacKay.

Several members took part in the discussion which followed. Dr. John Cameron moved, and Mr. Hugh MacPhee seconded, that the Council ask the Education Committee, with co-opted members, to collate all the information available on the operation of the Gaelic Clause and report to next meeting as a preliminary to a request for an interview with the Secretary of State for Scotland. This was carried by a majority of votes and became the finding of the meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Hugh MacPhee a very cordial vote of thanks was accorded the Joint Committee of the Glasgow Branches on the success of the Glasgow Mod.

The next meeting of Council was arranged for 28th January, 1944.

Mrs. J. B. Dunlop reported on the Gift Shop and Exhibition recently held by the Central (Comforts) Committee and said that apart from donations the Shop and Exhibition had brought in £968. This was considered very satisfactory.

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

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

A VISIT TO THE UISTS.

A visit to Uist is always a pleasant one, even if the weather is not always coibhneil. Mr. Macphail made an extensive tour of the area during October in the interests of An Comunn, Comunn na h-Oigridh, and The Scottish Savings Committee. Nearly all the Schools were visited and short addresses in Gaelic were warmly received by the children and Teachers. The new Savings Drive was explained in detail, and the children promised to invest every penny they can in their School Groups for the purpose of providing a new ship in place of H.M.S. "Saracen," lost in the Sicilian operations. It will be remembered that this ship had been adopted by Inverness Burgh and County, following the success of Warship Week last year.

Additional enrolments in Comunn na h-Oigridh were made at the following Schools:—

Kildonan Feachd	6	Stoneybridge Feachd	3
Iochdar	"	21 Cnoc na Mona	" 14
Carinnis	"	7	" 51.
			TOTAL, 51.

A new Feachd was formed at Locheynort School with 17 members.

Ceilidhs were held under the auspices of Lochboisdale and Iochdar Branches and Savings meetings were held at Lochboisdale, Iochdar, Bayhead, and Lochmaddy.

Here are a few incidents recorded during the visit which tend to show that Gaelic is the language of Uist and will continue to be for a long time to come.

Bha dithis ghillean 'nan suidhe aig am biadh maidne agus chualas an comhradh so eatorra.

NIALL :—(sia bliadhna)—"Chan' eil mise dol a dh'itheadh ugh idir, idir, idir."

IAIN :—(ceithir bliadhna)—"Gabhadh tusa an rud a gheibh thu, 's cha bhi air no dheth ach sin."

Có thubhairt gun robh a' Ghaidhlig a bàsachadh an Uibhist?

Bha mi fhein is gille beag, naoi bliadhna a dh'aois, ag comhradh air iomadh rud. Arsa mi ris "Dé is ciall do 'n ainm-àite An Lùdaig?" "S dòcha gur e an t-àite is bige san ionad sin," arsa Rob, am fear beag. Agus an sin thubhairt e, "Cuiridh mi toimhseachan ort. Dé an rud dubh, fada, fada, caol a bha muigh fad na h-oidhch' an raoir?" "'S iomadh rud sin" arsa mise. "Ainmich anan dhiubh," arsa esan. "Cù," arsa mise. "O chan e idir,

ach an rathad mór," thuir am fear beag, is rinn e glag gàire.

Chan iognadh ged a bhiodh clann as na bailtean mòra a' togail na Gàidhlig an Uibhist, agus tha iad sin.

Chualas so am Beinn nam Faodhla :—

1. Boladh a' mhairbh air an fhear fhalamh.
2. Is fearr a bhriag a ni sith na an fhìrinn a ni aimhreit.
3. Thig ri uair nach tig ri aimsir.
4. Dian fhàs fuil, crion fhàs cuirp.

Mr. Macphail has just completed a visit to Skye. At Portree he addressed a largely attended meeting in the Drill Hall, and explained in detail the new Savings Drive, the purpose of which is to replace the H.M.S. "Saracen," He addressed a similar meeting at Staffin.

Addresses on Savings and Comunn na h-Oigridh were given at the following Schools:— Kyleakin, Breakish, Broadford, Sconser, MacDiarmid School, Bernisdale, Kensalyre, Uig, Kilmuir, Kilmaluag, Digg, Staffin, Edinbane, Dunvegan, Lochbay, Knockbreac, Vattin Bridge, Struan, Colbost, and Borrowdale. A new Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh was formed at Kilmaluag School with eleven boys and six girls, and two boys and one girl were added to the Feachd at Kilmuir.

The Organiser was present at a meeting of the Portree Branch, Mr. Jack Ross, President, presided. It was decided to make a donation of £20 to the Seamen's Hostel Fund, £5 to the Prisoner of War Fund (local) and £1 1/- to the Central Fund. Rev. John MacKay, Glasgow, was appointed as Branch representative on the Executive Council for a further term. Regular meetings of the Branch are to be held throughout the Session.

On Saturday evening, 30th October, Mr. Macphail was present at a meeting of the Portree Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh. About 150 of the members were present and they provided an excellent ceilidh programme which consisted of songs, sgeulachdan, two plays, recitations, Highland Dancing and music on the violin and bagpipe. The Ceann Feachd, Finlay MacDonald, acted as Fear an Tighe, with great success. It may be of interest to note that the two plays presented were the work of the members and proved delightful items in an excellent programme of all-Gaelic entertainment. The Chairman, in the course of his remarks, mentioned that the Feachd had sent a hamper of good things to the Feill at Glasgow in aid of the Seamen's Hostel Fund and that in addition the members had collected within the Feachd, a sum of over £17.

Mr. Macphail gave a short address and thanked the Chairman and all who had assisted in providing such a very excellent all-Gaelic entertainment.

A letter has just come to hand from the Ceann Feachd at Melness, North Sutherland, enclosing a cheque for £6 2/- for the Seamen's, Hostel Fund. This followed an appeal made by Mr. Macphail during his visit to North Sutherland recently and it is interesting to note that the sum subscribed is wholly their own combined efforts within the Feachd. Mr. Arthur MacKay states that the members took it up with great zeal and determination under his guidance and it is interesting to note that one of the boys gave up his twelve-ounce sweets ration to help the effort. When one considers the many calls on the public at this time, the children of Melness village have to be heartily congratulated on such a splendid achievement.

At the October meetings of the County Council of Inverness, two important appointments were made. Mr John A. MacLean, M.A., LL.B., Ph.D., a Gaelic-speaking Highlander, was appointed Director of Education in place of Mr. David Howat. Dr. MacLean was born at Achiltibuie, Coigeach, Ross-shire, and took Gaelic in his Higher Leaving Certificate and at the University.

A native of Lochcarron secured the important appointment of Rector of the Royal Academy, Inverness. He is Mr. Donald John MacDonald M.A., who succeeds Mr. Crampton Smith. He, also, is a Gaelic-speaking Highlander and a scholar of repute. He takes a keen interest in the activities of the Gaelic Society of Inverness and has proofed several of the Society's Transactions.

Both of these appointments have been warmly approved throughout the North.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

A well known singer of Gaelic songs handed me, quite recently, a post card a friend had received from a Prisoner of War asking for a copy of "Songs of the Hebrides." As these volumes are now unobtainable from the booksellers I appeal to readers of *An Gaidheal* who may have a copy to spare, to pass it on to me so that I may have it forwarded to Stammlager 383. Even a copy of one of the Kennedy-Fraser Albums will be very acceptable. Copies of the Mod Collections were also asked for, and these will be supplied from this office. Our fellow Highlander in the P.O.W. Camp adds:—"We

have the Comunn Gaidhealach going strong here now—pipes and all." We owe a great deal to these brave lads, and I hope our readers will be able to respond quickly to this appeal.

* * *

The Glasgow Central Branch opened the session with a first-class Concert in the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, on 30th October. Mr John A. Nicolson, President, was in the chair and the hall was completely filled. The programme was an all-Gaelic one and was much enjoyed by the large audience. Mr. Angus Robertson, Ex-President of An Comunn, was present, and gave a short address in Gaelic.

The Govan Branch, which meets weekly in the Cardell Halls, Govan Cross, is attracting large audiences.

The Joint Committee of these Branches has issued its syllabus for the Glasgow Mod to be held on 2nd and 3rd June, 1944. Copies may be had from An Comunn Office or from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Murdo MacLeod, M.A., 24 Craigharnet Crescent, Millerston, Glasgow.

* * *

I presided at the weekly Ceilidh of the Paisley Highlanders' Association on Saturday, 6th November. There was a good attendance and a fine programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs and Highland dancing was submitted. The Bard, Mr. John Cameron, assisted with the programme in his own inimitable way. The Rev. A. C. MacGillivray, President, and Mr. Charles J. Stuart, Hon. Secretary, were present and votes of thanks were moved by Mr. Hugh Graham, Vice-President. I was pleased to see members of the family of the late Mr. John Woodrow present and continuing the interest which their father had taken in the work of the Association.

* * *

I visited Perth on 11th November and gave a talk on the epic songs of the Gael to the members of the Gaelic Society. Mrs. Hutton, Chieftainess, was in the chair and there was an attendance of about 250 members and friends. The Society meets regularly each month throughout the session, and there is always someone to speak on a Highland or Scottish subject. A programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs, with bagpipe selections, is always provided. Votes of thanks in Gaelic and English were proposed by Mr. John MacDonald, M.A., and Mrs. Hutton. Mr. MacDonald, who was a staunch supporter of the Branch in Wick, was recently appointed Headmaster of a school in Perth, and he has already proved himself a decided acquisition to the Society.

The recent exhibition of Celtic Art in Glasgow has doubtless aroused for the first time in many people an interest in this style of ornament, while, at the same time, it has probably quickened in many others an already existing appreciation. Those who wish to enquire further into the subject, would do well to obtain a copy of "The History of Celtic Art," by Augusta Lamont, obtainable from this office at the price of 2/6, postage extra. This pamphlet is a reprint from the proceedings of the Scottish Anthropological and Folk-lore Society, Vol. III., 1939, and embodies the substance of two lectures delivered to that society by the author in the winter of 1938-39. It is illustrated with plates, and gives a summarised account of the development of abstract art among the Celts from pagan times to the present century.

There is still a good stock of Gaelic Greeting Cards in Celtic design on hand and I shall be pleased to have orders from members and other readers. The prices are—double card, 4d., single card 2d. These cards are very artistic and just the very thing to convey seasonal greetings to absent friends.

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

Highland Gift Shop and Exhibition.

The Highland Gift Shop and Exhibition, promoted by the Central Committee, proved a splendid success. Two shops at 33 and 35 Renfield Street, Glasgow, were occupied from 18th to 30th October, and, during that time, the ladies in attendance were kept busy. Displays of Mod Shields and loaned articles in the windows attracted large crowds.

The Official Opening took place in the Ca'doro Restaurant, on Monday, 18th October, at 2.30 p.m. and a large number of invited guests were present.

Mrs Iain Campbell (Airds) performed the Opening Ceremony and she was introduced by Mrs J. M. Bannerman, Convener of the Central Committee. Mrs Campbell emphasised the great work which An Comunn has been doing for the various branches of H.M.'s services and made an urgent appeal for support of the present effort which was on behalf of the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund.

Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, President of An Comunn, thanked Mrs Campbell for her inspiring address. The President then called on Commander Campsie, Senior Chaplain in Scottish waters, and who represented Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Hill. Mr Campsie spoke

on behalf of the Royal Navy and he was followed by Lieut-Commander Seager, representing Vice-Admiral Sir James Troup. Unfortunately Captain Peter Murchie, late Commander of the "Queen Mary," was unable to attend owing to other duties, but the Merchant Navy had an able representative in the person of Professor D. M. Blair, Glasgow University. Mrs Bannerman thanked the Directors of the Union Bank of Scotland for so kindly granting them the use of the two shops. She also thanked the Sub-conveners for their work in connection with the Shop and Exhibition arrangements. Mr. James B. Lawrie of Messrs. R. G. Lawrie, Ltd., was cordially thanked for so tastefully decorating the platform.

The effort was splendidly supported by members and friends and the Committee desires to express its sincere thanks to all those who loaned articles and books of antiquarian and historical interest, and also to those kind friends who kept the Shop supplied with goods, produce and baking.

The sum of £968 was collected at the Shop and Exhibition, and, with donations added, the Fund now amounts to the splendid total of over £3000.

LITIR COMMUN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bhiodh e iomchuidh gum beanainn anns a' cheud toiseach air a' mhiosa so ris a' chall a thainig òirnn uile mar Ghàidheil, sean is òg, anns am bàs Chalum MhicLeoid, eadhon ged a bhios iomradh air féin is air a bhàs bho thuille na aon pheann anns an àireimh so. Bha Calum MacLeoid e féin aon uair òg, agus bha a chridhe is aigne òg gum sin a latha mu dheireadh. Bha e 'na bhall de Chlann an Fhraoich bho 'n cheud latha a thainig a' mheur sin de obair a' Chomuinn gu bith, agus mar sin bha e an dlùth cheangal ri Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Bidh sibhse a tha an diugh òg, tha sinn an dòchas fhathast aosmhor; agus 'nur triall gu ruig an ceann-uidhe sin air sliغه nam bliadhnanach, an gabhadh eiseamplair a b' fheàrr a thogail fa chomhair na sùla na beatha is gluasad Chalum MhicLeoid? Bu Ghàidheil de na Gàidheil Calum MacLeoid, dileas d' a dhaoine, dileas d' a chànan, eadhon dealasach air a taobh, dileas d' a chreud is dileas do gach ni barraichte a bhineas dhuinn mar Ghàidheil. Bidh sinn 'ga ionndrainn iomadh latha.

An nis, mar a bhios sibhse a' fàs suas bidh sibh ag cluinntinn iomradh air ainm; agus

mar a bhios na bliadhnan a' dol seachad bidh sibhse a chunnaic e, a chuala e a' labhairt no ris an do labhair e 'ga chunntas 'na ni air an fhìach dhuibh sgeul a thubhairt an uair a thig bliadhnanachan bhur n-inbhe is bhur n-ìre féin, gu robh sibh beo 'na linn, gum faca sibh e, gun do labhair e 'nur n-èisdeachd no ruibh féin. Dh' fhàg e againne, sean is òg, is agaibhse, a chlann, eiseamplair nach cuir rudha na nàire 'nur graidh le bhith 'ga leantainn. Tha sinn taingeil do 'n Fhreasdal gun robh is gu bheil diùlnaich againn de 'n aon sm'or ri Calum MacLeoid a' togail cinn bho àm gu àm; agus an diugh, an uair a chailleadh aon eile, tha ar stùil ris an òigridh, agus mar sin ribhse, a chlann, gu èirigh suas is iad féin, sibh féin, uidheamachadh gu triall air an t-slighe dhirich ud air an d' fhàg Calum MacLeoid cas-cheuman is fhìach dhuibhse bhur cas-cheuman féin a chuimseachadh riu, mar a bhios sibh a' triall air slighe nam beo.

Tha sinn, a nis, 'nar seasamh air stairsnich a' mhiosa mu dheireadh de 'n bhliadhna so; agus ged nach robh ni mór sam bith againn an Comunn na h-Òigridh mum b' fhìach dhuinn port a sheinn, fathast cha robh a' bheag (am mach bho chall cheatharnach mar an t-aon air an d' thugas iomradh mar thà) a thilgeadh sios sinn gu caoidh no bròn. Gun teagamh, chan urrainn dhuinn a ràdh fathast gu bheil sinn, am mach bho ar mac-meanmna, a' faicinn nam "bùithean samhraidh"—camp Comunn na h-Òigridh—anns an t-sealladh no air bonn; ach thig crioich na h-iomairt a tha ag claoidh an t-saoghail an ceartair uair-eigin, is faodaidh i tighinn nas luaithe na tha fuighair aig aon sam bith againn i a thighinn.

Bidh sinn an sin ag ràdh rud-eigin mar a thubhairt an seann Abarach còir is e air a chluinntinn gun robh MacDhomhnaill Duibh, a bha 'na fhògarach anns an Fhraing an déidh Chulodair, air tilleadh dhachaidh. "Tha Tighearna Mór Chlann Chamshroin air tilleadh a rithist" arsa esan, "is tòisichidh a' mhéirle mar a bha i riamh!" Is sinn a ni an toileachadh ris an latha sin, sean is òg. Tha iad an diugh ri aghaidh bualaidh, gillean is nigheanan, nach robh fathast ach air an àireamh air an òigridh an latha déistinneach ud corr is ceithir bliadhna air ais an uair a thogadh an glaodh gun robh cogadh air bonn. Tha sinn an làn dòchas, ged thà, gur e sin duathalachd nach taomar m' an cinn-san a tha an diugh aig an aon aois 's a bha iadsan an uair ud.

Chan 'eil, an nis, sgeul ùr sam bith agam dhuibh an ceartair; ach mur 'eil sgeul agam, bheir mi dhuibh mo dhùrachd, agus is e sin "Nollaig chridheil dhuibh uile—an uair a

thig i," oir bidh i againn mum bi an comas agamsa air facal tuille a sgrìobhadh dhuibh anns an oisinn so. Mar sin féin e, matà, an latha a chi 's nach fhaic!—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Beannachd na Nollaige.—Tha an *Gaidheal* a' toirt beannachd na Nollaige dh' ionnsaigh a leughadairean uile, agus gu seachd sonraichte thuca-san a tha air falbh an Feachd an Rìgh. Is e ar n-ùrnuigh gum bi sith is sòlas na Nollaige a' riaghladh 'nan crideachan uile aig an àm; agus gum bi an nàmaidh air a chiosnachadh agus an t-sith air a h-èigheach gum tig an ath Nollaig. Sin, agus gum bi cairdean cruinn aig an cacadh mar bu mhaith le Dia is mar bu mhiann le cridhe.

Firinn Airson a' Mhìos so.—Rinneadh am Focal 'na fheoil, agus ghabh e còmhnaidh 'nar measg-ne, agus chunnaic sinn a ghloir mar ghloir aoine-ghin Mhìc an Athar, làn gràis agus firinn. Agus as a làn-chd-san fhuair sinne uile, agus gràs air son gràs.—*Eoin* i, 14-16

Seirbhis a' Chrùin.—Tha an leabhar so a nis ullamh chum a chur thuca-san a tha air falbh an seirbhis a' chrùin. Ma tha neach sam bith leis am bu mhaith gum faigheadh duine dh' a teaghlach ach e, no caraid no banacharaid eile tha air falbh, chan 'eil aige ach làn sheoladh-litreach an duine sin a chur dh' ionnsaigh Rùnar a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach aig 131 Iar Shraid Regent an Glaschu, agus cuirear an leabhar air a shlighe air ball.

Ceolradh Cridhe.—So leabhar ciuil a tha air br thighinn a mach. Tha naoi amhrain laghach ann, agus iad an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla. Is e a' bhana-bhaird Bean Choinnich MhicLeoid sa' Chananaich a rinn na h-amhrain, agus is e i fhéin agus a mac Coinneach a rinn na fuinn agus a chuir an ceol agus a' chomh-sheirm an òrdugh. Tuigidh mar sin luchd-leughaidh a' *Ghaidheil* gum bheil na h-amhrain blasda, agus gum bheil an ceol binn agus grinn. Tha sinn a' toirt dì-beatha do dh' òrain ùr an Gaidhlig uair sam bith ach gu h-àraid an drasda. Is dòcha gun teid againn air iomradh nas mìonaidh a thoirt air an leabhar chiatlach so san ath àireamh. Tha e air a chur a mach le MacLabhrainn an Glaschu air ceithir tasdain.

Gnàthasan-cainnte.—Chuir seachdnar a steach chugam Gaidhlig air na gnàthasan-cainnte Beurla a bha agam san oisein so ann an *Gaidheal* an Damhair. Bidh cuimhne agaibh gur h-e an *t-Seana Bhean* a thug dhomh iad. Bheir mi, ma tha, dhuibh a' Bheurla an toiseach agus a rithist mar a chuir an *t-Seana Bhean* an Gaidhlig iad, agus an deidh sin a' dhà no thri de 'n fheadhainn eile as fheàrr a chuireadh chugam. Tha feadhainn aca reir mo bheachd-sa nas fheàrr na mar a chuir an *t-Seana Bhean* iad. Tha a' Ghaidhlig cho-sòibhir an cainnt de 'n t-èòrta so agus gum faod duine a raghainn fhéin a thoirt as a' mhòran. Bha gach paipear a chuireadh chugam cho maith agus nach

robh e furasda dhomh raghainn a dheanamh asda, no a dhearbhadh le fìor chinnt co b' fheàrr no bu mhiosa.

Mhòthaich mi ann am paipear no dhà, ged bha Gaidhlig chluais aca cho maith agus cho còimhlionta 's a dh' iarradh duine, nach robh iad idir cho eòlach air litreachas agus air sgrìobhadh na Gaidhlighe 's a dh' fhaodadh iad—no idir cho foghlumte san litreachas sin riutha-san a dh' ionnsaich i ris an uilinn.

Tha na seachdnar airidh air leabhar, ach chan 'eil e 'nam tomas sin a chur thuca uile. Tha mi ag cur leabhar tomadach Gaidhlig gu dìthis aca, dh' ionnsaigh an Urramaich H. Comyn Maitland, an Dun-éideann, agus a dh' ionnsaigh Ogha Chalum Breabadair cho luath 's a chuireas e a sheòladh-litreach chugam.

1. *Depending on a broken reed.*
Ag cur earbsa á claidheamh briste.
Ag cur earbsa an urra gun urra.
B' e sin marag earbsa ris a' chu.
2. *I saw it at a distance.*
Chunna mi bhuan e.
Chunnaic mi e air faire.
3. *I was startled.*
Chlisg mo chridhe.
Ghabh mi briogadh.
Ghabh mi eagal mo bheatha.
4. *In broad daylight.*
Ann an geal an latha sholuis.
Aig airde a' mheadhoin-latha.
An àin an latha.
Air tonn a' mheadhoin-latha.
5. *A bright moonlight night.*
Oidheche gheal ghealaich.
Oidheche bhreagha ghealaich.
Oidheche 's a' gheslach air a coinnil.
6. *All is not gold that glitters.*
Is iomadh rud buidhe nach òr.
Is iomadh rud buidhe 's chan òr.
7. *Changes are lightsome.*
Is buidhe le amadan imrich.
Bidh fonn air gille nan lub, 'se h-uile rud ur as fhearr.
Is ùrachadh atharrachadh.
8. *Evil communications corrupt good manners.*
Am moigheach a bhios san t-sneachda fasaich i ban.
Millidh droch comhludair deagh bheusan.
9. *Fast bind, fast find.*
Am fear a cheanglas 'se shiubhlas.
Ceangail teann is faigh teiruinte.
Gabh mu do chuid mum falbh thu 's cha bhi cearb air nuair a thig thu.
10. *Without friend or means.*
Gun chuid gun chuideacha.
Gun chairdean gun chuid.
Gun chù gun chuideachd.
11. *Many a puckle makes a muckle.*
Nithear carn mor de chlachan beaga.
Is ann a a' bheagan a thig am moran.
Is tric ba beathaich srad bheag teine mòr.
12. *Necessity knows no law.*
Is iomadh rud a ni an éigin.
Cha bheir lagh air éigin.
Chan 'eil air an éigin ach an éigin fhein.

13. *As ill luck would have it.*
Leis an droch thuiteamas.
Mar a bha an tuiabst an dàn.
Mar a bha an driod-fhortan an dàn.
14. *He kissed the blarney stone.*
Dh' ith e bonnach an t-sodail.
Sud far an robh beul an t-sodail.
Dh' ith e a chuid de'n bhonnach shodail.
15. *Begone.*
Teg ort.
Thoir do chasan leat.
Thoir am baile a muigh ort.
As mo shealladh.
16. *Better the evil ye know than the evil ye know not of.*
Is fheàrr an t-òc eòlach na an t-òc aineolach.
Ma tha aon chran san eòlach bidh dha dheug san aineolach.
17. *Penny wise and pound foolish.*
A' trusadh nan suip agus a' leigil nan sguaban leis a' ghaoith.
Cruaidh mun pheighinn 's bog mun mhang.
Ag call làn na leigh air sgath imlich a màis.
18. *Up for sale.*
Ann am port reic.
R' a chreic.
Air an fheill.
19. *Herring-bone stitch (or weave).*
Fuaghal cas feannaig.
Fighe ball is corrain.
Fighe casa feannaig.
20. *Diamond stitch (or weave).*
Fighe suil-eoin.
Fighe suil na cuthaig.

—F.D.

EADARAINN FHIN.

Ceistean.

TACHAIR.

A Charaid Chòir,—This word may possibly have various local meanings, e.g., "seaweed" in Skye, according to Dwelly; but Samson may rightly doubt the dictionary "weed" or "water weed," in such a couplet as he quotes. Calder gives "slow current," and the phrase *tàchair dubh mòintich* will no doubt suggest to Samson the dark, peaty water of *feadan* or *féith*. The word *tachran* (brook) was known and recorded in Perthshire before Donnchadh Bàn was born.

BUANNAICHEAN.

Bha na buannaichean o chian, mar thuirte am bàrd mu fheadhainn eile, iad fhéin "air an sònrachadh gu mortadh," agus bha iad 'nam bleidirean an iomadh tigh, ach nach b' anacneasda an diol a rinn bodaich Nis orra. Cha chreid sinn gun d' rinn iad àr nan gugachan air daoine sam bith: tha seanchas air cùl an rath.

Mharbh Samson leòghan, b' ion da sin,
Ach mharbh na Nisich buannaichean;
Chuir e tòimhseachan air Philistich,
Ach cò a nis a dh' fhuasglas e?

CREAG MHOR.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.I. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

Previously acknowledged	£77 15 4
Alick Monk, Benbecula	1 1 —
The late Mr. Martin, Belfast	5 —
Benderloch Branch	5 15 —
Portree Branch	1 1 —
	<u>£85 17 4</u>

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

Donation List.

COMFORTS.

Previously acknowledged	£2,065 2 3
Miss Kate Logan, Lagavoulin	10 —
	<u>£2,065 12 3</u>

MAOIN LITREACHAIS GAIDHLIG.

Roimh-ainmichte	£243 17 6
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PRISONERS OF WAR.

Previously acknowledged	£313 16 10
Miss Semple, Hamilton, per Miss Dingwall	2 6 —
Mrs. Kythe Thomson, Hamilton	1 10 —
J. White, Esq., Newmains	5 —
	<u>£315 14 4</u>

ROYAL AND MERCHANT NAVIES' COMFORTS FUND.

Previously acknowledged	£360 2 9
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Viscountess Tarbat, London	1 —
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"D.N.M., in memory of Ron"	5 —
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(Space does not permit of our giving the full donation list this month.)

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

Am Faoilleach, 1944.

[Earrann 4

CRIDHE MHONTRÓIS.

Nuair a bha a' bhùth againn an Glaschu los aigiod a thrusadh chum leas ar seòladairean Gaidhealach bha rudan sonraichte air am foillseachadh am bùth eile air leth—rudan a bha mar chiumhneachan air gnìomhachas is ealantas is deanadas is gaisge nan Gaidheal. Bha iomadach rud ann a b' fhiach fhaicinn, agus a bha 'na fhiosrachadh is 'na eòlas do neach fhaicinn—rudan a bha cur soluis air eachdraidh na dùthcha agus air deanadas is eadhaidhean nan Gaidheal. Ach bha aon rud ann a rinn gréim air leth air mo shùil-sa agus air mo thuigse-sa, b' e sin taisean làimh Mhontróis. Bha na bha sìos bho 'n uillinn de làmh an duine mhóir so an céis òir ann. Dhùisg so, nuair a chunnaic mi e, mo smuain is m' aigne air a leithid a dhòigh agus nach mòr gun deach agam air stad a chur air mo mhac-meanmhainn idir.

B' e Montrós—no an dubhairt Niall Mac-Mhuirich seannachaidh mòr Chlann Raghnaill, “Marcos near meannach misneach mhór Montros”—ceannard airm a b' fheàrr a fhreagair air na Gaidheil a bha air an ceann a riamh, co-dhùibh ri linn nam fineachan Gaidhealach. Chan 'eil duine aig a bheil dad a dh' eòlas air eachdraidh na Gaidhealtachd, agus air litreachas nan Gaidheal, aig nach 'eil cuimhne mhaith air cogadh Mhontróis agus air euchdan nan Gaidheal fo a chomann. Ri linn nam fineachan Gaidhealach, mar a thubhairt mi, b' e Montrós an aon cheannard airm a b' fheàrr a thuig nàdur nan Gaidheal, agus a b' fheàrr a stiùir iad an rathad catha is buadhach. Sheinn na bàird

Gaidhealach a chliù a thaobh so, agus rinn ar seanachaidhean aithris air gu h-acfhuinneach mar an ceudna.

Thug, ma tha, taisean a làmh, agus am bucus òir anns a bheil i, 'na mo chiumhne mar a thachair do chridhe Mhontróis.

Nuair a chaidh an duine fùghail so a chur gu bàs an Dun-eideann sa' bhliadhna 1650 bha a cheann agus a làmh agus a chasan air an gearradh bho'n cholainn, agus bha ball air leth dhiubh air an crochadh ann am bailtean-móra na dùthcha. Mas maith mo chiumhne is ann an Obairadhain a bha an làmh so air a crochadh suas.

Nuair a thachair an gnìomh oillteil so thug banacharaid do Mhontrós—a Bhana Mhorair Napier—f'an airdh a chridhe a thoirt as a' cholainn far an robh e air a thiodhlacadh, agus an deidh spòsraidh a chur air, chuir i an céis stàilinn e, céis a thug i m' an airdh a dheanamh á lann claidheimh Mhontróis fhéin, agus a bha air cumadh agus am meudachd uighe. Chuir i so am broinn bocsa maiseach òir a fhuair seanair an fhir aice—an Napier sin a rinn inleachd an toiseach air na logaritmear—bho aon de àrd uaislean Venice. Chuir i so dh' ionnsaigh a' mhic bu shine aig Montrós agus e còmhla ri a companach fhéin agus iad air teicheadh le am beatha do 'n Olaind.

Bha so sa' bhliadhna 1650 no 1651, agus chan 'eil iomradh tuilleadh againn air cridhe Mhontróis gus an tàinig an II Rìgh Tearlach air ais chun a chruinn agus an tug e f' an airdh corp a' Mharceis Mhóir a togail as an uaigh anns an do chuireadh e nuair a chaidh a chrochadh, agus mar an ceudna a cheann agus a làmh an 's

a chasan a thional còmhla ris agus an tiodhlacadh an ciste-laighe ghrinn le mòr urram an cladh Abaid an Naomh Róid an Dun-éireann. Bha so sa' bhliadhna 1661. Tha cuid ag cumail a mach gun do chuir a mhac, am Marcus òg cridhe athar sa' chiste an uair sin. Ach eadar gun chuir no nach do chuir chaidh a' chéis chruadhach agus am bucus òir air chall agus cha chualas iomradh orra gus ceud gu leth bliadhna an deidh sin.

* * *

Thachair do 'n choigeamh Morair Napier—iar-ogha na mnatha uasail a rinn a chéis stàilinn air son cridhe a caraid caomh fhein agus a companaich—thachair dha a bhith air chuir san Olaind, agus thainig e thairis air an t-seanachas mu dheidhinn cridhe Mhontròis, agus air a' chéis stàilinn agus am bucus òir, ri fear a mhuinntir an àitè sin. Dé ach is ann a thuirnt am fear so gum b' aithne dha-san fear an sud aig an robh an dearbh chéis agus bhocsa òir—fear a bhiodh a' tional rudan neònach is annasach. Is e thainig as a' sin gun do cheannachd Napier iad, agus thug e dhachaidh leis iad.

Nuair a bha Napier so air leabaidh a bhàis thug e iad do a nighean, ag guidhe oirre i bhith cùramach umpa agus an gleidheadh san teaghlach. Phòs ise fear Somhairle Johnston as a' Charn Shallach. Fhuir esan dreuchd fo 'n chrùn anns na h-Innsean a Sear agus sheol e fhein agus a bhean an sin. Thug ise leatha am bocsa òir agus a chéis chruadhach 'na bhroinn. Air an taisdeal cuain thainig iad trasd air luingeas cogaidh Frangaich agus ma thainig thòisich iad a losgadh air an t-soithich anns an robh na Johnstonaich. Sheas an soitheach Bhreatannach gu duineil 'nan aghaidh agus thòisich i a' losgadh air ais. Leum Johnston, chun aon de na gunnaidhean-móra a bha oirre agus cha bu rud le a bhean ach seasamh ri a thaobh. Bha am bocsa òir agus na bha 'na bhroinn, agus nithean beaga eile a bha ise a meas luachmhor, aice ann am màileid mheleabhaid 'na làimh. Thainig bloigh peileir gunna mòir agus bhuail e air a mhàileid agus chaidh am bocsa òir 'na bhloighdean. Ach bha an chéis stàilinn slàn. Bho dheireadh chuir iad an teicheadh air an t-soithich Fhrangaich, agus ràinig iad ri ùine na h-Innsean.

Lorg ise òr-cheard sna h-Innsean a rinn bocsa òir ùr dhi cho coltach 's a ghabhadh e bhith ris an fhear a bhriseadh, agus nach robh ceum air dheireadh air an grinneas. Rinn e so le còmhadh bloighean an fhir eile agus le a seòladh fhéin. Thug i air cuideachd e soitheach cruinn airdid a dheanamh a bhiodh mar chòmhdach daibh. Bha so aice air bord beag

leis fhéin san t-seòmar suidhe aca 'na dachaidh am Madura. Ach is ann a thòisich na h-Innseanaich a' smaoineachadh gur e a bh' ann rud anns an robh buidseachd, agus bho dheireadh ghoid iad e. Bha ise ann an staid thruaigh ag iarradh 's a' sireadh an t-soithich airdid agus na bha 'na bhroinn. Ach a dh' aindeoin ciod a dheanadh i cha robh iomradh ri fhaotainn air an t-soithich luachmhor.

* * *

Chaidh bliadhna is bliadhna seachad; ach bho dheireadh bha an gille bu shine a bha aig na Johnstonaich a muigh a' sealg maille ri Innseanach, Ard Uachdaran an àite, agus e 'na ghille nu fhichead bliadhna dh' aois. Thainig an luchd-seilg air torc fiadhaich a thionndaidh air an Uachdaran gu h-obann. A reir còltais bha e air an Uachdaran a mharbhadh mura b' e gaisge agus ealantachd an fhir òig a mharbh an torc le sleagh a bha 'na làimh. Bha an t-Uachdaran cho taingeil agus gun dubhairt e ris gun tugadh e dha ni sam bith a dh' iarradh e air. A nis bha an gille air aithig a chluinntinn gun robh an soitheach airdid leis a' bhocsa òir agus a' chéis stàilinn aig an dearbh fhear so. Thuirnt an gille mar sin ris, nan robh an soitheach so a bhuneadh d' a mhathair aige gum biodh e 'na chomain nan tugadh e dhi e air ais. Thuirnt an duine uasal gun robh an soitheach aige-san ceart gu leòr. Gun do cheannach e e gun dad a dh' fhios aige gur h-ann air a ghoid a bha e; agus nan robh fhios aige gur h-ann bho a mhathair-san a bha e air a ghoid nach robh e air a cheannach idir. "Is airidh" ars esan, "gaisgeach air a iarratas a thoirt dha; agus is leatsa an soitheach airdid agus na tha 'na bhroinn."

Bha a' Bhean-ualas Johnston fìor thoilichte, agus bha so gu maith curamach aice gus an do thill i-fhein agus a companach as na h-Innsean sa' bhliadhna 1792. Bha iad air an t-slighe dhachaidh troimh an Fhraing nuair a thainig òrdugh a mach bho Rìaghaltais na Frainge nach fhaodte òr no airdid no ni air a dheanadh de dh' òr no de dh' airdid a thoirt a mach as an Fhraing. Bha iadsan air Boulogne a ruigsinn, agus cha robh air ach an soitheach, mar a bha e, a thoirt an gleidhteanas mnatha Sasannaich a bha an sin—tè Bean Knowles—gus an rachadh an cogadh seachad. Cha do thachair sin gus an deachaidh an teicheadh air Bonaparte aig Waterloo sa' bhliadhna 1815. Rinn na Johnstonaich sireadh gu leòr an uair sin air son an t-soithich airdid agus céis cridhe Mhontròis. Ach bha a' Bhean Knowles air bàsachadh agus cha robh fhios aig duine ciod a dh' éirich do 'n chéis agus na bha 'ga còmhach. Cò aige 'eil fhios nach tog i ceann fhathast. Cò aige 'eil

fhios nach tig cuideigin thairis oirre agus e a' rùrach air son seann rudan an caol-shràidean am baile san Fhraing. Ma chi e céis stàillinn air cumadh agus an meadachd uighe, agus i a' fosgladh 's a dùnadh le bhith dìtheadh enag bheag 'na taobh, ma chi, gabhadh e cùram dhìth oir tha i luachmhor dha-rìribh do bhrìgh gun robh i aon uair a' gleidheadh duslach cridhe duine cho fhùghail agus cho grinn agus cho gaisgeil 's a bha riamh an Alba—"Marcois near meamnach misneach mhór Montros."

◆
B'e sin cridhe na féile.—*He is the very heart of hospitality.*
 ◆

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

A' Bhliadhna Ur.—Tha an *Gaidheal* ag guidhe Bliadhna Mhàith Ur do a leughadairean gu léir. Tha e ag guidhe gu dùrachdach gun bi beannachd Dhé an luib na bliadhna so dhaibh uile. Ma bhithas bidh gach ni a chum maith dhaibh ge b' e cruth anns an tig e. Thatar ag cuimhneachadh gu sonraichte orra-san a tha air falbh am Feachd an Rìgh, agus is tric tha ar n-aighe agus ar n-intinn a' ruith thuca-san a tha an làmh aig an nàmhaid agus 'nam prìosanaich an tìr choimhich. Slàn gun till iad. Saolìdh sinn gum faicear Buaidh air faire agus Sìth is Saorsa a' tighinn air gach taobh dhì.

Tha an *Gaidheal* fo chomain aig mòran. Agus tha e a' toirt ceud taing dhaibh-san a thug còmhndh dha ré na bliadhna chaidh seachd le annas an làimhe, agus an iomadaich dòigh eile. Is ainneamh ceàrnaidh de 'n t-saoghal mhór as nach d' fhuaire e fios misnich is molaidh. Cha bu Ghaidheal e mura biodh e taingeil air son sin, agus mura deanadh e am barrachd dìthill is saothair los gum biodh e airidh air am-barrachd molaidh is cliù. Ni e sin. Agus thatar an dòchais le còmhndh a chairdean gum bi a leughadairean 's a luchd-eòlais a' fàs gu mòr nas lionmhoire ré na bliadhna so.

* * *

Còmhndhail Theherain.—A dhuine! is iongantach an latha sam bheil sinn beò. Tha fhios aig an t-saoghal air a' chòmhndhail chomharrichte a bha bho chionn ghoidrid aig Ceann Suidhe nan Stàitean Aonaichte—Mgr. Roosevelt—agus aig Màirseal Stalin agus aig Churchill ann an Teheran, Ceannabhaile Pherisia, no Iran mar a tha an rìoghachd sin air a h-ainmeachadh an dràsda. Faodar a ràdh, da-rìribh, gun robh gnothaichean móra

an Teheran. Ach is e tha iongantach gun deach gach fear aca—le a àrd chomhairlichean còmhla ris—air itealaich gu Teheran ann am beagan uairean a thide. Ged tha an saoghal 'na bhutarrais, agus mòran aingidhachd le làmhachas laidir am measg cuid de rìoghachdan an domhain, bu chòir dhuinn a bhith taingeil air son na mór uihiorbhuilean a tha sinn a' faicinn daonnan. Nam bitheadh gach miorbhùil a tha sinn a' faicinn 'nar latha air a chur a chum glòire Dhé, agus maith a chinne-daonna gu léir, nach e an saoghal a bhiodh sona dheth. Ach chan ann mar sin a tha an dràsda. Ach cuimhnicheamaid, am measg na h-àmhghair 's na h-éiginn a th' ànn, gu bheil Dia ag àrd riaghladh os cionn nan uile, gu ro naomh, gu ro ghlic, agus gu ro chumhachdach.

Co-dhiùbh a thaobh na còmhndhail so, an deidh dhaibh a bhith fad cheithir latha an comhairle a chéile dh' innis iad do 'n t-saoghal gun robh iad làn aonaichte air a leithid a phronnadh a thoirt do ar naimhdean, agus an dòigh anns an deanaichte sin a dh' aithghearr,— araon air a' Ghearmailt agus air Iapan—agus nach rachadh stad oirnn gus an éigheadh iad mort. Agus tha Sìna air taobh eile an t-saoghail làn aonaichte ris na rìoghachdan móra is cumhachdach so anns mar a theid an cogadh air adhart gus an sleuchd ar naimhdean.

Mar a tha fhios aig an t-saoghal cuidcheadh bha còmhndhail de'n aon seorsa aig Roosevelt agus aig Churchill agus aig Seinleir Chiang Kai Shek, Uachdaran Shina, ann an Cairo air dol a mach Roosevelt is Churchill gu Teheran. Tha ainmeachas sìth cadar Rùisia agus Iapan agus mar sin cha fhreagarradh e do Stalin a bhith còmhla riutha sa' cheud chòmhndhail.

Tha gach ni, ma tha, a nis air a shuidheachadh chum a' Ghearmailt agus Iapan agus a' ghràisg eile a tha an combh-bhainn riutha a phronnadh, gus an éigh iad mort, agus an iarr iad sìth gun chumha gun chùmhnannt. Tha an latha sin a' teannadh dluth, ach mar as luaithe thig e is e as fheàrr leinn uile; agus chan 'eil ni cruthaichte a bheir air na Rìoghachdan Aonaichte stad ach na Gearmailtich agus na Iapanach iad fhéin a thoirt suas gun chumha gun chùmhnannt. Is iongantach mura le-n amaideas is aingidhachd luchd-riaghlaidh nan rìoghachdan truaigh sin as coireach nach 'eil iad a' deanamh so gun an tuilleadh dòrteadh fola.

* * *

Baile na Ròimhe.—Chan 'eil baile eile air an t-saoghal as iomraitich agus as ainneil nan Ròimh, ma tha gin ann cho ainneil ris. Rì linn impireachd na Ròimhe—agus bha sìneadh fada da-rìribh aig an impireachd sin—rì linn impireachd na Ròimhe cha robh baile no àite

cile air an t-saoghal uile a b' ainmeile na an Ròimh, ceanna-bhaile na h-ìmpireachd sin. Bidh mi smaoineachadh sin gu tric an dràsda a thaobh 's mar tha an cogadh a' dol air adhart san Eadailt agus timchioll na Ròimhe. Bha e iomraiteach air sgàth a ghloir agus a ghreadhnachais, air sgàth fhoghlum agus a ghlocais, air sgàth a laghan agus a riaghladh. Bha tìgean is togalaichean a' bhaile grinn agus cireachdail, maiseach agus tlachdmhor. Bha luchd-riaghlaidh is ceannardan a' bhaile 's na dùthaiche iomraiteach feadh an domhain. Bha an ceannardan-airm 's an saighdearan ainmeil air son an treunalas 's an gaisge. Tha cuimhne agam gu bheil e air aithris an cachdraidh gun do chuir Pyrrhus an Rìgh Greugach, agus cogadh eadar e fhéin agus an Ròimh, gun do chuir e àrd theachdaire—fear Cìneas—far an robh Seanadh baile na Ròimhe a thaobh cumhachan sìthe. Tha cuimhne agam gun do thill Cìneas air ais agus gun dubhairt e ri Pyrrhus an Rìgh nach ruigeadh e leas sùil san bith a bhith aige ri eisimeil o 'n taobh ud: "Chunna mi," ars esan, "baile agus 'na mhaise is 'na mhòrachd is 'na eireachdas mar gum b' e teampull Dhé e; agus chunna mi coimhthional de rìghrean ann." B' e so Seanadh na Ròimhe.

Bha am baile mòr agus grinn, agus bha mòralachd is uaisleachd rìghrean orrasan a bha riaghladh a' bhaile. Tha cuimhne agam cuideachd gu bheil e air aithris gun do chuir Seanadh na Ròimhe, air an dearbh gheamhradh an deidh Cìneas an aithisg so a thoirt gu Pyrrhus, teachdairean dh' ionnsaigh Pyrrhus a' tairgse ionnlaid phrìosanach a dheanamh ris. B' e tuathanach treibhdhìreach a bh' air an ceann, fear Caius Fabricius—Caius Gobha mar a threidid sinne. Ghabh Pyrrhus riutha le mòr choibhneas agus le fìor gheadhnachas. Los an tàladh a chum a thaobh agus a bheachd fhéin thairg e saoihbheas airgid dhaibh; ach cha ghabhadh Fabricius truailleadh le òr no le airgid. Dh' fheuch e sin ri buaidh a thoirt orra le eagal, ach ge do thug e m' an airidh clephan a thoirt air an cùlaibh agus a thronpaid a shuabhadh os cionn Fabricius cha tug so probadh sùla air Fabricius. Ghabh Pyrrhus a leithid a dh' iongnadh de threibhdhìreachd agus de ghaiseg nan daoine agus gur h-ann a thairg e dhaibh àrd inbhe mar luchd-riaghlaidh 'na rìoghachd fhein sa' Ghreig nan tìgeadh iad còmhla ris. Dhuilt Fabricius so cuideachd. B' àill leis gu mòr a ghabhail tuathanachais fhéin ann an rìoghachd na Ròimhe na a' Ghreig gu h-ionnlan. Nuair a chunnaic Pyrrhus so thubhairt e ri Fabricius: Ged nach dean mi ionnlaid phrìosanach ribh, tha a leithid a chreideas agam 'nur treibhdhìreachd is 'nur n-uaisleachd agus

gun toir mi cead do bhur prìosanaich uile iad a dhol dhachaidh agus cuirn na Saturnalia a chumail còmla ri an càirdean aig an tìgh na gheallas tu dhomhsa gun tig iad air ais leotha fhéin air ceann-latha àraid. Rinn Fabricius sin, agus fhuair na prìosanaich dhachaidh.

Cha b' iongnadh idir, ma tha, ged bhiodh baile na Ròimhe iomraiteach agus clùiteach san linn ud—baile anns an robh a leithid a dhaoine 'ga riaghladh—agus bha e ann an sin.

Bha an Ròimh iomraiteach mar an ceudna do bhrìgh gun robh, agus gu bheil, ceann na h-Eaglaise Caitlice, am Pàp Naomh, ag gabhail comhnuidh ann. Tha àrd chuirn na h-Eaglaise sin a bhith ann a' tàladh mòran sluaigh ann as gach cèarnaidh de 'n domhain los beannachd is misneach fhaotainn ri linn a dhol ann. Tha so a' toirt 'na mo chiumhne seann rann Gaidhlig a sgrìobh duine glie anns an naodhamh linn mun chùis so. Tha an rann an iomall duilleig san t-sean leabhar sin ris an canar *Coedex Boernerianus*. So, e mar a tha c san lamh-sgrìobhainn sin:

Téicht doróim

mòr saide beor borbai

Inri chondaidi hifoss

mani mbera latt nifogbái.

Agus so an rann ann an Gaidhlig an latha an diugh:

Teachd do 'n Ròimh

mòr saothair, beag tairbhe;

An Rìgh tha thu sreadh an so

mura toir thu leat chan fhaigh.

Tha e air aithris mu Mhuireach Albannach (1180-1220), esan o an do shìolaich clann MhicMhuirich, seanachainean Chlann Raghnaill, tha e air aithris mu a dheidhinn-san gun do choisich e a h-uile cum e ann an Ròimh, ach gun d' fhuair e aiseag air na caolais, agus an uair a shuidh e air toman a' leigeil anail aig ceann Loch Long gun dubhairt e:

Mi 'm shuidhe air cnocán nan deur

Gun chraicinn air meur no air bonn;

A Rìgh 's a Pheadair 's a Phòil

Is fhad an Ròimh o Loch Long.

* * *

Duine agus fear.—*The Calum Sgoilear* ag cur ceist air a' Ghaidheal. "Cìod e," ars esan, "an eadar-dhealachadh a tha eadar ciall an fhacail duine agus an fhacail fear, ma tha eadar-dhealachadh ann? So ceist *Chaluim Sgoilear*, agus mus freagair sinn i bu mhaith leinn di-beatha a thoirt dha. Gu dearbh faodaidh sinn neog a thoirt sa' chois-cheangail, is fhad a t-saoghail bho nach fhaca sinn e, agus bho nach cuala sinn a ghuth. Is maith leinn mar sin a cheist a chluinntinn.

Tha *duine* ag ciallachadh neach sam bith de 'n chinne-daonna—fear no bean. Dh' fhaodadh sinn a ràdh nu dheidhinn coinneamh : Bha dusan duine aice eadar fhear is bhan, agus cha robh duine aca gun leabhar Gaidhlig aige 'na làimh. Chi sinn gun bheil duine mar sin a' fillleadh a steach fear is bean agus eadhon leanabh, 'se sin, neach sam bith de 'n chinne-daonna. Agus nar an ceudna : Chan 'eil duine a stigh, ag ciallachadh, chan 'eil neach sam bith a stigh, fear no bean. Tha cial an fhacail duine a' fillleadh a steach firionnach no boirionnach, neach sam bith de 'n chinne-daonna.

Tha *fear* air an làimh eile ag ciallachadh firionnach a mhàin—mar a tha *fear* is bean. Nan canamaid : tha deichnear fhear a stigh, tha sin ag ciallachadh gu bheil deichnear fhirionnach a stigh. Nan canamaid : tha deichnear dhaoine a stigh, dh' fhaodadh sin ciallachadh fir is mnathan is clann. Tha daoine nach 'eil cleachdte air leughadh agus air sgrìobhadh na Gaidhlig gu tric a' truailleadh na Gaidhlig le bhith toirt a' chiall cheàrr do 'n fhacail duine.

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Triuir Ghaidheal Fìughail.—Tha sinn glé dhùilich gun do chaochail o chionn ghoirid an so triuir shàr Ghaidheal a bha fìughail, gach aon 'na dhòigh fhéin, an Eaglais Chrìosd. Shìubhail an Gaidheal comasach agus foghlumite sin **Domhnall Mac-an-tòisich Urramach Ard Easbuig Chaitliceach Ghlaschu**—duine air leth iriosal agus caomhail, duine anns am faighte sàr uaisleachd an fhìor Ghaidheil agus carthannachd an deagh Chrìosduidh. Is ann an Glas-na-ceàrdaich am Mòrar a rugadh 's a thogadh an Ard Easbuig còir. Nochd e buadhan comharraichte bho òige, agus bha e 'na sgoileir air leth, gu sonraichte ann an eòlas air cànanean, ach b' i Ghaidhlig—càrain a mhàthar is òige—bànrighinn nan uile chànan dhasan.

Bha e fad bhliadhnachan a' teagasg sa' Cholaist Albannach san Ròimh, agus àireamh bhliadhnachan air ceann na Colaiste ainmeil sin. Chaidh a ghairm as an sin gu bhith 'na Ard Easbuig Ghlaschu agus bha e an ceann na dreuchd urramaich is chudhromaich sin còrr is dà bhliadhna fichead. Is maith a sheasadh e taobh nan Gaidheal agus na Gaidhlig, agus bitear gu mòr 'ga ionndrainn.

Shìubhail cuideachd **Domhnall Uilleam MacCoinnich**, ministear Chill Mhealaird. Bha e air uallach a sgrìre a leigil dheth agus e fuireach an Struigheala nuair a chaochail e. Is iomadach duais a choisinn Domhnall Uilleam aig a' Mhòd os cionn àireamh mhór bhliadhnachan, araon air son rosg agus bàrdachd.

Sgrìobhadh e rosg ann an Gaidhlig ghlan shoilleir; agus bha e 'na dheagh bhàrd. Tha grunnan de na h-òrain aige air an cur a mach ann am Bardachd Leodhais. Is e Gaidheal còir ciùin a bha an Domhnall Uilleam MacCoinnich, agus ministear dileas soisgeulach 'na dhreuchd urramach. Is e mac dha a tha 'na Mhinistear am Barraidh.

Shìubhail mar an ceudna—agus sin gu h-obann tre sgiuradh—**an-t-Ollamh Eachann MacGilleathain**, ministear an t-Srath san Eilean Sgitheanach. 'Se Tiristeach a bha san Ollamh MacGilleathain—fear a labhradh Gaidhlig le sgil is comas, ach chan fhaca mi riamh gun do sgrìobh e dad innte. Fìor fhear dùthcha, a sheasadh chis nan Gaidheal gu fearail seaghail, agus air taobh feum na Gaidhealtachd. Bha e 'na mhinistear maith sgrìre, agus dileas soisgeulach 'na theagasg.

Tha a' Ghaidhealtachd agus cor is cùis ar cànan nas laige agus nas luime air sgàth bàis an triuir Ghaidheal fìughail so. "Thoireamaid cliù do dhaoine fìughail agus do na h-atraichean a ghin sin."

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Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Is beannaichte na daoine a tha glan 'nan cridhe : oir chì iad Dia.—*Mata v. 8.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

◇

Am fear aig am bi an Roimh bidh an Roimh aige ri chumail suas.—*He that has Rome must keep Rome up.*

◇

THE PRESENT DISABILITIES OF GAELIC.

By Edward MacCurdy.

The effects of a secular wrong are too deep rooted to be annulled by a single enactment. Justice must be by instalments. From the year 1616 when only the children sent to be educated in the Lowlands were to be heirs to their fathers' estates, the course of legislation for three hundred years was uniformly hostile to the existence of Gaelic culture. It speaks volumes for the vitality of the language that its oral literature of great extent and beauty was maintained.

At long last came an instalment of justice in the clause in 1918 whereby local authorities were required to provide adequate facilities for teaching it "in Gaelic speaking areas," which as defined contained less than a twentieth of the population of Scotland. Unheard as yet the claim for a share in the cultural inheritance of which Gaelic is a symbol :—

"It is unfair that I have not the Gaelic although I be a Gael

And to the sweet and intricate inflexions prevail

In that proud language dances my heart."

The Act of 1918 disregarding the rights of minorities was a tardy effort to prevent further erosion. So straitly were the limits defined that not a single elementary school in the capital of the Highlands provides instruction in Gaelic. The boundaries moreover do not change if the population migrate. The only reasonable interpretation of the words in the Act "Gaelic speaking areas" is to apply them to any area in which there are a substantial number of Gaelic speakers although they may have migrated there. The words "adequate facilities" have been interpreted in various ways, but all fall far short of creating the Gaelic atmosphere necessary during the first stage of instruction for the child whose home language is Gaelic.

One Scheme provides that where the home language is Gaelic it may be used in the Infant and Junior Divisions for oral explanations of the English lesson but that formal instruction in it shall not begin until the Senior Division and bi-lingual text books may not be used. It has been said of the Act that it permitted the language to be taught to those who knew it already. This seems an over-statement. The child's knowledge of Gaelic is put into cold storage until it reaches the Senior Division, and small children may never learn to read or write it although they speak it at home. In another Scheme it may be taught in the Infant and Junior Divisions and may be one of two languages chosen for special study in the Senior Division but may not be used to instruct the class except during the period allotted to it. It would follow that the child from a Gaelic speaking home must struggle to acquire rudiments of all other subjects through the medium of a language which it does not understand. On the other hand all text books and lessons in schools in Georgia are in Georgian until the age of eight when Russian is commenced. No child is now liable to be punished for speaking Gaelic while at school, but the study of it is so beset with inhibitions as to recall Clough's lines:—

"Thou shalt not kill; but need'st not strive
Officiously to keep alive."

There would not be the difference that there is between the status of Gaelic and that of second languages in other parts of the Empire if an appreciable proportion of those Scots who have never had the opportunity of studying

the ancient and still living language of their country had any conception of its inherent beauty and dignity. This is seen not only in the work of the poets of the eighteenth century but in prose, drama and poetry of the last fifty years, as in *Am Fear-Ciùil* of Donald Mackenzie, *Crois Tara* of Donald Sinclair and the *Eilean na h-Oige* (Briskay) of Father Allan Macdonald. I would add a work which has only just appeared, the *Dain do Eimhir* of Samuel Maclean.

Such knowledge, however, is not easy of attainment. It is extremely difficult to get a scholarly acquaintanceship with Gaelic unless one has learnt it in childhood. A Director of a School of Languages in London once told me that it was easier to find a teacher for one of the lesser languages of China than for Scottish Gaelic.

Gaelic will live as a spoken language only if the present generation of Gaelic speakers make it a point of honour and duty to transmit to their children the gift they have inherited.

They have a right, however, to obtain the same co-operation from the State as exists with other minority languages. From the time-table of the B.B.C. it would seem that the disparity is ineffect, two hours and fifty-five minutes in the week being allotted to Welsh as against forty-five minutes to Gaelic. Welsh has two periods in the morning and twenty minutes daily at five, prolonged in one case to half-an-hour. The three Gaelic broadcasts are at 10.30 p.m. and 10.45 p.m., at an hour, that is, when children are in bed. Is Gaelic regarded by authorities as the speech of a generation that is passing away? The numbers enrolled in the youth movement—the *Comunn na h-Oigridh*—and the entries at the *Mòds* show that this is not the case. A deputation waited on the B.B.C. some years ago to urge that Gaelic-speaking children should have some opportunity of hearing their own language, but their efforts were not successful. The devotion of the Welsh people—from members of the House of Commons downwards—to their national culture is worthy of all praise, and it attains its purpose. Would that a like devotion were as widespread among the Gaels.

Celtic speech as seen in names of rivers and mountains and in place-names is the oldest thing in these islands that is of man's creation. "Without a considerable knowledge of Gaelic," it has been said, "no person can make any proficiency whatever in philology." As Dr. Johnson wrote on visiting Iona: "whatever withdraws us from the power of our senses; whatever makes the past, the distant or the

future predominate over the present, advances us in the dignity of human beings."

From the standpoint of practical value too it is probable that a knowledge of Gaelic would serve half those who pass through the schools in as good stead as all they learn of a Continental language. "I get on all right without it because the others haven't got it," was the reply when I asked a traveller if he knew Gaelic, but, he added: "if any one of us had it he would get the pick of the orders." In health services too in the West it would be all to the good to have even as much of the language as would be acquired in school.

Of some hundred schools in Scotland which prepare for entrance to the Universities, Gaelic is studied in about half-a-dozen. This restricts the subject at the Universities to a little clan whom the drift to the towns for economic causes makes a lessening fraction of the whole.

Thus depopulation and the decline of Gaelic go hand in hand.

Having touched on the embargoes of unreason and prejudice which tend to prohibit the continuance of the speech of Ossian and St. Columba, I would close on a note of promise. Whereas seventy years ago the first volume of Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness referred to the approaching demise of the language, the item has now dropped out of the news. The number of Gaelic speakers has declined but probably a larger proportion can both read and write it.

In the New World, too, in ever increasing measure,—“the land is bright.” Mods are held annually in Nova Scotia and Vancouver, and the first to be held in the United States took place in May of this year at San Francisco, the entries numbering about a hundred.

“Were dreams to have at will”—I would have these for Gaelic:—

For it to be used as the medium of instruction for all children whose home language it is until they are fully able to understand English.

For an opportunity of learning it to be given in all the schools of Scotland.

For it to be possible to commence the study of it at the Scottish Universities, as is the case with certain modern languages.

For it to be possible to offer it as an alternative to Anglo-Saxon or early English for the degree in Honours English. This would stimulate the knowledge of and interest in the language among those who prepared to specialise in it.

For the B.B.C. to be prevailed on to devote at least one period of half-an-hour a week at which it would be possible for children whose home language is Gaelic to listen to songs and stories

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Within the last month three members of An Comunn have passed away, Major E. D. C. Cameron, Thomas MacMillan and Samuel MacGavin. Major Cameron had been a Life Member for over 30 years, and while resident in Inverness, took a great interest in the boy members of Miss Kate Fraser's Junior Gaelic Choir. He took them to his house and gave them sound instruction in Gaelic. At least, one prominent Gaelic singer today, owes his reading knowledge of Gaelic to Major Cameron. The gallant Major removed from Skye to London many years ago and he ended his days in the Metropolis.

Thomas MacMillan was a native of the County of Ayr, and acquired his knowledge of Gaelic in Mull and Skye, where, as a young man, he carried out big draining contracts. He was a member of Clann an Fhraoich and regularly attended that Committee's Ceilidhean in Glasgow. The members of the Ayr Branch will miss Mr. MacMillan's genial presence and help at their meetings.

Samuel MacGavin, Strathaven, was not so well known to our members, but, until failing eyesight prevented him from moving about freely, he paid occasional visits to the office. He was intensely interested in the work of An Comunn and freely gave his mite in response to all its appeals. An Comunn records its appreciation of the services rendered by these members, and extends its sincere sympathy to their relatives.

The attention of members is directed to the Central Fund donation list in this number, and to the generous donation received from the Glasgow Mod Joint Committee. As has been stated in these Notes on previous occasions the Glasgow Mod was organised and successfully carried out by a Joint Committee of the Glasgow (Central) and Govan Branches of which Mr. John A. Nicolson is Convener. We accord the members of this Committee very sincere thanks for their generous remembrance of the parent Association. We also thank them for the stimulus engendered by the Mod and for the awakening interest created in Gaelic literature and music which is bound to re-act beneficially on the movement when wider fields are explored at the close of the War. A concert in aid of the funds will be held in the Christian Institute, Glasgow, on 22nd January. The Ceilidh and Dance organised at Mallaig by Mr. Roderick MacKinnon and friends is also worthy of mention and the example passed on to other members.

Branches in the Southern area are actively engaged in carrying through their Winter programmes. Good meetings have been held at Oban and Taynult. The Gaelic Class has been resumed at Ayr and is being splendidly supported. Mr. Alasdair Kennedy, Barcaldine, a Vice-President of the Benderloch Branch, and one of the most ardent members in that historic district, organised a Dance in aid of the Central Fund and as noted in last month's donation list forwarded to the Treasurer the handsome sum of £5 15s. Moran taing dhuit Alasdair agus na h-uile latha dhuit.

Other Branches are referred to in the Central (Comforts) Committee report.

I attended a meeting of the Stirling Branch on 10th December and acted as Fear an Tighe. The meeting was held in Millars' Rooms and there was an attendance of about 200 people. An interesting programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs, pipe, and violin selections was submitted and much enjoyed. The Branch is experiencing one of its best sessions and notwithstanding transport difficulties members travel long distances. Some members walk 3 and 4 miles to their homes after the Ceilidh. Mr. John J. Munro, O.B.E., President, was indisposed and unable to attend but he has able lieutenants who carry on admirably the Ceilidh traditions.

An interesting innovation at Ceilidh nan Gaidheal meetings in Glasgow is a Gaelic Brains Trust. The first of these monthly meetings was held on 13th November and I had the honour of associating with the Rev. T. M. Murchison, Mr. Hugh MacPhee and Mr. Hector MacKenzie on the panel. The Question Master was Mr. Donald Gillies, Vice-President. A large number of questions on various topics were submitted but time did not permit of the Trust replying to them all. There was a good attendance of members and much interest was aroused.

I addressed a large attendance of members of the High School Ceilidh on the work of An Comunn on Saturday, 20th November. I gave a resumé of An Comunn's activities from its inception and dwelt briefly on the work on the various Standing Committees. Time did not permit of discussion but I hope to return and follow up in greater detail some of An Comunn's most prominent achievements. The members were keenly interested and listened most attentively.

I have just had a letter from a member in Durban, South Africa, and I pass on his request in the hope that some of our readers will be able to help. In 1938 some friends of his visited the Empire Exhibition in Glasgow, and

bought for him a Spinning Wheel which they brought back with them to South Africa. Unfortunately, a very important part of the Wheel was missing and this our member wishes to have replaced. The missing part is what is called in English the "Flyer," but Gaelic speakers may understand better if I give them the Gaelic names. In some districts it is known as "A' Chr" and in others, "Teic" and "Seic." Any one who can help to have this important part of the Wheel replaced should get in touch with me at An Comunn office and I shall arrange for its purchase and despatch.

I am asked to remind members of their annual subscription which became due on 1st June last. The Treasurer will be glad if members will remit, with any arrears which may have accumulated, at their early convenience. Payment should be made to the Treasurer, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1.

Books are still being sent to Prisoners of War and we are always pleased to have the names of Gaelic speaking men not already on our list. We have recently received 3 copies of "Ceòlradh Cridhe" from the author Mrs. MacLeod, Fortrose, for despatch to Prisoners of War and these will be sent before these notes are read. We thank Mrs. MacLeod very sincerely for her kindly thought and we know that the men will be very happy to have them. Mr. Hildred Robinson has sent a copy of the Songs of the Hebrides in response to our appeal last month. We thank Mr. Robinson very cordially for the gift. NIALL.

Since going to press we sincerely regret the passing of the **Rev. Dr. Neil Ross**, Ex-President, and hope to pay tribute to his life and work for Gaelic in our next issue.

PROPROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

Recently Mr. Macphail has travelled a large part of the Northern Area including Lochaber, Badenoch, Barra and Harris.

He was present at the all-Gaelic Concert promoted by the Fort William Branch in aid of the Seamen's Hostel Fund and had an opportunity of thanking the Chairman, Mr. K. S. Grant, M.A., not only for his presence in the Chair that evening, but for all he had done in the cause of An Comunn over a number of years. Mr. Grant has done valuable work in all things Highland: i.e. Provincial Mods, Shinty, Drama, and Ceilidhs. He is leaving the district

at the end of 1943 having secured an important scholastic appointment in Perthshire. The best wishes of the Gaelic people in Lochaber will go with him to his new home at Dunblane.

The Organiser attended several meetings in the Fort William District on behalf of the Savings Committee and from there he proceeded to Barra via Oban. Gaelic addresses were given in all the Barra Schools and adult meetings were held at Castlebay, Northbay, Brevig, Eoligarry, and Craigston.

The following enrolments were made in Comunn na h-Oigridh:—Baile na Creige—9 boys and 2 girls, and new Leaders were elected at Eoligarry, Northbay and Brevig Feachdan. The weather did not permit of a visit to the Island of Vatersay on this occasion. The Ceilidh held at Brevig will always be remembered as a real Barra entertainment. The rendering of Orain Luathaidh by the older women with its perfect rhythm throughout; the narrating of Folk Tales by Iain Ban and others, accompanied by the rattle of hailstones on the School windows reminded one of the happy days when the Highlanders and Islanders provided their own entertainments before the advent of wireless, and other modern fare. Barra still holds to its own culture. There were many smiling faces of old and young at that Brevig Ceilidh, while the storm raged outside, but with never a thought of the several miles to be covered before home and bed, or of the war, with its many anxieties, which were for a brief respite forgotten, and it is good that this should be so.

Before proceeding to Harris the Organiser devoted three days to Savings business in Badenoch district, and, together with Sir Stewart Macpherson and Major Caldwell, most of the area from Laggan to Dulnain-bridge was covered. A Ceilidh was held under the auspices of the Newtonmore Branch with the President, Sir T. S. Macpherson as Fear an tìghe. A fine programme of Gaelic songs and instrumental music was submitted and a collection for the Central Fund realised the sum of £3 5/-. Mr. Macphail gave short addresses in Gaelic and English.

In Harris, Gaelic addresses were given in the Schools at Kyles Stockinish, Kyles Scalpay, Tarbert, and Island of Scalpay. New Locality Savings Groups were formed at Drinshadder and Scadaby and at Kyles Scalpay. Mr. Macphail presided at the Concert given by C.E.M.A. in the Leverhulme Memorial Hall, Tarbert, and also gave an address on the "Replacement of the SARACEN Campaign." There was a large attendance. The Concert

was much enjoyed by all and especially the singing of Gaelic and Scottish Songs by the Lewis singer, Miss Evelyn Campbell.

An all-Gaelic Ceilidh promoted by Mr. Rod. MacKinnon, M.A., Mallaig, in aid of An Comunn Central Fund, proved very successful. A sum of £9 14/- has been sent to Headquarters. Thanks are due to Mr. MacKinnon for his continued interest in the work of An Comunn and also to Mr. Archie McLellan, who gave the use of the Hotel Hall free of charge. These all-Gaelic entertainments are to be continued at Mallaig throughout the winter.

Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis continues to draw large audiences to the monthly Ceilidhs. The December meeting was another of those happy all-Gaelic evenings with 400 present. On this occasion, Mr. Farquhar MacLeod, Minute Secretary, was Fear an tìghe.

The Campaign for the Replacement of the H.M.S. *Saracen* (lost in the Sicilian operations) is nearing its close as these Notes are being written. It is fully expected that the Target set, i.e. £350,000 will be exceeded and an all-out effort is now being made to reach the half million mark. This is the fourth occasion on which Mr. Macphail has acted as Organiser for the Burgh and County of Inverness in a major Savings Drive. All of these have been eminently successful.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

The Central (War Comforts) Committee carried through its fourth Flag Day collection in Glasgow on Saturday, 20th November. The Committee was able to place more collectors in the various districts than on any former occasion even when allowing for the many who were unable to take up duty owing to a sudden attack of the prevailing malady, influenza. Milngavie, Bearsden and Baillieston were organised for the first time and collectors did well in these districts. The weather was favourable throughout the day and made the task of the collectors more pleasant than it might have been at this season of the year. Over 1200 boxes were in use, and the fine total of £919 : 12/11 was collected for the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund.

The Committee expresses its sincere thanks to all those who assisted in any way in making the Flag Day so very successful. Special thanks are accorded to Mr. John Murray, Convener, the Sub-conveners, Headmasters and Teachers, members of the G.T.C. and other organisations for their hearty co-operation.

Also to the gallant band of men and women who counted the money, and not least to those gentlemen who went round the various depots to collect the boxes.

The Committee records its cordial thanks to Mrs. Tonson-Rye, W.V.S., Isle of Harris, for organising a Flag Day in that district which resulted in adding the handsome sum of £19 : 8/11 to the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund. This was the first occasion on which a Flag Day on behalf of An Comunn was held in Harris, and we thank the good people of that part of the Gaidhealtachd for their splendid response. We also thank Mrs. Tonson-Rye and her Sub-conveners and Collectors for making the Harris Flag Day such an outstanding success.

The Committee wishes to record its grateful thanks to the Office-bearers and members of Branches of An Comunn for their unflinching support. Kilmartin Branch organised a Ceilidh and Dance in aid of the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund and broke all previous records by drawing £60, £52 of which they were able to forward to Headquarters. Suas e, Cille Mhartainn!

Tobermory Branch set itself the task of contributing a substantial sum to the same object, and a donation in keeping with the town's position as a haven of rest for those who go down to the sea in ships was collected and sent to the Head Office. This amounted to the splendid sum of £67.

Portree Branch sent £20 and is now very much on the active list again. Special thanks are due Miss May F. Hunter for organising a Ceilidh at Hillfoot, Bearsden. This most successful function yielded £50 10/- for the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund.

The Ceilidh which marked the close of the Gift Shop and Exhibition and which was held in the Highlanders' Institute on 19th October was a splendid success. Mr. John M. Bannerman was Fear an Tighe and kept the big company in merry mood all evening. From this more or less impromptu Ceilidh the fine sum of £22 : 2/- was gathered.

The Committee acknowledges with sincere gratitude outstanding donations as per published lists from the following members and friends:—Lady Cowan, Mrs. Collins, Mr. William Whitelaw, Miss Janet M. Stewart, Miss Jessie MacLeod, Mr. Iain MacLeod, Torgorin, and Messrs. Duncan MacLeod & Co., Ltd., (Skeabost). Also Feachdan of Comunn na h-Oigridh at Melness and Portree.

The Work Party meets regularly in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, every Tuesday and the attendance is well maintained.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Is e mo cheud bhriathran dhuibh air a' mhiosa so, ceud mhiosa na bliadhna 1944, "Bliadhna Mhath Ur dhuibh uile, agus móran dhuibh!" Mar a thuigeadh sibh an uair a tha mise a' sgrìobhadh na litreach so tha a' bhliadhna ùr fathast dà thrian de 'n Dùdhlachd bhuaninn; ach bidh i air an stairnich mum bi mo bhriathran air am breacadh an so air duilleagan a' Ghàidheil. Tha sinn an ceartair, an àm dhoinn sgrìobhadh, air inntreachadh gu marbh na bliadhna, agus cha bhi a' bheag de bheatha r' a fiosrachadh fathast gu cionn iomadh là. Le cuairt a thoirt am mach ri fonn an diugh féin shaoileadh neach nach d' fhiosraich riamh caochladh is ùrachadh nan aimsir gun robh gach ni a dh' fhàs á fonn air dol às, gun dòchas ri c' dh' éirigh gun beatha no blàths gu bràth tuille. Tha an fear air searg is air seacadh, agus air an leathad cùl an tighe far an robh fear is lus a' fàs gu dlùth bho chionn beagan sheachdainean, tha cròic de liath-reodhadh 'ga ghlasadh suas. Tha a' chraobh chaorainn a tha mu choimneimh na h-ùinneig le a geugan rùisgte. Cha chluinn is chun fhaic mi seilcan, dealan-dé no cuileag. Tha id uile air chall. Chan 'eil an t-àl iteagach ach tearc; agus an corra ghlaisic a thogas ceam glé luath-sgiathach a' feuchainn ri a chuid a thoirt á comaidh, agus e theagamh na 's dàine na bha e anns an t-samhradh an uair a bha pailteas r' a sholar air gach taobh.

Ach tha a nis a' ghrian air éirigh, is ged nach 'eil i ach glé ìosal ri sgòthan-fàire na h-àirde deas, chan 'eil i nas lugha na bha i an àm an t-samhraidh a dh' aindeoin 's nach 'eil a blàths cho comharraichte. Ach tha an gealladh 'na gnùis nach 'eil i idir a' dol 'gar tréigsinn, gun till i fathast gu àrd-bhruthaichean nan speur, gun gobaich am fear, gum bris an duilleach a mach, gum dùisg an seilcan as a chadal is gun neadaich na h-còin!

Bha an sud oidhche urras-breitheachaidh (*brains trust*) againn an Céilidh nan Gàidheal an Glaschu, agus am measg nan ceistean a chuireadh bha i so,—“Cìod a tha ann am 'maide-feannaig'?” Chaidh a' cheist a fhreagairt gu cothromach, agus is coltach a réir na bhruiddhinn mun chùis gu bheil an rud a tha ann aithnichte fo 'n ainm sin an caochladh chearnan is nach 'eil e idir air a chumhnglachadh ri aon eilean no aon siorramachd. Is è a tha ann am maide feannaig, matà, stob de bhioran coltach ri brod an teine a tha air a shàthadh an dà cheann druim tigh tughu gu dual de 'n t-sìoman a chur uime no a cheangal ris an àm a bhith a' tughadh an tighe; tha e a' deanamh àite acrach do 'n t-sìoman.

A nis, an uair a bha gach aon a' toirt a bheachd féin air a' chùis, is è a' bhuaill 'nam iinntinn gu bheil (a réir mo bheachd-sa) ainm na feannaig air a thoirt a stigh an tuath-sheanachas nan Gàidheal na 's trice na tha ainm eoin sam bith eile. Tha mi ann an so a' dol a dh' ainmeachadh na tha mi féin fòsrach orra, co-dhiubbh, na tha cuimhne agam orra an ceartair; agus bu ghasda leam nam cuireadh sibhs a chualsa seol sam bith eile anns a bheil ainm na feannaig air a thogail mar ainm ni sam bith eile, no ann an ràdhteannas chugam e. Is e "feannag," matà, a theirear ris an t-seorsa iomaire ud ris an abair na Goill "lazy-bed."

"Sporan-feannaig":—sin agaibh an cochull a chì sibh glé thrice air a thilgeadh suas air a' chladach an ròd no an tùrra na feamann. Is è a tha ann an cochull anns an robh ugh seorsa sònraichte de iasg, mar a tha sgat no bearach, agus anns a bheil an t-iasg òg a' tighinn gu inbhe snàmh is cur air a shon féin. An uair a tha e a' fàgail a' chochuill so, tha an cochull air aotromachadh is e air a thogail air falbh leis an t-sruth, agus ri ùine tha e air a thilgeadh suas air a' chladach.

"Falceadh na Feannaig":—sin agaibh bhur ceann a thumadh anns an allt no an uisge eile gu ruig na sùilean is na chusan an àm dhuibh a bhith a' nigheadh ur n-òadainn.

"Figheadh Chasan Feannaig":—dh' fhaodadh sibh am mineachadh air so fhaicinn an "Gàidheal" a' mhiosa a dh' fhalbh; tha a mhineachadh air gnùis an fhaicil féin co-dhiubbh.

Tha e air a ràdh gum bi "gille aig an fheannaig féin anns an fhoghar," agus gur "bòidheach leis an fheannaig a garrach cabhach, odhar féin."

Có agaibh, a nis, a chuireas chugam facal no ràdh sam bith eile anns a bheil ainm na feannaig a' tighinn a stigh? Dh' fhaodainn innseadh dhuibh gu bheil am facal "maide-feannaig" aca an Èirinn, eadhon shìos ann am Mumhann.

Tha sinn ro dhullich gu bheil iomradh air caraid a bhith air a thoirt bhuainn againn gu ro thrice anns an làithean so. Air a' mhiosa a dh' fhalbh thug sinn iomradh air bàs Chalum MhicLeoid, agus bhuaithe sin chail sinn fear a cheir mòr ùidh anns a' Ghàidhlig, is a dh' ionnsaich i gu coilionta, oir cha bu chaintinn mhàtharail idir dha i, agus a bhiodh leinn daonnan aig na céilidhean beaga a bhiodh aig Clann an Fhraoich gach bliadhna mun do bhris an cogadh am mach. Tha mi ag ciallachadh Thòmais MhicMhaoilein, a bhuneadh do Shiorramachd Inbhir-àir, is aig an robh a dhachaidh an Cumnag. Is ann am Baile Dhun-dé a shiubhail e. Thainig am bàs air ro aithghearr; agus cha bu sheann duine

e idir, oir bha dà bhliadhna 'ga dhith de 'n aois a luigheasaich an Salmadair dhunnin.—
Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.I. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gàidhealach."

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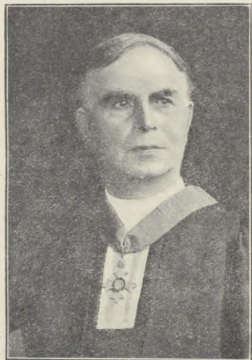


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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An Gearran, 1944

[Earrann 5



**AN T-URRAMACH NIALL ROS
NACH MAIREANN.**

Tha sinn mar Chomunn agus mar Ghaidheil ag caoidh an Ollaimh Urramaich, Niall Ros, Ministear sgrìre an Lagain am Bàideanach. B' e Niall Ros aon de na fiùghalaich mhóra sin a bha uair 'na Cheann Suidhe air a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach. Agus is maith a

thigeadh sin dhà—duine caomh agus ciùin agus glic, agus Gaidheal gu a chùl, Gaidheal a sheasadh taobh a dhaoine 's a chàinain.

Nuair a chuala sinn gun do chaochail ar caraid 'se thainig a steach oirn briathran a' bhàird:

Caochladh beatha th' ann 's cha bhàs,
Le beannachadh gràsmhor, buan,
Gach neach a ni a' chuid as fheàrr,
Is maith an t-àit am faigh e dhuais.

Bha an t-Ollamh Ros 'na mhinistear dileas, agus eudmhor 'na dhreuchd, searmonaich soisgeulach agus comasach—aoghaire fìor chùramach, agus truasail ris an truaghan agus ris an fheumach. Is còir dhuinn iomradh a dheanamh air an sin, nuair a bhios sinn ag aithris buadhan maithe agus ionmholta eile a bh' air ar caraid.

Rugadh is dh' àraicheadh e an Gleann Dail san Eilean Sgitheanach—"An Gleann san robh mi òg" aig Niall MacLeod. Is ann de Shìol Leoid a bha Niall Ros fhéin a thaobh a mhathar. Is dòcha gur h-ann o'n taobh sin a fhuair e tìodhlac na bàrdachd. Ach ge b' e taobh o'n fhuair e e 'se fìor bhàrd a bha san Ollamh Ros.

Fhuair e a cheud ionnsachadh ann an Sgoil a' Ghlinne, agus an deidh sin an Obairachdain agus an Glaschu. Thug e a

mach àrd fhoghlum an Oilthigh Dhun-éidinn, far an do leag e bunait a sgoilearachd an Gaidhlig agus sna cànairean Ceilteach eile.

Bha coimhthional aige an Kirkcaldy, agus an Obaireadhain, agus an Dun-éideann mus deach e do 'n Lagan. Bha e fichead bliadhna 'na mhinistear sgìre an Lagain mus d' fhuair e an gairm dhachaidh.

Bha Niall Ros a riamh o òige 'na ghaisgeach air taobh na Gaidhlighe, agus 'na shàr ursainn-chatha a' seasamh air taobh litreachas is ceol is oideas nan Gaidheal. Bha gaol a chridhe aige air a h-uile cail grinn a bha Gaidhealach bho Laoidhean Oisein gus an fheilidh-bhig is ceol Chlann Mhic Criomhthain. Bha e 'na chomhfharpuiseach agus fhuair e duais aig a' cheud Mhòd a bha aig a' Chomunn Ghaidhealach, san Oban. Tha cuimhne agam an Siorram còir nach maireann a bhith ag ràdh gun robh cùisean an toiseach aig a' Mhòd sin a' dol car trom agus slaodach gus an tainig Niall Ros air adhart agus gun tug e mar ur-aithris seachad: "Am faigh a' Gaidhlig bàs?" Chuir mar a thug Niall seachad e, agus an spiorad a chuir e ann, a leithid a lùths agus a mhiseachd unnta uile agus nach b' urrainn Mòd a bhith na bu shunndaich agus na bu mhiseachail na bhatar an deidh sin.

Bha e sonraichte bho neach sam bith eile ann a bhith toirt òraid seachad ann am briathran grinn agus tomadach agus mórchuisseach. Bha a' Gaidhlig aig a h-àrde agus aig a h-uaisle a' tighinn o bhilean Neill Ros. Bu mhiann cluais, agus bu mhòr le duine, a bhith ag òsdeachd ris. Agus mar a b' fheàrr do Gaidhlig fhéin is ann a b' fheàrr a chòrdadh e riut.

Bha e 'na dheagh bhàrd mar a chitear bho dhuilleagan a' *Ghaidheil*, agus an àitean eile. Agus sgrìobhadh e rosg le loinn is grinneas is toirt. Ach is e an call, cho beag agus a sgrìobh e ann an rosg, ged bha e 'na Fhear-deasachaidh air a' *Ghaidheil* fad trì bliadhna deug. Ach tha sinn taingeil leis na rinn e—agus rinn e saothar mhór agus bheartach an aobhar na Gaidhlig 's nan Gaidheal. Chuir an Rìgh an t-urram C.B.E. air airson a shaothair as leth na Gaidhlighe. Choisinn e D.Litt. bho Oilthigh Dhun-éidinn le leabhar a chuir e mach an

deidh làimhe fo'n ainm "Heroic Poetry from the Book of the Dean of Lismore." Thug Oilthigh Ghlaschu an t-urram D.D. dha. Agus cha do mhill dad dh' an a bha sin spiorad iriosal agus caomh ar caraaid. Bha a chridhe 's a cheann san àite cheart. Chaidh Gaidheal mór romhainn nuair a chaochail Niall Ros. A chuid de Phàrras dha.

AN T-OLLAMH NIALL ROS, D.D.

"'S e mo bheachd ort, a Bhàs,
Gur brais thu ri pàirt,
'S gur teachdaire làidir, treun thu;
Gun tug thu an dràs
Dhunnin buille no dhà
Chuir eaglaisean bàn is fòghlum."

Chan 'eil ach beagan sheachdainean bho sgrìobh sinn mu bhàs Chalum Mhic Leoid agus tha sinn a nis a' deanamh iomraidh air bàs Ceann Suidhe eile, an t-Ollamh Niall Ros, ministear Sgìre Lagain.

Chaochail an t-Ollamh Ros an Dun-éideann air an t-seachdamh là deug de mhios deireannach na bliadhna dh' fhalbh. Cha robh e fada air leaba tinneas agus cha robh fios aig mòran de bhuill a' Chomunn gun do bhris air a shlàinte agus mar sin thàinig teachdaireachd a bhàis orra gu h-obann.

Tha àite sònraichte aig Niall Ros an eachdraidh a' Chomuinn, gu h-àraidh na Mòdan. Bha e 'na chomhfharpuiseach aig a' cheud Mhòd am baile an Obain anns a' bhliadhna 1892. Thug e mach a' cheud duais air son aithris bàrdachd agus am b' urrainn cuspair duain a bu fhreagarraiche a bhì air aithris aig a' cheud Mhòd na "Am faigh a' Gaidhlig bàs?" A mheud againn is a chual e 'ga aithris aig céilidhean Mòdan beaga is móra chan 'eil iongnadh sam bith oirn gun tug e misneach shònraichte dhoibhsan a bha ag giùlan uallaich na ceud oidhirp. Choisinn e àrd dhùisear aig Mòdan an deidh sin air son bàrdachd a sgrìobh e fhéin, agus sibhse a leugh no a chuala a' bhàrdachd a sgrìobh e air a' chuspair, "A' Fhìob Mhór," tuigidh sibh nach bu bhàrd suarach Niall Ros. Bha comas cainnt aige os cionn a' chumantais agus alt air Gàidhlig a sgrìobhadh an rannachd is an rosg a tha fìor thaitneach do 'n chluais. Bha e faisg air ceithir bliadhna deug 'n a fhear-deasachaidh air a' Mhiosachan so agus ré na h-ùine sin sgrìobh e earrannan goirid de rosg, cuid dhiubh

a gheibh sibh cothrom air an leughadh thairis a ris anns an leabhar ùr a tha tighinn a mach fo 'n ainm *Am Feachd Gaidhealach*.

Bha e ceithir bliadhna 'n a Cheann Suidhe air a' Chomunn agus fhritheil e na coinneamhan gu dileas agus stiùir e iad gu rianail òrdail.

Bu duine e a bha caomh càrdeil gu nàdurra, aoibheil an cuideachd agus aig gach àm faicillean 'n a ghiùlan is 'n a chòmhradh.

Bha dèidh mhòr aige air ceòl is seanachas nan clàr agus leig e sin ris anns an duan bheag, "Gaoil is Ceòl."

"O, e' àit 'eil aoibhneas Tir nan Og,
A mheudaich ceòl nam Fiann?
O, e' àit 'eil cala rùn nam bàrd,
Is dùthaich àgh am miann?
Oir chrom na bàird an cinn nan ùir,
Tha 'n clàrsach tòrsach balbh;
Is chaochail maise Tir nan Og,
O 'n theich a glòir air falbh."

Tha gun teagamh am bàrd a nis san ùir ach mairidh a thòdhlac do litreachas na Gàidhlig, agus bidh cuimhne agus ionndrainn air leò-san a shaothraich leis an raon na Gaidhlig. *Cha theich a ghloir air falbh.*

NIALL.

NEIL ROSS.

So Neil is "dead,"—as the popular phrase puts it. But it is difficult to be dogmatic as to how far we may go in that respect. Death is welcome to our rags and bones, but there is in us what is beyond his hand-clutch. He may need our dust for the making of his graves, but his power is paralysed at the kirkyard gate.

The Road of Love's Remembrance is still, for many of us, as the Road to *Emmaus*, when evening shadows fall, and we walk there and are sad. Poor foolish folk! whose beloved have only gone on before us to Headquarters! . . .

I was lying in the dark, in Edinburgh, with Influenza, when Neil came in by the door of dream. After a quiet talk, I said, in parting, "Neil,—the road is getting steeper for us, and the gates narrower. What are we going to do with our Libraries—your own fine Celtic store, and my own?" There was no answer, and we parted. Two days afterwards his sad wife came and told me how they had just brought him down, in the long road through the mountains, to Edinburgh, to die. I got up, and went to the service of farewell at the Crematorium. It was very impressive, solemn and chaste. A handful of old friends was there. But we missed just one word of Gaelic in the Goodbye;

and as the purple-covered coffin sank out of sight I felt, as though it were a faint and far-off whisper of "Tog orm no phìob, is theid mi dhachaidh," awake and pass.

Neil was in his reality known to few. He was recognised as a master of Gaelic phrase and literature,—of moving eloquence, and absolute scholarship, and as a rare exponent of the pibroch, especially in the work of the MacCrimmons. Those who knew him in the inmost heart of friendship found him a very brave true comrade, to whom the Present was a stage in the highway of dreams, that stretches beyond the Past we remembered and the Future which had to be the Interpreter and Creator of the promise, achievement and hope of the days that have gone.

He and I loved best the times when we would sit by my fire, when sleep was over the house, and we would recall the old dear folk who spoke softly among themselves of past days and deeds,—unfolding, line by line, what memory held of brave song and story. How they recalled genealogies, and marriages, joys, sorrows and partings,—hunger and pennilessness of dead hard days; yet always with the golden heart's love that defied all trial.

We would feel the lump in our throats over the sad verse which one poor man had made in his desolate home in the glen, when the light of his heart went out. Or the defiance of the bard who flung his last copper in the face of his poverty. Or the caustic lines that laughing Donald wrote on the back of the memory of the factor,—sneak, sycophant, and oppressor of the poor,—lines remembered now by so few, because the old bitter times are past.

Oh, innumerable things, innumerable ways, made his Comradeship very intimate and precious; and will keep the thought of him fresh in the most sacred corner of my heart. *Suum cuique*—to each his own. Out of a varied life, that is what abides with me.

LAUCHLAN MACLEAN WATT.

The death of the Rev. Dr. Neil Ross has been a severe blow to the Northern Area and to a much wider field. As a member of The County Council of Inverness and of the Education Committee, he was a stalwart in the Gaelic cause and he never failed to raise his resonant voice in support of his native language, music and literature.

At Laggan Churchyard where the interment took place, the Very Rev. Dr. Dugald MacFarlane, Kingussie, conducted the service at the grave in Gaelic after which a Lament

was played on the pipes. An Comunn Gàidhealach was represented by Mr. Donald MacPhail, Organiser for the Northern Area.

“Ag cuimhneachadh 's ag ionndrainn,” his own beautiful Poem, was recalled to memory while standing there at the open grave, the ground covered with a coating of snow, hoar frost clinging to the branches of the trees and the sun glinting through occasionally.

Thig cuimhneachadh is ionndrainn gu mo smuain,

Mar loinn an airgid, thig na gathan séimh ;
Air oidhche roöta gheamhraidh, geal le sneachd,

Oir ged is caomh leam blàth na coill' 's a Mhàigh,

Is àillidh leam an ni so, mar an ceudn'.

Bithidh sinne 'g a chuimhneachadh is 'g a ionndrainn.

D. M.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

During the last few weeks of the old year, the Organiser was intensively engaged on the Replacement of the “Saracen” campaign and it is pleasing to announce that the Target of £350,000 for the Burgh and County of Inverness was exceeded by over £200,000, the grand total being £554,371. Of this total the County districts including the Islands invested £335,194 and to Skye falls the honour of having the highest total, i.e., £51,079.

Gaelic played an important part in the Campaign and in the Outer Isles, Skye, and the Western Mainland the Organiser gave full details of the Drive in the old tongue. Here are some of the slogans used in different parts of the County to give added impetus to this Campaign.

Càiribh a' Bhratach ri crann
'S bi an “Saracen” trang air thonn ;
Thugaibh thairis an sporan 's na th' ann,
Mar bu dualach do chlamn nan sonn.

Slàinte Ghàidheal an Taobh Tuath,
Gu cuan gun teid an “Saracen ;”
Cruinnichibh cruinn suim ro ghrinn,
A ghleidheas cliù nam fear againn.

Cuiribh Bratach ri crann,
Is “Saracen” ùr air sàl ;
Tionail airgid neo-ghamn,
Blìos 'na urram do chlamn nan Gàidheal.

This little story is from Harris, from Kyles-Stockinish School, but to retain its simplicity and beauty, it must be told just as the incident happened.

Bha mi a' mineachadh do 'n chloinn gum bu chòir dhaibh sgillinnean a' thoirt chun na Sgoile a h-uile seachdain gus a bhì a' cuideachadh gu “Saracen” ùr a chuir air sàl. Bha gille beag bòidheach an sin, còig bliadhna a dh' aois, is a dhà shùil a' deàrsadh. Thubhairt mi ris gu coibhneil, “Am bi thu fhéin a, toirt sgillinnean chun na Sgoile, 'Ille bhig?.” “Is mise a bhitheas” ars esan gu duineil, “Agus air uairean bi mi ag cur Not ann.” Agus bha 'so fìor, chionn dh' innis am Maighstear-sgoile dhomh gun do chuir am fear beag Not ann, an latha sin fhéin. A bheil e ag cur iongnadh oirbh gun do thog na Hearraich £25,703 anns an oidhearp ud!

Our good friend at Balmacara, Mr. George Somerville, staged a Concert and Dance in aid of The Central Fund of An Comunn in December, and despite many difficulties, transport, etc., he was able to make it a success. The Fund has benefited to the extent of £15 14/6. Mile taing a charaid, nithear carn mór de chlachan beaga.

Mr. Ronald MacDonald, a stalwart Highlander in Nairn, has arranged a Ceilidh in aid of The Central Fund, to be held on 12th January, at which Mr. Macphail is to be present.

Mr. Donald MacDonald, Convener, of the Propaganda Committee, has been laid aside by illness for some time, but he is now out and about again, attending to his duties.

A Gaelic Singing Class is being conducted weekly in the Old High Church Hall, Inverness. This is under the direction of Miss Margt. MacDonald, Mod Gold Medallist. In these days of increased activity among the young, it is appropriate that opportunity should be given to young people to study their own beautiful Gaelic Songs and it is hoped that the Class will be well attended. A Gaelic and Scottish Concert under the auspices of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee was held in The Town Hall, Inverness, recently, with Dr. J. A. MacLean, Director of Education, in the Chair. Before the commencement of the concert programme, Dr. MacLean paid a warm tribute to the work of the late Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, ex-President of An Comunn. Mr. Malcolm MacInnes, M.A., LL.B., a fellow-Skyeman, then played a Lament on the Pipes. At the concert, the Chairman paid a glowing tribute to An Comunn for its great work in the war effort through its Comforts

Committee and in other ways. He was convinced, he said, that were it not for the influence of An Comunn Gaidhealach, Gaelic would not be on the curriculum of Highland Schools to-day. He made an appeal to all to stand firm for their language, music, and literature. The Chairman was heartily thanked by Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Convener. Owing to the prevalence of "Flu" and colds, the attendance was not so large as was expected, but a sum of £15 10/6 was forwarded to An Comunn Central Fund. The arrangements for the Concert were in the hands of the Northern Organiser.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The death occurred at Port Ellen, Islay, on 30th December, of Mr. John MacDougall (Kilbride) who attained to the great age of almost 91 years. He had been a Life Member of An Comunn for many years and was President of the Kildalton and Oa Branch for over 20 years. He was greatly esteemed by the people of Islay for his upright and sterling qualities and for his great love for Gaelic. In these outstanding qualities he shared the high regard which the people of Islay showed to the late Miss MacTavish, Newton, and the late Miss Mairi MacIntyre, Bridgend, two gracious ladies who were notable personalities in the Gaelic life of Islay. Mr. MacDougall was a cultured speaker in both languages and was often asked to preside at Concerts and Ceilidhean. He presided over the closing Concert of the Islay Provincial Mod in 1939, and showed little signs of having passed his 86th birthday. The Gaelic cause in Islay is much the poorer by his passing but his fellow Islanders will always remember him with affection and abiding regard. Duine eòir agus duine maith.

Concerts and Ceilidhean in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, have resumed after the New Year break and large audiences are the general rule. The Central Branch Concert on 18th December was largely attended notwithstanding adverse weather conditions. Mr. Coll MacDougall, President of the Govan Branch was in the Chair. Another Concert in the same Hall, the Christian Institute, will be held on 19th February. Other Branches in the Southern area are meeting with generous support.

I had the pleasure of attending a Ceilidh of the Kinloch Rannoch Branch on 12th January. Mr. James Grant Scott, the ever popular President, was in the Chair and there was a large attendance. The programme was on the

usual popular lines and tea was served. The Ceilidh was in aid of the Central Fund and in the course of my remarks I appealed for the continued support of members and friends, emphasising that much work would have to be done in the years following the War to restore the happy and prosperous conditions which prevailed before the outbreak of World War No. 2. The members of this Branch have responded generously to An Comunn's various appeals on behalf of its War efforts and they have been equally generous in their support of the Central Fund. The Branch is in a very healthy condition and we thank its Office-bearers for their splendid work.

Being in the vicinity I accepted an invitation from Mrs. Stewart (Fasnacloich) to conduct a Gaelic Ceilidh under the auspices of the Dull and District W.R.I. in the Hall at Camserney. This was held on the evening following my visit to Kinloch Rannoch and a most pleasant Ceilidh it proved to be. Major Stewart (Fasnacloich) was in the Chair and the proceedings opened with the singing of "Suas leis a' Ghaidhlig." Songs were interspersed with stories and the Ceilidh proceeded on traditional lines for about an hour and a half when tea was served. I took the opportunity of informing those present of the important work which An Comunn had done in its effort to preserve the language and customs of our forefathers, and also of the work which had been carried on during the War years by the Central (War Comforts) Committee on behalf of Comforts and Literature for those on Service. The entire proceeds of a draw was handed over to me for the Gaelic Literature Fund and this amounted to the fine sum of £2 12/9. After the tea Country Dancing was engaged in with some more Gaelic songs. Supporting me with the programme were Major and Mrs Stewart, Mrs. Petrine Stewart, Mrs. MacLean and Mrs Morris, Aberfeldy.

A most enjoyable evening closed with the customary votes of thanks and the singing of the National Anthem.

As a result of personal contact with officials of other Branches in the Central Perthshire area during my visit I hope to return some time during February and revive the Branches which had been unable to hold meetings. Difficulties of transport and lack of hall accommodation have been responsible for the cessation of activities but with an awakening of interest and a longing for the pleasant and homely atmosphere of the Ceilidh a special effort will be made to overcome these difficulties.

NIALL.

JUNIOR LITERARY COMPETITIONS, 1943.

Adjudicators:—Rev. T. S. Macpherson, Campbeltown. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., Fort William.

Group "E" (1)—University or Training College Students—Translation into English of a prose passage or poem—1st £1; 2nd, 15/-; 3rd, 4th, and 5th, Books. 1, Morag MacPherson, Dunvegan, Skye; 2, Christy F. Morrison, Northton, Harris; 3, Dunina MacLeod, Swanibost, Lewis; 4, Mary I. MacDonald, Bayhead, North Uist; 5, Rebecca A. MacLeod, West Tarbert, Harris. Group "E" (2)—Gaelic Essay on a literary or historical subject (a choice of four subjects are given). Prizes as for No. 1—1, Annie Duncan, Grosebay, Harris; 2, Nora Morrison, Kintulaig, Harris; 3, Rachael Morrison, Ballalan, Lewis; 4, Effie K. MacDonald, Kyles Stockinis, Harris; 5, Dolina Montgomery, Lurebost, Lewis.

(All of Jordanhill Training College, Mr. Alex. Nicolson, M.A., teacher).

Group "F"—Special Competitions, conditions laid down by the donor of prizes, the late Mrs. Stewart, Simla. Essay in Gaelic on the Life of St. Paul. Boys—1st, (£2 and Gaelic Bible), John MacLennan, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 2nd, (£1 and Gaelic Bible), Murdo Campbell, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; Special Prize (Gaelic Bible) given by adjudicator, Murdo MacDermid, Sir E. Scott School, Harris. Girls—Prizes as for Boys—1st, Christina MacDermid, Sir E. Scott School, Harris; 2nd, Flora MacLean, Sir E. Scott School, Harris.

Group "G"—A book prize for each year of the Secondary Course beyond the Third Year will be awarded in every School presenting candidates in Gaelic for the Leaving Certificates. These prizes are awarded on the marks gained in School Examinations during the session. Dingwall Academy—Class IV., Hector MacKenzie; Class V., Catherine A. MacGregor. Fort William Secondary School—Class IV., Helen Ann MacDonald and Christine MacPhee; Class V., Marion MacMillan; Class VI., Eithne Sinclair. Inverness Royal Academy—Class IV., Kate M. MacLean; Class V., Iain MacAskill; Class VI., Catriona MacFarlane. Nicolson Institute—Class IV., Mary Matheson; Class V., Anna MacKinnon; Class VI., Ineag MacAulay. Oban High School—Class IV., Annie MacPhail; Class V., Mary MacLean; Class VI., Mary Hunter. Portree Secondary School—Class IV., Kate MacDonald and Finlay J. MacDonald;

Class V., Norman MacLeod; Class VI., Murdo J. MacLeod.

Prizes are again offered for these Groups in the Junior Literary Section of the National Mod Syllabus and it is hoped that a number of Schools will take advantage of the valuable prizes offered in Group "F." The Subject for this year's Bible Essay is "The Life of Abraham."

ART AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

Competition in Celtic Art for Juniors.

1. For the best reproduction of a selected Celtic Design on leather, cloth or wood, the article to be of some utility value. Prizes—1st Special Prize of £2; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 15s; 4th, 10s.

Entries to close on 25th March, 1944.

Intending competitors are asked to apply to the Secretary, An Comunn Gaidhealach, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2., for designs and instructions. They are also asked to state which section or sections they desire to take part in.

2. Pottery—For the best reproduction of Celtic design on any article of Pottery—1st, £1; 2nd and 3rd, 10s. each.

Entries for Pottery Competition close on 7th July, 1944.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

A meeting of the Central (War Comforts) Committee was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on 11th January. Mrs. Bannerman, Convener, presided over an attendance of about 20 members.

Mr. Graham, Treasurer, submitted financial statements of the Committee's recent efforts on behalf of the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund, viz.: the Highland Gift Shop and Exhibition and Flag Day held in Glasgow. The accounts were approved subject to audit.

Mrs. Bannerman thanked the Conveners of the various Sub-Committees and all helpers for their splendid work, and also Mr. Graham for his work as Treasurer.

It was reported that the net amount at the credit of the P.O.W. Fund was £427 and the Committee decided to divide this sum equally between the four Gaelic-speaking Counties, and Glasgow P.O.W. committees of the Red Cross Society. It was felt that Highland lads benefited much by the efforts of the Glasgow centre and

it was the wish of the members that it should be supported. It was also decided to keep this fund open and further donations will be appreciated.

The Royal and Merchant Navies Fund was reported on, and a Special Sub-Committee was formed to make enquiry and arrangements as to the best possible way of carrying the Committee's scheme into effect.

The sincere thanks of the Committee are accorded to Mr. A. R. Murray for his good offices in arranging for a Concert at Eoredale, Port of Ness; also to members of the Campbeltown Gaelic Choir for organising a Whist Drive. These efforts realised the handsome sums of £20 and £25 respectively.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha sinn an dèidh maide-droma a' gheamhraidh a bhriseadh a nis, co-dhiubh a thaobh faidead oidhche is giorrad latha, agus ged a tha fuachd is rodbhadh fathast aig àrd an nìmh, tha na feasgair a' teannadh ri sineadh. Tha "ceum coilich" air an fheasgar an diugh féin; agus a nis, a bheil fios agaibhe, a chlànn, ciod a tha ann an "ceum coilich"? Matà, chan urrainn dhòmhsa a thomas duibh aon chuid ann an slatan no ann am mionaidean, ach is è a bha ann, an coilach a thoirt cuairtionaltraidh barrachd do na ceardan anns an fheasgar mun gabhadh iad mu thàmh seach mar a dheanadh iad an dubhagan a' gheamhraidh. Na b' fhaide air aghaidh bha "uair a' ghille chonnaidh" a' dol air an latha, ach is è a tha an sin sgeul eile.

A nis, le iomradh mar so a thoirt air a' choileach, tha mi a' dol a thilleadh ris an t-seanachas a bha againn mun fheannaig air a' mhiosa a dh' fhalbh, is na rudan fa-leth a bha air an ainmeachadh air an eun sin. Cha d' fhuair mi fathast ràdh sam bith eile a thuille air na bha agam féin bho aon agaibh; ach tha aon àraidh a tha dèidheil air seann ràdh sam bith fhaotainn anns a bheil eoin no beathaichean sam bith eile air an tarraing a stigh, agus gu sònraichte buadhan no mì-bhuadhan anns an duine no ni sam bith air an coimeas ri. Tha e ag ciallachadh ràdh mar a tha "cho dubh ris an fhitheach." A nis, nach nèonach leibh gu bheil an fheannag féin air a thoirt a stigh mar so, agus có air bith a thubhairt an toiseach e, is beag a bha de 'n fhirinn aige, no dh' atharraich an fheannag a gnè bho 'n uair sin.—"cho gòrach ris an fheannaig." Tha eadhon "gòrach" air a ràdh rithe air uairean; ach is ise nach 'eil gòrach, ged a tha e air a ràdh gun d' thug an sionnach an car aise aon uair. So agaibh

cuid de na coimeasan a chuala mise, agus bu ghasda leam tuille fhaotainn gu cur riu.—"Cho aotrom ris na h-eòin," "Cho glan ris an fhaoilinn," "Cho breun ris an iolair," (no "ris an each"), "Cho dall ri tunnaig," "Cho reamhar ri ròn" (no "ris a' mhuc") "Cho mosach ris a' chù," "cho còir ri cat" (no "ri gamhuinn") "Cho mear ri piseig," "Cho seanagarra ri rodan," "Cho làidir ris an each," "Cho luath ri fiadh" (no "ri Caoilte" no "a' ghaoth luath Mhàrt"), "Cho carach ris an t-sionnach," "Cho garg ri leoghann," "Cho beò ri bradan," "Cho marbh ri sgadan," "Cho fallain ri bric," "Cho steamhuinn ris an easgairn."

A bheil aon agaibh a chuireas ris a' phasgan so? Tha nithean eile ris an coimeas buadhan sònraichte mar a tha "Cho cruaidh ris na creagan" (no "ris an iarunn") "Cho bog ris an im," "Cho teth ris an teine" (no "ri gaol fìdhleir") "Cho fuar ris an t-sneachd," "cho bàn ri bréid," "Cho dearg ris an fhuil," "Cho dubh ris an t-sùidh," "Cho gorm ris an fheur," "Cho buidhe ris an dithean," "Cho fada ri Latha Fheil Eathain," (no "ri slat-iasgaidh"), "Cho tioram ris a' mhìn," "Cho mìn ri luath," "Cho mìlis ris a' mhil" (no "ris an t-siucar"), "cho searbh ris an sealbhagan," "Cho àrd ris na craobhan giuthais," "Cho sean ris a' cheo," "Cho deas ris an tein-adhair," "cho biorach ri minidh," "Cho gear ri lann," "Cho neo-ìochdmhor ris a' bhàs," (no "ris an uigh,") "Cho crion ris an rainich," agus mar sin air aghaidh. Ma tha tuille aig aon agaibhe gu chur riu so, bhithinn-sa glé dheonach air am fàotainn.

Bha ar Rùnaire, Niall, ag innseadh dhomh an uair a chunna mi e an la-roimhe gun do thadhail "Dòmhnall nan Cleas" agann féin air, agus tha mi cinnteach gum bi sibh toilichte a chluinntinn gu bheil e gu math. Chan fhad mi a bhith ag innseadh c'àite bheil e, ach gu bheil e fathast le a chas air fonn Eilean Mór Bhreatann (ged nach b' urrainn dha a dhòl a' bheag na b' fhaide air falbh bho "Bharra Beucach a' Chuain Shiar," is bonn a chois fathast air an fhonn sin, a thà e). Tha sinn toilichte an sgeul so fhaotainn air.

A nis, a chlànn, bha mi a' toirt iomraidh air curaidhean a bha sinn, mar chomunn, a' sior chall bho chionn greis air ais an so; agus bho 'n a sgrìobh mi mu dheireadh chaill sinn fear-ùil treun ann am bàs an Ollamh, Niall Ros. Bìdh tuille na aon a' toirt iomraidh air a bhàs anns an àireimh so; ach bu mhat leamsa an so dà chloich bhig a chur 'na chàrn. Is e aon cho sònraichte 's a sheasadh e 'na àite mar Ghàidheal Albannach an uair a bhiodh còmhlan Ceilteach, mar a tha Co-chomunn Mór nan

Ceilteach, cruinn. Bha sinn bliadhna an sud cruinn an Baile-ath-cliaith, car mu dhusan bliadhna air ais. Bha Niall Ros 'na Cheann-suidhe air a' Chomunn Ghàidhealach aig an àm, agus bha e a' riochdachadh a' Chomuin aig a' chruinneachadh mhór so. Bha e air éideadh anns an deise Ghàidhealach, agus bu mhath a thigeadh i dhà is esan dhise. An uair a labhair e, mar a labhair na riochdairean eile, is sinn uile cruinn anns an talla mhór 'san robh sinn ag coinneachadh, bha sinn de Ghàidheil a bha an làthair ro mhór as mar a labhair e is mar a ghiùlain se e féin. Bha geur-aire gach aoin a bha fo na sparran air féin is air a bhriathran; agus b' e ar beachd-ne nach robh aon de na labhair a thug, co-dhiubh, barr air, ma thainig iad idir an uisge na stiùrach dha: agus a' chlachag bheag eile. An uair a bha am Mòd ann an Glaschu anns a' bhliadhna 1933, b' esan, is e an sin mar an ceudna 'na Cheann-suidhe air a' Chomunn, a bha ri Fear-na-cathrach aig a' chuirn-chiùil leis an robh seachdain a' Mhòid ag crìochnachadh a thoirt air beulaibh na cuideachd. B' e Diùc Mhontròis a bha anns a' chathair; agus a nis, ciamar a thug Niall Ros air agbaidh e? Cha b' e idir, "so agaibh Diuc Mhontròis," teannadh r' a mholadh is mar sin sios. Cha b' e idir. Dh' éirich e 'na sheasamh is theann e ri aithris a dheanamh dhuinn (mar a bu mhath a b' aithne dha féin) air cuid de 'n bhàrdachd iomraideach ud aig Aytoun a' moladh nan curaidh tréun, na Greumaich, bho 'n do chinn e. Chan 'eil fios agamsa ach anns a' bhas-bhualadh a fhuair e mar fhreagairt, ciod a' bhuaidh a bha aige air a' chòmhlan, ach tha fios agam ciod a' bhuaidh a bha aige orm fein. Bidh sinn ag ionndrainn agus bidh cuimhne againn air Niall Ros, iomadh latha.—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Agus thubhairt an Tighearna ri Maosis: Abair ri cloinn Israel dol air an aghaidh. Thubhairt Iosa ris: Is mise an t-slighe.—*Exodus xiv. 15 agus Eoin xiv. 6.*

EL ALAMEIN.

Le DOMHNALL MAC-AN-T-SAOTR, à Paislig.

'S ait leum an sgeula
Th' air teachd ornn' bho'n Eipheit,
Ar feachd bhì air éirigh
'Nan treubhantas dàna;
Bhuailleadh am beum ud,
Gu luath-lamhach g'eusda,
Gu cruaidh-bhuilleadh geur-lannach,
Reubach dh' an namhaid.

Maithean nan lùth-chleas
Am braighe na cùiseadh ann,
Gaidheil mo dhàithcha
Air thùs mar a b' àbhaist;
Guailllean an turna
Dol suas mar bu dùth dhaibh
Le fuaimnich an t-sionnsair
A' dùsgadh an àrdainn.

Cnuachdairean calma
Fo shuaicheantas Albainn,
Fuil usad nan garbh-ch'òch
Cho dearg ris an sgàrlaid;
Ruagairean ainmeal
A b' fhuasgailteach meannnach,
'S a bhualadh gu marb'tach
'S an gharbh-chasgairt làmhan,
Cuspairean cinteach
Le musg air a sinedh 'ad,
Seal'gairan sìthne
Thar frith nan beann àrda;
S'ol nam fear feachda
Bha euchdadh 'nan eoch'òraidh,
Fo éideadh a' bhreacain
A chleachdadh le nàsainn.

Chnàmh mi le mì-ghean
'S cha nàr leam ri nns' e,
Bha ceusadh air m' intinn
A' cluinntinn 'ur càraidh,
Dh' fhàg sibh 'nam milltean
'S an àraich na sinedh,
'S tha àireamh am prìosan
De dh' fhlòr-fhuil nan Gaidheal;
Bheàrr sinn ar n-innseadh
Air àruinn na sìthe,
'S cha b' fheairde sin fhìn e
'S an tim so a thàinig,
Suarceas vi namhdean
Cha bhuannaich e nì dhùilean
'S e chruaidh ris na cìdhlean
A bhruidhleadh a Ghaidhlig.

Eadalaitich, Gearmailtich,
De'seal gu argumaid,
Chruinnich iad an armailtèan,
'S marbth iad na Spainnt'ich,
Choc iad gu tuath ruinn
A nochdadh an fuath,
'S leig an loighann a nuallan
A chualas le h-àlach;
Lorg iad gu h-ionnsaigh
Le colg air an gnùisean
Mar chonbhairèan sìubhlach
A rusgadh nan clàrag;
Stol na fear cròbha
Dh' an dualchas an t-èorma,
Na fuamhairèan mòra
Nì chòcaireachd chràiteach.

A'ach nan dream chin
A dh' àraich na gleanntan,
Bhiodh blàthan an t-samhraidh
A reamhrachadh blàir dhaibh;
'S c'eachdte ri ambluadh
Na sneachdannan geambraidh
Na stacannan trom geal
Ri bonn na beann arda,
Glenchdairean cruadail
Rè teas no ri fuachd iad
Bhiodh seasrach air fuatag
De dh' uachdar na h-àrigh;
Chèitich gun cùl iad
Le seircead 'nan gnùisean,
Gu deas, dìreach, lùthmhor
Glan cumte air an cnàmhan.

Dh' fhuiling sinn ri riasladh
Mun fuaingeadhlmaid strìochdadh,
A luirgpean 's do dh' fhaiclan
Bha diosgan a chràidh oirnu;
Sluagh ann an deuchainn
Gun uair aca dìonhainn,
A' buanaich an sgrìthau
Le deamadas lànhan;
Fhuair sinn 'ad deante
'S bu buadharbor an gnìomh 'ad,
Gun sguabadh an iarmailt,
An eunlaith an phlàigh sinn;
Thùigeadh á speur iad
A dh' imlich an creuchdan,
Mar iomadh-ghao:hach Céitean
A se:deadh air càthaidh.

Tùrsa mo shaoghal,
Le túrling na h-aoise
'S i giùlan a gaoidean
Nach faodaim bhì lànù ri bhì;
Tionndadh nach caomh leam
'S a dhrùidh air mo smaointean
A shìubhladh air Snaoisibhal
Aotrum gun fhaillinn,
Chriochnaich an ùine ud
'S tha 'n t-siorruidheachd dùth dhomh
'S e triall chun na h-ùreach,
An cùrsa tha 'n dàn dhuinn;
'S taing dha na Dùilean
G' eil ginealach ùr ann
A sheasas gun mhùiseag
Na cùisean 'nar n-àite.

Thighearna 'nad thròcair
Dion dhuinte ar n-òigridh,
Do sgiach bhì 'gan còmhachd
Air còmhaid an fhàsaich.
Teasaig sa' chòmhstri iad,
Daingnich 'nan dòchas iad,
Nearfaich an dòrnaibh
An còmhag nan sàillan;
Tàladh fo t-brùgh iad,
Ardaich 'na t' eòlas iad
Tàladh do mheoir bhì
Air pòraibh an nàidur;
Treòraich tro' thim iad
Gu còrsa do rìoghachd,
Is deonaich do sibh dhaibh
'N àm inieachd ad làthair.

'S uaibhreach mo sgeula
'S an uair so 'ga leughadh,
Gur uallach mo cheum leis,
'S tha reusan no dhà air;
Fhuair mi mo léireadh
A chluata nu'r déidhinn
G'ur fuaidh dh' 'm Eipheis.
An déidh bhì 'm Benghasi.
Fhuair sibh 'ur dùlan
Ach bhuannaich sibh bhìthas,
Mo luaidh air na diùlnaich
Nach lìngadh fo'n tàmailt;
Bhual sibh gu lùthmhor
'S tha'n rusag air a tionndadh,
'S le uail as mo dhàthaich
Gun dhàisg mi gu bàrdachd.

Bhual sibh gu fearra-bhuilleach,
Bhual sibh gu fearg-bhuilleach,
Fuar-bhuilleach, garb-bhuilleach,
Searbh-bhuilleach sàr-ghlan:
Bhual sibh gu goirt-bhuilleach,
Bhual sibh gu h-òc-bhuilleach,
Bhual sibh mar chore
Ann an corp air a sàthadh,

Bhual sibh gu fuiltreach,
A ghrugan is a dh' uilt iad,
Gun d' fhuair iad gu murtach
An t-ultach nach b' fheàrrd' iad;
Ruathar is rusladh
A thill iad gu tuisleach
'S a shù iad san duslach
'S an cuislean a' tràghadh.

Bhual sibh cho garg iad
Ri nuallan na faighe,
'Gan ruamhar le gailbhinn
'S i 'n earra-dheas 'na càrnsaich:
Tuar na crith-thalmhanna
Gluasad nan garbhlach,
'S e fuaim ris an dealbhaichinn
Darrarraich ar làmbaich;
B' uamhalta an targnadh
A dh' uainich an armaid
Thug gruaim air a mailghean
Is gairisium 'nan càileachd;
Thionndaidh iad carbaid
'S bu shìubhlach am falbhan,
'S chuir cùran an anamannan
Sa'achar mu an mäsan.

CATHAIR A' BHAIRD.

'Fhuair mi litir an la-roinne bho sheann charaid a' *Ghaidheil* an Astraila, bho Iain Lubb Mac Dhomhnaill 'ic Iain am Brisban. An cois na litreach bha duanag a rinn e agus Comunn Gaidhealach Bhrisban air cathair a thoirt dha an tiodhlae air son an spéis dha mar bhàrd. Tha an litir cho cothromach agus i am briathran cho tlachdmhor agus gur fheàrr dhomh a toirt seachad mar a tha i do luchd leughaidh a' *Ghaidheil*. Is iongantach mura còrd i fhéin 's an duanag riutha. Soiad le chéile.

Fhir Deasachaidh Chòir,—Tha eagal orm gu bheil mi ro ghionach an a bhith ag iarraidh rùm anns a' *Ghaidheil* a rithist air son mo thrompaid fhéin a shéideadh, ach nach 'eil sibh fhéin le bhur miodal ga mo bhrosnachadh gu dànachd, agus mas e bhur toil e, tha mi ag gabhail am fàth so gu innse dhuibh mu dheidhinn Cathair Baird Comunn Gaidhealach Bhrisban. Beagan ùine air ais, rùnaich an Comunn cathair ghàirdin a thoirt do 'n bhàrd mar thabhairteas. Nis cha robh cathair de 'n t-seòrsa bha iad ag iarraidh ri fhaighinn ann am Brisban aig an àm. Ach air do charaid do'n bhàrd, saor-geal ainmeil a chaidh a bhreith is àrach ann am Poll Iùbh, agus a dh' ionnsaich a cheard ann an Inbhir Nis, a chluinntinn gun robh an Comunn a' sireadh cathrach, thairg e dhaibh cathair a dheanamh gu h-àlainn barrantach. Agus gu dearbh b' e sin a' chathair—air a lìngeadh le cluasagan tais socrach bho mhnathan a' Chomuinn.

Air latha àraidh chaidh an luchd-riaghlaidh suas gu aitreabh a' bhàird, agus gu mùrneil sòluimte chaidh a' chathair a choisrigeadh le mòr spéis. Labhair Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn, Mgr. Iain MacLeoid Caimeul, agus an t-Urramach Alan

MacPhilip, gu mìodalach mu dheidhinn a' Bhàird, ag cur an cèill na buadhan a tha air am buileachadh air mar Bhàrd agus mar dhuine uasal Gàidhealach. Chuir Bean Chailein MhicFhionnlaigh—Bean-ghairme Mhnathan Uasal a' Chomuinn—am Bàrd 'na shuidhe sa' chathair agus a' sgrògadh bonaid-leathan air a cheann chrùn i e 'na Bhàrd Comunn Gàidhealach Bhrisban.

Thug am Bàrd mòran taing dhaibh air son an tabhartas luachmhor a thug iad dha, agus e ag aithris anns na rainn so a leanas a bheachd sonraichte fhéin air na sochairean sòlasach a gheibh e am measg chluasagan séimh socrach na cathrach; agus tha mi faoin gu leòr gu bhith creidsinn gur fhàin iad àite ann an duilleagan min a' *Ghaidheil*.—Mise le mùirn,

IAIN DUBH MAC DROMHNAILL 'IC IAIN.

COISRIGEADH CATHAIR A' BHAIRD.

(Air fonn Eilean an Fhraoich.)

Fhuair Bard Comunn nan Gàidheil cathair Ìlainn mar dhuais

Nuair laigheas e sìos innte gheibh e sìochaint ro bhuan
Bidh socrachas inntinn ga iadhadh mun cuairt
'S thig spiorad na Bardachd ga thàladh le buaidh.

Seist. La, la, tal, a, ra, tal, a, ra, la, la, ro,

La, la, tal, a, ra, tal, a, ra, la, la, ro,

La, la, tal, a, ra, tal, a, ra, la, la, ro,

Tha cathair a' Bhàird ainneamh àillidh 'na cois.

Tha brìgh anns an t-séidhir a bheir éifeachd do 'n Bhàrd
Gheibh e spionnadh is tìr ann a bheir ùrachadh dha,
'Na shuidhe gu seòin ann sgrìobhadh òrain gun bheàrn
Bidh ghìbhtean ro luachmhor 'gan lusaidh anns gach cèarn.

Gheibh e fagadh 'sa chathair gun eagal gun ghò
Ged bhiodh fuachd agus gaillinn gu brais air a thòir
Cha tìg tinneas na galair na tabhunn 'na chòir
'S teichidh fiabhras is fùdan gu cùl nam beann mór.

'Na shìncadh san t-séidhir gu beadarrach stòlda
Dùisgidh aigne le àbhachd gu cànan is ceol
Theid òraidean dùtcha chuir gu pongail air dòigh
'S chisibh duanag br' Ghaidhlig sa' *Ghaidheil* fa-dheòidh.

'Se saor geal bho Phòl Ìubh fear ro ionnsaichte 'na cheard
Chuir an eagan a chéile i gun bheud no gun bheàrn
Chuir na mnathanan uasal innte cluasagan gràidh
'S chuir bean Chailean Mhic Fhionnlaigh an crùn air a
Bhàrd.

IAIN DUBH MAC DROMHNAILL 'IC IAIN.

Dean maith do dheagh dhuine

'S bidh an deagh dhuine d'a réir,

Dean maith do neo-dhuine

'S bidh an neo-dhuine dha fhéin—

Do good to a worthy man

And worthy will he be,

Do good to a worthless man

And selfish still is he.

CEOLRADH CRIDHE.

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We congratulate Mrs. MacLeod and heartily recommend the book to our readers. We shall look for more from her pen. The book is published by Alexander MacLaren, Argyle Street, Glasgow, and the cost is 4/.

C. McL.

EADARAINN FHIN.

Brìgh Seanfhacail ?

Fhìr-dheasachaidh Ionmhunn,—Ann an aireimh an Fhaoiltich tha Eachann Dughallach a' tighinn thairis air an t-seanfhal: "Tha gille aig an fheannaig san fhogharadh." Is fhada bho chuala mi an seanfhacal so ach cha chuala mi riamh cìod e is brìgh dha, no cionnas a dh' eirich e. Ma' dh' fhaoidhte gur h-urraim dhuibh fhéin no cuid de luchd-leughaidh a' *Ghaidheil* innse dhuinn.—Is mise, Bhr caraid dileas,

IAIN MACGRIGGAR.

Na Buannaichean.

Fhìr-dheasachaidh,—So am beul-aithris a chuala mi, bho chionn fhada, mu na buannaichean. Bha e air a radh gur e Lochlainnich a bha anna. Bha fear dhuibh air thigheadeas anns gach dachaidh ann sgrìr Uig. Cha robh am buanna ri ag obair, no cosuadh, no paidheadh ach bha aig mùinntir an tìghe ri frithealadh dha agus a bheathachadh leis na goireasan a b'fhearr a bha 'nan comas. Thainig a chùis mu dheireadh cho trom air an t-sluagh agus gun choiminn cuid d'he na ceannardan tìghe a dh' fhaicinn cìod e gabhadh deannamh. Thuirtear

dhe na bha làthair. "Marbhadh gach fear a bhuanna, agus marbhaidh mise mo bhuanna fhin." Sin mar a thachair, agus mu 's breug uam e, is breug thugam e.

Tha "Creag Mhór" ag radh gur e na Nisich a mharbh na buannaichean. Faodaidh sin a bhith, oir bha gaisgich ann a Nis, roimh linn Shamsoin ach bu mhaith leam fhaighinn a mach bho luchd-leughaidh a Gaidheil am bheil cunntas no iomradh air a leithid a dhaoine ann a seann-sgrìobhaidhean, no eachdraidh, no eadhon ann am beul-aithris ceartan eile dhe na h-eileanan siar. — Le mòr meas,

Strath-churra, 11/1/44.

A. M.

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Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.I. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An Màrt, 1944.

[Earrann 6

OGHAM.

Tha an ìmhe chliùiteach agus an comas sonraichte a bha aig cainnt, agus gu h-àraidh aig wrabhairt no deas-bhriathrachas, am measg Ghaidheal na h-Eòrpa o shean air a leigeil ris dhùinn gu soilleir leis a' sgrìobhaiche Ghreugach Lucian. B'e linn Lucian o 125 gu 200 de aois air Tighearna; agus sgrìobh e an seanachas a leanas sa-iream na bliadhna 190 A.D. Is e sgrìobhaiche air leth deas a bha ann an Lucian, agus tha na 'tha e ag ràdh air a' chuspair so cho cudthromach a thaobh an àite 's an comas, agus an cumhachd, a bha aig an cànan fhéin am measg nan Gaidheil, agus gum bheil mi de'n làn bhàrail gum bu chòir e bhith againn an Gaidhlig. Is e sin a thug orm a chur do Ghaidhlig, agus a thoirt seachad an so.

A reir beul-aithris agus sean eachdraidh na Gréige b'e Hercules an duine bu làidire a bha riann air an t-saoghal. B'e Hercules an t-ainm a bha air a' ghaisteach so am measg nan Ròmanach. Bha e 'na sheorsa de leth dhia aca le chèile. Is ann an neart colainn is an gaisge ìntinn a bha a 'chumhachd 's a chomas a' laighe. Ach a reir beul-aithris is eachdraidh nan Gaidheil b'e Ogham an duine bu làidire a bha riann air an t-saoghal, mar a bha Hercules no Hercules am measg nan Greugach is nan Ròmanach, agus bha a neart-san ag comh-sheasamh chan ann an làidreachd colainn ach an comas agus an cumhachd cainnt. B'e Ogham Airciul, no Hercules, nan Gaidheil.—F.p.

Is e Ogham a their na Gaidheil 'nan cainnt dhùthchail fhéin ri Airciul againne, agus tha an coltas a th' air sna deilbh aca neònach darribh. Tha iad 'ga chur an cruth cho aosda 's a ghabhas aosda bhith: am beagan ghaisnean fuil a tha air a cheann tha iad tur gheal—tha sgall air gu h-ìomlan os cionn na bathais—agus tha a chraiceann preassach is cho cartaidh dorch ri seann seòladair sam bith. Shaoileadh

tu gur e h-aon de dhiathan nan ionadan iochdrach a th' ann, gur h-e Charon no Iapet, fear sam bith ach Airciul. Ach mar a tha e, tha làn acfhuinnean an dé ud air—craiceann an leòghain thairis air a ghualainn, gréim aige air an t-slachdan 'na làimh dheis, air a bhogha fo a taibheid 'na làimh chli, agus am bolg-saighead an crochadh ri thaobh. Chan 'eil nì dh' uireasbhuidh air de acfhuinn Airciul.

Bha dùil agam an toiseach gur h-ann a' fanoid air na diathan Greugach a bha iad le so, gun robh na Gaidheil mar gum b' eadh a' deanamh dioghaltas tre dhealbh air Airciul a chionn e seilbh a ghabhail air an dùthaich aca, oir an uair a bha e sìreach spréidh Gherion thug e buaidh, agus chreach e, a' chuid bu mhòtha de shlòigh na h-Airde an Iar. Co-dhiùbh, cha d' innis mi fhathast an rud as ionghantaiche tha san dealbh. Tha Airciul aosda so a' taruing 'na dhéid dhùmhachd mhór sluaigh, agus gach aon aca is slabhruidhean mine ceangailte 'nan cluasan, slabhruidhean air an deanamh de dh' òr agus de dh' òmar, agus iad nas coltaiche ri slabhruidhean-bràghad na ri nì sam bith eile. Chan 'eilear a' deanamh oidheirp sam bith air dol as o 'n bhraigheanas fhaoin so, ged a b' fhuasda dhaibh sin a dheanamh. Chan 'eil an coslas as lugha gum bheil iad ag cur bacaidh ann a bhith 'ga leantainn; an àite a bhith sàthadh an sàilean san talamh, agus a bhith draghadh air ais, is ann a tha iad 'ga leantainn le luathas aoibhneach, agus iad a' seinn fad an t-siubhail cliù an fhir a thug am braigheanas iad. Agus leis a' chabhaig tha a bheil iad 'ga leantainn,

air eagal gum bris na slabhruidhean, is ann a shaoileas duine gur e faotainn saor an rud mu dheireadh a dh' iarradh iad. Cha mhòtha cheileas mi bhuaibh an nì a shaoil mise bu neònaiche gu léir. Tha làmh dheas Airciuil an sàs san t-slachdan, agus a làmh chll sa' bhogha. Cionnas mar sin a chumas e grèim air cinn nan slabhruidhean? Dh' fhuasgail am fear-deilbh a' cheist so le toll a chur am bàrr teangaidh an dé, agus an ceangal an sin. Chì thu e a' tionndadh a chinn mun cuairt agus e ag amharc le gaidh aobhniche orra-san a tha 'ga leantainn.

Sheas mi ùine mhór ag amharc air an so le mór iongnadh. Cha robh mi a' tuigsinn air an t-saoghal ciod bu chiall da. Bha mi dìreach a' fàs mi-fhoiseil nuair a bhruidhinn Gaidheal ann an rogha na Greugais rium agus e 'na sheasamh ri mo thaobh, fear aig an robh mion eòlas air saobh-chràbhadh nan Gaidheal, agus nach robh idir aineolach air ar saobh-chràbhadh fhein (na Greige).

"A dhuin-uasail," ars esan, "tha mi faicinn gum bheil an dealbh so 'na cheist ort. Leig dhomhsa a' cheist fhuasgladh. Tha na Gaidheil againne ag ceangal ur-labhradh chan ann ri Hermes, ach ri h-Airciul a tha mòran nas cumhachdaiche na e. Agus cha mhòtha ruigeas e leas iongnadh a chur ort gum bheil a dhealbh an so mar sheann duine. Buinidh e do ur-labhradh gur h-ann an sean aois a thig e gu làn choimhliontachd, 'se sin, ma chroideas sinn bhur bàird fhein a tha ag innse dhuinn gu bheil

An òige 'na spòrs aig gach gaith a shéideas, ach gu bheil aig an aois

Ni tha os cionn géire inntinn na h-òige. mar so tha sinn a' faotainn

Mil a' sìleadh o bhilean Nestoir, agus tha briathran nan comhairleach Thròidheach air an comhairdeadh ris an lili—ainm flùr, 'se sin mur do dhi-chuimhnich mi mo Ghreugais. Mar sin, ma bheir thu fainear an dàimh a tha eadar an teanga 's a chluas, cha lorg thu nì as nadurraich na mar a tha Airciul,—neach as e Ur-labhradh gu corporra—a' tarraing dhaoine, le an cluasan ceangailte ri a theangaidh.

Cha mhòtha tha e air a mheas 'na mhasladh gum bheil toll air a dheanamh sa' bhall sin. Tha cuimhne agam gum bheil aon de bhur bàird àbhachdail fhéin ag radh:

Tha toll am bàrr gach teanga shleamhain.

Gu dearbh tha sinne ag càradh euchdan a' cheud Airciuil, o thùs gu éis, air a ghliocas is

ur-labhradh drùidhteach. Tha mise deanamh dheth gur h-e fhacail a tha a shaighdean ag ciallachadh—luath, geur-bhiorach, chum làn bhuaidh a thoirt air an anam. Agus sa' chomhdhunadh thug e 'na mo chuimhne bhur cialtradh fhein:

Facail sgiathach.

A nise dar a bha mi an imcheist annam féin am biodh e ceart dhomh air son na dara h-uaire seasamh fa' r comhair, agus mi fhein a thilgeil fo bhinn an luchd-breithe ro lionmhor so,—aosda 's mar a tha mi, agus ùine mhór bho nach robh mi a' lectoraigeadh an roimhe,—thug smuain air an dealbh Airciulach so faochadh dhomh. Bha eagal orm gum smoinicheadh cuid agaibh air an so mar dhànadas na h-òige, agus sin gun leiseug, ann am fear m' aois-sa. "Tha do neart," dh' fhaodadh òganach Homerach a ràdh le buaidh mhilltich, "air caitheamh, tha an aois ghruamach air do chromadh gu làr;" agus dh' fhaodadh e ràdh, a' deanamh spòrs air m' ordagan làn lònidh.

Is slaodach do mharc-each, 's tha am buinneachd a' feitheamh ort.

Ach tha bhith smaoinicheadh gum cum an laoch urramach ud suas mi a' toirt misnich dhomh los gach nì a chur gu dearbhadh: chan 'eil mi nas aosda na esan. Slàn mar sin le coimhliontachd colainne, le neart is luathas is maise. 'Se di-beatha a' fhaicil, nuair a chì e m' fheusag liath, e ruith seachad orm, mar a tha Bàrd Theois 'ga chur le luathas sgiathan dealrach:

Is coma co-dhùibh le Hippocides.

Is e an Aois, òige a' Ghliocais, latha a blàth glòrmhor. Tarruingeadh i cluasan na muinntir as urrainn dhi; tilgeadh i a saighdean gu saor, chan eagal a nis gun teirig iad. Sin far a bheil comhfhurtachd an t-seann duine, an crochadh air an so tha e ag cur roimhe a bhàta a bha fada gu h-àird air glasaich a tharruing sios gu sàl, agus a h-uidheamachadh mar as fhèarr a theid aige air, agus a cur a mach gu faireg aon uair eile. Cha robh mi riamh na b' fheumaiche air soirbheas falaich a lionadh mo sheol, agus a ghreasadh air mo shlighe mi. Gun tugadh na diathan càil dhuibhse chum roinn a bhith agaibh sa' chùis; agus mar sin chan fhaighear a' fàilgeadh mi, agus theirear umamsa mar a thùbhradh mu Odisseus:

Nach calma an t-sliasad tha folacht' fo luideagan an t-seann duine.

is àsagaidh Ogham (òm) sa' mhaduinn.—Ogham is most active in the morning.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Am Màidsear Calum Iain MacLeòid.—

Tha sinn usal á Calum Iain MacLeòid agus e nise air an inbhe Màidsear fhaighinn san arm. Is ann an roinn an sgrùdaidh de 'n arm a tha ar caraid, agus is ann air son na Gaidhlighe a chaidh a chur an sin an toiseach, ged bha gnòthaichean eile an earbsa ris cuideachd. Tha cuimhne agaibh gun do choisinn Calum Iain crùn na bardachd aig a' Mhod a bha againn an Dun-dèagh sa' bhliadhna 1937. Tha e 'na àrd sgoilear agus is maith a thig dha rosg a sgrìobhadh mar an ceudna mar a chithear bho earann bho a làimhe tha anns *Am Feachd Gaidhealach*.

Bhà agus thà e 'na dheagh charaid do Chomunn na h-Oigridh; agus tha e fhéin air aon de na fir òga a bhios 'n an eul-taic do 'n Chomunn Gaidhealach am deidh a' chogaidh ma chaomhnar iad.

Nuair a chumhnichear gur h-e mac do dh' Alasdair Mór a' *Ghazette* a tha ann an Calum Iain cha chuir e iongnadh sam bith oirnn e bhith 'na shàr Gaidheal, agus 'na rogha sgoilear Gaidhlig. Mura b' e Gaidhlig cha robh e air an inbhe àrd agus urramach a fhuair e san arm fhaotainn. Tha sinn ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air ar caraid. An tuilleadh pisich air, agus slàn gun till e.

* * *

An t-aos dàna.—B' e an t-aos-dàna luchd-labhairt follaiseach nan Gaidheal aon uair—daoine ealanta agus sgilear an cainnt, daoine a bhiodh ag cur an cèill gu follaiseach nithean sonraichte sam bith a bha tachairt am measg nan Gaidheal, mar a bha cliù is euchdan a' chinn-chinnidh is maithean eile. Bha an t-aos-dàna a' deanamh so air latha àrdachaidh a' chinn-chinnidh, no aig àm pòsaidh, no air latha breith oighre, no aig àm bàis duine fùghail, no air latha brisidh-catha agus buadha air nàmbaid, agus sin an cainnt dhomhain agus dhrùidteach.

Tha aos an so ag ciallachadh chan e àireamh bhliadhnachan ach muinntir, no luchd, no daoine—facal a gheibhear san t-seann Gaidhlig fo 'n chruth *aes*. Tha dàna ag ciallachadh ealadhain no ceaird. B' e mar sin an t-aos-dàna luchd-ealadhain a thaobh sloinntearachd agus eachdraidh teaghlach is cinnidh, agus a thaobh tachairteasan sonraichte eile, agus iad a' labhairt sin gu follaiseach ann an cainnt dhomhain agus dhrùidteach.

Mar bu trice is ann an rosg a bhiodh iad a' labhairt, ach uaireanan eile bhiodh iad a' labhairt am bàrdachd, agus bhiodh ruitheannan bàrdachd aca gu minic ann measg an roisg fhéin. Bha creideas mòr aca ann an cumhachd

an fhacail agus mar sin bha iad a' deanamh saothair nach bu bheag ann a bhith deas-bhriathrach, agus anns na theireadh iad a bhith sìubhlach agus geur agus tomadach.

Is e a thug an t-aos-dàna 'na mo chuibhne a bhith bruidhinn air Oghain—sàr fhear-dàna, no fhear ealadhain nan Gaidheal—agus air buaidh an fhacail am measg nan seann Gaidheal air tìr-mór na h-Eòrpa an tús an eachdraidh. Chuibhnic mi cuideachd air an teistean a tha Mairtinn Mairtinn a' toirt orra san leabhar sin a sgrìobh e air na h-Eileana Siar sa' bhliadhna 1695. Tha esan ag innse an dearbh rud a bha sinn ag radh—gum b' iad luchd-labhairt follaiseach nan Gaidheal. Tha e ag ràdh mar an ceudna gun robh buaidh air leth aca thairis air daoine móra an latha fhéin, oir nan d' iarradh iad trusgan, no armachd, no each, no ni sam bith eile orra tha e ag ràdh gun tugte dhaibh gu toileach e. Bhatar a' deanamh so cha b' ann buileach air son an spéis a bha dhaibh iomadach uair, ach air son an sgeigeachd, agus uir eagal gun aoireadh iad an neach a dhiùltadh e. Ach a nise, tha e ag ràdh, gun do chaill iad an cumhachd so air tàilleibh an dànachd agus am mì-mhodh; agus nach 'eil aca mar dhuais ach tuarasdál beag suidhichte.

Tha Mairtinn ag innse dhuinn an dòigh meòrachaidh a bha aig an aos-dàna—dòigh neònach dha-rìribh tha e ag ràdh. "Dhùineadh iad an dorsan 's an inneagan fad latha, agus laigheadh iad air an druim agus clach air am mionach, agus ann breacan-guaine suainte m'an ceann. Mar sin le an sùilean combaichte dh' fhàisgeadh iad an eanchainn air son molaids no deagh-alladh ann an cainnt shìubhlach. Agus gu dearbh tha iad a' fàsadh a leithid a bhriathran as a' chùil dhuirch so agus nach 'eil mòran ann a thuigas an cainnt. Tha iad fhéin làn thoilichte ma choineas iad dà each mar dhuais air son meòrachadh mar so." Tha e mar sin coltach gur h-e shìoedh diblidh Oghaim agus earball-sàil nan drùidhean a bha ann an aos-dàna nuair a bha iad a' smaoinachadh gun robh tairbhe ann am briathran diomhair is domhain, agus cìfeachd ann an gliongarsaich fhacal, an àite a bhith toirt seachd gu follaiseach sinuaintean grinn agus usal agus fìrinneach ann an cainnt shìmplidh agus shoilleir agus so-thuigsinn do na lì-uile. Gu leibideach tha cuid a Gaidheil ann fhathast de 'n aon chreud riutha, ach tha iad a' fàs nas tearca 's nas tearca, taing do 'n t-Sealbh.

* * *

Na buannaichean.—Tha cuimhne agaibh gun do chuir "Samson" á Suaineibost an Eilean Leodhais ceist oirnn a thaobh an

t-seanfhaicail a th' aca ann an Nis mu dheidhinn buannaichean Uige. Bha e air a ràdh: Marbhadh gach fear a bhuanna agus marbhaidh mise mo bhuanna fhein. Tha A.M. an Srath-churra a' toirt dhuinn am beul-aithris a chuala e fhein mu na buannaichean o chionn fhada. Bha e air a ràdh gur h-e Lochlannaich a bha unnta agus gun robh fear dhiubh air thigheadas chum a bheathachaidh anns gach dachaidh ann an Sgir Uige. Cha robh carraig na buannaichean ri dheanaibh ach mar a thogradh iad fhein, agus dh' fheumte am biadh a b' fheàrr, agus gach comhfhurtachd cile, a sholar dhaibh. Bha iad 'nan seorsa de dhaoine uaisle, 'nan beachd fhein, am measg nàisinn an àite.

Tha mi an comhainn mu charaid Tomas MacNeacail sa' Chaisteal Nodha air son toirt gu mo chuimhne an dearbh nì an eachdraidh na h-Eireann. Anns an leabhar sin "Cogadh Gaedheal re Gallaibh" tha e air innse a thaobh Coigeamh Mhumhann gun robh an dearbh nì a' dol air adhart an sin 's a bha an Leodhas. Tha e sgrìobhte san leabhar sin gun do chreach agus gun do mhill na Lochlannaich an tìr uile, agus gun tug iad na bha Ghaidheil 's a Ghaill innte fo chis dhaibh fhein. "Bha," tha e air innse, "rìgh air gach tìr o na Gallaibh (na Lochlannaich), agus tòiseach air gach tuath, agus Ab air gach cill, agus maor air gach baile, agus suairtleadh (buanna) air gach tigh, chum is nach robh e an comas duine dh' fhearaibh Eireann a bhò fhéin a bhleoghain, no uibhir is linn aon circe dh' uighean a ghleidheadh no a dhioghras do a sheanair, no do charaid ionmhuinn cile, ach a ghleidheadh do mhaor no do reachdair no do shuairtleadh (bhuanna) Gail." "Thugadh an sluagh uile fo smachd

agus fo ghéilleadh do Ghallaibh agus do Dhanmarcaibh." Dìreach cleas nan Gearmailteach an diugh am Pòlainn agus san Teachdaich agus an iomadh àite eile. Bha na Lochlannaich 'nan latha is 'nan linn cha mhòr cho garg is cho fiadhaich is cho brùideil riutha. Agus 'cha robh e 'na iongnadh idir ged dheanaibh na Leodhasaich cùm 'nam measg fhéin air cur as do na buannaichean, agus ged theireadh iad ri cheile "Marbhadh gach fear a bhuanna agus marbhaidh mise mo bhuanna fhein."

A chaint mhàthaireil.—Is e am fear-sgrìobhadh ainmeil, Uilleam Hazlitt, a thug seachd mar a bheachd-san gur h-e ceithir phrìomh leabhraichean bàrdachd an t-saoghail Homer, Dante, am Biobull, agus Oisean. Tha cuid nach aontaich leis anns an taghadh a rinn e, ach shaoilinn nach 'eil mòran nach cuir an làn aonta ri rud eile a sgrìobh e. Is e sin so. "Cha ghabh cainnt sam bith eile àite na cainnt mhàthaireil. Faodaidh sinn faicail cainnt eile ionnsachadh ach chan 'eil iad ag giùlan an aon bhrìgh do ar mothachadh, no a beantainn anns an aon seagh ri ar faireachdain. Cha ghabhadh e a bhith air a' chaochladh mura rachadh sinn air ais gu tìs ar latha agus fàs suas dùbailte ann ar féin-fhiosrachd." Nach bu chòir briathran an t-Sasanaich smaoinichadh a chur orrasan a tha deanamh dimeas air cainnt am màthar. Tha mi an comain mo charaid A.M. air son so a thoirt fa mo chomhair.

Firinn airson a' mhìos so.—Mar ùbhlann òir ann am bascaidean airgid tha facal a labhrar gu h-ionchuidh—*Gnath-fhocail* xxv., 11.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

Carbh-innse nan uirsgeulan.—*The big telling of stories.*

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in Millars' Rooms, Stirling, on Friday, 28th January. The President, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhiddy, was in the Chair, and the following members were present:—

Mrs M. Barron, Glasgow; Nicol Campbell, Elgin; Stewart Cunningham, M.A., Kinbuck; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Glasgow; Kenneth MacDonald, M.A., B.Sc., Glasgow; Roderick MacDonald, Dundee; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Rev. John MacKay, M.A., Glasgow; John MacKay, Edinburgh; Donald

Shaw MacKinnon, Edinburgh; Donald M. MacPhail, B.L., Edinburgh; Hugh MacPhee, Glasgow; William MacRae, Baillieston; Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., Glasgow, and John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow. In attendance—James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary, and Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser.

Minute of previous Meeting was read and approved and apologies intimated from several members.

The President asked the members to be upstanding while he made reference to the passing of the Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, C.B.E., an Ex-President of An Comunn:—"It is with great regret that we learned of the death of one of our Ex-Presidents, the Rev. Dr. Neil Ross. Neil Ross was a noted Highlander, and, wherever he went, he was known first and foremost as a distinguished Highland gentleman. He was a faithful Christian Minister, a man of fine sympathy and of a sensitive and almost diffident nature. He served An Comunn well by his devotion to his language, and standing for its culture and development on all occasions. He served for a term of four years as President, and was Editor of its Magazine for thirteen years. Dr. Ross was a moving and cultured Gaelic orator, and a fine all-round Gaelic scholar. He was a genuine Gaelic Poet and a virile writer of Gaelic prose. He was also a good player of Pibroch music and made himself master of the music of the MacCrimmons.

"The cause of Gaelic and all that An Comunn Gaidhealach stands for is much the poorer for the passing of the Rev. Neil Ross, and we his friends and fellow workers in the cause of our people and our language will miss him, and mourn his passing from our midst. In Dr. Neil Ross, a very distinguished Highlander has passed on. We send our sympathy to his wife and family in their great loss, and ours."

The President also referred to the passing of two other members who had given good service on the Executive Council, viz., Mr. Archibald Stewart, Cambuslang, and Mr. Andrew Stewart, Partick. Mr. Archibald Stewart was a prominent member over 30 years ago, and, being a native Gaelic speaker from the Rannoch district, represented Perthshire on the elected Executive Council. Mr. Andrew Stewart represented the Arran Society on the Council for many years, and gave valuable service as a member of the Finance Committee for close on 30 years. The Executive records with deep regret the passing of these members and expresses its sincere sympathy with their relatives.

Minute of Finance Committee was read by the Treasurer and adopted on the motion of Mr. Donald Shaw MacKinnon.

Two Minutes of the Education Committee were read.

The Committee had given consideration to Mr. Angus L. MacDonald's observations on the research made by Mr. John R. Morrison on Bilingual and Monoglot children. It was decided to ask the considered opinion of the Northern Education Sub-Committee as its members are in more intimate touch with the position. It was also agreed that they might consult the E.I.S. Advisory panel on Gaelic. Mr. Angus L. MacDonald was cordially thanked for his observations.

From information received, in confidence, from the Scottish Education Department the Committee felt satisfied with the instruction given in Gaelic in Higher Classes in the Secondary Schools. The Committee do not feel so satisfied with the position in the Primary Schools and they also wish the members of the Northern Sub-Committee to keep the matter before them.

An additional communication had been received from the Secretary of the Federation of Highland Associations (Glasgow) with copy of proposed questionnaire to be issued to selected schools in Glasgow, and asking if An Comunn would co-operate with them. The Committee felt indebted to the Federation for their interest and decided to co-operate with them wholeheartedly.

The Minutes were adopted on the motion of the Convener, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod.

Two Minutes of the Publication Committee were read.

The Committee reported on the progress being made with regard to Messrs. Blackie's proposal to issue a new series of Gaelic Text Books and on the reply from the Gaelic Advisory Committee of the E.I.S. Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon, M.A., had agreed to act as editor of the new series and the Committee were in communication with him. A meeting with Mr. MacKinnon had been arranged for week-ending 12th February, and the Committee asked for full powers to deal with the whole matter.

The Committee recommended the appointment of the Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., as Convener in succession to the late Mr. Malcolm MacLeod.

The first Minute was adopted on the motion of the Rev. T. M. Murchison, and the second on the motion of the President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod.

Minute of meeting of Propaganda Committee was read.

The Secretary reported on replies from

Lochiel and Flora Mrs. MacLeod of MacLeod and the Committee submitted a draft letter for reply.

It was reported that replies had been received from the M.O.I. and E.N.S.A. and these were considered satisfactory, and instructions were given the Secretary and Northern Organiser regarding these. Names of singers were submitted.

The Minute was approved on the motion of the President, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod.

Next meeting of the Executive Council, the Gaelic Meeting, was fixed for Friday, 21st April.

Letter was read from the Board of Control regarding proposed after-care of ex-members of H.M. Forces invalided from specific service Hospitals. The Council was sympathetic to the appeal and instructed the Secretary to reply pointing out the objects of An Comunn and offering an interview with a representative.

Mr. Hugh MacPhee said it had been suggested that a Committee be formed under the auspices of An Comunn to arrange for some suitable form of memorial to perpetuate the memory of the late Mr. Malcolm MacLeod and he moved that a Committee be appointed to initiate the arrangements. This was unanimously agreed and the following members were nominated:—Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, President, as Convener; Robert Bain, Dr. John Cameron, Hugh MacPhee, John A. Nicolson, and Dr. Colin Sinclair, with the Treasurer and Secretary in their official capacity.

The President moved that Dr. Colin Sinclair be invited to fill the vacancy on the Executive Council caused by the death of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod. Agreed.

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald asked if the Special Committee on the re-organisation of An Comunn still functioned and the President replied that it did, and invited members to submit suggestions for the consideration of the Committee.

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald further asked how members were appointed to the Propaganda Southern Sub-Committee, and the Secretary replied. It was agreed that Mr. MacDonald be co-opted a member of the Committee.

Mr. John A. Nicolson suggested that the Propaganda Committee be asked to report at the July meeting on the formation of new Branches and the position of membership. He also asked for the position of Comunn na h-Oigridh. These suggestions were agreed to.

The Secretary reported on behalf of the Central Committee that £3967 had been collected for the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund and

that a meeting of Committee was called to consider the allocation of the Fund. In reply to a question by Mr. John A. Nicolson the President assured the meeting that any recommendation for the disposal of the Fund would come before the Council for ratification.

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

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

Meetings of the Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees were held at Inverness on January 22nd. There were representative attendances at both meetings.

At the Propaganda meeting, Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Convener, speaking in Gaelic, made feeling reference to the death of the Rev. Dr. Neil Ross, Ex-President of An Comunn and Editor of *An Gaidheal* for thirteen years, and paid a warm tribute to his worth and work. The Secretary was instructed to convey to Mrs. Ross the sincere sympathy of the members in her great loss.

The Secretary was also instructed to convey to Mr. Wm. Fraser, a member of this Committee, hearty congratulations on his having received the honour of O.B.E. in the recent Honours List.

Mr. MacPhail submitted a detailed report of his activities since date of last meeting. This was unanimously approved on the motion of the Convener.

Consideration was given to the state of An Comunn Central Fund and the Organiser was instructed to do all he could in order to augment the Fund. Several of the members present offered to stage entertainments in their respective districts and these offers were gladly accepted.

On 28th January the Organiser attended at the Propaganda and Executive Council meetings at Stirling, and on the following day, he had consultations with the Secretary of the Scottish Savings Committee at Edinburgh.

1st February saw him in Lewis where he was engaged for ten days in the interests of An Comunn and the Scottish Savings Committee.

Addresses in Gaelic were given at the following schools:—Aird, Sandwick, Bragar, Carloway, Breascleite, Achmore, Lionel, Tong, and Back.

The following enrolments were made to the local Feachdan:—Tong (20); Back (30); Bragar (13); Shawbost (11); Sandwick (26); Bayble (46). Total, 146.

At Sandwick an effort is to be made to hold a Cuirm-Chnuic in the early summer, and at Aird, the members have undertaken to support the Central Fund of An Comunn.

At Back School, Mr. Macphail had an interesting conversation with Margaret Kelly, aged 13. She also read from Book II. and translated freely into English. She has also tackled the writing of Gaelic. All this would not be strange, were it not for the fact that Margaret was born in Blackpool and only came to Back 2½ years ago without a word of Gaelic. Another example of getting them young.

During a visit to Aignish, the Organiser called on an old lady aged 94. While conversing with her in the old tongue, a non-Gaelic speaking lady came in and shaking the old lady by the hand, she said, "Chan 'eil Gàidhlig agam," to which the venerable old lady replied with great dignity "Mata, chan 'eil facl Beurla agamsa"; and that was all.

HIGHLANDER APPOINTED.

Donald J. MacDonald, M.A., was installed as Rector of the Inverness Royal Academy in the School assembled in the Academy Hall on Monday, 31st January. The installation ceremony was performed by the Very Rev. Dr. Dugald MacFarlane, Vice-Chairman of the Education Committee, in the unavoidable absence of the Chairman, Provost Hugh MacKenzie.

When Dr. MacFarlane formally installed Mr. MacDonald, amid the prolonged cheering of the pupils, who thronged the Hall and Galleries, he concluded his speech in Gaelic, and the new Rector, who is also a Gaelic speaking Highlander, made his first acknowledgement in the old language. Dr. MacFarlane said it was a pleasure and a privilege for him, representing the Education Committee, to install Mr. MacDonald as Rector. Addressing Mr. MacDonald, Dr. MacFarlane said, "You are a Highlander, you are a Gaelic-speaking Highlander, and you are the Rector of the Royal Academy (cheers) and why not?" When cheer after cheer came from the pupils, Dr. MacFarlane commented "There is no answer to that." Mr. MacDonald, who first acknowledged Dr. MacFarlane's welcome in Gaelic, said it was the proudest moment of his life, and he thanked Dr. MacFarlane for the gracious way in which he had installed him. Space does not permit of Mr. MacDonald's remarks in full, but special stress was laid on family life. "If

our Christian civilisation was to survive the shocks and stresses of this terrible time," said Mr. MacDonald, "then the family must remain the social unit." "One thing never changes" he continued, "and that is the value of the human soul. The moment a great School like the Academy ceases to make well separated personalities, that moment it ceases to be a School and becomes a machine." Mr. MacDonald is the second Gaelic-speaking Rector of this venerable School, with its long tradition of 700 years, and we wish him great success in his new appointment.

A h-uile latha dhuibh agus gach beannachd as giele a bhith 'n ur cois.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

During the past few months An Comunn has lost by death a larger number of its most ardent supporters than during any like period in the memory of most of us. Full and appropriate references have been made in the pages of this Magazine to the passing of two Ex-Presidents and several members of the Executive Council who gave valuable service to the cause. But it does not follow that members must serve on the council in order to render useful service. The following members who have crossed the great divide gave, according to their means and opportunities, good service to An Comunn and were zealous in their efforts to promote its aims and objects. Miss Ella MacDougall, Greenock, was an expert player of the Clarsach and a musician of standing. Her family were prominent in the Gaelic movement 40 years ago and her brother, Matthew, was for a time conductor of the Greenock Gaelic Choir. His choral arrangement of "Mort Ghlinne Comhann" is published in Coisir a' Mhoid 2.

Miss Jeanie G. MacKay, Edinburgh, was a sister of the late Ex-President, the Rev. Dr. George MacKay, Killin. She and her sister, Miss Una MacKay, were very proud of their brother's work for the Gaelic cause and gave him every encouragement.

Mrs. Cameron, Lochearnhead Hotel, was a good supporter of An Comunn, and along with her husband, was very regular in attending the National Mods. She also organised concerts at Lochearnhead for funds and dispensed hospitality in the real Highland tradition. Mrs. Cameron abounded in good works, and was passionately fond of Gaelic music and everything that An Comunn stands for.

Mr. Donald Campbell, who was headmaster of Tighnabruaich Public School, was President of the local Branch of An Comunn. He was a native of Islay and for 30 years was connected in various districts in Argyll with Branches of An Comunn.

Mr. Robert Stewart, Perth, was at the time of his death one of the oldest members of the Gaelic Society of Perth, and gave good service in the different offices which he held.

Just as these Notes are being written the death is announced of Provost Donald Cattanach, Kingussie. His first official connection with An Comunn was in 1913 when he acted as Hon. Secretary of the local Mod held in Tobermory in the summer of that year. He maintained his interest in the work of An Comunn during all these years and he will be much missed by his colleagues on the County Council of Inverness. Bithidh sinn 'g an ionndrainn.

At the recent meeting of the Propaganda Southern Sub-Committee Mr. Hugh Sinclair, Secretary of the Govan Branch, brought to the notice of the members that there was a keen desire among parents and children in that area for a Gaelic Class or some such facility for instruction in Gaelic. Mr. Sinclair was encouraged to proceed with preliminary arrangements, and Mr. Alexander Nicolson, M.A., of Jordanhill Training College, offered to help by providing instructors from his Class, and as opportunity arose would help to direct the Class in person. The Govan Branch has enrolled 44 pupils, Juniors and Adults, and the Class held its first meeting in the Cardell Halls, Govan Cross, on Tuesday, 22nd February. The Class will meet each Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30., and two students from Jordanhill Training College are taking advantage of the opportunity offered to gain valuable experience in teaching the language. The Govan Branch is paying the rent of the Hall and also instructors' expenses.

The Glasgow (Central) Branch is holding another of its popular concerts in the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, on Saturday, 18th March.

I attended a meeting of the Skelmorlie and District Highland Association on 8th February. There was a very large attendance of members and friends and the President, Mr. Malcolm Ramsay, presided. I addressed the meeting in Gaelic and English and told them of the various activities of An Comunn and the need for post-war propaganda. Mr. D. C. MacLeod, Hon. President, also spoke and said that they

as an Association would help An Comunn. A good programme of Gaelic and Scottish songs was submitted. Members of the crew of the M.V. "Lochfyne" provided part of the programme. Some of the members of the neighbouring Largs Branch attended.

The Edinburgh Branch held a Ceilidh in the Walpole Hall on 11th February. Mr. Donald MacIndeor, President, was in the chair. I had the privilege of addressing the largest attendance of the session and took the opportunity of telling them of the work of the Propaganda Committee. I spoke in Gaelic and English, as also did the President. Many of those present were Gaelic speakers and scarcely a district or island mentioned but had a representative present.

A fine programme of Gaelic songs and pipe music had been arranged and the singers included Miss Morag MacDonald, Mod Medallist, Mrs. E. Shaw, Miss Fairburn and Mr. Ross. Mr. Murdo MacLeod, the veteran Mod Medallist, was in fine form and is carrying his years lightly. The nine-year-old piper deserves special mention for his fine playing and deportment. Miss Sutherland, daughter of Pipe-Major Sutherland, who acted as adjudicator of piano and violin music at the National Mod, gave humorous recitations.

This Branch is now firmly established in Edinburgh and under the able and judicious guidance of Mr. MacIndeor is upholding all the best traditions of the Gaelic people. The membership is now over 120 and enrolments are made at every meeting. Miss Morag MacDonald has been succeeded in the secretaryship by Miss Jessie MacKay, 3 Montgomery Street, Edinburgh, a native of Leòdhas bheag riabhach.

The annual Concert in aid of the Central Fund is provisionally arranged for Friday, 5th May.

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The Entertainments Sub-Committee (Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Convener) has arranged for a Basket Whist Drive to be held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Thursday, 20th April, at 7.15 p.m. Tickets 2/6 each. This effort is in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund and it is earnestly hoped that there will be a good attendance of members and friends.

THE MALCOLM MACLEOD MEMORIAL FUND.

The Special Committee appointed at the January meeting of the Executive Council met in An Comunn Office, Glasgow, recently, the President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., presiding. Arrangements were made to approach Affiliated Societies and other organisations with which the late Mr. Malcolm MacLeod was associated with a view to their appointing representatives to the Committee. Names of individuals were also noted for membership, and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance at a meeting to be held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 29th February, at 7.45 p.m.

COMHRADH NAN EILEANACH.

LE FEAR CHANAIDH.

EACHANN UIBHISTEACH—'N do leugh thu na sgrìobh Eideard Mac Urardaigh sa' *Ghaidheal* mu dheireadh mu teagasg na Gaidhlig anns na sgoilean Albanach?

IAIN MOR SGITHEANACH—Ma ta, a laochain, cha do leugh. Is ainneamh a chi mi am paiper sin. Chan fhaighear ann am bùthaidh a' mharsanta againn fhìn ach an *Daily Express* 's an *Daily Record* agus uaireannan an *t-Oban Times* 's an *People's Journal*. Chan fhaca mi riamh an *Gaidheal*' ga chreic ann an àite sam bith, a chionn nach ceannaich na Gaidheil mlosachan 'nan cainnt fhein thatar ag innse dhomh. Cha chosg iad dà sgìllinn sa' mhios air litheachas 'nan cànan fhéin. Ach gu de ged a chithinn-sa e? Chan urrainn dhomh Gaidhlig a leughadh. Chan 'eil agam ach sgoil Bheurla.

EACHANN—Dh' fhaodadh tu na sgrìobh Mac Urardaigh a leughadh co-dhùb; 's anns a' Bheurla a sgrìobhadh e.

IAIN—Dè thuit e?

EACHANN—'S e thuit e nach robh a' chlann Ghaidhealach a' faighinn an cothrom bu chòir dhaibh air cainnt an màthar ionnsachadh, 's nach robh feum ceart 'ga dheanamh dhith sna sgoilean air son teagasg a thoirt do 'n chloinn.

IAIN—Cha robh a' chlann a' faighinn cothrom air a h-ionnsachadh idir 'nam latha-sa, agus ar leam gu bheil iad a' faighinn gu leòr dhith a nis. Obair gun fheum gun tuarasdal a bhith ag ionnsachadh na Gaidhlig sna sgoilean; gheibhear gu leòr dhith aig an tigh gun a bhith dol nas fhaide 'ga h-iarraidh. Chan urrainn do dhuine tighinn beò gun Bheurla mbath a bhith aige. Cha chòm Gaidhlig 'na h-ònrachd duine beò idir.

EACHANN—Gun teagamh tha Bheurla glé

riatanach do dhuine a dh' fhàgas a' Ghaidhealachd air son a dhol 'ga chosnadh am measg nan Gall. Ach dé mar a dh' éireas do 'n fheadhain a dh' fhanas? Cha b' fhuilear dhaibhsan co-dhùb feum a dheanamh de 'n Ghaidhlig aca chan 'eil an corr aca. Agus, air son nan sgoilean; ged a tha t' athair 's do mhathair fhéin 'nan daoine cràbhach, Criosdail, chan fhoghnadh dhut de 'n teagasg Criosdail na gheibheadh tu aig an tigh, gun leasain fhaighinn san sgoil gu tric, agus gun am ministeir a bhith cumail searmoin riut a h-uile Di-Dòmhnach, mun deanadh tu greim air an eòlas sin; sin mar a tha e leis a' Ghaidhlig, chan 'eil na chluinneas tu aig an tigh ach a bheag dhith, seach na chaidh sgrìobhadh leis na bàird 's na seanchaidhean nach cuala thu riamh.

IAIN—Mura biomaid gun phailteas Beurla, dé mar a dh' éireadh dhuinn nuair a dh' fheumamaid bruidhinn ris an dotair Ghallda, no ri oifigich Bord an Fhearainn nuair bhios sinn ag iarraidh airgid-iasaid air son tigh ur a thogail? Dé mar a bhruidhneamaid ris a' mhaighstir-sgoile fhéin? Chan 'eil a' Ghaidhlig aige.

EACHANN—Nam biodh e daingnaichte le lagh gun feumadh a' Ghaidhlig bhith aig na dotairean, 's aig oifigich Bord an Fhearainn, 's aig na maighstirean-sgoile a tha sìreadh am beòshlaint sa' Ghaidhealachd, cha bhiodh feum aig a' Ghaidheal bhochd air a' Bheurla aig an tigh aige fhéin, agus a bharrachd air sin, bhiodh cothrom na b' fhearr aig na Gaidheil fhéin air a leithid sin a chosnadh fhaighinn. Bhiodh an cothrom sin 'gam brosnachadh gu bhith 'g iarraidh na Gaidhlig sna sgoilean; bhiodh an dala fear a' cuideachadh an fhir eile, mar a their sinn.

IAIN—Cha chan mi fhìn nach biodh e freagarrach gu leòr dhuinn nam biodh a' Ghaidhlig aig na dotairean 's aig oifigich a' Bhuird mar a tha i againne. Ach c'uin a chì sinn sin? B' e sin feitheamh an t-sionnach ri sìtheann an taìrbh. Is ainneamh a chi sibh Gall a dh' ionnsaichadh a' Ghaidhlig ged a chuireadh tu gunna ris.

EACHANN—Dh' fhaoidte nach cuala tu gu bheil dùthchannan 'eile a' buntainn ris an Impireachd Bhreatannach far a bheil na daoine a' bruidhinn cànan eile seach a' Bheurla? Nach cuala tu rianh nu na Bòerich ann an Africa a Deas, no na Frangaich ann an Quebec, no na Cuimrich fhéin a tha ann an *Wales*? Chan i Bheurla a' chiad rud theid a sparradh air a' chloinn aca nuair a theid iad gu sgoil 's gun fhacal dhith 'nan ceann; gheibh iad cothrom air gréim fhaighinn air a' chainnt aca fhéin a leughadh 's a sgrìobhadh mun dean iad

oidhirp air a' Bheurla. Gheibh clann nan daoine dubha fhéin an cothrom sin, ged nach 'eil aca, ma dh' fhaoidte, ach cainnt bhorb gun lomhadh nach deach a sgrìobhadh riamh roimhe.

IAIN—Nach bi sin a' milleadh na Beurla orra?

EACHANN—Cha bhi idir. Tha na daoine as eòlaiche mun chùis de 'n bharail gu bheil an dòigh so fada nas fheàrr na an dòigh a th' againne, 's gu bheil e nas fhasa do 'n chloinn gréim fhaighinn air cànain sam bith eile ma bhios gréim ceart aca air a' chànain aca fhéin an toiseach. Ma thig iad do 'n sgoil, agus an ceann aca làn de Ghaidhlig, agus mura bi iad a' faighinn ach Beurla san sgoil o 'n chiad uair a theid iad innte, theid an intinn aca a chur air aimhreit agus bidh iad 'gan cumail air ais. Rud is miosa, is dòcha gun gabh iad nàire de 'n chànain aca fhéin, agus mar sin faodaidh gun gabh iad nàire dhiubh fhéin 's de 'n cuid phàrantan 's de 'n dùthaich. Caillidh iad am misneach mar Ghaidheil ged nach fhaigh iad misneach an t-Sasannaich.

IAIN—Tha sin fìor. Nuair a chaidh mi fhìn do 'n sgoil agus a chunnaic mi gu robh am maighstir-sgoil againne ag cur na Ghaidhlig suarach, thòisich mi fhìn air smaintinn nach fhaodadh mòran feum no dòigh a bhith innte, agus dh' fhàs mi car nàrach gu robh i agam idir.

EACHANN—S dè mar a bhios duine toirt onoir d' a athair 's d' a mhathair, mar a dh' òrdaich Dia duinn, ma bhios e gabhail nàire de 'n chaint na tha aca, 's air an do thog iad e?

IAIN—Cha tug mi riamh onoir do m' athair no do m' mhathair na bu lugha na bu chòir dhomh a chionn Ghaidhlig a mhàin a bhith aca, idir, idir, ach ge tà . . . ghabh mi truas ri uair no dhà nach robh ach glé bheag de Bheurla aca.

EACHANN—An e sin an rud bu chòir dhut, truas a ghabhail ri t' athair 's ri d' mhàthair a chionn gun do ghléidh iad cànain an sinnsir, seann-chànain na h-Alba, gu glan neo-thruaillidh, deas, fileanta, gun a' Bheurla chleachdadh far nach robh feum idir oirre, mar a tha òigridh an latha an diugh?

IAIN—Well . . . cha chan mi gura h-e. Ach gu dè tha thusa a' deanamh de 'n Ghaidhlig 's gu bheil thu cho mòr uimpe? Chan fhaigh i cosnadh dhut; chan fhaigh thu leabhar Ghaidhlig a leughas tu, no paiper-naidheachd a ni innse dhut mu ghnòthaichean an t-saoghail. Cha chluinn thu innte ach na h-òrain agus na seann-sgalachdan briagach a bhios aig na bodaich. Tha na h-òrain tainnach gun teagamh, ach tha na h-urad 'gam milleadh le blas na Beurla 's le gliongadaich phiàno, 's gum b' fheàrr leam iomadach uair crònan seana-chaillich

éisdeachd—gu dearbh fhéin, b' fheàrr leam geum bà no fead faoileig nan scòrsa Gaidhlig a chluinneas tu aig feadhain de na seinneadairean againn an diugh.

EACHANN—S i Ghaidhlig, a laochain, a' chaint a bha aig Naomh Padraig an Eirinn 's aig Naomh Calum Cille agus aig na daoine diadhaidh eile a thug cràbhadh is foghlum do dh' Alba nuair a bha ar dùthaich fo dhorchadas na pàgantachd. 'S i Ghaidhlig a bh' aig na daoine ann an Alba 's an Eirinn air nach b' urrainn do na Lochlannaich lamh-an-uachdar fhaighinn nuair bu bheag nach robh 'n Roinn Eòrpa uile fo chis aca. 'S i Ghaidhlig a bha aig an teaghlach rioghal a rinn Alba 'na h-aon dùthaich an toiseach. 'S i Ghaidhlig cainnt nan sonn a choisinn iomad buaidh sna blàir air son na h-Alba agus air son Bhreatainn fhéin. 'S i Ghaidhlig, gu dearbh, seann-chànain na h-Alba—cànain na h-Alba bho thùs, o 'n a bha i 'na dùthaich idir.

IAIN—An i, gu fìor? Tha fhios gu robh na daoine aig an robh i foghainteach gu leòr, ach 's fhad o 'n uair sin. Dh' fhaoidte nach robh iad cho tapaidh leis a' pheann 's a bha iad leis a' chladheamh; cha chuala mi riamh gun robh unnta ach daoine borb gun sgoil gun sgrìobhadh mun do theagasg na Goill modh is eòlas dhaibh.

EACHANN—Modh is eòlas bho na Goill! B' e siod fìon nuadh a chur ann an seann-shearragan! Bha cràbhadh, modh is foghlum aig na Gaidheil trì chaidh bliadhna co-dhiubh mun d' ionnsaich na Goill iad. Nan leughadh tu Clar-innseadh nan Lamhsgrìobhaidhean Ghaidhlig a tha ann an Alba, a rinn an t-Ollamh Fionghuineach nach maireann, chitheadh tu gun robh modh is eòlas aig na seann-Ghaidheil, seadh, agus mòran fìosrachaidh agus ealain cuideachd. Bha na sgalachdan a bh' aig na seann-Ghaidheil—sgialachdan mu Chu Chulainn, is mu Dheirdre, mu Fhionn Mac Cumhail is mu Dhiarmad, mu Oisean 's mun chòmhlann aca air fad, cho ainmeil is cho iomraiteach ri litreachas sam bith san Roinn Eòrpa.

(Ri leantainn.)

DAIN DO EIMHIR agus dàin eile.

So leabhar bàrdachd le Sonhairte Mac-Chilleathain. Tha an leabhar air ùr thiginn a mach, agus gu dearbh is fhiaich e gabhail ris; agus is airidh am bàrd air nreall-an-naidheachd a chur air. Tha smuir is fìor spiorad na bàrdachd san leabhar. Tha doimhneachd smuaintean agus bonn ciuil, dearbh fhaireachdan agus macneamna soilleir—na duail a tha deanamh suas bàrdachd bheò agus mhaireannach—an so; agus tha na duail so air an toinneamh 'na chéile cho réidh agus

cho dreachmhor agus nach 'eil duine beò a mhothaicheas nach e aon bhuidh shonraichte a tha unnta gu léir. Agus tha cannt aig a' bhàrd MacGhilleathain a tha comh-fhreagair ri brìgh is susbainn na bàrdachd—Gaidhlig bhlàth, neartmhor, èasgaidh. Tha e 'na fhaodach dhùinn nach 'eil e tighinn beò air fuaim thaitneach fhacal a mhàin gun tuar is tacar na bàrdachd air an cùl. Tha sinn 'na chomainn air son so; oir bhà agus thà cuid de na bàird Ghaidhealach a' tighinn beò air fuaim thaitneach fhacal, gun mhòran brìgh a bhith air chùl sin. Ach cha chuir duine a thuigeas àir bhàrdachd, agus taghadh is roghadh na Ghaidhlig sin as leth MhicGhilleathain.

Rud eile. Thug am bàrd so sgiathan do'n Ghaidhlig a thog i os cionn cuingealachd na Gaidhealtachd dh' ionnsaigh tìr-mòr na h-Eòrpa agus an t-saoghail gu léir.

Agus chuir a h-àilleachd sgìleò air bochdainn 's air creuchd sheirbh agus air saoghail tuigse Leninn, air fhoidhidinn 's air fheirg.

Agus an àite eile tha e ag ràdh:
De gach-cuach de d' chual òr-bhuidh
ris gach bochdainn, àmhghar 's dorainn
a thig 's a thàinig air slugh na h-Eòrpa
bho Long nan Daoine gu daors' a' mhòr-
shluaigh?

Sin agad brìgh is anail na fìor bhàrdachd; agus còmhach ri fìor bhàrdachd an cànan sin bith feumaidh tu a leughadh, agus meòrachadh oirre, nair is uair mus faic thu a làn mheas, agus mus fhaigh tu a dearbh bhlas fhéin oirre.

Tha mòran ann am beagan aig a' bhàrd iomadach uair, mar a tha so:

Mar theid griosach mhall an teine
'na caoir-lasair ghlain
's ann tha 'n gaol a th' agam or'tsa
a' dol 'na aoradh gearl.

Tha na dàin a tha do Eimhir mar gum b' ann do mhnaoi mhaisich — theagamh gur h-ann d'a leannan—no do'n cheolraidh. Is coma, tha iad a' freagairt orra le chéile. Tha aon trì-fichead amhran ann do Eimhir àlainn, eadar mhòr is bheag; agus tha sia ar fhichead de Dhàin Eile san leabhar. Tha na dàin so air iomadach cuspair, mar a tha Ban-Ghaidheal—air saothair is fulangais na mnatha Gaidhealach—òran a tha fìor, agus drùidhteach. Fear air Calbharraig, fear air Craobh nan Teud—air son Sheorasaimbeul Hay—fear air An t-Eilean, fear air a' Cairra-ghrithich, fear air Ceann Loch Aineart, agus fear air Gleann Aoighre, agus fear eile air Coilltean Ratharsair. Thug mi greis feasgar an latha roimhe an "Coilltean Ratharsair" agus cha chumihneam feasgar a chur seachad na bu taitneiche o chionn iomadach bliadhna.

So agad ceathramh as amhran an "Fhuarain":

Air latha thainig mi le m' ghaol
gu taobh a' chaochain iomallach:
chrom i h-aodann sios r'a bhruaich
's cha robh a thuair fhéin tuilleadh air.

Ach feumaidh mi sgr. Tha an leabhar làn de bhàrdachd bheò agus bheachdail.

Agus tha comas na h-èisgeachd aig a' bhàrd pailt cho làidir agus cho leamh 's a bha i aig na seann bhàird Ghaidhealach. Tha còig aoirean de'n t-seòrsa so san leabhar. So fear aca:

An Dun 'na theine.

Ged theab gun do loisgadh Dun-bheagan
cha robh "theab" an losgadh nan tìgean
a loisg MacLeod a chum Dun-bheagan
a chumail usal air a chreagan.

Tha fear eile ann air, "The Road to the Isles," agus b' àill leum gun leughadh a h-uile leth-Ghaidheal a tha air Gaidhealach agus air Gaidhealtachd e. Tha na h-aoir mar bu chòir do èisgeachd a bhith, fìor agus gear agus leamh.

Tha aon cheathramh san leabhar agus tha sinn glé dhùilich gun deach a chur riamh an clòdh. Chan 'eil e 'na chliù do'n bhàrd, no do neach eife a bha timchioll air an leabhar, gun deachaidh e an clòdh.

Tha deich dealban san leabhar air an taruing le Uilleim Crosbie, tha mi smaoineachadh los cuid de smuaintean na bàrdachd a mhineachadh. Nuair a dh' fhosgail mi an leabhar an toiseach is a bheachdaich mi orra is ann a thainig an rud a thubhairt an Salmadair, gu m' inntinn:

Tha an t-eòlas so ro iongantach
's ormsa tha e cruaidh;
Cha rug mi air oir tha e àrd
r'a thuigsinn is r'a luaidh.

Tha cumhne agam nuair a bha mi 'na mo bhalach gun tainig ceàrd do'n bhaile. Bha aithge agus bhiodh an t-abhag a ruith an deidh a h-uile duine a chitheadh e, agus ag comhartaich àrd a chlaiginn. "Cuir," arsa fear de na bodaich ris a' chéard, "rian air do chù." "Tha," ars an ceàrd, "an cù 'na rian fhéin." Tha mi deamhach dheth gur h-ann mar sin a tha na deilbh—nan rian fhéin.

Tha an leabhar air a dheagh chlodh-bhuaidh, agus taitneach r'a laimhseachadh. Tha e air a chur a mach le Uilleim MacGhill-Fhaoalan, 240 Sràid Hope an Glaschu, agus air a reic air deich tadsain is sia sgillinn. Tha sinn an dòchas gun ceannaich na Gaidheil an leabhar agus gun cuir iad eòlas air bàrdachd Ghaidhlig an latha an diugh aig àirde a comais.

C. McL.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Bàrdachd Ghaidhlig.—Cuiridh mi dà phuund Shasannach mar dhuais dh' ionnsaigh a' bhalaich no na h-inghinne a tha 'nam ball de Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh agus a chuireas chugam an t-òran, no am mir bàrdachd, as fheàrr a mheasar. Cuirare deich tadsain fhichead dh' ionnsaigh an neach a chuireas a steach a bhàrdachd as fhaigse thig air an te as fheàrr. Saoidh mi gum bi trì mìosan ùine gu leòr chum a' bhàrdachd a chur air gheul. Cuireadh iad chugam i mar sin roimh an 31 là de'n Chéitein. Agus cumhnicibh gur h-ann airson Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh a mhàin a tha a' chomhfharpais so.

Is e fìor charaid do Chomunn na h-Oigrìdh a chuir 'na mo chomas so a dheanaim; agus gu dearbh guma fada bhios rud aige. Is e deagh bhàrd a th' ann fhéin cuideachd. Innsidh mi dhùibh cò e nuair a bhios a' bhàrdachd a gheibh an duais air a toirt am follais sa' *Ghaidheal*.

Aon chagar 'nur cluais. Feuch nach bi a' bhàrdachd 'na rabhd ro fhada, cumhnicibh an seannfhacal: Ceithir rainn agus fonn deagh sgonn òrain.

Am Feachd Gaidhealach.—Chaidh na bha litreachas Gaidhlig air a chur dh' ionnsaigh na tha air falbh am Feachd an Rìgh a chur combla an aon leabhar fo'n ainm so — 'se sin, an dà bheadhan *Airgidh an Rìgh* agus *Seirbhais a' Chràin*, agus an àreamh dhùileagan a chuireadh a mach

leatha fhéin—agus tha e nis a' tighinn a mach air son nan Gaidheal uile. Gheibhear *Am Feachd Gaidhealach* an oifis a' Chomuinn air crùn, agus am bùitean luchd-reic leabharraichean air an aon phrìs; no faodar fhaighinn leis a' phost air crùn is ceithir sgìllinn. Ma chuireas sibh an t-airgid a dh' ionnsaigh an Rùnaire ruigidh an leabhar sibh cho luath 's a thuites e as a' bhèirt.

An Gaidheal.— Volume XXXVIII. (October, 1942, to September, 1943), well bound in cloth, can now be obtained from the General Secretary, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2, price 3/6 (postage 4d).

Major MacWilliam.—We are pleased to see that the D.S.O. has been awarded to Major M. E. MacGregor MacWilliam, M.C., for gallant and distinguished services in Italy. Major MacWilliam is the elder son of Dr. Edgar MacWilliam, Martin-holts, Surrey, who is a faithful and enthusiastic member of An Comunn.

F.D.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An Giblein, 1944.

[Earrann 7

A' GHÀIDHLIG AGUS AORADH FOLLÀISEACH.

Thachair dhomh an latha roimhe a bhith sgrìobhadh Iomradh air saothar is suidheachadh Eaglais na h-Alba air a' Ghaidhealtachd ré na bliadhna so chaidh. Tha an t-Iomradh so ri bhith air a chur fa chomhair Ard Sheanadh na h-Eaglaise nuair a bhios e cruinn an Dùn-èideann air deireadh a' Chéitein so tighinn. Is ann riumsa mar Cheann Suidhe Comhairle Ghaidhealach na h-Eaglaise an dràsda tha so an earbsa, agus mar sin bha mi a' meòrachadh agus a' beachd-smuaineachadh air gach nì a' bhuineas do 'n Eaglais Ghaidhlig air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Chuir mi sgrìob chuirteachaidh ann am fiosrachadh m' inntinn chan ann a' mhàin air Eaglais na h-Alba ach air gach Eaglais eile tha searmonachadh Gaidhlig chum is gum bithinn làn chinnteach as cìod a tha gabhail àite an diugh air a' Ghaidhealtachd.

Chunna mi so gu soilleir: Gum bheil iomadach rud ann am beatha agus ann an saothair na h-Eaglaise air a' Ghaidhealtachd a tha 'na aobhar-buidheachais dhuinte. Tha fhathast am measg luchd na Gaidhlig, an aon dhìlseachd ri Iosa Crìosd am Fear-saoraidh, Rìgh is Ceann na h-Eaglaise, agus an aon bheò-chreideamh, an aon spioradalachd, agus an aon seasmhachd ri Facal Dhé an àm feuma 's a bha riamh roimhe. Tha fhios aig an t-saoghal air an àite a bha aig na nìthan spioradail so ann an cridhe is an gnìomh ar n-athraichean. Tha só an diugh air a' Ghaidhealtachd an Eaglais na h-Alba, agus

anns gach Eaglais eile a tha air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Agus is e sin a thug an t-àite 's an imbha a tha aice, do 'n Eaglais, ann an cridhe is an cràbhadh nan Gaidheal.

* * *

Bha e 'na thoileachadh dhomhsa a leithid sin aideachadh agus a sgrìobhadh. Ach b' fheudar dhomh nì eile a chur san Iomradh a rinn fìor dhorran do mo spiorad. 'Se sin so. Gum bheil a' Ghaidhlig a' dol bàs ann an aoradh follàiseach na h-Eaglaise ann an sgrìe an deidh sgrìe, lion cuid is cuid. Agus chan e idir nach 'eil luchd-Gaidhlig fhathast sna h-àiteachan sin ach gur h-àill leo gu mòr aoradh follàiseach a dheanamh sa' Bheurla Shasannaich na 'nan cainnt mhàthaireil fhéin. Rud iongantach agus smaoinichail. Ach sin mar tha cùisean.

Tha Eaglais na h-Alba, tre an Ard Sheanadh, an ceann a h-uile còig bliadhna a' comharrachadh a mach na sgrìeachdan anns am feumar seirbhis Ghaidhlig a chuirteachadh gu riaghailteach gach Sàbaid, agus mar sin anns am feum Ministear Gaidhlig a bhith air a shuidheachadh. Le òrdugh an Ard Sheanaidh chan fhad a' chléir Ministear an an Gaidhlig. Tha an Ard Sheanadh aig an àm cheudna ag ainmeachadh àireamh sgrìeachdan eile anns a bheil e iomchuidh Ministear Gaidhlig a bhith, ged nach biodh seirbhis Ghaidhlig air a cuairteachadh ann gu cumbhallach idir. Tha an Eaglais ag cumail a

mach gum bheil e 'na bhuannachd agus 'na bheannachd do sgìre an iomadh àite air a' Ghaidhealtachd gum biodh Ministear innte aig a bheil an dà chànanan chum a bhith 'gan cleachdadh a' dol a mach 's a steach am measg an t-sluaigh, ged nach biodh e a' searmonachadh an Gaidhlig idir, no ach fìor chorr uair. Tha an Eaglais de 'n bheachd—agus tha fhios gu bheil i ceart—gum bheil e 'na bhuannachd agus 'na bheannachd do sgìre gum biodh Ministear Gaidhlig innte a' chuiricheadh aoradh teaghlach anns na dachaidhean anns a bheil Gaidhlig, agus a dheanadh ùrnuigh 'nan cainnt fhéin maille riuthasan a tha tinn, no an trioblaid sam bith eile. Ach tha mòran Ghaidheil ann a' raghnaiocas fear an aon chànan—Gall no leth-Ghaidheil—an àite fear na dhà. Rud iongantach. Ach so mar a thà, an dràsda co-dhùibh.

Thainig, ma tha, ormsa aideachadh do an Ard Sheanadh gum bheil àireamh na sgìreachdan anns am feumar Gaidhlig a shearmonachadh gach Sàbaid a' dol an lughad 's an lughad—agus mòran nas lughaid am bliadhna na bha iad còig bliadhna air ais. Agus b' fheudar dhomh an aon rud aideachadh mu dheidhinn na sgìreachdan aig an robh iarraidh air Ministear an dà chànanan an àite fear na leth-chainnt, co-dhùibh is Gall no leth-Ghaidheil e. Rud iongantach air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Ach so mar a tha eùis an dràsda.

Agus a reir coltais chan 'eil na sgìreachdan so a chuir cùl ris a' Ghaidhlig cho cràbhadh agus cho spioradail bho sguir iad a bhith deanamh aoraidh follaiseach an Gaidhlig. Tha ni-eigin an cois na Gaidhlig a tha combh-fhreagairt ri aoradh is nithean spioradail. Tha moralachd is toirt is tàbhachd an cois aoraidh ann an Gaidhlig.

* * *

A nis is ann aig na Gaidheil fhéin a tha a' chòire gum bheil an cànan aig call a h-àite chùiteach is inbheil an aoradh follaiseach Dhé. Is e nach 'eil iadsan—eadhon a mbeud de luchd na Gaidhlig 's a tha daonnan ag aoradh gu follaiseach gach Sàbaid—is e nach 'eil iadsan a tighinn chun na seirbhis Ghaidhlig is coireach gum bheil an t-seirbhis Ghaidhlig a' dol bàn. Chan 'eil Ministear Gaidhealach ann an Eaglais, no ann an sgìre, as aithne dhomh air a' Ghaidhealtachd nach cumadh seirbhis Ghaidhlig gu riaghailteach nan tigeadh na Gaidheil chun na seirbhis. Ach cha tig. Theid iad chun na seirbhis Bheurla agus fàgaidh iad an t-seirbhis Ghaidhlig air a' dlo.

Agus mar sin b' fheudar dhomhsa iomradh air an so a thoirt fa chomhair Ard Sheanadh Eaglais na h-Alba a tha gu bhith cruinn air an ath mhios.

Ach so rud as ionghantaiche uile. Gum bi luchd-Gaidhlig air ceann na muinntir sin—Goill agus leth-Ghaidheil—a bhios ag iarraidh Ministear Gallda far am bu chòir Ministear Gaidhealach, le làn a chinn a Ghaidhlig, a bhith. Agus ionghantas nan ionghantasan, gur h-e an leisgeul a bhios aca ann a bhith cho mì-nàdurach, gum bheil iad air son cothrom is ceartas a thoirt do luchd na Beurla. Mar nach biodh Beurla idir aig Ministear Gaidhlig! Cò riamh a chuala Ministear Gaidhlig aig nach robh Beurla cho maith ri Gaidhlig, agus Beurla cuideachd pailt cho glan agus cho coimhionta ri Gall san t-sreath, agus iomadach uair nas fheàrr nan cumantas aca. Ach is iomadh leisgeul a tha aig an earrach gu bhith fuar.

Is e gnothach iongantach a tha sa' h-uile càil a th' ànn. Dé do bheachd fhéin ?

—◆—
Coisnidh an t-èblach an t-anam.—*The one who knows us can win the soul.*
—◆—

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Aonghus L. MacDhomhnaill, M.A., H.M.C.I.S.—Tha an sàr Ghaidheal sin Aonghus L. MacDhomhnaill air uallach a dhreuchd mar Ard Fhear-ceasnachaidh Sgoilean a leigeil dheth. Chan 'eil sgoil no luchd-teagasg anns gach àite san robh e tadhal nach bi glé dhùilich air son sin. Tha Aonghus Domhnallach 'na àrd sgoileir, agus ro chomasach 'na dhreuchd, agus 'na dhuine grinn, agus mar sin bha creideas aig maighstirean-sgoile agus aig bansgoilearan 'na bhreith agus 'na bheachd. Agus bha ùidh air leth aig a' chloinn fhéin 'na theachd 'nam measg—comharra maith air fear ceasnachaidh, no air fear sam bith eile.

Bhà agus thà ar caraid air àireamh am measg na buidhne urramaich sin de luchd-ceasnachaidh Gaidhealach a thug a h-àite dligeach fhéin do 'n Ghaidhlig; agus bha e fhéin agus a bheachd a riamh 'na neart agus 'na mhiseach do 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach. Is ann fo riaghladh an Domhnallaich a bha foghlum an Earra Ghaidhealach agus thà agus bithidh a' bhuil air Earra Ghaidhealach agus na siorrachdan eile a bha fo a riaghladh.

Bha e fhéin greis mhaith a' teagasg Gaidhlig an Sgoil Mhór Steòrnabhagh, agus mar sin bha combh-fhaireachdain aige ri suidheachadh na cloinne Gaidhlig agus ri am feum shonaichte. Is Leodhasach dileas is caomh e fhéin. Cha mhise e sin.

Tha a' Ghaidhealtachd uile fo chomain aig Mgr. MacDhomhnaill air son a sheasmhachd agus a shaothair air taobh a dhaoine 's a chàinain. Dh' fhàg sin piseach air nach gabh ceannach. Chuir e an Comunn Gaidhealach uair is uair, agus fichead uair, fo chomain dha; agus tha fhios gun dean e nis am barrachd air sgàth a chàinain 's a dhaoine. Duine suairc agus seasmhach agus làn dhuin-uasal. Guma fada a mheallas e fhòis is anail.

* * *

Domhnall Camshron, V.C.—Bha e air fhòillseachadh bhò chionn ghoidric gum do choisinn Gaidheal eile a' V.C. B' e so Lieut. Domhnall Camshron, R.N.R. a rugadh an Carluke agus a thogadh an Glaschu. Dh' fhàg a sheanair—Domhnall Camshron—a' Mhorbhairne, agus mar sin tha fuil a' Ghaidheil gu maith làidir sa' ghaiseach.

Is ann air son an ionnsaigh a thug an soitheach-eadarra-lionn aige air an luing Ghearmailtich Tirtzip air 22 de 'n t-Sultuin so chaidh a fhuair e an àrd dhuais. So mar a bha a threubhantas air aithris san teisteanas a bha an cois na duaise: “Bha a' ghaisege, agus an sior sheasmhachd agus an tur thàire air cunnart, air fìor bheulaibh an nàmhaid, a nochd Lieut. Camshron 'na ionnsaigh dhiorraiseach agus shoirbheachail, os cionn gach nì.” Chaidh a thogail gun robh e air chall air an 8mh de October ach thaing fios air toiseach na bliadhna gum bheil e an làimh aig na Gearmailtich. Slàn gun till e.

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Cùirt an Fhearainn.—Le lagh na rìoghachd feumaidh aon fhear aig am bi Gaidhlig a bhith air Cùirt an Fhearainn. Shaoileadh sinne gum bu chòir barrachd air aon fhear a bhith 'na bhall de 'n Chùirt so agus gum bheil a' mhòr chuid de a shaothair air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Ach mar as tric cumaidh an sop as lugha na Gaidheil 'nan tosd, agus fhad 's a bhios iad 'nan tosd saoilidh an Riaghaltas gum bheil iad riaraichte. Ach so mar a tha an dràsda co-dhiùbh. B' e Tormod Reideach as an Eilean Riabhach a' cheud fhear-Gaidhlig a bha air a' Chùirt, agus bha esan san dreuchd bhò chaidh a' Chùirt air bonn sa' bhliadhna 1912 gus an do leig e dheth an dreuchd sa' bhliadhna 1926. Bha Iain A. Camshron 'na fhear-Gaidhlig oirre bhò 'n uair sin gum am bliadhna, agus chaidh Cailean MacDhomhnaill a shuidheachadh oirre an latha roimhe. 'Na oige bha Cailean fhéin 'na chroiteir; agus an deidh sin bha e a' sathrachadh an Roinn an Aiteachais fo 'n chrùn. Rinn e obair mhòr agus obair fheumail san dreuchd sin, agus tha e fo dheagh chliù feadh na Gaidhealtachd uile.

Is e fìor Ghaidheil a bha san triuir; agus tha e 'na bheannachd do na Gaidheil gum bheil fear a thuingeas iad 'nan càinain fhéin 'na shuidhe sa' Chùirt so, fear aig a bheil mothachadh ceart air cor is cridhe a' Ghaidheil.

Chuir Cailean Domhnallach dà leabhar laghach a mach air a' Ghaidhealtachd—b' e an call nach ann an Gaidhlig a bha iad air an sgrìobhadh—ach is maith is fhiaich iad an leughadh mar a tha iad. Tha iad 'nam fìor sgàthan air nithean a bhà agus a thachair air a Ghaidhealtachd 'na latha is 'na linn fhéin.. Is e ainm a' cheud fhir: Mactalla nan Gleann, agus ainm an fhir eile: Sùil air Ais. Tha sinn ag guidhe beannachd is soirbheachadh dha an toiseach tòiseachaidh air Cùirt an Fhearainn.

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Eaglais fhuar.—Thug a bhith bruidhinn air Eaglais agus air aoradh follaiseach 'na mo chuimhne am beachd a bha aig na seann Ghaidheil air comhfhurtachd ann an eaglais. Chuimhnich mi air seana bhàrdachd a tha anns an lamh-sgrìobhainn Gaidhlig sin ris an canar lamh-sgrìobhainn XL ann an leabhar-lann na h-Alba an Dun-éideann. Tha mòran de 'n bhàrdachd nach gabh leughadh a nis le aneacertas a fhuair an craicinn air a bheil i air a sgrìobhadh, ach so ceathramh dhi :

*Eglus fuar,
7 cleirech tana truagh;
smachd for coluinn, snighe der :
ag rìgh nel mor a luagh.*

'Se sin, air a chur mar a sgrìobhadh sinn an diugh e :

Eaglais fhuar,
Agus cléireach tana, truagh;
Smachd air colainn, snighe dheur :
Aig Rìgh neul (nèamh) mòr a luach.

Ach mar as blàithe bhios an eaglais an diugh, tha moran a' smaoinachadh gur h-ann as motha a luach aig Rìgh nan Nèamhan.

Tha cuimhne agam nuair a bha mi 'nam mhinisteir òg san Ath-leathan gun do thog mi eaglais ùr, agus bha stòbha sonraichte air a chur innte chum a blàthachadh. Sheall mi fhéin do 'n mhaor-eaglais mar bu chòir teine a chur san stòbha, ach air a' cheud Sàbaid an deidh sin cha robh teine idir ann. An deidh na seirbhis, thubhairt mi fhéin ri mo charaid Alasdair MacMhuirich, am maor-eaglais, “Alasdair, cha do chuir sibh teine san stòbha?” “Cha do chuir,” ars Alasdair, “cò riamh a chuala teine ann an eaglais.”

Is ann taobh Srath-fharagaig a thainig Alasdair 'na dhuine òg, ach chuir e seachad a

bheatha san Eilean Sgitheanach. Duine eirmseach, agus duine còir.

Goirid an deidh dhomh dol a chòmhnaidh do 'n Mhansa thainig Alasdair air chèilidh orm. Thug mi steach e do 'n t-seòmair mheòrachaidh agam. Thug e sùil mun cuairt, agus an uair a chunnaic e mo leabhraichean ceithir thimchioll an t-seòmair, thubhairt e: "Cìod a tha sibh a' deanamh leis na tha so de leabhraichean? Losgaibh iad. Bidh iad ag ràdh nach 'eil dad 'nur ceann fhein ach na tha sibh a' toirt as na leabhraichean so. Losgaibh iad! losgaibh iad!"

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Fear san t-sreath.—Is fhada bho chuala mi an toiseach an ràdh: Tha e cho maith ri fear san t-sreath, no Tha i mar tè san t-sreath. Tha mi deanamh dheth gur h-ann mar so a dh' éirich an ràdh air tùs. Ri linn nan Cinn-fheadhna Gaidhealach bha e 'na chleachdadh aig na Cinn-fheadhna nuair a shuidheadh iad aig cuirm, no aig cruinneachadh sunraichte sam bith, gun robh iad ag cur an dlùth-dhaimhean fhéin agus àrd-uaislean eile 'nan suidhe timchioll orra an ceann shuas an t-seòmair, no aig ceann a' bhùird, ann an sreath. B' e so an t-sreath.—na h-àrd-uaislean an ceann shuas an t-seòmair. Agus b' e càch an cumantas, iadsan a bha sìos bho sin. B' e, ma tha, fear san t-sreath, fear de na bha am measg nan uaislean an ceann shuas an tìghe. Bha fear san t-sreath mar sin ag ciallachadh an toiseach, fear de 'n fheadhain a b' fheàrr; no fear no tè de na h-uaislean. Tha eagal orm gum bheilear ag ciallachadh leis a nis fear no tè mar neach sam bith eile—no mar neach cumanta. Tha Mairtinn Mairtinn a' deanamh iomradh air an so 'na leabhar air "Na h-Eileana Siar," agus tha e ag ràdh gur h-e "am measg nan uaislean" tha am facal ag ciallachadh. 'Se sin, tha e, no i, mar aon de na h-uaislean.

* * *

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Nuair a smaoinich mi air so a thuigsinn, bu chruaidh an gnothach e ann am shùilibh, gus an deachaidh mi steach do naomb-ionad Dhé: an sin thuig mi.

Bha aoibhneas orm an uair a thubhairt iad riom, Do thig an Tighearna theid sinn.—*Salm lxxiii-16, 17; agus Salm cxxii-1.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.



Far am bi gràdh duine bidh fhuaran.—*Where a man's love is, there is his welcome.*

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

As there is a grave danger of An Comunn finishing on the wrong side at the end of the financial year, 31st May, an earnest appeal is made to Branches and supporters in the Northern Area to make special efforts to avoid this. Any enquiries should be made to Mr. Donald Macphail, Northern Organiser, at 98 Dochfour Drive. (Telephone Inverness, 1015), and Donations, large or small, should be forwarded to Mr. J. T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer, 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.

The Aird (Lewis) Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh has already shown what can be done. This Feachd has just forwarded the handsome sum of £23 18s 8d to the Central Fund of An Comunn. Moran taing a' Chroinneil choir agus na brogaich thapaiddh a rinn oidheirp cho ionmholta. Tha sibhse ag cumail Bratach ri Crann's an Rudha.

Comunn na h-Oigridh Feachd at Grean, Barra, are desirous of helping to win the war. A recent entertainment held by the Feachd (16) realised the sum of £6 10/-. This, the children have sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer as a Free Gift. Is math a rinn sibh, cumaibh oirbh ag cumail oirbh!

Another very successful all-Gaelic Ceilidh was held at Mallaig recently. The object of this gathering was to lend support to the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund. The sum of £31 was forwarded to this Fund, and sincere thanks are due to Mr. Ruairidh MacKinnon, M.A., Mr. Archie MacKellaig and others who are doing such excellent work in the district.

The Elgin Branch is meeting regularly, and, at the February Ceilidh, there was a record turnout of nearly 200. Argyllshire men at the helm are:—Mr. D. Cowan, President, from Oban; and the Hon. Secretary Mr. Nicol Campbell hails from Donnchadh Bàn's country—Glenorthy.

A meeting of the Glenurquhart Branch Committee was held recently, with Mr. Rob. Gollan, President, in the Chair. Mr. T. S. G. MacLean, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, submitted a very satisfactory report which showed that in the last two years, the Branch had donated to War Charities £276 12s 6d. Mr. Macphail gave a short talk on the work of An Comunn in war-time.

The Organiser was present at an Entertainment on behalf of the Central Fund on Friday, 10th March, at Tomatin, and gave a talk on "An Comunn and the War." From this effort a sum of £8 9s 6d has been added to the Fund. Sincere thanks are due to Mrs. John Leslie, Schoolhouse, who made all the arrangements.

Mr. Macphail presided at a Ceilidh under the auspices of the Abernethy Branch recently. A handsome sum was raised for local service men.

Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis brought a very successful Session to a close on Saturday, 11th March, when the President, Mr. Don. MacDonald, presided over the largest audience of the Session. A special Collection was taken for the Central Fund of An Comunn and this amounted to the handsome sum of £12 10s. The Annual General Meeting will be held in April.

Further efforts in support of the Central Fund have been arranged at—Croy, Glenurquhart, Fort William, Roy Bridge, Nethybridge, Culcabock, Brora, Newtonmore, and Aviemore.

Inverness County Council have appointed Mr. Angus S. Matheson, Orkney, to the post of District Road Surveyor for the Outer Isles, with Headquarters at Tarbert, Harris. Mr. Matheson is a son of the Rev. Charles Matheson, the esteemed minister of the Church of Scotland at Dunvegan, Skye.

The death of Provost Donald Cattanach, Kingussie (to which reference was made in the Secretary's "Notes" last month) is a severe loss to the Northern Area and especially in local Government circles. He was a valued member of the Inverness County Council, and in the Education Committee his proposals were always constructive and well thought out. He had a warm corner in his heart for boys and girls from the West and one of the last speeches he made in Committee was in favour of increasing the amount of Bursaries granted to children, whose circumstances warranted it.

Mr. Donald Macphail represented An Comunn Gaidhealach at the funeral, which took place at Kingussie on February, 15th

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An Gaidheal.—The Magazine will be sent free to Serving men and women whose names and addresses are sent to Mr. Shaw, 131 West Regent Street, Glasgow, C.2.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

On 18th February, I presided over the Gaelic Social Meeting of the Glasgow University Ossianic Society. There was a good attendance, notwithstanding the fact that the meeting coincided with a short holiday term. The programme was sustained by members of the Society assisted by the Misses Mary A. MacDonald, May Margaret MacMillan, and Morag MacNiven. The President, Mr. Donald MacPhail, M.A., and the Secretary, Miss Euphemia MacLeod, were in attendance, and votes of thanks were proposed by Mr. Alex. Nicolson, M.A., of Jordanhill College. In the course of my remarks I read "Caraid nan Gaidheal's" dedication of his book "Leabhar nan Cnoc" to the Ossianic Society in acknowledgment of his appointment as President. The date is 1834 and the copy in my possession is entitled "MacLeod's Sketch Book."

As indicated in my Notes in the February number, I returned to the Aberfeldy district to take part in resuscitating the local Branches there. A meeting of the Lochtayside Branch was held in the Holder (Lesser) Hall, Kenmore, on 22nd February. The Hall was packed to its utmost capacity and there was great enthusiasm. Miss MacArthur, President, and her Committee had arranged a very attractive programme consisting of Solos, Ladies Quartette, and Instrumental Music. Tea was also served. I spoke in Gaelic and English and reviewed the work accomplished by the Central (Comforts) Committee, and also emphasised the necessity for concentrating on Gaelic propaganda after the War, and the need for replenishing An Comunn exchequer to enable it to carry out that necessary campaign. This Ceilidh was in aid of the Central Fund and a contribution towards that object will follow in due course. Mr. John MacLean, Fearnan, who had been Secretary for many years has resigned and Mrs. MacLaren, Kenmore, has succeeded him in that office. Mr. MacLean was a most efficient Secretary, and, although he has relinquished office he is not severing his connection with the Branch. Miss MacArthur is continuing as President. She has given long and faithful service to the movement in the Kenmore district, and being a native Gaelic speaker and a good singer, she is well fitted for the office. Mrs. Petrine Stewart and Mr. James Hamilton, Aberfeldy, assisted with the programme.

The following evening, 23rd February, the members and friends of the Aberfeldy Branch

packed the Congregational Church Hall. The President, the Rev. Ian MacLellan, was in the chair. I more or less repeated what I had told members of the Lochtayside Branch, and was given a good hearing, both in Gaelic and English. Here also a fine programme had been arranged and the singing, recitations, and instrumental selections were exceedingly well done. The bagpipe selections were given by Piper Murdoch Mackenzie, a repatriated Prisoner of War. In the course of conversation with Piper Mackenzie I learned that some of the lads who were with him in the German Camp had received Gaelic books sent by An Comunn and that they were very grateful for them.

The net surplus from the Ceilidh, £3 3s, has been handed over to the Central Fund and it is hoped that something more may follow. The Rev. Ian MacLellan is continuing as President. In pre-war years, Mr. MacLellan conducted a Gaelic Class in the Breadalbane Academy, and did a lot to keep the language to the forefront. Miss Calder, Secretary, is also continuing in office. She has given good service to the cause locally and the future success of the Branch is assured under the leadership of these two Gaelic speaking officials.

It was quite evident from the enthusiasm shown at both meetings that the resuscitation of the Branches was greatly appreciated, and it is safe to predict that this awakening of interest will bear good fruit. Reference to the revival of Provincial Mods as part of the new propaganda campaign was enthusiastically received.

I paid my annual visit to the Dundee Branch on 10th March. There was a splendid attendance in the Regent, Nethergate, and the Chief, Mr. Ivan MacDonald Chalmers, was in the chair. The Committee had arranged a varied and well balanced programme, and tea was served during an interval. On this occasion, I dwelt more on the educational side of the movement, as I had on many other visits spoke on the work of the Propaganda Committee and Provincial Mods. The members of this Branch are quite alive to the need for intensive propaganda after the war, and we can depend on them taking a fair share of the work and contributing to the cost. The Gaelic Class conducted by Mr. Roderick MacDonald was attended by 24 pupils and good progress was reported. This and the Country Dance Class are important adjuncts and help to spread the influence of the Branch and all it stands for in the Gaelic renaissance.

Mr. MacDonald Chalmers as Chief has given good service to the cause and he is ably

supported by an enthusiastic committee. Miss Lalla MacTaggart, Chestnut Cottage, Broughty Ferry, has succeeded Mrs. Archibald MacDonald as Secretary, and is proving herself to be an efficient and painstaking official. Mrs. MacDonald (Mrs. Adamson) was Secretary for many years and acted as Local Secretary, when the Mod of 1937 was held in Dundee. For her splendid services connected with the Mod arrangements she received the cordial thanks of An Comunn.

The Annual Gaelic Service was conducted by the Branch Chaplain, the Rev. Angus Duncan, B.D., Ladybank, on Sunday, 19th March.

Good reports have been received of the activities of the Branches at Oban and Taynult. I have made arrangements to visit the Lorn district at the end of March, and I also hope to include a number of other Branches in a contemplated tour early in April.

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

The final meeting of the Highland Gift Shop and Exhibition General Committee was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Monday, 21st February. Mrs. Bannerman, Convener, presided, and there was a large attendance of members.

It was reported that the amount at the credit of the Royal and Merchant Navies' Fund was approximately £4,100 and the members discussed the allocation and disbursement of the money collected. Several recommendations were put forward for the consideration of the Central (Comforts) Committee.

Mrs. Bannerman thanked the members for their help and co-operation and expressed the hope that they might again meet under happier auspices to promote some other worthy object.

On the call of Mr. John Murray, Mrs. Bannerman was accorded a very cordial vote of thanks for her inspiring leadership and work in connection with this and all other efforts promoted by the Central Committee.

Two meetings of the Central (Comforts) Committee were subsequently held, and recommendations regarding the allocation and disbursement of the Fund were considered and passed to the Executive Council for approval or otherwise.

Mrs. Bannerman presided over the Joint Branches' Concert on 19th February in the Christian Institute, Glasgow. There was a

good attendance and a fine programme of Gaelic Songs, Gaelic Dialogue, and Instrumental Music was submitted. The Concert was in aid of the Central Committee Funds.

Members and readers are reminded of the Basket Whist Drive to be held in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Thursday, 20th April, at 7.15 p.m. Tickets, 2/6 each.

THE MALCOLM MACLEOD MEMORIAL FUND.

At the meeting of above in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 29th February, there was a large and representative attendance. The President of An Comunn, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider, Convener of the Memorial Committee was in the Chair, and he thanked the members for their attendance and referred to the worthy object of the Committee.

It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the project, and a draft appeal, read by the Convener, was approved. After discussion it was agreed to include the following suggestions in the appeal:—

- (1) To provide for the re-issue of Gaelic books of recognised merit and popular appeal which would create a new interest in Gaelic literature and music, and be of assistance in maintaining a wider understanding and greater use of the language.

To publish new works of popular appeal to ensure a continued interest in Gaelic culture generally.

Each of the books so issued would be known as a Malcolm MacLeod Memorial Volume and would include a special dedication containing an appreciation of Mr. MacLeod's work.

That, in addition to these publications, a plaque or some similar form of permanent visual memorial be prepared and presented to the Highlanders' Institute.

- (2) The Founding of a Celtic Chair in the University of Glasgow.
- (3) A Memorial Award for distinguished service to the Gaelic cause (conferred triennially).

An Executive Committee was formed consisting of the members appointed by the Executive Council of An Comunn and the

following:—J. Norman MacConochie, Captain A. MacDonald, Kenneth MacDonald, Hector MacDougall, Mrs. Norman MacLeod, Peter Marshall, Roderick M. Montgomery, Rev. T. M. Murchison.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held in An Comunn Office, on Thursday, 16th March, when arrangements for the issuing of the Appeal were completed.

COMHRADH NAN EILEANACH.

Le FEAR CHANAIDH.

(Air a leantainn)

Bha na daoine a thainig as an deidhidh cho math ri bàrdachd 's ri feallsanachd, ri dotaireachd 's ri eachdraidh, 's a bha iad ri cogadh. Chlì thu na clachan 's na croisean a ghabhail iad an I 's an Cille Mhàrtainn 's an Ròdal agus an iomadach àite eile; chlì thu na caisteil mhóra làidir a thog iad, mar a tha Ciosmal is Eilean Donnain is Carn Bhuirgh, Caisteal Tioram agus an còrr; agus ged nach 'eil craicionn no paiper cho maireannach ris a' chloich, faodaidh tu feadhain de na dàin a rinn iad a leughadh ann an Leabhar Chlann Raghnaill agus anns na leabhraichean eile de 'n t-seòrs' ud, ma thogras tu.

IAIN—Cha robh fios agam gu robh an sgeul cho mòr sin. Chuala mi mo sheanair a' bruidhinn mu Fhionn Mac Cumhail agus na daoine aige corra-uair, ach cha tug mi mòran aire dha. Bheil thu ag ràdh gum biodh daoine ionnsaichte cur mòran sùim anns na naidheachdan sin? Cha chuala mi riamh iomradh air Fhionn Mac Cumhail no air a' chorr san sgoil; cha chuala mi ach *Alfred and the Cakes* agus *William the Conqueror* agus *Edward the Confessor* agus a leithid.

EACHANN—*William the Conqueror!* Gu dé bha esan dhuinn? Cha tug e Alba fo chis riamh. Nach b' fheàrr d' ar cloinn a bhith 'g ionnsachadh mu sheann-ghaisgich nan Gaidheal, mu chath Chluain Tairbh agus mu Chath na Leargaidh Ghallda a bhrist iad air na Lochlannaich, no mu Chath Charham a bhrist iad air na Goill, na mu threud do sheann-rìghrean Sasannach nach do ghabh turus ri Alba idir—nan gabhadh, bu ghrad a rachadh an tilleadh!

IAIN—Ach nach fhoghnadh dhuinn de sgialachdan mu Fhionn Mac Cumhail agus a leithid na chluinneamaid aig na bodaich againn fhìn, seach a bhith cosg ùine san sgoil 'gan aithris an sin?

EACHANN—Nach tuig thu, a charaid, gun tainig atharrachadh mòr air an dùthaich. Bha uair ann a dh' fhoghnadh seachas nan seann-daoine gu foghlum a thoirt dhuinn air iomadh rud—eachdraidhean na dùthcha, dòigheannan oibreach, is leighis, is iasgaich, òrain is cluicheadh agus a h-uile rud. Ach chan ann mar sin a tha e an diugh. 'S ann aig a' mhaighstir-sgoile a a tha a' chlànn ag ionnsachadh an diugh, 's chan ann aig na seanairean. Mar sin feumaidh Gaidhlig a bhith san sgoil agus feumaidh eachdraidh ar dùthcha a bhith 'ga teagasg innte ma tha iad ri bhith air an cumail suas. Chan fhoghainn seachas nam bodach gus an cumail beò.

IAIN—Tha mi 'gad thuigsinn. Ach, stad ort; ma bha na seana Ghaidheil nas modhaile 's nas foghlumichte na bha mi a' creidsinn, dé mar a chaidh a' Gaidhlig a chur searach cho mòr? Dé mar a thuit i cho iseal 's a tha i?

EACHANN—Innsidh mi sin dhut. 'S ann o'n uair a chaidh an seathamh rìgh Seumas againn gu Lunnainn a rinneadh tòiseachadh air a' Gaidhlig a chur fo chuing. Bha rìghrean no tighearman nan eilean, na riaghladairean a b' fheàrr a bha aig na Gaidheil riamh, 'ga cur sìos roimh 'n àm sin. Leis mar a bha an rìgh cho fad air falbh thòisich na daoine mòra a bha an Alba ri dol gu aimhreit agus smaointich a' Ghobhairmaid nach robh dòigh na b' fheàrr aca air na Gaidheil a cheannsachadh na Goill a dheanamh dhiubh.

IAIN—An robh iad cho dona sin?

EACHANN—Bha iad dona gu leòr aig an àm ach cha robh na Gaidheil dad na bu mhiosa na na Goill fhéin an uair sin.

IAIN—Dé mar a lean iad?

EACHANN—Bha na Gaidheil an deidh sin a' gabhail pàirt nan rìghrean Stiubhartach sa' chogadh shlobhalta a bha 'g éirigh an dràs 's a ris, agus air a shon sin cha b' urrainn do naimhdean nan rìghrean ud droch-aime gu leòr a thoirt do na Gaidheil; agus, mar a bha barrachd dhaoine a' leughadh na Beurla na bha a leughadh na Gaidhlig, sgaoil am beachd air feadh na dùthcha. Sin rud ris an can iad propaganda an diugh.

IAIN—Ach dé mar a bha e an deidh bàs Phrionns Tearlach? Saoil leam, o nach biodh tuilleadh cunnart anns na Gaidheil an uair sin, gun togadh a' Ghobhairmaid an lagh a bha bacadh na Gaidhlig sna sgoilean?

EACHANN—Thòisich iad an uair sin air leigil leis na Gaidheil leabhraichean cràbhach a leughadh sa' Gaidhlig; ach bha na Gaidheil glé bhoich an uair sin, agus thòisich daoine ri

ràdh gur h-i a' Gaidhlig a bha 'gan cumail bochd, agus gum b' fheaird' iad a cur air cul gu buileach.

IAIN—An robh sin fìor?

EACHANN—Cha robh; 's e cion fearainn a bha 'gan cumail bochd, agus chan e pailteas na Gaidhlig. Ach lean an dòigh sin, agus nuair a thòisich sgoilean na Gobhairmaid anns a' 1872, cha robh a' Gaidhlig 'ga teagasg idir unnta. An deidh 1918, fhuair iad cead oirre; ach cha bhitear a' toirt teagasg do 'n chloinn innte fhathast. Chi sibh anns an earrann aig Mac Urardaigh mar a tha.

IAIN—'S gu dé dheanadh tu?

EACHANN—Dheanainn-sa trì rudan; a' chiad rud, gum biodh a' chlànn ag ionnsachadh na Gaidhlig mun biodh a' Bheurla 'ga sparradh orra, agus gun cumadh leasain Gaidhlig riu fhad 's a bhiodh iad san sgoil; sin an dòigh a tha aca an *Wales*. An darna rud, nach fhaigheadh duine cosnadh mar oifigeach, dotair, no maighstir-sgoile, sa' Ghaidhealtachd, gun Gaidhlig a bhith aige. An treas rud, gum biodh am B.B.C.—cha chuir mi ainm Gaidhlig air, chan aithne dhuinn ach B.B.C. air—barrachd ùine do 'n Gaidhlig, agus do 'n Gaidhlig cheart, agus gun toir iad céilidhean is leasain Gaidhlig air son na cloinne Gaidhealaich mar a ni iad an dràs air son na cloinne Cuimrich. Nam biodh B.B.C. no S.B.C. againn ann an Loch nam Madadh no 'm Port Ruigheadh, 's e b' fheàrr.

IAIN—Glé mhath. Tha mi smaointinn nach 'eil thu ag iarraidh ach còir agus ceartas. Agus ma chumas iad a' chlànn bliadhna no dhà nas fhaide sna sgoilean, mar a tha iad ag radh gun cum, bidh barrachd ùine aca air son na Gaidhlig.

EACHANN—Bidh sin aca. 'S e rud a dh' fheumas sinn a dheanamh, seasamh còmhla mar aon duine, gun eud no farmad a leigil tighinn eadarainn, agus iarraidh mar Ghaidheil an aon cheartas a tha muinntir *Wales*, is *Africa* a *Deas*, is *Malta*, is *Quebec* a' faighinn san aon chùis. Ma ni sinn sin, faodaidh sinn ar cànan, ar litreachas, ar beul-oides 's ar ceol a chumail beò. Ach cha leig sinn leas a bhith leisgeulach no somalta. Feumaidh sinn innse do 'n t-saoghal nach dean sinn duine a thaghadh mar Bhall Pàrlamaid no mar Chomhairliche Siorrachd mura toir e gealladh gun seas e còmhla ruinn sa' chùis so. Feumaidh sinn a bhith ri sgrìobhadh 's ri oraid 's ri brosnachadh a h-uile còthrom a gheibh sinn. 'S ainneamh a bhios caraid aig fear na h-eiseamal, ach bidh caraid aig an fhear a sheasas gu duineil air son na còrach. Biodh e mar sin leinn, agus bidh a' bhuaidh againn fhathast.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi duilich, a thaobh tubaist a thainig anns an rathad is dàil a dhol an cur-air-falbh litir a' mhiosa a dh' fhalbh, nach robh smid bhuam an àireamh a' Mhàrt de 'n Ghàidheal. Tha dòchas agam gun gabh sibhse, a chlann, ri m' leisg air a' cheann sin ma gheallas mi (ma ghabhas e idir deanamh) gum bi mi air m' fhaicill 'ga thaobh sin bho so a mach.

Bha mi bho chionn ùine air ais an so a' buntainn ri facail is ràdhteanais shònraichte co-cheangailte ris an fheannaig is eoin eile, cho math ri ràdhteanais a tha an dlùth dhaimh riu. Tha mi a nis a' dol a thoirt f' ur comhair facal math, cuimseach air cheann an ni a tha e ag ciallachadh, facal air nach urrainn dhòmhsa co-dhùibh, Beurla a chur. A bheil aon agaibhse a' chuireas Beurla air? Cuiridh mi gheall nach 'eil; agus ma chuireas, pàighidh mi dhuibh mo gheall, agus is e an geall sin leabhar is fhiach a lughadh. So agaibh am facal, matà, "amhuinn." Tha fuaim an "mh" anns an fhacal so air a chur nas doimhne sios anns an sgòrnan na tha fuaim an "bh" anns an fhacal "abhuinn," ach a mach bho sin tha an dà fhacal glé choltach ri chèile ann am fuaim. Is fearr dhomh a nis innseadh dhuibhse do nach aithne e ciod a tha am facal so ag ciallachadh. Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil iomadh aon agaibh a chunnaic beathach caorach ann an amhuinn. Tha a bhith "ann an amhuinn" ag ciallachadh a' chaora air aobhar air choir-eigin a thuiteam is car-a-mhuiltein a dhol dhith air a druim ann an laig no eadar dhà tholman air chor is nach urrainn dhi éirigh leis an àrdan a tha air gach taobh dhi. Mur faigh i fuasgladh bho'n ghlais so an ùine ghearr, tha a' chaora bhoichd air a tachdadh, na suilean air a thoirt aisele leis an fheannaig—an droch fheannaig air an d' thug mi iomradh mar thà—no ma thearnas i bhuapa sin le chéile 's i gun fuasgladh fhaotainn, tha i ri ùine a' dol bàs leis an acras.

A nis, so agaibh rud neònach mun amhuinn. Chan 'eil i 'na h-amhuinn gus a bheil ainmhidh air a glasadh innte; agus cho luath 's a tha an ainmhidh a' faotainn fuasglaidh aisele, chan amhuinn i nas fhaide, agus chan 'eil innte ach lag no glomhar mar a bha innte roimhe. Le chur am briathraibh eile, chan 'eil an lag a tha an so 'na h-amhuinn gus a bheil ainmhidh air a glasadh innte. Chan fhiosrach mise, co-dhùibh cha chuimhneach leam an ceartair, facal eile cadhon anns a' Ghàidhlig a tha coltach ris: chan 'eil an t-ainm a tha air, air gus an tachair ni sònraichte, agus cho luath 's a tha an suidheachadh sònraichte sin air a thoirt gu crìch, chan ainm dha an t-ainm sin nas fhaide.

Tha aon fhacal eile, is tha e a' riochdachadh driadart do ainmhidh, a tha car coltach ris mar so, agus is e sin "féithe," a' bhoglach, an càthar, an dig no an t-suil-chrithach anns a bheil ainmhidh a' dol an sàs is as nach urrainn dhi faotainn le a neart féin. Faoadaidh e tachairt ma tha a' bheag de dhoinmheachd anns a' bhoglaich so, no ma tha an ainmhidh féin le bùchd a colainn ag cur stad air uisge ruith, gu bheil i air a tachdadh leis an eabar a tha mun cuairt oirre no air a bàthadh leis an uisge a tha ag éirigh uimpe. A nis, chan fhéithe an t-ionad so gus a bheil ainmhidh a' dol innte; ach eadar-dhealaichte bho'n amhuinn, tha àm bad sin 'na fhéithe bho sin a mach tuille. Theagham gu bheil eadhon ainm air a thoirt dhi, mar a tha "Féithe na Ba Riabhaich," no "Féithe nan Rodan," dà ainm àitean a tha anns an eilean do 'm buin mi féin.

A nis, tha féithe ainmeachadh a' toirt ni sònraichte eile gu mo chuimhne, ged nach urrainn dhomh làn mhìneachadh no soillearachadh a thoirt air mar bu mhaith leam. So car mar a bhà: fhuaras beathach mairt ann am féithe. Bha i cheana air i féin a chlaoidh a' feuchainn ri faotainn aisele an uair a thainig ise do 'm buineadh a' bhó 'na fochair. Ghairm i air a h-ainm i an sin, agus i aig a' cheart àm a' togail bad de luibh a bha a' fàs anns a' bhruaich làimh rithe. Thilg i duilleagan is freumh na luibhe mu shlinnean na bà, agus i aig a' cheart àm ag ràdh facail neònach. Thug a' bhó crathadh air a shlinnean is oirre féin, mar gum biodh nàdur de dhiogail air a chur innte leis an luibh; thug i an sin garbh-oidhirp gu faotainn a mach as an staing anns an robh i, is chaidh leatha! Fhuair i a mach, is chrath si i féin! An d' fhiosraich no an cuala aon agaibh-se a leithid sin riamh, no a bheil aon agaibh is urrainn innseadh dhòmhsa ciod an luibh a bhiodh an sud a chuireadh a leithid de dhiogail anns a' bhoin 's gun toireadh i garbh-oidhirp mar sud gu faotainn ma réir? Chan 'eil mi cinnteach nach e seorsa de ghreisag a bha anns an ni so, agus mar sin nach b' ann san luibh uile gu léir a bha a' bhuaidh no an éifeachd, ach anns a' ghniomh is anns na facail. Agus, an nis, a bheil aon agaibhse aig a bheil facal annasach sam bith eile a ghabhadh cur air an aon ghad ri "amhuinn" is "féithe?"

Chan 'eil ni sònraichte sam bith tuille a' tighinn fa-near dhomh ris am bu chòir buntainn an ceartair, agus chan 'eil an rùm agam co-dhùibh. Tha latha briagha toiseach-earraich againn an diugh, agus an uair a chuireas mi sios "Eachann" aig bonn an t-seamasain so, tha mi a' dol a ghlacadh na spaidie is a' falbh a a ruamhar an iomaire bhig a tha agam thall

cùl an tighe. Feumaidh e a bhith deas air cheann nan sgealb an àm cur a' bhuntàta, oir "mur cuir sinn anns an earrach, cha bhuaibh sinn aig àm foghair."—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

AN DUBHSGAILE.

Is doirbh an cis au dubhsgaile
'S ro chudthromach thar chàich;
Am measg gach dìth is uireasbhuidh
Orr' uile thug i bàrr;
Ged 's fhiosrach mi gur neoni i
Seach cruas is sgrìos nam blàr
Tha bioran innt' tha coimheach leam
Aig mochthraith 's deireadh là.

Shaothraich mi gu lamhchùiseach
Gu bratan-sgàil' chur suas—
Gach uinneag ann am fhàrdaich-sa
Bhi dubh mar chlàr na h-uaimh—
B'e sud mo mhiann mu'n d' fhàg mi iad
'S gun sàsachinn le uail
Gach riochd a dh'òrduich Pàrlamaid
Gu nàmh a chumail uainn.

Bho thaobh-a-muigh mo bhallachan
Gu saoiheadh neach air chuairt
Gu 'm thigh bha fàisail, falamh e,
A ghean fo chlos na h-uaignh;
Gun lasadh coinn' no teine ann;
Gun bhlàths bho shneachd no fhuachd
An aoigheadh a bha maille ris
Air teich bho chagailt fhuair.

Ach fuirich agus beachdaich leam
Air cù-sean ceart mar tha 'd,—
An duibhr' tha muigh cha sanas i
Gur duibhr' ar solus àigh;
Ar lòchranan tha lasaichte;
Ar bòrd le biadh tha làu
'S tha aoidh is bàigh an gealladh dhuit
Ma thig thu stigh cur fàilt'.

Nach lionmhor smuain tha mearachdach
Is sealladh nach 'eil fior
A dh' fhaodas neach bhi 'g altrumas
Mur cleachd e tuigs' is ciall,
Faodaidh gràs is ceanaltas
Is gean cho blasd ri fiou
Bhi glaisgte 'n cridhe socharach
Nach nochdar dhuit gu fial—

Mur tig thu dlùth air onarach
Gun olcas ann ad dhùil
Ach miann do chridh' gun airidh thu
Air sealladh Dhé as ùr
'S gun tuigeadh tu 'nad aineolas
An saobhreas glan, gun smùr
A dh' fhaodas a bhi falaicht' ort
Mur sir thu e le mairn.

Ach dh' aindeoin smuain a chuidich mi
Gu m' fhulangas chur bàs,
Cha déidh leam daors' an dubhsgaile
'S cha thrus mi i le bàigh.
Te gràs ar Dé na ghuinear leinn
Ar n'-eascairdean gu làr,
Gu las sinn coinn' nach dubhar leinn
'S bidh oidhch' mar mheadhon là.

C. NICLEOID.

AIR PILLTEAN O NA BLARAIBH.

Is e Màidsear MacLeod nach maireann a bha ann a' Bhatairnis san Eilean Sgitheanach a rinn an t-oran so. 'S ann 'a coimhecrinneachadh na Bana-Dhùghlásaich a thug mi an t-oran agus ain fonn. Tha ise ag ràdh gur h-e fìor shean thoma a th' ann, agus cho fada 's is aithne dhi, tha i ag ràdh nach robh e rianh an clòdh gus an so fhéin.

F.D.

GLEUS G.

{ . s₁ | d., d : d., r | m : r. }

Air pill-tean o na blàraibh

{ . d | l₁ : s₁, s₁, s₁ | s₁., }

Do 'n àite a' robh mi òg

{ , s₁ | d., d : d., r | m., m : r. }

Bha freicead-an nam fas-aich-ean

{ . d | f., f : s. l | s : — }

Air àirigh-ean a' cheò

{ , m | f., s : l. f | s : m. }

Is dh'iarr mi air mar fhàbhar

{ . s | d., d : d. t, l₁ | s₁ : — }

Suidh' làmh rium air son sgeòil

{ , f₁ | m₁., s₁ : d., d | d., d : r. }

A dh'inne dhomh mun fhàsal-achd

{ , m | f., f : m. r | d : — }

Thug tràghadh air mo dheòir.

C'àit a bheil na neòneanan,
Bha còmhhdachadh nam bruch,
C'àit a bheil na sóbhraichean.
'S gach ròs bu bhòidhe sneadh
An t-im-bhuidhe is an t-òr-bhuidhe
Is brògan-nan-each ruadh
Is seillean air am bàrr
'G òl blàth-bhainne as a chuaich.

Na craobhan a bha laomadh
Le caorrann air am meòir
Na dearcan gòrma is uaine
Bha cuairteachadh an fheòir,
Fiar a bha fo fhàraichean,
A' mhil mar dhrichead nam pòr,
'S na h-eòin a bh' air na meang'anan
A' seinn an coille chnò.

C'àite 'eil an Tigh-Leughaidh
'S an robh saighdear treum, MacLeod,
Air tùr-na-faire gaothaich
Gun robh Fear-Saoraidh beò
'San sluagh a bha mar sgurraichan
Dùmhachadh an ròid
Eadar Cnoc-a-chath an Trumpain
Is Dùn a' Ghearraidh Mhòir.

EADARAINN FHIN.

Dàin do Eimhir.

A' Fhir-deasachaidh Iomhuinn,—Chunnaic mi anns an earrann roimh an te dheireannach de'n Ghàidheil sanas an leabhair *Dàin do Eimhir*, le Somhairle Mac Ghilleathain, agus shaoil leam gun sgrìobhainn chugaibh, agus gun innsinn do bhuir leughadairean 'nam Ghàidhlig chrùbaich fhinn cìod e an seòrsa leabhair a tha ann. Is e ùghdar nan dàn, bàrd òg a chaidh a lotadh san Afraic, agus chuireadh a bhàrdachd a mach, comhla ri dealbhan nuaidha a rinn Uilleam Crosbie, anns an leabhair eireachdail so. Tha còrr is ceithir fichead òrain Ghàidhlig ann eadar òrain-ghaoil agus éisgeach, agus is math as fhaic e an leth-ghini a tha e a' cosdadh. Tha na dàin cuimr agus làn treòir is mach-meannna. Theagham nach còrd iad ri feadhainn bho nach 'eil dad de shuairceas no de bhreòiteachd anna, agus bho nach 'eil am bàrd a' sòradh a bheachdan a chur an ceill ann am facail shearbha air gach cuspair cudthromach an te-saoghail mhóir bho'n chogadh Spainnteach gu droch chor na h-Albann. (Sgrìobhadh a' chuid as mó dhiubh roimh 'n chogadh so.) Cha tàinig mòran bàrdachd de'n te-seòrsa so as a' Ghàidhealtachd. Tha beagan againn a sgrìobh Mac Mhaighstir Alasdair, agus fhuair sinn dàn no dhà bho Uilleam Mac Dhùn Léibhe agus bho bhàird eile. A réir mo bhàrail-sa, is airidh *Dàin do Eimhir* a bhith 'na sheamsa ri taobh na bàrdachd as fheàrr a tha air sgrìobhadh an càinean eile.

A thaobh nan dealbhan, chan 'eil e 'nam chomas a bhith a' breithneachadh orra, bho nach 'eil mi eòlach air modhannan nuadha na h-ealaine so, agus air an sobhar so tha dhà no trì dealbhan ann nach 'eil mi a' tuigsinn gu h-iomlan, ach is math leam a bheag as urrainn dhomh tuigsinn. Agus mu dheireadh, cha bu chòir dhomh crìoch a chur air mo litir gun mholadh a' chòrdh-bhuailteir air son a mhisnich ann a bhith ag cur a mach leabhair a tha cho snasail aig an àm so.—Is mise le meas,

ROB ALASDAIR MAC FHRAINGE.

Cardigan, sa' Chuimrigh.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An Cèitein, 1944.

[Earrann 8

A' GHÀIDHLIG AGUS GNOTHACH.

Bha latha ann agus cha robh gnòthach a bhathas a' deanamh air a' Ghaidhealtachd nach ann an Gaidhlig a bhathas 'ga dheanamh. San latha sin bha gach gnòthach 'ga dheanamh le facal beoil. Gach gnòthach a bha na Gaidheil a' deanamh san latha ud is ann faisg air an dachaidh a bha iad 'ga dheanamh. Ma bhatar ag creic no ag ceannach cruithd no chaorach, no spreidh sam bith eile, is ann riuthasan a bha faisg a làimh a bhatar a' deanamh sin. Ma bha pàidhir bhròg a dhìth air neach rachadh e chun a' ghreusaiche a ghabhail tomhais a chois. Bha gach gnòthach eile mar sin deante le facal beoil.

Eadhon nuair a bhatar a' deanamh gnòthaich ri neach a bha astur maith air falbh bhatar a' dol a dh' aon aobhar far an robh an duine sin agus a' deanamh gnòthaich ris far an robh e; no bhatar ag cur teachdaire far an robh e agus bha an teachdaire a' deanamh a' ghnòthaich le facal beoil, mar a chaidh a chur roimhe. Bha gach gnòthach agus nì eile air a dheanamh le briathran beoil, cha robh nì 'ga sgrìobhadh.

Dh' fhàg so a' Ghaidhlig beò fallain air bilean dhaoine a thaobh gach nì anns an robhtar a' deanamh gnòthaich sa' latha a' bh' ànn. Bhatar 'ga cleachdadh anns gach gnòthach is gnìomh a bha dol air adhart am measg nan Gaidheal—ann an reic agus ann an ceannach, agus a thaobh gach gnìomh is cosnadh a bha dol air adhart 'nam measg mar shluagh. Ach cha robh nì dh' an so air a sgrìobhadh sìos, bha gach gnòthach is gnìomh ann briathran beoil.

Ach, thainig atharrachadh air a' chùis. Thainig am post agus goireasan giùlain eile dh' ionnsaigh na Gaidhealtachd, mar gu ceàrnaidhean eile de'n rìoghachd, agus thòisich daoine a' deanamh gnòthaich le bhith sgrìobhadh dh' ionnsaigh dhaoine agus àitean fad as. Ach cha b' aithne do na Gaidheil sgrìobhadh 'nan cànan fhéin, cha do dh' ionnsaich iad e, agus cha mhotha a leughadh mòran aca an caint fhéin; agus is e thainig as an so gun robhas a' deanamh gnòthaich bhò'n tigh le bhith sgrìobhadh sa' Bheurla Shasannaich. Bho chionn dhà no trì ghinealach an so sgrìobhadh co-dhùibh beagan de na Gaidheil am Beurla, agus bha na Gaidheil eile ag cleachdadh a' bheagain sin chum a bhith sgrìobhadh dhaibh ann an gnòthach sam bith air falbh bhò'n tigh. Tha cuimhne agam nuair a bha mi 'nam bhalach gum biodh seann daoine a' tighinn far an robh mi gus an sgrìobhainn litir dhaibh am Beurla air cheann gnòthaich chun a' mharsanta sa' bhaile-mhòr, no gu caraid no banacharaid a bha air falbh an àite sam bith. Dh' innseadh iad dhomh ann an Gaidhlig ghlan shoilleir cìod a bha iad ag iarraidh a chur san litir—co-dhùibh is e litir gnòthaicha a bh' ann chun a' cheannaiche air son dà bholla mine agus pund tombaca, dà phund tea agus clach shiùcair, no litir gu caraid le naidheachdan an àite agus nan càirdean—agus theireadh iad, “cuiridh sibh fhèin Beurla air.” Cha do smaoinich iad aon uair air iarraidh orm an litir a sgrìobhadh an Gaidhlig ged is e Gaidhlig an cànan a b' fheàrr a bha aig an càirdean, agus mar bu trice aig a' cheannaiche. Bha a' Ghaidhlig bhòchd air a cur air chùl mar so a thaobh gnòthaich de gach seòrsa.

Is e a thainig as an so, nach 'eil ni as fhiaich an t-saothair againn sgrìobhte an Gaidhlig a thaobh mar as còir gnothach a chur gu feum, agus mar a bhatar a' deanamh gnothaich roimhe so. Ghabh a' Bheurla àite na Gaidhlig sa' chùis so—mar ann an iomadh cùis eile—agus a nis chan 'eil fhios aig mòran air cionnas as còir gnothach a chur gu feum 'nan cainnt fhéin.

* * *

Agus chan e sin uile e. Tha mòran ann an diugh—agus daoine nach 'eil sineolach no mi-thùrail an Gaidhlig cuideachd—ag cumail a mach nach 'eil a' Gaidhlig aon cuid comasach no freagarrach chum gnothaich a chur gu buil 'nar latha-ne, agus gu h-àraidh gnothach a bhùneas do 'n bhaile-mhòr, agus do nithean eile nach 'eil ceangailte ris a' Ghaidhealtachd fhéin, agus ri seann nòs nan Gaidheal. Tha i maith gu leòr, their iad, air son gnothach fearainn is iasgaich is spréidh, air son seinn is ceol, agus gnothaichean de 'n t-seorsa sin a bha riamh ceangailte ris a' Ghaidhealtachd, ach a thaobh gnothach a tha buntainn ri Galldachd agus ri caithe-beatha is gnìomhachas an t-saoghail mhóir, agus suidheachadh dhaoine an diugh, their iad nach 'eil i freagarrach idir, no comasach, air smuaintean is gnothaichean dhaoine a chur gu buil. Ach is e an fhirinn nach d' fhuair a' Gaidhlig riamh cothrom air leigeil fhaicinn cho freagarrach 's a tha i air son so, mar air son gnothach eile.

Cha mhòr gum bheil seachdain sa' bhliadhna nach 'eil litrichean agus sgrìobhadhean-gnothaich eile a' dol eadar Rùnaire a' Chomuinn agus mi fhéin, agus iomadach seachdain barrachd air aon sgrìobhadh-gnothaich, agus is ann an Gaidhlig a tha sinn ag cur gach gnothaich air bonn agus an ordugh, riamh bho ghabh mise cùisean a' Ghaidheil os làimh. Bha e ceart cho furasda dhuinn gnothaichean a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich a chur air adhart an Gaidhlig 's a bhiodh e am Beurla; agus bha gach cùis is gnothach cho soilleir agus cho réidh dhuinn le chèile 's a dh' iarradh sinn, no duine sam bith eile. Cha deachaidh an aon lide am Beurla san ùine sin a sgrìobhadh eadar an dithis againn.

Chan e cion comais no freagarrachd a tha air a' Ghaidhlig a thaobh gnothaichean an latha an diugh ach cion cleachdaidh.

* * *

Nam faigheadh, ma tha, a' Ghaidhlig cothrom, agus gun cleachdadh na Gaidheil mar so i ann an sgrìobhadh, ann a bhith cur gnothaich gu buil, bhiodh i cho easgaidh agus cho sìubhlach agus cho soilleir an ceann gnothaich sam bith

ris a' Bheurla, no ri cànan sam bith eile, agus cho easgaidh agus cho sìubhlach agus cho soilleir 's a tha i fhéin ann an seinn òran, no an ceann aoraidh.

Agus their mise an urras nach 'eil òrdugh a gheibh marsanta sgrìobhte an Gaidhlig nach freagair e gu maith ullamh. Mur 'eil e fhéin comasach air an òrdugh a leughadh theid mise an urras nach fhada gus am faigh e neach a leughas dha e. Bheireadh so a h-àite dligeach fhéin do 'n Gaidhlig ann an gnothaich. Tha na mìltean air a' Ghaidhealtachd an diugh a leughas agus a sgrìobhas Gaidhlig cho maith ri Beurla, agus nan tòisicheadh iad air an cànan fhéin a chleachdadh mar so ann an gnothaichean cumanta bheireadh e neart ùr, agus beatha ùr, do 'n Gaidhlig, gu h-àraidh a' thaobh sgrìobhadh agus facail ùra a tha cho lionmhor san t-saoghal an diugh.

Dé mu dheidhinn muinntir a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich leigeil fhaicinn ciod a ghabhas deanamh sa' chùis so ?



Am fear nach toir gnothach do'n bhaile-mhòr bheir e gnothach as.—*He that goes without business to town will find it his business to get out of it.*



FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

An t-Urramach Alasdair MacDhomh-nail, D.D.—Tha muinntir a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich riarichte agus ro thoilichte gum bheil Oilthig Ghlaschua' toirt an urrainn D.D. do ar caraid Ministear Eaglais Chalum Chille an Glaschu. Bidh na Gaidheil gu léir toilichte so a chluinntinn, oir tha ar caraid, chan ann a bhàin 'na shàr Ghaidheal ach 'na Mhinistear cho dlèas is cho soisgenlach 's a sheas an cùbaid. Tha e air aon de luchd-riaghlaidh a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich, agus tha fhacal 's a ghliocas cho gabhte an sin 's a tha e am measg nan Gaidheal anns gach àite eile—deas is tuath. Chan 'eil mòran ann an diugh as dlìse do a chànan is do a dhaoine an Alasdair Dòmhnallach urramach, agus chan 'eil a bheag ann a bheir bàrr air ann an labhairt ar cànan le loinn is comas. Gum meal agus gun caith e an t-urram. Gu dearbh is geal as airidh air e.

* * *

Murchadh Moireach, M.A., H.M.I.S.—Tha Murchadh Moireach air ceum an àirde fhaotainn 'na dhreuchd chudhromach; tha e nis 'na làn Fhear-ceasmachaidh Sgoilean fo 'n chrùn. Is airidh air an sin e, agus tha na Gaidheil ag cur meal-an-naidheachd air. Is

ann am baile agus an siorrachd Obaireadhain a tha e ri saothrachadh, agus thatar 'ga fhágail an sin fhathast. Bu mhaith leinne e bhith air a' Ghaidhealtachd ach tha sinn an dòchas gum bi e an sin ri ùinc. Is ann bharr a' Bhac an Leodhas a tha Mgr. Moireach—sàr Ghaidheal agus deagh charaid a' Ghaidheil. Is minic a bha an *Gaidheal* fo chomain aige, agus tha sinn an dòchas gum bi fhathast. An tuilleadh pisich air.

* * *

Iain Moffat-Pender.—Gu dearbh is mi a fhuair an togail an la-roimhe agus mi air fios fhaotainn bho mo sheann charaid Iain Mór an Fhéilidh á Bhictoria an Astráilia. Có a bhuineas do 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach, no do na h-Eileana Siar, nach dean gárdeachas ri linn ainm Moffat-Pender fhaicinn no chluinntinn? Is mór an t-saothair a rinn e as leth ar càinain. Is e a' cheud athair a bha air Clann an Fhraoich o an do shìolaich Comunn na h-Oigridh. Có bu dilse na e air son leas ar càinain agus maith ar daoine; agus tha sinn an dòchas gun till e nall 'nar measg nuair a thig crìoch air a' chogadh. Tha an *Gaidheal* agus muinntir a' Chomuinn ag cur ceud beannachd thuige, thà, agus tha mi cinnteach, muinntir nan Eileana Siar. Gun tì esan.

* * *

Mòd Shan Francisco.—Is mór as urrainn aon duine a dheanamh as leth aobhar sam bith ma tha an duine sin eudmhor is comasach. Sin mar a tha Seumas MacGaraidh as leth na Gaidhlig an *California* agus an *San Francisco*. Bho chionn dhà no thri bhliadhnan an so fhuair e air clas Gaidhlig a chur air bonn ann an Oilthigh Shan Francisco—no baile an Naomh Fhraing an duirt e fhéin. Tha e fhéin—le còmhnaidh dithis no triuir eile—air ceann a' chlas Gaidhlig so. Dhùisg, ma tha, an clas Gaidhlig a leithid a dh' eud, 's a dh' iarraidh air litreachas is ceol Gaidhlig, agus gun do chum iad Mòd air fìor dheireadh a' mhìos so chaidh. B' e so an dara Mòd bliadhna a bh' aca an San Francisco, agus bha gach nì aca mar a tha sinn cleachdte air aig an tigh—saothair litreachais, agus labhairt is leughadh Gaidhlig, seinn òran agus aithris rosg is bàrdachd, agus gach nì eile mar sin mar a bhios againn fhein aig Mod. Piseach air Seumas MacGarraidh agus air a leithid, cha bu mhise sinn aon leth-dusan de a sheorsa air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Tha sinn uasal as.

* * *

Scròbadh nam biasd.—So agaibh seanachas air Rònaidh a chuir mo charaid A.M. chugam agus baidh e cho maith dhomh a thoirt dhuibh san dol seachad an so. Tha sinn 'na chomain.

Annas a' chuan fhosgailte, an ear-thuath air Leodhas tha Sùlasgeir (Sgeir nan Sùlairean) agus Rònaidh (Eilean nan Ròn). Tha miltean shùlairean a' neadachadh air Sùlasgeir, agus tha na ròin 'nan ceudan a' tighinn air tìr air Rònaidh.

Ann an toiseach an fhoghair bhiodh na Nisich a' dol gu Sùlasgeir a thoirt dhachaidh luchd nan eathraichean de dh' ìsein nan Sùlaire agus ann an toiseach a' gheamhraidh bha iad a' dol do Rònaidh a mharbhadh nan ròin. Tha an sgeir 's an eilean an aon fhad bho thir-mór agus a tha iad bho Leodhas, ach is ann do Leodhas a bhuineas iad.

Nuair a bha ban-àmhach a' tighinn á Lochlann le Leodhas ann an cliabh, thuit Sùlasgeir agus Rònaidh tre bhriagan a' chléibh. Bha a' bhan-àmhach mór, ach cha ruigeadh i le cuiseig air cruachan a màthar.

Is e mac-meanmainn a' phàganaich a dhealbhadh seanachas cailleach a' chléibh, ach is mac-meanmainn a' Chrìosduidh a thug "Sgròbadh nam Biasd" mar ainm air creig ann an Rònaidh. Anns an t-seachdamh linn theich an Naomh Roman bho aingidheachd muinntir Eòropaidh is chaidh e air tìr an Rònaidh. Aig an àm sin bha an t-eilean làn de bheathaichean fadhach, "nathraichean nimhe, grihb ingneach, agus leòmhain bheueach." Theich na biasdan roimh làthaireachd an naoimh an coinnicinn an cùl, thairis air na creagan, sìos do 'n mhuir. Ach air son a leigeil fhaicinn mar a bha iad ag greimeachadh ri 'm beatha 's ri talamh, tha sgròbadh nan ingnean aca ri fhaicinn anns na creagan gun an latha an diugh. Chunnac mi iad le mo dhà shùil fhein. Dh' fhoighnic mi de mo choimhearnach Samson cìod e a bheachd fhéin air beul-aithris nam bodach a thaobh "sgròbadh nam biasd." Thubhairt e: "Nam bitheadh gràs aig d' anamsa, rud nach 'eil, chitheadh tu, gun mise innsadh dhuit, gur h-e tha ànn cosamhlachd air buaidh an t-Soisgeil air dorcadhas nan cinneach." Faodaidh e bhith nach 'eil mo choimhnearsnach fada ceàrr.

* * *

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Gun a bhith leisg ann an gnothaichibh, dùrachdach 'n 'ur spiorad; a' deanamh seirbhis do an Tighearna. —*Romanach* xii, II.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

—◇—

Obair dhùine gun chéill, dol gu féill gun airgid.—*A senseless man's work—going to market without cash.*

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

A Special Meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn was held in Stirling, on Friday, 17th March, 1944. The President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhitter, presided, and the following members were present :—

Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Balmaha; M's. M. Barron, Glasgow; Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow; Stewart Cunningham, M.A., Kinbuck; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Glasgow; Neil MacEachnie, Greenock; Angus MacIver, Glasgow; Rev. T. M. Murchison, M.A., Glasgow. In attendance:—James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary, and Miss C. M. Macpherson, assistant to the Secretary.

Apologies were intimated from a number of members of Council.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Minute of the Advisory Committee containing the Resolution calling this meeting. Thereafter, the recommendations of the Central (War Comforts) Committee, for the disbursement of the Royal and Merchant Navies Comforts Fund were read as follows :—

£2,000 to the Rev. J. M. MacLeod, Greenock, for the Highland Rest Centre there.

£1,000 to North and West Ports and Junctions.

£1,000 to the British Sailors' Society Hostel, Greenock.

The balance of the Fund not exceeding £250 to the British Sailors' Society Hostel in Glasgow.

Mrs. Bannerman, Convener of the Central (War Comforts) Committee moved that these recommendations be approved. This was seconded by Mrs. Barron.

After discussion, Mrs. Dunlop moved that £500 be donated to the British Sailors' Society Hostel at Greenock. This motion was not seconded. There being no further proposals, the recommendations of the Central Committee were approved.

On the suggestion of the President, it was agreed that the Secretary and the Treasurer of An Comunn be appointed as representatives on the local Committee in Greenock, of which, the Rev. John M. MacLeod is Convener. Mrs. Bannerman, who could not undertake to attend meetings in Greenock, proposed as representatives from the Central (War Comforts) Committee, Mrs. Dunlop and Mrs. Barron. Dr. Cameron seconded this motion and, the ladies accepted. Mr. Neil MacEachnie, Greenock, who was present, agreed to represent the local Affiliated Society, *Tir nam Beann*, on the Committee. It was further suggested

that a lady member of An Comunn in Greenock be invited to serve on the Committee and the Secretary was asked to approach Miss Janet MacAulay.

After discussion, it was decided to name the centre:—"AROS," An Comunn Gaidhealach (The Highland Association) Royal and Merchant Navies Club.

The Treasurer said that the local Committee would keep a separate account of their intromissions, and that funds would be made available by him as required, to the extent of the sum allocated.

It was noted with satisfaction, that the Rev. Mr. MacLeod had agreed to take a special interest in the welfare and comfort of Gaelic speakers and Highland men generally.

Mrs. Bannerman asked if the Executive Council would be agreeable to allow the Central Committee to decide on the sums which would be paid to various hostels and the like from the £1,000 allocated for this purpose. This was agreed to.

This being all the business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

Branches and supporters of An Comunn are responding well to the appeal by the Northern Organiser on behalf of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee for support, in order to avoid a deficit at the end of the financial year—31st May, 1944. Reports of activities in this connection can be read in the course of these "Notes."

On March 16th, Mr. Macphail paid his annual visit to Aberdeen Branch. The Lecturer for the evening was Mr. Donald McLeod, Knock, Lewis, who has just retired and has made his home in Aberdeen. He read a most interesting Paper on "Second Sight," in Gaelic and English. On the motion of Mr. Murdo Murray, H.M.I.S., he was warmly thanked for his valuable contribution. Mr. Macphail spoke in Gaelic and English on the work of An Comunn. Mr. A. G. MacKenzie, M.A., the esteemed Hon. Secretary to the Branch, was presented with a tangible token on the occasion of his forthcoming marriage. Mr. Chas. Davidson made the presentation. Mr. Dugald MacDonald, President, presided over an interesting and

educative meeting and his own contribution in excellent Gaelic was warmly received. There is a proposal on foot to hold an all-Gaelic meeting monthly during next Session.

On the following evening, the Organiser attended at a Ceilidh at the Leachkin, in aid of The Central Fund. Mr. T. S. G. McLean, who organised this function, presided. There was a very large attendance and from this effort the sum of £20 has been added to the Fund.

On 22nd March, the Newtonmore Branch staged a Ceilidh in the Public Hall, and there was an attendance of about 200. Mr. J. M. Munro, Hon. Secretary, acted as Fear-an-Tighe and a delightful programme of songs and instrumental music was submitted.

Mr. Macphail was present at a Ceilidh, under the auspices of the Glenurquhart Branch on 24th March. Mr. Rob. Gollan, President, gave an address in Gaelic and English and introduced Mr. T. S. G. McLean as Fear-an-Tighe for the evening. There was a large attendance and from this function £12 5/- was sent to the Central Fund.

On the same evening, Mr. Peter MacLeod, M.A., a member of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee, held an Entertainment at Croy, and from this effort the Central Fund benefited to the extent of £12 10/-.

On 29th March the Abernethy Branch held a Ceilidh in aid of the Central Fund. The programme was all-Gaelic and there was a large attendance. The Northern Organiser presided, and the arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. Kenneth Fraser, M.A., Hon. Secretary. From this function the sum of £10 was added to the Fund.

On 31st March, Mr. Norman J. MacLeod, M.A. (a member of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee) staged a Ceilidh and Dance at Culcabock on behalf of the Central Fund. Mr. J. A. MacKintosh, Agent, Bank of Scotland, presided over a large audience. An excellent programme was submitted. Including donations from many of the local ladies, the handsome sum of £30 was sent to Headquarters.

From Newtonmore Branch has come a Donation of £40 4/9 for the Central Fund.

The Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee desires to thank the Branches and individual supporters very sincerely for these splendid efforts on behalf of An Comunn, and appeals to others to follow the good example already set. All donations received before 31st May,

will be included in this year's Balance-Sheet. Cuiribh ann, so an t-àm!

Mr. Macphail made a hurried visit to Portree recently to assist in the arrangements for the next Savings Drive "Salute the Soldier." Handbills and Posters are being prepared in Gaelic for use in the North and West during the Campaign.

Is iomadh gille gleusda a bha na Cheannard air Feachd Phort-Rìghheadh ach cha tug aonnan barr air a' ghille ghasda a tha san dreuchd sin an dràsda, Fionnlagh Iain Domhnallach á Scarasta sna Hearadh. Fo a stiùradh tha na buill a' fàs suas nan deagh Ghaidheil is bhan-Ghaidheil agus neo-ar-thaing mur 'eìd ail ag cumail Bratach na Gaidhlighe ri Crann. Bithidh Fionnlagh a' togail air gu Ard Thigh Foghlum Ghlaschu am bliadhna agus tha sinn ag guidhe gach soirbheachadh leis a' ghille choir.

The Glen Urquhart Branch has lost a faithful supporter by the death of Mrs. Eoghan Fraser, Strone. She was buried at Kilmore Churchyard on 20th March, and part of the funeral service was conducted in Gaelic by the Rev. Angus Boyd, M.A., Glen Urquhart. Mr. MacPhail represented the Northern Sub-Committee at the funeral.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

On 18th March I presided over the weekly Ceilidh of Tir n' m Beann Association, Greenock. These Saturday evening gatherings are held in the Police Club Halls and attract large attendances. The programmes submitted are mainly Gaelic, and the Association is to be heartily congratulated on its enterprise, and for the wholesome Highland fare they provide. This is the only Highland Association, in Greenock, which has continued activities during the war years, but one was pleased to learn that the Greenock Gaelic Choir is resuming practices. Greenock always attracted people from the Highlands, particularly from the Islands, and anything done by way of providing them with entertainment reminiscent of the homeland is to be warmly commended.

I paid my annual visit to the Ayr Branch on 21st March. The Rev. Archie Beaton, Dundonald, presided over the largest gathering of this Branch that I can recall. Mr. Beaton is a very popular Chairman and the proximity of his parish to the capital town enables him to pay an occasional visit to the ceilidhean. This Branch has had a most successful session, and much to the delight

and satisfaction of the members, the Gaelic Class was resumed and attendances were very regular. The Country Dance Class continues to attract the younger members, and their exhibitions are always a pleasant feature at the close of the ceilidh proceedings. The Office-bearers are to be heartily congratulated on the success of these monthly meetings and the place which the Branch holds in the town of Ayr.

I journeyed to the Lorn district on 23rd March, and attended a meeting of the Appin Branch that evening. Mr. D. Macpherson, M.A., President, was in the chair, and in opening the proceedings he paid a beautiful tribute to the memory of Miss Margaret MacInnes who had been an office-bearer of the Branch for many years. Miss MacInnes taught in the Strath of Appin School for upwards of 20 years and was held in high esteem by everyone. The first half of the programme was sustained by local singers, assisted by Mr. John Kennedy, Glasgow. A choir trained and conducted by Miss Anne Scott Rae gave pleasing renderings of Gaelic songs. The second half was sustained by Miss Russell-Fergusson who gave a recital of Gaelic songs with Clarsach accompaniment. The appearance of this talented artist was much appreciated. The customary votes of thanks were moved by the Chairman and the Rev. John MacDonald, M.A. The proceedings closed with the singing of the last two verses of the 72nd Psalm in the traditional Gaelic manner.

A collection in aid of the Central Fund amounted to £3 10/-.

I retraced my steps to Taynult on the 24th and presided over the closing Ceilidh of the Cruachan Branch in the village Hall. There was a splendid attendance and a fine programme of Gaelic songs and Instrumental Music was gone through. This Branch has had a very successful session and the monthly ceilidhean are eagerly looked forward to by young and old. The Rev. Murdo MacDonald, who was recently elected minister of Muckairn, has taken a keen interest in the Branch and has presided at its meetings. Votes of thanks were moved by the Chairman and Mr. MacDonald. This Branch has already contributed to the Central Fund.

The annual Donnchadh Ban Ceilidh of the Oban Branch was held in the Masonic Hall, on 25th March. I had the honour of presiding over this important gathering in which the local members take an especial interest and pride. The Hall was filled to capacity, and many people were unable to gain admission. A fine programme of songs, instrumental music, and Highland dancing was provided,

and as was appropriate to the occasion, many of the Bard's songs were sung including the classics *Mairi Bhàn Og*, *Coire Cheathaich* and *Moladh Beinn Dobhrain*. Mr. Peter Fletcher, President, welcomed to the Ceilidh Mr. D. MacGregor Whyte and Mr. Donald Thomson who had been absent for some time. Mr. Thomson acknowledged the President's welcome and moved votes of thanks to the Chairman and artistes. This Branch has had a splendid session and the Saturday evening meetings have proved popular with the members and Gaelic public generally. The Branch will make a contribution to the Central Fund at a later date.

The Branch in Benderloch had not functioned since the outbreak of war, but the Office-bearers responded very willingly to my request for a meeting and arranged for a Ceilidh on behalf of the Central Fund in the local Hall, on the evening of 27th March. The Ceilidh was a pronounced success and it was quite evident that the people of Ledaig and district were only too glad to meet again under the banner of An Comunn. The attendance on this occasion was the largest seen in the Hall for a very long time. The Rev. Alexander MacDonald, Ardchattan, was in the chair, and carried through a splendid programme of Gaelic songs, piping, and Highland dancing. A party of School children, led by Miss Crerar assistant teacher, gave delightful renderings of several Gaelic songs. The Ceilidh was so much enjoyed by those present that its continuance is assured. Votes of thanks were moved by Mr. Alasdair Kennedy at the close. A collection in aid of the Central Fund was taken during an interval, and added to the surplus from the dance which followed, the handsome sum of £11 has been passed on to the Treasurer of An Comunn.

The Tarbert Branch which has been meeting regularly during the war years has contributed most generously to An Comunn Comforts Funds and the Central Fund. On my visit last year, it will be recalled, that the splendid sum of £27 was collected at the Ceilidh and handed over to the Central Fund. I revisited Tarbert, on 12th April, and a similar amount was collected for the Central Fund, a truly magnificent response to the call for support of the parent Association. Mr. Iain Campbell, President, presided in his usual happy and capable manner, and his Committee had arranged a programme of all-round excellence. Guest artistes were present from Carradale and were given a cordial reception.

This Branch and the Tarbert Fishermen's

Association contributed £100 to the Royal and Merchant Navies' Fund of An Comunn, and, in addition, are remembering in a tangible way all those from the village who are serving in H.M. Forces.

An officer of the U.S.A. Forces was present at the Taibert Ceilidh, and, in conversation, I ascertained that he was a member of the Gaelic Society in Los Angeles, and that his favourite Gaelic song was *Mo Ribhinn Choibhneil*. Mr. William Galbraith, Carradale, responded to the chairman's request for this popular Easdale song and our guest was delighted. His name is Iain MacEwing and his forbears belonged to the Clachan district of Kintyre.

The Glasgow Mod promoted by the Joint Committee of the Glasgow Branches will be held in the Highlanders' Institute on Friday and Saturday, 2nd and 3rd June. There is an increase in the entries this year and this has necessitated a modification of the time table outlined in the printed Syllabus. The following will help competitors to make arrangements until such time as they are notified by the Secretary, Mr. Murdo MacLeod:—Friday Afternoon, 2.30—Junior and Instrumental Competitions. Friday Evening, 7—Senior Solo Competitions in the Main Hall, and Oral Competitions in the Gymnasium Hall. Saturday Afternoon, 2.30—Choral Competitions in the Main Hall, and Quartette and Duet Singing in the Gymnasium Hall.

The Grand Closing Concert will be held in the St. Andrew's (Large) Hall, at 7.30 p.m.. The programme will be sustained by the first-prize winners.

NIALL.

BRANCH OF AN COMUNN FORMED IN P.O.W. CAMP IN GERMANY.

The following letter, dated 29th January, has been received from Sergeant Donald K. MacLean, and we feel sure its contents will give much pleasure to our members.

It is very heartening to know that our gallant lads are taking such a keen and practical interest in An Comunn, and we wish them joy at their Ceilidhean. Some of those mentioned have received parcels of Books from An Comunn, and more are on the way to help with their Gaelic programmes.

Sir,—As Secretary of the Camp Branch of An Comunn I take the liberty of dropping you these few lines just to show that the Gaelic side of our St. Andrew's Association (of which

you have probably heard) is still well to the fore. A Gaelic class was formed in this camp over a year ago, and the spade work was done principally by John MacKay, of Stornoway, and another John MacKay, from Lochinver. Dun MacKay, Lochcarron, was also in very early. From the first class of eight people we have now grown to two classes, beginners, 16; and advanced, 18; these with the native speakers decided to form a branch of An Comunn last August. Since then, we have very successfully run two Ceilidhs a month, an hour's singing lesson daily, and Gaelic classes five times a week.

The officials are President, Capt. Father Grant; Vice-President, C.Q.M.S. Dun. MacKay; Secretary, myself, and Treasurer, Cpl. Harry Robinson, Lochgilhead, with John MacKay, Stornoway, and Capt. Grant, as Gaelic Teachers, and Alasdair Cattanach, Mull, as Singing Teacher.

Included in our Gaelic classes we number two Australians and one New Zealand lad. I, myself, belong to Stornoway, and we have members from Uist, Skye, Mull, Argyll, Perth, Inverness, Ross-shire, Moray, and Edinburgh.

We are now eagerly awaiting some new song books which have been sent out from various sources, but even without them we are having some splendid entertainments.—Yours sincerely,

(Signed) D. K. MACLEAN.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

The representatives appointed by the Executive Council to the local Committee of the "Aros" centre for the male personnel of the Royal and Merchant Navies in Greenock attended a meeting there on 27th March.

Arrangements were made for the equipping and furnishing of the Centre, and we are pleased to intimate that the opening ceremony will be held on Tuesday, 2nd May, at 7.30 p.m. The local Convener, Rev. John M. MacLeod will preside, and the opening ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., President of An Comunn. Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Convener, of the Central (War Comforts) Committee will also take part and it is hoped to have other speakers present representative of the Services.

A cordial invitation is extended to all member who may find it convenient to attend.

The Centre is situated in Patrick Street (South East corner of Ardgowan Square) Greenock.

The British Sailors' Society Hostel for Seamen in Greenock was officially opened by H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent on 24th March. An Comunn was represented at the ceremony by Mrs. M. Barron, and Mrs. J. B. Dunlop.

The four cabins endowed by An Comunn have a plate affixed bearing the name of An Comunn Gàidhealach.

AN DARA-GLUSAD.

[Bha an oraid so leis an Ollamh D. S. MacLeod an Inbhir Nis air ag cur air clár, agus an sin air a craobh-sgaoileadh air an Radio ann an ra'had Facal-dealachaidh air o'dhche 3/3/44.]

Tha a chruaidh-fhortan mu chasan Hitler, a chairdean, is tha chead aige. Nam biodh ciall aig nam maribh dheanadh iad àite dhàsan. Chan e a mhàin gu bheil na Gearmailtich is na Ruiseanaich an amhaichean a' chéile. Taobh an ear na Roinn Eòrpa tha feachdan Bhreatainn is America a nis air an corra-bid air an Taobh-an-iar; cha robh an leithid ann bho linn Oisein, is a réir coltais mus tig copag na Bealtainn thig a' chùis gu buil. Cha bhruadair taitneach, is cha chadal mìlis so do'n Ghearmailt; chan 'eil taitneasan an lorg a' chogaidh an diugh do na creachadairean a dhùisg e, is math nach 'eil.

Chan 'eil ach beagan ùine 'n uair a bha làndùil aig an namhaid cuir-m-buaidh éibheach an Lunnainn is sin le braoisg gu bun a' chàirein 'na chraos greannach. Sguab e an Fhraing as a rathad, sgob e leis gach speir air raon, is bha guth a' mhulaid san dùthaich sin mar ghuth an aoibhneis dhasan.

Rùnaich e thiginn a Bhreatainn a thogail nan creach ach 's e choinnich e bualadh nan speach an tomhas pailt.

Roghnaich is rùnaich e 'n uair sin, taing do 'n Fhreasdal a chobhair sinn, tionndadh gu near an aghaidh Ruisea far nach teid cadal air a shùil an diugh no fòis air a cheum, gun taing dha.

Bu chorrach ar suidheachadh-ne aig an ám cho fada bho chàrdean is cho faisg air an nàmhad. Ach tha e air tighinn fo smuairan — chan 'eil e, mar bhiodh Fear Bhriascleit, gun chìram, 's a chùl ri Eitseal; tha amharus air gu bheil a' bhoichduinn sa' chùis dha is nach

ann roimhe a dh' éirich an naosg. Tha dealachadh nan tràth tighinn faisg air is glacar na Gearmailtich, anns na h-innleachdan a dhealbhadh. Far am bidh càil cha bhi cothrom daonnan, agus sin mar tha tachairt dhaibh a nis san Eadailt is an Ruisea, far a' bheil iad an coileach an t-srutha. Ma bha an tìr againn air a h-uilinn uair, tha i air a' chaochladh an diugh is cha bheag an diamhreachd mar dheònaich sealbh, a dh' aobhraich sin. Is iomadh naidheachd bhios ri innseadh do 'n linn tha tighinn air.

Is iomadh curaidh treun thug mionaid gu sìorruidheachd an bliadhna fhéin: is gach latha tha mìltean bhantrach as ùr sa' Ghearmailt le trom-dhorran nan Ruiseanich.

Ach a nis tha an Dara-glusad, Glusad mòr Bhreatainn is America, air tighinn gu ìre. Tharruing sin ùine nach bu bheag eadar treallaich cogaidh is daoine altachadh 'nan dreuchdan cogaidh, gun tighinn air farsuingeachd a' chuain shiar is cuilbheartan an namhaid is gach cunnart mara b' urrainn da uisneachadh. Eadar sgiathalain adhair, mòr is beag, a dheasachadh 'nam mìltean, luing-cogaidh is bàtaichean aisig, soithichean bathair, is e miorbhail a th' ann gun do thachair e. Ach tha America saibhir is deanadach is innleachdach an dòigh nach do thuing muinntir is foadar a' chleas a radh mu Bhreatainn fhéin.

Tha a' Ghearmailt an diugh an cunnart nach robh i riamb, ged is cumhachdach an dùthaich i fhathast, oir eadar a' chlach uachdrach, Breatainn is America is a chlach-ìochdrach, Ruisea, theid a bleth, am bliadhna, cho min ris a' chàth. Tha na bailtean puirt is na bailtean dìon aice 'gan smàladh à bith le builg-spreadhaidh Bhreatainn, gach latha toirt fianuis air cumhachd nan dùthchannan aonaichte. Ach ge b' e air bith c' àite an buaillear a' bhuille leinne, san Olaind no anns an Fhraing, thig an nàmhad le bhuille fhéin is cha bhi i fann no aotrom. Biodh sin mar a bhithes, thigear air-san mar phlathadh dealanaich, is theid ruag an tuirc a dheanadh air, mar thachair an àitean eile anns gach blàr is càs sna ghéill e.

Tha sgrìob liath an earraich dlùth dha ged a bhòidich is ged a bhriathraich e gu dian air a chaochladh.

B' esan, 'na bheachd fhéin, an t-eun as àirde tha san ealtainn: fhuair sinne leinn dh' ionnsaigh so, ged bha cùisean teann oirn; bheir an Dara-glusad neul na h-oidhche air-san; tha neul an latha air dol dheth mar tha.

Oidhche mhath leibh, a chairdean.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Tha mi a' dol a thilleadh a rithist a dh' ionnsaigh nam feannag is nan eun eile mun robh mi a' sgrìobhadh; agus is è an t-aobhar, gun d' fhuair mi litir ghasda bho aon de 'n chloinn, a tha a' buntainn ris na nithean so mun robh mi a' sgrìobhadh. Is ann an eilean beag Luinn a tha ise a sgrìobh, agus tha deagh ainm oirre—cinneadh a thug dhuinn bàird is lighichean—ach eagal nach bi i féin air-son a h-ainm a thoirt seachd cha teid mi nas fhaide na sin. Tha i ag ràdh gur e a bu bhun-stéidh do 'n ràdh, "Tha gille aig an fheannaig féin anns an fhoghar," muintir a bhios ag gleidheadh tuille sheirbhiseach na tha feum aca orra; agus an uair a tha am foghar air tighinn, gu bheil a' chuid as motha de thraingead na bliadhna seachad! Ach tha mise an dùil nach 'eil so ceart. Is ann mar a thà gur e am foghar (am mach bho 'n earrach) àm as trainge de 'n bhliadhna uile gu léir; agus tha mi an dùil gur è is ciall do 'n ràdh gu bheil de chosnadh r' a sholar an uair sin 's gu bheil an fheannag féin—na *common five-eights*, mar a their iad anns a' Bheurla—ag cur fàsdaidh air luchd-oibre gu an cuideachadh.

So agaibh, a nis, tuille ràdhteana is a thug i dhomh. "Cho eòlach 's a tha am brìdein anns an tràigh"; "Cho càirdel ri giomach is gibneach am faigh"—agus tha an t-eagal orm nach biodh sin glé chàirdheil!; "Cho lag ri cuileig"; "Cho mall ri seilcheig"; "Cho trang ri seillean"; "Cho rìghinn ri leather"; "Cho dearg ri caorunn"; "Cho fìuich ri sgarbh"; "Cho glic ri nathair"; "Cho gòrach ris na h-eoin"; "Cho neo-chronail ris na calamain"; "Cho bodhar ri giadh anns an fhoghar"; "Cho umhail ri luch fo spòig a' chait"; "Cho seolta ri sionnach na maoile"; "Cho sgith ris a' chù"; "Cho sunndach ri fiadh"; "Cho binn ri smeòrach air géig"; "Cho coltach r' a chéile ri dà sgadan"; "Cho dall ri damh ann an ceò"; "Cho gnù ri broc"; "Cho àrd ceann ri fiadh fìrich"; "Cho gionach ris a' chù"; "Cho mòr aig a chéile ri dà cheann eich"; "Cho sona ri breac ann an sruth"; "Cho buidhe ri cois tunnaig."

Feumaidh mi innseadh dhuibh, a nis, gu bheil mi an déidh litir fhaotainn bho mo charaid féin is bhur caraid-sa—an t-Urr. Calum MacGhilleathain. Bha ar caraid thall an Africa san àm anns an robh an t-Ochdamh Arm a' ruagadh nan Gearmailteach is nan Eadailteach a mach as an dùthaich sin, agus thug mi dhuibh mar thà litir grad-shiubhlach troimh adhar a

fhuair mi bhuaithe chugaibhse. Tha mi toilichte, is bidh sibhse toilichte cuideachd, gu bheil e a nis dhachaidh sàbhailte gu a chagailt féin. Tha e air rannan bàrdachd a chur r' a chéile, agus tha mi an geall air an toirt dhuibh ioma-shlàn, maille ris an aobhar air an cur r' a chéile, an litir an ath mhiosa. Dh' fhàgadh e an litir so ro fhada na rannan féin, gun ghuth air an t-seanachas a tha 'nan cois, a thoirt dhuibh. An àite sin is è a tha mi a' dol a dheanamh, mar cheann-finid do m' sheanachas, facal no dhà a sgrìobhadh mun inneil-ciùil ud nach cluinn sinn air a cluich ach glé annam an diugh—an tromb. Tha mi air-son fios fhaotainn a bheil ainm sam bith eile ach "tromb" aig aon agaibh oirre. Mar a tha fios agaibh, their cuid "Jew's Harp" rithe anns a' Bheurla; ach ciamar a fhuair i an t-ainm so chan 'eil làn dhearbhadh againn. Bha cuid de na seann daoine a bha anabarrach ealanta air cluich na trumbe, agus is iomadh sgeul a tha air a h-innseadh anns a bheil a cluich a' tighinn a stigh. Far am biodh trombadair ealanta chluicheadh e a dhà còmhla; agus glé bhitheanta bhiodh cluig bheaga an crochadh r' a lùdagan is e 'gan seirm mar a bhiodh e freagarrach do 'n cheol. Bha tromb ris an abairtean Tromb Abarach a bha air a deanamh anns a' Ghàidhealtachd—an Lochabar féin, dlùth air seann chaisteal Inbhir-Lòchaidh. Bha an tromb so na bu mhòtha na an cumantas; agus cho math ri bhith air an deanamh gus a' dhà dhuibh a chur fo ghleus aig an aon àm, bha cuid dhuibh anns am biodh dà theanga.

Cha bu toigh le an-spiòradan is creutairean mi-nàdurra cluich na trumbe; ach chan 'eil fios agam co-dhiubh a b' e an ceol féin no an t-iarunn de an robh an tromb air a deanamh, no an dà chuid, aig an robh a' bhuidh so orra.

Tha mi a nis a' dol a thoirt dhuibh toimhseagan, agus mur teid agaibh air innseadh dhomh ciod a tha ann, chan fhaich sibh "tromb gun teanga." So e.

"Teanga chaol, fhada, chruaidh,
Aig mo luaidh, an rìbbinn òg;
'S iomadh aon le 'm binn a guth;
'S iomadh fear le 'm blasd a pòg!"

Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MAC DHUGHAILL.

Faodar an t-òr fhéin a cheannach tuilleadh is daor.—Gold itself may be too dearly bought.

BAS EGIN MHIC FHIONGHUIN.

(Fear-deasachaidh "Mac Talla.")

[Thug mi an t-ìomradh so air bea'ha is bàs a' Ghaidheil fhùghail sin, Eoin MacFhionghuin, as a' phaipèr-naidheachd an "Casket" fo'n cheann-latha 3/2/44. Tha an "Casket" air a chur a mach an Antigonish an Nobha Scotia; agus tha mi an comain mo charaid Fear Chanaidh air son a chur chugam. Tha sinn ag cur ar làn aonta ris a h-uile facal a th' air a ràdh an cu mo dheidhinn Mhic Fhionghuin 's a shaothair air taobh na Gaidhlighe. Cha robh duine beò ri linn a chuireadh gnòthaichean is cùisean an la'ha 's an t-saoghail mhòr an an Gaidhlig bhàth thoirteal chomasach na b' fheàrr na e. Bha a' Ghaidhlig beò da-riiribh, a thaobh gach gnòthach is cuis a bha dol air adhart, bho pheann MhicFhionghuin.—F.-d.]

'S i ar barail nach robh rianh am meas chairdean na Gaidhlig an Alba Nuadh coimeas Eoin Mhic Fhionghuin, agus cuiridh e dulicheadh air luchd-labhairt na cànan aosda 's gach ceann de'n t-saoghal a chluinntinn gun do chaochail an sàr Gaidheal so an Tigh-Eiridinn Cuimhneachail Inbhir Nis (an Ceap Breatann) o chionn còig-laidiag.

Rugadh is thogadh Mac Fhionghuin faisg air Hogomath o chionn trì fichead bliadhna 's a ceithir-diag. Cha robh e ro-shlàò o òige, agus theagamh gun do dh' aobharaich sin nach do chuir e làmh ri tuathanas. Fhuair e na dh' fhaodadh e de dh' fhoghlum 'na sgrìreachd fhéin agus bha e cumail sgoil cuideachd fad beagan bh'ladhnaichean. An s'n, chaidh e car tìm do dh' àrd-sgoil Shidni. Bha e soilleir do na h-uile an sin gu robh talann sgrìobhaidh aige bha sonraichte, agus chaidh ammachadh gu bhith 'na fhear-deasachaidh an *Sydney Academy Record*. 'Na dheidh sin, 's gun e ach dà bhliadhna air fhichead a dh' aos, thòisich e ri cur amach a' "Mhic Talla, agus ró dà bhliadhna dhiag, thainig am paiper amach gu riaghailteach—uir san t-seachdain an toiseach, 's an sin, an deidh e bhith air a mhiadachadh, uair san dà sheachdain. 'Na àm, b' e an son phaipèir a bha gu h-ìomlan an Gaidhlig a bha air fhollais-eachadh air an t-saoghal gu léir. Bha e taitneach anns gach seòl 's e làn do naidheachdan, de dh' uirsgealan, de dh' òrain, is de gach seorsa litreachais, agus bha feadhainn 'ga gabhail a bha comhnuidh 's gach ceann de'n t-saoghal; ach gu tubaisteach, cha robh gu leòr dhiubh ann gu comas a thoirt do'n fhear-deasachaidh a bheòshaint a dheanamh air a' phaipèr amhàin. Dh' fhuair Mac Fhionghuin r'a chumail suas le obair eile fhaighinn dha fhéin a chum gu rachadh aige air a bhith beò, ach cha robh e furasda dha cumail air aghaidh air an dòigh s'n. Gu nàr do na Gaidheil, gu h-àraid an Ceap Breatann (agus ann an Alba cuideachd) cha tugadh cluas dha nuair a bha e 'g innse cho cruaidh 's a bha cùisean, agus mu dheidheadh, an samhradh 1904, thug e seachd sanas nach b' urrainn dha an t-saothair a chumail suas na b' fhaide mura faigh-eadh e dearbhadh gu robh àireamh a dh' fhoghnadh de na Gaidheil toigeach gu rachadh sin a dheanamh; agus le cion dòcha's gu rachadh cùisean am feabhas, sguir "Mac Talla" thighinn amach.

Ged a sguir am paiper cha do dhìobair Mac Fhionghuin a spéis do chainnt a mhathar. Ri ùine fhuair e co'hròm air "Chìil na Gaidhlig" a dheasachadh air son an *Sydney Record* agus fad greis eile bha e cur amach mìosachan air a' b' ainm "Fear na Ceilidh." Bha deagh-dhreac air a'

shaothair a'g gach àin, ach san aimsir mu dheidheadh air am bhéil sin a' labhairt, bha a sgrìobhadh fioreireachdail. Bha e nis glé bhèroite 'na shlàinte ach cha do chùim sin 'na thàmh e; thionndaidh e caochladh sgeul gu Gaidhlig, 's nam measg sin, 's dòcha gur e "Sgeul an Draoidh Eile" as fìor thaitneach.

Bha Mac Fhionghuin air thoiseach cuideachd an teagasg na cànan, agus nuair a chaidh Oilthigh Gaidhlig Ban-Noimh Anna chur air a bhonn, cò bu fhreagarra'che na e fheing gu bhith air ceann na sgoile?

'S truaigh fhéin do chuis na Gaidhlighe mar tha na seoid a bha 'ga cumail suas a' dol as an t-sealladh, fear an deidh fir, 's gun mhòran de'n òigrìdh a' gabhail 'nan àite. Co-dhiubh, fhad' 's a bhios ar cànan air a labhart 's a chuid so de'n t-saoghal, 's co'ir gum bi ainm Eoin Mac Fhionghuin air dheagh-ìomradh.

EADARAINN FHIN.

The B.B.C. and Gaelic.

Sir,—Eachann Uibhisteach and Iain Sgitheanach have had their say on the above topic in the mother tongue of the Highlands and Islands, and I would not encroach further on your space but for the fact that since their conversation took place news has come that the B.B.C. has rejected the protest of An Comunn Branches against the further curtailment of Gaelic broadcasts and their relegation to an even later hour—an hour when every honest countryman (and most Gaels are honest countrymen) is in his bed.

It is to be hoped that An Comunn will not rest content with the excuses given, and that the protest will be repeated frequently as long as the B.B.C.'s attitude is unchanged. For, besides the grievances already alluded to, there are others.

- (1) There are no Gaelic broadcasts for children. Welsh children get about four broadcasts in their native tongue a week (that is the number they got, for example, in the week 17th to 24th March); Gaelic is treated as a language only spoken by middle and old aged folks, and the pernicious policy that obtains of banishing it as far as possible from school is closely copied by the B.B.C.
- (2) There are approximately four times as many Welsh speakers in Britain as there are Gaelic speakers, but Welsh gets six times the amount of broadcasting time that Gaelic does.
- (3) Though the number of Scotsmen who speak Gaelic is comparatively small, Gaelic and all that it implies and stands for makes up a very big proportion of what does remain of Scottish individuality.
- (4) A lot of time is given to broadcasting Workers' Playtime concerts, sometimes of very poor quality, on both wavelengths, at 12.30 p.m. daily. Surely one of these wavelengths could be put at the disposal of Gaelic-speaking workers at least once a month, if not more often.

One would hesitate to take the step of advising Gaelic listeners to unite in the withholding of their licence fees in protest against the B.B.C.'s treatment of their language, until all possibilities of friendly negotiation had been exhausted. It is nevertheless the opinion of the writer of this letter

that proper time and attention will not be given to Gaelic on the wireless until Scotsmen have full control of Scottish broadcasting as, e.g., Canadians and New Zealanders do of broadcasting in their own countries.—I am, yours truly,

J. L. CAMPBELL.

Isle of Canna,
3rd April, 1944.

Féith.

Sir,—Mr. Eachann MacDhugaill's ex-cathedra manner renders it difficult to assess the value of his essays in lexicology. His remark about the word "Féithe" in the sense of English bog or marsh—"A nis, chan fhéithe an t-ionad so gus a bheil ainmhidh a' dol inntie" (*An Gaidheal*, vol. xxxix., page 81)—would not, however, seem to accord with what can be derived from other authorities. The Highland Society's Dictionary gives, generally, féitheachan—bogs, quagmires; and under the singular féith-e (s.f.) refers to feath-a-an (s.m.), defined (apart from unconnected meanings) as "a bog," simpliciter.

Armstrong renders Féith (s.f.) as "a bog, fen, morass," and illustrates by the proverbs:—"Am fear a bhios san fhéith cuiridh h-uile duine a chas air" (also in Nicholson, who translates "... the mud . . .") and "Air toiseach 's a choille, s' air dheireadh san fhéith."

MacAlpine gives the same renderings as Armstrong. One need not follow the matter through the later dictionaries, none of which contains anything to support Mr. MacDhugaill's theory.

Nicholson has another proverb, "Am fear a bhios air thoiseach théid a stobadh anns an fhéith" (again translated "... the mud").

In *Carmina Gadélica*, I., 280, we find—

"Siubhal beinne, siubhal baile,
Siubhal featha fada farsuinn . . ."

and wonder which part of the featha fada farsuinn Mr. MacDhugaill's cow got caught in, a problem also raised by "Fhuair iad Geur-mac-ul-Uaimh tarsuing air féith mhór" in the story of Coise Céin, *Waifs and Strays*, II., 230.

The conclusion appears legitimate in the treatment of the term in the most authoritative dictionaries and in recorded folklore that it bears the English meaning bog, morass, or the like, pure and simple, and quite apart from whether a beast has ever been caught in the specimen under consideration or not. Of course, any competent practising bog is quite likely to have caught lots of creatures in its time; and the fact that some féitheachan have been named after certain of their more notable feats of this kind does not affect the lexical point.

Mr. MacDhugaill's other word, "amhuinn," also invites consideration; but this letter is too long already.—Yours faithfully,

H. COMYN MAITLAND.

14 Grosvenor Crescent,
Edinburgh, 11th April, 1944.

Amhuinn.

A Fhìr-dheasachaidh Ionmhuinn.—Tha mi smuain-eachadh gun bheil mi air faclach fhàstainn san litir aig Mhr. Eachann MacDhugaill a dh' fhairtlich orm fhao'ainn sna faclairan. Is e sin Amhuinn.

An toiseach feumaidh mi aideachadh gun dean sinne aig mo dhachaidh-sa "à" "h" de 'n "a" ann am buidhinn àraidh fhacal, agus tha faclach "amhuinn" againn, ged chuireadh sinn na litrichean aithninn air agus a chuireadh sinn am fuaim eimhinn air mar ni sinn le amh, amhach, amhuinn, ban, fàn agus iomadh facl eile, ged a their sinn làn, slàn, glan agus mòran facl eile coltach ri amhuinn, abhag, bata, bàta, àlainn, mar ni a' mhòr-chuid.

Their sinn "Chùir sin a'mhinn orm" no "Tha sin glé a'aimhneach" ag ciallachadh sa' Bheurla "That distressed me" no "That was very distressing." B' e "aimheal" am facl a' b' fhaigse a fhuair mi air sna faclairan, an cèill agus an litreachadh.

Gun teagamh bhòdh a' chaora bhòchd ann an a'aimhinn—no amhuinnach b' i sin a staid, agus cha b' e an t-àite 's an do thuit i. Is e sin an t-aobhar air son nach lean an t-aimn ris an lagain.

Tha mòran fhacal againn sa' Ghaidhlig nach cleachd sinn ach ann an gnàths-cainnte no dhà, agus mar sin tha sinn air cal aithne air an fhìor chiall aca. Cha chleachd sinne am facl, "beud," ach ann am "Bu mhòr am beud," agus tha mòran againn nach tuigeadh am facl ann an co-cheangal sam bith eile. 'S e "pity" a' dheanadh sinn dheth sa' Bheurla a chionn gur h-e "It's a great pity" a' Bheurla a chuireadh sinn air "Bu mhòr am beud." Ach iadsan a chleachdas "beud" nan cannt, is math a tha fhios acaas gur h-e "hurt" no "injury" an fhìor Bheurla air.

Mar sin 'nar measg-ne cleachdadh sinn "aimhinn" gach latha an iomadh co-cheangal, agus is aithne dhuinn a fhìor chiall, "dis'tress," sa' Bheurla. "The sheep was in distress." Cha chan sinne sin idir, ach 's e their sinn gum bheil i "air a' sinnean." Dh' fhaodadh gum feum i a bhì ann an lagain far nach urrainn di carachadh cuideachd, ach tha mi smuain-eachadh gum bheil mòran ag dreisinn nach urrainn do chaora èirigh de a sinnean ged bhiodh an t-àite rèidh.

Dh' fhaodadh gum cleachd Mgr. MacDhugaill am facl "aimheal" mar chleachdas sinne "aimhinn," agus nach 'eil anna sin ach dà riochd de 'n aon fhacal. Gheibhear iomadh gné atharrachadh air facl eile. Aig mo dhachaidh-sa 's e "bial" a' their sinn far an can mòran "beul," agus trath dh' èigheadh cailleach, air an d' rinn sinn sàrachadh, rinn "Dith beul oirbh!" smuainich sinne gum b' e "Dith Beurla" a' bha i a' ciallachadh mallachd neònach, shaol sinn. Bha sin a' cheart cho neònach ris an uair a thug cailleach Ghailda sglamhadh oirnn. Bha i dol a dheanamh rud-eigin grathail ris na "lungs" againn, ach 's e thubhairt a' bhean bhòchd "lugs"—bheireadh i' air na cluasan againn.

Feumaidh gum tug neach-eigin am mallachd, "Dith beul," do 'n àite againn slàn mar bha e gun e bhì air a' cheart thuigsinn leinn. Agus air an aon dòigh dh' fhaodadh gum tug neach-eigin am facl "amhuinn" gu dùthaich Mhr. MhicDhugaill comhla ris na caoirich—ciòair a' àite far an cleachdar am facl "na làn chéill."

Tha mi glé mhòr an comain Mhr. MhicDhugaill. Chan 'eil fhios nach bhithinn air an duais a gheall e a chosnadh, nan robh mi air bhì cho òg 's a bha mi uair. Their a' bhean agam nach 'eil annam ach am balach fhathast, ged dh' ionnsaich neach-eigin dhì, Fìor dhroch bhodach a ràdh rium. Tha am facl mu dheireadh, co-dhiubh, faisg air an fhìrinn.

—Is mise le meas,

ALASDAIR MAC-AN-T-SAOR.

Dromandarach,
Ardrugh, 4/4/44.

FACAL SAN DEALACHADH.

Tha mòran aig a' Ghaidheal mu seach nach b' urrainn da a thoirt leis air a' mhios so. Tha làn a' chleibh bhriagaich ann an cùil aige a' feitheamh ri rùm a bhith aige leis an toirt am follais, ach ged nach tugadh e leis dad ach na tha sa' chliabh so fhéin chumadh e aon sia mìosan ris 'ga fhàlamhachadh. Agus an deidh ùine cho fada so tha cuid dheth a' fàs goirte agus ag call a bhlasad —ged robh e air a bhith blasda gu leòr nan robhatar comasach, cleas nan marag, aig a' ghabhail fhad 's a bha e teth. Ach chan ann acasan a chuir chugainn e tha a' chuire sin, agus tha sinn fada 'nanomain. Cha ghabh so leasachadh gun a tig crìoch air a' chrich a th' ann, agus am meudaichear an *Gaidheal* chum na tomad a bha aige roimh an chogadh.

An rud eile. Tha an seanfhacal ag radh: gur mìosa nan uireasbhuidh tuilleadh 's a' chòir. Chan 'eil dad a mhaith seannachor fhada chur dh' ionnsaigh a' *Gaidheal* an dràsda—air cho maith 's gum bi e—chan 'eil àite aige dha. Ach ni sinn ar dhioll ri ni goid a tha ionchuidh a thoirt am follais mar a theid againn air.—F.d.

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An t-Ogmhìos, 1944.

[Earrann 9

AROS A' CHOMUINN GHÀIDHEALAICH.

Bha cruinneachadh mór agus eireachdail de Ghaidheil agus de dh' uaislean eile ann an Grianaig air feasgar dara latha a' Cheitein so chaidh. Bha so, agus aros grinn brèagha 'ga chur air leth chum a bhith 'na àite tadhail 'na chialadh tàimh aig ar seòladairean a bhios greis ri linn cogaidh ri port an Grianaig.

Tha mòran de mhuinntir an Nèibhi Rìoghail agus de mhuinntir an Nèibhi Mharsantais, mar a theirear riutha a nis, mach 's a steach á Grianaig; agus a thuilleadh orrasan tha còmhlan maith air chairtealan ann de na h-ingheanan a tha ceangailte ris an Nèibhi Rìoghail, ris an canar na WRENS. 'Nam measg so uile, mar ann an iomadh port-mara eile, tha àireamh maith Ghaidheil, agus bhatar air son, nan gabhadh e deanamh idir, gum biodh àite ann far an cruinnicheadh iad agus an coinnicheadh iad a cheile ann an comhfhurtachd. Ghabh an Comunn Gaidhealach so os làimh mar a rinn iad iomadach rud maith eile chum comhfhurtachd ar saighdearan tìre is adhair bho thòisich an cogadh.

Fhuair eadhon talla mór maiseach agus seòmraichean freagarrach eile air son an aobhair, agus tha an aitreabh gu léir cho taitneach agus cho comhfhurtail 's a dh' iarradh duine. Tha flòr thuar is dreach àite comhfhurtail air an àros gu léir le langsaidean boga blàth agus cathraichean socrach da-làimh anns an teid thu cha mhòr a sealladh gu d' amhaich nuair a shuidheas tu unnta. Tha buird beaga is cathraichean eile timchioll orra

an sud 's an so feadh an talla, agus an èarnais uile cho grinn 's a gheibhte san dachaidh as fhèarr dheth. Tha leabhraichean de gach seòrsa—an Gaidhlig 's am Beurla, agus pailteas dhiubh—san talla, agus meadhan iomairt is cluiche a bhios 'na chur-seachad dhaibh-san a bhios 'ga thadhal. Aig amannan àraid tha copan tea agus grèim leis 'ga thoirt dhaibh-san a bhios ann cuideachd.

* * *

Tha an t-àros agus an obair an earbsa ri comhairle de Ghaidheil eudmhor is ealanta—a' chuid mhòr dhiubh an Grianaig fhéin—agus Ministear còir agus comasach air an ceann, Iain MacLeoid, Ministear na h-Eaglaise Saoire an Grianaig. Is e Mgr. MacLeoid aon de Mhinistearan an Nèibhi am port Ghrianaig cuideachd. Is ann dha-san a tha a' chliù gu sonraichte gu bheil an t-àros air èarnaiseachadh cho freagarrach, agus gu bheil a h-uile ni cho grinn comhfhurtail. Thug an Comunn Gaidhealach dà mhìle pund Sasannach (£2000) do 'n Chomhairle tha sàs san obair chum an aitreabh a chur an òrdugh ceart, agus a chumail a' dol, agus bheil iad tuilleadh dhaibh mar a bhios feum aca air.

Thugadh Aros a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich mar ainm air an aitreabh, agus tha fhios gum bi gach Gaidheal a thadhlas ann, agus a gheibh fàsadh fo a sgéith, buidheach do 'n Chomunn air son a leithid a dh' àros comhfurtail is eireachdail a thoirt do ar gillean is ar nigheanan treuna. Tha fhios nach di-chuimhnich iad an Comunn Gaidhealach agus a shaothair as an leth fhéin, agus as leth an càinain agus an oideas, tha fhios nach di-chuimhnich iad sin an deidh a' chogaidh, no fhad 's a bhios iad beò.

Chaidh, ma tha, an t-Aros fhosgladh, mar a thubhairt mi, air feasgar Di-màirt dara latha a' Chéitein. Bha an talla mór, làn agus ag cur thairis le Gaidheil is uaislean eile, cuid dhiubh a thainig astur fada los a bhith làthair aig seirbhìs cho sonraichte. Bha còmhlan maith de bhalach is de nigheanan an Nèibhi an làthair mar an ceudna.

Thòisich a' choinneamh le bhith seinn ann an Gaidhlig anns an t-seachdamh Salm air a' cheud (cvii, 23-25—28-29); agus an deidh sin chaidh an t-Urramach G. N. M. Collins a Dun-éideann an ceann urnuigh, an Gaidhlig cuideachd.

Bha an t-Urramach Iain MacLeod air ceann na cuideachd agus labhair e gu pongail cothromach air aobhar a' chruinneachaidh, agus thug e ceud thaing do 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach an ainm na Comhairle, air son deanamh comasach dhaibh a leithid a dh' àros eireachdail a bhith againn 'ga fhosgladh a nis chum leas is comhfhurtachd ar luchd mara. Thug e aithne do 'n chuideachd air Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach gus am fosgladh e an t-Aros, air a' Bhean-uasal Nic Gille-na-brataich chum facal a labhairt an ainm mnathan a' Chomuinn, agus air àrd-oifigich bho 'n Nèibhi Rìoghail is Mharsantais, bho 'n Fheachd Adhair agus bho 'n Arm tìre, agus labhair iad uile gu pongail a' moladh nan Gaidheal mar mbaraichean, agus air son na rinn iad, agus na tha iad a' deanamh, air muir agus air tìr ann a bhith toirt buaidh air ar naimhdean, agus a' greasad a' chogaidh gu crìch.

Thubhairt Capitein Meikle as an Nèibhi rud bu chòir dhuinn aithris. Thubhairt e: Nach b' aithne dhasan agus nach do thachair ris 'na latha sgioba a b' fheàrr air laimhseachadh bàta na balaich Ghaidhealach an Resérbhe (R.N.R.).

Bha a h-uile nì a bh' ànn, gu h-òrdail ciatach, agus 'na ùrachadh do na bha làthair; agus tha cinnt gum bi Aros a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach 'na bheannachd is 'na chomhfhurtachd do ar luchd-mara a bhios a' tadhal an Grianaig.

Labhair Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn, agus e a fosgladh an Aros, mar so an toiseach mus durt e facal am Beurla:

Fhir na Cathrach, Fheara 's a Mhnathan Uasal: Bha an seanfhacal ag ràdh, gur dual do isean an ròin dol chun na mara. Tha sin fìor, agus tha e cheart cho fìor gur dual do 'n Ghaidheal, agus gu seachd sonraichte do 'n Eileanach a dhol chun na mara. 'Se sin as aobhar gum bheil uibhir de na Gaidheil an diugh air muir a' toirt buaidh air ar naimhdean,

agus a' dìon ar saorsa. Agus chan 'eil air sàl luchd-mara as fheàrr na iad. Bha iad sin o thùs an eachdraidh—'nan seòladairean foghainteach agus 'nam maraichean gaisgeil is gleusda. Tha e iomchuidh, ma tha, gun cuimhneachadh an Comunn Ghaidhealach orra chum comhfhurtachd a thoirt dhaibh nuair a tha iad aig caladh—mar an Grianaig an so—mar a bha sinn a' deanamh air ar saighdearan tìre is adhair an iomadh dòigh. Agus tha mise nis a' fosgladh an aitreabh eireachdail so—air an tugadh Aros a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach mar ainm—chum is gum bi e 'na chadalh tàimh is fois aig ar seòladairean uile a bhios a' dol a mach 's a steach a' Grianaig. Tha sinn an dùil agus an dòchas gum bi e 'na chadalh tàimh darribh do bhalach an Nèibhi, agus do bhalach ar soithichean marsantais mar an ceudna; agus ann a bhith 'ga fhosgladh tha mise, Ceann Suidhe a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealach, ag guidhe gum bi beannachd Dhé a' laighe air an Aros, agus gum bi sior thàimh is sonas maith air ar seòladairean uile a theid a mach 's a steach as.

Is beag fios aig fear an tàimh air ànradh fear na mara.—*The household man knows little of the seaman's hardship.*

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Sir Iain Friseal.—Tha na Gaidheil agus muinntir na dùthcha gu léir ro thoilichte gun do rinneadh an Lighiche ro ionmhuinn is comasach so 'na Phrionnsapal air Oilthigh Dhun-éidinn. Faodar meal-an-naidheachd a chur air Oilthigh Dhun-éidinn. Chan 'eil Léigh eile san rìoghachd as ainmeile mar fhear-sgine na Sir Iain Friseal. Chaidh a ainm 's a chliù mar Lighiche-sgine fad is farsuing, agus tha e cho caomh is cho iriosal mar dhuine 's a tha e cho sgilear mar léigh. Tha e fo dheagh-chliù aig na h-uile thainig riamh fo a làimh—agus thainig na miltean an sin—thà, agus aig gach duine a chuir a riamh latha eòlais air.

Is e fìor Ghaidheal a tha san Ridire Friseal. Buinidh e do Bhaile Dhùbhthaich agus is ann an sin a fhuair e àrach, agus lean gach deagh bheus is cleachdadh a chunnaic agus a chuala e air a' Ghaidhealtachd ris.

Tha e bho chionn iomadh bliadhna 'na Phrofeasar Léigh-sgine an Dun-éideann, agus tha e 'na onair da-riribh dha gun do thairgeadh an àrd inbhe so dha gun shireadh gun iarraidh. Is ann an comas triuir de àrd Chomhairlichean baile Dhun-éidinn agus dithis á measg àrd Ollamhan an Oilthighe a tha e fear a thaghadh

air son an dreuchd 's an àrd inbhe so. Thatar usal asda de 'n trobha so. Guma fada a mbeallas an Gaidheal usal so a dhreuchd urramach. Tha na miltean air an do rinn e cobhair ag guidhe beannachd air a cheann 's air a shaothair, agus mòran mòr eile do an aithne a chliù 's a sheirbhìs.

* * *

Beinn a' Bhaodhla is Uibhist a Deas is Eirisgeadh.—Is e H. A. Andreae is uachdaran a nis air na h-eileanan so. Cheannaich e iad bho luchd-urrais Ghordoin-Cathcart. 'Se bancair fìor bheartach a tha an Andreae, agus tha e air aithris gum bheil e 'na dheagh thuathanach cuideachd; tha buaile mhór agus eireachdail de chrodh Gheurnasaidh aige fhéin agus aig a mhnaoi. Tha e coltach gum bheil ise fìor mhaith air tuathanachas mar an ceudna.

Faodaidh e bhith gum bi so 'na bheannachd do na h-Eileana Siar gu leir le bhith toirt treubh maith chruidh bainne do an àite.

Tha sinn an dòchas gun dean Mgr. Andreae e féin aig an tigh sna h-Eileanan, na ni gheibh e gu leòr ri ionnsachadh unnta, agus bheir sin sòlas is samhchar dha fhéin, agus àite an cridhe an t-sluaigh, agus bithidh e 'na bhuanachd do na h-Eileanaich a leithid a dhùine a bhith 'nam measg, agus ionnsaichidh iadsan nithean maithe bhuaithe-san mar an ceudna. Chunnac sinn feadhainn de a sheòrsa a' tighinn à Sasainn do na h-Eileanan, agus 'nam beachd fhéin cha robh ni ri ionnsachadh aca bho 'n t-sluaigh. Na truaghain bhochda 's ann a bha iad de 'n bheachd nach robh ni air a' Ghaidhealtachd—cànain no cleachdadh no nòs eile—a b' fhiach ionnsachadh. Is ann a bha gach nì, 'nam beachd fuadain-san, aig na Gaidheil ri ionnsachadh bhupa-san agus à Sasainn. Bha a' bhui orra. Ach a reir sgeoil chan ann mar so a tha Andreae agus a theaghlach.

Agus tha e coltach ris na h-eileanaich ann an aon rud sonraichte co-dhiùb—tha e 'na shàr mharicac. Thatar ag ràdh nach tugadh Cormac nan Cuan fhéin bàrr air air stiùir bìrlinn, agus gun cuireadh e an sùil na gaoithe i gun cluas an t-siùil a chrathadh. Fagaidh sin dàimh is ceangal aige ris na h-eileanaich.

Gum biodh buaidh is piseach air fhéin agus air na h-eileanan so ri a linn, agus gun coisneadh e deaghghean is beannachd nan Gaidheil ri ùine, seach gum bi e airdh air.

* * *

Lagan Choinnich.—Tha ceàrnaidhean sonraichte de 'n dùthaich ceangailte ann an dòigh air leth ri ainmean àraidh—ainmean dhaoine a bha uair no uaireigin a chòmhnaidh unnta. Sin mar a tha an Lagan am Bàideanach.

Is e Lagan Choinnich a theirte ris fad linntean do bhrìgh gur e Coinneach, Ab Achadh-bó, a thug an Soisgeul an toiseach do 'n àite. Bha so san t-seathamh linn, on chaochail Coinneach sa bhliadhna 599—dà bhliadhna an deidh bàis Chaluim Chille, a dlùth charaid.

Is e Lagan Choinnich a theirear ris an sgìre fhathast anns a' Ghaidhlig, cànain Choinnich chòir.

Bha an Lagan a rithist air a cheangal ri ainm bean Ministèir a bha ann—Beann Ghrannd an Lagain. Rinn ise an t-àite ainmeil 'na latha fhéin tre a sgrìobhaidhean Beurla, gu sonraichte le *Letters from the Mountains*. Bha so san naodhamh linn deug. Bha i a chòmhnaidh am Mansa an Lagain dà bhliadhna ar fhichead—bho phòs i, sa' bhliadhna 1779 gus an do chaochail am fear aice sa' bhliadhna 1801.

Rinn an sin ar caraid caomh nach maireann Niall Ros an t-àite cliùiteach do na Gaidheil, agus bidh iadsan 'ga cheangal ri a ainm cho tric 's a chluinneas no chi iad mu dheidhinn.

Tha sinn toilichte, ma tha, fhacinn gum bheit an sgìre ainmeil so a' toirt gairm do Mhinistèir dileas Gaidhealach eile, do 'n Urramach Alasdair Seumas Moireasdan à Obairadhain Bha Mgr. Moireasdan greis mhaith 'na Mhinistear am Port Rìgheadh, agus tha sinn taingeil gum bheil e tighinn a rithist chun na Gaidhealtachd.

* * *

Sibleag NicPhàil nach maireann.—Bha Sibleag NicPhàil na bana Gaidheal cho mòr ri gin a b' aithne dhomh—co-dhiùb bha i cho gaolach air na Gaidheil ri gin a bha riamh beò. Bha i ré àireamh mhór bhliadhnachan 'na Rùnaire aig Comunn Gaidhealach nam Ban aig Eaglais na h-Alba. Bha an comunn so an toiseach ag cumail mhaighstirean-sgoile an ceàrnaidhean iomallach air a' Ghaidhealtachd agus anns na h-Eileanan, agus nuair a ghabh an crùn so os làimh, bhà agus tha iad ag cumail mnathan-biobuill is banaltruman an àitean sna h-Eileanan chum sgoilean sàbaid agus clasaichean feumail eile a chur air adhart. Rinn NicPhàil saothair mhór an comb-cheangal ris a' Chomunn so. Bha i 'na ball-beatha de 'n Chomunn Gaidhealach, agus bha a làn thaice ris gach nì a bha sinn a' deanamh mar Chomunn. Chaochail i ann an so bho chionn dà mhìos. Bidh càirdean is an obair 'ga h-ionndrainn.

* * *

Fìrinn airson a' mhìos so.—

Ach leanaidh maith is tròcair rium,

an cian a bhios mi beò;

Is còmhnaicheam an àros Dé

ri fad mo ré 's mo lò.

—*Salm* xxiii-6.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

The Organiser was engaged in the Burgh of Fort William on the "Salute the Soldier" Campaign on 12th and 13th April, and on the following evening, presided at an all-Gaelic Ceilidh at Mallaig. This was the final Ceilidh of the Session and there was a large attendance. Sincere thanks are due to Mr. R. MacKinnon, M.A., who organises these monthly all-Gaelic meetings and to Mr. Archie MacLellan for the use of the Hotel hall free of charge.

On the following day (Saturday) the Organiser attended at a meeting of the Northern Propaganda Sub-Committee (Emergency Committee). Later, on the same day, he attended as Hon. Secretary, at the Annual Meeting of Ceilidh nan Gaidheal an Inbhir Nis. Satisfactory reports were submitted. This was the tenth Annual Meeting of this all-Gaelic Association, which is doing good work in the Capital of the Highlands. It was decided to continue affiliation with An Comunn and a donation was made to the Central Fund. A sum of £3 3/- was voted to the Malcolm MacLeod Memorial Fund, and £2 2/- to Maoin Litreachas Gaidhlig. Arrangements for next Session were left in the hands of the Hon. Secretary.

On 18th April, Mr. MacPhail attended at the Badenoch District Council Meeting at Kingussie in connection with the "Salute the Soldier" Campaign and further Savings work claimed his attention at Aviemore and Inverduie.

The final Ceilidh of the Elgin Branch, Session 1943-44, was held in the Academy, Elgin, on 19th April, and Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Convener, gave a most interesting Talk on "The Clans and their districts" with the aid of a large sized map. Mr. D. C. Cowan, President, was in the Chair, and Mr. Graham was heartily thanked for his contribution. Mr. Macphail spoke on the work of An Comunn, in Gaelic and English, and congratulated the Elgin Branch on keeping the flag flying in the face of many difficulties. The Annual meeting of the Branch was held on the same evening. Mr. Cowan is continuing as President, and Mr. Nicol Campbell as Hon. Secretary. Mr. Cowan was appointed Branch representative to the Executive Council. £5 was donated to the Central Fund.

On 25th April, Mr. Macphail addressed a public meeting at Fort Augustus and outlined the new Savings Campaign. He was also engaged in Glenmoriston on the same work, in the afternoon.

A similar meeting was held at Glenurquhart on the 27th April, with the Rev. Angus Boyd in the Chair, and, on the following day, the Organiser outlined the Campaign at a meeting of the Aird District Council.

During the first three days of May, Mr. Macphail attended at meetings of the Inverness County Education Committee. The important appointment of Headmaster to the Central School, Inverness, was made, and the choice of the Committee was Mr. Kenneth Fraser, M.A., Abernethy. The successful applicant is a native of Wester Ross and a fluent Gaelic speaker. He has always taken a keen interest in the work of An Comunn and is at present Hon. Secretary to the Abernethy Branch.

On 4th May, Mr. Macphail was engaged in the villages of Struy, Cannich, and Tomich, and at the time of writing these Notes is preparing for a visit to Wester Ross:—Garve, Achnasheen, Kinlochewe, Badachro, Gairloch, Sand, Poolewe, Inverassdale, Aultbea, Laide, Ardendrean, Leekmelm, and Ullapool.

Meetings of the Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees are to be held on 20th May and on 26th May the Fort William Branch is to hold a Gaelic Concert in aid of The Central Fund. The Roy-Bridge Branch is to promote a Ceilidh in aid of the Central Fund on Friday, 19th May.

The Lochinver Branch has always supported the parent body and a cheque for £3 has just been received by the Organiser from Mr. Hector MacKay, Hon. Secretary. This is in aid of the Central Fund.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

It is pleasing to record that parcels of Gaelic books sent from An Comunn office have been received at some of the P.O.W. Camps in Germany. Intimation has been received from the British Red Cross Society that parcels despatched last August and September have been delivered to Lt. Dugald Stewart, Oflag VII B and Lt. A. L. MacCall, Oflag IV C. A post card has just been received from Gunner John MacAulay (of Breaslet, Lewis) asking for a few Gaelic books. These have been sent with the good wishes of An Comunn to Stalag VIII B.

Branches of An Comunn are now closing down for the summer vacation, and all those which have been able to secure hall accommodation for their meetings report successful sessions.

The Gaelic Class carried on by the Dumfries Branch has been most successful, and the members congratulate themselves on having

secured the services of such an able teacher as Mr. Colin Morrison. He was ably assisted by Mr. Donald Urquhart, one of the founders of the Branch. The teaching of Gaelic in Dumfries has been so successful during the past few years that one or two of the pupils have been able to act as chairmen at the Ceilidhean and conduct part of the proceedings in Gaelic. Other office-bearers worthy of special mention are Mr. Neil MacVicar, President, and Mr. Duncan Campbell, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Campbell has acted in these capacities since the formation of the Branch much to its advantage. Mrs. Campbell, as piano accompanist, is a distinct asset to the Branch.

The Govan Branch brought a very successful session to a close on 25th May. As already mentioned in the Notes this Branch has been holding weekly Ceilidhean in the Cardell Halls, Govan Cross, and the only complaint is that the accommodation is inadequate. The Gaelic Class formed in February was well supported, and the teachers from Jordanhill Training College have been most diligent in their work and have proved very popular with the pupils. It is fully expected that a Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh will be formed here at the beginning of next session.

The Joint Committee of the Glasgow Branches has been concentrating on the Mod to be held on 2nd and 3rd June, and their efforts have been rewarded by an increased entry. A full report of the Mod will be given in our next issue.

The monthly Concerts held in the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, are now firmly established and at the April gathering there was an attendance of about 800 people. This effort was in aid of the Federation of Highland Societies (Glasgow). The May Concert was in aid of the Glasgow Mod funds.

The second Annual Concert of the Edinburgh Branch was held in the Central Hall, Tollcross, on Friday, 5th May. The Chair on this occasion was occupied by Mr. John A. Nicolson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Glasgow, President of the Glasgow Branch and Convener of the Joint Committee of the Govan and Central Branches promoting the Glasgow Mod. Mr. Nicolson made a strong appeal for supporting the Central Fund of An Comunn and ensuring that the Association was in a sound financial position to undertake the task which lay before it in the near future. The programme was sustained by among others, four Mod Gold Medallists, and the Hall was almost filled to capacity. The Concert, as last year, was in aid of the Central Fund, and the surplus is certain to amount to a substantial sum. Mr. Donald Macindeor, President of the

Branch, introduced the Chairman, both of whom spoke in Gaelic and English. Votes of thanks were moved by Mr. John MacKay, Vice-President.

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

"Aros" Club Opened in Greenock.

A large and representative gathering of members and supporters attended the official opening on 2nd May of the Rest Centre in Greenock for use of men of the Royal and Merchant Navies to be known as the—"Aros" Club. This Centre was made possible by the success which attended the efforts of the Central (War Comforts) Committee on behalf of men of both Navies.

The Rev. John M. MacLeod, minister of the Gaelic Free Church, Greenock, is Convener of the Local Committee and also one of the Chaplains in charge at the Port. The proceedings opened with the singing of the National Anthem and Verses 23-25 and 28 of Psalm 107, sung in Gaelic to the tune "Kilmarnock" led by Mr. Allan MacLean.

The President of An Comunn, the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, Balquhider, performed the Opening Ceremony and paid eloquent tribute in Gaelic and English to the devotion and gallantry of the men of the Royal and Merchant Navies. Other speakers were Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Convener of the Central (War Comforts) Committee; Capt. A. R. Meikle, C.V.O., R.D., R.N.R.; Capt. Greenham, Merchant Navy; Flight Lieut. Churcher, R.A.F.; Provost Morrison; Rev. J. D. Ross, C.F.; and Rev. A. Finlayson, S.C.F. (Retired Staff Chaplain, Scottish Command).

Tea was served at the close.

The Club is situated in Ardgowan Square, and generous tribute was paid by the Rev. J. M. MacLeod, who presided, to the Office-bearers of the U.F. Church for their kindness in granting the use of their Church Hall for the purposes of the Club. Miss Margaret MacNiven, a native ofIslay, is in charge of the Club and a real Highland welcome awaits any member of the Sea Services.

Cùm an t-eathar bho chladach an fhasgaidh 's fanaidh i fhéin bho chladach an fhuaraidh.—Keep the boat from the lee-shore and she will keep herself from the wind-shore.



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The following members of the Council are due to retire this year and all are eligible for re-election:—

President.—Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhider.

Vice-President.—Donald MacDonald, Inverness.

Executive Council.—Mrs. John M. Bannerman, Balmaha; Nicol Campbell, Elgin; William Fraser, Inverness; Donald Graham, M.A., Inverness; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; Donald Shaw MacKinnon, Edinburgh; Rev. Malcolm MacLean, M.A., Conon; John N. MacLeod, Kirkhill; John A. Nicolson, M.A., F.E.I.S., Glasgow.

Nominations must be made in writing and lodged with the Secretary at or prior to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council to be held in Stirling on 7th July, 1944.

ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE.

A Basket Whist Drive promoted by Mrs. J. B. Dunlop and the Entertainments Committee of the Central (War Comforts) Committee, of which she is Convener, was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Thursday evening, 20th April. Close on 200 people attended and Mr. John Murray acted as cardmaster. The effort which was in aid of the Prisoners of War Fund yielded a surplus of over £30.

At the close of play the President's wife, Mrs. Malcolm MacLeod, Balquhider, handed over prizes to the following:—Ladies, 1, Mrs. Cowie; 2, Mrs. W. Kay; 3 (after tie), Mrs. MacKechnie. Special Prize, Mrs. Robinson. Consolation, Mrs. Alex. MacBride. Gentlemen (playing as gents) 1, Miss Margaret MacInnes; 2, Mrs. Watt; 3, Miss Cathie N. Green. Special Prize, Miss Cathie Campbell. Consolation, Mr. Kenneth MacDonald.

Mrs. Dunlop moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. MacLeod and to all who had contributed to the success of the evening.

Miss Lucy Cameron and Miss Margaret MacTaggart are again arranging a Basket Whist Drive in aid of the Royal and Merchant Navies' Fund. This function will be held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on the evening of Thursday, 15th June, and an appeal is made to all interested to give this effort in aid of a deserving cause their full support.

AN ARD CHOMHAIRLE.

Chumadh Coinneamh Ghàidhlig na h-Ard Chomhairle air Di-haoine, an là ar fhichead de 'n Ghiblein, 1944, an Seòmraichean Mhic a' Mhuilleir an Sruighlea. Bha an Ceann Suidhe, an t-Urramach Calum Mac Leòid, A.M., anns a' chathair agus bha na buill a leanas san lathair:—A' Bhean Uasal M. Barron, Glaschu; Neacal Caimbeul, Eilginn; Stiubhart Cunningham, A.M., Ceannbhuic; A' Bhean Uasal I. B. Dunlop, Glaschu; A' Bhean Uasal M. C. Edgar, Glaschu; an t-Urr. Iain Mac Aoidh, A.M., Glaschu; Iain Mac Aoidh, Dùn-eideann; an t-Urr. Tomas M. Mac Calmain, A.M., Glaschu; Eachann Mac Dhùghail, Glaschu; Niall Mac Eachainn, Grianaig; A' Mhgn. Nic Laomainn, B.Sc. a' Chnoic Dhuibh; Alasdair Mac Neacail, A.M., Glaschu; Iain A. Mac Neacail, A.M., Glaschu; Fearchar Mac Rath, B.Sc., Glaschu. A' frithealadh, Niall Mac Ghille Sheathanaich, Rùnaire, agus Dòmhnall Mac Phàil, Fear-deilbhe san Airde Tuath.

Leughadh Gearr-sheanchasan na dà Choinneimh roimhe, chaidh gabhail riutha agus chuir Fear na Cathrach a lamh riu.

Thug an Ceann Suidhe iomradh air an àrd urram a tha Oilthigh Ghlaschu air a bhùileachadh air an Urramach Alasdair Mac Dhòmhnail, ministear Eaglais Chaluim-Chille an Glaschu, aon de bhuiil na Comhairle. Tha an Oilthigh a' tabhairt an urraim D. D. do Mhgr. Mac Dhòmhnail agus tha a chomhluchd-saothrach agus a chàirdean anns a' Chomunn a' deanamh gairdeachais maille ris agus ag guidhe gum bi saoghal fada aige a mhealtainn an urraim air am maith is airidh e.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle Araidh an Rannsachaidh. Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air aithisgean bho 'n Rùnaire agus bho Fhear-deilbhe na h-Airde Tuath mu dhéidhinn nam Meuran agus an dòigh anns am faodadh an dithaich a bhith air a roinn na buidheann, agus mar an ceudna mu riochdairean bho gach buidheann fa leth. Dh' iarr an Ceann Suidhe gun gabhadh a' Choinneamh ris an Iomradh agus chuir Mgr. Iain Mac Aoidh aonta ris.

B' e toil na h-Ard Chomhairle gun ath-bheachdaicheadh a' Chomhairle Araidh air na puingeann sin aig an ath choinneamh agus gum biodh coinneamh air a gairm roimh Choinneamh samhraidh na h-Ard Chomhairle. Ghabh an Ceann Suidhe ri iarrtas na Comhairle agus chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Iomhais.

Chuireadh fa chomhar na Comhairle iarrtas bho Chomhairle a' Chaomhnaidh an Alba air son gum biodh Mgr. Dòmhnall MacPhàil air a leigeil saor bho dhèasanan a' Chomuinn bho an ochdamh là de 'n Chéitein gu deireadh an Oig-mhios. Bheachdaichheadh gu cùramach air an iarrtas so bho gach aomadh agus shònraicheadh fa dheireadh a chliuthachadh do 'n Ard Chomhairle gum bi Mgr. Mac Phàil air a leigeil saor mar dh' iarradh ach a mhàin air son ceithir seachdainean an taobh a stigh na h-ùine a dh' ainmicheadh, agus air a' chùmhant gum bi An Comunn saor o uallach pàidhidh agus cosdais Mhgr Mhic Phàil re nan ceithir seachdainean sin. Thug an Rùnaire aithisg gun robh Comhairle a' Chaomhnaidh an Alba deònach air gabhail ris a' chùmhant sin ma bha sin a réir toil na h-Ard Chomhairle.

Chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh air iarrtas Mhgr. Iain A. Mhic Neacail.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle an Fhòghluim agus ghabhadh ris air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, an t-Urr. Calum Mac Leòid.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle a' Chlòdh-bhualaigh.

Thug a' Chomhairle aithisg air coinneimh ri Mgr. Lachann Mac Fhionghuin, Fear-deasachaidh nan Leabhraichean Sgoile ùra a tha gu bhith air an cur a mach fo ùghdarras a' Chomuinn leis na clòdh-bhualadairean Blackie 's a Mhac. Thug Mgr. Mac Fhionghuin fiosrachadh air an dòigh a bha e fhéin agus Comhairle Earalach Ghàidhlig an E.I.S. am beachd a bu chòir na Leabhraichean Leughaidh ùra a bhith air an deanamh suas. Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air a' chuspair gu h-ìomlan agus chuireadh na cùmhant an shònraicheadh fa chomhar na h-Ard Chomhairle.

Chaidh gabhail ris an Iomradh air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, an t-Urr. Tomas M. Mac Calmain.

Leughadh Iomradh air Coinneimh de Chomhairle Clann an Fhraoich.

Bheachdaich a' Chomhairle air mar a dh' fhaodadh buill Chomunn na h-Oigridh a thàinig gu bois fàgail na sgoile a bhith air an gleidheadh mar bhuihl de 'n Chomunn. Shònraicheadh aire nan Ceann Feachd a tharruing gu so agus bha e air a chomhairleachadh gun deantar oidhirp air na gillean is na nigheanan a thiginn gu bhith 'n am buill do Mheur a' Chomuinn as faisge orra.

A thaobh Feachd a chur air bonn am baile Ghlaschu chliuthaich a' Chomhairle so a thoirt gu aire meur a' Chomuinn am baile Ghobhainn. Thubhairt an t-Urr. Tomas Mac Calmain nan gabhadh meur baile Ghobhainn os làimh

Feachd a chur air bonn gun deanadh esan na b' urrainn dha a chum talla freagarrach fhaighinn dhaibh air son bhall Chomunn na h-Oigridh.

Thugadh aithisg gu bheil Mgr. Iain Mac Ghille Bhàin a' toirt ceithir puinnid Shasannach mar dhuaisean am farpais litreachais Chomunn na h-Oigridh air a' bhliadhna so. Thugadh làn taing na Comhairle do 'n usal air son a thiodhlac agus an déid a tha e a' nochdadh an Comunn na h-Oigridh.

Ghabhadh ris an Iomradh air iarrtas an Fhir Ghairme, Mgr. Eachann Mac Dhùghaill.

Leughadh litir bho Rùnaire Meur a' Chomuinn am baile Dhum-fris ag innseadh gun do sgrìobh e an ainm a' Mheòir gu Ard Fhear am B.B.C. an Glaschu mu dhéidhinn an atharrachaidh a rinneadh air craobh-sgaoileadh na Gàidhlig. Thugadh aithisg gun do sgrìobh Rùnaire Meur an Obain air a' chuspair cheudna. Bheachdaich an Ard Chomhairle gu cùramach air a' chuspair so agus shònraich iad gu h-aona-ghuthach sgrìobhadh gu Ard Cheannard am B.B.C. an Lunnainn a' tarruing aire a dh' ionnsaigh an ùghdachaidh a chaidh a dheanamh air an earrainn Ghàidhlig, agus mar an ceudna an uair annoch a tha air a cur a mach a chum Gàidhlig a' chraobh-sgaoileadh. Shònraicheadh gun rachadh leth-bhrea de 'n litir so a chur gu Ard Fhear am B.B.C. an Alba.

Shònraich a' Chomhairle gum biodh Coinneamh Bhliadhnaic a' Chomuinn air a cumail an Glaschu air Di-sathuirne, an seathamh là deug de mhìos Sultuin aig aon uair deug roimh mheadhon là, agus ath Choinneamh na h-Ard Chomhairle an Sruighlea air Di-haoine, an seachdamh là de mhìos Iuchar.

Leugh an Rùnaire Itrichean bho Lochiall agus bho 'n Mhnaoi Usal Nic Leòid, Chloinn Leòid, anns an robh iad ag iarraidh an ainmean a bhith air an toirt a' leabhraichean a' Chomuinn. Ghabh an Ard Chomhairle ris na h-iarrtasan so.

Thug an Rùnaire aithisg air fìosan freagairt bho 'n M.O.I. agus E.N.S.A. A thaobh a' chùmhant a chuir an M.O.I. air luchd labhairt gum feumadh gnath-còlais a bhì aca air a' chogadh no air dùthchannan céine dh' iarradh air an Rùnaire a' dh' fhiosrachadh an robh an cùmhant so air a chleachdadh gu coitcheanta.

Thugadh a' Choinneamh gu erich le taing chridheil a thoirt do Fhear na Cathrach.

Na abair do sheanfhacal agus an toir thu do long gu caladh.—Don't quote your proverb till you bring your ship to port.

COR LITREACHAS NA GAIDHLIGE AN ALBAINN.

Theireadh ar sinnsre, agus cha b' amaideach iad, gur "suarach saoghal na sùla," is—dìreach sin fhéin—nach iongantach air uairibh cho fada is a bhios saoghal na sùla is saoghal a' chridhc o chéile is an t-eadar dhealachadh a th' ann eadar smaointean is suidheachadh. Dh' aithnich mi orm fhéin sud agus is tric a thàinig e a steach orm. Mar eisimpleir, is ann a tha mi an dràsda an Aildirì, a' chuid is mó de 'n ùine an ceann dheasnaìs air choireigin ach is e smior glan na fìrinne gu bheil mi smaointean mar is trice dà mhìle de mhìltean uam an Albainn, eadar Ghàidhealtachd is Ghalldachd. Is cuide ris gach ni eile chan ainmigh a bhios mi ag cnuasachadh is a' lorgadh fuasgladh na ceiste ud, no rathad as an teinn ud, "Cor litreachas na Gàidhlig an diugh agus a luchd sgrìobhaidh." Ma's fhìor mo bheachd is e sin ceist nach fhuilear dhùinn a fuasgladh.

Air a' cheud dol a mach, is pàirt chudthromach de 'n litreachas Albannach litreachas na Gàidhlig. Tha fhios gum biodh a nàimhdean, uair a bh' ann, ag cumail a mach nach b' e agus a' dèanamh a h-ùile oidhirp gu a cumail á chùirt nuair a bhiodh litreachas na h-Albann ri bhreithneachadh. An diugh, ged nach d' fhuair i fathast a h-àite dìgheach anns na sgoilean, is tearc fear a gheibhear aig a bheil de aineolas tàir a dhèanamh oirre, agus tha an latha a' dol leinn ged a tha sinn fada o 'n bhuaidh a thoirt a mach buileach glan. Chan 'eil ach sùil a thoirt air cor is còir na Gàidhlig an Eirinn gu faicinn gu dé cho mór is a tha an t-astar a th' againn ri chur as ar déidh.

Biodh sin mar a thogras e, ach an litreachas na h-Albann, 'ga ghabhail thar cheann, chunnaic sin adhartas mór air a dhèanamh ré nam bliadhna so chaidh, biodh e am Beurla no an cainnt na Galldachd. Ceum air cheum tha an dara cainnt ud a' dèanamh an rathaid air ais gu an inbhe a chailleadh leatha an déidh do Sheumas is a chùirt Lunnainn a thoirt orra. Anns an athbheòthachadh a th' ann, matà, thigeadh dhùinn mar Ghàidheil is mar Albannaich ar ceann fhéin de 'n amull a chumail suas, air neo bidh Alba (a thaobh cultuir) a' falbh crùbach.

Gidheadh faodar a ràdh nach fhaighear sinn uireasbhach idir ma's ann air bàrdachd a bhithear a' tighinn. Tha Somhairle Mac Gilleathain air port ùr àlainn no dhà a chur ri ceòl-mór ar fìlhdh, agus cuiridh e fhathast uiread eile is an corr; agus is ann mar sin do, abair, Aonghas Mac Dhonnchaidh agus an Leòdach. Cha robh na bàird Ghàidhealach

riamh 'nan tosd o làithean Aimeirigin gus an diugh, agus tha a choltas nach bi ceann fo sgéith aca san àm ri teachd. Is, gu dearbh, ma sgrùdar ar n-eachdraidh fad an dà linn so chaidh chithear gur i a' bhàrdachd a sheas inbhe is maireannachd na Gàidhlig, oir as aonais obair nam bàrd air beul a luchd-labhairt is na combhruinneachaidhean bàrdachd 'nan làmhnan bha i air sgaradh 's na ceudan frithchaint is air dol 'na *patois* suarach gun Ìomhadh gun snas, gun mheas. Is i a' Ghàidhlig prìomh dhaingneach ar cultuir Albannaich agus is iad na bàird le 'n cuid rann a thug tilleadh as an luchd seisdidh a bha an rùn daingneach dhèireannach ar cinnidh a thoirt a nuas 'na chruach chlach.

Maith, is glé mhaith. Tha ar bàrdachd cho beò, mear is a bha i riamh, agus 'ga h-ùrachadh fhéin mar as fheadar is as dual do 'n a h-ùile rud anns a bheil beatha e fhéin ùrachadh. Ach is ann a tha ar litreachas an rosg ann an staid eile air fad. Cunntair air meòir an dà làimh na leabhraichean Gàidhlig an rosg as airidh air luaidh a tha air tighinn a mach rè an deich bliadhna air fhichead so chaidh (is e sin *An t-Ogha Mor, Foodalach Na h-Abaid* agus an leithid.) Mar mhiosachain chan 'eil againn ach *An Gàidheal*, a tha a' dèanamh nas urrainn dha, agus *Alba Nuadh*, duilleag dhùbailte a thig a mach a h-ùile mìos aig 791 Sraid Earraghaidheal an Glaschu. Air son nam paipear-maidheachd dheth, gheidheadh *Crois Tàra* is *A' Bhratach* air siubhal beagan ùine, ach theirg iad sa' cheann thall.

A nis, is e an rosg stéidh chunbhalach gach litreachais anns an t-saoghal a th' ann, agus bu chòir dha bhith 'na chuis-smaointinn dhùinn nuair a sheallar dhùinn bochdainn ar litreachais fhéin anns a' ghnè ud. Is uireasbhuidh e sin a dh' fheumas a leasachadh ri luathas.

An Eirinn tha litreachas na Gàidhlig a' faotainn cuideachadh airgid o 'n Rìaghaltas, a tha, os barr, a' suidheachadh chomhfharpuisean is a' tairgse dhuaisean cleas a' Chomunn againn fhéin. Cuideachadh an Rìaghaltais, is e sin sochair nach fhaighear an taobh so de Shruth na Maoile, ach, a dh' aindeoin sin, c' arson nach d' fhuaras Pádraig O Conaire, Mìcheal O Súilleabháin no Tómas O Cìomhtháin 'nar Gàidhealtachd fhéin? A theagamh gur e an t-eudòchas as aobhar da sin.

Có aige tha fhios? O chionn faisg air dà linn gabhaidh e bhith gur iomadh fear is bean a chuir paisgean phaipear an tasgadh am bun seotail, ag ràdh riur fhéin le osna "Cha ruig mi a leas an corr a dhèanamh le so, oir is anns a' Ghàidhlig e agus a chaoidh nan cian chan

fhaigh mi a chlàdh-bhualadh." Tha mi cinnteach gun d' rinn na ficheadan a' cheart nì gun fhios do luchd na Gàidhlig is do Albannaich an latha-san, agus cha rachainn an urras nach 'eil àireamh nach beag 'ga dhèanamh an diugh. O 'n eudòchas so thig am meirbhead, staid anns an trice theirear "Tha mi coma" no "Ma thogair" na "Cuireamaid caibideal eile ris." Mar a theirear 'sa Bheurla, á *frustration* (fangachadh) thig *apathy* (meadh-bhlàths), agus far a bheil am meadh-bhlàths cha togar meur no guth.

Chan 'eil ach aon bhrosnachadh a chuireas fileantach san luchd sgrìobhaidh agus a dh' fhàgas torrach iad, agus is e sin an cuid obair fhaicinn an clòdh agus cinnt a bhith aca, ma sgrìobhas iad rudeigin as fhiach a leughadh, gun faighear a chlàdh-bhualadh is gun leughar e. Air neo bidh iad 'nan tàmh, agus, uidh air n-uidh, seargaidh ar litreachas as.

Ciod e as cungaidd-leighis do 'n ghalair mheadh-bhlàth so? Theirinn fhéin gun leighiseadh e nan robh againn air siubhal an diugh aon mhìosachan fhéin cleas "Guth Na Bliadhna" no "An Sgeulaiche" a bhiodh a' tighinn a mach fo làimh Ruairidh Arascain is Mhairr rè a' chogaidh dheireannaich is roimhe. Chan fhaigte an Albainn, an Eirinn no an Sasainn mìosachan a bu toirteala na Guth Na Bliadhna; bha na h-uirèad 'ga leughaidh a chionn e bhith san dà chànan; is bha e 'na bhrosnachadh do luchd sgrìobhaidh na Gàidhlig a dh' fhàg siubhlach am pinn is saobhir an inntinn.

Tha de earbsa agam á spiorad nan Gàidheal Albannach is gu bheil mar gum b' eadh cinnt agam luchd sgrìobhaidh nach tearc a bhith air an àireamh. Gheibh sinn rosg snasmhor Gàidhlig am pailteas ach am brosnachadh agus an cothrom a thoirt dhaibh.

G. C. HAY.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Thug mi dhuibh nàdur de ghealladh air a' mhiosa a dh' fhalbh gun tillinn a rithist ris an litir is a' bhàrdachd a fhuair mi bho ar caraid, an t-Urr. Calum Mac Ghilleathain. Thug e an toiseach dhomh naidheachd àbhacach a chroch e ris an fhacal, "amhuinn," mun do sgrìobh mi bho chionn greis air ais; agus eadar dha sgeoil, nach 'eil mi toilichte gun do ghabh tuille na sibhse, a chlann, beachd air an fhacal so, cho math ri facal eile a chaignich mi ris—"féithe." Is dòcha gum bi cothrom agam air beagan a ràdh mun dà fhacal so air taobh-duilleig eile air a' mhiosa so.

Chuala mi an naidheachd so roimhe, ach dhìochanaich mi i, agus tha mi an comain ar caraid a dh' ùraich dhomh i. Fhuair tuath baile croitearachd àraidh ann an Eilean-gunainn tarbh bho Bhòrd nan Roinnean Cùmhnlaichte (Congested Districts Board), agus is coltach, mar a thachras gle thrìc do na nitean air am bi seilbh-pàirt nach robh an tarbh bochd a' faotainn uillearachd de bhìadh is de aire rè a' gheamhraidh, agus an uair a thàinig an t-earrach bha e ionnas air an togail. Bha e cho lag 's air dha dol ann an amhuinn nach b' urrainn dha e féin a theasargainn, agus mun d' fhiosraicheadh a chàs thréig anail na beatha e. Bha nis na croitearan ri farbhas a chur chon a' Bhùird mar a thachair; ach ciamar a bha iad a' dol a chur sìos ann am Beurla gur e dol ann an amhuinn a rinn e? Cha robh facal Beurla aca air amhuinn; rùrach iad am briathrachan, ach facal làn-fhreagarrach cha d' fhuair. Mu dheireadh fhuair iad facal a bha, ar leo, ag ciallachadh càs air choir-eigin coltach ris, is chuir iad air thriall am fios so gu ruig am Bòrd.—"The bull went into a dilemma and is dead!"

Tha ar caraid an dùil gum bu chòir dhuibhse, a chlann, eolas fhaotainn air leabhar fhear-cinnidh féin, Somhairle Mac Ghilleathain, mun do sgrìobh am Fear-deasachaidh anns "A' Ghàidheal" an dèidh dha tighinn am mach, agus is e so an cuspair mun do chuir e féin rannan r' a chèile. So agaibh na rannan.

DAIN DO EIMHIR.

Fhir dhuint a thug am munadh ort,
'S a chunnaic mise tràth,
Bu dìreach rinn thu 'm mullach dheth,
Gun buil a thoirt bho chàck;
Is thug thu dhachaidh uidh leat
Gu ullachadh nam bàrd:
Tha sitheann agus ceòl againn
O leòn a rinn an gràdh.

Té bhuidhe thuir thu, Shomhairle,
Te chomharrachit', 's i bàn,
Te ghanach, uasal, fhoghainnteach,
'S na dh' fhoghainn dhuit 'na dàil.
Cha choma—ach 's math chothaich thu
Ri reothairt is muir-tràigh;
Rinn t' inntinn fuachd is reodhadh dhuint
Na gabhail sheòid is dhàn.

An la uid ag an tional,
Le ceol-cinnidh am Port Rìgh,
Bha 'm facal beag ud eadarunn
Mu ghadachd chon na frith;
Is thug thu rann a' mhunaidh dhomh,
Is thug mi 'n so do bhrìgh:
Bha cheana cridhe bàird agad,
Is càil is cleas is clì!

Cha chan mi nach do thog thu sinn
 Gu tobar soillear, àrd,
 Le crùnadh cliu na h-òige bh' ort,
 'S am pòr air teachd fo bhlàth;
 Tha Eòin 'nad chòir, tha Calum ann,
 Na balaich I mar a thà,
 Bheir fathast fiadh a' fireach dhuint,
 Is cinnidh sin da bhàrr.

Is iomadh crois is calldachd
 Agus teanntachd a bha 'n dàn,
 An iomaire na h-annsachd, 's iad
 Ag ceannsachadh nan sàr;
 Ach o 'n Dreoilinn thar Caol Muil' againn,
 Gu mullaichean thar sàl,
 Tha Lachunn 's Eachann buidheach dhìot,
 'S ag guidhe—"gum bu slàn."

Is dòcha gun do chuireadh earail oirbh anns an sgoil mar thà a thaobh luibhean-leighis sònraichte a tha a dhìth air Bòrd na Slàinte an ceartair, agus a tha iad an dùil a ghabhadh cruinneachadh aig an àm so leis a' chloinn. Tha cuimhne agaibhe as sine air gun robh sibh an ceud bhliadhnachan a' chogaidh ag cruinneachadh còinteach càthair, luibh a bha ro fheumail an leigheas chreuchd. Is dòcha gun bheil còinteach 'gan dìth fathast; ach is e dà lus eile air am motha iarraidh aca an ceartair, agus is iad sin mucagan na h-earra-dhris (rose hips), agus duilleagan lus nan ban sith, no meurain nan cailleacha-marbha, mar a theirear an cuid de àitean, (fox-glove). Is ann bho mheadhon an Og-mhios gu meadhan an Iuchar as fearr gus na duilleagan so a chruinneachadh, agus feumar an caoineachadh is an làn thiomachadh mun cuirear air falbh iad. Gheibh sibh gach fiosrachadh a tha feumail gu so a dheanamh bho 'n mhaighstir no bho 'n bhean-sgoile agaibh, agus na cuiribh dàil ann am farbhas a dheanamh 'g thaobh.—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MAC DRUGHAILL.

BAS CHAIRDEAN.

Domhnall MacCoinnich.

Tha sinn fada an comain Dhonnachaidh MhicDhun-leithe, am Pretoria, airson an iomradh so a chur chugam air ar caraid còir nach maiveann. B' eòlach air a chéile sinn an toiseach ar latha agus sinn 'nar balaich air an aon chlas ann an Sgoil na Léana Ruaidhe; ach b' fhada o chéile a chuir ar crannchur sinn o'n uair sin. Bha Domhnall MacCoinnich riamh o òige—mar a bha an teaghlach do am buineadh e—'na dhuine grinn agus usal, agus fìor chàrdeil 'na ghne 's 'na ghnìomh.

—F.D.

Tha ar ro-chroinn a' tuiteam. Chaochail an sàr Ghàidheal sin Domhnall Mac Coinnich an Johannesburg air Di-domhnaich an ceithreamh-là-deug de'n Fhaoilleach agus dh' fhàg e beàrn nach

bi furasda a leasachadh. B' ann a' Leodha's a bha Domhnall. Thainig e do an dùthaich so an àm cogadh nam Boarach agus an dèidh a' chogaidh fhuair e suidheachadh an dreuchd fhreagarrach air aon de na méinnean is motha a tha an iomall Johannesburg, dreuchd anns an do choinnig a ionracas, cliù agus urram dha. Ach cha b' ann tre a shaothair làthail a b' aithne dhuinn Domhnall, ach tre saò-hair a ghràdh, saothair air sòn gach nì Gàidhealach agus an leas na Gàidhlig. Bu esan aon de an bhuidhinn bhig a stèidhich agus a chuir air bonn Comunn Gàidhealach Johannesburg agus b' e an ceann-suidhe rè co'g bliadhna 'nuair a thugadh an t-urram bith-cheann-suidhe dha. Chuidich e gu mòr am faighinn pìosan agus duaisean eile air sòn nan comh-fharpuisean Ghàidhlig a'g na h-aoanaich Rìoghail Albannach an Johannesburg agus theagaisg e seinneadaircan agus luchd-leughaidh air sòn nan comh-fharpuisean sin; agus nach b' e e fhe'n a ghabh an t-lachd agus an toil-intinn auns an t-saothair sin? Bha clas Gàidhlig aige an Johannesburg agus ged bu deacair an o'dhìp sin san dùthaich iol-chainnteach so cha do mheataich sin Domhnall. Bha e a ghnàth làn misnich agus aibhneis, agus is e fhe'n a bha usal 'n a dhòigh a' fàilteachadh Ghàidheal; agus bha a chridhe ar shìr mhìre aig cèilidh. Duine usal, duine gun lochd, duine coibhneil, duine a bha a thigh na thigh aoigheachda agus tadhail do Ghàidheil a bhaile gu léir.

Dh' fhalbh e, ach cha d' fhalbh a chuimhne chùbhraidh agus chan fhalbh. A chuid de Phàrras dha.

DONNACHADH.

Mr. John MacLeod.

We regret to record the death of Mr. John MacLeod, brother of the late Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, ex-President of An Comunn. Mr. MacLeod was closely associated with the Highland movement in London for many years and was for a term President of the Gaelic Society of London. He was also prominently associated with the Gaelic Services Committee and was one of the original founders of the London Gaelic Choir.

Losing their home in the early raids on London, Mr. and Mrs. MacLeod removed to Glasgow and took up residence in the King's Park district.

Mr. MacLeod represented the Gaelic Society of London on the Executive Council for many years and was recently appointed a member of the Mod and Music Committee. He was intensely interested in all that pertained to the language and welfare of the people of Gaeldom. His wise counsel and genial fellowship will be much missed by his fellow-workers in the cause in the Metropolis.

He is survived by Mrs. MacLeod and an only son, Norman, who, like his father, has chosen marine engineering as his profession.

The sincere sympathy of our members is extended to them both in their sad loss.

EADARAINN FHIN.

Rònaidh.

Fhìr-deasachaidh Ionmhuinn.—Anns an t-seanachas air sgròbhadh nan biasd san aireamh mu dheireadh, tha "eilean nan ròn" air a thabhairt mar Ghàidhlig air an ainm *Rònaidh*.

Is e *seil* am focal Lochlannach airson "ròn";

agus is e *Seitaidh* a theireadh na Lochlannaich airson "Eilean nan ròn," agus *Seitgeir* airson "sgeir nan ròn." Bha *ron* san t-seann Bheurla Lochlannach a' ciallachadh "garbh," agus tha *Ronaidh* mar sin ag ciallachadh "an t-eilean garbh." Tha an dearbh fhocal againn ann an *Roneval* (no *Roineabhal*), is e sin "a' bheinn gharbh," ainn na beinne is àirde an ceann a deas na Hearadh.

Bha na Lochlannaich fòr mhaith air sloinneachaidh; agus tha a' chunntais a thugadh air Rònaidh anns a' *Ghaidheal* a' nochdadh gum bheil an t-eilean garbh agus creagach.

Is aithne dhomh sgeir sa' chuan, fada o thir, a tha làn ròn. An son uair a bha mi dlùth do an sgeir so ann an eathar, shaoileadh duine gun robh an sgeir uile air ghluasad, agus na ròn 'g an slòdach fhein sios chun na mara, a h-uile fear dhiubh uread ri tarbh. Ach is e *Gàisgeir*, no "sgeir nan giadh," a thug na Lochlannaich air an sgeir so, agus lean an t-ainm ri-thuille.

Tha "sgeir nan sùlaire" ceart a-rìson *Sulasgeir*.
—Mise le mairn,

AONGHAS MACDHONNACHAIDH.

Ladybank, Fìobh.

The B.B.C. and Gaelic.

Sir,—Now that the B.B.C. has rejected the protest of An Comunn Branches against the further curtailment of Gaelic broadcasts it would clearly be a waste of time to approach them again on the subject of children. We are faced with the choice of acquiescing in the claim to derogate from the status of Scottish Gaelic by refusing any share in its instruction to the young, as has been done for upwards of four years on the altogether untenable plea of war necessity, or of seeking what other means may be possible by which the great gift of Broadcasting may be made to serve the children of Gaelic-speaking Scots as it does for Welsh-speaking children.

As justice is denied us at home let us see if the Gael will help the Gael, and ask help from the part of the British Isles where Gaelic culture has its full freedom. Let application be made to the Broadcasting authorities of Eire to allow two periods of half-an-hour to be given weekly from Athlone during daylight with contents of song and story suitable for children.—I am, etc.,

EDWARD MACCURLY.

Féith.

Sir,—Mr. H. Comyn Maitland does not appear to appreciate the necessity for Litir Comunn na h-Oigridh being to a certain extent "Ex-cathedra," as he terms it. (I am not enamoured of the word, and would prefer "bho'n chathair.") I do not pretend to consider this letter to the young as "an essay on lexicology." The nature of this "litir" calls for its being in the way of a father talking to his children; and, yet, how that should make it "difficult to assess the value" is not too clear. If a certain statement is made, whether from the chair or from a stool, even from the floor, there is no reason why it should not be considered on its merits.

I am well aware of the dictionary meaning given to "féithe," and I have also read and heard these proverbs quoted by H. C. M., as well as others. But to find this word rendered "bog," "quagmire,"

etc., or as "mud," as Sheriff Nicolson terms it, has no significance as a refutation of what I wrote in endeavouring to explain to children what an "amhuinn" means so that they might thoroughly understand it. But were Sheriff Nicolson or any other to translate a bog, a quagmire, or ordinary mud back to Gaelic, would he term either or any of them "féithe"? I imagine he would not. He would term bog probably a "càthar" or "boglach," the latter from "bog", soft, from which the English word is derived, actually transplanted. He would probably term a quagmire a "suil-chritheach," and he would term mud, "poll" or "eabar."

I imagine that Sheriff Nicolson, knowing Gaelic as a native speaker, would not term a stretch of muddy ground a "féithe," unless the assumption of a beast, or man, for that part of it, being stuck in this stretch of mud was at the back of his mind.

A dictionary is a highly useful book, and while it gives the general meaning of a word, or its nearest equivalent meaning in another language, there are in certain words shades of meaning which cannot be embraced within one single word. Of this class is "féithe" and "amhuinn." Picking other words, names of articles in every-day use, while a "slat-iasgaich" is an exact rendering of "fishing-rod," and vice-versa, and while we would render "tábh" or "abh" as a fishing net, we certainly would not term a fishing net as a "tábh." A tábh is only a certain and well-defined kind of fishing net. Again turning to agricultural implements, while a shovel is a "sluasaid" and a "s'uasaid" a shovel, we cannot treat a "ceib" the same way, though the dictionary might term a "ceibe" as a spade. Thus, it is quite obvious, and it is unnecessary to stress it further, that a dictionary does not always give an exact meaning rendering of many words, may require a long explanation, even "an essay in lexicology," to use H. C. M.'s phrase!

No doubt, and as may be seen from MacBain's etymological dictionary, this word "féithe" of our particularised meaning had its origin in the similarly sounded and spelt word, meaning a vein or sinew, and hence, probably, the slight and distinct meaning as used in Irish—a bog stream; and even that does not carry us as far as we should wish to go, for the associations as used in Irish would have to be examined. Words acquire or lose a certain shade of meaning in certain periods and in certain localities. In some of the islands, for instance, "gleann" is to-day wrongly applied to the hill or mountain range enclosing or adjacent to a glen; and in parts of Lewis a "gleann" is the stream that flows through a glen. Thus, there appears to be nothing beyond reason in confining the meaning of a certain word to a more particular object, thing or idea in one locality or one age compared with another; and after all, though I am well aware that we cannot logically argue in this negative sense, we do not know what idea remained unsaid at the back of the mind of the ancient story-teller who spoke of the "sùbhal féithe fada, farsuinne" (or "fhada, fharsuing," for the word, at least in our day, is feminine).

In conclusion, I should like to explain to H. C. M. (seeing he does not appear to comprehend it) that "Litir Comunn na h-Oigridh" is not submitted as a learned treatise on the use of words, nor in an authoritative or dogmatic attitude. It is intended to appeal to young people with a view to induce them to take an interest in their own language and to make its reading as agreeable to them as

possib'e. In this I may not succeed as well as I should wish, and apparently not as H. C. M. demands; but I am glad to say that I have ample testimony that it does interest the people for whom it is intended, and seniors also.

I had intended to reply to Alasdair Mac an t-Saoir also re his observations on the word which introduced our "fèithe"—"amhuinn"—which has nothing to do with "aimheal" and its various forms, "aimheals," "amhealachadh," etc.; but as this let'er is in itself a sufficient tax on the Editor's space in one issue it will have to be held over in the meantime.—I am, etc.,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

23 Traquair Drive,
Glasgow, S.W.2, 8th May, 1944.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.1. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An t-Iuchar, 1944.

[Earrann 10

OBÀIR-UISGE AIR A' GHÀIDH- EALTACHD.

Tha an Rìghaltas air cur romhpa a nis o chionn greis gum bi feum air a dheanamh de na tha dh' uisge air a' Ghaidhealtachd—agus gu dearbh chan e sin am beagan. Tha iad ag cur romhpa gum bi lochan is aibhnichean is uilt na Gaidhealtachd air an tionndadh gu cumhachd-dealain, agus gum bi an cumhachd sin air a cleachdadh chum leas is soirbheachadh na Gaidhealtachd, agus 'na aobhar beòshlaint agus 'na mheadhon cosnaidh do mhóran. Is e dealan-uisge, no hidro-electric a theirear ris a' chumhachd so.

O chionn naoi no deich de mhìosan an so chuir a' Phàrlamaid Comhairle Shonraichte air bonn los sealltainn a steach sa' chùis agus beachdachadh air a' Ghaidhealtachd gu léir a thaobh obair-uisge mar so, agus mar a dh' faodadh a leithid a dh' obair a bhith 'na comhfhurtachd agus 'na meadhan bith-beò do luchd-àiteachaidh na Gaidhealtachd. Tha a' Chomhairle sin a nis air dealbh is innleachd na h-obrach so feadh gach ceàrnaidh de 'n Ghaidhealtachd a thoirt am follais, an deich dhaibh gach àite coltach air son an aobhair beachdachadh air agus a thomhais.

* * *

Tha an obair so, chan ann a mhàin los gum bi solus is cumhachd-obrach aig na tha a chòmhnaidh air a' Ghaidhealtachd an dràsda—tha e air son sin, agus cha bheag a' bheannachd a bhios ann, le solus is teine a thoirt dhaibh chum blàths is deasachadh bidh. Ach tha an

obair uisge so chum 's gum bi cumhachd an iomadh àite los muilnean is beartan is obair-làmhachais eile a chur air chois gu cosnadh a thoirt do dhaoine. Bidh mar sin, tre 'n obair uisge so, beag bhailtean an sud 's an so feadh na Gaidhealtachd anns am faighear cosnadh, araon iadsan a tha daonna a chòmhnaidh unnta agus a' feitheamh na h-obrach so, agus feadhainn eile a tha timchioll orra, mar a tha iasgairan agus croitearan agus a leithid sin—feadhainn leis am bu mhaith cosnadh mar so fad àireamh mhìosan de 'n bhliadhna.

Tha so uile air a dheilbh agus anns an innleachd a thug a' Chomhairle am follais, agus a chuir iad air beulaibh an Rìghaltais agus ris an do ghabh a' Phàrlamaid.

* * *

Tha obair uisge mar so ann a' dhà no thri àitean mar thà air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus tha i feumail do na h-àitean anns a bheil i, agus do iomadh àite eile feadh na dùthcha—do na h-àitean sin air a bheil a cumhachd a' ruighinn.

Tha an obair so aig Ceann Loch Mór agus aig Inbhir Lòchaidh agus aig Foitheir taobh Loch Nis. Ach tha iad so an làmhan agus fo riaghladh buidhnean dlomhair, agus mar sin ann an tomhas mór ni iad riutha mar as àill leotha féin. Tha an obair uisge ùr so gu bhith fo stiùradh agus an làmhan an Rìghaltais fhéin, agus mar sin gu bhith air son leas is maith mór-shluagh na Gaidhealtachd.

* * *

Rinn a' Chomhairle dealbh, agus tha innleachd aca, air ceud is dà àite (102) air a' Ghaidhealtachd far am bi cumhachd uisge air

a tionndadh gu dealain. Tha na h-àitean so an sud 's an so feadh na Gaidhealtachd agus nan Eilean. Agus bidh cumhachd gach àite fa leth air a sgaioleadh feadh ceàrnaidhean àraidh a tha fagus, agus ann an dòigh ceangailte ris an àite sa' bheil an cumhachd uisge air a gintinn, mar a tha Abhainn Obha is Loch Obha, Aibhnichean an Eilein Sgitheanaich, Aibhnichean Leodhais, timchioll Allt Chalais agus Abhainn Bhalbhaig agus Abhainn Lànaigh ri mo thaobh an so, agus a leithid sin feadh na Gaidhealtachd gu léir.

Tha fhios gum bi a leithid so 'na bhuanachd dhaibh-san uile a bhios a chòmhnaidh air a' Ghaidhealtachd. Bithidh, agus 'na bheannachd ann an iomadh dòigh. Bidh e 'na chomhfhurtachd dhaibh nach gabh tomhais a thaobh soluis is blàthais is teine; agus ann am banas tìghe de gach seòrsa, agus anns gach obair a tha ri dheanamh timchioll air tigh, agus an iomadh obair tuisceanachais. Chan 'eil nì eile ann, no cumhachd a smaoincheas duine air, as fheumaile agus as motha dh' fhaodar a chleachdadh an iomadh dòigh is cruth na cumhachd-dealain. Agus an uair a chuireas an Riaghaltas an dealbh 's an inneachd so a thaobh obair uisge gu buil bidh a' Ghaidhealtachd cho maith dheth ris na bailtean-móra fhéin a thaobh cumhachd-dealain mura bi nas fheàrr. Agus an cois sin ceud buadh is beannachd eile nach 'eil 's nach robh 's nach bi sna bailtean-móra.

* * *

Ach is ann tha chùis ann dhuinne mar Ghaidheil, an gléidh sinn beò fallain agus gun truailleadh, ar cànan agus ar cleachdaidhean agus ar nòsan fhein am measg nan nithean ùra so, agus a theagamh am measg choigreach a thig 'nur measg ri linn na h-obrach so agus an cois a leithid de chomhfhurtachdan.

Ma tha sinn comasach air ar cànan fhein, agus ar cleachdaidhean fhein, agus eadhon ar creideamh fhein, a thoirt dhaibh-san a thig 'nar measg bidh sinn fhein mar Ghaidheil—agus a' Ghaidhealtachd uile—nas fheàrr na bha sinn riamh roimhe. 'Se, ma tha, so a dheanamh, ar cleasdanas agus ar sochair no mhòr.

Ach mura dean sinn so, ach gun leig sinn leis na nithean ùra so, agus leis na coigreach a thig 'nar measg, ar cànan agus ar cleachdaidhean a shlugadh suas, tha sinn a' leigeil fhaicinn do 'n t-saoghal gun do chail na Gaidheil an gaisge 's am fearalnas, agus nach 'eil iad nas fhaide airdh air a bhith air an ainmeachadh mar Ghaidheil.

◆

Uisge mòr a sgaioleas eòb.—Heavy rain scatters mist.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Cath na h-Eòrpa.—Tha cath mór is fuilteach na h-Eòrpa a nis a' dol air aghaidh. Thòisic e air oidhche a' chòigeamh là de 'n Og-mhios, agus chaidh a' cheud fheachd de airmailtean nan Rìoghachdan Aonaichte air tìr air cladach na Frainge—eadar Cherbourg agus Håbbre—an càinealachadh an latha air Dimàirt 6mh an Og-mhios. Chaidh gu maith le ar gillean gaisgeil sa' cheud dol a mach, agus mar a tha mi a' sgrìobhadh so, beagan làithean an deidh do'n chath tòiseachadh, tha an ruag 'ga chur air na Gearmailtich beag air bheag, agus gach nì a' dol leinn dìreach mar a bha air a dhealbhadh an inneachd a' chath le ar n-àrd chomannairean. Buidheachas do Dhia air son sin. Le còmhnadh an Fhreasdail theid leinn gu an tuit Berlin agus an sleuchd na Gearmailtich.

Tha armailtean againn air tìr agus san adhar, cho maith ri còmhnadh ar luchd-mara, cho mór agus cho uidheamaichte agus nach fhacas riamh roimhe an leithid air thalaimh. Tha mar an ceudna ar saighdearan 's ar seòladairean cho gaisgeil agus cho gleusda 's a rug a riamh air uidheam cogaidh; agus tha na comannairean againn cho ealanta is cho euchdail 's a sheas riamh air ceann airm. Ach an dubhairt ar Rìgh caomh agus diadhaidh ri a shluagh agus ri t-saoghal air ceud thòiseachadh a' chatha, is ann an làimh Dhé a tha a' bhuaidh. Tha a' bhuaidh sin a' teannadh dlùth, agus is maith tha fhios ag Hitler 's a choimhleabaich san olc gum bheil a chruaidh fhortan m' a chasan.

Cha bhì na Gaidheil air dheireadh—mar a dh' iarr an Rìgh oirn—ann a bhith gleachd ri Dia ann an ùrnuigh chum gun toir e dhuinn a' bhuaidh, agus sin ann an ùin gun a bhith ro fhada.

Tha sinn a' toirt na h-ionnsaigh so—mar a thubhairt ar Rìgh agus Roosevelt—chan ann a mhàin le gunna is le beigleid, le spreadhadh aicean is le sgiathalain, ach le còmhnadh is cumhachd an Dé bheò, Dia ar n-athraichean, oir is leis an Tighearna an cath, agus bheir e na Gearmailtaich do ar làimh.

Cuidichidh, ma tha, sinne a tha aig an tigh ar gillean gaisgeil agus ar nigheanan gleusda a tha ag cath san Eòrpa agus a' toirt buaidh air ar naimhdean, cuidichidh sinn iad le ar n-ùrnuigh, mar a chuir an Rìgh fo ar combhair, agus mar a tha ar creideamh agus ar cridheachan fhein mar Ghaidheil ag iarraidh oirn. Agus gheibh sinn a' bhuaidh agus thig crìoch air a' chogadh ann an ìm maith Dhé.

Mòd Ghlaschu.—Bha Mòd eireachdail agus Mòd taitneach aca an Glaschu air Di-haoine agus air Di-sathurna an dara 's an treas là de'n Og-mhios. Gheibhear iomradh air gu mionaideach air duilleig eile san àireamh so, ach bu mhaith leam so a radh an so san dol seachad: Nach cuimhne leam Mòd a bha na bu thaitneiche agus na bu shoirbheachail anns a h-uile dòigh na am Mòd so an Glaschu. Bha comhfharpaisean an litreachais 's a' chiuil, araon aig òig is inbhich, 'nan toileachadh a bhith ag éisdeachd riutha, agus thug a' chuirn mhór, ann an talla mór an Naoimh Aindreis, a chuir ceann-crioch air a' chùis air oidhche Shathurna, iomadh Mòd Nàiseanta 'nar cuimhne. Cha robh i a bheag air dheireadh, ma bha i dad idir. Agus bha an aon choibhneas is charthannas is dhàimh mar Ghaidheil aig Mòd Ionadail Ghlaschu 's a chleachd a bhith aig na Mòd Nàiseanta.

Gu dearbh tha luchd-riaghlaidh is buill dà Mheur Ghlaschu ri am moladh air son mar a bha a h-uile cail cho grinn òrdail. Tha sinn an dòchas gun tig mòran a steach mar bhuill do'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach ri linn Mòd Ghlaschu, agus mar sin gum faigh iad *An Gaidheal* agus gum bi fhios aca ciod a tha an Comunn Ghaidhealach a' deanamh, agus gum bi iad, mar a dh' earalaich an Ceann Suidhe dhaibh aig a' chuirn mhór chrìochnachaidh, a' leughadh agus a' sgrìobhadh agus a' bruidhinn na Gaidhlighe.

* * *

Moling.—Bha mi an diugh fhéin a' meòrachadh air cuspair àraid a bha mi smaoineachadh a bhiodh 'na mhiseach is 'na bheannachd do 'n choimhthional agam air an t-Sàbaid so tighinn, agus los am barrachd saorsa a thoirt do m' spiorad is do m' intinn dh' fhàg mi am Mansa agus dhirich mi an àird air cùl na globa gu mullach Creag an Tuirc. An deidh a bhith greis 'nam shuidhe an sin smaoinich mi gun tèarnainn sios do dh' fheadan, no do ghleann beag a tha air cùl a' mhullaich sin, eadar e fhéin agus cnap maith beinne a tha air cùl sin a rithist ris an canar Meall an t-Seallaidh. Tha buige ann an urlar an fheadain, agus allt a' ruith troimhe. Tha dosan luachrach a' fàs an sud 's an so anns a' bhoglaich air gach taobh de 'n allt. Chum faighinn thairis air a' bhoglaich agus air an allt b' éigin dhomhsa leum bhò dhos gu dos luachrach, agus an sin thairis air an allt. Thug so Moling 'na mo chuimhne. Gu dearbh is beag a bheir rud a tha fhios aig duine air fa chomhair ar n-intinn iomadach uair. Sin, ma tha, mar a thachair dhomhsa a thaobh Moling ann a bhith leum bhò thom gu tom luachrach.

B' e Moling fear de na seann Naoimh a bha beò san t-seachdamh linn, teachdaire èasgaidh is ainmeil an t-Soisgeil 'na latha. Chaochail e sa' bhliadhna 697 a dh' aois ar Tighearna. Is e Moling Luachair a thèirte ris, agus tha seann bheul-aithris ag ràdh gur h-ann air son mar a leumadh e bhò thom gu tom luachrach, agus e fhéin agus bean-naomh a' dol thar monaidh chum sgeul an t-Soisgeil a thoirt dh' ionnsaigh àite àraidh, a fhuair e an t-ainm Moling Luachair. Tha Moling ag ciallachadh *mo leum* san t-seann Ghaidhlig; agus tha e air aithris gun dubhairt a' bhean-naomh ris air an turas so, agus e 'na bhalach òg èasgaidh: Is maith a leumas tu thar na luachrach, agus gum b' e so t' ainm a so suas, Moling Luachair. Agus lean an t-ainm sin ris. Is e Dairchell a bha air roimhe so.

Thug so a rithist gu mo chuimhne dà cheathramh amhrain a rinneadh le Moling, agus a tha ann an seann lamh-sgrìobhainn a tha cho aosda ris an naodhamh linn, lamh-sgrìobhainn a tha ann am Manachainn a' Naoimh Phòil an Carinthia san Eilbhich. So an dà cheathramh san t-seann Ghaidhlig an toiseach—direach mar a tha iad sgrìobhte san t-seann lamh-sgrìobhainn—agus a rithist an Gaidhlig an latha an diugh.

*Is èn immonnada sàs
is nau tholl dianteslinn guas
is lestar fàs is crann crin
nad dèni thoil ind rig thuas.*

*Is òr nglan is nem im grein
is lestar narggìt cu fin
is son is alaind is noeb
cach oem dugnì toil ind rig.*

Is eun uime an iadh an sàs (ribe)
is eathar tolltach do an cunnart gàbhadh,
is soitheach falamh, is crann crion,
esan nach dean toil an Rìgh suas.

Is òr glan is nèamh mun ghréin
is soitheach airgid le fion
is sona is àlainn is naomh
gach aon a ni toil an Rìgh.

Tha sia ceathramhan eile de 'n amhran air an toirt seachad ann an Leabhar Laighean, agus ann an nòta a tha air Féillire Aonghus anns an leth-bhreac de 'n lamh-sgrìobhainn sin tha an Leabhar-lann a' Bhòdlaigh fo 'n ainm Laud 601, agus ann an seann lamh-sgrìobhainnean eile. Tha an neach a sgrìobh an nòta so ag ràdh gun tug Moling air an Diabhol an t-amhran so a ghabhail, ach is e tha sin sgeul eile. Agus so an nì tha Aonghus, an Céile Dé, ag ràdh 'na Fhéillire mu dheidhin Mholing.

*IN dos oir huas crìchaidh
ingrian an uasluathaidh
congreit rìgh balc brathair
cain mìl moling luachair.*

'Se sin mar a sgrìobhadh sinne an diugh :

An dos oir os crìochaibh
a' ghrian àin os tuathaibh
geal churaidh an Rìgh, brathair làidir,
sàr shaihdear, Moling Luachair.

Is e an Salmaidh a bha ceart nuair a thubhairt e : Cuimhne is iomradh maith a chaoidh bidh air an fhrein chòir—agus b' e sin Mo Ling, no Mo Leumadair.

* * *

Firinn airson a' mhìos so.—Agus dh' fheuch e dhomh abhainn fhìor-ghlan de uisge na beatha, soilleir mar chrìostal, a' teachd a mach à rìgh-chathair Dhé, agus an Uain.

Agus an neach air am bèill tart, thigeadh e. Agus ge b' e neach leis an àil, gabhadh e uisge na beatha gu saor.—*Taisbeanadh* xxii, 1, 17.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

—◆—

Cha ghabhar grèim air uisge no air teine.—*No hold can be got of water or of fire.*

—◆—

GLASGOW MOD.

The second Mod promoted by the Joint Committee of the two Branches in the city was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Friday and Saturday, 2nd and 3rd June.

As a preliminary to the Mod an informal Ceilidh was held on Thursday evening with Mr. Coll MacDougall in the Chair. There was a good attendance and several Mod Gold Medalists contributed to a fine programme.

The Junior Oral and Vocal Competitions opened in the Main Hall on Friday afternoon, Miss Susan MacDonald presiding. The piping competitions were held in the Gymnasium with Mr. Angus Brown in the Chair.

The singing of the school choirs, as last year, attracted a large and appreciative audience. The children entered into the spirit of the Mod with genuine enthusiasm and their pronunciation reflected great credit on their Gaelic instructors.

At the close of the afternoon proceedings, the prizes awarded were presented by Mrs. Coll MacDougall.

On Friday evening, the senior soloists were heard in the Main Hall, Mr. Neil Shaw, presiding. There was a marked increase in the entries for these competitions and the large audience was treated to fine renderings of all the prescribed pieces with the notable exception of "A Rìgh! gur mi tha aighearach."

The Oral competitions were held in the Gymnasium, Mr. Coll MacDougall presiding. Very fine performances were given in all three competitions of this section.

Prizes were presented at the close by Mrs. J. B. Dunlop.

The senior choral competitions were held in the Main Hall on Saturday afternoon, the Rev. Alexander MacDonald presiding. The duet competition was held in the Gymnasium with Mr. Kenneth MacDonald in the Chair.

There was very keen competition in the choral section and only a few marks separated the choirs at the close of each competition.

The Mod closed in traditional manner with a Grand Gaelic Concert in the St. Andrew's Hall, on Saturday evening. The Chair was occupied by the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, President of An Comunn.

The proceedings opened with stirring selections by the City of Glasgow Police Pipe Band under its famous leader, Pipe-Major John MacDonald.

The Concert Programme was sustained by the principal prize-winners assisted by Miss Mary C. MacNiven and Mr. Angus Whyte, Mod Gold Medalists. The singing of "Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig" and "Hi ri ri," by the combined choirs, conducted by Mr. J. Norman MacConochie, was reminiscent of the National Mod.

During an interval, the President, who was introduced by the Convener of the Mod Committee, Mr. John A. Nicolson, spoke in Gaelic and English and complimented the Committee of the Glasgow Branches on their enterprise and on the undoubted success of the Mod.

The prizes were presented by Miss Phemie Marquis (Mrs. J. R. Colquhoun) who was given a very warm welcome by the large audience.

Sir Norman Lamont moved votes of thanks to Mrs. Colquhoun and the President. He referred to the great work which Mrs. Colquhoun had done in the past and the pleasure it gave her many friends to see her again on the platform. Sir Norman also referred to the splendid contribution which the President had made to Gaelic culture during many years' association with An Comunn.

We heartily congratulate the members of the Joint Committee of the Glasgow Branches and thank them for promoting the Mod and for carrying it through so successfully.

The Office-bearers of the Joint Committee are:—Convener, Mr. John A. Nicolson; Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Murdo MacLeod and Hugh Sinclair; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Angus Matheson.

The Adjudicators were:—Gaelic—Angus L. MacDonald, M.A., Kilmacolm. Samuel MacLean, M.A., Glasgow. Neil MacLeod, M.A., Port Ellen. Vocal Music—James B. Houston, James MacTaggart, and Wm. Robertson. Piping—Pipe-Major John MacDonald and Pipe-Major Peter MacLeod, Glasgow. Accompanists, Miss Barbara Laing and Jack Campbell.

PRIZE LIST.

JUNIOR SECTION.

Recitation of Poem—1, Donald MacKinnon, Glasgow; 2, Neil M. Brown, Partick.

Reading of Unseen Passage—Donald MacKinnon, Glasgow.

Sgeulachd (own choice)—Donald MacKinnon, Glasgow.

Solo Singing (under 12)—1, Alasdair MacArthur, Glasgow; 2, Elaine MacIntosh, Carradale.

Solo Singing (Girls 12-16)—1 (equal), Margaret MacPhee, Glasgow, and Roberta MacDougall, Carradale; 3, Moira F. MacDonald, Glasgow.

Choral Singing (under 16)—1, Queen's Park Secondary School, Glasgow (conductor, Hume D. Robertson); 2, Woodside Secondary School, Glasgow (conductor, Thomas M. Crawford); 3, Crookston Street School, Glasgow (conductor, Donald Grant).

Pianoforte Playing of March, Strathspey, and Reel—1, Sheila Lessels, Shettleston; 2, John Archibald MacLellan, Glasgow; 3, Catherine M. Campbell, Islay.

Playing of Gaelic Air, followed by Strathspey and Reel, on the Violin—John M. May, Stirling.

Piping: Marches—1, Edith MacPherson, Inverness; 2, George MacCall, Drumchapel; 3, Hector MacFadyen, Glasgow. Playing of Strathspey and Reel—1, Hector MacFadyen, Glasgow; 2, Matthew Barrie, Glasgow; 3, Edith MacPherson, Inverness.

SENIOR SECTION.

Solo Singing (Female Voices)—1, Mrs. Isa Campbell, Lochgilphead; 2, Christina Campbell, Dunvegan; 3 (equal), Jean Cameron Greer, Glasgow, and Rose B. MacConnachie, Southend.

Solo Singing (Male Voices)—1, Neil MacCormick, Glasgow; 2 (equal), William Cameron and Murdo Ferguson, Glasgow; 3 (equal), Neil MacCalman, Islay, and Donald MacSparran, Cardross.

Recitation of Prose—1, Nan C. MacLeod, Glasgow; 2, Margaret A. MacLeod, Harris; 3, Mrs. M. McLennan, Fort William.

Recitation of Poetry—1, Flora MacDonald, Glasgow; 2, Nan C. MacLeod, Glasgow; 3, Christina Campbell, Dunvegan.

Acting of Dialogue—1, C. F. Morrison and Maggie MacLeod, Harris; 2, Susan MacDonald and Mrs. Mary Campbell, Glasgow.

Duets—1 (equal), Jinty MacLean and Mary MacGilp, Greenock, and Morag and Catherine MacNiven, Glasgow; 3, Donald MacSparran, Cardross, and Mrs. Isabel MacLellan, Scotstoun.

Quartettes—1, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association No. 2; 2, Argyll Quartette; 3, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association No. 1.

Choral Singing (Female Voices)—1, Campbeltown Gaelic Choir (conductor, M. G. McCallum); 2, Greenock Gaelic Choir (conductor, D. MacAllister); 3, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association (conductor, J. Norman McConochie).

Choral Singing (Mixed Voices)—1, Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association; 2, Greenock Gaelic Choir; 3, Campbeltown Gaelic Choir.

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

Last Month the Organiser paid a visit to Wester Ross and had with him for the first time a Loud Speaker Unit. By this means he was able to give Talks in Gaelic and English at various centres. At Inverasdale, Poolewe and Aultbea, school children gave short addresses on the "Salute the Soldier" campaign in Gaelic and English through the Loud Speaker. Public meetings were held at Gairloch, Aultbea and Ullapool.

On May 19th a Ceilidh under the auspices of the Roy Bridge Branch was held. Mrs. Ryan, President, was in the Chair. Mr. MacPhail gave an address in Gaelic and English. The total proceeds were handed over to An Comunn Central Fund. This amounted to £12 4s. 6d. Thanks are due to Mr. John MacDonald, Hon. Secretary, who made all the arrangements.

Meetings of the Propaganda and Education Sub-Committees were held on 20th May. Mr. Donald Graham, M.A., Convener, presided over the Propaganda meeting and Mr. Farquhar MacLeod over the Education meeting. The Organiser submitted detailed reports of his activities since date of last meeting, and these were heartily approved.

Careful consideration was given to the Remits from the parent Committee (Education) and recommendations were made.

The Organiser also submitted the Annual Reports of both Committees as prepared by him and these were approved and forwarded to Headquarters.

During the following week Mr. MacPhail was engaged in the Lochaber area and presided at a meeting and Ceilidh at Mallaig. He outlined the activities in connection with the Savings Drive, "Salute the Soldier." A similar meeting was held at Arisaig. At the close of the meeting a collection was taken for the Central Fund and this amounted to £1 6s.

On Friday, 26th May, Mr. MacPhail presided over a Gaelic Concert promoted by the Fort William Branch in aid of the Central Fund. From this effort a sum of £15 has been added to the Fund.

In addition to local artistes Miss Margaret MacDonald (Mod Gold Medallist), Mr. James Grant Scott, Kinloch Rannoch, and Mr. Allan MacDonald, Fort Augustus, contributed to an excellent programme. Sincere thanks are due to Miss Mary MacInnes and Mr. Lachlan MacKinnon for their continued active interest in the cause of An Conunn in Lochaber.

From 29th May to 24th June, Mr. MacPhail will be wholly engaged on Savings work in the Northern Area, and, at time of writing these Notes, he is engaged in Lewis on the "Salute the Soldier" campaign.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Branches in the Southern Area have had very successful sessions and at recent Annual Meetings only a few changes have been made in the higher offices. The Bute Branch has lost the services of Mr. Archd. Campbell who has retired to his native Isle of Skye. Mr. Campbell gave outstanding service to the Branch in Rothesay. He was one of the original members of the Branch formed in Rothesay in 1906, to help with the Great Feill of 1907. He served 18 years as Treasurer and 14 years as President. We wish him well in his retirement. He is succeeded by the Rev. Father John MacQueen who held a similar office for a number of years in Castlebay, Barra. Father MacQueen is a fluent native speaker and an accomplished singer of Gaelic songs.

Mr. Neil MacVicar has relinquished office as President of the Dumfries Branch, an office which he has held with much acceptance for a number of years. He is succeeded by Mr. Archibald MacDonald, one of the original members of the Branch.

Glenorchy Branch held its first meeting since the early days of the War at Dalmally on 12th June. Mr. Calum MacPhail was in the Chair, and a fine programme of songs and bagpipe music was submitted. I attended on the kind invitation of the Committee and was glad to see so many of the old members present. The Committee will meet at a later date to appoint Office-bearers for the coming session. It is hoped to start a session of regular meetings early in the autumn.

Reference was made last month to the successful Concert held by the Edinburgh Branch in aid of the Central Fund. From our donation list, members will read that the handsome sum of £60 was paid to our Treasurer as a result of this Concert. We thank the Office-bearers and members of this Branch for this excellent contribution to the Central Fund and congratulate them most heartily on the success of their effort. Miss MacKay, Secretary, has resigned owing to pressure of work and her place has been taken by Miss Peggy MacKinnon, 8 Broughton Street, Edinburgh.

The Oban Branch is holding a Concert in aid of the Central Fund on 13th July. The Committee will be pleased to have the assistance of any of our Gaelic singers who may be on holiday in the district at the time. Miss Morag Cameron, 42 Combie Street, is the Secretary.

Glasgow Gaels had two outstanding gatherings early in June. The first of these, the Mod, referred to elsewhere in this number, was an unqualified success and may now be considered as an established institution. The other gathering was the Concert organised by the members of St. Columba Gaelic Church to mark the occasion of the honour of Doctor of Divinity conferred on their minister, the Rev. Alexander MacDonald, by the University of Glasgow. The large Hall of the Christian Institute was filled to capacity and Mr. John MacTaggart, J.P., Session Clerk, presided. He presented Mr. MacDonald, in name of the congregation, with the D.D. robe and hood. Mrs MacDonald was also remembered and was presented with a Grandfather Clock. Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., made the presentation to Mrs. MacDonald. The opening prayer in Gaelic was by the Rev. Alastair Campbell, M.A., Luss. A first class Concert of Gaelic and English songs and instrumental music was sustained by well known artistes.

The Honorary Graduation ceremony took place at the University on 14th June.

* * *

The Second Junior Mod will be held at Carradale on 14th July.

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

A meeting of the Central (War Comforts) Committee was held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Tuesday, 6th June. Mrs. Bannerman, Convener, presided, and there was a good attendance of members.

Mr. Graham, Treasurer, submitted a preliminary statement, subject to audit, of the Balances of the various Funds as at the end of the Financial Year, 31st May, 1944.

The Committee considered the disbursement of the £1000 of the Royal and Merchant Navies' Fund held in reserve for North and West Ports and Junctions. Varying sums aggregating £600 were allocated. The balance of £400 will be disbursed as need arises.

The Committee is making arrangements to hold one or more functions in the near future in aid of the Comforts Fund. It is hoped to hold a Ceilidh at Hallowe'en.

The "Aros" Club is becoming increasingly known to the personnel of the Navies calling at the Port. The Rev. John M. MacLeod, 9 Ardgowan Square, Convener of the local Committee, will be very pleased to see members of An Comunn and others interested and show them round. In order, however, to avoid disappointment Mr. MacLeod would like intending visitors to drop him a card or phone Greenock, 1839.

If any member, or reader, has suitable books to spare Mr. MacLeod will be glad to have them for the "Aros" Library.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL will be held in STIRLING on FRIDAY, 7th JULY, at 6 p.m.

Members of Council are respectfully asked to note date and hour, as owing to conditions imposed by war exigencies it will not be possible to have print of Annual Accounts posted within the usual time limit. Postage and stationery will be saved by delaying individual notices.

A ghràidh, nam b' e 'n ròs do choimeas Cha ghlacainn-sa idir 'nad shùilean, Mar a ghlac mi raoir, an tiamhaidheachd A tha daonnan 'gad chiùrradh.

Cha ghlacainn an toiseach do shamhraidh, An roimh-imeachd bròin agus caoidh Tha do mhac-meanmna dealbhadh A ghràidh, mar a ghlac mi raoir.

Ach san t-seagh so, 'sè 'n ròs do shamhail— Gum mair, ann an dùbhlachd a' gheamhraidh. A chùbhraidheachd, eadhon mar mhaires Cùbhraidheachd mhilis do shamhraidh-s'.

O chridhe, mo rùn-ghil, is m' éiteag, Na biodh faileas a' ghaillinn 'nad shùilean, Oir togaidh sinn dìon roimh 'n ghaillinn A ghràidh,—eadhon t' ùidh-s' agus m' ùidh-sa.

RUADH RIGH.

[Sin agad spiorad is colainn—spiorad grinn ann an colainn eireachdail—na fìor bhàrdachd. Mo bheannachd aig Ruadh Rìgh, gabhadh sinn an tuilleadh buaith. Tha *An Gaidheal* 'na chomain.—F.D.]

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Chan 'eil mór dhéidh agam air buntainn air dhòigh sam bith ris a' chogadh mhór anns a bheil sinn an diugh an gréim, nan gabhadh 'e seachnadh. Is dòcha nach còmhradh cloinne è; ach tha e an ceartair air car a thoirt a tha ag gabhail gréim sònraichte air m' aigne-sa. Tha mi ag creidsinn gum bi a leth-bhreac buaidh aige oirbhe, no co-dhiubh air cuid agaibh.

Chan 'eil fios agamsa ciod an ire ag am bi chùisean mun leugh sibhse briathran a tha mise a' sgrìobhadh an uair nach 'eil a' bheag r' a ràdh ach gun d' fhuair sinn forcadh-coise tuaiream air deich mìle bho ròd na mara anns an Fhraing. Chan 'eil mi a' buntainn idir ris an aghartachadh a thatar a' deanamh anns an Eadailt, eadhon ged is mór e, agus ged a chaidh an triall troimh dhùthaich aig a bheil taobh glé bhlàth ri cridhe a' Ghàidheil—bailtean is taobh-dùthcha anns an robh an dachaidhean aig na Stiubhartaich Rìoghail, Pionnsa Tearlach, a bhàrthair is iad sin. Is e an dol-gutir ud a rinn na Breatannaich is na h-Ameriganaich an Normandaich a ghabh an

gréim làidir so air m' aigne-sa.—

“Nuair a chaidh sinn air tir,

Am measg sibh ann is murain,

Thug sinn batal air an tgraigh,

'S b' eadar pàirt againn fuireach !”

Faodaidh sinn le chèile, an nis, sùil a thoirt air ais ann an eachdraidh, is eachdraidh ged is ann air Normandaidh a tha ar sùil, nach 'eil comasach dhuinn sgaradh a dheanamh bhuaipe air ar n-eachdraidh féin. Bheireamaid, matà, a' cheud sealladh air an tir so mun d'fhuair i idir an t-ainm a tha oirre an diugh. Tha seann Cheiltich na Frainge an seilbh nan còrsachan so fathast; ach latha de na làithean chunnacas luingeis air cuan le an siuil leathan, cheigeach is bratach fithich ri crann a' tighinn orra bho thuath. Dhùisg eadhon am faicinn iomagain an cridhe rìgh mór na Frainge, oir thuing e nach b' ann ceasda a bha an teachd: agus dhearbh na bliadhnachan-'na dhéidh sin nach b' ann. Ri ùine thainig an là anns am b' fheadar stiallan farsuinge fearainn—Diucachd Normandaidh— a liubhairt thairis do na farbhalaich so gu an dachaidhean a dheanamh anna; agus anns an dùthaich sin thainig an cinneas orra mar shluagh a rinn ainmeil iad air feadh an t-saoghail Chriosda uile.

Ged nach do ràinig ach nàdur de thaobh-bhriseadh bho 'n stoirm a bhrùchd air Sasunn an 1066 sinne an Albainn, chan fhaod sinn tachartasan an ama ud a dhearmad. Is dòcha nach 'eil aon againn, sibhse no mise, aig nach 'eil boinne fìar air choir-eigin de fhuil Normanach 'nar cuislean; ach ged nach bitheadh, tha tachartas a thug ban-rìgh Shasunnach do Chalum Ceann-mór is dhuinne, maille ri iomadh deanadas eile, 'na ni nach urrainn dhuinn a thilgeadh a thaobh uile gu léir.

Tha vinneagan eile a' fosgladh air an dùthaich ud anns a' chasgairt a dhùisgeadh eadar Sasunn is an Fhraing anns na linntean an déidh so. B' e Diucachd Normandaidh an cnaimh a chuir na gadhair a thabaid is a thog fuath eadar Sasunn is an Fhraing is gann a chuireadh a chadal fathast, eadhon ged a tha iad an diugh is a bhà anns a' chogadh roimhe (Cogadh a' Cheasar) air an aon ràmh. Nach faod e a bhith gum m'ch an gluasad so iarmad sam bith a tha air fhàgail den t-seann fhuath ud a bha cho nimheil is cho leanaltach eadar Sasunn is an Fhraing. A thaobh cuid Albann dheth, bha fìor dhlùth chàirdeas eadar sinn féin 's an Fhraing fad iomadh linn, eadhon ged a dh' fhaodar a ràdh le tomhas de'n fhìrinn gur ann a chionn gun robh Sasunn 'na nàmhaid choitheann dhuinn le chèile a bha an càirdeas sin cho bras. Ni cunnart coitcheann càirdean de na fiadh-bheathaichean féin; is chan fhaodar

àicheadh nach b' e an cunnart coitcheann so a rinn càirdean de bharrach is aon chinnnach a tha an diugh air an taobh is math leinn iad a bhith air ann an cogadh mór ar latha féin. Tha sinn am mór dhòchas gun seas an càirdeas sin agus nach tig lasachadh air leis a' chunnart a dhaingnich e a dhol à sealladh. Tha eadhon dòchas na 's doimhne againn, agus is e sin gun tig an là anns an tuig eadhon ar naimhdean an diugh, is luchd an lambachais-làidir, no an gineil, an ciosta mhór féin, is gum bi an encoir a rinn iad air an t-saoghal is air spiorad na daonnachd mar thigh soluis d' an ceumaibh sìos troimh na linntean a tha fathast air thoiseach oirn a chùm is nach dean iad am mearachd ceudna a rithist.

Tha mi cinnteach gur lèor sùd mun chogadh; ach bhual an dol-air-tir ud air cladaichean Normandaidh teud shònraichte 'nam aigne, agus bu mhath leam gun ruigeadh a fuaim sibhse mar an ceudna.

Chan 'eil a' bheag de iomaire na litreach so air fhàgail an nis; ach is còir dhomh facal a ràdh mu na paipearan ceasnachaidh. Tha e ag cur rud beag de iongtanas orm (cha mhór nach do sgrìobh mi campar!) nach 'eil ach 10 feachdan a chuir air tòir nam paipearan; agus gu ruig an t-àm sa bheil mi a' sgrìobhadh is e 133 uile gu léir a chuir a stigh paipearan fathast.

Mun ruig mo bhriathran-sa sibhse bidh e ro fhada gu ni a dheanamh; agus leis gu bheil duaisean sònraichte air an toirt seachad am bliadhna is bochd nach 'eil tuille na so an rùn peann is dubh a chur air gheus. Cuiribh roimhibh, matà, nach e so an sreul a bhios r'a h-aithris bliadhna eile.—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

MAC A SHEANAR.

Do AONGHUS L. MACDHOMHNAILL, Ex-H.M.I.S.,
“Sula Sgeir,” Cille-Mo-Chaluim, Rinn-friùth
(á Iàonal).

Le Ruairidh Caimbeul, Mionard, Loch Fìne
(á Bràgair).

[Choisinn Ruairidh Caimbeul crùn a' bhàird aig Mòd na bliadhna 1930 ann an Dun-omhain, agus aig an aon àm fhuair e am bonn òir air son litreachais. Tha a' bhlàth 's a' bhùil air a' bhàrd-achd so gum bheil fìor thiodhlac a' bhàird aig Ruairidh. B' e an call nach 'eil sinn a' faicinn am barrachd de annas a làimhe. Cuireadh e chugainn ceathramh no dhà air cor na Gaidhealtachd ri linn cogaidh agus bidh sinn 'na chomain.—F.d.]

Canam rann le peann gun mhaill,
Togam fonn air chionn mo charaid,
Molam ainm gun chearb gun chamadh,
Seinneam cliù air fìùthaidh snasail.

San Eilean Tua'h san d' fhuair thu 'm boinne
'S iomadh sgabh tha buadhach foimnidh,
Sud na h-unsail ruaimneach soilleir
Dh' fhàs iad suas fo bhuaidh na loinne.

Bha mi deas is tuath air m' aineol,
Thug mi cuairt o Chluaithe do'n Afric,
Dh' iarr mi gliocas, tuigs is feartan,
Am measg dhaoin' an tìrean thairis.

Chunnaic mise dris is tarcius,
Mórchuis, à-dan, sràic is spailce,
Sgeig is dànachd—càraid ladarn—
Mòdal 's leòm an còir ri sladadh.

Ach cho'n-nich riumsa usal inbheach,
Eòlas air cha deach mi iomral,
Tha thu duineil, cionait, eabsach.
Tha do ghùlan 's d' àidh gun chearba.

A toirt iùl le tùr is ballaist,
Neamhnaid shoilleseach bhòil'sgeadh lainnir,
Càirdes beusaill 'n còis fo d' asainn,
Simplidh, còir, gun ghò, gun shodal.

Fù'an gleust o fhrèumh Mhic-Iain,
'S iomadh giùn thug lùth o'n mheangan,
Iarmad sheòid air còmharn 's leathad,
Air muir no mùr be 'n cliù bhì beothail.

Thug Aonghus sùgh o fhùir na Niseach,
Clann Lochlainn fiamh, clar is clis 'ad,
Aig uhd stuaidh bu luath a' ruith 'ad,
Thogail sheòl air còrs an t-slios-sa.

Sgòb gun éis o shléisd do sheanar
B' ultach calm 'e, calpach, fearail,
Cunntadh àlach ràmh aig iomairt,
Fuirbhidh ainmeil, 's ma'ig a thig air.

Calum⁽¹⁾ fo sheòl, sgòid san tarraig
Fàgal laimhrig Cheallagail⁽²⁾ charrag,
'S riomhach, dealbhach, camh is leàrag,
Plumb is still bho rinn na daraig.

Gheibhte, cnòdan, leòbag, gealag,
Giomach, crùbag, lùth is adag,
Runnach 's cuiteag-fhionn, is sgadan
Bodaich-ruadh is fuathas smalag.

Nuair chaidh crìoch air mìos a' Ghearrain
'Sa dhearsadh loinn air beinn is srathan
Bh'òdh làmhan gnìomhach shìos a' cladach
Bòsdan chearn' aig' sparrt' le aran.

Cur lion-cuain b' e fuachd a' thailceas
Tùr bu dual dha 's cruas am pailteas
Bu tric a bhìath e lion le easgunn
'S thug e fiach-na-sìotrach dhachaidh.

Lang' air bò-d, cuid beò 's air udal,
Truig is sòrna'n thòradh sgudal,
Toradh cuain, deagh-luach is smudal,
Turbaid tharra-gheal, 's tarbhaich cuideam.

Gaoh an iar-'eas 'g iarraidh fraise,
Ceaban mhiar 's an nial ag casadh,
Torunn ghr-uamach gluas'd na fhaigse,
Sgoth aig dùlan, diùmb muir-thairs'nn.

An Rògh⁽³⁾ an iar-eas, lionadh mara
Gleann gad bhìathadh dian gu 'near-th'ur
Iùnnrais speur a séideadh bagraidh,
Tonnan kòideach, leomh'nt ag caradh.

Thàinig cliathadh 's riasaidh mara,
Piana⁽⁴⁾ ghriosach siabhadh fhrasan,
Sùghaidh shnìomhach fiachainn as'ann,
Lunnan beucach, éitidh, mhosach.

Sud do chinneadh 'n innidh shlàta,
Sgiobadh sùrdail lùbadh achfhuinn,
Beartaich bréid a rèir do mhaide
La-mhsich cruaidh i 's dh' fhuair e 'm Braga.⁽⁵⁾

Chuala Lionaig sgial' do chinneis,
Dh' éisd na h-eòlach, òighean, gillean,
Dh' fhaicich treudan spreidh le 'n gineil
Uiseag, smeòrach, dreòlan, dh' fheidir.

Bu toil leat riamh am briathan allail,
Togail àrd ar cànan fhlatbail,
Tarbhach, òrdail, 'n còmhnaidh d' eairil,
Do shean is òg aig Mòd fharpuis.

Nuair shuidh thu sìos an rian ca'hrach
Theich mùla 's tùrs gu mùirn chaid'each,
Tha dòchas àrd air thàilleabh d' ealadh,
Taobh air chùl, do chliù-s' ar barrant'.

Do bhreith gun chlaon ach daonnan fallain,
S'ultmhor, bàigheil, málta, ealant,
Thug milltean treòir o d' chòmhnadh barraicht',
Fhuair 'ad dòchas Mòid an ath-thruis.

Chruinnich Ilich, Fìnich, Barraich,
Cuid o Chén, & Eireann, Sasainn
Cuid o 'n Oban 's mòran bhail'tean,
Dheanamh cèol fo shròl do cheartais.

Nuair théid a' ghrian sìos air d' fheasgar
'S nach fhuic sinn d' soibh an ceann dh'easdan,
Eiridh sgàil an garadh m' aigne,
Theich na fhùir le dùbhra m' a'rsneil.

(1) Calum—Calum Breabadair.

(2) Cealagol—The Port of Ness.

(3) An Rògh, no An Ròbh—The Butt of Lewis.

(4) Pianain—Caille-pianain (Teine-siunnachain—Phosphorencean).

(5) An Braga—A dangerous rock S.E. of the Butt of Lewis.

EADARAINN FHIN.

The Terms "Amhuinn" and "Feith."

Sir,—The first is an unwarranted corruption of *aithinn* <ath-theinn,—[ath/aith: intensive prefix, +teinn <teann/teinn: tense], and meaning, in jeopardy/in dire distress: cf. ann an truas/ath-thruas: athruas; ann an teinn/ath-theinn: aithinn.

The term is descriptive of a state or condition, and has no reference whatsoever to the configuration of the particular spot on which the capped animal lies. Thus a sheep, heavy with lamb or fleece, may overbalance from sudden fright and tumble "ann an aithinn," on a patch of ground that is dead level.

Furthermore, the location of the accident is not thenceforth to be called an "aithinn" any more than a "feith"; to be so named requires the immersion of an animal in it. A "feith" is a narrow bog or, better, a choked channel that carries sluggish water, and the word connotes a blood-vein as well. This term is difficult of analysis: its root is probably *ve(h)*: carry.

ALEX. NICOLSON.

Feith.

Sir,—*Feith* has morassed space enough already, but I would ask leave to reply to Mr. MacDhughail, for matters of linguistic principle are involved which cover much more ground than one word.

First, I should like to say that I am one of the old fogies who read *Litr Comunn* na h-Oigridh each month with delight, and trust Mr. MacDhughail will long contribute it. Inability to accept all his linguistic positions does not in the least imply lack of appreciation of the charm and stimulus of his letters. I would also admit that he must write to some extent *ex cathedra* (I don't think *bho 'n chathair* quite renders the technical sense of this term). But it would not appear open to him at once to claim that right and to disavow an "authoritative or dogmatic attitude." He really cannot have it both ways; and, writing authoritatively as he legitimately does for the instruction of the rising generation of Scottish Gaels, it seems fair to suggest that he should be chary of laying down dubious linguistic theories.

He writes, "I imagine that Sheriff Nicolson, knowing Gaelic as a native speaker, would not term a stretch of muddy ground a 'féithe,' unless the assumption of a beast, or man, for that part of it, being stuck in this mud was at the back of his mind." That too active imagination of Mr. MacDhughail's would seem to be at the root of the trouble. Such questions should be decided not on imagination but on evidence, of which Mr. MacDhughail still adduces not a scrap. He says the instances of usage I put forward have no significance as a refutation of what he wrote. He has, in fact, given one nothing to refute except an *ipse dixit*. Meantime I have consulted a number of native speakers from various parts of the Highlands. Not one of them has the feeling about *feith* which imagination attributes to Sheriff Nicolson, and some of them seemed to regard it as a matter for mirth. They have, on the other hand, most amply confirmed my conviction that the word is in wide use as a perfectly general term for a bog (the pronunciation in various places covering the four alternatives féith(e), féith(s)). Of course, there are numerous other words, some of them more or less confined to particular sorts of bogs. A friend has obliged me with a most interesting classified list, running to two dozen terms.

Mr. MacDhughail writes: ". . . were Sheriff Nicolson or any other to translate a bog . . . back to Gaelic, would he term . . . them 'féithe'? I imagine he would not. He would term bog probably a 'cáthar' or 'boglach' . . ." It is, alas, too late to interrogate the Sheriff, who might quite possibly have preferred one of these other terms. I am satisfied that many would choose *feithe*. The English-Gaelic part of the H.S.D. puts *feithe* first of its renderings of bog; MacLeod and Dewar, Mackenzie and MacLennan put *feithe* first. Armstrong, it is fair to say, puts *feith* last. Among these authorities, then, the voting is four to one in favour of *feith(e)* as first choice. But even though no one thought it the best equivalent, their preference for other terms would be no evidence in favour of Mr. MacDhughail's astonishing view about *feithe*.

Mr. MacDhughail correctly states that words acquire or lose a certain shade of meaning in certain periods and in certain localities. Had he merely said there was a local impression in some limited

area to the effect he mentioned, I should have wondered and kept silent. But he, writing for the enlightenment of Comunn na h-Oigridh at large, stated his proposition as applying to general current usage; and it is this generalisation to which I, with the backing of speakers from various localities, feel bound to demur.

Mr. MacDhughail quotes the weighty authority of Macbain for what may well be accepted as the correct etymology, but appears unconscious that it is essentially incompatible with his own theory. I have been courteously permitted at the Edinburgh University Library to see Professor Mackinnon's splendid accumulation of lexical material, interleaved in copies of the H.S.D. and Armstrong. There is nothing in it about Mr. MacDhughail's view, though it is hard to suppose such a linguistic curiosity would have eluded the Professor's net. I am told that he was most assiduous in improving the great opportunities he had of gathering information about Gaelic usage by questioning his students from all over the Highlands; and that he had the subtlety of the serpent in interrogating them in such a way as to bring out genuine local material uncontaminated by the supposed "correct"—that bugbear of language and much else. Dictionaries fall short of the complete handling of words by reason of (a) lack of information and (b) lack of space. When both are boundless one gets a N.E.D. To this Mr. MacDhughail's strictures would hardly apply. We shall, unfortunately, never see a Gaelic equivalent. But I mentioned Professor Mackinnon's dictionary here mainly to say that he cites Macbain's etymology of *feithe* without disapproval.

Feith is cognate with English *with*/*withy*, and bore that sense in Ireland, though now on the whole replaced as with us by *gad*. In the sense of *sinew* or *vein* it goes back to the Old Irish glosses. It is derived from the Indo-European base **ei*, which connotes bending, twisting, and the like, and is a prolific root in all the I.E. languages of words for various sinuous or pliant things; e.g., in English (through Latin) *vine*, *viticulture*, *viminal*; in Gaelic the adjective *far*. *Feith* was apparently extended on the ground of visual resemblance from *sinew*/*vein* to the twisty channels running through bog-land. An interesting note in Dwelly's dictionary runs: "There is no grass in these hollows, and they look very like sinews at a distance.—Lewis." From the bog-stream the term was generalised to cover entire bogs. This semantic development is conjectural indeed, but highly plausible, and deserves acceptance in default of better, and for the present purpose Mr. MacDhughail apparently admits it. The earliest literary occurrence I can trace of *feith* in the sense of bog is in the *Seanchus Mor*, the first treatise in the collection of Ancient Laws of Ireland. Though the nucleus of this work is indeed old the bulk of it cannot safely be rated earlier than the sixteenth century. In it the dative plural *feithib* occurs and is translated sloughs, though quite possibly bog-streams might be better, I gladly make Mr. MacDhughail a present of the fact that the reference is to the embogging of distrained cattle. The legal writer evidently used the word as a current term for the sloughs (or bog-streams) to which he was alluding. Then it comes in the probably not much later glossary of O'Davoren in a painfully obscure elucidation of certain terms for bog phenomena of some sort. ". . . cechair .i. tonda critiir & sruth for a huachtar & uisce & rl. for a hichtar, & laith .i.

feith & *uisce* for a huachtar," rendered by Whitley Stokes:—"cechair, i.e., a quagmire (?) and a stream on its surface and water on its bottom, and laith, i.e., a bog-stream and water on its surface." They would seem to have been both horrid things, but their precise nature remains wrapped in mystery. Anyhow the glossator uses *feith* not as a term to be explained, but as an explanatory term for some sort of bogginess, and without apparent sign of thought of the embogging of beast or man.

Place Names probably carry one much further back than these not very helpful literary occurrences of the word. A private correspondent—a native speaker—who finds it as impossible to accept Mr. MacDhughail's view as I do, suggests it may be due to a boyhood recollection of an animal being caught in a *feith* or of stories to this effect which have made a strong mental impression, and remained associated with the word. I wonder if the following from Watson's "Celtic Place Names of Scotland," p. 490, throws any light on the matter:—"The minister of Assynt in Sutherland, writing in 1795, mentions a place in his parish called 'Fe-na-hard-elig,' i.e., *Feith na h-Airdleilig*, 'bog of the high eileag,' which he explains as a tract of soft boggy moor in which, in times of old, the natives gathered deer, and when entangled they killed them." The invention of this artifice is credited to the youthful Cuchullain, as told in the *Tain Bo Chualgne*. The precocious child, out on the rampage with the King's unwilling charioteer, observes some deer and resolves to take a sample—in his case alive. He makes the charioteer goad on the horses and head the deer into the bog, catches one, ties it to the chariot and takes it home. *Monai* is the word used for bog in L.U.F.62. Perhaps Mr. MacDhughail would argue that *Feith na h-Airdleilig* is evidence in support of his view. If so, he would be on very dangerous ground. That name is apparently no longer current, but Watson continues, "Near the place indicated by the minister there are still *Allt Eileag*, *Loch Eileag*, and *Mointeach Eileag*, and this last is probably the 'boggy moor' which he mentions." Some lines below he refers to *Bog na h-Eileig* and *Loch na h-Eileig* in Killearnan, Ross. One could therefore infer that the words *mointeach* and *bog* itself, as well as *loch* and *allt* are all affected with the same semantic oddity attributed by Mr. MacDhughail to *feith*.

On p. 230 of "Place Names of Ross and Cromarty," Watson writes, "*Feith Chuilisg*—Bog of Cuilisg. Cuilisg was a witch who ran off with the kettle of the Féninne. Caoilte caught her here, and the kettle spilled in the struggle, causing the '*feith*'." Here we have the local folk account of the origin of a particular '*feith*,' and it is obviously hopelessly incompatible with Mr. MacDhughail's view. One proved exception is enough to destroy a generalisation, and there would seem no more to be said.

I now at last emerge from this Serbonian Bog—not wholly of my own creation—and, if you should insert this letter, can but express my grateful surprise at your forbearance.—I am, etc.,

H. COMYN MAITLAND.

14 Grosvenor Crescent,
Edinburgh, 15th June, 1944.

The B.B.C. and Gaelic.

Sir,—May I add a postscript to the letter in which I suggested that application be made to the broadcasting authorities of Eire to allow two periods of half an hour in Scottish Gaelic to be given weekly for children, to say that the *Radio Times* issue, dated 2nd June, shows three hours and forty-five minutes given to Welsh between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. as against forty minutes given to Scottish Gaelic, commencing at 10.45 p.m., when presumably children are in bed? I wonder what the attitude of the Welsh members would be if these figures were reversed.—I am, etc.,

EDWARD MACCURDY.

[Tha sinn duilich gum b' fheadar dhùinn litrichean eile a chumail air ais agus rudan eile comhla riù.—F.-D.]

LIST OF NEW LIFE MEMBERS.

From 1st June, 1943, to 31st May, 1944.

Andrew, Lieut. R., London.
Banks, Miss Violet, Edinburgh.
Bannatyne, John S., Glasgow.
Bird, Mrs. Kenneth, London.
Blair, Dr. Dorothy O. S., Sunderland.
Campbell, Lt.-Col. A. M., R.A.M.C.
Campbell, Miss S. M., Lossiemouth.
Chisholm, Donald John, Stornoway.
Craighead, Captain A. B. K., R.A., London.
Craighead, Mrs. A. B. K., London.
Cunningham, Miss Catriona, Dunblane.
Gibson, D. S., Eastbourne.
Jackson, M.A., Donald, Carradale.
Junor, Mrs. E. T., Perth.
Lorimer, W. L., St. Andrews.
Macaulay, Miss Janet, Greenock.
MacColl, H. G., Ballachulish.
MacDonald, M.A., Donald John, Inverness.
MacDonald, Rev. Murdo, Taynuilt.
Macindoe, D., Edinburgh.
MacIver, Angus, Glasgow.
Mackay, M.A., Rev. John, Glasgow.
MacLean, Malcolm, Tobermory.
MacLeod, W. A., Harrow.
MacMillan, Miss Flora, Glasgow.
MacMillan, M.A., Miss Helen T., Glasgow.
MacMillan, M.A., Miss May Margaret, Glasgow.
MacWilliam, Dr. Edgar, London.
Maxwell, Eric, Dundee.
Millar, Lachlan M., South Africa.
Milne, Captain Charles, R.A.M.C., Dundee.
Milne, W. S. P., India.
Nicholson, Miss C. G. Astley, Arisaig.
Schorn, Ph.C.A.I.C., E. J., Bellshill.
Stewart, Alex. M., London.
Stopes, Charles J. B., Kent.

Cha nigh na tha dh' uisge sa' mhuir ar cairdeas.—
All the water in the sea won't wash out our
kinship.

AN COMUNN CENTRAL FUND.

Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.I. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gaidhealach."

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Donation List.

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An Lùnasdal, 1944.

[Earrann 11

LATHA TRUSAIDH.

Thug mi cuairt an so o chionn ghoird gu tìr mo bhreith is m' àraich agus mi toirt làmh-chuidich do mo charaid Ministear na sgìre an sin aig na h-Orduighean. Bha a bhith ag ùrachadh eòlais air cairdean is luchd-dàimh, agus air na seann àitean, 'na mhisneachd is 'na mhòr thoil-inntinn dhomh. Bha an aimsir fàbhorach, agus ged fhuair sinn là no dhà fluich ris an Orduigh bha lathaichean eile air a chaochladh, agus bha dhà no thri lathaichean ann an deidh an Orduigh cho brèagha agus cho taitneach 's a chunnaic mise riamh, làithean cho taitneach 's nach iarradh duine beò na b' fheàrr.

Chan fhaca mi an Cuan a Siar a riamh na b' eireachdaile, agus ri àird eireachdais càite bheil a leithid. Gu dearbh is mòralach an cuan. Agus ri a leithid a dh' aimsir agus a dh' àm

“Chan fhaca tu sealladh as bòidhch’
na a’ ghrian a’ dol sìos air taobh-siar
Eilean Leòdhais.
* * *

Thachair dhomh, ma tha, gun cuala mi Di-luain, latha crìochnachaidh an Orduigh, gun robh iad gu bhith trusadh nan caorach air an latha màireach, nam biodh an aimsir freagarach, ann an Crabhlastadh, baile mo bhreith is m' àraich. Chuir mi romham gum fuirichinn agus gun rachainn a thrusadh còmhla ri—co-dhiùbh gum bithinn 'nam measg, mar as minic a bha agus mi 'nam bhalach òg.

Bha latha an trusaidh mar a dh' iarraidhte e—cha robh neul san adhar, bha a' ghrian a' deàrsadh 'na làn neart, na speuran uile soilleir

gorm, sìth is maise nam beannachd air muir is air tìr; cha ghluaiseadh am falt air do cheann. Latha air leth air son an aobhair, dìreach mar a dh' iarradh duine e. B' e so, ma tha, latha an trusaidh, agus iad a dol a rusgadh nam molt agus nan caorach seasg.

* * *

A nis ann an gnothaich baile mar so—no mar as tric ann an gnothaich sam bith eile—chan 'eil mòr chabhaig no ireabais sam bith air daoine dol an ceann greim ro mhoch no ro thràth. Tha iad ag coimhleadh facal an Fhàidh: “Esan a chreideas cha dean e cabhag.” Tha biadh is obair tìghe ri dheanamh an toiseach, tha an crodh ri a bhleoghain agus iomadach rud eile ri dheanamh a thuilleadh air ullachadh bidh fa chomhair na fainge, mar a tha mi ag innse an deidh so. Tha an òigridh uile air falbh an so mar a tha iad anns gach àite eile, agus mar sin is e na braiseichean agus na bodaich agus na mnathan a tha deanamh na h-obrach, agus obair an trusaidh mar gach obair eile. Air an socair fhéin, ma tha, an deidh dhaibh am biadh meadhon-là a ghabhail dh' fhalbh aon dusan braiseiche agus cù air sàil gach fir—ach gum faicheadh tu dà chù air sàil fir an sud 's an so—agus iad a' dol a ruith air crìochan a' bhaile, air chùl nan caorach, chum an trusadh rompa chun na fainge.

Tha an fhaing fhéin a muigh air cùlaibh a' bhaile, mu cheithreamh a mhìle bhò ghràdh arbhair a' bhaile. Tha i air mullach drama ris a' chladach agus ag amharc a mach ris a' Chuan a Siar. Chitheadh tu air an latha so, cho soilleir 's a dh' iarradh tu, na h-Eileana Flannach 'nam mill ghorma fichead mìle muigh.

sa' Chuan a Siar, agus eadhon Hiort fhéin mar neul gorm ri bun-sgòth.

Mhòthaich mi, ma tha, gun deachaidh dà uair a thide seachad an deidh do'n luchd-trusaidh fhàgail agus cha robh gluasad sam bith aig na mnathan agus aig na bodaich chum dol chun na fainge. Thug mi fhein ceum a mach gu mullach Chlèiteir—so ainm àite na fainge—mu uair gu leth an deidh do 'n sgioba trusaidh na tighean fhàgail ach chan fhaicinn caora air ghluasad fad mhiltean air cùl a' bhaile. Co-dhiùbh, mu thrì uairean an deidh do 'n luchd-trusaidh am baile fhàgail chunnaic mi mnathan is fir a' fàgail a' bhaile le cléibh is gnòthaichean eile. Dh' fhalbh mi as an deidh agus nuair a rainig sinn an fhaing chluinneadh tu mèilich nan caorach is comhartaich nan con a' teannadh ruinn a muigh air cùl a' bhaile.

Chaidh dà theine mhór mònadh fhadadh, fear air gach taobh de 'n fhaing, agus chaidh àireamh iarunn-comharrachaidh adhar a chur anns gach teine chum iad a bhith ullamh nuair thigeadh feum orra.

Tha àite lomaidh air leth aig a h-uile teaghlach—dara leth a' bhaile air an dara taobh de 'n fhaing agus an leth eile air an taobh eile—druim feannaig no dhà aig gach neach dha fhéin. Bha far a bheil an fhaing uair air àiteach, agus tha làrach nam feannagan ann fhathast, agus tha iad a' freagairt air son na h-obrach so dìreach mar gum biodh iad air an deanamh air son an obhair.

* * *

Thainig an luchd-trusaidh leis na caoirich agus is ann an sin a bha an othail is an éigheach mus deach an cur uile do 'n fhaing. Theirinn gun robh mu mhille ceann caorach ann, eadar gach seòrsa a bh' ann. Tha faing bheag ann agus i a' fosgladh a mach as an fhaing mhóir ris an can iad an fhaing ghlacaidh, far a bheil e furasda gréim fhaighinn air beathach, ach mhòthaich mi nach robhtar mar bu tric ach a' deanamh gréim air caora no molt san fhaing mhóir fhéin. Gun teagamh bha iad cho dùmhaile an sin an toiseach agus gun robh e furasda gu leòr gréim fhaotainn eadhon air a' mhòlt bu sgianaiche. Bha na mnathan a' cheart cho ealanta ris na fir anns a h-uile cail a bh' ann, agus gu seachd sonraichte an nighean no dhà a b' òige a bh' ann. Chluinnta fuaim na deamhais daonnan, agus chùte rusg an deidh ruigs air an tilgeil ann an tìrura air cùl far an robh gach teaghlach ag obair. Bha mi fhein ag gluasad an sud 's an so agus ag gabhail beachd air a h-uile dad a bha dol air aghaidh. Fheara! sud far an robh a' Ghaidhlig. Bha cur-seachad is fealla-dhà is aoibhneas gu leòr ann. Gu dearbh shaoilinn-sa gun robh na

coin fhéin na bu shitheile na bha iad ri m' òige-sa.

Bhatar ag ceangal trì de chasan na caorach le lùb de shioman cemp—no shioman Thearlach mar a their na Leodhasaich ris an t-sioman so—agus cha b' urrainn mi cumail bho m' inntinn an rud a thuit am Fàidh mu dheidhinn an t-Slànuiigher Bheannaichte: "Agus mar chaora a bhios balbh an làthair a luchd-lomairt mar sin cha d' fhosgail e a bheul." Cha robh biog a' t'ighinn as am beul fhad 's a bha iad fo làmh an luchd-lomairt, ach cho luath 's a gheibheadh iad saor air an casan bha a' mheilich 's an éigheach a' tòiseachadh. Bheil fhios ciod is coireach dh' an so? Is iomadh tuathanach is ciobair deth an d' fhaighnich mise ach cha b' urrainn aon aca freagairt cothromach a thoirt dhomh.

Bha, ma tha, cha e mhàin muilt is caoirich sheasg is òisgean r' an lomairt ach bha cuid de dh' uain r' an gearradh is r' an comharrachadh. Agus cha robh ro chabhag air duine, agus cha robh duine diomhain.

* * *

Mu chóig uairean chunnaic mi na mnathan ag cur choireachan air na teintean, agus mu leth-uair an deidh cóig—nuair a ghoil iad—chaidh an tea air bonn. Chunnaic mi an sud 's an so air cùl gach buidhne, air feannagan glan gorma, cuibhrichean bùird cho geal ris a' chanach 'gan sgaoleadh, agus biadh na tea air a shuidheachadh orra cho grunn agus cho òrdail 's ged a b' ann san lùchairt bu riomhaiche a bhiodh e. Bha a h-uile seòrsa sconaichean is araìn flùir ann air an smaoinicheadh tu, bha aran coire ann, bha lof is aran eile na bùthaidh ann, ach bu bheag mo chàil dhaibh-san; bha fm ùr ann, seadh fm ùr agus pailteas dheth, agus càis agus gruitheam, agus bàrr cho tuing agus gun seasadh an spàin ann.

Chunnaic mi gun d' iarr gach buidheam am beannachd fhéin air a' bhiaidh. Chan fhaca mise a leithid so de chuir-m-chnuic 'nam latha. Ghabh iad an deagh thide fhéin—cha robh cabhag sam bith orra. Agus an deidh sin thòisich an lomairt a rithist. Bha na tìruran rusg a' fàs na bu mhòtha is na bu mhòtha. Bha gach ni a' dol air adhart mar so—lomadh, lomadh, agus a' losgadh litrichean comharrachaidh an adhairc an drasda 's a rithist mura robh iad ann roimhe agus ag cur dearg air feadhainn eile—gus an robh e suas ri naoi uairean. Chunnaic mi an uair sin feadhainn a' lionadh na saic leis a' chlòimh, ach bha an feadhainn aig am bu mhòtha bha chaoirich no aig am bu lugha bha làmhnan sàs sa' lomadh fhathast. Ach cha bu luaithe a lion an feadhainn a bha ullamh na

saic na thòisich iad ri còmhadh an fheadhainn eile. Chaidh na saic uile an uair sin a lìonadh, agus aig leth-uair an deidh naoi thòisicheadh ag gluasad dhachaidh, agus mòran leis na saic air am muin, feadhainn eile le clèibh anns an robh deamhsean is iarunn is lùban slòimain, agus soithichean is fuigheach na cuirme.

Bha rudha dearg na gréine, agus i dol fodha sa' Chuan a Siar, san àird-an-iar, agus meuran òir a ruighinn gu h-àird an adhair. Cha robh gluasad air a' mhuir ri cloich; bha sìth is sàmhchar is blàthas is carthannas an t-samhraidh air gach taobh, agus sinn uile mothachail air glòir is maithas Dhé 'na chruthachadh.

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

An Cabairneach.—So ainm leabhair a chuir Feachd Phort Rìghheadh de Chomunn na h-Oigridh a mach air an ceann féin. Tha e 'na chnap maith leabhair, ann am meudachd a' Ghaidheil ach gum bheil e a' thri tughad ris a' Ghaidheil. Thatar 'ga reic air tasdan co-dhiùbh. Tha sin ag ciallachadh gum faod thu an leabhar a cheannach air tasdan ach gum gabhar bhuaht na bheir thu dhaibh an cois sin. Nam faicheadh tusa an leabhar an toiseach tha mise làn chinnteach gur h-ann a bhiodh naire ort tasdan a thairgse 'na àite. Co-dhiùbh, chan 'eil dad a chuimhne agamsa cuin a lugh mi leabhar a thug barrachd toileachais dhomh, agus a bu trice a thug fiamh gàire orm 'ga leughadh, na an Cabairneach. Tha e réir a ainme. Is minic a phàigh mise seachd is sia sgillinn, agus eadhon deich tasdain, air leabhar nach tug idir uibhir a thoileachas dhomh, agus anns nach robh idir leth-uibhir de ghliocas 's a tha sa' Chabairneach.

Tha a h-uile facal dheth air a sgrìobhadh le balaich is nigheanan na sgoile féin. Tha dealbh suaicheantas Comunn na h-Oigridh air còmhachd an leabhair, agus tha còig no sia de shlios-an-duilleig làn de shanasan reic 's a leithid sin ann an Gaidhlig—agus a h-uile lide dhiùbh an rogha na Gaidhlig.

Tha dealbhan aoibhinn ann cuideachd, agus a h-uile càil tha timchioll air an leabhar r' a mholadh; ach is e feabhas na Gaidhlig agus eireachdas a' sgrìobhaidh dad as fhèrr a th' ann. Bheirinn a chomhairle air duine sam bith a leughas na facail so e an Cabairneach fhaotainn bho 'n Cheann Feachd, an Ard Sgoil Phort Rìghheadh.

Ruaridh Caimbeul.—Tha mi faicinn gum bheil mo sheann charaid Maighistir Sgoile Mhionard, taobh Loch Fìne, a' leigeil dheth uallach an latha. Mar a bha mi ag innse san

àireamh mu dheireadh de 'n Ghaidheil chan e mhàin gun do choisinn Ruaridh Caimbeul crùn a' bhàird aig Mòd a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich ach choisinn e gach duais a b' fhiach a cosnadh air son rosg aig an àm cheudna. Chunnaic sibh cuid de annas a làimhe sa' Ghaidheil cuideachd. Tha cuimhne agam tadhal uair no dha san sgoil aige ann am Mionard, agus sheinneadh na sgoilearan aige na h-òrain Ghaidhlig cho binne ris na smeòraichean. Mura seinn muinntir Taobh Loch Fìne chan ann aig Mgr. Caimbeul a tha choire. Fhuair iad an deagh chothrom 'nan òige.

Is e duine air leth tùrcaal agus lùmhearach a tha an Ruaridh Caimbeul. Tha cuimhne againn uair 's mi air tadhal air e bhith sealltainn eathar ùr dhomh a thog e fhéin, agus cha b' urrainn eathar na bu ghriune agus na bu choltaiche ri sàl tighinn bho làimh saoir-eathraichean.

Tha mi faicinn gum bheil e an dràsda co-dhiùbh dol a dh' fhuireach do thir àraich—do Bhràgair an Eilean Leodhais. Tha dithis mhac aige san Nèibhi ri linn a' chogaidh. Guma maith a bhitheas e fhein agus a theaghlach.

* * *

The Inscriptions of Pictland.—Sin ainm leabhair a chuir caraid foghluinte do m' innsaigh an la-roimhe. Tha sgrìobhaidhean an àrd sgoileir sin nach maireann—Fransaidh Carney Diack—air an cruinneachadh còmhla ri cheile le dà àrd sgoilear, dithis dlùth chairdean do Dhiack fhéin—Uilleam M. Alexander agus Iain Domhnallach, a tha le chèile an Obairheadhain. Is ann do 'n Ghriach a bhuneadh muinntir Dhiack. Tha an leabhar air a chlo dh-bhualadh leis an "Third Spalding Club" agus ma tha gach leabhar eile a tha iad ag cur a mach cho drachmhòr ris an leabhar so is ann a tha e an cunnart gur h-ann a shuidheas duine sìos ag amharc air na leabhraichean aca, agus 'gan laimhseachadh, an àite a bhith 'gan leughadh—tha an leabhar cho eireachdail a muigh 's is stigh.

Cha robh duine 'na latha, no an latha sam bith eile a reir mo bheachd-sa, a b' fhiosraiche agus a bu ghéire air seann eachdraidh is seann shuidheachadh nan Cruithneach, agus gu sonraichte air ceann an ear-thuath na h-Alba, na Fransaidh Diack. Bha beachd shoilleir agus beachd chothromach aige air na Cruithnich no na Picts. Tha an òraid sin san leabhar so còmhla ri iomadach òraid thaitneach eile, ach is dòcha gun teid agam air sin innse am Beurla uaireigin eile seach gur h-ann am Beurla a tha i sgrìobhte.

Bha mise glé eòlach air saothair Dhiack ach tha rudan an so nach robh riamh roimhe an clòdh.

Tha roinn Ghaidhlig san leabhar—a' Ghaidhlig mu dheireadh a bha air a bruidhinn am Braighe Mhàrr. Is ann am Braighe Mhàrr a rugadh 's a thogadh an t-Seana Bhean nach maireann a chleachd a bhith toirt dhomh criomagan gasda air son a' Ghaidheil an dràsda 's a rithist. Ach dh' ionnsaich ise a' Ghaidhlig gu coimhlinta anns gach àite san robh i gabhail còmhnaidh, eadar an t-Eilean Sgitheanach, agus Drochaid Ruaidh, agus an Gearrasdan.

Bheir mi dhuibh an dràsda faicil an òrain sin air an robh am fonn an toiseach ris an canar a nis "The Standard on the Braes of Marr," co-dhùbh dà cheathramh dheth. Sin na tha maireann de 'n òran. So dìreach mar a tha e san leabhar :

BAD AN TIOBAR.

Theid na mult do Bhad 'n Tiobar

Theid iad ann ged nach tig iad.

Theid na mult do Bhad 'n Tiobar

Nuair a thig 'n t-samhr'.

Theid iad mach air Caochan Beith,

Caochan Beith, Caochan Beith,

Theid iad mach air Caochan Beith,

's staigh air tigh Iain Tòisich.

* * *

Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Chaidh sinn uile mar chaoirich air seacharan; thionndaidh sinn leag aon g' a shlighe féin; agus leag an Tighearna air-san aingidheachd gach aon dinn. Shàraichaidh e, agus rinneadh ainneart air, gidheadh cha d' fhosgail e a bheul; thugadh e mar uan a chum a chasgraidh, agus mar chaora bhitheas balbh an lathair a luchd-lomairt, mar sin cha d' fhosgail e a bheul.—*Isaiah liii, 6-7.*

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council of An Comunn Gaidhealach was held in Millars' Rooms, Stirling, on Friday, 7th July. The President, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, M.A., Balquhiddy, was in the Chair and the following members were present:—

Mrs. J. M. Bannerman, Balmaha; Mrs. M. Barron, Glasgow; Dr. John Cameron, LL.B., Glasgow Mrs. Iain M. Campbell (Airds); Nicol Campbell, Elgin; Stewart Cunningham, M.A., Kinbuck; Mrs. J. B. Dunlop, Glasgow; Mrs. M. C. Edgar, Glasgow; Mrs. MacPhail Holt, Arisaig; Miss Nettie A. C. Kennedy, Glasgow; Donald MacDonald, Inverness; Kenneth MacDonald, B.Sc., Glasgow; Hector MacDougall, Glasgow; John MacKay, Edinburgh; Donald Shaw MacKinnon,

Edinburgh; Murdo MacLeod, M.A., Glasgow; Farquhar MacRae, B.Sc., Glasgow; John MacRae, M.A., Glasgow; William MacRae, Baillieston; Donald Morrison, Glasgow, and John A. Nicolson, M.A., Glasgow. In attendance—James T. Graham, C.A., Treasurer; Neil Shaw, Secretary, and Donald MacPhail, Northern Organiser.

Minute of Gaelic Meeting of the Executive Council was read and approved, and apologies intimated from several members.

The members were upstanding while the President made sympathetic reference to the passing of Mr. John MacLeod, a member of the Executive, and Mr. Angus MacKay, son of Capt. William MacKay, Inverness, who was killed on active service.

Mr. MacLeod was a great lover of the Highlands, its people, and language, and was a prominent worker in the cause of Gaelic in London where he resided for many years. They mourned him as a friend and fellow-worker.

Mr. MacKay fell serving his country on the field of battle, and they extended sincere sympathy to his father and mother on the loss of a very promising son. The Secretary was instructed to communicate the sympathy of the members to Mrs. MacLeod and Capt. MacKay.

The President gave a cordial welcome to three new members and expressed the hope that they would enjoy their association with their fellow members. The members were, Mr. Murdo MacLeod, Mr. John MacRae, and Mr. Donald Morrison.

Minute of Meeting of the Special Committee on re-organisation was read. The Committee reviewed the findings of the previous Meeting and suggested that the possibilities of organising An Comunn membership directly through the Branches be explored. Tentative proposals were put forward as a basis for the re-organisation envisaged.

Mr. John A. Nicolson in moving adoption of the Minute said that a great deal of work remained to be done before the Committee could submit its proposals in final form. These in due course would be submitted for the consideration of a future Annual Meeting.

Dr. Cameron suggested that powers be given to co-opt members. It was agreed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, and on the motion of Miss Nettie Kennedy, seconded by Mrs. Edgar, Mrs. Barron was appointed to succeed the late Mr. MacLeod. The Minute was adopted.

Mr. Donald MacPhail asked that as a matter of convenience and necessity he be provided with an office in Inverness. This was remitted

to the Finance Committee for sympathetic consideration.

Minute of Meeting of Finance Committee was read by the Treasurer. The Committee reported that for the first time since the outbreak of War there was a surplus of £183. This satisfactory result was due to the splendid donations which had been received from Branches, individual members, and special efforts. The Committee asks for even a greater measure of support during the coming year.

The Treasurer then detailed the Accounts and Balance-sheet for the year, and gave explanations where necessary and asked for.

The President's resumé of the year's work and reports of Standing Committees were considered, and on the motion of Dr. Cameron, Convener of the Finance Committee, the Minute, Accounts and Balance-Sheet, and Reports for year 1943-44 were unanimously adopted.

Mrs. Bannerman moved the adoption of the Central (War Comforts) Committee Accounts and thanked all who had helped to make the work of the Committee so successful. The Accounts were adopted.

The Treasurer reported on the "Aros" Club at Greenock.

Minute of Meeting of Education Committee was read. The Committee had again considered Mr. Nicol Campbell's motion re the collation of the information at their disposal in the event of an approach being made to the Secretary of State for Scotland. The Committee agreed that there was sufficient material at their disposal and collated in readiness when such an approach to the Secretary of State seemed advisable.

The Minute was adopted on the motion of Mr. John A. Nicolson.

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald referred to the economic experiment instituted in the Golspie Technical School and it was remitted to the Education Committee and Propaganda Committee to consider the possibilities of approach to other authorities.

Minute of Meeting of Propaganda Committee was read and adopted on the motion of Mr. Donald MacDonald, Convener.

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald suggested the possibility of making An Comunn an international movement by forming Branches overseas, and pointed out that there were many Gaels in Canada, New Zealand, and Australia who would help in developing the idea. The suggestion was remitted to the Propaganda Committee for consideration.

Minute of Meeting of Art and Industry Committee was read. The Committee reported on the two competitions promoted during the year. These were for the encouragement of Celtic Art designing among Juniors, the first for articles of utility value and the second for pottery decorated in Celtic designs. The articles submitted were on view at the meeting and adjudicated upon by members of the Art and Industry Committee. The prize-list is given on another page. The Committee recommended a continuance of Competition No. 1, and that a special effort be made to interest Art Teachers in Secondary Schools in Celtic designs. It was suggested that Branches be asked to interest themselves in this competition.

The Minute was approved on the motion of the Convener, Mrs. Iain Campbell (Airds).

Nominations for the offices of President, Two Vice-Presidents and ten members of council were received. It was pointed out that the vacancy in the Vice-Presidentship caused by the death of Mr. Charles Campbell had not been filled. The resumption of the General Meeting was considered the appropriate time to fill the vacancy. Dr. Cameron was nominated for the vacancy and the other office-bearers remain as at present.

Messrs. Gillespie and Anderson were re-appointed auditors, and it was resolved that they be cordially thanked for acting in an honorary capacity in connection with the Central (War Comforts) Committee Charity Funds.

A Motion submitted by Mr. Angus Robertson that the inhibition on piano accompaniment at the Mod be eliminated was remitted to the Mod and Music Committee for consideration.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of Council on Friday, 10th November.

The President reported that a Memorandum on Gaelic Broadcasting had been sent to the Director General of the B.B.C., and he asked the secretary to read his reply. The letter acknowledging the Director's reply was also read. In it dissatisfaction was expressed and intimation given that An Comunn would pursue the matter further. The Council approved that Members of Parliament for the Highland Areas be approached, also certain members of the House of Lords.

Mr. Kenneth MacDonald said that the Federation of Highland Societies (Glasgow) had also written and received a similar reply.

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

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

The Salute the Soldier Savings Drives in the Highlands are now over, and, in every area, Targets have been exceeded by large margins. The Organiser assisted in Lewis for 12 days and visited the major part of the Island, giving addresses in Gaelic, and outlining the Campaign. He visited the Island of Bernera (Lewis) for the first time, and his meeting coincided with the visit of the Seaforth Pipe Band. The day was fine and the scene at the slipway was one never to be forgotten. Members of the local Home Guard manned three boats. In the first the Drums were piled high in the bow with a Seaforth piper wafting across the Caolas, the martial music of our forefathers. On the Island, with tartans swaying in the wind, the Band marched to the School, about two miles distant, where old and young welcomed them. Enthusiasm was everywhere evident, and, it was no idle expression, for by the end of the Week, the Bernera people had saluted their soldiers to the extent of over £3,000 in Government securities.

The Schools did extraordinarily well, but perhaps North Tolsta deserves special mention, The School Group invested £1550 within the Week. The most noteworthy point in connection with this Drive in Lewis is the fact that over 71 per cent. of the total sum invested, i.e., £161,000, was in Small Savings.

Mr. Macphail acted as Organiser to the County of Inverness Campaign, and, in many of the rural areas, full use was made of the old language. Skye and the Outer Isles of the County pulled their full weight in this Drive and proved once again that they are to a man behind our Soldiers.

The County of Sutherland also claimed the services of the Organiser, and every village from Lairg, to Oldshoremore, and Durness was visited.

Mr. Macphail is at the time of writing these Notes, engaged preparing a series of Gaelic Concerts in his Area in aid of An Comunn Central Fund. Neil MacLean and Jenny M. B. Currie are coming North for a week at the end of July, and these talented singers are assured of a hearty welcome wherever they appear. In addition to helping the finances of An Comunn, Concerts of the nature proposed will have sound propaganda value.

By the death of Mr. A. MacKenzie, Headmaster of Inchmore P. School, which took place recently, the Gaelic cause has lost a faithful friend. He was a native of Elphin,

Sutherland, and never failed to take his part in everything which pertained to the betterment of his people. He will be sadly missed in Inverness and district, where he was well known and highly respected. We offer sincere sympathy to his widow and family.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Our members will be pleased to know that official intimation has been received from the British Red Cross Society that P.O.W. Donald MacDonald, Oflag 1X and J. D. MacNeill, Stalag 1X have received their parcel of Gaelic books. Pte. MacNeill's parcel was 10 months on the way, but, we feel sure, that it was none the less appreciated when it did reach him.

Several airgraph letters from India have reached the office asking for copies of *Seirbhis a' Chrùin*. We are indebted to Eachann MacDhughail for his notes in the *Weekly Scotsman* drawing the attention of serving personnel to this publication.

From our notes offering to send free copies of *An Gaidheal* to service men, our indefatigable member in San Bruno, California, Mgr. Seumas MacGaraidh, has promptly taken action, and has forwarded the names and addresses of 5 members of his Gaelic Class who are serving in the U.S.A. Forces. In addition to copies of *An Gaidheal*, which will be posted regularly from now onwards, copies of *Seirbhis a' Chrùin* have been sent to the gallant lads serving with our great Ally.

Mgr. MacGaraidh has sent us a copy of the programme of the Second Gaelic Mod at San Francisco which was held on the last day of April. There were 110 entries and the competitions comprised reading, recitation, conversation, solo singing, unison singing by groups of 6 or more, and violin playing. Mgr. MacGaraidh was chairman of the proceedings which he opened with an address in Gaelic. We heartily thank our good friend Seumas and wish him continued success with his Gaelic Class.

The death occurred recently at Kilchoman, Islay, of Charles MacNiven, joint author with his brother Duncan of the collection of poems published under the title of *Bàird Chill-Chomain*. Although Charles did not enter for National Mod honours or gain as wide a fame as Duncan, he nevertheless made a definite contribution to Gaelic literature. His poems had a local appeal and we recall his many appearances at the Islay Provincial

Mod reciting original pieces on topical subjects which evoked hearty and unstinted applause. To Duncan we extend sincere sympathy in the loss of a brother and collaborator.

Is iomadh sgeul beag laghach a chluinneas Dòmhnall MacPhàil is mi fhéin air ar cuairtean air feadh na dùthcha. Tha iad a' nochdadh cho tapaidh 's a bha, agus a tha, òigrìdh na Gàidhealtachd ann a bhi ag cleachdadh na cainnt mhàthaireil, agus cho deas is a thigheadh freagaritean orra. Is e maighstir sgoil a dh'innis i so aig céilidh aig an robh mi an Latharna. Bha gille beag do am b' ainm Dòmhnall, aois sè bliadhna, agus ged a bha trì mìle aige ri choiseachd leis fhéin do 'n sgoil is ann sinmìg a bhiodh àite falamh an àm tòiseachaidh. Air latha sònraichte cha robh Dòmhnall sa' chuideachd an uair a chaidh na h-ainmean a ghairm, agus mun deach an sgoil fhosgladh san dòigh àbhaistich thug am maighstir sùil a mach air an uinneig agus faicear Dòmhnall a nuas an rathad le gob feadaireachd air. Chaidh am maighstir chun an doruis agus ma b' fhlor e fhéin colg uamhasach air, agus ars esan gu croada, "Seadh 'ille bhig, tha thu air dheireadh." Thionndaidh a chorrtaich gu fiabh-ghàire an uair a fhuair e an fhreagairt so bha Dhòmhnall, "Nan robh mi beagan na bu tràithe bha mi còmh' ri càch!"

NIALL.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

The Basket Whist Drive organised by Miss Lucy Cameron and Miss Margaret MacTaggart, and held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on the evening of 15th June, was a very successful and pleasant function. There was a large attendance and Mr. John Murray acted as cardmaster. At the close of play, tea was served, and thereafter the prizes were gracefully handed over by Mrs. MacCall. On the call of Mr. Murray, Mrs. MacCall was cordially thanked for presenting the prizes. Mr. Murray also thanked the two ladies who organised the Whist Drive and referred to the good work done by them in connection with Highland Associations in the city.

Mr. Hector MacDougall moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Murray for so efficiently carrying through the duties of cardmaster. Mr. MacDougall also complimented Mr. Murray on his appointment as President of the Glasgow Sutherland Association.

This effort was in aid of the Royal and Merchant Navies Fund, and the proceeds, which amounted to the handsome sum of £40 17/6, is being handed over to the Royal National Life-Boat Institution.

A meeting of the "Aros" Committee was held in the Club Rooms, Greenock, on 19th June. The Rev. John M. MacLeod, Convener, presided, and gave an interesting account of the work done since the Club was opened. Many Gaelic-speaking men of the Services have visited the Club and have enjoyed reading the Gaelic books in the Library. The Comunn Magazine, *An Gaidheal*, is in much demand, and few copies are left on the tables by the end of each month. The members of the Local Committee are most attentive and "Aros" is in every respect a haven of rest.

ART AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

PRIZE-LIST.

Competition No. 1., Utility Articles—1st, D. E. Wardle; 2nd, Harry Clowes; 3rd, Betty Leese; 4th, Roy Lockett.

Competition No. 2., Pottery decorated with Celtic Design—1st, Norma Smallwood; 2nd, M. Anderson; 3rd (equal), Joan Clarkson and R. Mulliner.

All the entries were from Burslem School of Art, Stoke-on-Trent, and the ages of the children were from 12 to 15 years. The Committee heartily congratulates Miss Mairi MacBride for her warm interest and enthusiasm. She is entirely responsible for all the work submitted. The craftsmanship in both competitions was of a very high standard and the Committee's only regret was that there were no entries from the homeland. A competition on similar lines to that of No 1. is to be arranged for 1945 and an effort made to get Secondary Schools in the Highland areas interested in Celtic Art.

CLU NAN ARMUNN.

[So an t-aon òran a chaidh a chur a steach ann an comhfharpais bàrdachd Comunn na h-Oigridh. Is e Murchadh Caimbeul am Feachd Phort Righeadh a chuir a steach e. B' fhiach a' chomhfharpais a bhith air a cumail air son an òran so fhein. Tha e airidh air an duais as àrde, agus tha sinn a' toirt sin dha. Cumadh Murchadh a ribheid an cleachdadh, agus bith an *Gaidheal* toilichte latha sam bith an tuilleadh fhoillseachadh uaithe. Tha sinn ag cur meall-an-naidheachd air, agus air Feachd Phort Righeadh. Is e am Maidsèar Calum Iain MacLeod a thug dhuinn na duaisean aison na comhfharpaise so. Mìle taing dha agus slàn gun till e.—F.D.]

'S iad gillean treubhach an éididh ghrinn, Tha dèanamh euchdan an diugh 's gach tir, Gu sgoinneil cruadalach fearail luath-chleasach Gaisgich usal bha shuas 's na ginn.

A steach do Phòland gun d' ghabh an nàmh,
A' spuilleadh bhalltean 's cur raointean fàs,
'S ged rinn na suinn sin an uile dhìchioll,
Chuir Nàsaich mhìlteach an tìr ir làr.

An tìr na Gàidhlig chaidh fios mun cuairt,
"Militia" 'ùr chur air chois gu luath,
Is mar an sinnsribh—an dream nach dìobradh—
Chaidh iad do 'n àraich is thug iad buaidh.

A null do 'n Eòrpa chaidh suinn nach geill,
Le béigmeid dhealraich 's le cuilbheir gleust'
'S 'n uair bhàrdach an armailt aig Adolf cealgach
Bha Clann an Fhraoich far an garg robh streup.

Ged theirig luaidhe 's dh' fhàs fùdar gann,
Chaidh sìochd na Feinne an greim gu teann,
Le 'n iosgaid rùisgte 's a' phìob 'cur sùisd riu'
Cha d' thug iad cùlaibh 's cha d' fhàs iad fann.

Cha till an còmhlan mar dh' fhalbh iad uainn
Tha cuid diubh leòint' 's cuid fo 'n fhòd 'nan
suain,
Ach seasaidh cànan is spiorad bàrdachd,
'S bidh clùid nan àrmunn gu Latha Luain.

MURCHADH CAIMBEUL.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Bha mi an dùil gur ann ri sgrùdadh nam
paipearan-ceasnachaidh a b' bhiodh mo
sheanachas uile gu léir air a' mhìosa so, is
eadhon gum biodh an ainmeannan-san a
choisinn na duaisean a tha 'nur tairgse am
bliadhna agam dhuibh. Ach ged a tha na
paipearan agam uile gu léir a nis cha d' fhuair
mi fathast cothrom air a' bheag ach sùil
ealamh a thoirt tharta an àm a bhi 'gan
deanamh deas air cheann an sgrùdaidh. Leis
gu bheil na duaisean a dh' ainmicheadh mar
thà ri an toirt seachad am bliadhna feumar
a bhith glé fhurachail anns an sgrùdadh a chum
is, ma tha sin idir comasach, gur e iadsan as
fearr a gheibh iad. Bha mi a' dol a sgrìobhadh
"iadsan a choisinn iad"; ach is ann mar a
thà gun do choisinn sibh uile duais, oir is
fhiach oidhirp féin duais. Cha mhór nach
faodainn sean-fhacal a dheanamh dhe sud—
"Is fhiach oidhirp duais!"

A nis, mun teid mi nas fhaide, tha aon ni
a tha agam r'a thoirt fa-near, is far an do
rinn sibh dearmad. Tha an Rùnaire ag
inseadh dhomh ged a chuir e ceist oirbh an
uair a bha e a' toirt rabhaidh do na feachdan a
thaobh a' cheasnachaidh, nach robh ach a
dhà a thug freagairt an àm a bhith ag cur a
stigh nam paipearan! B' i a' cheist a chuireadh,
e so an t-àm de 'n bhliadhna as fearr leibh,

no as freagarraiche dhuibh gu bhith a' dol
an gréim anns na paipearan so, agus mur è, a
leigeil ris dhuinn cìod an t-àm as freagarraiche.
Is è am beachd a bha againn gum faod e a
bhith leis gur e so an t-àm de 'n bhliadhna
anns a bheil luchd-ceasnachaidh nan sgoiltean
a' dol air an uillean, gum b' fhearr leibhe
mar sin na paipearan so fhàgail gus nas fhaide
air aghaidh, no dol riutha na bu tràithe. Cha
robh ach an dithis so a leig ris cìod am beachd
anns a' chùis so; agus leig iadsan ris gun robh
an t-àm so féin cho math leo ri àm sam bith
eile. Mar sin, is dòcha gur ann mun aon àm
a bhios sinn a cur chugaibh nam paipearan an
ath bhliadhna a rithist, is gus an leig sibhse ris
atharrachadh beachd.

A nis, so agaibh an àireamh-san a chuir
làmh ris na paipearan am bliadhna, 's mar sin
a tha an geall air comharradh làn-no sàr-
Ghaidheal fa-leth fhaotainn, agus na sgoiltean
as a bheil iad. Uile gu léir, thainig ceud is cóig
paipearan air aghaidh, d' à fheichead air cheann
Sàr- is trì fichead 's a cóig air cheann Làn-
Ghàidheal. Tha na sgoiltean as an d' thainig
iad air an toirt seachad, a' tòiseachadh bho 'n
àireamh as motha gus an àireamh as lugha.

Sgoil.	Sàr- Ghàidheal.	Làn- Ghàidheal.	Uile gu Leir.
Tairbeart na Hearadh -	13	12	25
Còrnaig Mhòr (Tìrdhe) -	7	14	21
Bogha Mòr (Ile) -	2	13	15
An Ath-leathann -	3	9	12
Dalabrog (Uibhist) -	7	4	11
Tobar-Mhoire -	3	3	6
Planasgeir (Leodhas) -	2	3	5
Leodamas (Ile) -	1	3	4
Stao-na-bruig (Uibhist) -	—	4	4
Baile na Creige (Barraigh) -	2	—	2
UILE GU LEIR -	40	65	105

Ach c' àite air an t-saoghal a bheil na sgoiltean
eile; an deach iad air chall anns a' cheò; cìod
a thainig air Leodhas, dachaidh na Gàidhlig,
as nach teich i gu bràth, a réir a' bhàird, "gus
an tràigh an Cuan Siar!" C' àite bheil Uibhist
a Tuath is Beinn-a-bhaogha, an còrr de "Eilean
Sgitheanach nam Buadh" taobh am nach
de 'n Ath-leathann, an còrr de Mhuile taobh
am mach de Thobar-Mhoire, roinn mhabh de
Ile agus a' Mhór-thìr uile gu léir? Na b' e so
an sgeul a bhios r' a h-aithris tuille; is an
diugh, gum dol nas fhaide, cuiribh bann oirbh
féin gun bi bhur peann air ghleus an ath
bhliadhna gu a leigeil ris gur e bhur miann a
bhith air bhur n-ainmeachadh mar Ghàidheil,
mar Làn-Ghàidheil is an crùnadh bhur n-
oidhirpean uile gu léir, mar Shàr-Ghàidheil.
Tha mòran dhe so an earbsa ris na cinn-feachd, ri
maighistirean—is bana-mhaighistearan sgoile,
cho math ris na pàrantan; mar sin, tha an

earail so riasan gu sònraichte an ceann féin de 'n amull a chumail suas a chùim is gum bi an t-achadh air a threabhadh dìreach!

Thubhairt mi nach d' fhuair mi ach sùil ealamh a thoirt air na paipearan, is cha d' fhuair; ach anns an t-sùil ealamh sin féin chumna mi rud a thug gàire orm, agus so e. Tha mi 'ga innseadh dhuibh gu a leigeil ris a' bhrioglaidh a dh' fhaodas neach a dheanamh mur amais e air làn chiall facail, agus chan ann mar fhcalla-dhà, ged a tha fealla-dhà ann, no gu ball-fochaidd a dheanamh de aon sam bith a rinn no a ni mearachd. Chan e iadsan a ni mearachd ann an toirt nan oidhirpean a tha toilteanach air foचाidd a dheanamh orra idir, ach iadsan a tha caoin-shuarrach is nach 'eil a' deanamh oidhirp idir! Ann am paiper Làn-Ghàidheal tha an ràdh so—"Cha robh call mòr gun bheagan buidhne," nàdur de shean-fhacal. A nis, bha cuid a shaoil gur e càl (cabbage) a bha an so is nach b' e call (loss), is cuid eile a shaoil gur e buidhe (dath) a bha ann am buidhne (bho bhuaidh). So agaih mar a chuir caileag ann an sgoil Baile-nach-innis-mi dhuibh a' chùis,—*The big cabbage was very yellow!*—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

EACHANN MACDHUGHAILL.

MUILE NAN CRAOBH.

Seinnidh mi luinneag do Mhuile nan craobh, Do Mhuile nam beannan, nan gleannan 's an fhraoich,

Seinnidh mi luinneag do Mhuile mo ghaoil—
An t-eilean san d' fhuair mi m' àrach.

Chi mi Loch Sgridein 's e sinnta a suas
Aig bun nam beann àrda, is àillidh an snuadh;
Mhol Seumas an Airde 's bha bardachd 'na
dhuhan

Ag cumail a suas a h-àilleachd.

Chi mi Loch Làthaich 's e ag cur fàilt air Loch
Caol,

Chi mi Bun-easain le eas air gach taobh:
Aig bun Thor-a-bhacain tha fasgadh tha caonh
Ged shéideas a' ghaoth an àirde.

Chi mi an Suidhe 's Beinn Dòbhrain cho àrd,
Far 'n tric robh mi sùgradh ri mùirneag mo
ghràidh

Tha 'n diugh as an dùthaich, ach dlùthaich
an là,

'S bidh sinne mar bha sinn còmhla.

Tha bàidh aig gach duine ri monadh is sliabh,
Creagan is glacan sam bheil fasgadh is biadh;
Tha sin anns an Eilean far 'n leagar am fiadh
'S gach ni tha chum feum do'n t-sealgair.

Tha slàinte ri fhaotainn gach taobh dhinn mun
cuairt

Anns na tobraichean fìor-uisg chaisg iota an
t-sluaigh;

'S i so an tìr àghmhor rinn m' àrach a suas

Gun Eilean sa' chuan bheir bàrr oirr'.

IAIN CAMBEUL.

[Bha an luinneag laghach so air a deannamh le Iain Caimbeul a tha an dràsda ris a' phostaireachd am Bun-easan am Muile. Rugadh am bard an Eilean Idhe ach, mar a tha e ag innse san òran, fhuair e arach am Muile nan Craobh. Rinn e trì no ceithir de dh' òran eile, agus is dòcha gun teid againn air fear no dhà dhuibh a thoirt seachad sa' *Ghaidheal* mar a bhios àite againn. Cumadh ar caraid a ribheid air ghleus.—F.D.]

CUAIRT-CHUAIN.

[Chaidh an t-iomradh so a chraobh-sgaoileadh air an fhritheadh le Niall Mac Ghille Sheathanaich air oidhche Di-luain, an dara là fìchead de mhios a' Chéitein, 1944.]

Cha robh mise ach glé òg an uair a sheòl mi air mo cheud turas cuain. B' ann air an latha mu dheireadh de 'n bhliadhna 1900 a dh' fhàg mi Cluaidh air bàta smùide d' am b' ainm am "Burma." B' e a ceann-uidhe baile puirt anns an dùthaich bho an tug i a h-ainm, agus a bha iomraitich gu leòr aig toiseach a' chogaidh so—is e sin Rangoon.

Aig an àm sin cha robh bàtaichean, gu sònraichte iadsan a bha ag giùlan luchd-turais, air an uidheamachadh le seòmar-fionnarachaidh far an comasach dhoibh feòil, measan is bainne a reodhadh cho cruaidh is gum mair iad ùr fad mhiosachan. Is cuimhne le cuid agaih air a' ghearan a bhiodh aig sgiobaidhean nan luingeis-sheòlaidh air briosaidean cruaidhe agus feòil shailte a bha cho righinn ri iallan leathraich. Ann am briathran sgiobair a b' aithne dhomh agus a bhiodh air uairean ri bàrdachd:

"Cha bhristinn le òrd an t-ran

'S cha ghearrainn an fheòil le m' sgiain."

Cha robh sinne cho dòna dheth ri sin, oir thug sinn air bòrd grunnan chaorach agus sgaoth chearc. Bha mar sin feòil is sithionn ùr againn cho fad 's a mhair iad. Bha mise mar dh' fhaodas sibh a thuigsinn eòlach gu leòr air caoraich oir b' i a' bhuaichilleachd mo cheud chosnadh. Feumaidh gun do ghabh an Stiubhard beachd air mar bha mi a' laimh-seachadh nan caorach an àm an toirt air bòrd agus rinn e feum dhe sin an déidh laimh mar a chluinneas sibh.

Bha sinn aig farsuingeachd cuain dà latha an déidh dhunn seòladh agus mun do ràinig sinn cladach na Spàinntè shéid na gaothan is shil na h-uisgeachan agus dh-at na fhaire. Bha na h-uile tonn, am shùilean-sa, ag éirigh cho àrd ri Corra-bheinn.

Co-dhìubh ràinig sinn Port Said san Eiphit. Thug sinn air bòrd gual an sin, thug agus tuilleadh chearc is chaorach. Chaidh sinn troimh an chaol-abhainn ainmeil, an Suez, agus 'n a dhéidh sin troimh na Mara Ruaidhe. Chaidh a chomharrachadh a mach dhùinn tuaiream an àite anns an deach Clann Isracil thar na mara, agus a rithist air ar làimh chli bha Beinn Sh'nàl ag éirigh àrd agus a' deàrrsadh fo ghathan làidir na gréine.

Air dhuinn tighinn dlùth air crios-meadhoìn an t-saoghal bha teas na gréine ach beag do-ghiùlan. Aon latha an déidh na dinncarach thuirnt an Stiubhard rium fhéin: "Tha na caoraich a' fulang gu mór leis an teas. An téid agad air na rùsg a thoirt dhiubh?" "Théid," arsa mise, "am bheil deamhas agaibh?" "Tha," ars esan. "Feumaidh e a bhith gu math gear air son na h-obrach sin," arsa mise. "O," ars esan, "cha bhí fear nan sliseag fada ag cur faobhair air." Sin mar bha, chuireadh an deamhas am làmban is dh' fhalbh mi fhéin 's an Stiubhard gu clàr-deiridh na luinge far an robh na caoraich ann an crò. Thug mi a mach aon dìubh, shuidh mi air a' chlàr is chuir mi an creutair caora eadar mo chasan is thòisich mi air a rùsgadh. Cha b' ann air a' Chuan Innseanach a bha m' aire ach air an t-sean fhaing sin Leth-allt far an tric a bha mi leis na ciobairean.

Bha an Stiubhard ag cumail sùil gheur orm agus an uair a chuir mi cìoch air an té sin thuirnt esan gum bu mhath leis fhéin an ath aon fheuchainn. "Chan 'eil e cho furasda 's a shaoileas sibh," arsa mise, ach bha e cho dian 'n a bheachd is gun do ghéill mi. "Falbh thusa," ars esan, "agus gabh cupa tea agus bidh mise deas air son té eile an uair a thilleas tu." Dh' fhàg mi e le seana chaora air a druim gu soeair eadar a chasan agus an deamhas 'n làimh. Ghabh mise mo chupan tea agus thill mi gu crò nan caorach. B' e sin an sealladh! "Jo," mar theireamaid ris, air a mhàgan agus greim bàis aige air speir-dheiridh na caorach is i 'g a shlaodadh an taobh a b' àill leatha, agus a' chlòimhe lurach air falbh 'n a badan thar na cliaithaich! Cha ruig mi leas a ràdh gun d' fhàgadh agam fhéin an còrr a lomadh.

Ràinig sinn fa dheireadh thall Rangoon. Thàinig luchd-tìre air bòrd is bannan dubha air làimh gach aoin. Cha b' urrainn dhuinn a thuigsinn có a bha ri chaidh. B' ann an sin a dh' innseadh dhuinn gun do chaochail Ban Rìgh Bhictoria mu cheithir latha deug roimhe sin. Cha robh comas craobh-sgaoilidh anns na làithean sin.

Bha mi air ais dà thurus eile an déidh sin, ach cha robh feum air deamhas na rùsgadh chaorach.

EADARAINN FHIN.

Amhuinn and Féithe.

Sir,—My time is valuable, and so is yours, Mr. Editor, and the space in "An Gàidheal" is none the less so, but I feel that I have to come back once more to my reference to the terms "amhuinn" and "féithe," which appears to have caused such a flurry in the camp of the Gaelic ultra-purists! Mr. Alexander Nicolson has now taken the field and terms "amhuinn" an "unwarranted corruption" of *aithinn*. But it is in reality his verdict on the expression that is "unwarranted." I am not the least impressed by his algebraical formula of word dissection. Gaelic is not as yet a dead body to be measured out or thus placed under the language anatomist's knife, valuable in its own place as the etymology of a word may be. Can Mr. Nicolson show us where corruption ends and evolution (in language) begins? In other words, can he show a distinction between what he terms "corruption" and evolution? I maintain that he cannot, and that evolution is the ultimate acceptance or fixing more or less permanently of what might at the outset be termed a corruption. We find this in both the meaning and pronunciation of a word. To take an example of each in English, we know that as recently as the time of Goldsmith the word "gale," which to-day means a great force of wind, approaching a storm, was of a much milder degree, a breeze, in fact. Again we have the words "sore," painful, and "sour," bitter. Both in the remote past were similarly sounded and in all probability were of akin meaning exactly the same as their equivalent meaning in Gaelic, "goirt," can be used correctly and alternately as the case may be. Would Mr. Nicolson be so bold as to say that either "sore" or "sour" is a corruption of the other, or of the older form, rather than a recognised and accepted evolution brought about by usage.

Amhuinn is not a corruption of *aithinn*, *ath-theinn* or *ath-thruas*. I should not contest but it may be an evolved, and to me a very acceptable evolved form from some word with "teinn" as its root. The meaning as given by me in Litir C. na h-O. is too widespread and too long-established to be termed a corruption. I have heard it used by those who, though they might not have the book learning necessary to enable them to set forth their reasons for its use embellished by algebraical signs, nevertheless knew the language they spoke just as well as those with whom Mr. Nicolson has associated. Can Mr. Nicolson explain why if being in an "aithinn" (his own word) means an animal merely being in jeopardy or dire distress, it is not used in regard to a sheep being held in a bramble bush or other thicket, imprisoned in an uridh ledge in the face of a cliff where it might have worked its way in search of a green blade of grass and could not turn back, or the umpteen other difficulties in which a sheep might find itself? There is only one reason for it, and that is that it does not apply. An amhuinn (I use my own word now) means one thing and one thing only in the district where I heard it used, and that is as given in the Oigridh letter. I might, perhaps, endeavour to give a more definite explanation of the pronunciation of the word as used there. The "mh" is not a "v" sound similar to the "bh" in "abhuinn" (river), nor the "mh" as in "amh" (raw). It is nasal and also explosive, if I may use the term. It is nasal exactly the same as the "mh" in "gamhainn" (stirk), as that word is generally

pronounced, but with a resonant, explosive sound, such as is found in the word "tamhadh" (sudden endeavour to grasp a thing by hand) as usually pronounced. The idea might be shown in the "mh" being flanked by a bh—mh (th) uinn.

I would now ask Mr. Nicolson to re-read the Comunn na h-Oigridh letter in which amhuinn first appeared. I did not write that "the location of the accident is thenceforth to be called an aithinn." What I wrote was the very opposite—that it was not an amhuinn until a beast was held there, and that whenever the beast was liberated, or the conditions otherwise changed, it ceased to be an amhuinn any longer. That is the meaning of the word as I heard it used consistently in a good Gaelic-speaking district, and that meaning I intend to retain and endeavour to preserve by constant usage. Mr. Nicolson may term it corruption if he so desires. I might meet him more than half-way and term it an evolutionary process, and evolution, let me assure him, always gains the victory, occasionally even to the length of absorbing what the ultra-purists term a "corruption."

As regards "féith," Mr. Nicolson states that "this term is difficult to analyse"—after having already defined what it means to his own apparent satisfaction! It is quite unnecessary for him to tell us that the word "connotes a blood-vein as well." It does; and I venture to point out that it is usually a vein that shows an enlargement or swelling that is so termed. An ordinary artery or vein is a cuisle; and that word also has many interesting secondary meanings which I could quote only that it is somewhat outwith the present issue. Correctly speaking, however, a féithe in the human or animal body is actually a sinew or muscle; and it is even possible that the application of the word to cover a vein was, in the first instance, in the case of an enlarged or knotty vein (varicose), but I will not stress this point.

Space does not permit to do more than touch on a few of the points in Mr Comyn Maitland's second letter. Let me, in the first instance, thank him for his appreciative reference to Litir Comunn na h-Oigridh, even though it might only serve as a sort of sugar coating for the pill he endeavours to administer! Mr. Maitland is hardly logical in his reference to my "imagining" Sheriff Nicolson writing or refraining from writing certain things. The main thing is that he had not done so; nor can I "imagine" any one else knowing Gaelic well rendering a stretch of muddy ground, from the mere fact that it is muddy, as a féithe. Mr. Maitland's remarks about the late Professor MacKinnon, though undoubtedly true, do not in any way add to nor subtract from the matter at issue. It has only a negative value. Even were he a Socrates, wielding the pen of a Peypys and living to the age of a Methuselah, there would be many things that would escape his attention, unless a something occurred or a flash of thought brought that thing to his notice. As a Colonsay man it is more than likely that Professor MacKinnon would know the "amhuinn" and "féithe" usage. It is singular that what one is accustomed to all his life is generally taken for granted till a something, a stray word or thought, rouses the mind to activity; and without knowing anything to the contrary, it might have been the same with Professor MacKinnon in regard to these words.

I thank Mr. Maitland also for his "present" (though the gift is not his but the ancient writer's) that the reference to "féithe" in the Seanchus Mor

refers to the embogging of cattle. Could anyone wish for a stronger plank in support of an argument or the common usage of to-day?

There are several other points in Mr. Maitland's letter to which I should wish to refer, but space forbids, and we shall have to leave this "amhuinn" and "féithe" in this connection in the meantime, though I am not in any way intimidated from still making use of these words as often as an occasion for their use arises, and in the sense in which they are both used where I first heard them used by competent Gaelic speakers.—I am, etc.,

EACHANN MACDRUGHAILL.

28 Traquair Drive,
Glasgow, S.W.2.

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Leabhar XXXIX.]

An t-Sultuin, 1944.

[Earrann 12

NA H-ORDUIGHEAN.

Thug mo charaid, ministear Eaglais Mhór a' Chealla, cuireadh dhomb mi thighinn 'ga chuideachadh aig na h-Orduighean air an treas seachdain de 'n Og-mhios so chaidh. Ghabh mise ris a' chuireadh sin, agus bha mi glé thoilichte sin a dheanamh, chan ann a mhàin air son mo charaid Mgr. Moireasdan, Ministear na sgìre, ach air son mo chairdean is mo luchd-dàimh, on is e so sgìre mo bbreith is m' àraich.

Tha mi ag creidsinn nach 'eil na h-Orduighean air an cumail an àite sam bith eile a nis cho eudmhor, agus cho seasmhach ris an t-seann dòigh 's a tha iad an Leodhas agus feadh nan Eileana Siar eile, mura h-eil fìor chorr àite. Is e sin a tha toirt orm innse an so dìreach mar a thachair air an turas so a bha mi an Uig, sgìre mo cheud eòlais. Tha e ceart agus iomchuidh gum biodh fìos agus iomradh cinnteach againn air mar a bha na Gaidheil o chionn iomadh linn ag cumail na cuirme sòluimte so, agus mar a tha iad fhathast 'ga cumail an corr àite.

* * *

Bha ceathrar mhinistearan againn ann—ministear a' Chealla fhéin, agus ministear Cheann Langabhat, céann eile na sgìre, ministear Eilean Bheàrnairidh, agus mi fhéin. Bhatar 'ga mo chunntadh-sa mar choigreach, no mar strainnsair mar a their iad fhéin, seach gum bu mhi a b' annsaiche do 'n t-sluagh, agus mar sin bha cudthrom na h-obrach air a leagail orm.

Tha na seirbhisean a' tòiseachadh air Di-ardaoin, ach tha iomadach ullachadh 'ga

dheanamh air Di-ciadaoin, agus toiseach na seachdain, fa chomhair chairdean a dh' fhaodas a bhith tighinn á sgìreachdan is á bailtean eile. Chan 'eilear ag cur làmh an obair sam bith fad an Orduigh ach banas-tighe, mura h-eil obair a dh' fheumas a bhith air a deanamh, mar a tha sealltainn an deidh spréidh, agus crodh a bhleoghain agus eadradh, 's a leithid sin. Tha seachdain an Orduigh—'se sin bho Dhi-ardaoin gu Di-luain—air a toirt seachd a mhàin chum nithean cràbhaidh is spioradail.

Tha dà shearmoin san Eaglais air Di-ardaoin. Shearmonaich mi fhein air meadhon-là innte, agus bha an coimhthional an lathair as gach ceàrnaidh de 'n sgìre, cuid dhiubh cho fad as ri naoi mìle bho 'n Eaglais. Bha am ministear eile nach buineadh do 'n sgìre air ceann na seirbhis san Eaglais air an fheasgar, agus chaidh mise agus bha coinneamh agam ann am bailtean a bha eadar naoi is deich mìle air falbh bho 'n Eaglais. Bha mór shluagh a mhuigh aig gach seirbhis ged is e so toiseach an Orduigh, agus gur h-ann nas motha a bhios an coimhthional a' fàs.

Is e Di-ardaoin, ma tha, Latha Traisg, no latha irosalachaidh, agus tha seirbhisean an latha air an òrdachadh a chum agus gum bi an sluagh 'gan irosalachadh fhein an lathair Dhé, agus fa chomhair sàbaid Comanachaidh. Tha ainm fa leth aca air gach latha de 'n Orduigh, a reir is mar a tha gach latha a' freagairt ri feum is suidheachadh spioradail an t-sluagh. Tha Di-ardaoin mar a dh' ainmich mi 'na latha irosalachaidh; agus is e Di-haoine Latha na Ceist, no latha ceasnachaidh, no rannsachaidh, nuair a tha cothrom aig an

t-sluagh air iad fhéin a cheasnachadh, no a rannsachadh fa chomhair Bord an Tighearna. Is e Di-sathurna Latha Ullachaidh fa chomhair sábad Comanachaidh. Agus is e latha na sábad, Latha Comanachaidh, agus Di-luain Latha Taingeachadh.

Tha aoradh is seirbhisean gach latha de 'n Ordugh chum a bhith neartachadh creideamh, agus ag ùrachadh gràidh, agus a' meudachadh eòlais an t-sluagh air am Fear Saoraidh. Is e féisd spioradail a tha so os cionn gach ni. Tha an cois sin ann, gun teagamh, ùrachadh cairdeis, agus ath-aithne air eòlach am meas feadhainn á sgìreachdan eile. Tha rihist tadhal eòlach is chairdean anns na bailtean as fhaigse air an Eaglais far am fuirichear eadar dà shearmon. Chan 'eil gainne air coibhneas is fialaidheachd; is dubhairt seana bhean chòir, 's i 'na seasamh aig dorus na h-eaglaise: "Thigibh còmhla riumsa, tha tigh agam a ghabhas a' fichead, agus tha cridhe agam a ghabhas ceud." Tha naidheachdan chairdean is nan eòlach ann, agus gach ùrachadh a tha an cois sin, agus eadhon naidheachdan an t-saoghail mhóir; ach os cionn gach ni eile is e tha so féisd naomh, agus tha aobhneas sonraichte, aobhneas eadar-dhealaichte bho aobhneas eile an cois an Orduigh. Chithear sin gu soilleir an gnùisean is an giùlan an t-sluagh, do neach a thuigeas e. Tha sin 'ga fhàgail furasda do 'n Mhinistear a theachd-airteachd a luhairt, agus aoradh a chuirteachadh, aig àm Orduigh.

* * *

Is e Di-haoine, ma tha, Latha na Ceist, agus chan 'eil searmonachadh ann an latha sin idir, co-dhiùbh aig an t-seirbhis mhaidne. Nuair a tha an uair air a thighinn agus an coimhthional cruinn tha an t-seirbhis a' tòiseachadh le Salm a sheinn. Tha am Ministear a' dol an ceann ùrnuigh agus an deidh sin thatar a' seinn Salm eile, mar a tha an naoicheamh Salm deug ar an t-sia fichead (139)

Do rannaich thu 's is aithne dhuit
mise Iehòbhah thréin, 7ce.

Ach mus seinnear an t-Salm-sa their am Ministear a tha air ceann na seirbhise—agus is an strainnsear mar as trice a bhios an sin—their e: An deidh dhuinn na rainn so a sheinn bheir aon de na bràithrean dhuinn earrann de 'n Fhìrinn mar bhonn comh-labhairt. Neo their e: Ma tha ceist air aon de na bràithrean a bu mhaith leis fhuasgladh agus a soilleireachadh bho fhein-fhiosrachadh nam bràithrean eile, bidh sinn 'na chomain ma bheir e dhuinn an earrann sin de 'n Sgrìobtur an deidh dhuinn an t-Salm so a sheinn.

Air an latha so, cha bu luaithe a sguir an t-seinn na dh' éirich mo sheann charaid còir Calum Domhnallach—no Calum a' Chòmhnaird, mar a their na h-eòlach ris—agus thug e dhuinn an earrann so anns an treas caibdeil de 'n t-Soisgeul a reir Eoin (36): "An ti a chreideas anns a' Mhac tha a' bheatha mhaireannach aige, 7ce." Dh' iarr e combarran orrasan aig a bheil a' bheatha mhaireannach a tha so, seach gum bheil iad ag creidsinn anns a' Mhac. "Se sin," ars esan, "ma tha an earrann freagarrach." Thubhairt mise ris nach b' urrainn earrann a bhith na bu fhreagarraich air son ceist.

Dh' fhosgail mise an uair sin a cheist. So dleasdanas a' mhinistear a tha air ceann na seirbhise. Tha fosgladh na ceist ag ciallachadh an earrann shonraichte a chùr san t-suidheachadh cheart le a brìgh is a ciall cheart san Sgrìobtur, agus deanamh soilleir do 'n chiomhthional na raointean anns an còir do 'n luchd-labhairt a bhith ag imeachd. Thug so mu chairteal na h-uarach a thlde.

Thainig an sin ministear na sgrè a nìos do 'n chùbaid ri mo thaobh, agus seach gum b' aithne dhasan iadsan uile a dh' fhaodadh labhairt air a' cheist dh' iarr e air fear an deidh fir éirigh agus labhairt, gus an do labhair air an trobha so aon fhear deug. "Bithidh," ars am ministear, "Iain Domhnallach ag éirigh agus a' labhairt air a' cheist." Dh' éirich Iain, leugh e an earrann, agus labhair e bho fhéin-fhiosrachadh air obrachadh an spioraid tre 'n bheatha mhaireannach so 'na anam féin. Thug e mu chairteal na h-uarach a' bruidhinn, agus an sin shuidh e. Bha mar sin fear an deidh fir ag éirigh nuair a dh' ainmicheadh am ministear air an ainm iad, agus labhradh fear fad chòig mionaidean, fear eile fad a dhà no thri mhionaidean, fear eile fad deich no eadhon cairteal na h-uarach. Agus iad uile cho stòlta, agus iad mothachail air gun robh iad a' labhairt an lathair Dhé.

Bha an coimhthional mór—bha a' Chealla faisg air a bhith loma làn, agus gabhaidh i suas ri mìle duine—ag éisdeachd gu furachail agus gu dùrachdach ri cìod a bha aig gach fear ri a ràdh bho fhiosrachadh fhéin. Mhòthaich tu gu soilleir ri spiorad ùmhlachd, agus ri spiorad ìrioslachaidh, feadh a' choimhthionail gu h-iomlan. Ged bha an ùine a' dol seachd chan fhaicheadh duine mionaid i leis mar a bhathas furachail ach cìod a theireadh am fear so no am fear ud eile, no cìod e an samhla soilleir agus simplidh a bheireadh e air gné is obrachadh na beatha maireannaich so 'na fhiosrachadh fhéin.

Theireadh fa-dheòidh am Ministear gun robh

an ùine a' dol seachad, agus ged a bha feadhainn eile ann a dh' fhaodadh labhairt gum feumte stad, agus dh' iarr e an sin air Ministear Bhearnaidh a' cheist a dhùnadh. Rinn e sin, le bhith toirt gach ni cudthromach agus maith a bha air a labhairt leis na bràithrean a chur an taic a chèile, agus chuir e ceann-criche eireachdail air gach ni a bh' ann. Dh' iarr e an uair sin air an fhear a chuir a mach a' cheist e dhòl an ceann ùrnuigh. Rinn Calum còir sin; agus thug e mòr bhuidheachas do Dhia air son an t-saorsa a fhuair na bràithrean, agus air son mar a mhinich iad brìgh spioradail na ceiste. Sheinneadh an sin rann no dhà Sàilm, agus an deidh a' Bheannachaidh, sgoail sinn. Bha sinn a stigh trì uairean a thim; ach cha robh duine a bha làthair a sbaoleadh sin.

Bha seirbhis air an fheasgar a rithist san Eaglais, agus chaidh dithis mhinistearan eile a chumail coinneamhan anns na bailtean a' bhuidheachas bho 'n Eaglais.

Is e aon seirbhis a tha ann air Di-sathurna agus is ann an deidh na seirbhis sin a tha na combarran air an toirt do 'n luchd-comanachaidh. Tha iomadach ullachadh ri dheanamh fa chomhair na sàbaid. Ach bidh coinneamhan ùrnuigh aig an luchd-aidich feadh nam bailtean air feasgar Di-sathurna.

* * *

Is e latha na sàbaid—Latha a' Chomanachaidh—latha mòr na fìlle; agus tha sonas is sòluimteachd air leth an cois an latha sin. An turas so air am bheil mi bruidhinn is e latha brèagha grianach a bh' ann. Bha sìth is sàmhchar air muir is air tìr. Cha robh neul air an adhar; agus bha an fhairge ciùin còmhnaidh agus cho gorm ris a' ghuirnein. Bha maise nam beannachd air aghaidh a' chruthachaidh gu léir.

Greis mhaith, ma tha, roinn uair an t-searmoin bha an sluagh ag cruinneachadh as gach cearnaidh chun na h-Eaglaise. Bha dùmhlachd mhòr sluaigh aig an Eaglais aon leth-uair a thide roimh an uair, ach cho luath 's a ràinig na ministearan ghabh iad uile an àite san Eaglais. Air a' mhionaid chaidh mise do 'n chùbaid agus thòisich seirbhis sòluimte an latha. Chaidh Salm a sheinn, agus b' e sin an t-seinn. Chan 'eil dad a dh' fhios aig duine ciod a th' ann seinn Ghaidhlig san t-seann dòigh ag aoradh mura cuala e i air Latha Comanachaidh mar so sna h-Eileanan. Shcinn sinn:

Dhia t' fhirinn is do sholus glan
leig thugam sud a mach;

'Gam sheòladh chum do thulaich naoimh
's 'gam thabhairt chum do theach, 7ce.

Agus an sin an deidh ùrnuigh, agus caibidil san t-Seann Tiomnadh a leughadh air fulangasan Chriosd (Isaiah 53), sheinn sinn a rithist

So féin an là a dh' òrdaich Dia
sam bi sinn suilbhir ait, 7ce. (Salm 118.)

Agus an deidh sin leughadh cuibhrionn san Tiomnadh Nuadh, agus thug mi mach an ceann-teagasg. A nis is ann ri teagasgan móra a' chroinn-cheusaidh a tha sùil aig a' phobull air latha comanachaidh mar so; agus cha riarraich ni iad ach eridhe an t-Soisgeil air a leithid a latha. B' e an ceann-teagasg: "Deanaibh so mar chumhneachan ormsa." Cha robh sùil san caglais—dùmhail 's mar a bha an coimhthional—nach robh air a' Mhinistear, agus gach neach ag òl a steach gach facal a bha air a ràdh mu dheidhinn an t-Slànugheir Bheannaichte a dh' fhuiling 'nan àite air a' chrann. Is e seirbhis dhrùidhteach da-riribh a tha san t-searmoin chomanaichaidh. An deidh an t-searmoin rinn am ministear ùrnuigh; agus an sin chuir e gàradh mu Bhornd an Tighearna le bhith leughadh cuibhrionn de 'n Fhirinn.

Sheinneadh an sin an t-Salm:

Cùpan na slàinte glacair leum,
air ainm Dhé gaiream féin,
Iocam mo bhòid do Dhia a nis
an làthair a shluagh gu léir, 7ce.

(Salm 106.)

Thubhairt am ministear: Mar a bhios sinn a' seinn na rann so bheir na h-èildearan air adhart samhlaichean a' chuirp a chaidh a bhriseadh agus na fala a chaidh a dhòrtadh, agus ma tha cuid de 'n luchd-comanachaidh nach do ghabh an àite aig a' Bhornd ni iad sin, agus ma tha luchd-comanachaidh an lathair á Eaglaisean eile tha iadsan cuideachd a' faotainn cuiridh gu Bord an Tighearna.

Mar a tha an t-seinn a' dol air adhart éiridh na foirbhich agus bheir iad a steach na h-eileamaidean agus cuiridh iad air a' Bhornd iad; agus thig am Ministear a nuas as a' chùbaid agus gabhaidh e àite an ceann a' Bhuird. Leughaidh e sin a ùghdarras gu bliith cumail cuimhne air bàs an Tighearna. Ni e ùrnuigh choisrigte, riaghlaidh e am Bord, brisidh e an t-aran agus bheir e do na h-èildearan e maille ris a' chùpan, agus bheir iadsan do na h-aoghean iad; agus their e: "Gabhaidh ithibh, is e so mo chorpas a ta air a bhriseadh air bhur son-sa, deanaibh so mar chumhneachan ormsa."

An deidh ùrnuigh buidheachais, thatar a' seinn na ceud rann de 'n treas Salm ar a' cheud, agus mar sin ag éirigh bho 'n Bhornd le gràdh Dhé 'nan eridheachan agus a chliù air am

bilean; agus an deidh a' bheannachaidh tha an coimhthional a' sgaoileadh.

Tha seirbhis a rithist air an fheasgar san Eaglais.

Is e aon seirbhis a th' ann Di-luain, an t-seirbhis mheadhon-là, a' toirt taingeachd air son an Orduigh. Tha mór choimhthional san Eaglais, agus iad a' toirt buidheachais air son cuilim shòghmhor an Orduigh. Tha iad mar gum b' eadh duilich air son gun tainig crìoch air an fhéill shuilbhir a bh' ànn, agus gun robh iad a nis a' fagail Beinn an Orduigh.

Thatar a' seinn Salm mar so :

Feuch air fear-coimhead Israel
codal chan aom no suain :
'S e Dia d' fhear-coimhid ; 's e do sgàil
air do làimh dheis gu bun, 7cc.

No, (Salm 121.)

Cùm m' imeachd suas a Dhia nam feart
ad shligibh ceart gu treun :
Ad ròidibh dìreach cùm mi suas,
nach sleamhnaich uam mo cheum, 7cc.

(Salm 17.)

FACAL SAN DOL SEACHAD.

Na Sàr Ghaisgich.—Tha mòran de na Gaidheil, mar a chleachd, a' tuiteam sa' chath. Cha mhór gum bheil seachdain nach 'eil sinn a' faicinn bàs fear-eigin a bha 'na thaic agus 'na dhòchas do na Gaidheil agus do 'n Chomunn Ghaidhealach—gillean a bha agus a bhitheadh 'nan urram agus 'nan uail dhunin mar Gaidheil. Chan 'eil ceàrnaidh de 'n Ghaidhealtachd as nach fhaicear a bhith caoidh sàr Ghaidheil mar so.

Chail Captein MacAoidh an Inbhir Nis a mhac Aonghus o chionn ghoirid—gille grinn gealltanach. Thuit an Oifigeach calma so sa' chath. Chunnac mi bàs an Oifigich eireachdail sin Alasdair MacGhilleathain mac aon de mhinistearan Thobair Mhoire. Gu dearbh is ann aige a bha a' Ghaidhlig bhlàth ghrinn agus uasal—agus sin dìreach mar a bha e fhéin 'na ghné is 'na chliù. Thuit o chionn ghoirid an so cuideachd am fìor Ghaidheal sin am Morair Daibhidh Hamilton. Dh' ionnsaich esan a' Ghaidhlig, agus bha e 'na neart agus 'na chul-taic do gach nì a bha Gaidhealach, mar a tha a bhrathair an Diuc Hamilton agus an teaghlach aca gu léir. Agus tha sinn mar Chomunn ro dhùilich gun do chail teaghlach ainmeil Ghaidhealach eile mar ro chliùiteach. Tha ar seann charaid còir Aonghus Mac Mhaoilein, an Ghlaschu,—agus caraid a' Ghaidheil

—agus a theaghlach ag caoidh a mhic Ile. Bha e 'na Oifigeach, mar a bha càch a dh' ainmich mi, san arm adhair. Gille grinn, feumail, agus comasach.

Tha mòran eile ann a thug am beatha seachad sa' chomhraig so, agus tha sinn 'gan cuimhneachadh agus 'gan caoidh le uail. 'Se ar guidhe gum biodh làthaireachd Dhé a' neartachadh an cairdean 's an luchd-dàimh. So sàr ghaisgich a' chogaidh—na laoiach a chaidh romhainn.

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Am Bàrr.—Tha bàrr maith air a' bhliadhna so agus gu dearbh chan 'eil sin 'na iongnadh, fhuair e cothrom maith. Bha an samhradh cho àillidh 's a dh' iarradh duine—samhradh geal grianach. Tha àireamh mhór bhliadhnachan bhò nach robh samhradh air a' Ghaidhealtachd cho tioram 's a bha an samhradh so; agus chan e na thainig fhathast de 'n fhoghar as miosa. Tha mi a' sgrìobhadh so agus cò' là-deug de 'n fhoghar cha mhór air dol seachad, agus is e latha no dhà uisge a bha againn san ùine sin. Fhuair mar sin am bàrr cothrom maith agus tha bhuil air. Chan 'eil teagamh nach bi foghar trom ann, agus foghar a ni feum ma gheibhear dlòn air a' bhàrr uile.

Tha obair feoir nas luathairiche na chunnaic mise bhò chionn àireamh mhór bhliadhnachan. Chan 'eil mi ag cur umhail air an sin, cha robh ann ach am fear a ghearradh an diugh agus bha e 'na thràthaich air feasgar am màireach, làn ullamh air son na cruaiche. Bidh brìgh mar sin san t-saidhe am bliadhna, brìgh nach biodh innte ri aimsir fhluiche.

Tha am buntàta mór agus tioram—co-dhùibh am buntàta luathairach agus tha an coirec 's an t-eòrna cho gealltanach 's a dh' iarradh duine. Is mór am beannachd a tha an so ri àm cogaidh. Is ann tha a' Ghaidhealtachd san t-seach so nas fheàrr dheth na ceàrnaidhean sam bith eile de 'n rìoghachd, agus fada mhór nas fheàrr dheth sa' h-uile dòigh na muinntir nam bailtean-móra. Bu chòir mothachadh a bhith againn air an so air a' Ghaidhealtachd, air cho maith dheth 's a tha sinn ri linn cogaidh, agus an liuthad beannachd a tha againn air nach ruig muinntir nam bailtean-móra. Gun teagamh tha muinntir nam bailtean-móra nas lionmhoire na tha sinne air a' Ghaidhealtachd, agus bitear a' tilgeil sin oirn nuair a bhios sinn ag agairt eòis nam Gaidheal agus na Gaidhige. An dubhairt an Salmaidh, tha iadsan cho lionmhor ris an fheur. "Thig," ars esan, "muinntir a' bhaile fo bhlàth mar luibh na talmhainn." Ach, "bithidh dorlach sìl san talamh air mullach nam beann; crathaidh mar Lebanon a

thoradh." Bidh muinntir nam beann laidir mar chraobhan móra Lebanoin, ged nach 'eil iad cho lionmhor ris an fheur mar a tha muinntir nam bailtean-móra. Ach is e lionmhorachd a tha cunntadh an iomadh dòigh a thaobh goireasan feadh na dùthcha agus gnòthaichean sìobhalta eile am measg dhaoine.

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Domhnall Greum, M.A.—Tha na Gaidheil toilichte fhacinn gun d' fhuair am maighistear-sgoile ainmeil so ceum an àirde 'na dhreuchd. Rinneadh Dara-maighistear dheth air an sgoil mhór sin Acadamaidh Rìoghail Inbhir Nis—is e as fhaise an inbhe is an ùghdarras do 'n Reachdaire a nis san sgoil mhór sin. Tha e làn airidh air an dreuchd, mar dhuine is mar fhear-teagasg is mar àrd sgoillear Gaidhlig.

Tha Domhnall Greum a' teagasg na Gaidhlig an Inbhir Nis o chionn còrr is fichead bliadhna; agus tha gillean is nigheanan a bha greis fo a sgéith a' foghlum ar cànan—comhla ri iomadach rud maith eile—a nise 'nan sàr Ghaidheil feadh na dùthcha. Is e Domhnall Greum agus a leithid, a tha teagasg Gaidhlig sna h-Ard Sgoilean, a tha toirt fìor inbhe do 'n Ghaidhlig mar chànan ionnsaichte agus usal. Leughaidh agus sgrìobhaidh gach neach do an do theagasg iad Gaidhlig an cànan fhein; agus tha càil agus iarraidh aca air a bhith 'ga leughadh daonnan.

Rinn ar caraaid saothair mhór an comh-cheangal ri obair a' Chomuinn Ghaidhealaich san taobh-tuath, agus ni e am barrachd fhathast. Rinn agus an comh-cheangal ri stiùradh ionnsachadh na Gaidhlig air a' Gaidhealtachd am measg a chomh-luchd-teagasg. Tha a fhacal agus a bhinn glé ghabhte 'nam measg-san, agus is fhiach iad sin, oir tha e air aon de àrd sgoilearan na Gaidhlig 'nar latha. Buaidh is piseach air fhein agus air a' Ghaidheal chòir eile, Mgr. MacDhomhnaill, a tha 'na Reachdaire air an sgoil so.

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Firinn airson a' mhios so.—Agus teagaisgidh tu dhaibh na h-òrduighean agus na laghamnan, agus nochdaidh tu dhaibh an t-slighe air an còir dhaibh imeachd, agus an obair as còir dhaibh a dheanamh.—*Ecsodus* xviii, 20.

AM FEAR-DEASACHAIDH.

—◆—

Dean maith an aghaidh an uile.—*Do good against the ill.*

PROPAGANDA NOTES.

Northern Area.

Mention was made in the last issue of the proposal to hold a series of Concerts in aid of the Central Fund of An Comunn, and it is pleasing to report that all of these Concerts were very successful. Three were held under the auspices of the respective Branches at Aviemore, Nethy-Bridge, and Bonar-Bridge, and the fourth at Kiltarlity. Neil McLean and Jenny Currie were the star artistes, and the popularity of these talented singers, assisted by local singers and instrumentalists, drew full houses at each centre. A goodly sum has been sent to Headquarters and this can be seen under the heading: "Donations to Central Fund," in this issue.

Sincere thanks are due to the Branches and especially the Hon. Secretaries, who made all the arrangements, i.e., Mrs. R. Fraser, Aviemore; Mr. Kenneth Fraser, M.A., Nethy-Bridge; Mrs. Sutherland, Bonar-Bridge, and Mrs. MacLaren, who organised the Concert at Kiltarlity. Sincere thanks are also due to Mrs. MacInnes, Dalfaber Farm, Aviemore, and to Mrs. Grant, Nethy-Bridge, for so kindly providing hospitality to Mr. and Mrs. McLean.

Many people expressed their delight with these Concerts, which enabled them to listen to, and enjoy their own songs, and, at the same time, to forget for even a short period, their concern for those who are away in the service of their King and Country.

At Bonar Bridge, an enthusiast came to me after the Concert and handed a donation of £1, saying, "Put that to the Fund, the Concert was worth every penny of it."

Another series of these Concerts are being arranged at Kirkhill, Glenurquhart, and Fort Augustus, and Mr. and Mrs. MacLaren are again to be the star artistes. They will be ably supported by local talent.

The Aberdeen Branch continues to assist An Comunn and all it stands for by holding regular monthly meetings, which are largely attended. In addition to the usual musical programme, "Papers" on interesting Highland subjects are read at each meeting. But in addition to all this, the Branch realises the importance of Comunn na h-Oigridh and each year makes a donation of one guinea to a Feachd, the money to be used as the Ceann Feachd thinks best. This year, Tigharry Feachd, North Uist, has been chosen. Other Branches might with

profit follow the example of Aberdeen by showing a practical interest in the Gaelic Youth Movement.

By the publication of an all-Gaelic Magazine, Portree Feachd of Comunn na h-Oigridh has done a good job. Appreciation of "An Caibearneach" has come from many quarters and they are fully justified. While the contents are the work of the children throughout, sincere thanks are due to the Ceann Feachd, Mr. J. F. Steele, M.A., and to Miss MacMillan, the Art Teacher, who is a native of Benbecula, for their inspiring leadership, and for the encouragement they are giving to the boys and girls to hold on to all that is best in our Highland heritage. To the Editor, Donald Iain MacDonald, we offer congratulations. Donald is a native of Scarista, Harris, and is now on his way to Glasgow University.

Gach beannachd a bhi 'n ad chois a Dhòmhnaill a charaid agus a Shàr-Ghaidheil.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

The passing of Mrs. Henderson, Ibrox, recalls the good services which her late husband, Lieut. E. E. Henderson, of the Govan Police, performed on behalf of An Comunn as a member of the Executive Council some 40 years ago. He took an active part in Celtic affairs in the city and was a noted piper and dancer. He was one of the originators of the celebrated Govan Police Pipe Band, now the City of Glasgow Police Pipe Band and equally celebrated under the expert guidance of Pipe-Major John MacDonald. Lieut. Henderson contributed frequently to the Highland press and his lecture entitled, "With Cycle, Camp, and Camera," will be recalled by many of our readers. He contributed a delightful article to *An Deo Greine* in 1907 under the title of "My School Days," and those who can lay their hands on Volume II should read it. Lieut. Henderson died in 1909. Mrs. Henderson was also a Life Member of An Comunn and maintained her interest in its efforts throughout these long years.

An Comunn has lost another ardent and faithful member by the death of Miss Jessie Munro, Mount Vernon, and to her surviving sister, Miss Joan Munro, the sincere sympathy of our members is extended. The family home was in Knapdale, Argyll, and our late member was a fluent speaker of Gaelic and well versed in the tradition and lore of that historic district. She was a niece of Capt. Lachlan MacTavish,

who for many years commanded the famous R.M.S. "Columba."

Death has also removed from our midst a gentleman who gave long years of service to the Gaelic cause as preacher and teacher in the town of Golspie. The Rev. John Mackenzie was ordained in 1889 and spent the greater part, if not the whole, of his ministerial career in the town of Golspie, where he maintained regular Gaelic services for the fisherfolk until the end. He also attended regularly at the Golspie Technical School and gave instruction in Gaelic to the young lads who came to the school from the Gaelic-speaking parts of the County. He also prepared them for competitions at the Sutherland Provincial Mods. I had the privilege of visiting the School with Mr. MacKenzie and addressing the boys in Gaelic. It is sincerely to be hoped that an equally zealous Gaelic instructor will be found to continue the work which Mr. MacKenzie carried on so efficiently for such a long period of time.

The Concert promoted by the Oban Branch in aid of the Central Fund was in every way successful and we thank the Office-bearers for the fine effort put forth to augment our Funds. Local artists were assisted by Mod Gold Medallists Bessie Campbell (1930) and Alexander Brown (1938). Mr. Peter Fletcher, President, was in the Chair. The improvement in the weather encouraged many people who would otherwise have been at the Concert to seek their pleasures in the open air, but the sun contributed by the Oban Branch is in every way satisfactory.

The second Carradale Junior Mod was held in the Village Hall there on 14th July. The adjudicators were the Rev. Angus J. MacVicar, M.A., Southend, for Gaelic, and Mr. Malcolm G. MacCallum, A.R.C.M., conductor of the Campbeltown Gaelic Choir, for Music. There was a good attendance of the general public to hear the competitions in the afternoon and they were rewarded by very fine renderings of Gaelic songs and recitations. There was a notable improvement in the standard this year and the local teachers are to be congratulated on their work in imparting such a good knowledge of Gaelic to the children who took part. The Rev. J. Argyll Baker, M.A., presided over the competition sessions and also over the closing Concert in the evening. The Hall was completely filled for the Concert, and I had the pleasure of addressing the large audience in Gaelic and English.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Members are respectfully reminded of the Annual General Meeting of An Comunn which is to be held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Saturday, 16th September, at 11 a.m. The usual notice will be sent out but there may be some delay in issuing the Annual Report owing to depleted staffs at Auditors' and Printers' offices.

**THE MALCOLM MACLEOD
MEMORIAL FUND.**

Contributions are still coming in for this Fund, and a meeting of the Committee will be held at the end of the holiday season to make definite arrangements as to the form of the Memorial. Contributions may be sent to Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., 5 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.I.

GLASGOW BRANCHES' CONCERT.

The second Annual Concert promoted by the Joint Committee of the Govan and Glasgow (Central) Branches will be held in the St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, on Friday evening, 15th September. The chair, on this occasion, will be taken by Mr. Angus Robertson, Ex-President of An Comunn, who is assured of a warm welcome from his fellow Gaels in the city. The following artists will sustain the programme:—Evelyn Campbell, Margrat M. Duncan, Kitty MacLeod, Archie Grant, James MacInnes, James C. MacPhee, the Glasgow Gaelic Musical Association Gaelic Choir, Young's Ceilidh Band, and the City of Glasgow Police Pipe Band. George T. Dryden will preside at the organ and piano.

The price of admission is 2/6, and tickets may be had at An Comunn Office, Highlanders' Institute, and members of Committee. Mr. Murdo MacLeod, M.A., 24 Craigharnet Crescent, Millerston, Glasgow, is acting Secretary for the Concert Committee.

COMFORTS FOR H.M. FORCES.

The Work Party will resume the weekly meetings in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on Tuesday afternoon, 5th September. No meetings were held during July and August, and a good attendance at the opening meeting is anticipated. The work of the Central Committee was carried on in rural districts throughout the summer and also by individual members in the City.

A Whist Drive in aid of the Comforts Fund will be held in the Highlanders' Institute, Glasgow, on the afternoon of Tuesday, 19th September, at 2 o'clock. Tickets, price 2/6 each, may be had at An Comunn Office, and at meetings of the Work Party.

It is hoped that there will be a good attendance of members and friends at this opening function.

AIR A' CHNOC.

Scottish Art and Letters.—This is the first number of a new magazine to be published at irregular intervals. It is issued by William MacLellan, Glasgow, and like all Mr. MacLellan's publications it has distinction and merit. The price is 5/-.

The object of this new publication is thus stated in its editorial: "It is true that little opportunity exists for their (Scottish writers and artists) wish to obtain a hearing, but when the wish is there, and its importance evident, it seems to be paradoxical that the people of this and other countries should be unable to enjoy it merely because it does not conform to the dictates of some other culture. It is hoped that "Scottish Art and Letters" will, by collating different aspects of contemporary work, cancel this deficiency to some extent."

The self-toned cover is very attractive, and this number is well illustrated.

James Bridie writes a characteristic article, "Notes for a Scottish Theatre," and Morley Jamieson has an excellent short story entitled, "The Old Wife." Robert Melville has a longish article on "Rousseau and Chirico," and Fred Urquhart writes attractively on "Beautiful Music." There are other prose articles all well, and some provocatively, written.

There is a good deal of poetry in this number, some excellent and characteristically Scottish including two short pieces in Gaelic by Somhairle MacGhilleathain, one entitled "Reothairt" and the other "Scotus Eriquina."

We look forward to the next issue of "Scottish Art and Letters."

* * *

Congratulations.—We are glad to see that Mr. John MacLean of Inverness Royal Academy has been appointed one of His Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. Mr. MacLean is a Gaelic-speaking Highlander, a fine Gaelic scholar, and a member of a noted Highland family. We wish him every success in his new calling.

We have also noted, in another place, that Mr. Donald Graham has been appointed Second Master in this important School. We heartily congratulate these two outstanding Highlanders.

* * *

An Gaidheal.—We cordially thank those who write us telling us how much they appreciate and value *An Gaidheal* as it comes each month. We are thankful that it gives a breath of home and cheers our men and women on active service—we especially value the appreciation of the officers and men who write us from Italy and Normandy. We remember them in the best place. *Slàn gun till iad.*

Town-dweller says: "*Latha Trusaidh* is a perfect cameo. It transferred me to halcyon days of old." *Caolpheann* thanks us for *Facal san dol Seachad* and for our fine selections of new poetry. *Lìathcheann* thanks us for the variety of our editorials. "Is there any other language," he asks, "so pictorial and so beautifully idiomatic?" We thank these, and the others who have written us in a more general way.

* * *

Am Feachd Gaidhealach.—We regret the delay in publishing this book owing to paper rationing and other difficulties. It is now printed and in the hands of the binders, and should be published by the date this appears, at the latest. The price of the book is 5/- plus postage and orders can be received at An Comunn Office any time now.

F-D.

BUIDSEACHD.

An uair a bha buidseachd san tìr, agus a bha an t-uasal 's an t-ìosal a' toirt géill do gheasaibh, is e an t-olc a bhatar ag cur as leth nam bana-bhuidseichean; ach mas fìor an aithris bha cuid dhiubh a dheanadh gnìomh cairdeil. Thachair te dhe gach seòrsa ri MacLeòid Dhun Bheagain, ceann-cinnidh nan Leodach, aig àm Blàr Inbhir Lòchaidh. An là dh' fhàg MacLeòid an Dùn le chuid dhaoine thainig muinntir na dùthcha a mach a dh' fhaicinn nan saighdearan air an t-slighe chon a' chogaidh, agus a leigeil slàn le na fearaibh. Bha boirionnach àraidh 'na suidhe air an tobhta, a cùlaibh ris an tughadh is i sinnehl le cuigeal. Nuair a bha MacLeòid a' dol seachad oirre ghlaoidh i: "Mo dhùrachd dhuit, a MhicLeòid!" "Do dhùrachd dhuit fhéin," fhreagair esan, agus aig an aon àm thilg e bonn airgid air an rathad. Leis a' chabhaig a rinn ise air son greimeachadh air an airgid, thuit i leis an totaidh is chaidh bior na cuigeal troimh chlàr a h-aodainn. Thionndaidh cumhachd an airgid a ni-rùn 'na h-aghaidh fhéin.

Air latha Inbhir Lòchaidh thug MacLeòid an aire gun robh feannag a' sgiathalaich os a chionn fhad 's a bha an cath a' dol air adhart. Thuit mòran de na Leodaich, ach thill MacLeòid gu sàbhailte do 'n Dùn.

Beagan tìne an deidh sin thòisich mnathan na dùthcha ag gearain gu robh am bainne ag call an toraidh. Bha àireamh neo-àbhaisteach de 'n chrodh a' bàsachadh 's a' dol leis na creagan. Thuit amharus air boireannach àraidh agus chaidh a' toirt gu mòd air beulaibh MhicLeòid. Thug esan a mach binn a crochaidh. "Nam bu chumhneach leatsa, a MhicLeòid," thuit ise, "nuair a bha mise 'nam fheannaig dhuibh ag cumail uait nam peilearan aig blàr Inbhir Lòchaidh cha deanadh tu sin." "Is fìor sin, a bhean. Leigibh as i," arsa MacLeòid.

A. M.

LITIR COMUNN NA H-OIGRIDH.

Dh' innis mi dhuibh anns an litir mu dheireadh na chuir a stigh paipearan air cheann (1) Suaicheantas Làn- is Sàr-Ghàidheal, agus (2) na duaisean a bha an tairgse na cloinne. Cha robh ach deich sgoilean bho an d' fhuaradh paipearan, 105 sgoilear uile gu léir. Chuir mi a' cheist mar thà cìod a thainig ris a' chòrn an uair nach do rinn iad oidhirp nam bith anns a' chùis so. A bheil ni sam bith nach 'eil a' tighinn ri no nach 'eil ag còrdadh riu? Tha mi ag cur na ceiste so a chionn gu bheil fios agam nach

e cion tàlant no comais a tha ann a thaobh cuid dhiubhsan bho nach d' fhuair sinn ni, 's a sheas taobh am mach de chearcall an teaghlach. Tha cuid, tha mi a' tuigsinn, a threabh iomaire dhoibh féin am bliadhna, agus ged nach d' fhuair mise—an athair—sanas sam bith bhuaipa féin no bho an ceann-feachd gun robh iad ris an treabhadh, is ged nach d' fhuair mi uiread is sealladh de 'n bharr, is math gun robh an oidhirp, mar a thatar ag ràdh a bhà i, cho toirbheairteach. Ach, saoil sibh, leis gun deach aca air iomaire dhoibh féin a threabhadh nach bu mhata a thigeadh e dhoibh làmh a' chuideachaidh a thoirt anns an iomaire phàirt mar an ceudna! Chan abair mi an corr air a' cheann so aig an àm.

Tha sinn a nis air na paipearan uile a sgrùdadh, agus chuir Niall is mi féin am beagan a bha anns an t-sreath mhullaich, aon an deidh aoin, cho dlùth 's a bha e 'nar comas air cheann nan duaisean a bha againn air son so bho dheagh charaid dhuibhse is do 'n Ghàidhlig.

Mar a chi sibh, chaidh na duaisean uile do sgoilean na h-Ath-leathann is Thairbeart na Hearadh. Leig clann an dà sgoil so ris gun robh iad air an deagh oileanachadh; ach feumaidh sinn aideachadh nach robh na h-oidhirpean a fhuair sinn bho chuid de na sgoilean eile idir a' ruigheachd na h-inbhe ris an robh sùil, agamsa co-dhiubh, am bliadhna. Bha cuid dhiubh a thainig gearr air an oidhirpean an uridh. Chan 'eil mise a' dol a bhith ag eubhach "sith, is gun an t-sith ann!" Tha fàillinn a thaobh-eigin anns an teagasg a tha a' chlànn a' faotainn an uair a sgrìobhadh balaich is caileagan cuid de na paipearan a thainig fa 'r combair. Tha a' Ghàidhlig air a teagasg, is tha e air a thoirt òirne a chreidsinn gu bheil i air a teagasg gu coimhlionta, cho fada a nis is gun robh an cothrom aig a' chuid mhór de na tha an diugh 'ga teagasg iad féin air a h-ionnsachadh an uair a bha iad anns an sgoil, ach chan 'eil an toradh ris am bu dùth fhughair againn r' a fhiosrachadh. Chan 'eil nithean mar bu mhath leinn a thaobh teagasg na Gàidhlig anns na sgoilean, agus is e cur-mar-fhìachaidh a bhiodh ann dhòmhsa agus claon-bhreith a thoirt seachd a ràdh gu bheil gach sòbhrag anns a' ghàrradh cho bòidheach 's a bu mhath leam. Bheir mi dhiubh nas fhaide air aghaidh eiseamplairean à cuid de na paipearan; is tha rud-eigin fada cearr air an teagasg a tha iadsan a sgrìobh iad a' faotainn. Ach cha robh aon de na chuir a stigh paiper air an d' àicheidh sinn de chombarran na ghearradh am mach iad bho chosnadh nan suaicheantas. Ach chan e na suaicheantais so fhaotainn crìoch àraidh nan

oidhirpean so idir, ach iad a bhith 'nam meadhan air aghartas a dheanamh am fòglum is an cleachdadh na Gàidhlig; mar sin, feumar deanamh nas fheàrr na sud ma tha an toradh ris a bheil sùil againn r' a fhiosrachadh. Gun teagamh, tha taobh eile air a' chùis. Is cinnteach gu bheil mòran de 'n chloinn a tha air na combarran sin a chosnadh mar thà, a fhuair iad an uridh, air a bhon-uridh no roimhe sin, is mar sin nach ruigeadh a leas paiperan a chur a stigh air an ceann am bliadhna.

Bha 25 do an d' thugadh 94 as a' cheud, no còrr, agus bha 4 Sàr- is 5 Làn-Ghaidheal a chuir sinn anns an fhìor sreath-mhullaich. Bha iad so glé dhlùth air a chéile; agus is ann le fìor aire is gach ni a chothromachadh mar a b' fheàrr a ghabhadh e deanamh dhuinn a chuir sinn anns an rian so iad:—

SAR-GHAIDHEAL. Anna Chaimbeul, Ath-leathann; Cairistiona NicLeoid, Tairbeart na Hearadh; Mòrag NicLeoid, Tairbeart; agus Oighrig NicLeoid, Tairbeart.

LÀN-GHAIDHEAL. Màiri NicFhearghuis, Ath-leathann; Dòmhnall Rothach, Ath-leathann; Barabal NicDhonnchaidh, Ath-leathann; Iain MacLeoid, Tairbeart; agus Iain MacFhionghuinn, Tairbeart.

Tha fios agaibh gun d' thug ar deagh charaid, Iain MacGhille-bhàin, dhuinn suim airgid gu duaisean a thoirt dhoibh-san a b' àirde anns na h-oidhirpean so, agus tha a' cheud tri de na tha anns gach roinn fa-leth an so ris na duaisean sin fhaotainn; ach cha bhì an fheadhainn eile gun duais bheag iad féin, agus tha sinn fhìin a' toirt leabhraichean dhoibh, is ciod am fios nach bi iadsan a tha anns an ath sreath a rithist a' faotainn leabhraichan beag an t-aon mar an ceudna.

Ruithidh mi thairis air na paipearan-ceasnachaidh an litir an ath mhiosa gu cuid de na mearrachdan a rinneadh a chombarrachadh am mach, mar a thogadh cearr cuid de na ràdhteamais is de na facail, agus mar sin. Dh' ainmich mi mar thà mar a rinn cuid "càl" de "chall," ach so aon eile. Ann am paiper nan Làn-Ghàidheal tha an briathrachas so—"Tha searrach aig an làir dhuinn." Nach ann a bha cuid a rinn "to us" de 'n dath a bha air an làir, is a sgrìobh "*The mare has a foal to us.*" Ged a tha e éibhinn gu leòr, ged thà, chan e droch mhearachd a tha an so idir, oir ghabhadh an ciall sin toirt as ceart gu leòr!

Feumaidh mi stad an dràid, ach biodh bhur sùil am mach ris an ath litir, oir tha mi an dùil dol gu mean a steach am beachdachadh nam paipearan.—Bhur Caraid Dileas,

HIGHLANDERS' PROTEST.

Changes in B.B.C.'s Gaelic Programme.

"Dissatisfied and very disappointed" with the B.B.C.'s reply to strong representations for an improvement in Gaelic broadcasting. An Comunn Gaidhealach (Highland Association) does not intend to rest until satisfaction is obtained.

The support of members of both Houses of Parliament representing Gaelic-speaking areas has been enlisted, and it is expected that the question will be prominently raised in Westminster after the recess.

The main grounds of complaint are the curtailment and the late hour of the Gaelic broadcasts since the B.B.C. programmes were recently rearranged; and the statement by Mr. W. J. Haley, Director-General of the B.B.C., that no hope of meeting the desires of An Comunn Gaidhealach can be held out at present.

"We are not satisfied that nothing more can be done, said the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, President of An Comunn Gaidhealach, to "The Glasgow Herald."

"Throughout the Highland areas, as well as among the men and women on service, there is great discontent about the attitude of the B.B.C. in London. All along we have felt that we are not getting a just deal, and we have no intention of giving up until we feel that the Highlanders are getting that just deal in regard to their language, their culture, and their music.

"It is almost incredible that Highlanders, including men of the Highland Division, cannot hear their own language and music because of the inadequacy and ill-suited timing of the B.B.C. Gaelic broadcasts."

WAR SACRIFICES.

The views of An Comunn Gaidhealach have been conveyed to the B.B.C. in a memorandum which points out that the recruitment of Service personnel from the Highland area has been proportionately higher than in any other comparable part of the Empire. Many districts have been denuded of their young folk, and the losses already sustained have been severe. Equity would seem to demand some consideration for such sacrifices, particularly when the aged kindred of the fallen and their under-age dependants are in most cases spread over isolated and scattered communities where postal facilities and other communications have been curtailed, and where the main sources of information and entertainment in the language they understand is limited to what is supplied in broadcast programmes.

The curtailment of the Gaelic programme by five minutes, it is stated, may superficially appear to be unimportant, but, taken in relation to the total time allotted to the language, it amounts to a reduction of 11 per cent. in an already meagre allocation.

The memorandum adds:—"This, however, is not the only handicap imposed by the recent rearrangements. The putting back of the hour of transmission by twenty minutes places a severe strain on workers who must have regard to the normal hours of employment and on the aged and ailing who are thus denied the enjoyment of what

they would otherwise most appreciate. In addition, there are two sections of listeners who on account of the time of the transmission are completely deprived of its benefits—the children and members of the forces."

RETURNED EXILES.

On the point that the rearrangement had been made mainly to suit the requirements of the forces and to link Service personnel more closely with their kindred at home or overseas, the memorandum points out that recruitment of Gaelic speakers and men and women of Gaelic sentiment is not limited to the Scottish Highlands.

"Representatives of our race are with us from Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and the United States. These returned exiles are by no means less interested in the language of their fathers than are those who have been reared in the Highlands. To these there fall to be added the large number of non-Gaelic speakers interested in its music, vocal or instrumental."

It seems strange, the memorandum adds, that a programme allegedly designed to benefit Service men should ignore the claims of those interested in pipe music by a practically total elimination of the customary transmissions of solo piping and pipe bands. The same fate has befallen the "Music of Gaelic Scotland," formerly broadcast on Friday mornings.

B.B.C.'s POSITION.

In his reply the Director-General of the B.B.C. says that in peace-time Gaelic broadcasts were carried in the Scottish Regional programmes, and it was a matter of some satisfaction to the B.B.C. that, since the unavoidable disappearance of the Regional programmes in war-time, they have still been able to find a regular place for Gaelic broadcasts in the single programme—the Home Service, which, in its national scope and object, corresponds to the pre-war National Programme.

"In considering the claims of the Gaelic audience, however, we are bound to take into account the conflicting claims of the wider national audiences for different types of programme during the main listening hours. It is solely on account of such claims that we have been obliged to make the small curtailment of five minutes in the weekly allotment of Gaelic programmes and to broadcast them at a somewhat later hour.

"I am afraid that we cannot at present hold out any hope of a restoration of the lost five minutes or of an earlier hour for the news bulletins."

Mr. Haley adds that the B.B.C. would like to find a place for more pipe music, and they would see what they could do about it.

In their reply the Rev. Malcolm MacLeod (President) and Mr. Neil Shaw (Secretary), of An Comunn Gaidhealach, say:—"We have no intention of resting satisfied till this wrong is put right, and we have no option but to appeal to Members of Parliament so that they will see that it is put right."

Among those who are interesting themselves in the question are Sir Archibald Sinclair, Bt., M.P. (Secretary of State for Air), the Duke of Hamilton, the Duke of Sutherland, the Duke of Montrose, and Major Duncan McCallum, M.P. for Argyll.

—From *The Glasgow Herald*.

ORAN LEANNAN SITHE.

Is e fìor shean oran a tha an so. Bha e air a thoirt sìos mar a bha e air a sheinn le Aonghus MacLaomainn am Bornascioitaig san Eilean Sgitheanach. Tha aràon an t-orau agus am fonn tìomhaidh drùidhteach. 'S ann á comhchrùinn-eachadh na Bana-Dhughlasaich a thug mi e.—F. D.

GLEUS G.

{ s₁ s₂ s₃ | s₄ : f₁ : s₅ . . . | l₁ | t₁ : — , }

Air maduinn mhòich 'sa Chéitein chiùin,

{ (s₁) l₁ t₁ d | r : d : l₁ . . . f₁ | s₁ : — , }

'San dealt gu dlùth air drùidh 'sa choill

{ s₁ s₂ s₃ | s₄ : f₁ : s₅ . . . | l₁ | t₁ : — }

'Sa bhileag bhraoin air dialtaig chaoil

{ : s₁ l₁ t₁ d | r : d : l₁ . . . f₁ | s₁ : — }

'San seillean maoth ri taobh a seinn

{ : r . m . f | s : f : m . . . r | r }

Deocadh meal o bhàrr gach fùr

{ : d : r . . . d | s₁ : - : s₂ : t₁ l₁ s₁ | f₁ : — }

Bho fhùr gu fùr, gu fùr an ròis

{ : s₁ s₂ s₃ | s₄ : f₁ : s₅ . . . | l₁ | t₁ : — }

'Sann labhair gruagach os mo chionn

{ : s₁ l₁ t₁ d | r : d : l₁ . . . f₁ | s₁ : — }

"Nach gluais thu cui-de rium Iain Oig ?"

Ghluais sinn a sin is rinn sinn èaladh,
Stìgh fo fhriamhichean nan craobh,
Ged bu phailt bha duilleach nan crann
Bu lionmhor meanglan bha os ar cionn;
Gach ianachan beag, bha 's an ealtainn
Gu bioraltach blas am beòil,
Gus na chruinnich i iad na sgùird
Gu seinn ciùil do Iain Og.

'S theàrnaich sinn ri taobh an àth,
'S gun chuir i làmh ud air a cùl,
'S thug i 'n dorgh glas á fiar
'S gun dh' fhiach i fìor e feadh a bhùirn
'S gun chuir i 'm bradan air a bhlian
Is ghlac i fiataidh 's e gun deò.
'S thuir i "So an t-àm de n' bhliadhna
'Bheil thu t-iasgair math Iain Oig!"

'S theàrnaich sinn ri taobh an lóin
'S bu lionmhor curachdag fheòir bh' ann caoin,
Bha spealadair ag obair gu loinneal,
Cuman 's clach-ghoireal ri taobh,
An ceann an stadh, bha need an t-seillean,
Lot fear beag dhiubh bàrr mo mheòir,
Och ged bha iomadh srann 's an doire,
"Na biodh eagal ort Iain Oig."

'S gheàrr i leum a stìgh 'sa ghoirtean,
Far an robh 'n corca 'g a bhuaìn,
Rug i gu teann air a chorán,
'S lion i le sonas an sguab,
Chuir i làmh a stìgh 'na h-achlais,
Rug i air bascaid 'na dòrn,
'S thuir i "Bheil thu gabhail pàighidh"
"So dhuit ubh 'll-ghlas Iain Oig."

"Nach bòidheach leat obair na cruithneachd
'Bi na cruinneagan 'g a bhuaìn
"Cuid aca ri gabhail òrain
"S càch gu dòigheal togail fuinn

"Luchd nam bann agus a cheangail
'G éigheach 'E-ho-ro-bha-ho,
"Nach intinneach deanamh an arain,
"An cluinn thu 'n caraim so, Iain Oig?"

Gheàrr i leum a stìgh na buaillidh
Far 'n robh 'n crodh guallfionn cruinn
Na laoiigh 'sa chachlean geumnach
Ris an sprèidh a bha ri 'n taobh
Thàinig banaraich na buaillidh
'S bainne aice ann an cuach-nam-bò
'S thug i sìod dha 'n iomhuinn àlainn
"Trobbhad 's pàirtich so, Iain Oig."

Chi mi ghrian 's an aird-an-iar
'S an dà-uair dheug a bualadh thall
Air stioplachain a bhaile-mhóir
'S an tric 's a dh' fhalbh an ceò 'na mheall,
Thug an teas asam mo chli.
'S gun dh' fhalbh m 'uile spid 's mo threòir,
'S thuir i rium 's i leum na dige,
"Saoil na dh' fhàs thu sgith, Iain Oig."

MOLADH UIBHIST.

Oran a rinneadh leis a' Mhgn. Erig Wilson as an Tògh, an Uibhist a' Chinn a Deas, agus e air a sgrìobhadh sìos air a son le Mgr. K. C. Craig á Oilthigh Dhun-èideann.

Cha ruig mi leas bhith 'g innse dhuibh—
Tha fios agaibh mar thà—
Cho maiseach ciùin 's tha Uibhist
Anns am bheil sinn uile tàrr,
Chan fhàgann fhìn gu siorruidh e,
Chan fhaicinn-sa na b' fheàrr,
'S ged a chuirte gu Dùn-Èideann mi,
'S e a bheanntan liom a b' fheàrr.

Bu tric mi buain nan sobhraichean
'S a' ghlèann nuair bha mi òg,
Gum b' aotrom anns an àm sin mi
Gun chàram no gun ghò,
Mi dìreadh ris na bruchannan
'S mi 'g iarraidh nìod nan eòin,
'S an uisge 's i gu cèimhorach
'S a' mhaduinn shamhraidh òig.

Feadh lagan fraoich is liantaichean
Feadh shruthan agus òb
Bu shòlasach 's an t-samhradh mi
'S mi stampanaich 's na lóin,
Na caoraich 's mi 'gan cuartachadh
'S na h-uain cho near 's iad òg,
'S mac-talla 's fhuaim 'nam chluasan
Toirt freagairt buan 'n ceòl.

Nuair a dh' rinn monadh Thatharsabhal
'S a ghabhainn ceum n' n' cuairt,
Bha sealladh ann a b' àille leam
Ri fhaicinn fada bhuan,
An crodh is iad gu h-athaiseach
A' stàireachd air gach buairt,
'S a' ghrian gu ciùin 'g deàrrsadh
'S i mar sgàthan air a' chuan.

Tha machraichean is ranutaichean
Fo arbhar 's fo bhuntat'
Is seamrag is èointeinnean
Ri fhaicinn anns gach àit',
'S gu ruige tu na cladaichean
Tha iomadh lus a' fàs,
'S am muran gorm 'ga chuartachadh
Gum buail e ris an tràigh.

Ar sinnsreadh chleachd bhith comhnuidh ann
 An diugh chan 'eil iad ann,
 Ged is lionmhor gnìomh an làmhán
 'S e ri fhacinn aig gach àm.
 Nuair a chruinnicheadh iad 's na feasgraichean,
 Bu chòmhrateach an cainnt,
 'S gun cluinnte fuaim na Gàidhlig
 Feadh nan glacan is nan gleann.

Bu tric a bha mi comhla riú
 Nuair a bha mi òg 'nam phlaids,
 Ag èisdeachd ri an cuid sgialachdan
 As miannach leam an dràs'd.
 Bha cuimhne aca gu sònraichte
 Air eachdraidhean mun àit'
 Ag aiseag cliù na tìre dhuinn
 Gun ite pinn ri làimh.

'S ged a gheobhainn caisteal ainmicht' dhomh
 Le airgid is le maoin,
 Gum b' fheàrr leam Eilein Uibhist
 Far am bheil ar sealladh caomh,
 Bhith siubhal feadh a chluanagan
 'S e thogadh suas mo chridh',
 'S ag èisdeachd fuaim nan stuadhanan
 Nuair a bhuaileadh iad gu tìr.

'S gum bi mi nist a' cìrochnachadh,
 Cha chan mi ribh an còrr;
 Cha bhàrd a dhianadh òran mi
 Cha robh mi ris o m' òig',
 Ach latha nach bi sgial òirnn
 Is sinn air cnàmh fo 'n fhòd
 Dh an t-eilean ciùin a dh' arachd sinn
 Gu bàidheil mar bu chòir.

EFFIE WILSON.

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Members are no doubt aware that the annual revenue of An Comunn depended mainly on the receipts from National Mods. As these have been in abeyance for some years, considerable annual deficits have been inevitable, and an appeal is now made to members and all others interested in the future of Gaelic to give financial support to An Comunn to enable it to meet its current obligations, and place it in a position to launch a propaganda campaign at the close of the war, and thus regain the ground lost during the years of its enforced inactivity. Donations, large or small, will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Mr. James T. Graham, C.A., 5 S. Vincent Place, Glasgow, C.I. Remittances should be made payable to "An Comunn Gàidhealach."

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